

Graduate Student Internship: Water Resource Economics and Finance

Graduate Summer Internship

WestWater Research is seeking graduate students for a Summer 2017 internship position. The internship is an ideal opportunity for those who are seeking professional experience in water resource economics and finance that includes applied experience in water resource asset valuation and pricing, water rights marketing, and water project consulting. WestWater has a tradition of hiring interns upon graduation and is actively seeking an early stage professional interested in developing a career with the company.

Interns will spend approximately three months at one of WestWater's offices in Phoenix, Fort Collins, or Boise, developing a water rights market analysis and report for a regional market within the western US. The intern will collaborate with WestWater staff and work under the supervision of a senior manager. Interns are required to present two workshops to outline and report the findings of their analysis.

2017 Project Description

The selected candidate will be responsible for completing a research project during the internship. The project can be a topic proposed by the applicant or may also include conducting water rights market analysis on recent water right sales and leases within a defined market region. The intern will be responsible for contacting market participants (buyers, sellers, regulatory agencies, and knowledgeable 3rd parties) to obtain information on recent sales and lease agreements. The intern will also be responsible for organizing and assembling all market data and supporting documentation. Recorded transactions and market data will be added to WestWater's existing database of transactions. The selection of the market region will be done in cooperation with WestWater senior staff. A typical Intern project and market analysis includes the following tasks:

- An assessment of water market activity through collection of price and transaction information;
- Development of a price forecasting model and analysis;
- An analysis of the data to identify market trends, investment, and other key valuation metrics;
- Development of a market forecast and outlook including an insightful analysis of future trends.

Additionally, the intern may assist with client project tasks, including the development of market demand studies, alternative supply studies, site visits, comparable sales research, financial modeling, and presentation preparation.

Essential Skills

- Ability to write clearly and professionally;
- Experience and competence in data management and research;
- Knowledge of quantitative and qualitative analysis techniques;
- Proficiency in the use of Excel, Word, and PowerPoint.

Qualifications

- Education:
 - Required: Bachelor's Degree in Resource or Agricultural Economics, Management, Economics, Finance, Business, Engineering or related field, with excellent grades;
 - Strongly Preferred: Working toward a graduate degree in Resource, Agricultural, or Applied Economics, Environmental Studies, Finance, Business Administration (MBA), or related field, with excellent grades;
- Detailed oriented;
- Independent and self-motivated;



- Interest in water markets and water investments.

Application Procedure

The internship is competitive and will be based on a person's qualifications and ability to communicate information and concepts. To be considered for the internship position, we ask that applicants submit the following information:

- A curriculum vitae;
- A one to two-page cover letter describing your interest in water markets, your professional goals, what you hope to learn at WestWater, and your relevant skills;
- A recent writing sample, such as a paper prepared for coursework, demonstrating your ability to summarize and communicate business information;
- A short PowerPoint presentation (no more than four slides) on one of the following topics:
- An overview of groundwater banking in the western US.
- A proposed research topic for the summer internship.

The PowerPoint is an opportunity for applicants to demonstrate their ability to synthesize and communicate information. Applicants are encouraged to utilize existing information sources to provide an organized summary.

Incomplete application packages will not be considered. A complete application package with all materials in PDF format must be submitted to employment@waterexchange.com.

For full consideration, please submit complete application packages by April 7, 2017.

Location and Compensation

- Term: Three-month internship during Summer, 2017 – Full time (40 hour/week)
- Located in one of WestWater's Phoenix, Fort Collins, or Boise offices;
- This internship is an opportunity to spend three months with leading experts in water marketing, water asset valuation, and water resource investments;
- Office space and staff support for completing a research project that could result in ongoing research and full-time employment with the company following graduation;
- A monthly stipend of \$2,500 per month;
- Eligibility for a post-internship scholarship to support second-year graduate studies research in water marketing.

About WestWater Research

WestWater Research is the leading water market economic consulting firm. Since its founding in 2001, WWR has advised clients throughout the United States on water asset transactions and water development projects. WestWater has become the leading advisory firm to investment funds that are actively deploying capital into the water rights market. WWR has advised on more than \$700 million in water transactions and has been the principal architect of "breakthrough" water right deals for the investment sector.

With a national practice, WestWater assists clients that are buying and selling water entitlements and other water assets through comprehensive financial and economic analysis of water markets on a regional and local level. Since its inception in 2001, WestWater Research has received national recognition for advising on complex water market and trading issues with projects across every western state, including Alaska and Texas. With five offices in four states (ID, WA, AZ, CO) our team has over fifty years of experience in the water sector, specializing in a variety of water focused services, including water marketing, regulatory policy, water valuation techniques, financial investments, commodity trading, resource economics and planning, and GIS technology. To assist in water right appraisals, WestWater maintains a comprehensive database of water right transactions in the Western US.