
UPPER PLATTE RIVER BASIN-WIDE PLAN ANNUAL MEETING

TPNRD OFFICE (GREAT WESTERN BANK BUILDING)
111 S. DEWEY STREET, NORTH PLATTE, NE
JULY 18, 2018, @ 11:00 A.M.
MINUTES

The following people were in attendance:

Melissa Mosier, NeDNR	Bill Halligan, SPRND	Dean Edson, NARD
Jay Richeson, CPNRD	Jared Lorensen, NGPC	Larry Reynolds, TBNRD
Lyndon Vogt, CPNRD	Keith Koupal, NGPC	Rod Horn, SPNRD
Brandi Flyr, CPNRD	Don Kraus, CNPPID	Ryan Reisdorff, SPNRD
Jesse Mintken, CPNRD	Jason Farnsworth, PRRIP	John Thorburn, TBNRD
Jared Derry	Jeff Shafer, NPPD	John Berge, NPNRD
Kevin Derry	Jessie Strom, NeDNR	
Mike Whitesel, Sargent Irr.	Dani Bischoff, NeDNR	

1) Introductions

- Introductions were given around the room.

2) Review Agenda & Meeting Procedures

- There were no modifications to the agenda. John Berge, chair, noted the Open Meetings Act was posted in the room and stated that notice for the meeting was published to the NeDNR website.

3) Monitoring & Management Actions

a) NeDNR Report

- i) Jessie Strom went through the permit section of NeDNR's 2017 report. She noted that they issued 19 new surface water permits (temporary groundwater recharge permits), no dam safety permits, and one municipal groundwater transfer permit for the City of Minatare. She also noted that four surface water permits (temporary groundwater recharge permits) expired in 2017.

1. Jessie also noted that there are other reporting requirements of NeDNR, which will be included in the Robust Review.

b) NRD Reports

i) CPNRD

1. Jesse Mintken presented the CPNRD annual report. According to the report, there were 1,028,616 irrigated acres certified in 2017. Of those acres, 936,894 were acres of groundwater, 14,356 were acres of surface water, and 77,129 were commingled acres.
2. In 2017, CPNRD approved 152 transfers which resulted in 1,355 new lands irrigated with 1,090 being used for offsets. They had 98 well permits issued and one was voided. In their overappropriated area, they had two perpetual conservation easements, which resulted in 190 acres retired.
3. They also diverted excess flows from Platte River in 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017, which resulted in 61,243 converted acre-feet.

ii) NPNRD

1. John Berge presented for NPNRD and noted the groundwater transfer permit for the City of Minatare, which NeDNR also mentioned. They also approved a transfer permit for the City of Oshkosh. They had no variances that were issued and no other certifications or permits approved in 2017.
2. The preliminary amount of groundwater withdrawn for irrigation purposes in the overappropriated area is 119,027 acre-feet in an area of 167,290 certified irrigated acres, which is an average withdrawal of 8.5 acre-inches per acre (includes some commingled acres). Permanently retired 394 acres of groundwater certified land.

iii) SPNRD

1. Ryan Reisdorff presented for SPNRD. In 2017, SPNRD completed two transfers, both of which were adding an industrial use to an existing irrigation well. One well construction permit was approved for a replacement irrigation well; no variances were approved.
2. They are tracking 27 active industries in SPNRD, which have pumped approximately 280 million gallons in 2017, which is well below the baseline. They track and account for 10 municipalities, which pumped roughly 948 million gallons.
3. SPNRD had 132,042 acres certified in 2017 which pumped 104,622 acre-feet of water, which is about 9.8 inches per acre.

iv) TBNRD

1. John Thorburn presented for TBNRD. They have 298,595 certified irrigated acres, and 111,922 of those acres are commingled. They had 13 transfers in 2017, all but one of which were one to one transfers. They had 9 replacement well permits.
 2. In 2017, they were able to divert 6,106 acre-feet of excess flows.
- v) TPNRD
1. Ann Dimmitt presented for TPNRD. They have about 320,898 certified irrigated acres. In 2017, there were 20 transfers. There were 12 total well permits granted, 7 of which were replacement wells.
 2. The north pipeline of the NCORPE project was completed this year on time and under budget. A time-lapse video of the construction of the pipe was shown at the meeting.
- c) Data, Information, Studies
- i) Selection of Technical Committee Chair
 1. Brandi Flyr was nominated as the Technical Committee Chair by John Thorburn and was seconded by Lyndon Vogt. Melissa Mosier called roll, and the vote was unanimous in favor of Brandi.
 - ii) Progress Toward Increment Goals (measuring the success of the IMPs)
 1. Annual Review (NeDNR)
 - a. Jessie Strom went through NeDNR's report on depletions and mitigations from 2017 for CPNRD, NPNRD, SPNRD, TBNRD, and TPNRD. The only activities that required mitigation of the permits that were issued were the transfers. The net impact from the transfers that occurred in 2017 by the end of the second increment is estimated to be 105.1 acre-feet.
 2. Update on Studies (Flyr)
 - a. Brandi went through the two studies that the POAC Technical Committee has been working on: The Robust Review and the Conservation Study.
 - b. The Robust Review's purpose is to determine the hydrologic impact of development and management options and is used to measure progress towards IMP and basin-wide goals. The landuse change data sets are taking more time, and they are using the WWUM and COHYST models to run the data.
 - c. The Flatwater Group was commissioned for the Conservation Measures Study, which looks at how farming practices (such as no till or other tillage types) have changed over the last few

decades to determine what impacts on water use and consumption they might have.

3. Update on NCORPE, north pipeline (TPNRD)

a. The NCORPE update was given during their reporting.

4) Second Increment Basin-Wide Planning (NeDNR)

- Melissa went through the timeline of the second increment of the basin-wide plan. The timeline outlines the timelines for the second increment basin-wide plan development and the individual NRD's second increment IMP development. She noted that for both the basin-wide plan development and IMPs, we are in the plan development stage and both are on track to be completed on time.

5) Review of Revisions to the Basin-Wide Plan or to Individual IMPs

- There were no revisions to the BWP or to individual IMPs.

6) Written Requests for Revisions to the Basin-Wide Plan or to Individual IMPs or Disputes

- There were no written requests for revisions to the BWP, individual IMPs, or disputes.

7) Public Comment Period

- Don Kraus from CNPPID thanked everyone for their progress towards reaching a fully appropriated condition. He mentioned that their main concern is drought and how to prepare for another drought. Kraus also brought up issues concerning Glendo Reservoir and encouraged people to learn more about it and contact their senators if they feel strongly about it.

8) Meeting Summary

a) Action Items

- There were no action items.

b) Schedule Next Annual Meeting

- Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 17, 2019, at 10 a.m. MT in Sidney.