

Upper Platte Basin Drought Contingency Plan

Drought Task Force Meeting #1

July 19, 2022



Today's Agenda

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Project Background
- III. Vulnerability Assessment
- IV. Mitigation Actions
- V. Public Comment
- VI. Next Steps

Introductions



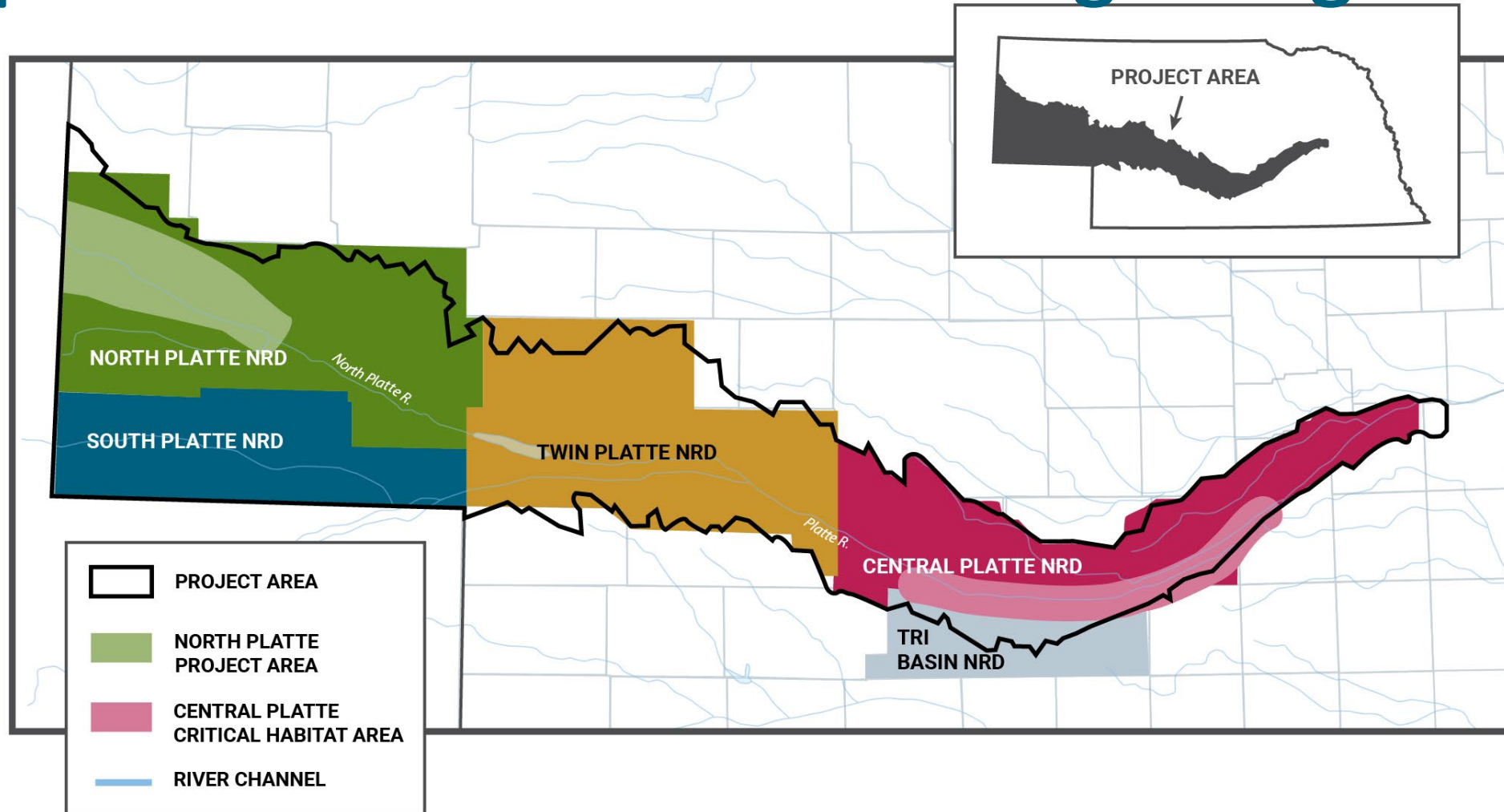
Project Background



Upper Platte River Basin Planning Background

- 2004 Legislature passes LB 962 – conjunctive management of ground and surface water supplies
- September 15, 2004 – Upper Platte River basin declared overappropriated (basin demands greater than supplies)
- Requires basinwide Integrated Management Plan to be developed
- Basinwide IMP for 1st 10-year increment adopted in 2009
- 2018-2019 planning effort for 2nd 10-yr increment; adopted in 2019 for years 2019-2029

Upper Platte River Basin Planning Background

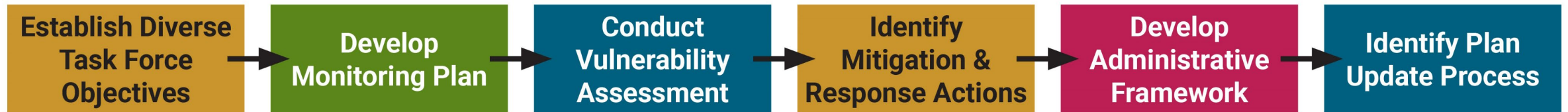


Upper Platte River Basin Planning Background

- Key findings/items of 2nd Increment Planning effort
 - Development of a Drought Contingency Plan for the basin identified as key element in achieving a fully appropriated conditions
 - Action Item 1.3.4 of the 2nd Increment Plan calls for the development of a Drought Contingency Plan to assist in managing basin supplies during times of shortage.
 - Sets a time frame for completing DCP in first 3 to 5 years of 2nd Increment
- The Platte Basin Coalition (consisting of 5 NRDs and NeDNR) pursued and secured Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART grant -cover 50% of costs

Bureau of Reclamation Drought Planning

- 6 elements to the plan development process



Roles and Responsibilities

Primary Stakeholder Group:

- Consists of Platte Basin Coalition members
 - Central Platte NRD
 - North Platte NRD
 - South Platte NRD
 - Tri Basin NRD
 - Twin Platte NRD
 - Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

Duties:

- Provide guidance and oversight in plan development, background information, review
- Support plan development
- Decision-making authority responsible for plan content and approval

Roles and Responsibilities

Technical Work Group:

- Consists of members representing entities with ground and surface water management responsibilities in the Upper Platte River basin.
 - Natural Resource Districts
 - Public Power Districts
 - Irrigation Districts
 - Nebraska DNR

Duties:

- Bring extensive experience and understanding of the ground and surface water in the basin
- Manage infrastructure and framework of ground and surface water within the basin.
- Provide technical guidance during plan development and assist in the development and evaluation of potential mitigation and response actions.

Roles and Responsibilities

Drought Task Force:

- Consists of diverse group of water-related interests:
 - Agriculture
 - Environment / Wildlife
 - Financial
 - Groundwater Irrigators
 - Groundwater Users
 - Irrigation Districts
 - Municipalities
 - Public Power Districts
 - Surface Water Users
 - Recreation Users

Duties:

- Provide focused input to the plan development team
- Assist in the understanding of vulnerabilities and impacts of drought in the basin
- Provide input on potential mitigation and response actions.

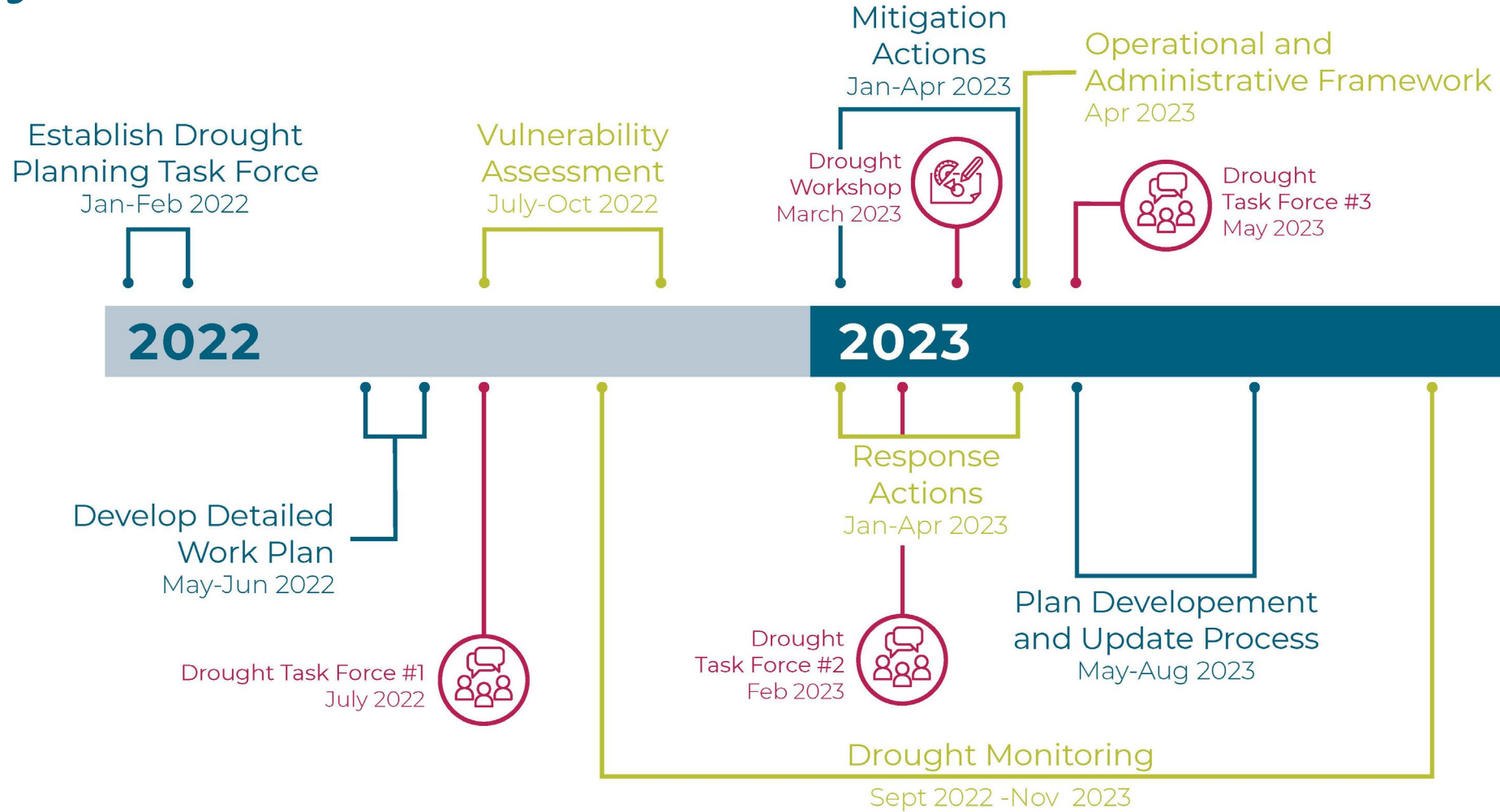
Roles and Responsibilities

General Public Participation Opportunities

- Drought Task Force meetings.
- Natural Resources Districts monthly board meetings
- Meetings of the Platte Basin Coalition
- Project website



Project Timeline



Vulnerability Assessment

Small Group Activity



Mitigation Actions

Small Group Activity



Public Comment



Next Steps

