Multi-scaled Data Exchange to Support Integrated Water Resources Management

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Carrie Wiese, Integrated Water Management Coordinator, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

John Engel, Water Resources Engineer, HDR

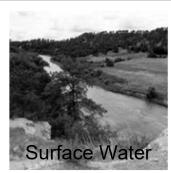
Agenda

- >Who we are
- >What we do
- >How local data support our work at multiple scales
 - o Interstate
 - o Intrastate
 - o Local



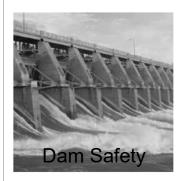
Providing the sound science and support for managing Nebraska's most precious resource















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



IMPLEMENTATION

Water Management Projects

Strategic Planning Actions

PLANNING AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION Goals and Objectives for Water Planning

Stakeholder Involvement

Water Availability and Water Shortages

Water Supplies and Water Uses

SCIENCE

Hydrologic Models, Data, and Analyses

Water Management
Projects

Strategic Planning Actions

Goals and Objectives
for Water Planning

Stakeholder Involvement

Water Availability and
Water Shortages

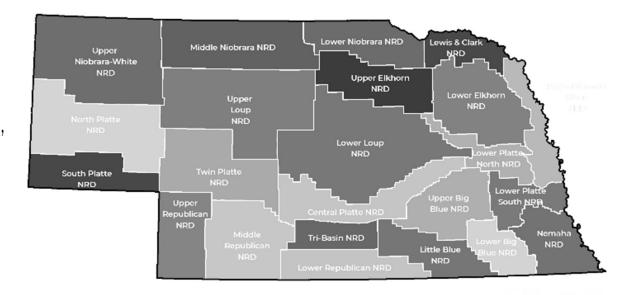
Water Supplies and Water Uses

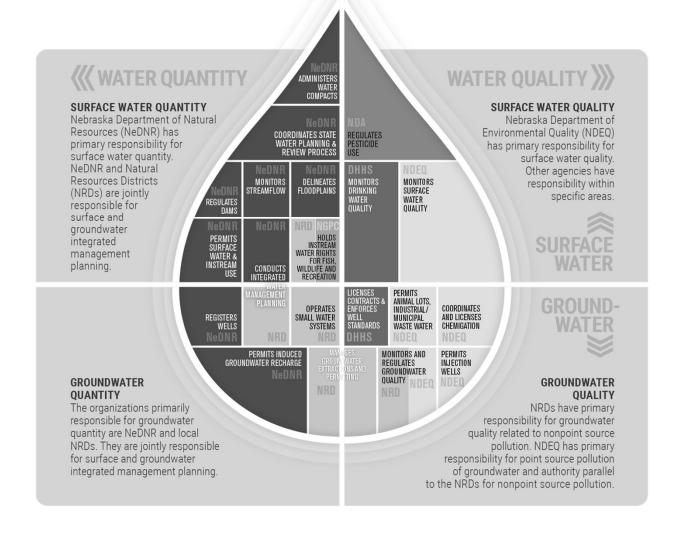
SCIENCE

Hydrologic Models, Data, and Analyses

Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts

- ➤ Natural Resources District system created by act of legislature in 1969 (districts in place since 1972)
- ➤ Boundaries based on major river basins
- Created to solve flood control, soil erosion, irrigation runoff, and groundwater quality and quantify issues, among other responsibilities





Interstate Data Exchange

Compact Compliance: Republican River Compact Administration (RRCA)

- ➤ Compact signed by three states and ratified by Congress in 1943
- ➤ Divides "virgin water supply" of the Republican River between Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska
 - Virgin water supply = water supply undepleted by the activities of man
- ➤ 11% to Colorado, 40% to Kansas, 49% to Nebraska
- ➤ Long legal history between Kansas and Nebraska
 - Kansas filed suit in 1998 with major points of contention being proliferation of well development (depleting streamflow) in Nebraska and chronic overuse by Nebraska in several subbasins
 - Settlement laid out accounting procedures
- >Annual data exchange

RRCA Data Exchanged

NeDNR Data

- ➤ Non-federal surface water uses
 - o Location, diversion amount, acres
- >Water administration
 - o Dates and curtailment information
- >Streamflow records
- > New wells
 - o Physical information, intended use
- ➤ Crop irrigation requirements*
- ➤ Non-federal reservoirs**
 - Surface area, capacity, evaporation

Data from Other Local Partners

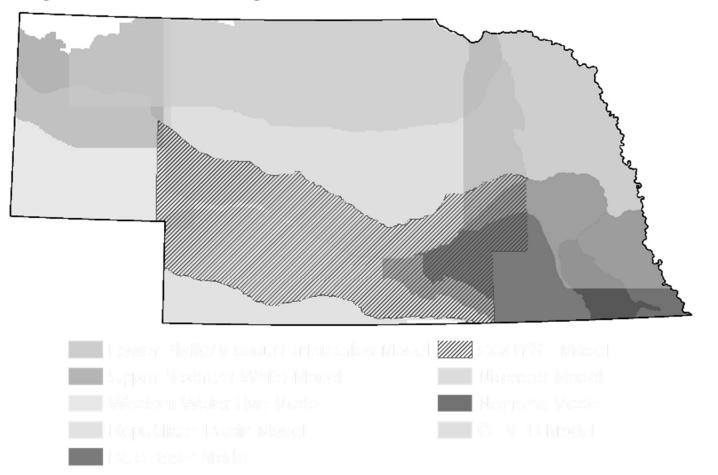
- ➤Platte River reservoirs (irrigation districts)
 - o Inflow, outflow, net evaporation
- Augmentation projects (Natural Resources Districts)
 - o Physical information, daily pumping data
- ➤ Groundwater pumping (Natural Resources Districts, irrigation districts)
 - Pumping amount (from power or meter records), system type, acres irrigated

^{*}Combines NASS and HPRCC data

^{**}Calculations based on dam inventory, field office notes, and USBR data

Intrastate Data Exchange

Hydrologic Modeling Efforts Across Nebraska



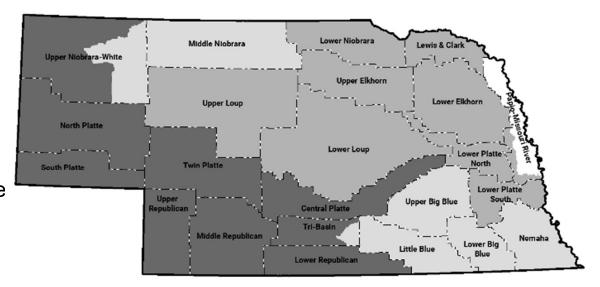
Data Used in Hydrologic Modeling

- **≻Climate**
- >Soils
- ▶Land Use
 - Natural Resources District certified irrigated acres
- ➤ Groundwater pumping
 - o Natural Resources District metered data irrigation
 - Municipal and industrial pumping
- ➤ Geology
 - University Conservation and Survey Division test holes
 - o NeDNR registered wells
 - o Airborne electromagnetic survey data
- >Surface water
 - NeDNR stream gage data
 - o Headwaters seepage/springs locations
 - o Local operations data

Local Data Exchange

Nebraska's Integrated Management Planning (IMP) Process

- ➤ 2004: LB962 required IMPs in fully and over-appropriated basins
- ➤ 2010: LB764 allowed for voluntary IMPs
- ➤ 2014: LB1098 Water Sustainability Fund
 - Several goals, including to promote goals and objectives of approved IMPs
- ➤ 2018: All Natural Resources
 Districts in the state
 participating in IMPs



Data Exchanged for IMP Annual Reports

Natural Resources District data

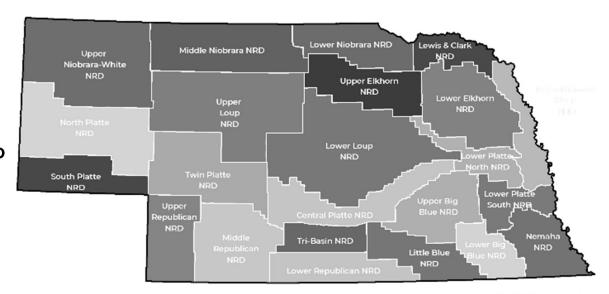
- >Static groundwater levels
- ➤ Certified acres/changes
- ➤ Municipal/industrial uses
- ➤ Metered data (irrigation)
- >Stream gage measurements
- >Well construction permits issued/denied
- ➤ Variances granted
- >Transfer permits granted
- ➤ Depletions to streamflows resulting from new, retired, or other changes to uses

NeDNR data

- ➤Irrigation use
- >Municipal/industrial use
- ➤ New appropriations granted
- >New groundwater permits issued
- >Stream gage measurements
- ➤ Transfers/cancellations of appropriations
- ➤ Administrative actions taken
- ➤ New depletions accounting
- New data collected or model/study results

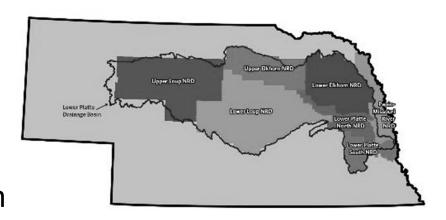
Data Exchange Challenges

- ➤ NeDNR has 23 partners in effort
- ➤ Challenges
 - o Data types/Level of detail vary
 - Technology/experience
 - Formats
 - o Nomenclature, units, etc.
- ➤ Critical to the fundamental IMP feedback loop



Database development

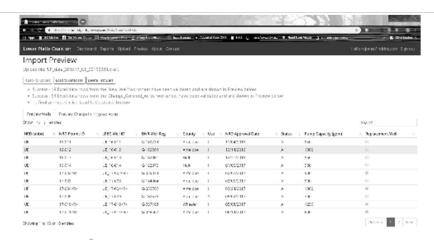
- ➤ Lower Platte Basin Coalition 2018 Basin Plan
- ➤ Opportunity to establish consistency in data collection and storage
- ➤ Coincident effort with USGS WUDR statewide database development for non-agricultural uses
- >Two purposes:
 - Importing, storage, and reporting for IMP and basin plan annual reporting
 - Data record for plan monitoring, future modeling efforts

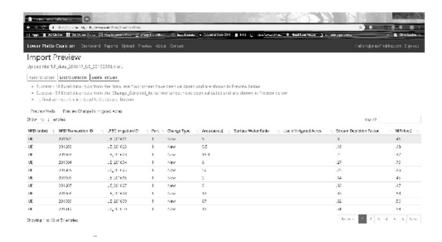




Importing and Storing Data

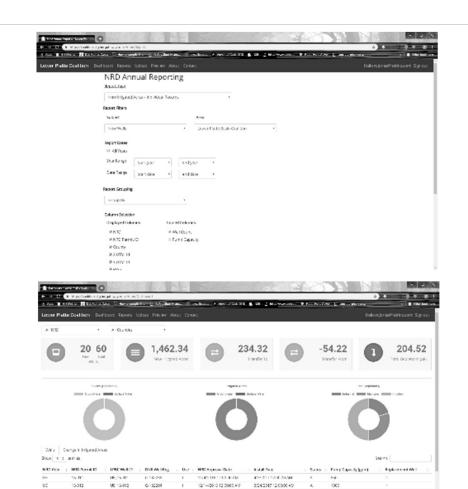
- ➤ Standardized format template files
- ➤ Compatibility with existing databases
 - not creating work!
- >Robust validation





Reporting

- ➤ Multiple database queries:
 - ∘ Spatial
 - Temporal
 - Type (use, transfer, retirements, etc.)
- >Standardized reporting tables and graphics
- ➤ Timing and location record of new uses stored for monitoring and modeling updates



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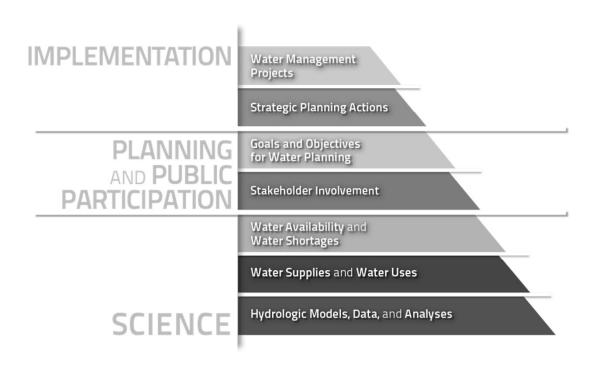
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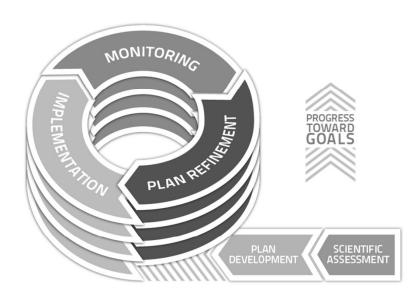
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Data Exchanged Annually Informs Adaptive Management







THANK YOU

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