Water Rights

• Prior Appropriation (Prioridad de Uso) - **Water Scarce Regions**
  - Beneficial Use – Determined Volume
  - “First in time, First in right”
  - Continual use of the water
  - Water rights are not connected with the property
  - Promote water markets

• Riparian water rights (Derecho del ribereño) – **Regions with Plentiful Water**
  - Reasonable use – Undetermined Volume
  - Same priority along stakeholders
  - Not needed a continual use of the water right
  - Water rights are connected with the land - Properties along the river

• Public Trust Doctrine (Doctrina del Fideicomiso Publicó) **All Regions**
  - Public has water rights held in trust for the use of the people (navigability, recreation, environment)
  - Non-consumptive uses
  - Highest priority
  - Water right is connected with the river in itself