



Nebraska  
Department of Natural Resources

## NEBRASKA'S WATER MANAGEMENT RESOURCE

Providing the sound science and support for managing  
Nebraska's most precious resource.

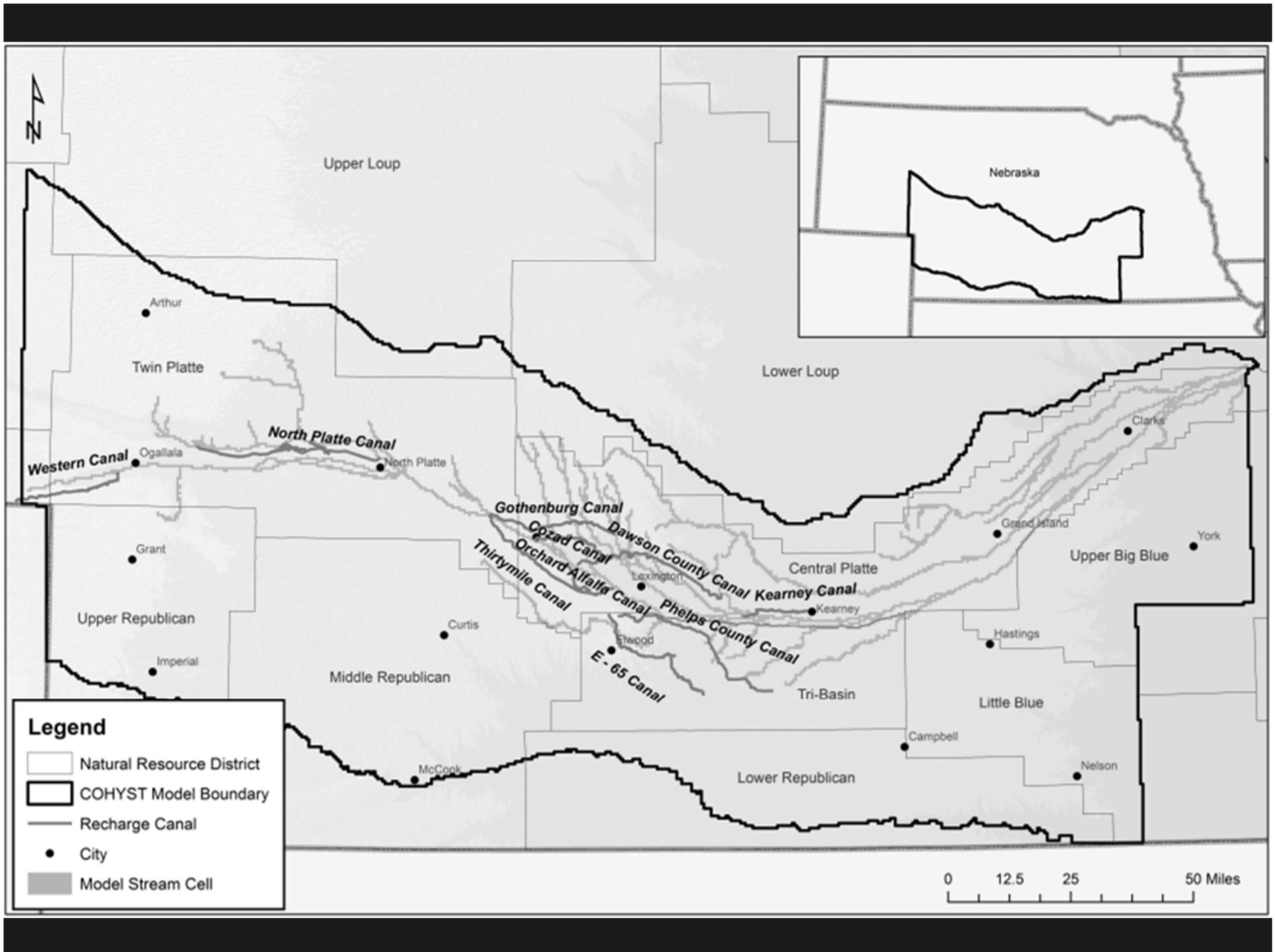
# Modeling High Flow Diversions

Colby Osborn



# Objective

Determine the quantity and timing which the recharged water returns to the Platte River, and which natural resource district (NRD) is responsible.



Locate model cells where recharge occurred

Prepare diversion data

Add recharge values to well file



Create a input file specific to NRD

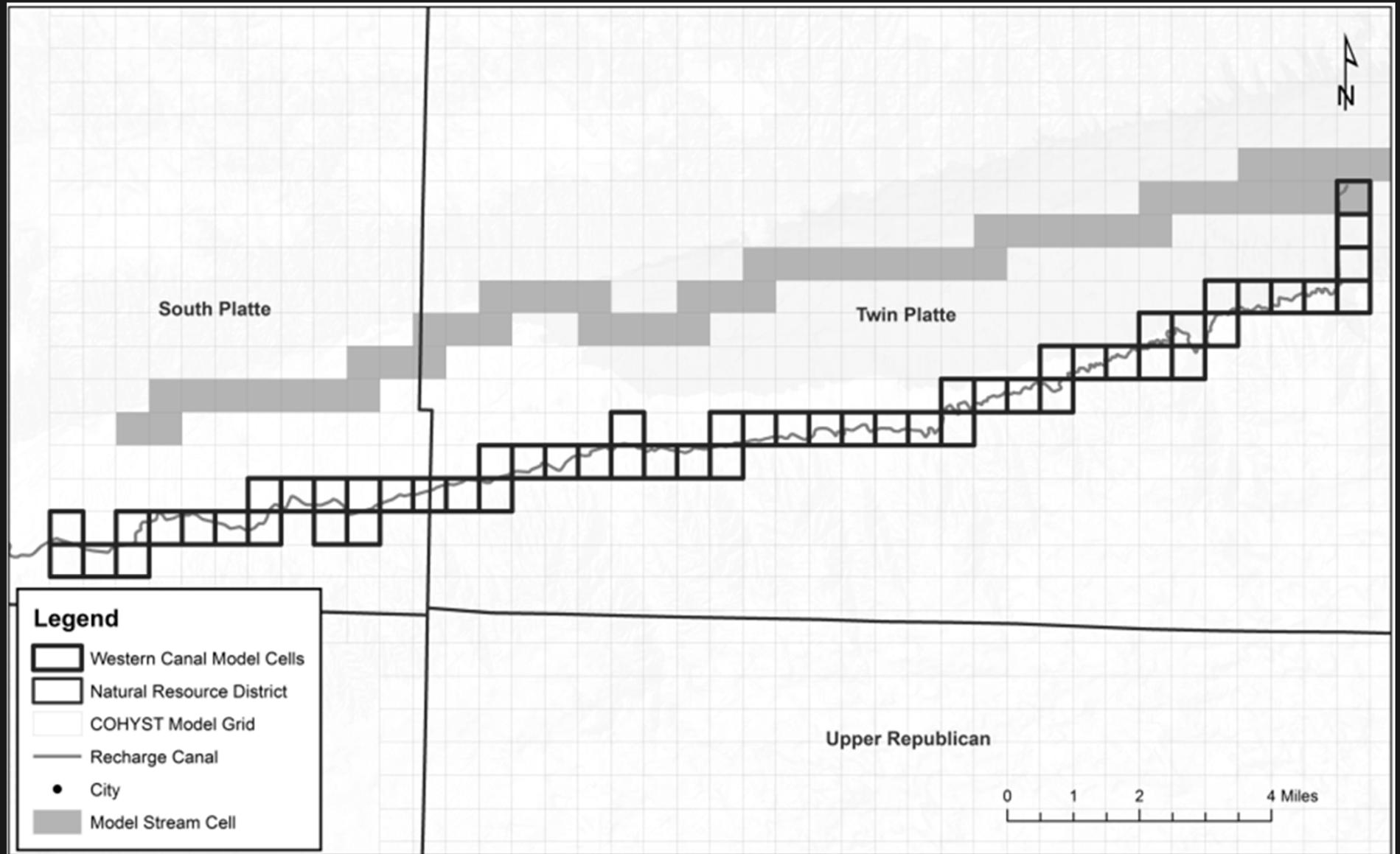


Run groundwater model



Post process cell-by-cell flow output data

# Locate Model Cells Which to Assign Recharge



# Preparing Diversion Data for the Model

Convert to cubic feet per day

	A	B	C
1	Date	Diversion (cfs)	Diversion (cfd)
2	1-Apr-11	579	50,000,000
3	2-Apr-11	810	70,000,000
4	3-Apr-11	579	50,000,000
5	4-Apr-11	810	70,000,000
6	5-Apr-11	579	50,000,000
7	6-Apr-11	810	70,000,000
8	7-Apr-11	579	50,000,000
9	8-Apr-11	810	70,000,000
10	9-Apr-11	579	50,000,000
11	10-Apr-11	810	70,000,000
12	11-Apr-11	579	50,000,000
13	12-Apr-11	810	70,000,000

Calculate the monthly average, daily rate

	A	B
1	Date	Average Diversion Rate (CFD)
2	1-Apr-11	60,000,000
3	1-May-11	70,000,000
4	1-Jun-11	0
5	1-Jul-11	0
6	1-Aug-11	0
7	1-Sep-11	0

Adjust the diverted rate by the canal loss

	A	B	C	D
1	Date	Average Diversion Rate (CFD)	Canal loss (%)	Average Recharge Rate (CFD)
2	1-Apr-11	60,000,000	40	24,000,000
3	1-May-11	70,000,000	40	28,000,000
4	1-Jun-11	0	40	0
5	1-Jul-11	0	40	0
6	1-Aug-11	0	40	0
7	1-Sep-11	0	40	0

Divide the monthly average, daily rate amongst the model cells

	A	B	C	D
1	Date	Average Recharge Rate (CFD)	# of Model Cells for Canal	Recharge Rate Per Cell (CFD)
2	1-Apr-11	20,000,000	100	200,000
3	1-May-11	24,000,000	100	240,000
4	1-Jun-11	0	100	0
5	1-Jul-11	0	100	0
6	1-Aug-11	0	100	0
7	1-Sep-11	0	100	0

# Adding Recharge Values to Input File

2011\_2012\_2013.WEL x

1	275	441	-23701.42
1	275	442	-34740.96
1	275	443	-39259.43
1	275	444	-15367.90
1	275	445	-11838.03
1	275	446	-1349.84
1	275	448	-19956.09
1	275	449	-18099.26
1	275	450	-36268.24
1	275	451	-297.85
1	275	452	-21109.47
1	275	455	-23650.72
1	275	457	-26711.62

45297

0

Stress Period:0765

1	112	118	41628.34
1	113	118	41628.34
1	113	119	41628.34
1	113	120	41628.34
1	114	120	41628.34
1	114	121	41628.34
1	114	122	41628.34
1	114	123	41628.34
1	114	124	41628.34
1	115	124	41628.34
1	116	124	41628.34
1	117	124	41628.34
1	117	125	41628.34
1	117	126	41628.34
1	114	106	68826.46
1	114	107	68826.46
1	114	108	68826.46
1	114	109	68826.46
1	114	110	68826.46
1	115	110	68826.46
1	115	111	68826.46

# Creating a Well File Specific to the NRD

Baseline well file



Select all cells, except for cell belonging to the NRD of interest



Baseline well file with recharge within all the NRDs



Select cells for the NRD of interest



Well file with recharge only within the NRD of interest



## Run groundwater model

```
mf2005
Z:\Users\Colby\Models\COHYST2001_24b_13_25>mf2005

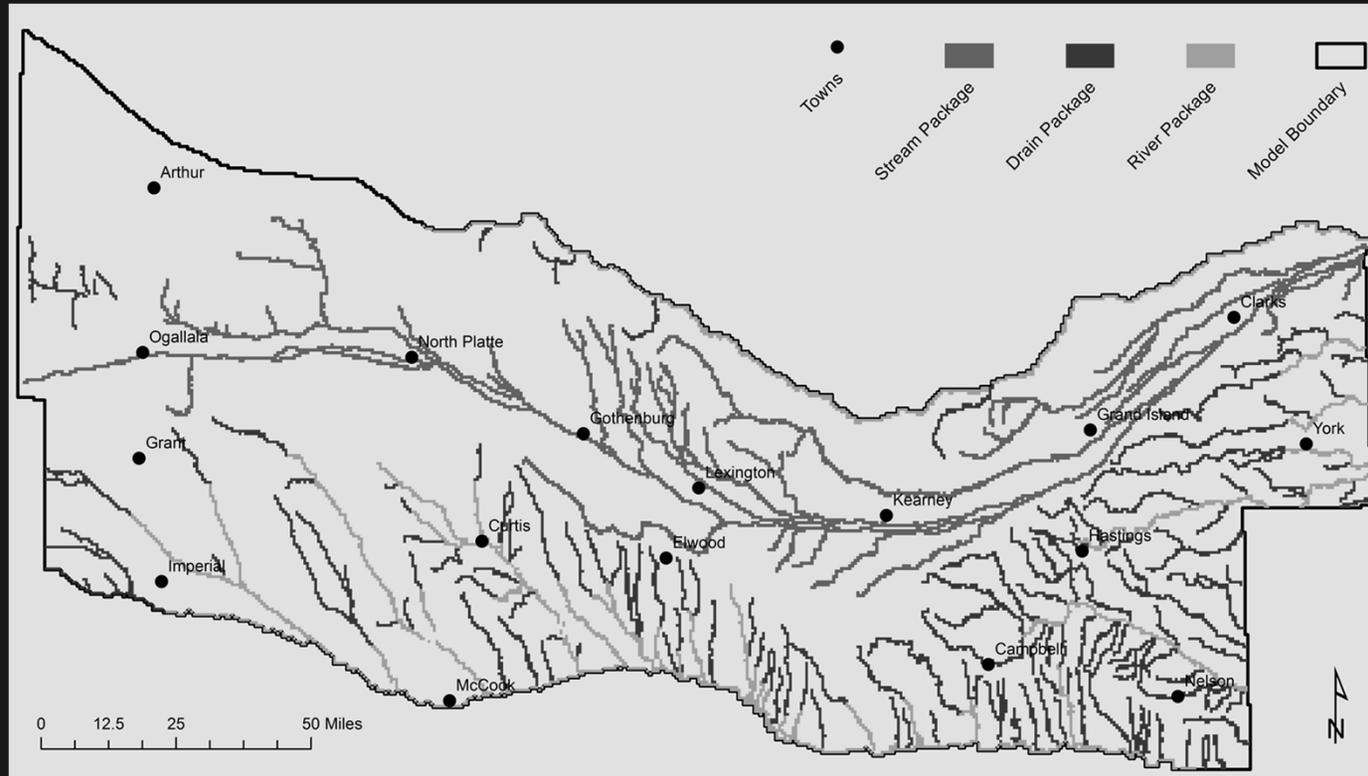
MODFLOW-2005
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MODULAR FINITE-DIFFERENCE GROUND-WATER FLOW MODEL
Version 1.11.00 8/8/2013

Enter the name of the NAME FILE:
COHYST2010_24b_13_25
Using NAME file: COHYST2010_24b_13_25.nam
Run start date and time (yyyy/mm/dd hh:mm:ss): 2015/09/10 14:32:52

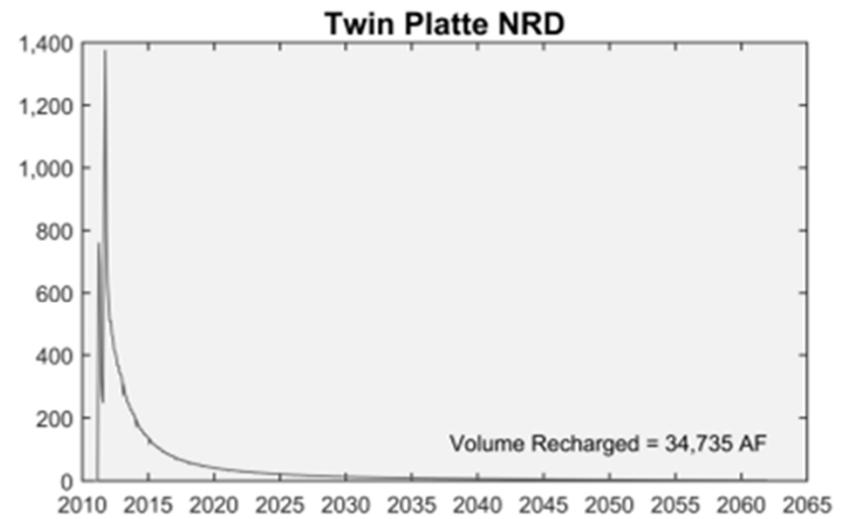
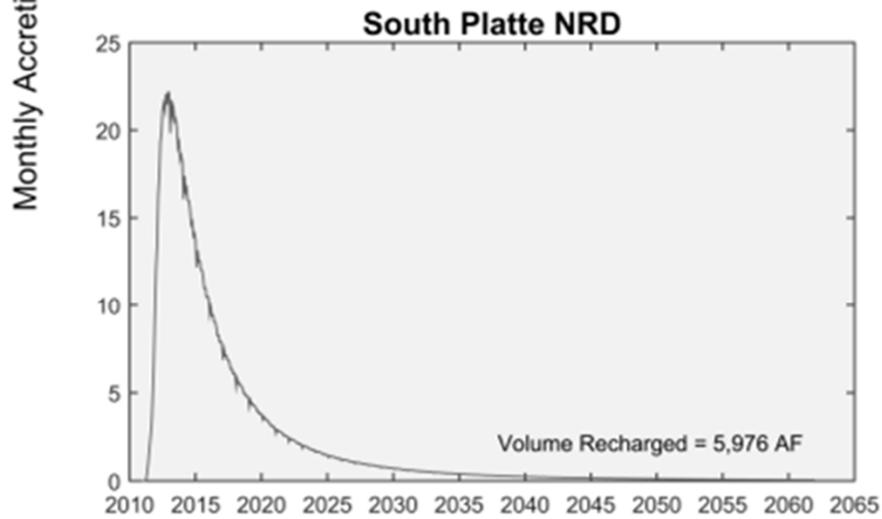
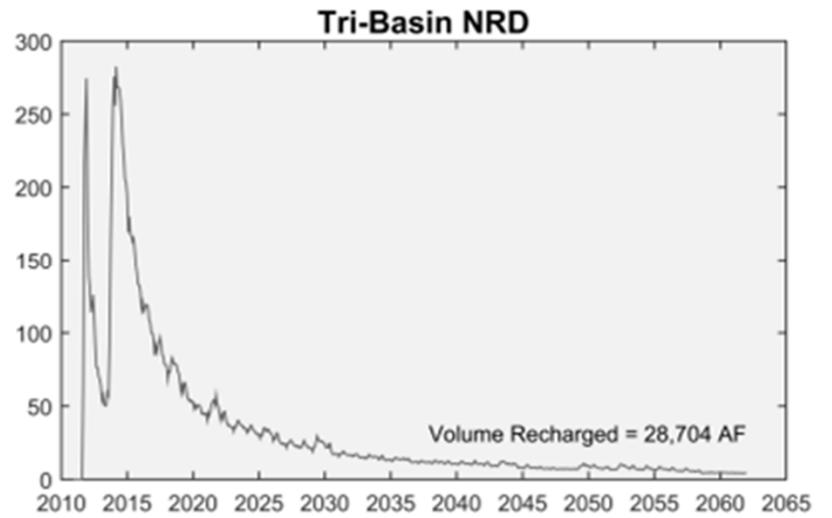
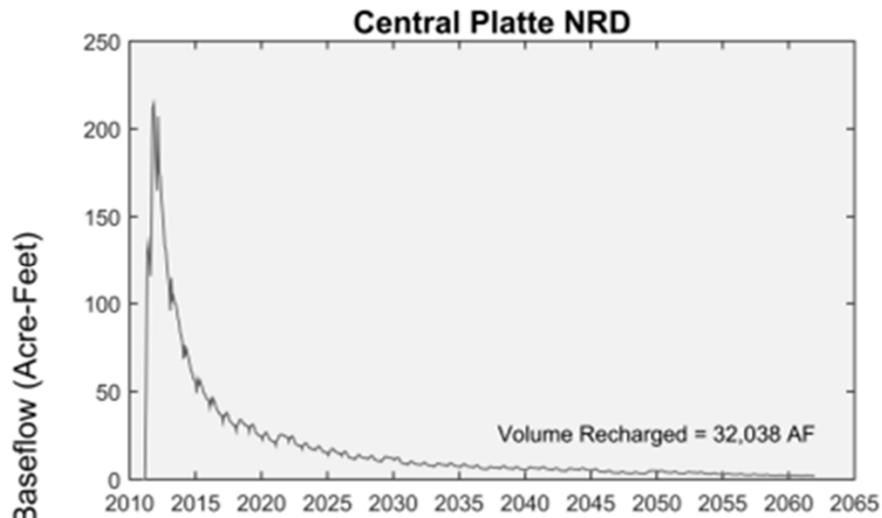
Solving: Stress period: 1 Time step: 1 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 1 Time step: 2 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 2 Time step: 1 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 2 Time step: 2 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 3 Time step: 1 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 3 Time step: 2 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 4 Time step: 1 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 4 Time step: 2 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 5 Time step: 1 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 5 Time step: 2 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 6 Time step: 1 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 6 Time step: 2 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 7 Time step: 1 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 7 Time step: 2 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 8 Time step: 1 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 8 Time step: 2 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
Solving: Stress period: 9 Time step: 1 Ground-Water Flow Eqn.
```

# Post Process Cell-by-Cell Flow Data

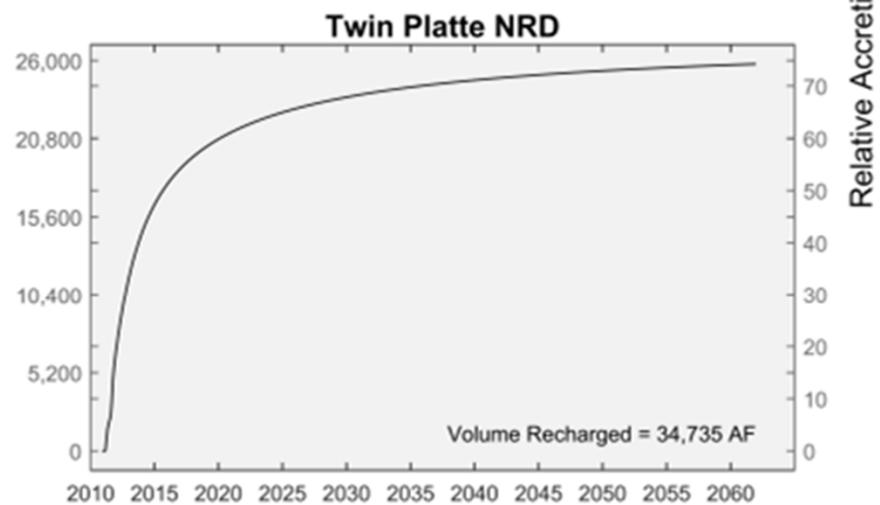
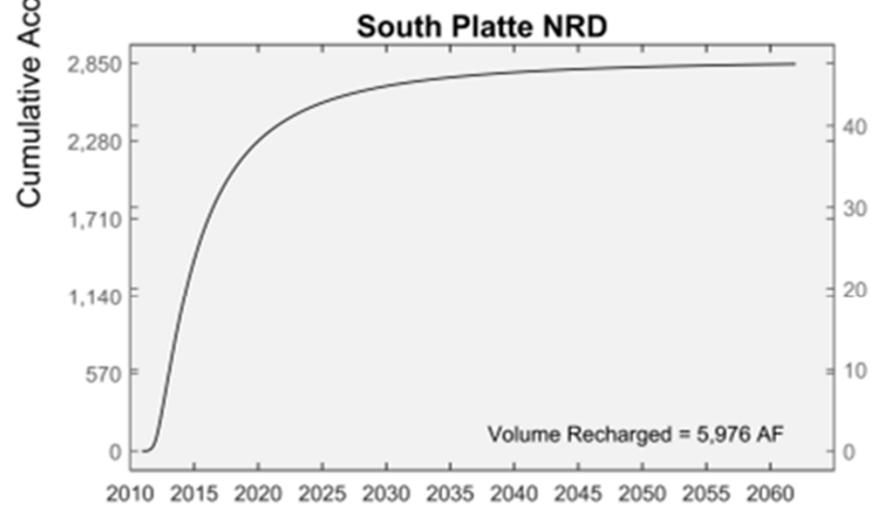
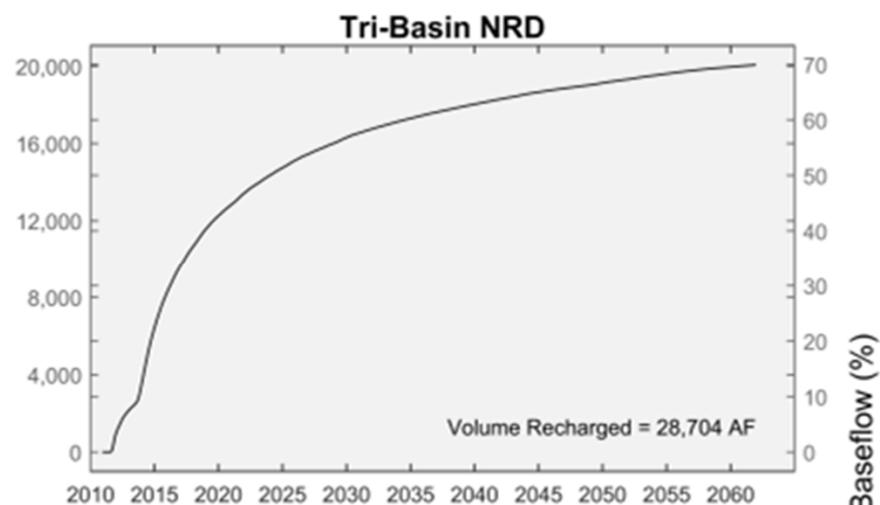
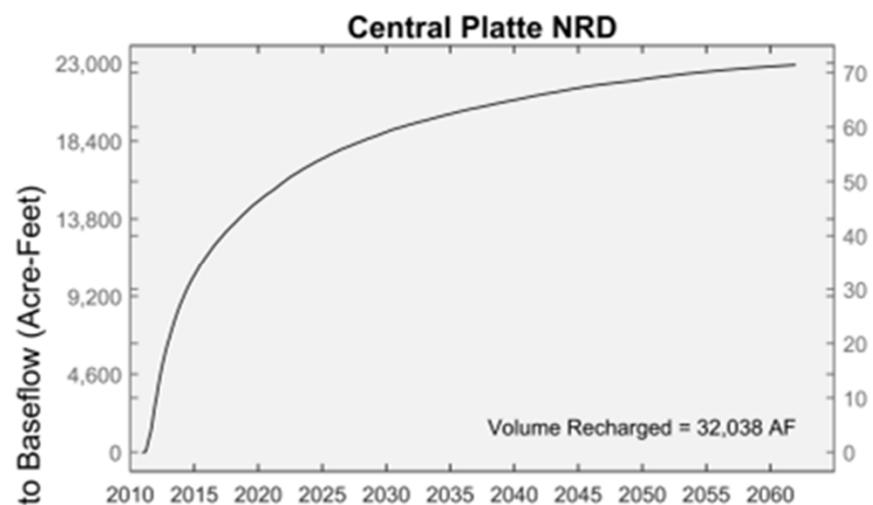
Platte River and it's tributaries = All stream cells



Accretion to Baseflow = Baseline Baseflow - Stress Baseflow



Date



Date

## Summary

- Understand when the recharged water may return to the Platte River
- Understand how much of the recharged water will return to the Platte River
- Enabling managers to have a better idea of how the NRDs efforts have applied towards achieving their management goals.



# Nebraska

## Department of Natural Resources

### NEBRASKA'S WATER MANAGEMENT RESOURCE

Providing the sound science and support for managing  
Nebraska's most precious resource.

# Thank You

Colby Osborn

[colby.osborn@nebraska.gov](mailto:colby.osborn@nebraska.gov)

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

402-471-2363

[dnr.nebraska.gov](http://dnr.nebraska.gov)

