

North Platte Natural Resources District

ANNUAL REPORT OF 2014 WATER USE ACTIVITIES IN THE
NORTH PLATTE NRD



TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR THE 2015 BASIN-WIDE MEETING

Meeting Date: June 18, 2015



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I. INTRODUCTION

This report is intended to satisfy the North Platte Natural Resources District tracking and reporting requirements as described by the Monitoring and Studies section of the North Platte Natural Resources District Integrated Management Plan (IMP).

The 2015 report contains information on those activities required to be tracked for the period January 1, 2014, to December 31, 2014.

II. CERTIFICATIONS

A total of 343.6 new acres were certified between January 1, 2014, and December 31, 2014. The District determined that the lands had historically been irrigated, the landowners had properly applied for certification, but the certification paperwork had not been completed. Consequently, these do not represent new, previously unirrigated acres, but rather a rectification of an incomplete certification process for historically irrigated acres.

III. APPROVED TRANSFERS

One transfer of certified irrigated acres and the point of withdrawal was approved between January 1, 2014, and December 31, 2014.

Permit Number	Acres Transferred	From Location	New Acres	To Location
TA-14-001	115	Sec. 11, T20N, R53W	69	Sec. 12, T20N, R53W

Because a transfer of the total (115) acres would have resulted in a net depletion to the North Platte River, the District allowed the landowner to transfer only 69 acres. This modified transfer results in a net positive effect on the river. In addition, as a condition of approval, the landowner was not permitted to irrigate for the first year following the transfer approval. This temporary cessation has allowed enough accretion to the river to complete mitigation of third-party impacts in the affected reach of the river.

IV. VARIANCES

No variances from NRD rules and regulations were sought or granted in calendar year 2014.

V. OTHER PERMITS

No other permits were approved between January 1, 2014, and December 31, 2014.

VI. WELL CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

The following table lists the well construction permits that were approved, cancelled, or denied between January 1, 2014, and December 31, 2014:

NRD Permit Number	Legal Description	Use	Replacement	DNR Registration Number
NPRP13032	S29-T19N-R45W	Irrigation	Yes	G-047838
NPRP14001	S25-T23N-R56W	Irrigation	Yes	G-137197
NPSG14002	S26-T16N-R42W	Irrigation	No*	G-172643
NPRP14003	S29-T22N-R54W	Irrigation	Yes	G-018614
NPRP14004	S11-T21N-R49W	Irrigation	Yes	G-042838
NPRP14005	S27-T20N-R51W	Irrigation	Yes	G-097263
NPIN14006	S18-T26N-R55W	Commercial/ Industrial	No**	G-173541
NPSG14007	S9-T18N-R45W	Irrigation	No*	G-175465
NPSG14008	S9-T18N-R45W	Irrigation	No*	G-175466
NPRP14009	S24-T22N-R56W	Irrigation	Yes	G-019893
NPRP14010	S19-T18N-R49W	Irrigation	Yes	G-022105
NPSG14011	S12-T20N-R53W	Irrigation	No***	Not yet constructed
NPRP14012	S28-T19N-R52W	Aquaculture	Yes	Not yet constructed
NPRP14013	S28-T19N-R52W	Commercial/ Industrial	Yes	Not yet constructed

*This is a Special Circumstance Replacement Well, as per NPNRD Rules.

**This is covered by *Neb. Rev. Stat.* § 46-740.

***This is a Special Circumstance Replacement Well, as per NPNRD Rules, that will be drilled to service TA-14-001.

VII. IRRIGATION WELL FLOW METER DATA

The ending flow meter readings for Water Year 2014 were collected during October 2014. The preliminary amount of ground water withdrawn for irrigation purposes in the overappropriated area (including the Pumpkin Creek Basin Ground Water Management Subarea) for Water Year 2014 was 121,393 acre-feet on 164,147 certified irrigated acres for an average withdrawal of 8.9 acre-inches per acre. The above numbers do not include withdrawal amounts that have not yet been calculated by some other means, for users whose data could not be directly obtained from a flow meter because of, e.g., a failed flow meter.

VIII. RETIRED ACRES AND OTHER STREAMFLOW ACCRETION ACTIVITIES

Between January 1, 2014, and December 31, 2014, 440 groundwater-certified irrigated acres were contracted through the District for permanent retirement.

In calendar year 2014, the District entered into five-year surface-water lease agreements for two pieces of property totaling 72.4 acres, both served by Enterprise Irrigation District. The leased water will be used to offset post-1997 depletions to the North Platte River to help meet the goals and objectives of the IMP. The depletion offset will come from the historic consumptive use (HCU) portion of the leased surface water that will either be recharged in a pit located on-site or directly returned to the river. A portion of the HCU water will be used for site evaporation mitigation, if the District chooses to construct recharge ponds on one or both sites, and to maintain the historic return

flows to the river. Extensive accounting and monitoring will be done during the project to provide information for the Western Water Use Management models and to ensure, to the extent possible, that no third-party impacts result from the proposed transfer. The leased acres will not be irrigated with either ground or surface water during the duration of the lease.

IX. OTHER WATER BANKING ACTIVITIES

No water banking activities were conducted between January 1, 2014, and December 31, 2014.

X. MUNICIPAL AND INDUSTRIAL ACCOUNTING

The following table lists the information gathered for the municipal accounting requirement:

City	Baseline (gallons)*	2014 Use (gallons)*	2014 Population**	2014 gallons per capita per day
Bayard	151,783,533	134,787,930	1,209	305.0
Bridgeport	237,176,000	80,225,720	1,537	143.0
Broadwater	45,668,104	7,471,800	128	159.9
Gering	891,820,400	680,267,800	8,500	219.3
Minatare	61,311,333	42,281,420	809	143.2
Mitchell	173,323,000	122,634,000	1,748	192.2
Oshkosh	125,128,333	86,356,000	884	267.6
Scottsbluff	960,551,017	663,033,580	15,039	120.8
Terrytown	147,433,847	96,108,000	2,144	122.8
WNJWB (includes Lyman, Henry, Morrill)	327,391,371	145,489,800	1,452	274.5

*This includes pumping and, if applicable, discharge volumes.

**Population numbers were supplied by the municipality.

The following table lists the information gathered for the industrial accounting requirement:

Name	Location	Well Reg. #	Baseline 2001-2006 (Acres or Gallons)	2014 Use (Acres/Gallons)
Courthouse and Jail Rock Golf Club	Sec. 29, T19N, R50W	G-096426, G-056581	35.21 acres	35.21 acres
Riverview Golf and Country Club	Sec. 17 and 20, T22N, R55W	G-083316, G-083317	67 acres	67 acres
Scottsbluff Country Club	Sec. 10, T22N, R55W	G-147117, G-147118, G-147119	106 acres	106 acres
Chimney Rock Golf Course	Sec. 22, T21N, R52W	G-072722	81.25 acres	81.25 acres
Rolling Green Golf Course	Sec. 15, T23N, R57W	G-029114	46.3 acres	46.3 acres
Scenic Knolls Golf Course	Sec. 9 and 16, T23N, R56W	G-120401	63.3 acres	63.3 acres
Oshkosh Country Club	Sec. 10, T16N, R44W	G-131367	33.2 acres	33.2 acres
Western Sugar Cooperative	Sec. 30, T22N, R54W	G-074421, G-074422, G-074423, G-005567	1,125,000,000 gallons	814,294,152 gallons
Bridgeport Ethanol LLC	Sec. 03, T19N, R50W	G-117573, G-152360	130,665,048 gallons*	Not available**

*Baseline determined by 2009-2013 usage.

** Meter failed during accounting year, and information from old and new meters has not yet been obtained and reconciled to derive a total use figure for 2014.