

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

***Nebraska Department of Natural Resources***

*301 Centennial Mall South - P.O. Box 94676 - Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4676 - (402) 471-2363*

---

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**January 16, 2008, 3:00 p.m. CDT**

## **CONTACT**

**Ann Bleed, Director of Natural  
Resources, 402-471-2363**

The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources has determined that the Missouri Tributary Basins, the Blue River Basins, the Lower Plate River Basin and a portion of the Lower Niobrara Basin are not fully appropriated at this time. This decision was based on the Department's annual report evaluating the river basins of the state and testimony given at a public hearing.

The purpose of the annual evaluation is to determine if there is enough surface and ground water in the river basin to sustain the beneficial uses of existing surface water appropriations or the beneficial purposes of wells constructed in aquifers dependent on recharge from the stream. When a river basin is determined to be fully appropriated, it means the available water supply is just in balance with the existing demands. Allowing any additional consumptive use of water will cause a decrease in the water supply needed by existing water uses.