

# STATE OF NEBRASKA



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Roger K. Patterson  
Director

February 12, 2003

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mike Johanns  
Governor

Fred Ore  
Area Manager  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Great Plains Region  
Nebraska-Kansas Area Office  
P.O. Box 1607  
Grand Island, Nebraska 68802-1607

Dear Mr. Ore:

Last August I wrote to you concerning the possibility of Bureau assistance under both your Nebraska Investigations Program and under your Technical Assistance to States and Tribes Program. One of our requests on the Technical Assistance to States and Tribes Program was for Bureau work on "Assistance on Digital Mapping of Water Rights in the Republican Basin". The request at that time was for \$30,000 worth of assistance. We have recently held discussions both in-house and with Mike Kube and Fred Wood of your office concerning details of that potential assistance and I would like to formally request your assistance on that project at this time.

The specific assistance we request would be to have the Bureau:

1. Scan Land Area Sheets for the Frenchman-Cambridge Irrigation District
2. Register the scanned Land Area Sheets to an agreed map coordinate system
3. Vectorize the information on the scanned sheets
4. Supply personnel to field verify what is irrigated in the District.

Once those activities are completed in the Frenchman-Cambridge District a further needed activity would be to conduct similar projects in each of the remaining Republican River Basin Irrigation Districts. The order of priority for overall work (should it prove possible under your Technical Assistance Program) would be as follows:

#### **Frenchman Cambridge Irrigation District.**

Meeker-Driftwood Canal  
Red Willow Canal  
Bartley Canal  
Cambridge Canal

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Fred Ore  
February 12, 2003  
Page 2

**Bostwick Irrigation District**

Naponee Canal  
Franklin Pump Canal  
Courtland Canal  
Franklin Canal  
Superior Canal

**Frenchman Valley Irrigation District**

Culbetson Canal

**H&RW Irrigation District**

Culbetson extension Canal

Also:

**Pioneer Irrigation District**

Haigler Canal

One final longer term need, should funds become available, would be for establishing map coordinates for section corners and subsection divisions as defined in the Public Land Survey System. This would enhance mapping efforts and water rights modifications within the Irrigation Districts. A process like that of the software package called Geographic Measurement Management (GMM) developed for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) would benefit all parties responsible for water right management. NDNR contact personnel for irrigation district digital mapping efforts include Mike Thompson and Steve Gaul in Lincoln, and Brad Edgerton in Cambridge. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Roger K. Patterson  
Director

sg

cc: Mike Kube  
Brad Edgerton  
Mike Thompson