

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

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Nebraska Kansas Area Office

**Utilizing Reclamation's Federal
Reservoirs**



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

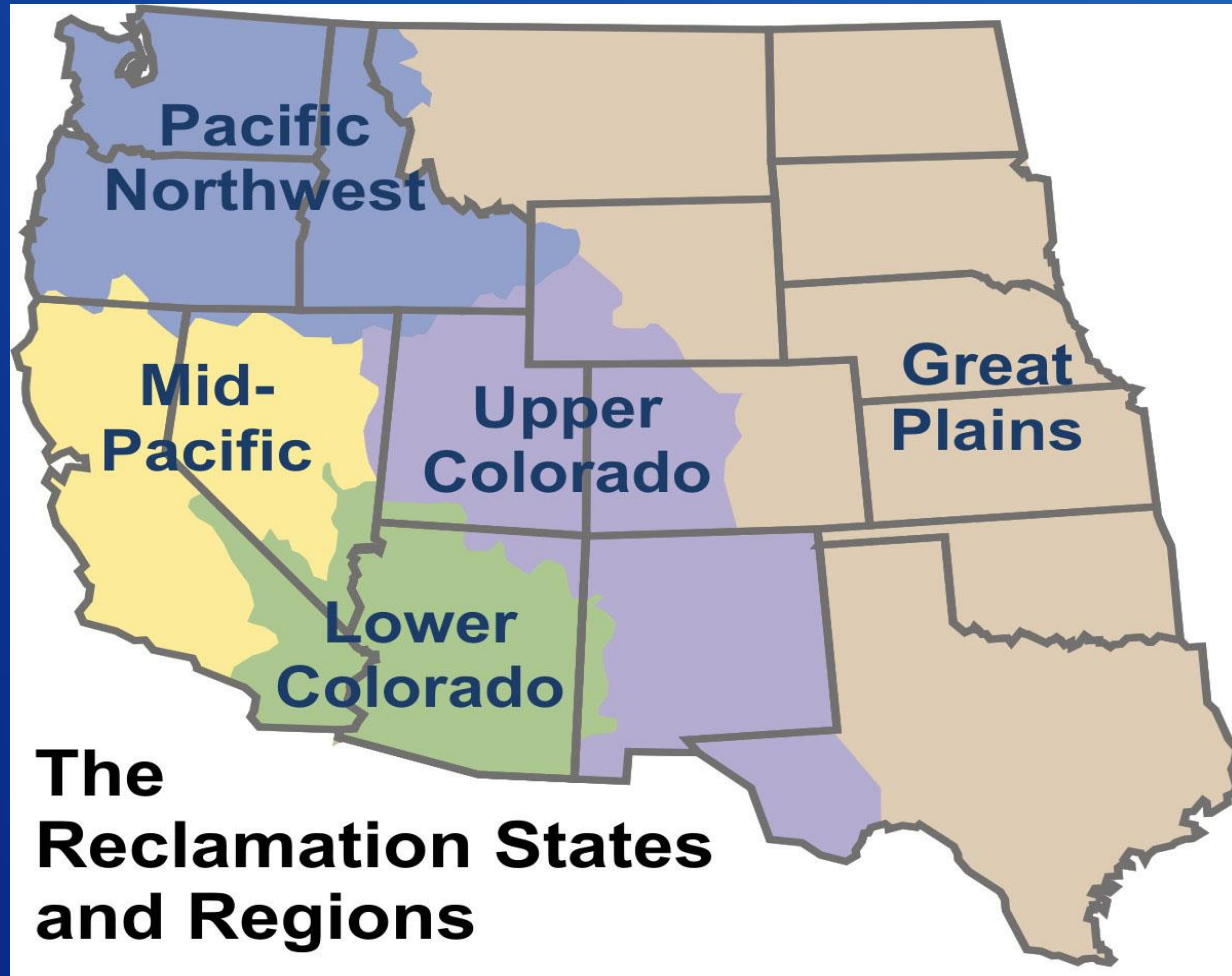
About Reclamation

- Agency with the Department of the Interior
- The Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902
 - ... “construction and maintenance of irrigation works ...”



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Reclamation's Five Regions



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Great Plains Region

**Administrative
Areas**



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Republican River History

- 1930's Drought
- 1935 Flood
- Peak flow at Cambridge 280,000 cfs
- Republican Valley Conservation Association

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Federal Studies

- Bureau of Reclamation Studies
- Corps of Engineers Studies
- Department of Agriculture Study

Republican River Compact

Fed's needed Compact to continue

1st try not approved by US

2nd try approved after participation by US

Approved and Signed 12-31-42

Ratified by States

Approved by Congress and made effective

May 26, 1943

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Reclamation Projects administered by NKAO

Pick-Sloan Missouri River Basin Units

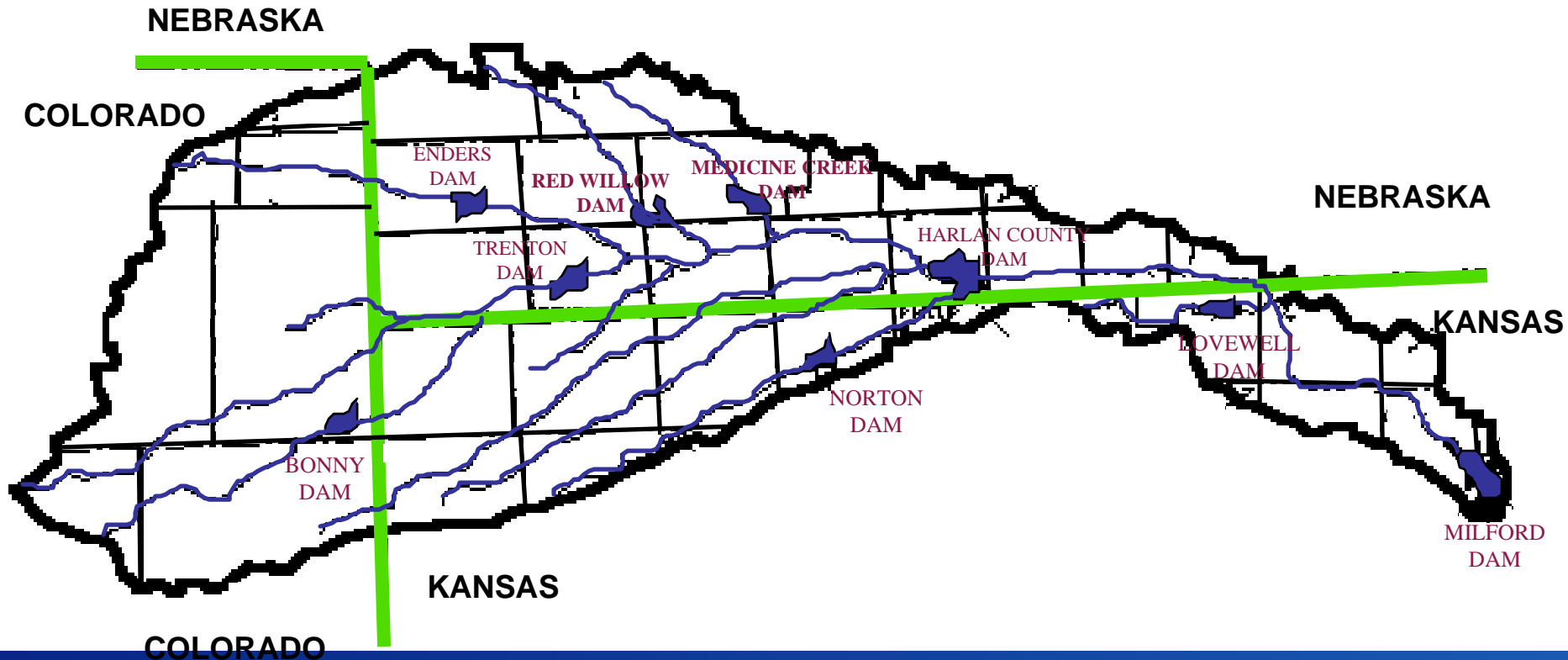
- Frenchman Cambridge Division
- Bostwick Division
- Glen Elder Unit
- Cedar Bluff Unit
- Webster Unit
- Kirwin Unit
- Almena Unit
- Arnel Unit (Bonny Dam)
- Ainsworth Unit
- North Loup Division

Works Project Administration Program

- Mirage Flats Project



Republican River Basin



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Reserved vs Transferred Works

- 11 - Reserved (multipurpose) Facilities
 - Reclamation is responsible for O&M of Dam
 - Beneficiaries (ie: Districts, M&I, State) pay percentage of O&M
- 4 - Transferred (single purpose)
 - O&M responsibility is transferred to Irrigation Districts
 - O&M Cost is 100% covered by the District
- Bostwick Division Districts also pay a percentage of Harlan County Lake O&M cost

Reclamation Water Rights

- Section 8 of 1902 Reclamation Act
 - Reclamation is required to conform with state law and ensure that water rights are acquired for each of its projects
- Storage Rights
 - Entitles Reclamation to store water from specific streams
- Storage Use Rights
 - Provides the right to apply storage water on project lands to supplement natural flow rights

Reclamation Water Rights

- Water must be physically and legally available
- Use will not adversely affect prior existing water rights
- In order to receive Reclamation Project water, a contract with Reclamation must be in place.

Reclamation Water Contracts

- NE Irrigation Districts
 - Mirage Flats
 - Ainsworth
 - Twin Loups
 - Frenchman- Cambridge
 - Frenchman Valley
 - H&RW
 - Bostwick in NE
- KS Irrigation Districts
 - KS Bostwick
 - Almena
 - Kirwin
 - Webster
 - Glen Elder
- Others
 - Municipal - Norton, Beloit, Russell, Mitchell County Co. RWD
 - State of KS
 - State of CO

Using Reclamation's Reservoirs to Ensure Basin Sustainability

- Reservoir provide improved management and flexibility of Basin's water supplies
 - Water Supplies for Irrigation Districts
 - Compact Compliance
- Excess Capacity
 - Space Available for temporary storage of Compact Water

CURRENT RESERVOIR STORAGE

As of November 30, 2015

	<u>FULL POOL STORAGE CONTENT (AF)</u>	<u>CURRENT STORAGE CONTENT (AF)</u>	<u>PERCENT OF FULL</u>
		0	0
SWANSON	110,175	41,260	37
ENDERS	42,910	9,979	23
HUGH BUTLER	36,224	12,541	35
HARRY STRUNK	34,647	34,267	99*
HARLAN COUNTY	314,111	156,122	50

* Currently Releasing 118 cfs to the river.

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Republican River Basin Study

- **Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, and Reclamation**
- **Developed Hydrologic Modeling**
 - Integrated GW and SW models
- **Sub-basin models will work in conjunction to model the Republican River Basin**
- **Future Tool for evaluating alternatives**

