

Surface Water Help Documentation – Use of Search Criteria

1. The new surface water web page can be found by going to our main page at <http://www.dnr.nebraska.gov/> . Click on “more...” under the surface water tile. Then hover your mouse over “Forms, Data retrieval, Reports & Rosters”. A sub-list will pop up and you should select “Surface Water Rights Data Retrieval”.
2. The first page of the data retrieval area allows you to select the search categories to use in your data retrieval session. You can click as many search options as you want to search on. When you click “Submit”, every option clicked will be shown on the next page, where you will do the actual data retrieval (searches).
3. After you click submit, the search page will display. You have many options with which to customize your search criteria. When the new page appears, enter your criteria in appropriate boxes.
4. For “Sort Order of Output” (bottom of search page), select one. This will display the results in ascending order for the criteria you select in this box.
5. Select output format you wish to display. The output formats will display one record per water right. The record will display the primary owner for the water right and the primary POD. The default display option is to return the information in a formatted screen for quick visual inspection. There is a “Data Copy” output option for copy and paste functionality to facilitate use in spreadsheet software.
6. If you select “Listing” for the output format, and you click on the link in the right-hand column “Additional Names/ POD”, then a detailed listing of all points of diversion and persons listed for the water appropriation will appear.
7. On the first page there is also a link to a quick search page. This can save a few clicks if most of your searches are by application number or water right ID by setting this page as a favorite.
8. The database on the web is updated on a daily basis. Thus any data entry completed as of the day before will be available through the web.
9. The default is to return water rights with a status of Active or Pending. If you need to view water rights with a different status, be sure to select “Status” as one of your criteria on the criteria category page. You can return to the criteria page by clicking on the “Home” button below the search boxes on the search page.

Surface Water Appropriations (Rights)

General Explanation

Code Listing and Description

App Number (Docket and Application Numbers):

Appropriations having docket numbers (D-) refer to claims covering rights which existed prior to April 4, 1895, or those rights that existed on the Missouri River that were covered by the law passed in 1980. Those appropriations having applications numbers (A-) were filed after April 4, 1895.

Priority Date:

The date a water right is established, usually the date on which the application for an appropriation was filed. This date is used to determine the order in which appropriations are regulated by the Department in times of water shortage.

Water Division (River Basin):

The State of Nebraska is divided in two water divisions by statute, denoted Water Division No. 1 and Water Division No. 2, respectively. Water Division No. 1 consists of all the lands of the state drained by the Platte Rivers and their tributaries lying west of the mouth of the Loup River; and also all other lands lying south of the Platte and South Platte rivers that may be watered from other superficial or subterranean streams not tributary to the Platte River. Water Division No. 2 consists of all lands that may be watered from the Loup, White, Niobrara and Elkhorn rivers, and Hat Creek and their tributaries, and those lands drained by the Platte River and its tributaries lying east of the mouth of the Loup River.

For convenience in the administration of the surface water laws and the distribution of water, the two water divisions have been subdivided into 12 water divisions, denoted

Code	Water Division (River Basin)
1A	Platte River basin
1B	Republican River basin
1C	Little Blue River basin
1D	Big Blue River basin
1E	Lodgepole Creek basin
1F	Nemaha River basin and Lower Missouri River and tributary basins
2A	Loup River basin
2B	Elkhorn River and Salt Creek basins
2C	Niobrara River basin
2D	White River and White Clay Creek basins
2E	Hat Creek basin
2F	Upper Missouri River and Tributary basins

Downstream #

The number assigned to an appropriation designating the location of its primary point of diversion on a stream in relation to other appropriations on the stream.

Use:

Code	Description
CO	Cooling
DG	Dredge
DI	Domestic, Irrigation and Manufacturing
DO	Domestic
DS	Domestic Storage
FC	Fish Culture
FL	Flood Control
FW	Fish and Wildlife
IF	Instream Flow
IG	Induced Ground Water Recharge
IN	Intentional Underground Storage
IR	Irrigation from Natural Stream
IS	Irrigation and Storage (an appropriation approved for both uses)
IU	Irrigation and Incidental Underground Storage
MF	Manufacturing
ML	Maintain Level of a Lake
MU	Municipal
OU	Storage Use-only for irrigation from reservoir on lands not covered by natural flow appropriation AND for Incidental Underground Storage
PI	Power and Incidental Underground Storage
PR	Power
PS	Supplemental Power and Incidental Underground Storage
PW	Public Water Supply
RC	Groundwater Recharge
RD	Raise Dam (for increase in head for power production)
SC	Supplemental Cooling (an appropriation for water for cooling through a system that has a prior appropriation for cooling)
SD	Supplemental Domestic
SF	Supplemental Fish Culture
SI	Supplemental Irrigation (irrigation from reservoir on lands also covered by natural flow appropriation.)
SO	Storage Use-only (irrigation from reservoir on lands not covered by natural flow appropriation)
SP	Supplemental Power (an appropriation for water for power through a system that has a prior appropriation for power)
SS	Supplemental Storage (an appropriation that has a prior appropriation for storage)
ST	Storage
SU	Storage and Incidental Underground Storage
TI	Temporary Transfer to In-Stream Use

UI	Supplemental Irrigation and Incidental Underground Storage
US	Incidental Underground Storage
WS	Waste Storage
WT	Wetlands

Status:

Description
Active
Pending
Dismissed or Denied
Cancelled
Filing Not Accepted
Retired (there is a newer entry in the database for same appropriation)
Split in Prog (temp status for owner change)
Pending Inv (investigating to determine if an application is required)
Inv-No Act Req (Investigation determined no action required)
Inv-Act Req (Investigation determined a permit is required)

Date Can/Dism (Date Canceled or Dismissed):

The effective date on which an appropriation or part of the appropriation is terminated, either from cancellation or dismissal.

Source:

The approved source of water for an appropriation. In the database, the name of the stream is listed first, then subdivisions of that stream follow (i.e. Blue River, Big, West Fork, Trib. to).

POD (Point of Diversion):

There is only one point of diversion listed for each entry. This entry is referred to as the primary point of diversion. However, certain appropriations may have more than one point of diversion per record. More detailed information on the point(s) of diversion is available by clicking [Additional Names/POD](#) or the App Number.

Facility Name (Carrier):

The name of the facility used to transport or store water from the appropriation's approved source.

County:

County in which the primary point of diversion for an appropriation is located.

Cur Tot Acres (Current Total Acres):

These are the number of acres authorized for irrigation if there is adequate surface water available.

Grant:

The grant is listed in cubic feet per second (CFS) unless it is designated in acre-feet (AF). Some other grant conditions may exist in the permit that are not shown in this data base.

Rate (Allotment Rate):

The surface water flow application rate allowed for irrigation purposes. An application rate of 70 indicates that each acre of land will be allotted 1/70 of a cubic foot per second (CFS) of water.

GPM:

Gallons per minute that can be pumped under an appropriation.

Footnotes:

Code	Description
A	Supplemental storage based on increase in size of reservoir capacity or increase in amount of water diverted into reservoir.
B	Supplemental storage from different source; total grant in acre-feet not to exceed first appropriation.
C	Supplemental storage from different source; total grant is sum of two appropriations.
D	This appropriation is additional water for a prior appropriation.
E	The sources of these appropriations do not drain on the surface into the main stream of a water division, but often into lakes of the sandhills or other lakes, bogs, etc.
F	Designates beginning of separate basins in 2-F.
G	Amount affirmed by U.S. Supreme Court: 29 cfs for Nebraska and 15 cfs for Colorado.
H	The rate and grant specified in the permit are inconsistent.
I	Provides for optional diversion.
J	Dismissed or denied.
K	Cancelled in part.
L	Cancelled in full.
M	Less amount diverted under A-2293.
N	Less any amounts diverted under other appropriation so that total amount diverted at any time shall not exceed statutory limit of one cfs for 70 acres.
O	Supplemental storage from same source. total grant is sum of appropriations.
P	Total diversion under A-1853R, A-1976R, and A-2726R at the Tri-County Canal headgate is limited to 25 cfs.
Q	The natural flow together with supplemental storage water shall not exceed 1500 second-feet as a rate of diversion.

R	Combined diversion for cooling at Gerald Gentlemen units No. 1 and No. 2 is limited to 1720 cfs from all sources.
S	Adds lands but does not increase appropriation of original filing
T	By stipulation the Loup River Public Power District is subsequent in priority to A-2293 filed by the Middle Loup Public Power and Irrigation District and A-2312 filed by the North Loup Public Power and Irrigation District.
U	Total allocation from Middle Loup River and Oak Creek under A-4923A and A-4923B is 68,120 acre-feet.
V	This amount less any amounts diverted under A-2312.
W	Transbasin diversion.
X	Glendo contractor.
Y	Combined gallons per day is 7,500,000.
Z	Additional withdrawal of ground water from previously approved well field.
^	This appropriation shall not be administered for either appropriation D-274, D-275.
*	Pending
#	This appropriation is first appropriation upstream from gage.
@	Temporary permit.
+	The following appropriations will not be regulated for D-1026R --- A-8266, A-9654, A-16114, A-16115, A-17064, (P-473), and A-17110.
%	This appropriation shall not be administered for either appropriation A-2293BR, P-468, or A-3979BR, P-468.
<	Less any amount withdrawn under A-10481.
>	Not subject to administration due to case law.
&	Headwater pit exempt from administration.
\$	Appropriation A-1220 shall not be administered for A-186R (T-217), A-186 (T-238) OR A-937A, A-937B and A-937C.
(Shall be limited to flows of Spring Creek for purposes of administration.
}	Shall not cause any appropriation to be administered that would not have been administered prior to relocation.
1	Central Platte NRD's Platte River instream flow appropriations
2	Game and Parks Commission's Platte River instream flow appropriations
3	Reference appropriation file for volume limitations and accounting procedures
{	Combined usage under A-17825, A-17826, and A-17827 shall not exceed a total of 105.20 Acre Feet.
?	Lake level maintained by ground water well(s)
4	Reference appropriation file for rate limitations and administration procedures
5	This appropriation has a power lease
6	This appropriation has a waiver of outlet works (drawdown waiver)

Annotation Column:

The 'Annotation' column lists modification numbers or appropriation numbers also associated with the appropriation.

App Name (Appropriator Name), Address & Additional Names/POD:

There is only one appropriator shown for each entry. However, certain appropriations may have more than one appropriator of record. More detailed information on the appropriator(s) is available by clicking [Additional Names/POD](#) or the App Number. If App Number is selected, the table that lists the Contact Details will contain the following items:

Address: The number assigned to contact names that allows owner types (owners, pending owners, tenants, send-to's, etc.) associated with a particular parcel of land under an appropriation to be linked together.

Send Code: The code assigned to a contact that designates what type(s) of documents that contact will receive.