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NEBRASKA'S WATER MANAGEMENT RESOURCE

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

Voluntary Integrated Management Plans

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Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

Overview

- Background
- Roles of agencies/stakeholders
- IMP Components
- IMP Process
- INSIGHT Web Tool

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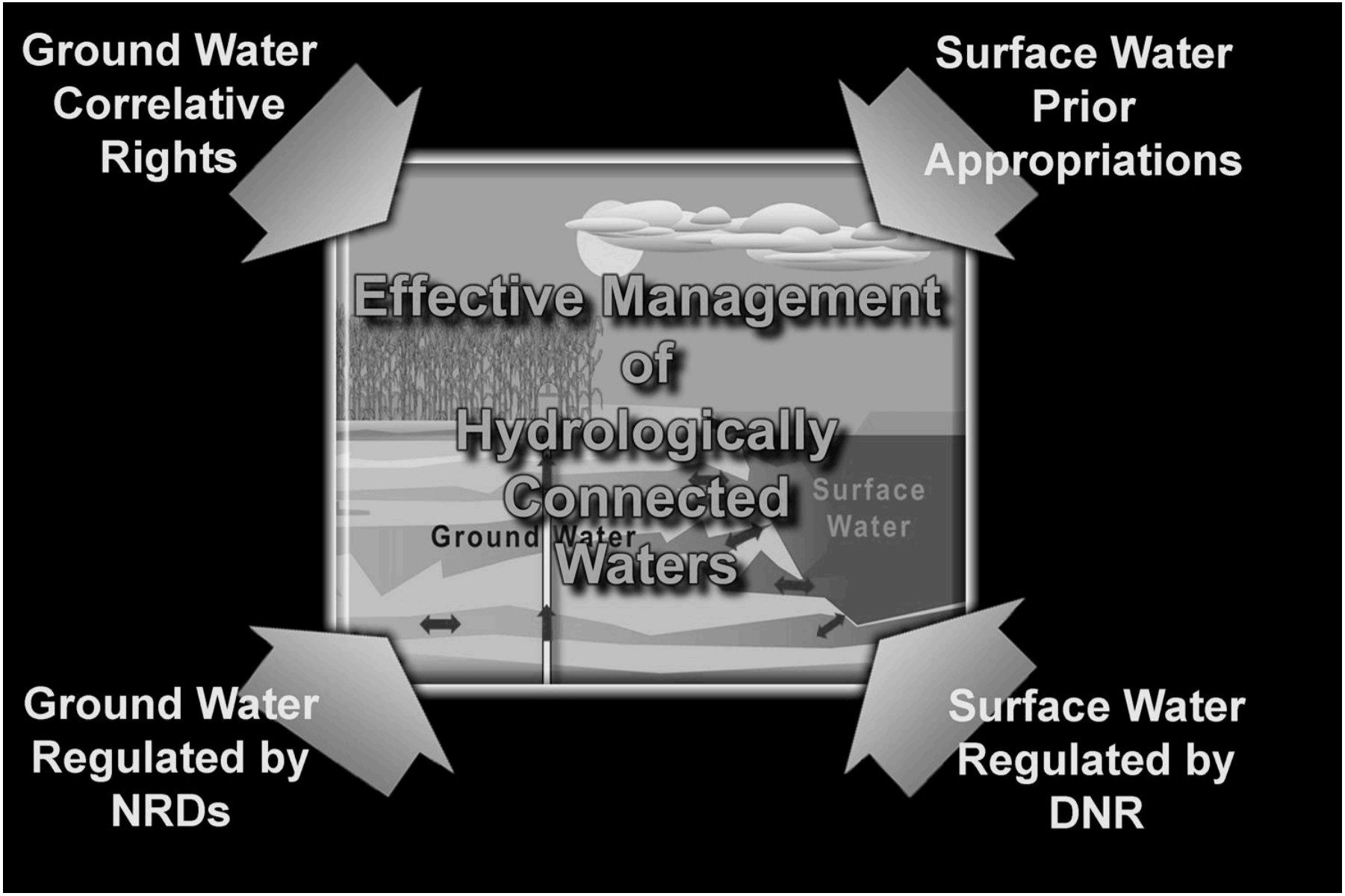

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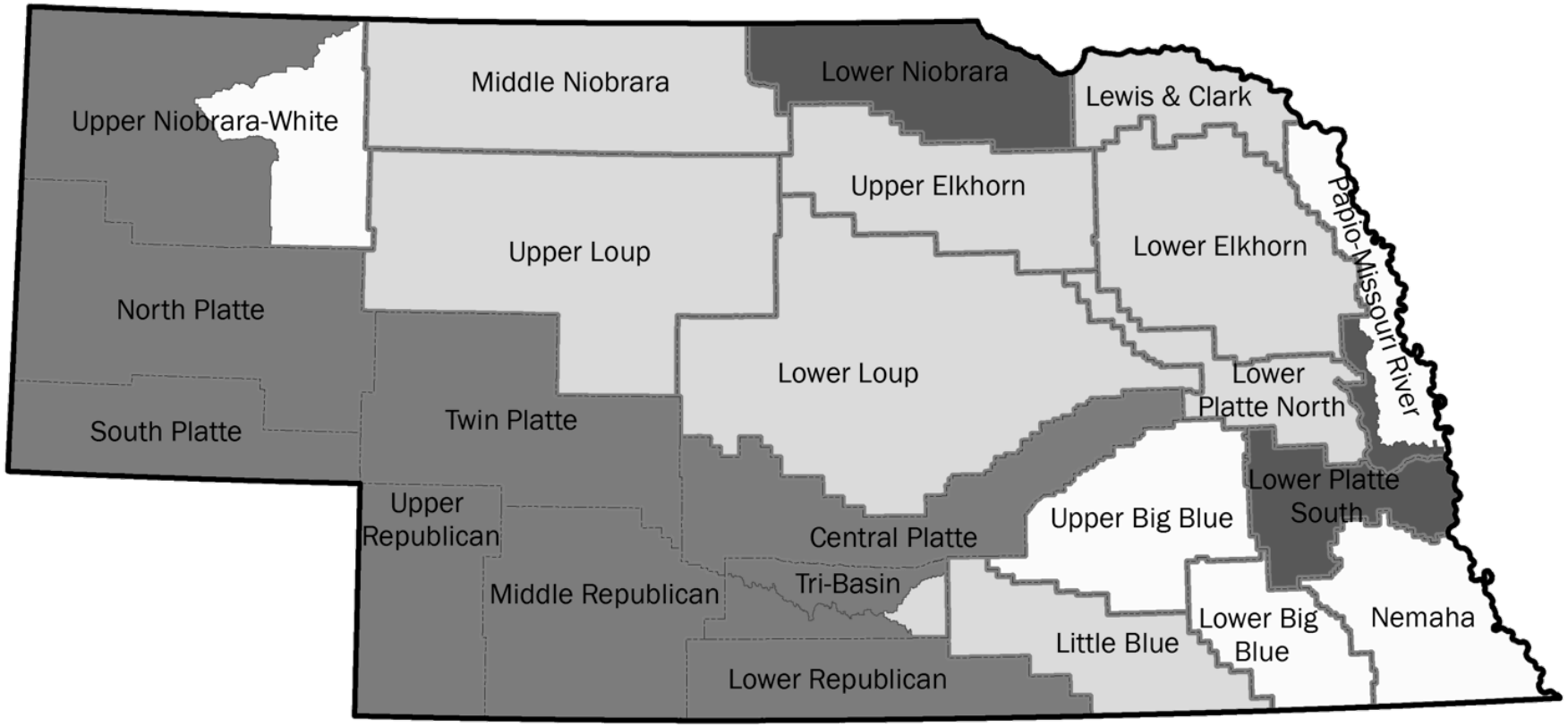
Background

- LB962 (2004)—Legally acknowledged hydrologically connected ground and surface waters
- Process for NRDs and NDR to work together to developing IMPs
  - IMPs initially in fully or over-appropriated basins
  - LB 764 (2010)-inclusion of voluntary IMP process

Background

- Voluntary IMP overarching objective
  - Achieve and sustain a balance between water uses and water supplies for the long term
- Protect existing water uses
- Proactive approach to water management
  - Example: If FA designation occurs in future, the Department and NRD may amend the IMP

Status of IMPs in Nebraska



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ROLES

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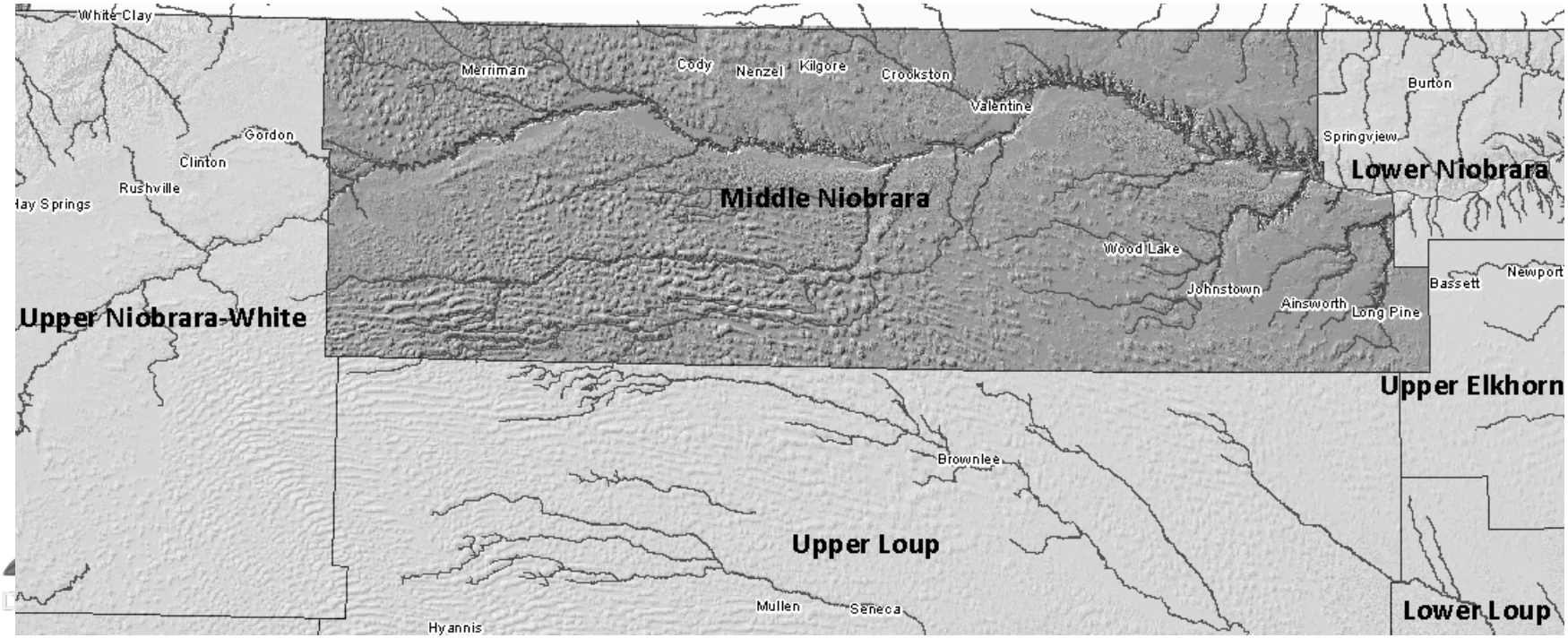
NRD Role

- As a partner in writing the IMP
- Groundwater monitoring and controls
- Link for local involvement in the strategic development of the IMP



NDNR Role

- Also a joint partner in writing the plan
- Surface water monitoring and controls
- Provide technical support

NDNR's IMP Goals

- Build a foundation of data and tools to more effectively managed water uses/supplies
- Framework for efficient, transparent, comprehensive data acquisitions and exchanges
- Identify opportunities to better adapt to changing conditions
- Listen to local inputs to increase understanding of future water uses/needs

Stakeholder Roles

- Attend meetings and convey local water issues/concerns
- Provide input to development of IMP goals and objectives
- Inform/educate local groups about IMP process

IMP DEVELOPMENT

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Components of an IMP

- Required components
  - Goals/Objectives
    - Purpose to achieve a balance between uses and supplies
  - Map of Geographic Area
  - One or more GW controls (§ 46-739)
  - One or more SW controls (§ 46-716)
  - Monitoring Program
- Additional components
  - Action items to achieve goals/objectives
  - Evaluation and review process
  - Education and outreach plan
  - Incentive programs

Goals, Objectives and Action Items

- **Goals:** Define what a group wants to accomplish
  - Provide the context from which meaningful objectives and action items are developed
- **Objectives:** Define the measurable outcomes that a group seeks to accomplish in working toward goals
- **Actions items:** Describe the specific tasks that the NRD and NDNR will undertake

Controls

- **Statutes require that IMPs have one or more GW and one or more SW control**
  - Appropriate to achieve goals and objectives

GW controls authorized by § 46-739

- Limit GW expansion
- Transfers
- Municipal/Industrial Tracking
- Well-spacing
- Meters
- Educational requirements
- Certified Acres
- Allocations
- Rotations
- Acres Reduction

SW controls authorized by § 46-716

- Increased Monitoring
- Variance/Transfers
- Conservation Measures
- Moratoriums

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Voluntary IMP Process

- NRD contacts NDNR to initiate process
- Determine integrated management area
- Stakeholder Meetings - Consultation
  - Develop **Goals and Objectives**
  - Develop action items to achieve goals and objectives
- NRD/NDNR draft IMP

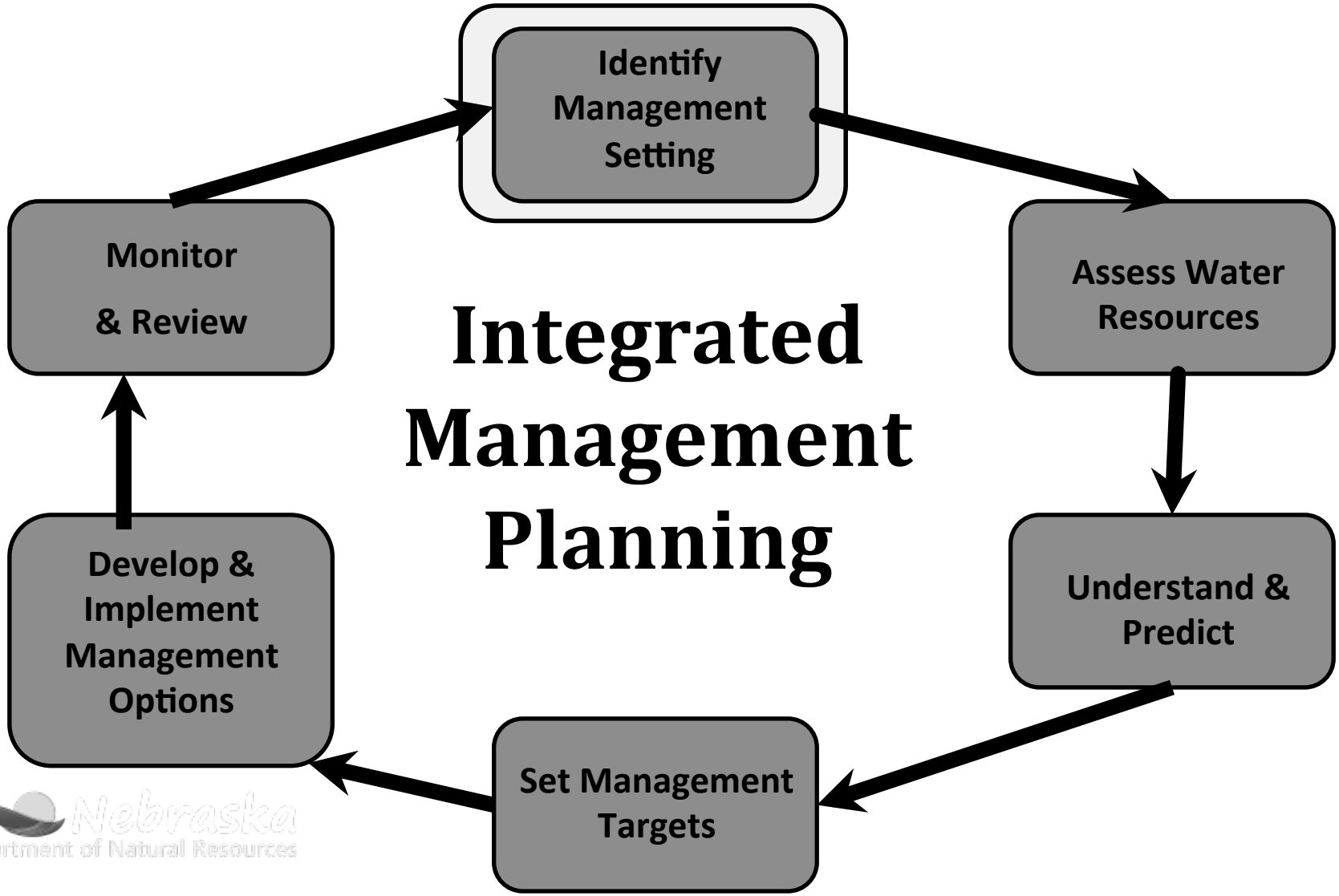
IMP Process

- Letter exchange between NRD and NDNR agreeing to draft plan
- Set and publish hearing date
- Joint public hearing
- NRD/NDNR consider testimony, if no changes to required components of plan…
- Publish orders to make IMP effective

IMPs Generally

- Evolve as the need arises
- No mandatory restrictions on new development
  - Irrigation
  - Municipal
  - Industrial
- Include local input and concerns
- Do not regulate water quality

IMP Long-term process



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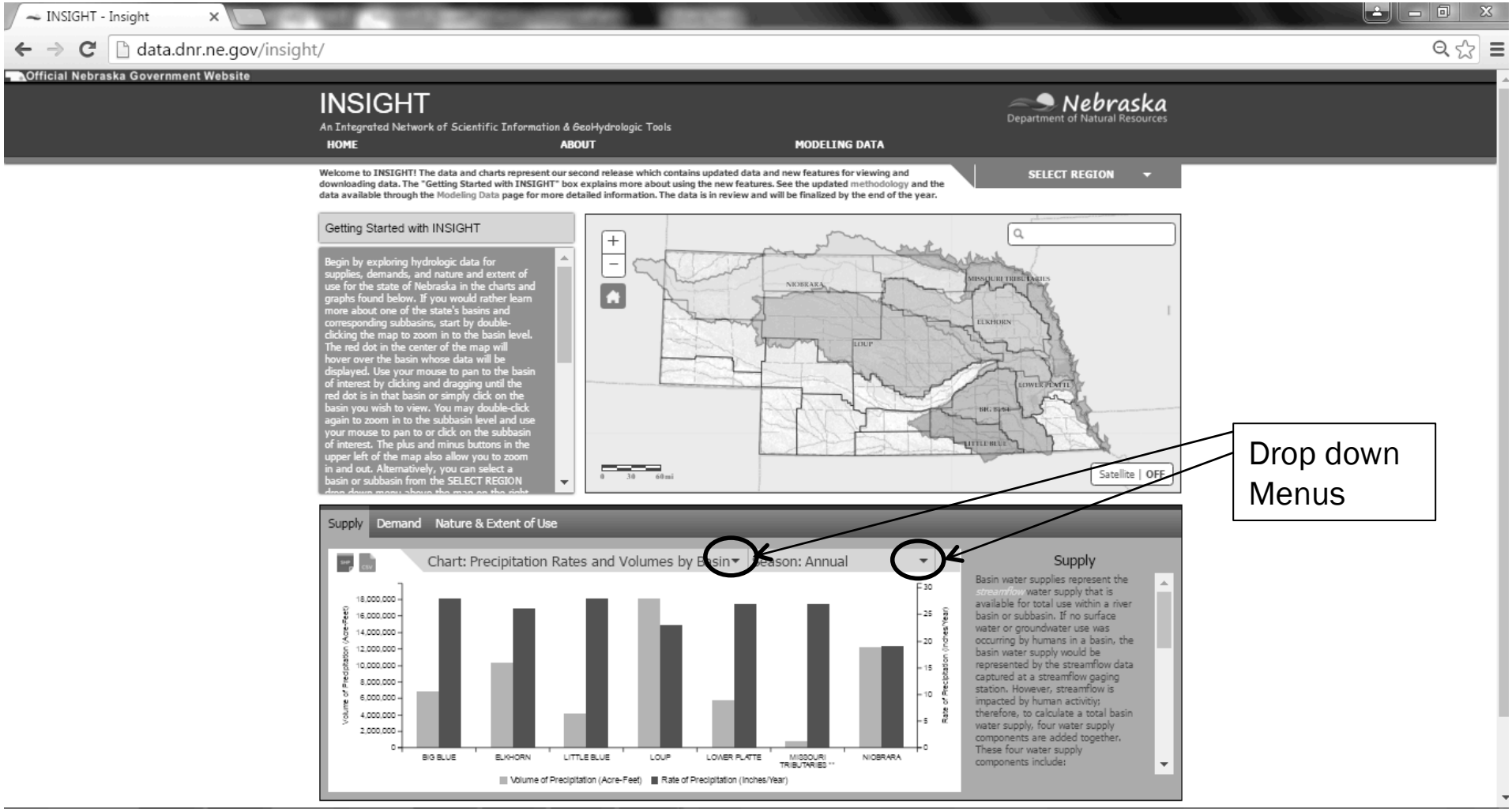
The INSIGHT Web Tool



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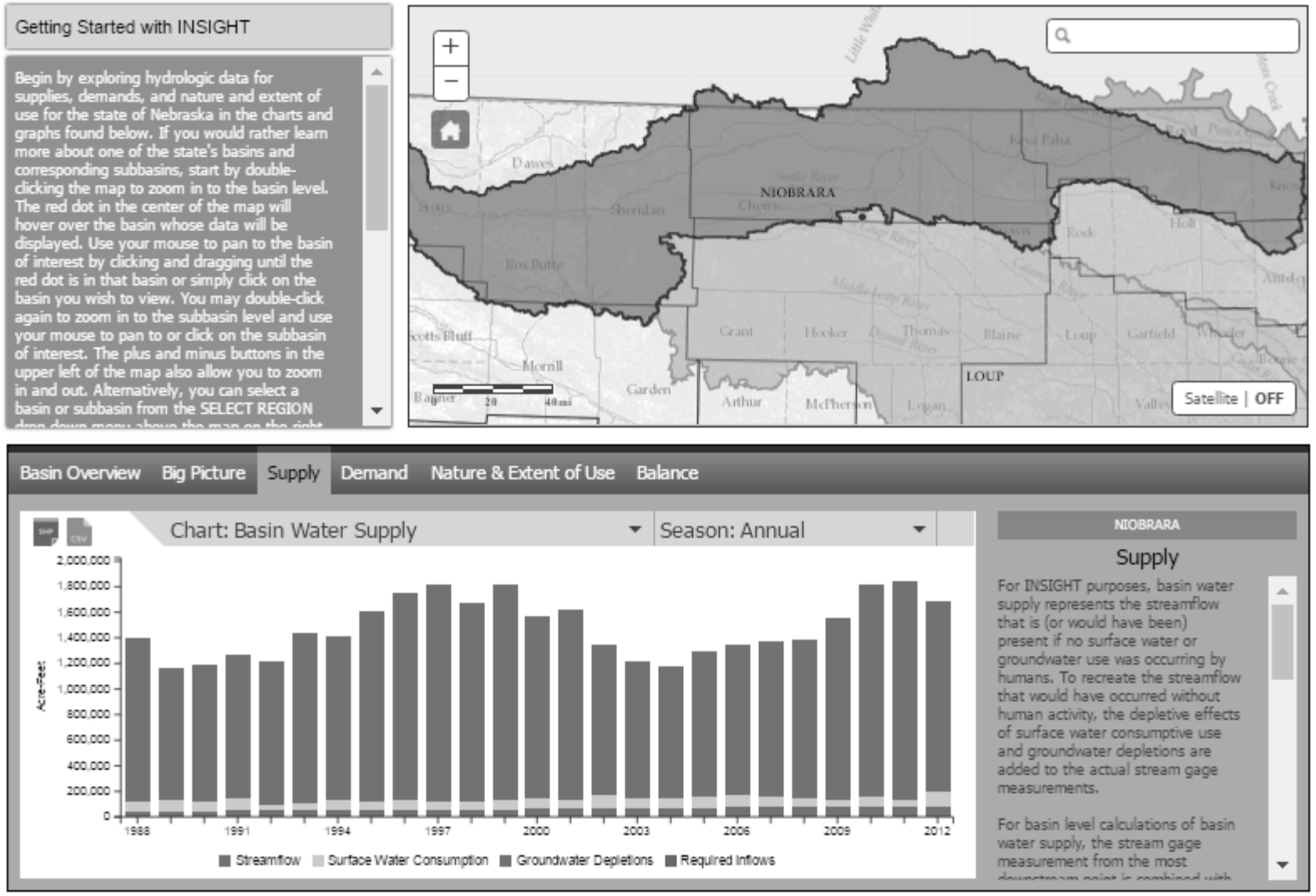

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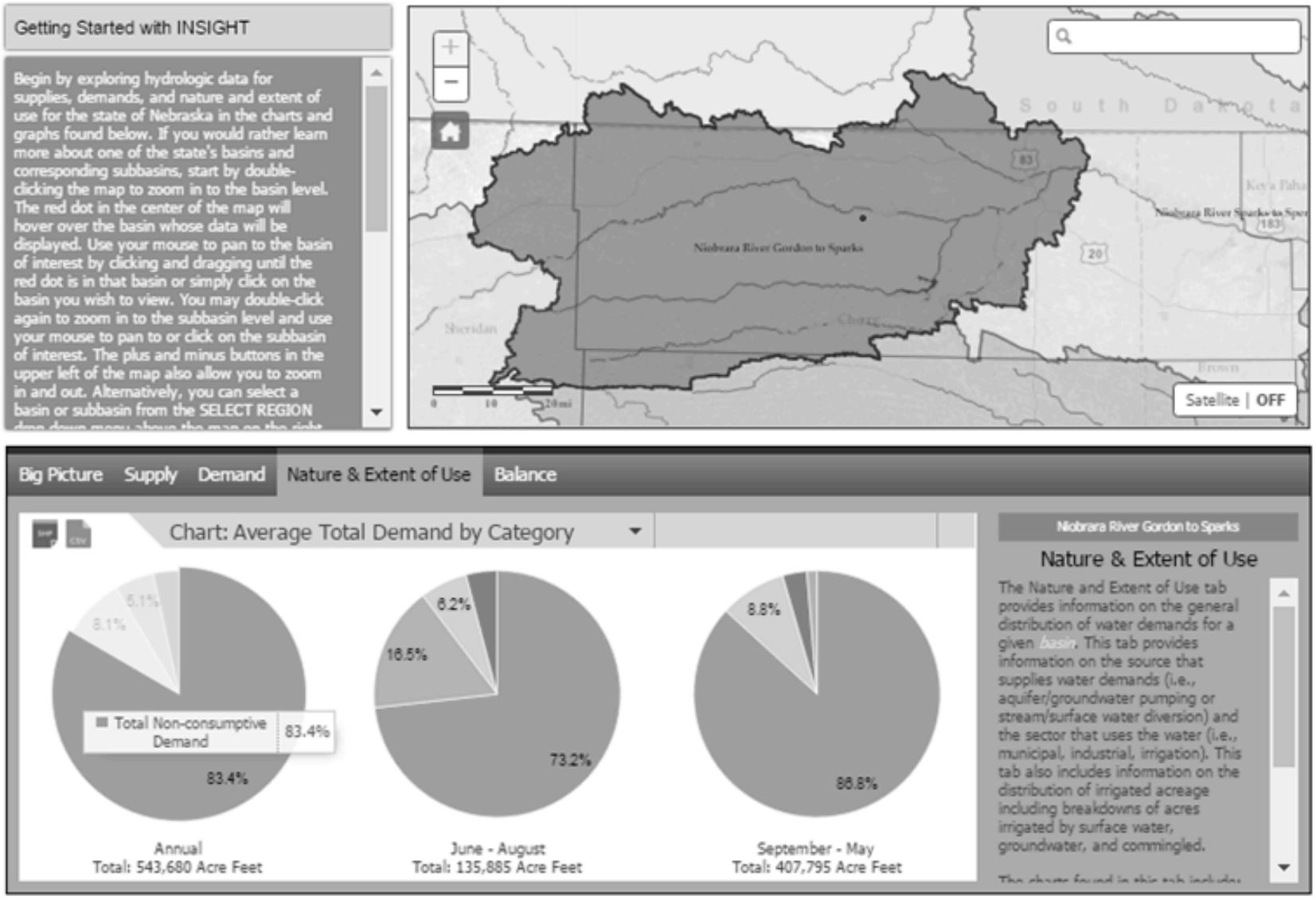

Integrated Water Management

- Voluntary IMP
- Balance water uses and supply
- NRDs and NDNR joint effort
- Stakeholder Input
- Continuous Process

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