

REQUIREMENTS for INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT PLANS

As required by law an integrated management plan (IMP) must include:

- (1) A geographic and stratigraphic definition of the management area. 46-712(3)(b)
- (2) A map clearly delineating the geographic area subject to the IMP. 46-715(2)(b)
- (3) Clear goals and objectives with a purpose of sustaining a balance between water uses and water supplies so that the economic viability, social and environmental health, safety, and welfare of the river basin can be achieved and maintained for both the near term and the long term. 46-715(2)(a)
 - a. Goals
 - b. Objectives
 - c. Identify water uses
 - d. Identify water supplies
- (4) One or more ground water controls and one or more surface water controls to be used to achieve the ground water management objectives. 46-715(3) and 46-715(2)(c) and (d). **The controls must be:**
 - a. Consistent with the goals and objectives of the IMP.
 - b. Sufficient to ensure that the State of Nebraska will remain in compliance with applicable state and federal laws. *Note: This would mean compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act and the Nebraska Nongame and Endangered Species Act.*
 - c. Sufficient to ensure that the State of Nebraska will remain in compliance with any applicable interstate compacts, contracts, decrees or other agreements. *Note: this would include the Republican River Compact and Final Settlement Stipulation, the Platte River Recovery Implementation Plan and Nebraska's New Depletions Plan.*
 - d. Sufficient to protect the ground water users whose water wells are dependent on recharge from the river or stream involved and the surface water appropriators on the river or stream from stream flow depletion caused by surface water uses and ground water uses begun after the date the area was determined to be fully appropriated or overappropriated 46-715(3)
- (5) Consideration of the effects of existing and potential new water uses on existing surface water appropriators and ground water users. 46-715(2)
- (6) A plan to gather and evaluate data, information, and methodologies that could be used to implement Sections 46-715 to 46-716, increase understanding of the surface water and hydrologically connected ground water system, and test the validity of the conclusions and information upon which the IMP is based. 46-712(2)(e)

Suggested Sections

BACKGROUND (optional)

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GROUND WATER CONTROLS (One control needs to be either allocations or control of irrigated acres. Both require consideration of transfer mechanism, offset for new uses and penalties for noncompliance.)

SURFACE WATER CONTROLS (One control needs to be ?)

INCENTIVE PROGRAMS (optional)

PLAN TO GATHER INFORMATION AND EVALUATE SUCCESS OF IMP (Some ideas include:

1. Identify how success will be measured
2. Stream Gaging
3. Model runs
4. Reporting to between DNR and NRD
 - a. Implementation
 - new wells (variances and offsets)
 - new surface water appropriations (variances)
 - transfers of surface water
 - transfers of ground water
 - b. Enforcement
 - c. Cancellations of surface water appropriations
 - d. Well decommissionings/permanent modification to reduce capacity
 - e. Irrigated acres retired
5. Review of acre certifications
6. Audits)

PROCESS FOR MODIFICATION OF IMP

PROCESS FOR ISSUING PERMITS IN AREAS OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

1. Transfers of groundwater out-of-state
2. Municipal and Rural Domestic Transfers
3. Industrial Use Transfers

RESEARCHING ALTERNATIVES FOR ENHANCING WATER SUPPLY (optional)

Research might include identifying scope of problem, costs, institutional impediments and time constraints of such things as augmentation, re-regulation, transbasin diversion of surface water, transbasin diversion of ground water, and/or phreatophyte reduction.)