

**2015
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UPPER BIG BLUE
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT'S UPPER PLATTE BASIN
INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT PLAN**

I. INTRODUCTION

The preliminary determination that a portion of the Upper Platte Basin located in Hamilton County is fully appropriated was made on December 30, 2005. The Department and District adopted the management plan for the Integrated Management Area (IMA) on September 16, 2010. The Plan went into effect on October 18, 2010.

Since December 30, 2005 the District has been tracking those groundwater related activities that may have the potential to impact depletions to the Platte River. The Integrated Management Plan includes the following items which are to be tracked by the District: 1) certification of ground water uses and any changes to these certifications; 2) approved transfers, including all of the information provided with the application and used in the approval of the transfer; 3) any flow meter data collected; 4) any water well construction permits issued; 5) any other permits issued by the District in the integrated management area; 6) any conditions associated with any permits issued; 7) information gathered through the municipal and non-municipal industrial accounting process; 8) any variances issued, including the purpose, the location, any required offset, the length of time for which the variance is applicable, and the reasoning behind approval of the variance; 9) any retirements of irrigated acres or other water uses in the integrated management area; 10) information related to any water banking transactions; and 11) offset provided for depletions resulting from increased consumptive use related to the above listed items.

The items tracked and reported will be used by the Upper Big Blue NRD and the Department to measure the success of the controls, and other action items in meeting the goals and objectives of the IMPs. Two evaluation components for measuring success are described in the IMP. The tracking, reporting, and evaluation processes are described in more detail in the Monitoring and Studies section of the IMP. In addition to the evaluation processes, the information that is tracked and reported will also be used by the State to help meet requirements of the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (Program).

The 2015 report is the fifth report to be filed following approval of the IMPs in October 2010. Therefore, this report contains information required on the above listed items from January 1, 2015, to December 31, 2015.

II. ACTIVITIES TO BE REPORTED

A. CERTIFICATION OF GROUND WATER USES AND ANY CHANGES TO THESE CERTIFICATIONS

The District began certification groundwater uses in 2006 as part of the Districts

Groundwater Management Area #1 regulations. The District required each landowner to report wells, irrigated acres and/or other uses of groundwater for wells with a pumping capacity greater than fifty gallons per minute (> 50 gpm). The District also obtained county assessor records showing the irrigated acres on each parcel of land.

In the Integrated Management Area (IMA) the only uses of groundwater wells with a pumping capacity > 50 gpm is for irrigation. In 2014 the 3,779.4 irrigated acres were certified by the District. During 2015 a minor change was made in the certified acres due to parcel re-measurement by the Hamilton County Assessor's office and recognition that the Assessor failed to account for a small acreage that is being irrigated as part of a larger field under different ownership. The 2015 certified irrigated acres in the IMA are 3,789.7. A net increase of 8.7 certified irrigated acres.

B. APPROVED TRANSFERS, INCLUDING ALL OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED WITH THE APPLICATION AND USED IN THE APPROVAL OF THE TRANSFER

The District has not authorized any transfers of groundwater or certified groundwater use acres in the IMA since December 31, 2010.

C. FLOW METER DATA COLLECTED (Groundwater withdrawal)

The District requires groundwater users to submit annual groundwater withdrawal reports. This requirement began in 2007 under the District's Groundwater Management Area #1 regulations. The use of water meters on all wells is encouraged, but is not required. Wells constructed in the District after March 1, 2004 must be equipped with a water meter. If well output is not measured by a water meter the user may report estimated withdrawal by other methods such as hours pumped multiplied by pump capacity or pivot revolutions by application rate. Groundwater withdrawal reports were submitted by the irrigators for the years 2007 thru 2015. The total groundwater withdrawal in the IMA was 2,756.6 acre feet in 2015. A summary is attached.

D. WELL CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

The District has not issued a well construction permit in the IMA.

E. OTHER PERMITS ISSUED BY THE DISTRICT IN THE INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT AREA

The District has not issued any other permits in the IMA.

F. INFORMATION GATHERED THROUGH THE MUNICIPAL AND NON-MUNICIPAL INDUSTRIAL ACCOUNTING PROCESS

No municipal water wells exist within the IMA.

G. VARIANCES ISSUED, INCLUDING THE PURPOSE, THE LOCATION, ANY REQUIRED OFFSET, THE LENGTH OF TIME FOR WHICH THE VARIANCE IS

APPLICABLE, AND THE REASONING BEHIND APPROVAL OF THE VARIANCE

No variances were issued in the IMA

H. RETIREMENTS OF IRRIGATED ACRES OR OTHER WATER USES IN THE INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT AREA

No irrigation acres or other uses of groundwater have been retired in the IMA.

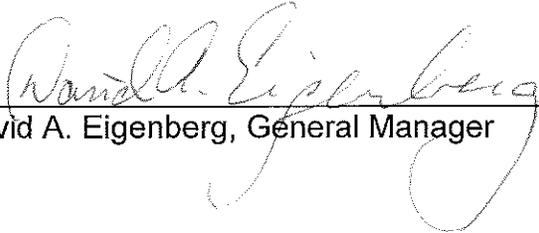
I. WATER BANKING TRANSACTIONS

No water banking transactions have occurred in the IMA.

J. OFFSET PROVIDED FOR DEPLETIONS RESULTING FROM INCREASED CONSUMPTIVE USE RELATED TO THE ABOVE LISTED ITEMS

No activities related to the items listed above are believed to have resulted in any increased consumptive use in the IMA.

Respectfully Submitted



David A. Eigenberg, General Manager

4/15/16
Date

Upper Platte Basin Integrated Management Area
 Irrigated Acres and 2015 Reported Groundwater Withdrawal by Section
 Upper Big Blue NRD - Hamilton County

	2014 Acres	2015 Acres	Change	2015 Ac. In.	Inches / Acre	Comments
Section 5-10N-08W	529.8	529.8	0.0	4,816.2	9.1	
Section 6-10N-08W	200.6	200.6	0.0	1,536.9	7.7	
Section 7-10N-08W	574.6	574.6	0.0	5,513.3	9.6	
Section 6-11N-07W	284.5	284.5	0.0	1,931.2	6.8	
Section 1-11N-08W	7.0	7.0	0.0	47.5	6.8	
Section 2-11N-08W	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Section 10-11N-08W	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Section 11-11N-08W	28.9	28.9	0.0	845.2	29.2	
Section 12-11N-08W	398.1	398.1	0.0	2,968.1	7.5	
						No change in actual irrigation. Change due to assessor re-measure.
Section 14-11N-08W	398.0	398.9	0.9	3,962.2	10.0	
Section 15-11N-08W		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Section 16-11N-08W		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Section 20-11N-08W		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Section 21-11N-08W	164.5	164.5	0.0	505.9	3.1	
Section 22-11N-08W	292.2	292.2	0.0	5,571.7	19.1	
						No change in actual irrigation. Change due to assessor re-measure.
Section 28-11N-08W	481.7	479.3	-2.4	2,507.9	5.2	
Section 29-11N-08W	140.1	140.1	0.0	328.4	2.3	
Section 30-11N-08W		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Section 31-11N-08W		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
						Corrected previous assessor error. Farmer provided FSA documentation from prior to FAB designation
Section 32-11N-08W	279.6	289.7	10.2	2,544.6	9.1	
	3,779.4	3,788.1	8.7	33,079.1	8.8	
			AC.FT.	2,756.6		

prepared 4/15/2016