

# Platte Basin Coalition Meeting Minutes

June 3, 2019, 1:00pm

TPNRD Office, Great Western Bank Building, North Platte, NE

## Call to Order and Attendance (Attachment A).

Melissa Mosier	NeDNR	Kelechi Chibuikem	NeDNR
John Thorburn	TBNRD	Isabella Peterson	NeDNR
Larry Reynolds	TBNRD	Shelly Meyer	NeDNR
Rod Horn	SPNRD	Jessie Strom	NeDNR
Travis Glanz	SPNRD	Mike Drain	CNPPID
Ryan Reisdorff	SPNRD	Devin Brundage	CNPPID
John Berge	NPNRD	Kent Miller	TPNRD
Lyndon Vogt	CPNRD	Ann Dimmitt	TPNRD
Brandi Flyr	CPNRD	Jennifer Schellpeper	NeDNR

## Meeting agenda attached (Attachment B).

1. **Welcome and Open Meetings Act:** The meeting was opened at 1:00 p.m. (CDT). There was a copy of the Open Meetings Act in the Room.
2. **Publication of Meeting Notices (Attachment C).**
  - A. **North Platte Telegraph: May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019**
  - B. **Sidney Sun Telegraph: May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019**
  - C. **Grand Island Independent: May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019**
  - D. **Kearney Hub: May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019**
  - E. **Scottsbluff Star Herald: May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019**
3. **Approval of April 30, 2019 PBC Meeting Minutes (Attachment D): Motion: To approve the April 30, 2019 PBC meeting minutes.** Schellpeper motioned. Berge seconded. **Minutes approved with all ayes.**
4. **Approval of PBC Protocols**
  - A. **Protocol for Platte Basin Coalition Funding**
  - B. **Platte Basin Coalition General Protocol of Activities Needed to Secure Conservation Easements**
5. **Budget Update (NeDNR)**
  - A. **Funding (Attachment E)**
    - i. **NPNRD Schaneman Recharge Project:** John Berge, NPNRD, referred to the memorandum dated 6/3/2019 (**Attachment F**) discussing four leased properties within the Enterprise Irrigation District for a total of 179.6 acres. The total project cost estimate is \$195,000. Berge noted that the estimate is conservative and that the NRD expects the costs to be less than the estimate. NPNRD is seeking reimbursement from the WRCF for up to \$117,000 or 60% of construction costs. The NPNRD will be responsible for 40% of the funding (\$78,000). Schellpeper noted while the motion could be approved today, the project permits will still have to be approved by NeDNR and any credit that is calculated will come out of the next Robust Review. She also reiterated that this is just a preliminary estimate of costs. **Motion: To approve the \$195,000 Schaneman Project for reimbursement under the WRCF with a 60:40 split between the NeDNR and NPNRD.** Berge motioned. Horn seconded. **Motion passed with all ayes.**
    - ii. **Budget adjustment for NPNRD Project:** Shelly Meyer, NeDNR, proposed the following motion to move NPNRD funds left from projects in years 4-6 that are

completed to EPIC Contract 2019 and other choice projects. **Motion: To close out the remaining funds of \$124,168.25 from Cow Camp (Contract 904), \$58,238.70 from excess flows (Contract 985), \$3,712.20 from retirement project (Contract 1023), and \$0.32 from EPIC 2018 (Contract 1070) totaling \$186,119.47 and make those funds available for other NPNRD projects. \$183,600 would be dedicated to the new EPIC 2019 Project approved by the PBC at their April 30<sup>th</sup> meeting.** At this time, the EPIC 2019 contract is being drafted. The remaining \$2,519.47 is available for other NPNRD projects. No general funds are part of this budget adjustment.

Schellpeper motioned. Vogt seconded. **Motioned passed with all ayes.**

- iii. **TBNRD Excess Flow Diversion Request:** Meyer, NeDNR, referred to the memorandum dated 5/29/2019 (**Attachment G**) and proposed the following motion to approve TBNRD to use \$33,600 of funds already allocated to TBNRD's budget for years 7-9, but not yet committed to any project, to pay for 60% of the observation well cost for the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture (Contract 1021). The original project was estimated at \$1,301,775 with a 60% NeDNR match of \$781,065 and 40% TBNRD match of \$520,710. The proposed budget increase would increase the total cost of the project to \$1,357,775 with a split of NeDNR's 60% match of \$814,665 and TBNRD's 40% match of \$543,110. This project is funded through both the years 4-6 budget and the years 7-9 budget. The new project allocated for the years 7-9 budget is the NeDNR's 60% portion totaling \$197,833.19 and TBNRD's portion totaling \$131,888.79. No general funds would be needed to match for this project. **Motion: To increase the amount of the TBNRD budget allocated to the RWBJV project such that the new total cost of the project would be \$1,357,775 with a split of 60:40 NeDNR to TBNRD.**

Thorburn motioned. Vogt seconded. **Motion passed with all ayes.**

- iv. **Correction to TBNRD Budget allotment:** Meyer, NeDNR, proposed a motion to approve the budget adjustments in years 4-6 of a prior adjustment in an October 2018 meeting, where there was a motion to move funds from TBNRD to SPNRD. This motion created a shortage in TBNRD's budget with general funds from NeDNR to TBNRD of \$128,947.74. In reconciling projects, it was found that NeDNR only needed to transfer \$90,330.32 within the budget of \$1,376,531.76 to cover the approved projects. **Motion: To reduce the increased TBNRD budget from \$128,947.74 to \$90,330.32 to correct the incorrect budget adjustment made in October 2018.**

Thorburn motioned. Horn seconded. **Motion passed with all ayes.**

- v. Schellpeper noted according to the budget sheets in terms of committed and uncommitted dollars for years 4-6, the only NRD that has remaining uncommitted dollars was NPNRD, but with the Schaneman project those dollars should all be committed and we should be able to start closing out the budget for years 4-6. She also noted that year 8 has been added to the budget spreadsheet, as it was approved at the last meeting.

**B. Studies**

- i. Conservation Measures
- ii. Difference Between Current and Fully Appropriated
- iii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Increment BWP Facilitation
- iv. 2<sup>nd</sup> Increment NRD IMPs Facilitation (see Attachment E)
  - a. Approval of HDR invoice(s):

- Invoice #7 (1200190544) for \$14,115.58

Facilitation for 2nd Increment - #1064 IMP								
HDR Engineering Facilitator	CPNRD	NPNRD	SPNRD	TBNRD	TPNRD	NRD Total	NDNR	Total
Invoice 7 (1200190544)	\$ 1,390.17	\$ 1,686.53	\$ 1,489.24	-	\$ 1,602.62	\$ 6,168.56	\$ 7,947.02	\$ 14,115.58

**Motion: To approve 2<sup>nd</sup> increment NRD IMP Facilitation invoice #7.**  
Vogt motioned. Berge seconded. **Motion passed with all ayes.**

v. **Robust Review**

6. **Project Activities**

- A. **N-CORPE (TPNRD):** No updates.
  - B. **Tri-Basin NRD Phase II Augmentation - North Dry Creek (TBNRD):** No updates.
  - C. **Rainwater Basin Joint Venture (TBNRD):** About 1,000 af of excess flows were put into Johnson Wetland in early May.
  - D. **Oliver Reservoir Streamflow Enhancement (SPNRD):** Project is wrapped up, acres are decertified, and conservation easements are in place. Wells will be decommissioned or converted to livestock after October. Final reimbursements have been sent to NeDNR.
  - E. **Western ID (Deuel County) Recharge Pit Construction & Rehab (SPNRD):** All pits (7 new pits) are dug and cleaned out and ready to go.
  - F. **CPNRD Recharge Pits/Detention Ponds:** The RFPs for the property southeast of Cozad have been sent out. Looking at possible property to buy next to Thirty-Mile Canal.
  - G. **J-2 Regulating Reservoir (NeDNR):** No updates.
  - H. **2019 EPIC Program (NPNRD):** Sending out payments next week. Leased ~1,200 af of water through the project. The contract is in the works at NeDNR.
  - I. **Excess Flow Diversion Updates (NeDNR):** Schellpeper noted that Jeremy Gehle, NeDNR, has been sending out emails with updates on current excess flow conditions (**Attachment H**). The group provided feedback that these emails are helpful and would like to continue to receive them. Schellpeper noted things to consider when determining the purpose of recharging excess flows and when operating projects for recharge of excess flows. Always begin with the premise of 1997 baseline conditions – how was the canal operating at that time? Is it the time of year when the canals would normally operate? If so, is it a true change from operations under the 1997 operational conditions? Are there new conditions, constraints or management actions affecting producer behaviors either in a way that increases or decreases flows in the river as compared to 1997 historical operations? Schellpeper also noted that there could be other purposes than just the comparison to the 1997 baseline condition for wanting to recharge the groundwater including flood control, drought control, or general maintenance of the aquifer levels.
7. **Public Comment:** None.
  8. **Next Meeting: August 14, 2019**
  9. **Adjourn:** 1:24 p.m. (CDT)

PBC

SON-1051111

6/3/19

NAME

ENTITY

EMAIL

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## **Draft Agenda**

### **Platte Basin Coalition Meeting**

June 3, 2019, 1:00 p.m.

TPNRD Office, Great Western Bank Building, North Platte, NE

1. Welcome and Open Meetings Act
2. Publication of Meeting Notices
  - A. North Platte Telegraph: May 23rd
  - B. Sidney Sun Telegraph: May 24th
  - C. Grand Island Independent: May 24th
  - D. Kearney Hub: May 23rd
  - E. Scottsbluff Star Herald: May 23rd
3. Approval of April 30, 2019 PBC Meeting Minutes
4. Approval of PBC Protocols
  - A. Protocol for Platte Basin Coalition Funding
  - B. Platte Basin Coalition General Protocol of Activities Needed to Secure Conservation Easements
5. Budget Update (NeDNR)
  - A. Funding
    - i. NPNRD Schaneman Recharge Project
    - ii. Budget adjustment for NPNRD Project
    - iii. TBNRD Excess Flow Diversion Request
    - iv. Correction to TBNRD Budget allotment
  - B. Studies
    - i. Conservation Measures
    - ii. Difference Between Current and Fully Appropriated
    - iii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Increment BWP Facilitation
    - iv. 2<sup>nd</sup> Increment NRD IMPs Facilitation
      - a. Approval of HDR invoice(s)
    - v. Robust Review
6. Project Activities
  - A. N-CORPE (TPNRD)
  - B. Tri-Basin NRD Phase II Augmentation - North Dry Creek (TBNRD)
  - C. Rainwater Basin Joint Venture (TBNRD)
  - D. Oliver Reservoir Streamflow Enhancement (SPNRD)
  - E. Western ID (Deuel County) Recharge Pit Construction & Rehab (SPNRD)
  - F. CPNRD Recharge Pits/Detention Ponds
  - G. J-2 Regulating Reservoir (NeDNR)
  - H. 2019 EPIC Program (NPNRD)
  - I. Excess Flow Diversion Updates (NeDNR)
7. Public Comment
8. Next Meeting: August 14, 2019
9. Adjourn

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE PLATTE BASIN COALITION**

The Central Platte Natural Resources District, North Platte Natural Resources District, South Platte Natural Resources District, Tri-Basin Natural Resources District, Twin Platte Natural Resources District (collectively, the Platte Basin NRDs), and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (Department) hereby provide notice that a public meeting of the Platte Basin Coalition will be held on Monday June 3, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. Central Time, at the Twin Platte Natural Resources District office, 111 South Dewey Street, North Platte, Nebraska.

The Platte Basin Coalition purpose is to create a cooperative body to assist the Platte Basin NRDs and the Department with resource management and efficient implementation of the basin-wide management plan and the individual integrated management plans for the overappropriated area of the Platte River Basin.

An agenda of the meeting is being kept continually current and is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the offices of the Platte Basin NRDs and the Department and at the following website: [www.dnr.nebraska.gov](http://www.dnr.nebraska.gov). Please refer to the websites and phone numbers listed below for further information.

- CPNRD: <http://www.cpnrd.org> or phone (308) 385-6282  
215 Kaufman Avenue, Grand Island, NE 68803
- NPNRD: <http://www.npnrd.org> or phone (308) 632-2749  
100547 Airport Road, Scottsbluff, NE 69363
- SPNRD: <http://www.spnrd.org> or phone (308) 254-2377  
551 Parkland Drive, Sidney, NE 69162
- TBNRD: <http://www.tribasinnrd.org> or phone (308) 995-6688  
1723 Burlington Street, Holdrege, NE 68949
- TPNRD: <http://www.tpnrd.org> or phone (308) 535-8080  
111 S Dewey Street, North Platte, NE 69101
- Department: <http://www.dnr.nebraska.gov> or phone (402) 471-2363  
301 Centennial Mall South, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Lincoln, NE 68508

Individuals with disabilities may request auxiliary aids and services necessary for participation by contacting Melissa Mosier at the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, 301 Centennial Mall South, PO Box 94676, Lincoln, NE 68509-4676, telephone (402) 471-3948 or e-mail [melissa.mosier@nebraska.gov](mailto:melissa.mosier@nebraska.gov).

## **DRAFT Platte Basin Coalition Meeting Minutes**

April 30, 2019

TPNRD Office, Great Western Bank Building, North Platte, NE

**Call to Order and Attendance (Attachment A).** Due to weather conditions, some committee members joined via conference call.

Melissa Mosier	NeDNR	John Thorburn	TBNRD
Isabella Peterson	NeDNR	Jesse Mintken	CPNRD
Shelly Meyer	NeDNR	John Engel	HDR
Jessie Strom	NeDNR	John Berge (phone)	NPNRD
Jennifer Schellpeper	NeDNR	Thad Kuntz (phone)	ARI
Kent Miller	TPNRD	Rod Horn (phone)	SPNRD
Ann Dimmitt	TPNRD	Ryan Reisdorff (phone)	SPNRD
Larry Reynolds	TBNRD	Travis Glanz (phone)	SPNRD

1. **Welcome and Open Meetings Act:** The meeting was opened at 1:00 p.m. CT. There was a copy of the Open Meetings Act in the room.
2. **Publication of Meeting Notices:** Notice of this meeting was published in the Kearney Hub (April 18, 2019), the Grand Island Independent (April 18, 2019), the Sidney Sun Telegraph (April 18, 2019), the North Platte Telegraph (April 18, 2019 and April 25, 2019), and the Scottsbluff Star Herald (April 18, 2019) (**Attachment B**).
3. **Agenda Modifications:** Discussion on agenda Item 6.A.i (NPNRD Schaneman Recharge Project funding) was postponed until a later date (**Attachment C**).
4. **Approval of December 6, 2018 PBC Meeting Minutes (Attachment D):**  
**Motion: To approve December 6, 2018 PBC meeting minutes.** Schellpeper motioned. Mintken seconded. **Minutes approved with all ayes.**
5. **Approval of PBC Protocols:** Discussion postponed.
6. **Budget Update (NeDNR) (Attachment E):**
  - A. **Funding:**
    - i. **NPNRD Schaneman Recharge Project:** Discussion postponed.
    - ii. **NPNRD Reimbursement for FY 2019 EPIC:** Discussion of Memo from NPNRD (**Attachment F**). NPNRD has modified contracts with landowners to ensure that deficit irrigation would be realized in the contracts, which was a previous issue. Information on each landowner is included for the current EPIC contract period. NPNRD stated this allocation buy-down program has been very positive and has helped to meet post-1997 offset obligations.  
**Motion: To approve the NPNRD FY 2019 EPIC reimbursement request. The total project cost is \$306,000 (\$183,600 from NET dollars within WRCF funds and \$122,400 NPNRD match).** Thorburn motioned. Schellpeper seconded. **Motion passed with all ayes.**  
**Schellpeper:** These payments won't be done until after July 1?  
**Berge:** We will be making the payment before the end of the fiscal year. We contract at the beginning of the water year and we make the payments before July 1, 2019.  
**Schellpeper:** Wanted to clarify because there is some remaining money from other projects that needs to be expended before the end of this fiscal year, if possible.
  - B. **Studies:**
    - i. **Conservation Measures:** No update.
    - ii. **Difference between Current and Fully Appropriated:** No invoices.

iii. **2<sup>nd</sup> Increment BWP Facilitation:**

- a. Invoice #26 (1200162469) for \$23,764.88 breaks down to \$2,376.49 per NRD
- b. Invoice #27 (1200169751) for \$8,614.18 breaks down to \$861.42 per NRD
- c. Invoice #28 (1200176101) for \$12,775.27 breaks down to \$638.73 per NRD
- d. Invoice #29 (1200180287) for \$2,362.06 breaks down to \$236.21 per NRD
- e. Invoice #30 (1200188165) for \$4,027.13 breaks down to \$402.71 per NRD

Facilitation for 2nd Increment - #900 BWP								
HDR Engineering Facilitator	CPNRD	NPNRD	SPNRD	TBNRD	TPNRD	NRD Total	NDNR	Total
Invoice #26 (Sept 2 - Nov 24) 1200162469	\$2,376.49	\$2,376.49	\$2,376.49	\$2,376.49	\$2,376.49	\$11,882.44	\$11,882.44	\$23,764.88
Invoice #27 (Nov 25 - Dec 29) 1200169751	\$ 861.42	\$ 861.42	\$ 861.42	\$ 861.42	\$ 861.42	\$ 4,307.10	\$ 4,307.08	\$ 8,614.18
Invoice #28 (Dec 30 - Feb 2) 1200176101	\$ 638.76	\$ 638.73	\$ 638.73	\$ 638.73	\$ 638.73	\$ 6,387.64	\$ 6,387.64	\$12,775.27
Invoice #29 (Feb 3 - Mar 2) 1200180287	\$ 236.21	\$ 236.21	\$ 236.21	\$ 236.21	\$ 236.21	\$ 1,181.03	\$ 1,181.03	\$ 2,362.06
Invoice #30 (Mar 3 - Mar 30) 1200188165	\$ 402.71	\$ 402.71	\$ 402.71	\$ 402.71	\$ 402.71	\$ 2,013.55	\$ 2,013.58	\$ 4,027.13

**Motion: To approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Increment BWP Facilitation invoices (#26-30).** Schellpeper motioned. Thorburn seconded. **Motion passed with all ayes.**

iv. **2<sup>nd</sup> Increment NRD IMPs Facilitation:**

- a. Invoice #5 (1200161519) for \$18,411.13
- b. Invoice #6 (1200169872) for \$3,746.11

Facilitation for 2nd Increment - #1064 IMP								
HDR Engineering Facilitator	CPNRD	NPNRD	SPNRD	TBNRD	TPNRD	NRD Total	NDNR	Total
Invoice 5 (1200161519)	\$1,909.61	\$2,285.34	\$2,316.27	-	\$2,528.49	\$9,039.71	\$9,371.42	\$18,411.13
Invoice 6 (1200169872)	\$ 269.54	\$ 269.54	\$ 195.83	-	\$ 195.83	\$ 930.74	\$2,815.37	\$ 3,746.11

**Motion: To approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Increment NRD IMP Facilitation invoices (#5 and #6).** Berge motioned. Mintken seconded. **Motion passed with all ayes.**

v. **Robust Review:**

- a. Invoice #18-2409 for \$13,895.00 breaks down to \$2,315.83 per COHYST NRD
- b. Invoice #18-2409 for \$5,405.00 breaks down to \$1,351.25 per WWUM NRD

Robust Review Work - COHYST								
HDR Engineering Facilitator	CPNRD	NPNRD	SPNRD	TBNRD	TPNRD	NRD Total	NDNR	Total
Invoice #18-2409	\$2,315.83	-	-	\$2,315.83	\$2,315.83	\$6,947.49	\$6,947.51	\$13,895.00
Robust Review Work - WWUM								
HDR Engineering Facilitator	CPNRD	NPNRD	SPNRD	TBNRD	TPNRD	NRD Total	NDNR	Total
Invoice #18-2409	-	\$1,351.25	\$1,351.25	-	-	\$2,702.50	\$2,702.50	\$ 5,405.00

**Motion: To approve Robust Review invoice #18-2409.** Mintken motioned. Berge seconded. **Motion passed with all ayes.**

C. **Operations:**

- i. **Liability Insurance Renewal Coverage:** Discussed invoice for the Platte Basin Water Project Coalition (PBC) liability insurance coverage for February 2019-February 2020 (**Attachment G**).

**Motion: To approve liability insurance renewal coverage.** Schellpeper motioned. Thorburn seconded. **Motion passed with all ayes.**

- D. **Project Budget Adjustments:** The following corrections were made to the PBC budget spreadsheet (Attachment E) since the December 2018 PBC meeting.

- i. TBNRD Excess Flows – Contract #1024 (years 4-6 spreadsheet): Invoice #67519 for \$12,866.36 was not recorded but was paid previously.
- ii. NPNRD Cow Camp – Contract #904 (years 4-6 spreadsheet): Originally submitted for \$56,988.75, but correct amount is \$34,193.25.

**Motion: To approve corrected balances on years 4-6 of the PBC budget spreadsheet.** Thorburn motioned. Schellpeper seconded. **Motion passed with all ayes.**

**Schellepeper:** Pointed out the NET reporting spreadsheet (**Attachment H**) grant #15-138. The group needs to ask for an extension from NET to use the remaining funds from this grant. Money needs to be expended before June 30, 2019, or we need to request an extension, including reasons why the extension is necessary. Need to follow-up with reimbursement or extension requests for the following projects:

- Rainwater Basin Joint Venture: Will request extension due to the harsh winter. CNPPID will submit any invoices ready for reimbursement.
- Cow Camp: Project is done and remaining funds allocated to this project can be shifted to a new project.
- NPNRD Groundwater recharge excess flows: Funds for this project can be repurposed.
- NPNRD will check on status of retirement projects and will follow-up with NeDNR.
- SPNRD Oliver Reservoir and Western Irrigation pit construction projects: SPNRD will send NeDNR reimbursement requests for these projects. Any leftover funds from the Oliver Reservoir project can be shifted to the Western Irrigation pit project.

**7. Water Resources Cash Fund:**

**A. Approval of Budget:** See discussion below (7.B)

**B. Split to Individual NRDs:** NRDs have discussed the breakdown of funding for years 8-9 and came up with proposal to reallocate funds (**Attachment I**) with a \$500,000 base, plus percentage-based split of the additional \$3.1 M. There was consensus for this funding formula among PBC administrators. This does not change funding breakdown for this fiscal year, but for years 8 & 9 (FY 2020-2021).

**Motion to approve the PBC budget distribution for years 8 & 9 (FY 2019-2021) including a \$500,000 funding base and percentage-based redistribution of the remaining \$3.1 M for years 8 & 9.** Thorburn motioned. Mintken seconded. **Motion passed with all ayes.**

**8. Project Activities:**

**A. N-CORPE (TPNRD):** No updates.

**B. Western ID Recharge Pit Construction & Rehab (TPNRD & SPNRD):** Project is complete and can be removed from future agendas.

**C. Tri-Basin NRD Phase II Augmentation – North Dry Creek (TBNRD):** Both augmentation wells escaped damage from flooding.

**D. Rainwater Basin Joint Venture (TBNRD):** Three pipelines are done. A fourth pipeline will be completed this week and a fifth will be completed in fall 2019. Diverted over 2,000 af into the Funk Waterfowl Protection Area (WPA) last winter. Will try to divert into Victor Lakes and Johnson WPAs this spring.

**E. Oliver Reservoir Streamflow Enhancement (SPNRD):** Signed conservation easements on three properties for ~110 irrigated acres. The project is close to ending.

**F. Western ID (Deuel County) Recharge Pit Construction & Rehab (SPNRD):** There are seven new pits in Deuel County for a total of 13 pits. Currently in the process of laying pipeline to a couple of recharge pits and putting in new gates. Project is close to finishing up.

**G. CPNRD Recharge Pits/Detention Ponds:** No updates.

**H. EPIC Program (NPNRD):** Paid out all contracts for FY 2018 and received reimbursements for those payments from NeDNR. ~1,600 af was conserved from FY 2018 agreements. The FY 2019 agreements will include ~1,300 af. The project has been a success overall.

**I. J-2 Regulating Reservoir (NeDNR):** No updates.

**J. Excess Flow Diversion Updates (NeDNR):** Notice will be sent out by NeDNR water administration staff to permit holders if excess flows become available. Watching next PRRIP target flow change in May. CNPPID is looking whether there are excess flows or not. There are not currently any at head gate, but that may change going forward.

**9. Public Comment:** None.

**10. Adjourned:** 1:39 p.m. CT.





<b>Facilitation for 2nd Increment - #1064 IMP</b>	\$ 12,851.38	\$ 12,851.38	\$ 12,851.38	\$ -	\$ 12,851.38	\$ 51,405.52	\$ 51,405.48	\$ 102,811.00
<b>HDR Engineering Facilitator</b>	<b>CPNRD</b>	<b>NPNRD</b>	<b>SPNRD</b>	<b>TBNRD</b>	<b>TPNRD</b>	<b>NRD Total</b>	<b>NDNR</b>	<b>Total</b>
Invoice 1 (1200135663)	\$ 1,787.62	\$ 5,005.36	\$ 3,741.04	\$ -	\$ 3,854.80	\$ 14,388.82	\$ 14,388.83	\$ 28,777.65
Invoice 2 (1200144049)	\$ 2,793.33	\$ 1,686.43	\$ 2,209.59	\$ -	\$ 1,891.16	\$ 8,580.51	\$ 9,177.39	\$ 17,757.90
Invoice 3 (1200149243)	\$ 1,167.27	\$ 191.07	\$ 680.67	\$ -	\$ 1,327.50	\$ 3,366.51	\$ 3,679.78	\$ 7,046.29
Invoice 4 (1200153524)	\$ 391.97	\$ 474.89	\$ 277.81	\$ -	\$ 576.24	\$ 1,720.91	\$ 1,831.47	\$ 3,552.38
Invoice 5 (1200161519)	1909.61	2285.34	2316.27	\$ -	2528.49	\$ 9,039.71	\$ 9,371.42	\$ 18,411.13
Invoice 6 (1200169872)	269.54	269.54	195.83	\$ -	195.83	\$ 930.74	\$ 2,815.37	\$ 3,746.11
Invoice 7 (1200190544)	1390.17	1686.53	1489.24		1602.62	\$ 6,168.56	\$ 7,947.02	\$ 14,115.58
<b>Total</b>	\$ 9,709.51	\$ 11,599.16	\$ 10,910.45	\$ -	\$ 11,976.64	\$ 44,195.76	\$ 49,211.28	\$ 79,291.46
<b>Remaining totals by Contributor</b>	\$ <b>3,141.87</b>	\$ <b>1,252.22</b>	\$ <b>1,940.93</b>	\$ <b>-</b>	\$ <b>874.74</b>	\$ <b>7,209.76</b>	\$ <b>2,194.20</b>	\$ <b>23,519.54</b>

Approved 12/6/18 ok  
 Approved 12/6/18 ok  
 Approved 12/6/18 ok  
 Approved 12/6/18 ok  
 Approved 4/30/2019  
 Approved 4/30/2019  
 for June Meeting

<b>Total Study Budget (Committed)</b>	<b>CPNRD</b>	<b>NPNRD</b>	<b>SPNRD</b>	<b>TBNRD</b>	<b>TPNRD</b>	<b>NRD Total</b>	<b>NeDNR</b>	<b>IWMPPF</b>
	\$ 106,774.90	\$ 132,555.11	\$ 132,555.11	\$ 106,774.90	\$ 106,774.90	\$ 585,434.93	\$ 691,077.12	\$ 180,000.00

<b>State Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
\$ 871,077.12	\$ 1,456,512.05

<b>Total Study Budget (Spent)</b>	<b>CPNRD</b>	<b>NPNRD</b>	<b>SPNRD</b>	<b>TBNRD</b>	<b>TPNRD</b>	<b>NRD Total</b>	<b>NeDNR</b>	<b>IWMPPF</b>
	\$ 75,552.45	\$ 76,289.60	\$ 76,289.60	\$ 76,289.60	\$ 76,289.60	\$ 383,904.66	\$ 442,015.70	\$ 177,051.40

<b>State Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
\$ 619,067.10	\$ 1,002,971.75

<b>Total Study Budget (Remaining)</b>	<b>CPNRD</b>	<b>NPNRD</b>	<b>SPNRD</b>	<b>TBNRD</b>	<b>TPNRD</b>	<b>NRD Total</b>	<b>NeDNR</b>	<b>IWMPPF</b>
	\$ 32,328.45	\$ 57,371.51	\$ 57,371.51	\$ 31,591.31	\$ 31,591.31	\$ 206,323.12	\$ 254,591.43	\$ (2,948.60)

<b>State Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
\$ 251,642.83	\$ 461,651.81

Calculator says this much is still owed \$ 31,222.45 \$ 56,265.51 \$ 56,265.51 \$ 30,485.31 \$ 30,485.31 \$ 201,530.27 \$ 249,061.43 \$ 2,948.60

\$ 252,010.03 \$ 453,540.30

To: PBC Administrators  
From: John Berge  
CC: John Berge, General Manager NPNRD, Barb Cross, Assistant Manager NPNRD, and Scott Schaneman, Water Resources Coordinator NPNRD  
Date: 6/3/2019  
Re: Enterprise Surface Water Leases and Schaneman Recharge Site Project Summary

---

## **INTRODUCTION**

The North Platte Natural Resources District (District) has acquired four irrigated farmland leases with surface water rights under the Enterprise Irrigation District. The project goal is to either directly return or recharge into a constructed recharge pit the leased surface water irrigation consumptive use. Once the water discharges into the North Platte River or a tributary, it will be accounted for as North Platte Natural Resources District depletion offset.

## **LEASED PROPERTIES**

The leased properties are within the Enterprise Irrigation District located between Mitchell, NE and Scottsbluff, NE. Below is a description of each leased parcel:

1. Rush Lease, 64.9 Acres, Commingled
2. LRK Lease, 52.9 Acres, Commingled
3. Schaneman Lease, 25.1 Acres, Commingled
4. Gueck Lease, 36.7 Acres, Surface Water Only

The District leased both the surface water and ground water from each landowner. No irrigation will occur on these lands throughout the lease. Map 1 provides the location of the leased parcels within the Enterprise Irrigation District boundary.

## **ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF LEASED WATER**

The calculation of the surface water irrigated crop consumptive use for each leased parcel has not been completed, so the following preliminary estimate is provided. Assuming the average Western Water Use Management Model's net irrigation requirement of 15 acre-inches per acre (based on the overall crop mix within the District) occurred over the 179.6 leased acres, it is estimated that the amount of surface water that will either be directly returned or recharged is about 225 acre-feet per year or 2.9 cubic feet per second during the irrigation season.

## **RECHARGE SITE**

The recharge site for this project will be constructed over a portion of the Schaneman Lease just south of the Enterprise Irrigation District's canal. To date, a technical field investigation, recharge pit design work, and discussions with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on the transfer permit requirements have been completed. The following is a summary of the technical work completed for the project.

Subsurface Geotechnical Investigation

In 2017, the District requested that Adaptive Resources, Inc. (ARI) complete a subsurface geotechnical investigation on the Schaneman lease to determine if the site includes suitable sediments for surface water recharge to occur and a significant unsaturated thickness that will allow some subsurface storage. The investigation completed 4 test holes. For more information on the geotechnical investigation, the District can provide the document called Schaneman Geotechnical Investigation: Lithological Descriptions of Test Holes from Thad Kuntz, P.G. et al. dated 3/16/2017.

Recharge Pit Design

In late 2017/early 2018, engineering designs of the recharge pit were completed. Depending on the amount of surface water diverted into the recharge pit, two designs were completed to provide flexibility based on the anticipated water volume. The design consists of two pits, one north of the existing center pivot sprinkler and the other to the west of the sprinkler. A morning glory spill and a pipeline provide water from the northern pit into the western pit. The northern pit design has a surface water discharge structure into an adjacent return flow ditch owned by Farmer's Irrigation District. The inflow will be measured into the pits as well as an outflow measurement to the surface return flow ditch to measure the water into and out of the recharge facility. Map 2 provides the general location of the recharge pits. Attachment A provides the engineering design of the recharge pits.

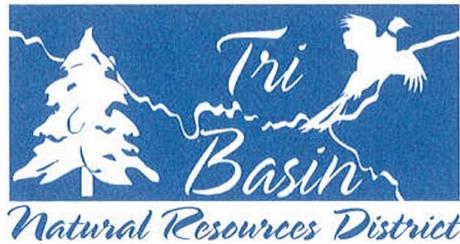
Project Tasks and Cost Estimate

The next phase of the project consists of technical work to complete and submit the surface water leases transfer permits to DNR, additional engineering design work and construction management, construction of the recharge pit and associated structures, and project management. Table 1 provides a cost estimate of the tasks.

*Table 1: Cost Estimate*

<b>Task</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Technical Work to Complete the Transfer Permits	\$ 30,000
Engineering Design and Construction Management	\$ 10,000
Construction of the Recharge Pit	\$ 150,000
Project Management	\$ 5,000
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$ 195,000</b>
<b>PBC Funding (60%)</b>	<b>\$ 117,000</b>
<b>NPNRD Funding (40%)</b>	<b>\$ 78,000</b>

Tri-Basin NRD  
1723 Burlington  
Holdrege, NE 68949



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Email: [tribasin@tribasinprd.org](mailto:tribasin@tribasinprd.org)

General Manager  
JOHN THORBURN

## Memo

Chairman  
DAVID OLSEN  
Minden, Nebraska

May 29, 2019

Vice Chairman  
BRADLEY LUNDEEN  
Wilcox, Nebraska

To: PBC Administrators

Secretary  
TODD GARRELS  
Holdrege, Nebraska

From: John Thorburn, TBNRD Manager 

Subject: High Platte Flow Diversions into Rainwater Basin wetlands

Treasurer  
JOE BILKA  
Holdrege, Nebraska

BRIAN BERGSTROM  
Axtell, Nebraska

MIKE CAVANAUGH  
Minden, Nebraska

ED HARRIS  
Loomis, Nebraska

PHYLLIS JOHNSON  
Bertrand, Nebraska

JOE LARSON  
Loomis, Nebraska

DAVID RAFFETY  
Kearney, Nebraska

LARRY REYNOLDS  
Lexington, Nebraska

RAY WINZ  
Holdrege, Nebraska

Tri-Basin NRD is partnering with the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture, the US Fish and Wildlife Service and Central NE Public Power and Irrigation District (CNPPID) to enable delivery of excess Platte River flows through the CNPPID canal system to several Rainwater Basin wetlands in the Platte Basin in Phelps and Gosper counties. Tri-Basin is utilizing PBC funds to cost-share on construction of pipelines from CNPPID canals to these wetlands.

When we initially requested funding for the Rainwater Basins Groundwater Recharge and Wetland Habitat project, (NDNR Contract#1021) we requested funds for a consulting hydrologist (\$7200), but we didn't request funding for monitoring groundwater and surface water levels. The hydrologist budget has been expended, along with adequate match, although a request for reimbursement hasn't yet been submitted to DNR.

Dedicated observation wells will be an important component of the Rainwater Basins recharge project, allowing us to estimate the rate and volume of recharge resulting from diversions into wetlands. As data accumulates from multiple recharge events, we should also be able to triangulate the water table accurately enough to determine the direction of flow of groundwater beneath and beyond the wetlands. Finally, there have been problems in the past with perched water tables in the vicinity of Funk and Johnson WPAs which resulted in seepage problems on neighboring farmland. For this reason, it is important to know when the water table in the vicinity of these wetlands is approaching levels where seepage problems might occur, so recharge can be suspended to prevent off-site impacts.

In order to facilitate timely installation of the observation wells, I would like additional authorization to use up to \$33,600 of PBC funds already available to Tri-Basin NRD, but not yet committed to any project, to drill observation wells, log and sample geology, and to install data loggers and associated equipment in the wells. PBC funds will be matched with \$22,400 of TBNRD funds. These funds will be used

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General Manager  
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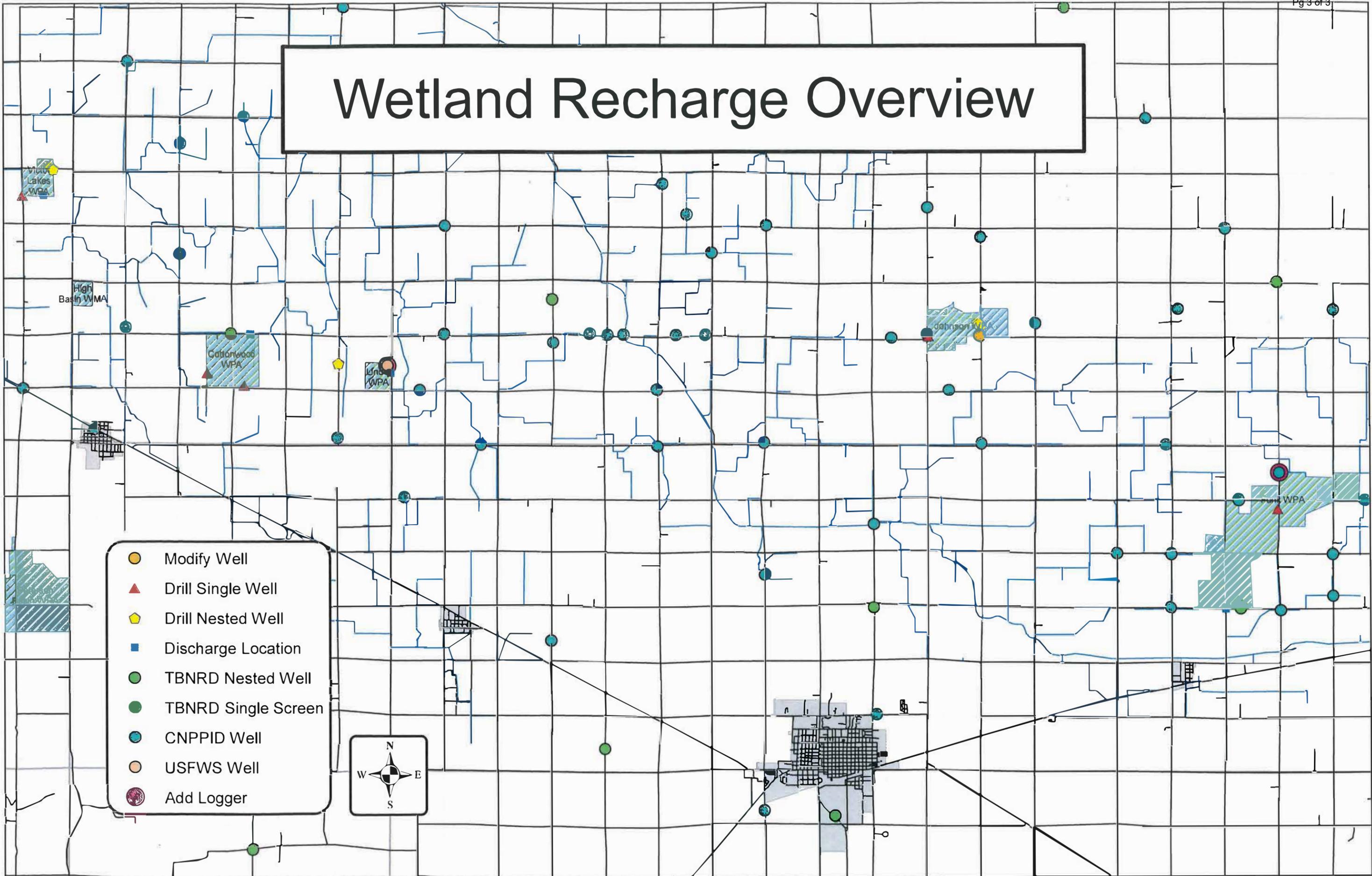
DAVID RAFFETY  
Kearney, Nebraska

LARRY REYNOLDS  
Lexington, Nebraska

RAY WINZ  
Holdrege, Nebraska

to drill and electronically log geology in observation wells (\$36,000), purchase and install water level sensors and electronic data loggers (\$14,000) and construct and place concrete pads and locking metal covers over the wells (\$6000). Thank you for your consideration of this request.

# Wetland Recharge Overview



**From:** Gehle, Jeremy <jeremy.gehle@nebraska.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 30, 2019 8:28 AM  
**To:** Schellpeper, Jennifer <jennifer.schellpeper@nebraska.gov>; 'John Berge' <JBerge@nprnd.org>; Horn, Rod <rlhorn@spnrd.org>; 'Kent Miller (komiller@tpnrd.org)' <komiller@tpnrd.org>; 'John Thorburn (jthorburn@tribasinnrd.org)' <jthorburn@tribasinnrd.org>; 'Lyndon Vogt' <vogt@cpnrd.org>; 'csteinke@cnppid.com' <csteinke@cnppid.com>; Mike Drain (mdrain@cnppid.com) <mdrain@cnppid.com>; Shafer, Jeffrey T. (jtshafe@nppd.com) <jtshafe@nppd.com>  
**Cc:** Dimmitt, Ann <adimmitt@tpnrd.org>; 'Ryan Reisdorff' <rreisdorff@spnrd.org>; Fassett, Jeff <jeff.fassett@nebraska.gov>; Bradley, Jesse <Jesse.Bradley@nebraska.gov>; Thompson, Mike <mike.thompson@nebraska.gov>; Ostdiek, Jim <jim.ostdiek@nebraska.gov>; Hayden, Tom <tom.hayden@nebraska.gov>; Wright, Shane <shane.wright@nebraska.gov>; Devin Brundage <dbrundage@cnppid.com>; Barb Cross <BCross@nprnd.org>; Massey, Trevor <trevor.massey@nebraska.gov>; Brandi Flyr <flyr@cpnrd.org>  
**Subject:** Excess Flow Evaluation

Good Morning,

River flows have increased to exceed the Wildlife Target Flow requirement of 3,700 CFS at Grand Island. Based upon the current data available, our assessment shows that excess flows are currently available everywhere below Lake McConaughy.

As of today, excess flows are **not** available above Lake McConaughy as the lake has not filled and CNPPID has not relinquished their call. Please know that the Department is continuing to monitor the hydrologic conditions and evaluate the effects that increased flow may have on flooding upstream of the lake.

Please consider the notes below as they relate to Excess Flow determinations, and authorization to divert.

- Anyone wishing to divert excess flow must have an approved recharge appropriation.
- Excess flow only exists in the sections of the river where there is no shortage of natural flow, i.e. there can be no call for water administration at the point of diversion for the recharge appropriation.
- Target Flow Requirements from May 20<sup>th</sup> – June 20<sup>th</sup> is 3,700 CFS under current hydrologic conditions.
- Recharge permit holders are required (through their order of approval) to relay their intentions to utilize excess flows should it become available to the Bridgeport Field Office through Tom Hayden.
- All recharge permit holders are required to have written authorization from the Bridgeport Field Office before any diversions are to be made.

We will continue tracking the river flows and keep you informed of any changes.

Thanks,  
Jeremy

**Jeremy Gehle**  
Water Administration Division Manager

**Nebraska Department of Natural Resources**  
301 Centennial Mall South Lincoln, NE 68509-4676

Office 402-471-3933 / Fax 402-471-2900  
[jeremy.gehle@nebraska.gov](mailto:jeremy.gehle@nebraska.gov)

**From:** Gehle, Jeremy

**Sent:** Monday, May 20, 2019 9:50 AM

**To:** Schellpeper, Jennifer <[jennifer.schellpeper@nebraska.gov](mailto:jennifer.schellpeper@nebraska.gov)>; 'John Berge' <[JBerge@nprnd.org](mailto:JBerge@nprnd.org)>; Horn, Rod <[rlhorn@spnrd.org](mailto:rlhorn@spnrd.org)>; 'Kent Miller (komiller@tpnrd.org)' <[komiller@tpnrd.org](mailto:komiller@tpnrd.org)>; 'John Thorburn ([jthorburn@tribasinprd.org](mailto:jthorburn@tribasinprd.org))' <[jthorburn@tribasinprd.org](mailto:jthorburn@tribasinprd.org)>; 'Lyndon Vogt' <[vogt@cpnrd.org](mailto:vogt@cpnrd.org)>; 'csteinke@cnppid.com' <[csteinke@cnppid.com](mailto:csteinke@cnppid.com)>; Mike Drain ([mdrain@cnppid.com](mailto:mdrain@cnppid.com)) <[mdrain@cnppid.com](mailto:mdrain@cnppid.com)>; Shafer, Jeffrey T. ([jtshafe@nppd.com](mailto:jtshafe@nppd.com)) <[jtshafe@nppd.com](mailto:jtshafe@nppd.com)>

**Cc:** Dimmitt, Ann <[adimmitt@tpnrd.org](mailto:adimmitt@tpnrd.org)>; 'Ryan Reisdorff' <[rreisdorff@spnrd.org](mailto:rreisdorff@spnrd.org)>; Fassett, Jeff <[jeff.fassett@nebraska.gov](mailto:jeff.fassett@nebraska.gov)>; Bradley, Jesse <[Jesse.Bradley@nebraska.gov](mailto:Jesse.Bradley@nebraska.gov)>; Thompson, Mike <[mike.thompson@nebraska.gov](mailto:mike.thompson@nebraska.gov)>; Ostdiek, Jim <[jim.ostdiek@nebraska.gov](mailto:jim.ostdiek@nebraska.gov)>; Hayden, Tom <[tom.hayden@nebraska.gov](mailto:tom.hayden@nebraska.gov)>; Wright, Shane <[shane.wright@nebraska.gov](mailto:shane.wright@nebraska.gov)>; Barb Cross <[BCross@nprnd.org](mailto:BCross@nprnd.org)>; Massey, Trevor <[trevor.massey@nebraska.gov](mailto:trevor.massey@nebraska.gov)>; Flyr, Brandi ([bflyr@eaest.com](mailto:bflyr@eaest.com)) <[bflyr@eaest.com](mailto:bflyr@eaest.com)>; 'Brandi Flyr' <[flyr@cpnrd.org](mailto:flyr@cpnrd.org)>

**Subject:** Excess Flow Evaluation

Good Morning.

Target flow requirements changed today; going from 1,200 CFS required at Grand Island to over 3,700 CFS. The daily average discharge at Grand Island over the last three days has been below 2,000 CFS. Yesterday's daily average at Grand Island was only 1,400 CFS.

Effective today, our Bridgeport Field Office will issue closing notices for all active recharge appropriations.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Jeremy

## **Jeremy Gehle**

Water Administration Division Manager

## **Nebraska Department of Natural Resources**

301 Centennial Mall South  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4676

Office 402-471-3933 / Fax 402-471-2900

[jeremy.gehle@nebraska.gov](mailto:jeremy.gehle@nebraska.gov)

---

**From:** Gehle, Jeremy

**Sent:** Friday, May 10, 2019 10:51 AM

Good morning,

The Department has been tracking the flows in the Platte River to monitor the availability of excess flow. Based upon the current data available, our assessment shows it that excess flows are currently available. It is anticipated that targets should continue to be met through May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Please consider the notes below as they relate to Excess Flow determinations.

- Anyone wishing to divert excess flow must have an approved recharge appropriation.
- Excess flow only exists in the sections of the river where there is no shortage of natural flow, i.e. there can be no call for water administration at the point of diversion for the recharge appropriation.
- If an appropriator has already begun “seasoning” their canal, they are NOT eligible to divert water for recharge.
- Target Flow Requirements through May.
  - From March 23<sup>rd</sup> – May 10 – 2,400 CFS is Required at Grand Island.
  - From May 11<sup>th</sup> – May 19<sup>th</sup> – the target drops to 1,200 CFS .
  - From May 20<sup>th</sup> – May26<sup>th</sup> the target increase to 3,700 CFS under current

hydrologic conditions.

- Current Discharge.
  - Discharge at Overton has been over 2,100 CFS for the last two days.
  - Discharge at Grand Island has been over 3,000 CFS for the last week.
  - It's been over a month since the USGS has measured at Grand Island, but even with a significant shift, we still anticipate the discharge will be well over the 1,200 CFS requirement.

As a reminder, all recharge permit holders are required (through their order of approval) to relay their intentions to utilize excess flows should it become available to the Bridgeport Field Office through Tom Hayden. All recharge permit holders are required to have written authorization from the Bridgeport Field Office before any diversions are to be made.

We will continue tracking the river flows and keep you informed of any changes.

Thanks,

Jeremy

**Jeremy Gehle**

Water Administration Division Manager

**Nebraska Department of Natural Resources**

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