

UPPER PLATTE RIVER DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN (UPRDCP)

DROUGHT TASK FORCE MEETING

Wednesday, March 29, 2023, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Mid-Plains Community College – Ogallala Campus
512 E B St S Ogallala, NE 69153

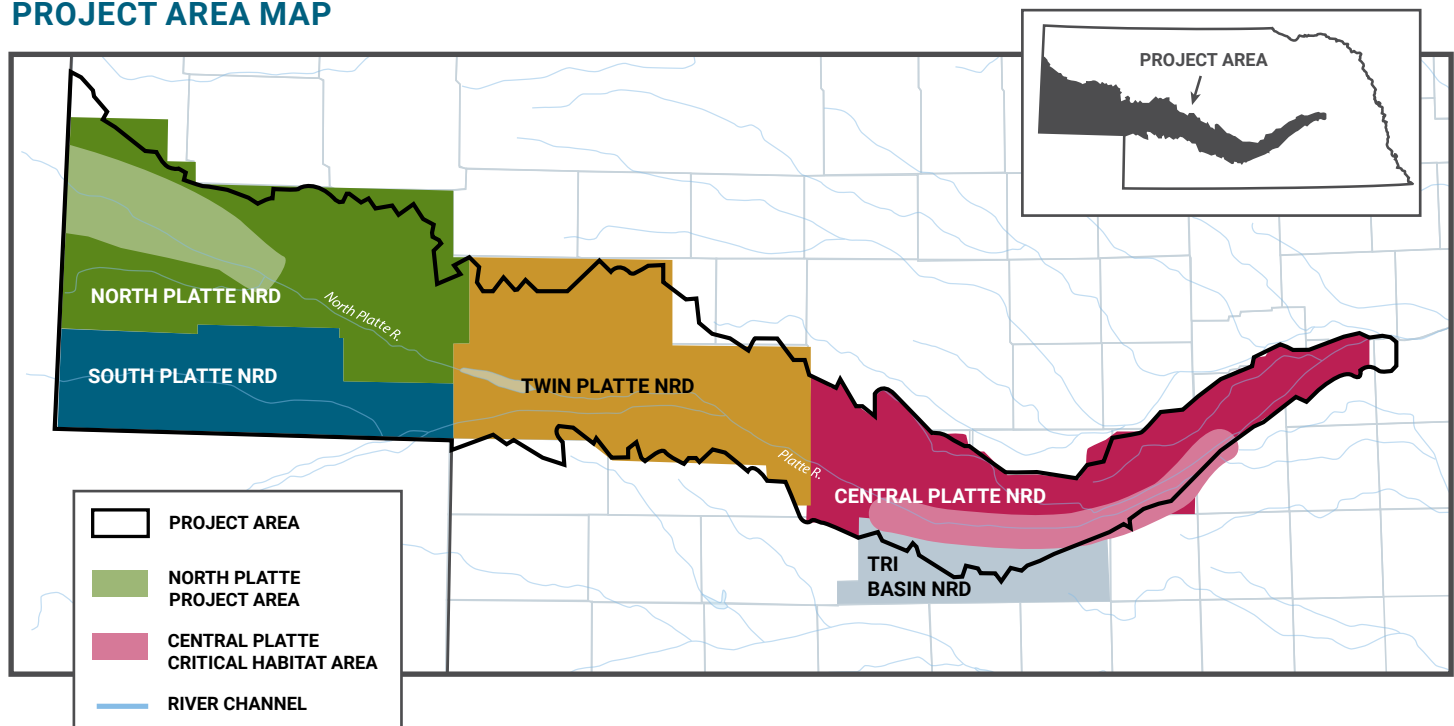


ABOUT THE UPRDCP

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

The Platte Basin Coalition has partnered with the Bureau of Reclamation to develop a Drought Contingency Plan for the Upper Platte Basin in Nebraska. The Coalition is developing this plan in order to refine the understanding of drought vulnerabilities and impacts in the Upper Platte Basin. The plan will serve as a sound operational framework and improve critical water supply needs of the area during drought through robust monitoring and forecasting tools paired with timely triggers, new mitigation strategies, and responsive actions. This plan will support and utilize pre-existing Integrated Management Plans, the Basin-Wide Plan and Drought Mitigation or Contingency Plans.

PROJECT AREA MAP



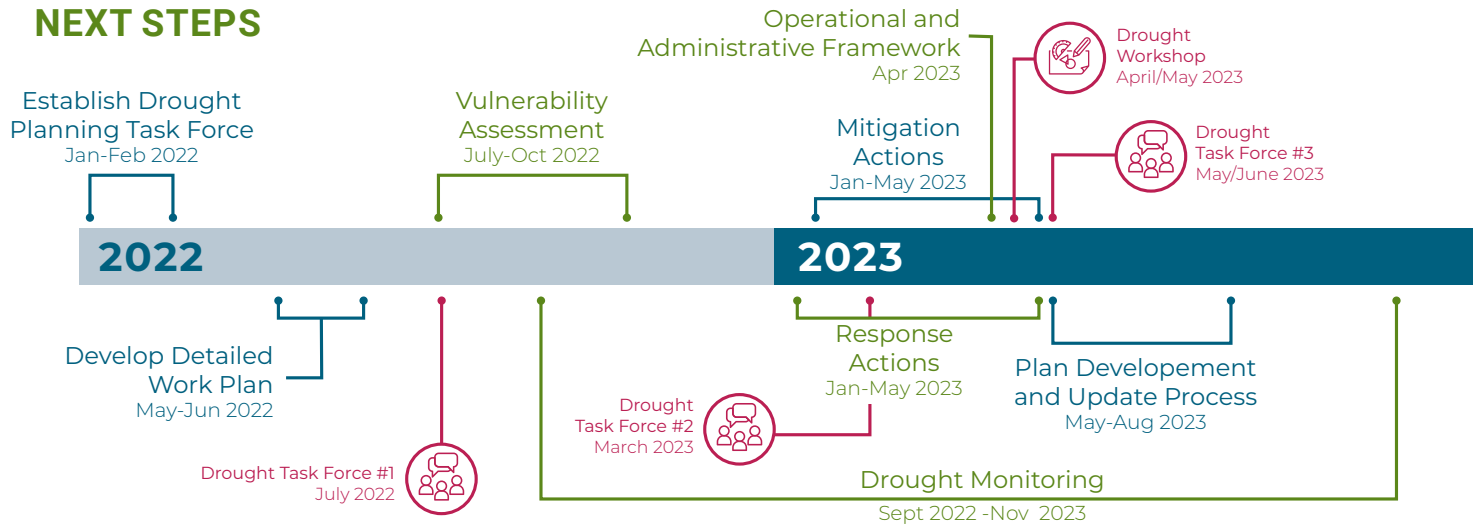
WHERE WE'RE AT

The Drought Task Force last met on July 21, 2022, to discuss vulnerabilities in the basin. We discussed the types and severity of impacts that affect agriculture, energy, municipalities, recreation, and the environment. We also discussed the existing drought mitigation actions in the basin and prioritized outcomes for mitigation actions. To learn more about meeting outcomes, review the meeting summary posted on our website: dnr.nebraska.gov.

WHERE WE'RE GOING

At Drought Task Force Meeting #2, we will discuss vulnerabilities, drought monitoring, mitigation, and response actions. This will be the first of three meetings held in 2023. Plan development is anticipated to be complete in Fall of 2023.

NEXT STEPS



ARE YOU CURRENTLY DEALING WITH DROUGHT? WE WANT TO KNOW!

REPORTING DROUGHT IMPACTS: COMMENT MAP & SURVEY123

NeDNR has developed a series of online tools for reporting drought impacts in your area.

- **Survey123:** Report drought-related conditions and submit photos displaying drought impacts within the Platte River Basin to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR). Some information collected in this form may be reported to the National Drought Mitigation Center via their survey tool known as CMOR.
- **Comment Map:** Draw a polygon and leave a comment to indicate the geographic extent of and describe drought impacts.

Survey 123 and the Comment Map are both available on our project website: dnr.nebraska.gov/water-planning/droughtplanning/upperplattebasin. By submitting your reports, you are providing us with direct feedback that will inform the development and implementation of the Drought Plan.

CONDITION MONITORING OBSERVER REPORTS (CMOR)

droughtimpacts.unl.edu/Tools/ConditionMonitoringObservations/Recruit.aspx

Are you currently dealing with drought? Have drought conditions affected your community or agricultural operation? Submit a report to the Condition Monitoring Observer Reports system (CMOR) at go.unl.edu/cmor_drought to help us understand what drought looks like where you are.

The CMOR system, managed by the National Drought Mitigation Center, collects reports of local weather conditions and impacts around the country. Your report will become part of the permanent record, appearing immediately on an interactive map visible to the public, including authors of the U.S. Drought Monitor and the media.

CMOR reports are one piece of supporting evidence used in the development of the Drought Monitor each week, providing on-the-ground information to help authors better understand local conditions. Observations shared via CMOR will not be used as sole justification to change an area's drought classification. However, authors rely on CMOR reports to help identify areas that might need more attention or to interpret complex weather data, particularly in moments of extreme or rapidly developing drought.

To learn more about CMOR, visit the CMOR site at go.unl.edu/cmor_drought or read the CMOR fact sheet at drought.unl.edu/archive/DIR/how-to-drought-submissions.pdf

ADDITIONAL PROJECT INFORMATION

For more information about the development of the Upper Platte River Drought Contingency Plan, visit the project website at: dnr.nebraska.gov/water-planning/droughtplanning/upperplattebasin

For any questions about the plan development process or to submit comments and feedback, contact:

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