

**Republican River Basin-Wide Plan  
Stakeholder Advisory Meeting Minutes  
August 15, 2017 | Community Center, Cambridge, Nebraska**

**Stakeholder Advisory Committee members in attendance were:**

|                |                 |                  |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Jared Baker    | Curtis Kayton   | John Rundel      |
| Brad Edgerton  | Bradly Knuth    | Nate Schneider   |
| Troy Fletcher  | Jerry Kuenning  | Richard Siel     |
| Josh Friesen   | Gale Lush       | Shad Stamm       |
| Wayne Haarberg | Cedric McDaniel | Glenn Taubenheim |
| Dale Helms     | Dave Oxford     | Aaron Thompson   |
| Dick Helms     | Ross Montgomery | Ted Tietjen      |
| Bill Hoyt      | Roric Paulman   | Marcia Trompke   |

**Plan Development Team members in attendance were:**

|               |                |                      |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Patti Banks   | Jeff Fassett   | Jennifer Schellpeper |
| Emily Bausch  | Carol Flaute   | Todd Siel            |
| Mike Clements | Tatiana Height | John Thorburn        |
| Scott Dicke   | Nate Jenkins   | Shea Winkler         |
| Beth Eckles   | Jack Russell   |                      |

**Individuals from the community present during the meeting included:**

Ray Winz  
Rod Cappel  
Phyllis Johnson  
Don Felker  
Mark R. Christenson  
Larry Reynolds  
Rick Spencer

Note: See Attachment A for a copy of the sign-in sheets.

**NOTICE OF THE MEETING**

Notice of the meeting was published on the Department of Natural Resources web site ([dnr.nebraska.gov](http://dnr.nebraska.gov)). Notices were also published in the Holdrege Daily Citizen, McCook Gazette, Imperial Republican, and the Benkelman Post & News Chronicle.

## **INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

The following informational materials were distributed to stakeholders:

- Meeting Agenda (Attachment B)
- Nebraska Republican River Basin Monitoring Wells handout (Attachment C)
- Nebraska Republican River Basin Streamgauge and Canal Records handout (Attachment D)
- Annual Augmentation Pumping Numbers handout (Attachment E)
- Balancing Water Supply and Use handout (Attachment F)
- Draft Goal 5 handout (Attachment G)
- Republican River Basin-Wide Plan July Coordination Meeting Summary (Attachment H)
- Draft June 2017 Meeting Minutes (Attachment I)
- Future Meetings Plan handout (Attachment J)

### **1. WELCOME**

- Jennifer Schellpeper, NeDNR, welcomed everyone and reviewed the agenda and stated that this meeting is subject to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.
- Mike Clements, General Manager of LRNRD, introduced his successor Todd Siel who will be taking over as General Manager as of September 1, 2017 and serving on the Republican River Basin-Wide Plan development team.
- The group was asked to review the June meeting minutes and to provide comments within 15 days. If no comments are submitted then the minutes will be considered final.
- The group was asked to read the July Coordination Meeting notes.
- Mike Clements gave an update on the Platte Republican diversion project. CNPPID and the NRDs have agreed upon a water service agreement, and an application for a surface water appropriation will be filed soon.
- NeDNR Director Jeff Fassett provided an update on the Water Sustainability Fund applications received. Seven of the 23 applications are for projects within the Republican Basin for a total of 9 million dollars.

### **2. PLAN LANGUAGE**

- Jennifer opened the discussion beginning with a handout of additional draft Plan language for goal 5. Jennifer directed the group to review the new plan language provided on the Goal 5 handout in the next 30 days.
- Additionally, Jennifer provided a review of the kinds of feedback received from stakeholders during and following the June stakeholder meeting and summarized where each type of feedback will fit within the draft plan language that NeDNR and the NRDs are working on. This draft language will be brought to the group at a later time.
- The handouts provided at this meeting were individually identified and the group was asked if they had any questions on them. No questions were posed.
- Additional reference materials have been provided on the Plan website.

### 3. REMAINING DISCUSSION LEADING TO ADDITIONAL GOALS

#### a. COMPACT COMPLIANCE DISTRIBUTION

- Stakeholders were asked to discuss, "How can the Plan help address the issue of Compact compliance distribution?"
- A Stakeholder proposed that the group consider the concept of a water market for distribution of Compact compliance among users, and the group discussed this idea at length.
- **A vote was taken, approving continuation of this conversation at the next meeting with more information on water markets and how it might apply to the Plan.**
- Any Stakeholders interested in further discussing water markets were asked to attend the September 19<sup>th</sup> and October 24<sup>th</sup> 2017 coordination meetings. Additional information on the topic will be brought to the next Stakeholder meeting on November 30, 2017.

#### b. BALANCING WATER SUPPLY AND USE

- Stakeholders were asked to discuss "How can the plan help to balance supply and use?"
- A Stakeholder presented a report on a watershed approach to water management. It was proposed that the group conduct a watershed management study based on HUC 12 research. The group discussed this proposal at length.
- **A vote was taken, but did not pass at this time as some "no" votes remained. It was decided to table the discussion about conducting a HUC 12 watershed management study until the next stakeholder meeting.** The stakeholder who proposed the HUC 12 watershed management study agreed to bring to the next stakeholder meeting information about how the data resulting from the proposed study might be useful.
- Another Stakeholder proposed that the plan include water management at a subbasin level. A lengthy discussion on this topic was held by the group.
- **There was a vote on the proposal to consider subbasin water management for the plan, which did not pass.** Subbasin-level water management as proposed will not be included in the plan.

#### c. IRRIGATION EFFIECENCY

- A discussion was held among the stakeholders about efficiency of surface water irrigation compared to groundwater irrigation.
- **A vote was taken on the concept of providing the ability to obtain a groundwater well to surface-water-only irrigators that have access to the aquifer. This vote did not pass at this time, as several "no" votes remained. It was decided to table this discussion until the next meeting, and that the NRDs and NeDNR would bring more information on this concept to the next meeting.**

#### **4. PARKING LOT**

When members of the group brought up topics that should be addressed, but best discussed at another time, they were written down, and added to the "Parking Lot" for future discussion. The parking lot will be reviewed at the close of every Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting. No items in the Parking Lot were discussed at this meeting due to the meeting running long. Items which have been addressed and resolved will be removed from the parking lot and new items may also be added to the parking lot. At the August 2017 meeting, watershed management study was added to the parking lot.

- Delineation of the basin-wide plan's geographic area
- Definition of sustainability
- Dr. Goeke speaking to the group
- Stakeholder role after plan adopted
- Board member training on healthy streams
- Watershed management study

#### **5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ray Winz read an excerpt from an application approval of an appropriation (appropriation number unknown) related to Harry Strunk reservoir. His further comments were related to the lack of rights of users, if the supply is insufficient for both surface water and groundwater users.

#### **6. STAKEHOLDER COMMENT**

No stakeholder comments

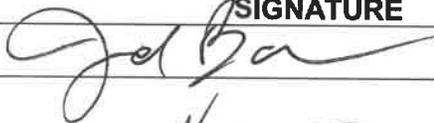
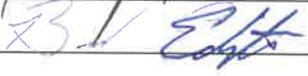
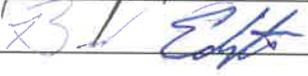
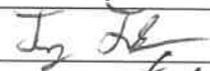
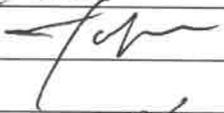
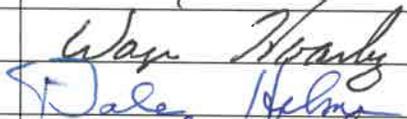
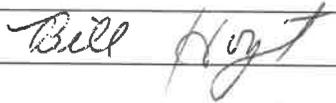
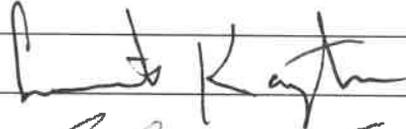
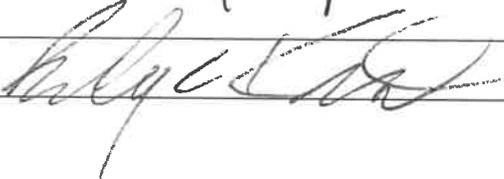
#### **7. NEXT MEETING**

On behalf of the entire basin-wide plan development team, including the four NRDs and NeDNR, Schellpeper thanked the stakeholders for attending and participating in this process. The next meeting will be held at the Cambridge Community Center from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm C.S.T. on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

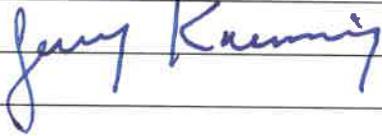
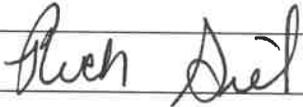
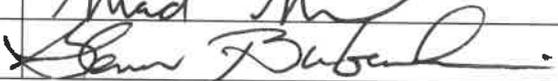
Project Website = <http://rrbwp.nebraska.gov/>  
*(Please note that this web address has recently changed)*

## **Attachment A – Sign-in Sheets**

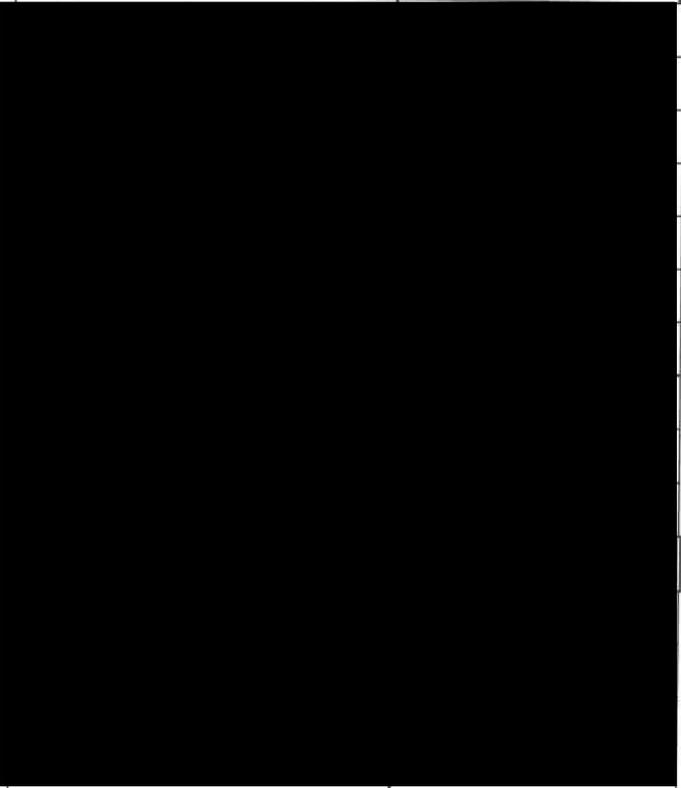
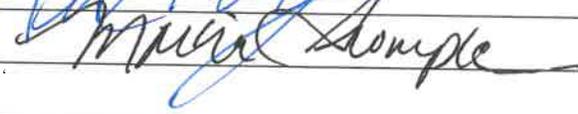
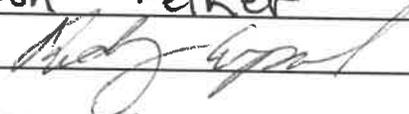
**STAKEHOLDER ATTENDANCE RECORD**  
**Republican River Basin-Wide Plan**  
**August 15, 2017, 10:00 AM**  
**Community Center -Cambridge, NE**

| NAME                                  | SIGNATURE  | EMAIL | PHONE NO. |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------|-----------|
| Jared Baker                           |    |       |           |
| Kurt Bernhardt                        |     |       |           |
| <del>Mike Delka</del> Ross Montgomery |     |       |           |
| Brad Edgerton                         |     |       |           |
| Jerry Ehrke                           |  |       |           |
| Chris Flaming                         |  |       |           |
| Troy Fletcher                         |     |       |           |
| Josh Friesen                          |     |       |           |
| Mike George                           |  |       |           |
| Wayne Haarberg                        |     |       |           |
| Dale Helms                            |     |       |           |
| Dick Helms                            |   |       |           |
| Robin Hinrichs                        |  |       |           |
| Bill Hoyt                             |   |       |           |
| Michael J. Kahrs                      |  |       |           |
| Max Kaiser                            |  |       |           |
| Curtis Kayton                         |  |       |           |
| Jim Kent                              |  |       |           |
| Bradly Knuth                          |  |       |           |

**STAKEHOLDER ATTENDANCE RECORD**  
**Republican River Basin-Wide Plan**  
**August 15, 2017, 10:00 AM**  
**Community Center -Cambridge, NE**

| NAME                | SIGNATURE  | EMAIL  | PHONE NO. |
|---------------------|--|--|-----------|
| Jerry Kuenning      |    |  |           |
| Kent Lorens         |  |  |           |
| Jeff Loschen        |  |  |           |
| Gale Lush           |    |  |           |
| Scott Lutz          |  |  |           |
| Timothy McCoy       |    |  |           |
| Cedric McDaniel     |    |  |           |
| Dan Nelsen          |  |  |           |
| Dave Oxford         |    |  |           |
| Roric Paulman       |    |  |           |
| John Rundel         |    |  |           |
| Nate Schneider      | Nate Schneider   |  |           |
| George Schortberger |  |  |           |
| Richard Siel        |   |  |           |
| Kevin Slocum        |  |  |           |
| Steve Smith         |  |  |           |
| Daniel Smith        |  |  |           |
| Shad Stamm          |  |  |           |
| Glenn Taubenheim    |  |  |           |

**STAKEHOLDER ATTENDANCE RECORD**  
**Republican River Basin-Wide Plan**  
**August 15, 2017, 10:00 AM**  
**Community Center -Cambridge, NE**

| NAME                | SIGNATURE   | EMAIL  | PHONE NO. |
|---------------------|---|--|-----------|
| Aaron Thompson      |    |  |           |
| Ted Tietjen         |   |  |           |
| Marcia Trompke      |   |  |           |
| Dack Vesta          |   |  |           |
| Jerda Garey Vickers |   |  |           |
| Tom Vickers         |   |  |           |
| Todd Watson         |   |  |           |
|                     | <b>PUBLIC</b>   |  |           |
| Phyllis Johnson     |   |  |           |
| Don Felker          | Don Felker  |  |           |
| ROD CAPPEL          |   |  |           |
| LARRY REYNOLDS      |   |  |           |
| Rick Spencer        |   |  |           |
| Mark Christensen    |  |  |           |
|                     |   |  |           |
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**STAKEHOLDER ATTENDANCE RECORD**  
**Republican River Basin-Wide Plan**  
**August 15, 2017, 10:00 AM**  
**Community Center -Cambridge, NE**

| NAME                 | SIGNATURE                   | AGENCY         | EMAIL | PHONE NO |  |  |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-------|----------|--|--|
| John Thorburn        | <i>John Thorburn</i>        | Tri-Basin NRD  |       |          |  |  |
| Ray Winz             | <i>Ray Winz</i>             | Tri-Basin NRD  |       |          |  |  |
| Mike Clements        | <i>Mike Clements</i>        | Lower Rep NRD  |       |          |  |  |
| Scott Dicke          | <i>Scott Dicke</i>          | Lower Rep NRD  |       |          |  |  |
| Sylvia Johnson       |                             | Middle Rep NRD |       |          |  |  |
| Jack Russell         | <i>Jack Russell</i>         | Middle Rep NRD |       |          |  |  |
| Nate Jenkins         | <i>Nate Jenkins</i>         | Upper Rep NRD  |       |          |  |  |
| Jasper Fanning       |                             | Upper Rep NRD  |       |          |  |  |
| Carol Flaute         | <i>Carol Flaute</i>         | NDNR           |       |          |  |  |
| Jennifer Schellpeper | <i>Jennifer Schellpeper</i> | NDNR           |       |          |  |  |
| Amy Zoller           |                             | NDNR           |       |          |  |  |
| Jeff Fassett         | <i>Jeff Fassett</i>         | NDNR           |       |          |  |  |
| Tatiana Height       | <i>Tatiana Height</i>       | NDNR           |       |          |  |  |
| Beth Eckles          | <i>Beth Eckles</i>          | NDNR           |       |          |  |  |
| Shea Winkler         | <i>Shea Winkler</i>         | NDNR           |       |          |  |  |
| Todd Siel            | <i>Todd Siel</i>            | Lower Rep. NRD |       |          |  |  |
|                      |                             |                |       |          |  |  |
|                      |                             |                |       |          |  |  |

**Attachment B – Meeting Agenda**

# Republican River Basin-wide Plan Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

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*Tuesday, August 15, 2017, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
Cambridge Community Center, 722 Patterson Avenue, Cambridge, Nebraska*

## Meeting Objectives

At this meeting, stakeholders will build upon discussions from the June 2017 Stakeholder meeting including Compact Compliance Distribution and Balancing Water Supply and Use. A review of the Plan's geographic area will also take a place in addition to further draft plan language.

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## 1. Welcome

## 2. Plan Language

*Working Lunch – 12:00 to 12:30*

*(Lunch is provided for Stakeholder Advisory Committee, NDNR, NRD, and Consultant Staff only)*

## 3. Remaining Discussion Leading to Additional Goals

- a. How can the plan help address the issue of Compact compliance distribution?
- b. How can the plan help to balance water supply and use?

## 4. Parking Lot

## 5. Public comment

## 6. Next meeting

- a. **Thursday** November 30, 2017

Project Website = <https://rrbwp.nebraska.gov/>

**Attachment C – Nebraska Republican River Basin Monitoring Wells handout**

**DRAFT Nebraska Republican River Basin Monitoring Well Records**

| <b>Well Registration Site Number</b> | <b>OR</b> | <b>Construction Complete Date OR Begin Date</b> | <b>Last Measurement Date (If Known)</b> | <b>Owner</b>    |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|---|---|-----------------|
| G-077704                             |           | 5/21/1991                                       | N/A                                     | Little Blue NRD |
| G-077705                             |           | 5/16/1991                                       | N/A                                     | Little Blue NRD |
| G-174362                             |           | 4/2/2014  | N/A                                     | MRNRD           |
| G-174363                             |           | 4/3/2014  | N/A                                     | MRNRD           |
| G-174364                             |           | 4/4/2014  | N/A                                     | MRNRD           |
| G-129213                             |           | 4/26/2004                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-129214                             |           | 4/27/2004                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-129215                             |           | 5/5/2004  | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-129216                             |           | 5/6/2004  | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-129217                             |           | 6/28/2004                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-129218                             |           | 6/29/2004                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-129219                             |           | 6/29/2004                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-129220                             |           | 7/27/2004                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-129221                             |           | 8/2/2004  | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-129255                             |           | 4/26/2004                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-137291                             |           | 10/26/2005                                      | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-137458                             |           | 11/9/2005                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-141090                             |           | 5/15/2006                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-141091                             |           | 5/16/2006                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-141092                             |           | 5/17/2006                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-145607                             |           | 6/5/2007  | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-145642                             |           | 6/8/2007  | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-145643                             |           | 6/20/2007                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-146325                             |           | 7/13/2007                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-147443                             |           | 11/19/2007                                      | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-149503                             |           | 5/19/2008                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-149678                             |           | 4/29/2008                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |
| G-149679                             |           | 4/24/2008                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD           |

**DRAFT Nebraska Republican River Basin Monitoring Well Records**

| <b>Well Registration OR Site Number</b> | <b>Construction Complete Date OR Begin Date</b> | <b>Last Measurement Date (If Known)</b> | <b>Owner</b> |
|---|---|---|--------------|
| G-150126                                | 8/5/2008  | N/A                                     | TBNRD        |
| G-150213                                | 8/19/2008                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD        |
| G-150539                                | 9/12/2008                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD        |
| G-150540                                | 9/17/2008                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD        |
| G-151456                                | 11/25/2008                                      | N/A                                     | TBNRD        |
| G-151537                                | 12/10/2008                                      | N/A                                     | TBNRD        |
| G-175737                                | 3/12/2015                                       | N/A                                     | TBNRD        |
| G-062578                                | 3/27/1979                                       | N/A                                     | URNRD        |
| 400155101521302 Haigler                 | 9/25/1974                                       | 6/26/2017                               | USGS         |
| 400852101352701 Benkelman               | 9/28/1972                                       | 11/28/2016                              | USGS         |
| 400920099215501 Alma                    | 9/28/1972                                       | 11/28/2016                              | USGS         |
| 401401101510701 Lamont                  | 7/5/1977  | 11/28/2016                              | USGS         |
| 401416099270601 Mascot                  | 5/9/1990  | 4/1/2016                                | USGS         |
| 401703101394801 Enders                  | 3/29/1973                                       | 11/27/2016                              | USGS         |
| 401735098522701 Upland                  | 10/17/1968                                      | 4/20/2017                               | USGS         |
| 401857099195201 Ragan                   | 10/17/1968                                      | 4/1/2016                                | USGS         |
| 402101099595001 Holbrook                | 5/1/1985  | 4/20/2017                               | USGS         |
| 402757101591201 Champion                | 3/1/1972  | 11/28/2016                              | USGS         |
| 403235101395501 Imperial                | 6-30/1964                                       | 11/28/2016                              | USGS         |
| 403516101560601 Lamar                   | 9/27/1973                                       | 11/28/2016                              | USGS         |
| 403543101443201 Haggard                 | 5/15/1997                                       | 3/28/2006                               | USGS         |
| 404519101170301 Grinton                 | 3/25/1975                                       | 11/28/2016                              | USGS         |

**DRAFT Nebraska Republican River Basin Monitoring Well Records**

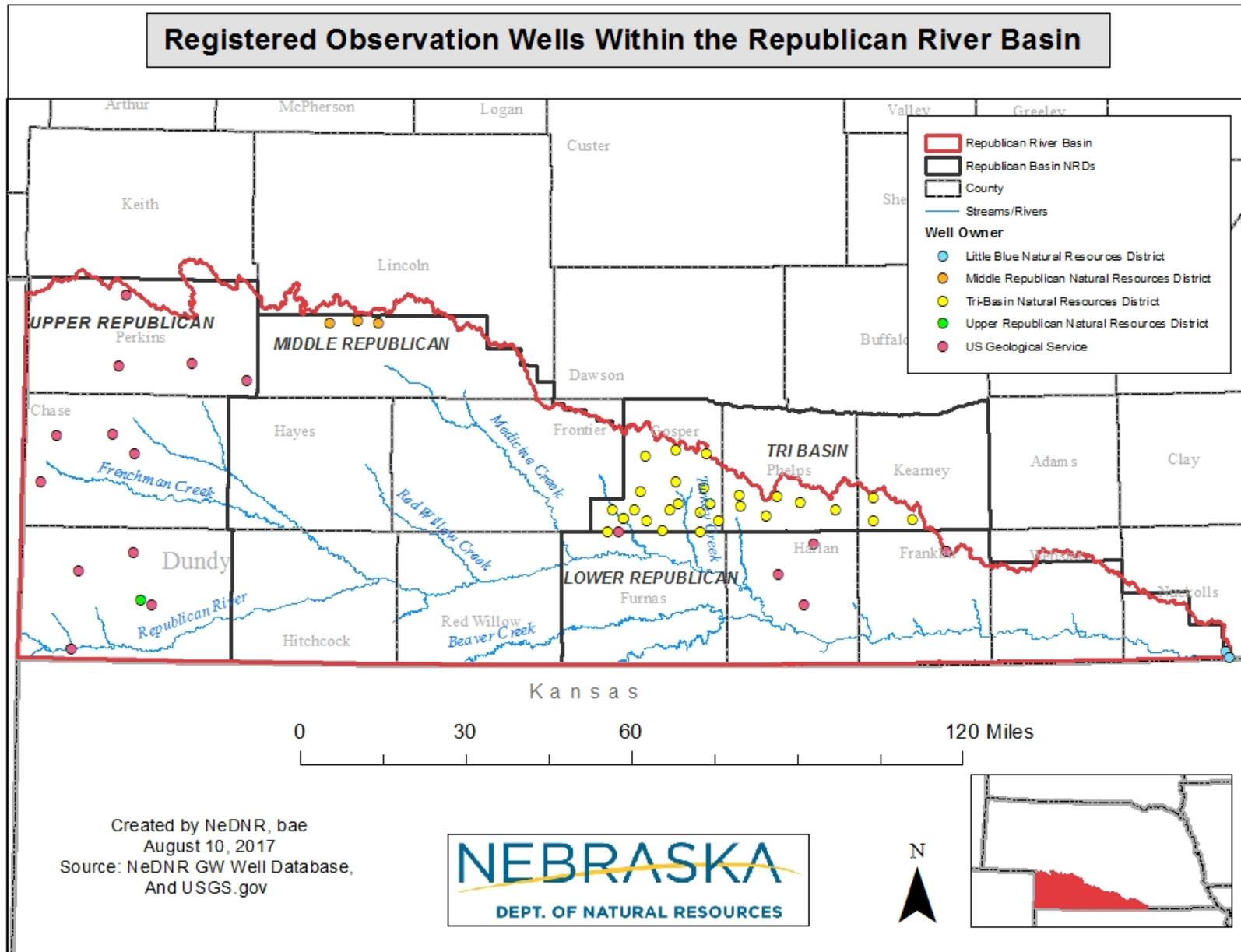
| <b>Well Registration OR Site Number</b> | <b>Construction Complete Date OR Begin Date</b> | <b>Last Measurement Date (If Known)</b> | <b>Owner</b> |
|---|---|---|--------------|
| 404620101433401 Grant South             | 6/6/1974  | 11/29/2016                              | USGS         |
| 404706101282201 Madrid                  | 6/12/1990                                       | 11/29/2016                              | USGS         |
| 405737101423201 Grant North             | 2/5/1976  | 4-19/2017                               | USGS         |

Sources of data:

<https://nednr.nebraska.gov/dynamic/wells/Menu.aspx>

<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/ne/nwis/gw>

# DRAFT Nebraska Republican River Basin Monitoring Well Records



**Attachment D- Nebraska Republican River Basin Streamgage and Canal Records handout**

## Nebraska Republican River Streamgauge and Canal Records

| <b>Gage Name</b>                           | <b>Streamgauge Number</b> | <b>Period of Record<br/>(For various measurements)</b>  | <b>Owner</b> |
|--|---------------------------|---|--------------|
| North Fork Republican River at CO-NE       | 06823000                  | October 1930- Present   | USGS/NeDNR   |
| Arikaree River at Haigler                  | 06821500                  | October 1931- Present   | USGS         |
| Buffalo Creek near Haigler                 | 06823500                  | October 1940 - Present  | USGS         |
| Rock Creek at Parks                        | 06824000                  | October 1940-Present  | USGS/NeDNR   |
| Republican River at Benkelman, NE          | 06824500                  | October 1894- September 1895, October 1902-November 1906, October 1946-September 1994, and October 2014-Present | USGS/NeDNR   |
| South Fork Republican River near Benkelman | 06827500                  | October 1894- September 1895, October 1902-November 1906, October 1930- September 1932, August 1937- Present    | USGS/NeDNR   |
| Republican River at Stratton               | 06828500                  | July 1950- Present  | USGS         |
| Frenchman Creek near Imperial              | 6831500                   | 1940-Present  | NeDNR/USGS   |
| Frenchman Creek near Enders                | 6832500                   | 1946 – 1993, No data since 1993 (Creek is dry)  | USGS, NeDNR  |
| Frenchman Creek at Palisade                | 06834000                  | October 1894-October 1896, June 1950- Present   | USGS/NeDNR   |
| Stinking Water Creek near Palisade         | 6835000                   | 1949-Present  | NeDNR/USGS   |
| Frenchman Creek at Culbertson              | 06835500                  | June 1913-September 1915, October 1930- Present   | USGS/NeDNR   |
| Driftwood Creek near McCook                | 06836500                  | March 1946- Present   | USGS/NeDNR   |
| Republican River at McCook                 | 06837000                  | October 1930-June 1932, October 1954- Present   | USGS/NeDNR   |
| Red Willow Creek above Hugh Butler Lake    | 6837300                   | 1960-Present  | NeDNR/USGS   |
| Red Willow Creek near Red Willow           | 06838000                  | September 1939- Present   | USGS/NeDNR   |

## Nebraska Republican River Streamgauge and Canal Records

| <b>Gage Name</b>                                 | <b>Streamgauge Number</b> | <b>Period of Record<br/>(For various measurements)</b> | <b>Owner</b> |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------|
| Republican River at Hwy 47 Bridge, Cambridge, NE | 6843400                   | June 2015- Present                                     | NeDNR        |
| Medicine Creek near Somerset                     | 6838500                   | July 2014- Present                                     | NeDNR        |
| Medicine Creek near Curtis                       | 6839970                   | July 2014- Present                                     | NeDNR        |
| Fox Creek at Curtis                              | 6840000                   | 1951-58, 1978-94, and Oct. 2007- Present               | NeDNR/USGS   |
| Medicine Creek above Harry Strunk Lake           | 6841000                   | 1950- Present  | NeDNR/USGS   |
| Medicine Creek below Harry Strunk Lake           | 6842500                   | 1949- Present  | NeDNR/USGS   |
| Republican River at Cambridge                    | 06843500                  | September 1945- Present                                | USGS/NeDNR   |
| Muddy Creek at Furnas-Gosper County Line         | 224600                    | September 2005- Present                                | NeDNR        |
| Muddy Creek at Arapahoe                          | 6844000                   | 1950-1972, 1977-1994, and 1998- Present                | NeDNR        |
| Turkey Creek at Furnas-Gosper Co. Line           | 231700                    | September 2005- Present                                | NeDNR        |
| Turkey Creek at Edison                           | 6844210                   | 1977- Present  | NeDNR/USGS   |
| Republican River near Orleans                    | 06844500                  | October 1947- Present                                  | USGS/NeDNR   |
| Beaver Creek near Beaver City                    | 06847000                  | October 1936- September 1994, October 2014- Present    | USGS/NeDNR   |
| Prairie Dog Creek near Woodruff KS               | 06848500                  | 1929 - Present   | USGS/NeDNR   |
| Sappa Creek near Stamford                        | 06847500                  | October 1945- Present                                  | USGS/NeDNR   |
| Turkey Creek at Naponee                          | 6850000                   | 1948-53, 1954089, 1991-2002, and 2003- Present         | NeDNR/USGS   |

## Nebraska Republican River Streamgauge and Canal Records

| <b>Gage Name</b>               | <b>Streamgauge Number</b> | <b>Period of Record<br/>(For various measurements)</b> | <b>Owner</b> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------|
| Center Creek at Franklin       | 6851000                   | 1948-56, 1961-75, 1977-94, and 2003- Present           | NeDNR/USGS   |
| Republican River at Riverton   | 6851090                   | 1963-67, 1970-78, and 2003- Present                    | NeDNR        |
| Thompson Creek at Riverton     | 6851500                   | 1948-56, 1962-75, and 1977- present                    | NeDNR/USGS   |
| Elm Creek at Amboy             | 6852000                   | 1948-53, 1959, 1954-77, and 1977-present               | NeDNR/USGS   |
| Republican River at Guide Rock | 06853020                  | August 1950- Present                                   | USGS/NeDNR   |
| Republican R near Hardy        | 06853500                  | 1958- Present  | USGS/NeDNR   |

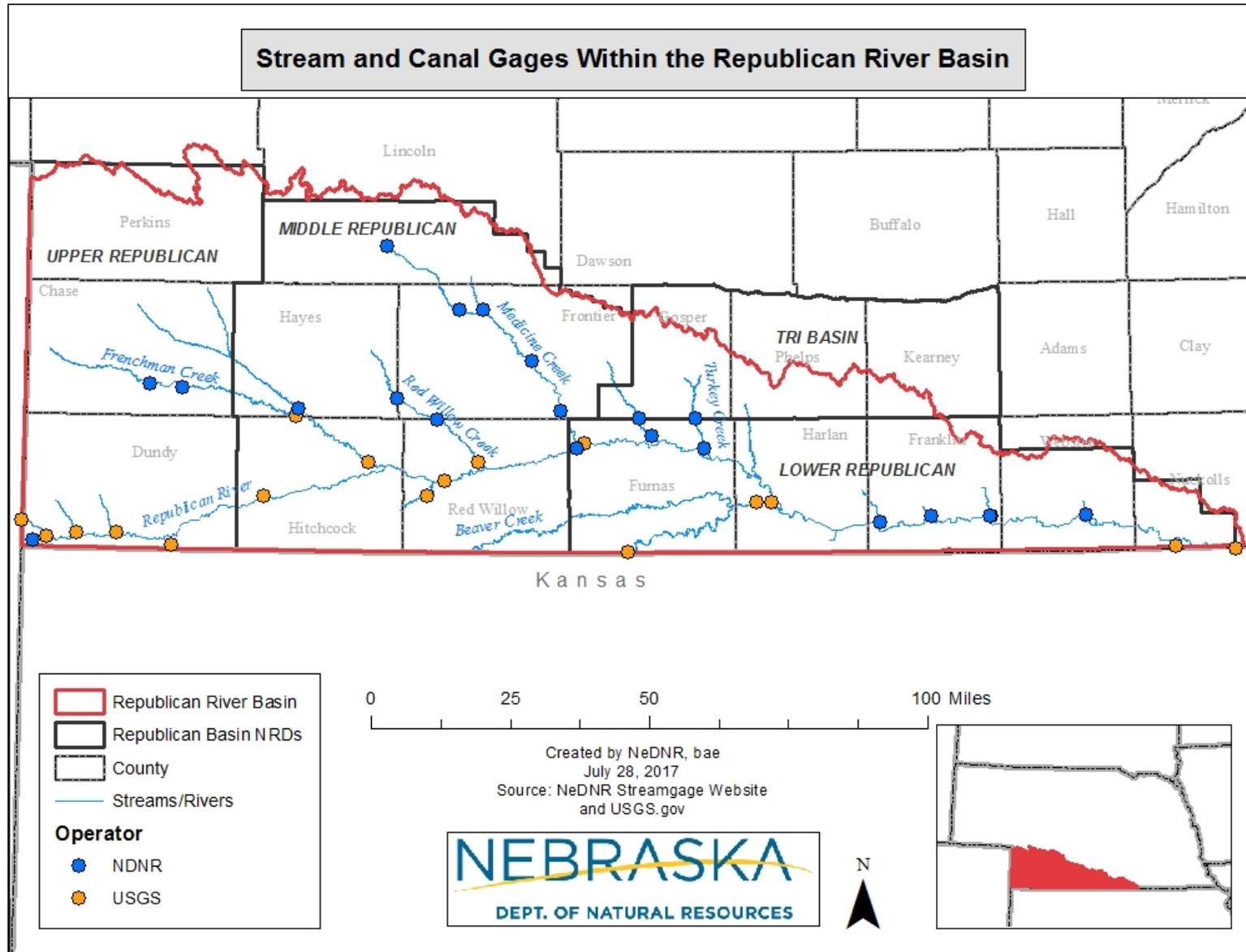
| <b>Canal and Location</b>                    | <b>Canal Gage Number</b> | <b>Period of Record<br/>(For various measurements)</b> | <b>Owner</b> |
|--|--------------------------|--|--------------|
| Haigler Canal Spillback to Arikaree River    | 61500                    | 1985, 1987 – Present                                   | NeDNR        |
| Bartley Canal from Republican River          | 6000                     | 1955-Present   | USGS         |
| Courtland Canal at Nebraska-Kansas Stateline | 06852500                 | October 1954 – Present                                 | USGS         |

### Sources of data:

<https://nednr.nebraska.gov/RealTime/Gage/Index?StationSource=&StationType=&RiverBasin=11>

<https://nednr.nebraska.gov/RealTime/>

# Nebraska Republican River Streamgauge and Canal Records



**Attachment E- Annual Augmentation Pumping Numbers handout**

## Annual Augmentation Pumping Numbers

|             | <b>Pumped from the Colorado Compliance Pipeline (af)</b> | <b>Pumped from Rock Creek (af)</b> | <b>Pumped from N-CORPE (af)</b> |
|-------------|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>2013</b> | 0  | 15,766                             | 0                               |
| <b>2014</b> | 7,448  | 19,397                             | 42,758                          |
| <b>2015</b> | 10,760   | 1,098                              | 25,932                          |
| <b>2016</b> | 10,131   | 499                                | 25,503                          |

Note: These years reflect when the volumes were pumped. There may be differences in when each volume was credited for Compact compliance.

**Attachment F- Balancing Water Supply and Use handout**

## How can the plan help to balance water supply and use?

- ✓ Divert High Flows from other basins into the Republican River Basin
  - ✓ Conjunctive Management
    - a. Enhance recharge via canal system
    - b. Enhance recharge via off-channel reservoirs
    - c. Streamflow augmentation projects
    - d. Use existing infrastructure, such as Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs and canals, to increase water supply certainty
  - ✓ Invasive vegetation removal
- 
- Develop a watershed planning approach to water management
  - Develop a subbasin approach to water management
  - Increase the efficiency of irrigation systems
    - a. Remove endguns
    - b. Incentivize efficiency
      - i. Pro-rate occupation tax according to water use
    - c. Convert surface water acres to groundwater or commingled acres
  - Develop a water exchange market
  - Retire Acres
  - No additional depletions
  - Allocations

**Attachment G- Draft Goal 5 handout**

DRAFT Goals and Objectives section of the  
Republican River Basin-Wide Plan (Goal 5 only); Updated 8/4/2017

| Goal 5: When possible, pursue projects that not only benefit water supplies and uses, but also create benefits for fish, wildlife, conveyance, and recreation within the Republican River Basin |   |
|---|---|
| Objectives  | Action Items  |
| 5.1. Where feasible and beneficial, protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat along with and public outdoor recreational opportunities  | 5.1.1. Partner with wildlife-focused organizations on projects that benefit the organizations' habitat and wildlife interests while also helping to fulfill other goals of this Plan <del>Where feasible and beneficial, partner with various groups such as (Game and Parks, Ducks Unlimited, Crane Trust, etc.) to share costs to establish new or utilize existing infrastructure for, for example, imported water from interbasin transfers during periods of high flows to benefit the group's habitat and wildlife interests, while also providing aquifer recharge</del> |
|   | 5.1.2. Promote public recreation recreational floating on the river (tubing, kayaking, and canoeing), when doing so can also help to fulfill other goals of this Plan   |
|   | 5.1.3. riparian wetland assessment and restoration Cooperate in projects to assess and restore riparian wetlands while also helping to fulfill other goals of this Plan   |
| 5.2. Where feasible and beneficial, reduce the effects of <del>remove</del> undesirable vegetation impacting on water conveyance  | 5.2.1. Cooperate in removing undesirable vegetation impacting water conveyance and managing reinfestation   |

**Comment [CJMF1]:** Moved many of these details to the description section

**Comment [CJMF2]:** Moved to the description section as examples

**Goal 5:** When possible, pursue projects that not only benefit water supplies and uses, but also create benefits for fish, wildlife, conveyance, and recreation within the Republican River Basin

During the development of this Plan, stakeholders expressed that it was important to them that this Plan provide benefits to fish, wildlife, conveyance, and recreation within the Basin. While these potential areas of benefit do not directly relate to integrated management of the Basin's

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- Brown = new language based a concept agreed upon by stakeholder vote; or revisions that alter the wording but not the overall concept of language previously agreed upon by stakeholder vote
- Purple = new language drafted following the June 2017 stakeholder meeting (not yet voted on)
- [Italicized text in brackets]* = placeholder

DRAFT Goals and Objectives section of the  
Republican River Basin-Wide Plan (Goal 5 only); Updated 8/4/2017

water supplies and uses, there are likely to be opportunities for projects that can benefit fish, wildlife, or recreation while also benefiting water supplies and uses according to the Plan's other goals and their associated objectives and action items. The objectives and action items that fall under Goal 5 outline ways in which projects to manage water supplies and uses can provide additional benefits to the Basin's fish, wildlife, conveyance, and recreation.

It is important to note that for any action taken in fulfillment of any objective or action item under Goal 5 to benefit fish, wildlife, conveyance, or recreation, the action must also benefit water supplies and uses in fulfillment of one or more of the Plan's other goals, objectives, or action items. Actions that only benefit fish, wildlife, conveyance, or recreation without also benefiting hydrologically connected water supplies fall outside of the statutory authority of this Plan.

**Objective 5.1:** Where feasible and beneficial, protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat ~~along with and~~ outdoor recreational opportunities

NeDNR and the NRDs will pursue opportunities to protect and enhance wildlife habitat and outdoor recreation opportunities, if it is feasible and beneficial do to so as part of projects that also benefit water supply and use. Further details are given in the action items below.

**Action Item 5.1.1:** Partner with wildlife-focused organizations on projects that benefit the organizations' habitat and wildlife interests while also helping to fulfill other goals of this Plan

If it is feasible and beneficial to do so as part of actions taken to benefit water supply and use in fulfillment of this Plan's other goals, NeDNR and the NRDs will partner with wildlife-focused organizations on projects that benefit wildlife and their habitat. Some examples of wildlife and habitat-focused groups operating in Nebraska include the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Ducks Unlimited, Audubon Nebraska, the Nature Conservancy, and the Crane Trust. The level of involvement of partner organizations may vary according to the needs and circumstances of each individual project, ranging from, for example, consultation on questions related to their area of expertise, to collaboration on project planning and design, to sharing project costs for projects that benefit the groups' wildlife and habitat-related interests.

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DRAFT Goals and Objectives section of the  
Republican River Basin-Wide Plan (**Goal 5 only**); Updated 8/4/2017

Projects undertaken to fulfill this objective may involve establishing new or utilizing existing infrastructure. One example of a type of project that could benefit both the Basin's water supplies and wildlife habitat would be to use water diverted through an interbasin transfer project during periods of high flows to enhance wildlife habitat.

**Action Item 5.1.2:** Promote public recreation ~~recreational floating~~ on the river ~~(tubing, kayaking, and canoeing)~~, when doing so can also help to fulfill other goals of this Plan

If it is feasible and beneficial to do so as part of actions taken to benefit water supply and use in fulfillment of this Plan's other goals, NeDNR and the NRDs will promote public recreation on the river. Some examples of recreational floating include recreational floating such as tubing, kayaking, and canoeing.

For promotion of public recreation, it may be beneficial for NeDNR and the NRDs to partner with organizations with an interest in public recreation, such as the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission or local river outfitters.

**Action Item 5.1.3:** Cooperate in projects to assess and restore riparian wetlands while also helping to fulfill other goals of this Plan

NeDNR and the NRDs will participate in projects to assess and restore riparian wetlands if it is feasible and beneficial to do so as part of actions taken to benefit water supply and use in fulfillment of this Plan's other goals, such as for aquifer recharge (Objective *[placeholder for cross-reference to the relevant objective, currently 3.2]*). As appropriate, they will do so in cooperation with organizations with interest and expertise in wetland restoration. Because of the wide-range of benefits wetlands provide, such as groundwater recharge, wildlife habitat, flood control, and water quality, the primary focus of potential partner organizations for mutually beneficial wetland assessment and restoration projects also varies widely.

Action Item 5.1.3 includes two parts: wetland assessment and wetland restoration. Wetland assessment involves evaluating wetland condition and function. This may be done for many purposes, such as to identify and inventory existing wetlands, to compare and prioritize wetlands for development and mitigation purposes, or to establish a baseline condition and then monitor changes in

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DRAFT Goals and Objectives section of the  
Republican River Basin-Wide Plan (Goal 5 only); Updated 8/4/2017

condition and function over time. Wetland restoration involves rehabilitating the hydrology, plants, and soils of a degraded wetland or reestablishing a wetland that has been destroyed.

**Objective 5.2:** Where feasible and beneficial, reduce the effects of ~~remove~~ undesirable vegetation ~~impacting on~~ water conveyance

NeDNR and the NRDs will pursue opportunities to reduce the effects of undesirable vegetation on water conveyance, if it is feasible and beneficial do to so as part of projects that also benefit water supply and use. Conveyance is the transport of water from one location to another. Further details are given in the action item below.

**Action Item 5.2.1:** Cooperate in removing undesirable vegetation ~~impacting~~ water conveyance and managing reinfestation

NeDNR and the NRDs will participate in projects to remove undesirable vegetation impacting water conveyance, if it is feasible and beneficial to do so as part of actions taken to benefit water supply and use in fulfillment of this Plan's other goals.

A summary providing background information about the relationship between removal of invasive vegetation and evapotranspiration is included as Appendix [X]. This information should be taken to consideration when considering projects involving riparian vegetation removal and management.

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*[Italicized text in brackets]* = placeholder

**Attachment H- Republican River Basin-Wide Plan July Coordination Meeting Summary**

# Republican River Basin-Wide Plan July Coordination Meeting Summary

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*Monday, July 31, 2017 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM  
Tri-Basin Natural Resources District – 1723 Burlington Street, Holdrege, NE*

## Attendance

|                              |                        |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Scott Dicke (LRNRD)          | Sylvia Johnson (MRNRD) | Kari Burgert (NeDNR)   |
| Nate Jenkins (URNRD)         | Tatiana Height (NeDNR) | Jasper Fanning (URNRD) |
| John Thorburn (TBNRD)        | Alex Boyce (MRNRD)     | Larry Reynolds (TBNRD) |
| Carol Flaute (NeDNR)         | Jeff Fassett (NeDNR)   | Mike Clements (LRNRD)  |
| Jennifer Schellpeper (NeDNR) | Jesse Bradley (NeDNR)  |                        |
| Jack Russell (MRNRD)         | Patti Banks (Vireo)    |                        |

---

The meeting opened with an overview of a Republican River Compact Administration (RRCA) Current Events and FAQs handout, which NeDNR had developed in response to questions from the NRDs at a previous coordination meeting.

The group then discussed general Basin updates including the upcoming RRCA annual meeting in Burlington, Colorado.

The next topic of discussion was the August Stakeholder meeting as well as other future stakeholder meetings. The group took time to revisit the draft geographic area for the Plan. There was also an overview of the handouts to be distributed during the August Stakeholder meeting, stakeholder suggestions received following the June Stakeholder meeting, and previous handouts from the Water Supply and Use Information Packet which may need to be revised.

The remaining anticipated meeting schedule was discussed, and this will be discussed further at a future Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting. It was also mentioned that there will likely need to be another extension in order to allow adequate time for a formal Stakeholder vote on the final plan, arranging a public hearing, and adoption of the final Plan.

The next Republican River Basin-Wide Plan coordination meeting will be held Tuesday, September 19, 2017.

**Attachment I – Draft June 2017 Meeting Minutes**

**Republican River Basin-Wide Plan**  
**DRAFT Stakeholder Advisory Meeting Minutes**  
**June 20, 2017 | Community Center, Cambridge, Nebraska**

**Stakeholder Advisory Committee members in attendance were:**

|                     |                 |                |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Jared Baker         | Max Kaiser      | Shad Stamm     |
| Brad Edgerton       | Curtis Kayton   | Craig Scott    |
| Troy Fletcher       | Jim Kent        | Aaron Thompson |
| Jerda Garey Vickers | Bradly Knuth    | Ted Tietjen    |
| Dale Helms          | Jerry Kuenning  | Marcia Trompke |
| Dick Helms          | Kent Lorens     | Tom Vickers    |
| Robin Hinrichs      | Gale Lush       | Todd Watson    |
| Bill Hoyt           | Cedric McDaniel |                |

**Plan Development Team members in attendance were:**

|               |                |                      |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Patti Banks   | Jeff Fassett   | Jennifer Schellpeper |
| Emily Bausch  | Carol Flaute   | John Thorburn        |
| Kari Burgert  | Tatiana Height | Carrie Wiese         |
| Mike Clements | Nate Jenkins   | Ray Winz             |
| Scott Dicke   | Sylvia Johnson |                      |
| Beth Eckles   | Jack Russell   |                      |

**Individuals from the community present during the meeting included:**

Phyllis Johnson  
Chelsea Erickson  
Jean Eichorst  
Mark R. Christenson

Note: See Attachment A for a copy of the sign-in sheets.

**NOTICE OF THE MEETING**

Notice of the meeting was published on the Department of Natural Resources web site ([dnr.nebraska.gov](http://dnr.nebraska.gov)). Notices were also published in the Holdrege Daily Citizen, McCook Gazette, Imperial Republican, and the Benkelman Post & News Chronicle.

## **INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

The following informational materials were distributed to stakeholders:

- Meeting agenda (Attachment B)
- Revised Groundwater Pumping handout (Attachment C)
- Understanding Water Supply and Use handout (Attachment D)
- Draft Regulatory and Legal Chronology handout (Attachment E)
- Water User Maps handout (Attachment F)
- Draft Balancing Water Supply and Use handout (Attachment G)
- Draft Goals 1-4 handout (Attachment H)
- Compiled Written Stakeholder Comments on Remaining Draft Plan Language Received Following the November 2016 Stakeholder Meeting handout (Attachment I)
- Allocations History handout (Attachment J)
- Republican River Compact Administration (RRCA) Accounting Data handout (Attachment K)
- Republican River Basin-Wide Plan April and May Coordination Meeting Notes (Attachment L)
- Draft March 2017 Meeting Minutes
- Republican River Basin-Wide Planning Meeting Schedule (Attachment M)

### **1. WELCOME**

- Jennifer Schellpeper, NeDNR, welcomed everyone and reviewed the agenda and stated that this meeting is subject to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.
- It was announced that the November meeting minutes are final and have been posted to Republican River Basin Wide Plan's website.
- The group was then asked to review the March meeting minutes and to provide comments within 15 days. If no comments are submitted then the minutes will be considered final.
- The group was asked to read the April and May Coordination Meeting notes
- Carol Flaute made an announcement that photos will be taken during the meeting for outreach purposes, so that we can have photos to represent this stakeholder process. If anyone objected to having pictures of them used by NeDNR and the NRDs for this purpose, they were instructed to talk to Carol at lunch time. No one present objected.

NeDNR Director Jeff Fassett addressed the stakeholder group.

- Fassett reviewed the accomplishments made at the RRCA May 25, 2017, Special Meeting, in which the Accounting Procedures were adopted. This means the accounting procedures adopted are retroactive to 2005, and all data from 2005 to 2015 are now official. He described how collaboration with other states has led to this finalization and agreement.
- The Director summarized current status of litigation proceedings within the Basin.
- Fassett described the current and upcoming NeDNR budget cuts, and how it may affect project funding sources.
- A stakeholder asked to see how the accounting changes affect Nebraska's portion.

- Another stakeholder asked about the status of 2017 being a water short year, and another asked about Colorado's shortfalls.

Director Fassett replied that we are working on a way to communicate better the various triggers.

The stakeholder's attention was directed toward an accounting data handout.

## 2. PLAN LANGUAGE

- Jennifer opened the discussion beginning with a handout of draft Plan language for goal 5. Draft Plan language for goal 5 was also distributed at the March 2017 Stakeholder meeting but was not discussed.
- Stakeholders offered suggested revisions.
  - Some of the suggested revisions included:
    - The Plan shouldn't duplicate what Twin Valley Weed Management is doing, but endorse instead, and cooperate with current actions.
    - Include the Republican River Basin rather than just the Republican River Valley.
    - Change the word "control" to "managing" re-infestations.
    - Add examples, for clarification, to Action Item 5.1.1.

**A vote was taken and Goal 5, Objectives 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3, and Action Items 5.1.1., 5.1.2 and 5.3.1. were approved as follows:**

***Goal 5: "When possible, pursue projects that not only benefit water supplies and uses, but also create benefits for fish, wildlife, and recreation within the Republican River Basin."***

Stakeholder Proposed Action Item 5.1.1.

Where feasible and beneficial, partner with various groups such as (Game and Parks, Ducks Unlimited, Crane Trust, etc.) to share costs to establish new or utilize existing infrastructure and pay costs for, for example imported water from interbasin transfers during periods of high flows to benefit the group's habitat and wildlife interests, while also providing aquifer recharge."

Stakeholder Proposed Action Item 5.3.1.

Cooperate in removing undesirable vegetation and managing reinfestation. The strategy is in place.

- No revisions were made to objectives 5.1, 5.2, or 5.3 and action item 5.1.2.

**NeDNR and NRDs will take the Goal 5 language revise it, add additional details, and bring back for consideration.**

### **3. DISCUSSION LEADING TO ADDITIONAL GOALS**

#### **I. UNDERSTANDING WATER SUPPLY AND USE**

- Jennifer Schellpeper introduced the draft Understanding Water Supply and Use handout. The main task given to the stakeholders was to consider the question “How might the Plan contribute to the understanding of water supply and use?”
- Data would be shared on either a statutorily required 5-year basis, or the preferred annual basis.
- Much of the data provided to the RRCA is not currently being made public.
- Specific Stakeholder input regarding Understanding Water Supply and Use are included as an attachment (Attachment N).

The stakeholders were informed that NeDNR and NRDs will come back with plan language based on this input. Any additional comments may be submitted within 15 days, for consideration.

#### **II. REGULATORY AND LEGAL CHRONOLOGY**

- Jennifer Schellpeper introduced the draft Regulatory and Legal Chronology handout (Attachment E). The group was asked whether including the Regulatory and Legal Chronology in the Plan would help them and the public to understand how we got to where we are today and to provide feedback on other regulatory or legal items that they think should be included in the chronology.
- Specific Stakeholder input regarding the Regulatory and Legal Chronology are included as an attachment (Attachment O).

#### **III. COMPACT COMPLIANCE DISTRIBUTION**

- Jennifer Schellpeper introduced the topic and described the handouts related to Compact compliance distribution. Stakeholders discussed the percentages of acres irrigated by surface water irrigators in relation to acres irrigated with groundwater, and acres comingled.
- The group was asked to provide input on the question, “How might the Plan address the issue of Compact compliance distribution?” and “What kind of solutions might the plan contain to address this problem?”
- Specific stakeholder responses to the above questions are included as an attachment (Attachment P).

- Jennifer suggested the group continue this conversation along with beginning a discussion of the sustainability question for the next meeting in August 2017.

Homework assignments to be completed within 15 days (Wednesday, July 5):

- Review the draft minutes of the March stakeholder advisory committee meeting.
- Provide written comments on draft Plan language for goals 1-4.
- Submit additional suggestions for topics discussed today: 1) Understanding water supply and use, and 2) Legal and regulatory chronology.

#### **4. PARKING LOT**

When members of the group brought up topics that should be addressed, but best discussed at another time, they were written down, and added to the "Parking Lot" for future discussion. As of the end of the meeting, items in the Parking Lot discussed are crossed off and the remaining topics are:

- Delineation of the basin-wide plan's geographic area
- Definition of sustainability
- Dr. Goeke speaking to the group
- ~~Reliable Supply~~
- Stakeholder role after plan adopted ~~and reporting~~
- ~~Information sharing with public and on website~~
- Board member training on healthy streams

The parking lot will be reviewed at the close of every Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting. Items which have been addressed and resolved will be removed from the parking lot and new items may also be added to the parking lot. At the June 2017 meeting, no new items were added to the parking lot.

#### **5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

#### **6. STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS**

Q. Does the Plan have authority over an IMP? A. -Statute states that the IMPs need to be consistent with the Basin-Wide Plan.

Statement- It seems like most of the IMPs are about compact compliance and some of them consider aquifer sustainability, but the basin-wide plan is more about sustainability of the aquifer than compact compliance. Response- the IMPs are supposed to reduce groundwater pumping impacts on surface water. Groundwater Management Plans are supposed to address groundwater sustainability. They are a separate plan. IMPs are a joint plan between NeDNR and NRDs but Groundwater Management Plans are developed by NRDs and reviewed by NeDNR.

## **7. NEXT MEETING**

On behalf of the entire basin-wide plan development team, including the four NRDs and NeDNR, Schellpeper thanked the stakeholders for attending and participating in this process. The next meeting will be held at the Cambridge Community Center from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm C.D.T. on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Project Website = <http://rrbwp.nebraska.gov/>  
*(Please note that this web address has recently changed)*

DRAFT

**Attachment A – Sign-in Sheets**

**Attachment B – Meeting Agenda**

**Attachment C – Revised Groundwater Pumping handout**

**Attachment D- Understanding Water Supply and Use handout**

**Attachment E- Draft Regulatory and Legal Chronology**

**Attachment F- Water User Maps handout**

**Attachment G- Draft Balancing Water Supply and Use handout**

**Attachment H- Draft Goals 1-4**

**Attachment I – Compiled Written Stakeholder Comments on Remaining Draft Plan Language Received Following the November 2016 Stakeholder Meeting handout**

**Attachment J- Allocations History handout**

**Attachment K- Republican River Compact Administration (RRCA) Accounting Data handout**

**Attachment L- Republican River Basin-Wide Plan April and May Coordination Meeting Notes**

**Attachment M- Republican River Basin-Wide Planning Meeting Schedule**

*Note: Because Attachments A-M are reproductions of materials that have already been distributed at stakeholder meetings, they will not be reproduced in copies of these minutes that are printed for distribution at stakeholder meetings. In the final, electronic version of these minutes, this statement will be deleted, and Attachments A-M will be included in their entirety.*

**Attachment N - Specific Stakeholder Feedback Regarding Understanding Water Supply and Use**

DRAFT

- Stakeholder suggestions during the Understanding Water Supply and Use discussion included:
  - Deep monitoring wells should be used for tracking groundwater levels throughout the entire Basin.
  - Challenge what is used as a base-year and establish targets.
  - Report the water level data to the public in an understandable way and on a regular basis.
  - Establish targets from which to compare.
  - Gather data from, and compile with other well level data, observation wells that are adjacent to the US Bureau of Reclamation's irrigation canals to measure recharge occurring from the diversions.
  - Use checkbook analogy.
  - NRDs have consistent well data from 1980.
  - Have a more broad and general informational campaign for the public, and collect and use more specific data for the water managers.
  - Public educational materials should have a public relations component.
    - The public doesn't understand data, it must be presented as a well-managed resource.
    - Relate success stories and the impact of specific management actions.
    - Educate the public as well as providing them with realistic expectations.
    - Show the big picture with all of the variables that apply.
    - Yearly we share groundwater level data and maps with well owners.
    - Compare our data and correlative rights laws to other states' to highlight Nebraska's progress.
    - Share efficiencies users are implementing and their outcomes.
    - Provide descriptions of various NRD management actions.
  - Pull all the data together in one location. And link websites together. Stakeholders identified important data such as:
    - Groundwater data:

- Groundwater depletions, trends overtime.
- Provide metered groundwater data and pumping in a form that is understandable to the general public on a regular basis.
- Trends in acres irrigated using groundwater.
- Tracking of groundwater retirements and any associated transfer's overall affects.
- Surface water data:
  - Surface water deliveries, including reservoir release volumes.
  - Surface water inflows.
  - Number of acres no longer being irrigated by surface water, reservoir level declines, and districts no longer pumping surface water due to reduced stream flows.
  - Streamflow trend.
- Provide a definition of what commingled means and its impact.
- Volume of water delivered through augmentation projects.
- Relate annual data to weather conditions. Usage + rainfall during growing season results in a variable amount used from year to year.
- How conservation practices affect stream flows.
- Compare efficiency of water use by bushel/acre-foot.
- Calculate the consumptive use since we're producing more bushels with the same amount of water, and how that affects runoff and evaporation.
- View the big picture, include other states' data, Colorado and Kansas.
- Need an overall goal to measure progress.
- Although mentioned during the conversation about the legal chronology, the comments (directly) below relate more to data needs:
  - Compare the inches per acre of surface water deliveries to that of groundwater use.
  - How many surface water irrigated acres are supplemented by groundwater?
  - Tracking when water is used for compliance, and effects on surface water supply.

- Show number of acre-feet of water delivered to Kansas to meet compliance that would have been available to us [assuming the newly adopted accounting method would reveal a volume of water from years 2013-2014].
- Show what volume has to be delivered at a canal headgate to get the number of inches to a turn out at the field.
- Calculate the losses of surface water operations that result in groundwater aquifer recharge and return flows.
- Define consumptive use.
- Compare consumptive use of groundwater use and surface water diversions.
- In relation to the history of allocations, actual use which varies from year to year, for both groundwater and surface water, is important.
- There is no loss of water, it goes to a different purpose.
- Can't put the horse back in the barn.

**Attachment O – Specific Stakeholder Feedback Regarding the Regulatory and Legal Chronology**

DRAFT

- Stakeholder suggestions during the Regulatory and Legal Chronology discussion included:
  - Look at the actions done to encourage, and how efficiencies have changed over time.
  - Add a definition of “correlative rights” and “prior appropriation.”
  - Include CREP and other retirement programs.
  - Add when groundwater pumping allocations began.
    - Include when groundwater well and surface water appropriation moratoriums went into effect.
  - In relation to the history of allocations, actual use which varies from year to year, for both groundwater and surface water, is important.
  - Compare percentage of acres irrigated with surface water are now enhanced with groundwater.
  - Show history of actual consumptive use.
  - Show technological advances in irrigation both groundwater and surface water.

**Attachment P - Specific Stakeholder Feedback Regarding Compact Compliance Distribution and Use**

DRAFT

- Stakeholder suggestions during the Compact Compliance Distribution discussion included:
  - Using water table levels by Township to set allocations.
  - All wells in the surface water basin should be restricted, including TBNRD- thus increasing the groundwater mound.
  - Depletion driven groundwater allocation.
  - The N-CORPE project is a means of distributing the burden.
  - Occupation tax is paid by everyone.
  - More augmentation projects and interbasin diversion (Jennifer added that those are included in Goal 1-4).
  - Find out how short is this basin of water, and what needs to be added to the system.
    - Jen related that this is a value question, and to refer to the Plan's Vision and Mission statements. The level of sustainability has to be balanced with other factors. We do have accounting numbers to show where we are. But that studying to determine what sustainability might be and reporting this could be part of the Plan.
  - Compact compliance means we probably have enough water.
  - While in Compact compliance can still have a declining aquifer.
  - Share the burden with people who benefit but are not farmers.
  - Identify a metric - inches per surface water acre, and groundwater acre, identify the distribution of compliance, monitor over time, and use that as a way to distribute the burden.
  - We should be looking at the whole picture, why did we get here and what are we going to do?
  - Identify all users who have access to groundwater.
  - Surface water users who have access to groundwater would be located within the rapid response area and would be shut down.
  - Augmentation through the N-CORPE project forestalled shutting down of quick response wells
  - Year to year stop-gaps (augmentation) are not long term solutions.
  - The main stem is not or fully hydrologically connected to aquifer
  - Sustainability of the aquifer is the only long-term solution.

**Attachment J- Future Meetings Plan handout**

# Future Meetings Plan

## August 15<sup>th</sup> Stakeholder Meeting

- Distribute Plan language for Stakeholders to take home, review, and submit written comments on
  - Goal 5
- Review Geographic Area
- Discuss Compact Compliance Distribution and Balancing Water Supply and Use

## September 19<sup>th</sup> Coordination Meeting

- Review draft Plan language for
  - Compact Compliance Distribution
  - Balancing Water Supply and Use
- Review plan language for any other section of the Plan that are ready
- Discuss timeframe for half the Goals / Monitoring / Measureable Objectives

## October 24<sup>th</sup> Coordination Meeting

- Review November Stakeholder Agenda
- Review Plan Language for
  - Understanding Water Supply and Use
  - Differences and Changes through Time in Regulatory Measures
  - Other plan sections that are ready
- Discuss timeframe for additional Goals/ Monitoring / Measureable Objectives

## November 30<sup>th</sup> Stakeholder Meeting

- Review and vote on draft Plan language for
  - Balancing Water Supply and Use
  - Compact Compliance Distribution
  - Understanding Water Supply and Use
  - Differences and Changes through Time in Regulatory Measures
- Review Timeframes to date/ Monitoring / Measureable Objectives
- Handout all Goals and Objectives Plan Language and other drafted sections of the Plan to this point for Stakeholders to take home, review, and submit written comments

# Future Meetings Plan

## January Coordination Meeting (*Date TBD*)

- Review January Stakeholder Agenda
- Review Plan Language for Balancing Water Supply and Use
- Finish Timeframes/ Monitoring / Measureable Objectives

*NeDNR will mail out Plan Language for Balancing Water Supply and Use and Compact Compliance Distribution to Stakeholders – so the group will have all plan language*

## March Stakeholder Meeting (*Date TBD*)

- Share Timeframes/ Monitoring / Measureable Objectives
- Review full draft of the Plan and vote if ready

*From here DNR and the NRDs take the draft plan to hearing*

**Note: There may be a need for a brief meeting to have a final vote on the Plan which would include a discussion of any feedback received prior to the March meeting.**