

~~Thompson~~  
-KOESTER  
Return to Gowl

**Republican River Riparian Project (RRRP)**

RECEIVED

April 15, 2004 meeting in Oberlin, Kansas

APR 26 2004  
DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Sue Jarret.

Information Section

Linda Henderson, Coordinator for Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams (KAWS) defined Playa and talked about the projects that numerous projects they are involved in with wetlands and stream restoration. She talked about the connection between the Playas across the plains and the Ogallala Aquifer and shared information on the Playa Lakes Joint Venture.

Business Section

Rich Mullaney, RC&D Coordinator for Southwest Nebraska RC&D, gave a short presentation on how the RRRP has gotten to the point it has. He discussed the decisions that have been made and the past meetings that were held.

Doug Christenson, Assistant State Conservationist (Water Resources) gave a presentation on the Republican River Conservation Committee. The committee is developing a study plan to inventory the non-federal reservoirs and terraces in the Republican River Valley.

Those in attendance introduced themselves and their involvement with different projects within the Republican River.

Sue reviewed the Plan of Work that has been developed to date. See attached. There has been progress made on the plan.

Cards were handed out to participants to get names and contact information for other individuals and groups that should be involved with the project. The cards will be returned to Southwest Nebraska RC&D Office.

Business meeting was adjourned.

After lunch the group toured Sappa Park east of Oberlin and got to see the numerous projects that are being worked on throughout the park and river bottom area.

The next Advisory Meeting to continue work on the Project Plan will be held on May 13, 2004 in St. Francis, Kansas at the St. Francis City Library, 121 North Scott Street at 6:30 PM Central Time. Sue invited everyone to attend to in order to keep the process moving ahead.

The information, business and tour meeting will be held in Nebraska in August. Notices and agendas will be sent out at a later date.

## PLAN FOR THE REPUBLICAN RIVER RIPARIAN PROJECT (RRRP)

RECEIVED

### Goal 1 – Develop a landowner partnership (*One year plan*)

APR 26 2004

DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

#### Objectives:

- Develop data base of potential partners
- Compile educational data from all state groups and share personal contact.
- Make list of partners and look for potential partners that are missing.
- Have local meetings (example – All water users on a tributary and have a meeting with them in their local area.)
- From small tributary meetings go to bigger watershed and hold meetings and get representation.
- At meetings have open invitation (Find a way to give them a stake in the project.)
- Have free food
- Get “facts finding” information from the groups. Find out from the water users view point.
- Get information from partners that provide scientific data and financial feasibility.
- Landowners are #1 in the partnership development.

#### Questions:

- How do you see the landowners and operators in the Republican River Riparian Project.?
- Where and how do we approach producers in their comfort zone?
  - o Coffee shops
  - o House
  - o Speak in their language

### Goal 2 – Preserve and Enhance quantity and quality of water in the Republican River Basin.

#### Objectives:

- Demonstration sites - Who, what, how
- Identify those (Grass roots) who are doing it now (Make sure to Keep It Simple)
- Demonstration sites have at least two sites
  - o One control
  - o Comparison site
- Investigate optional systems
- Inventory
- Develop a resource list for potential funding

### **Goal 3 - Increase Educational Opportunity in regard to water in the Republican River Basin**

#### **Objective:**

- Use information from other watersheds. Don't re-invent the wheel.
- Demonstration sites
- What do the water users (producers and communities) want?
- *Outreach*
- *Collect, compile and condense data for educational material to give to lay people in the region.*

### **Goal 4 - Preserve and enhance the economic viability of the Republican River Basin.**

#### **Objective**

- Increase the transitional economy of the area utilizing the natural, economic and social resources of the region.
- *Support alternative enterprises in the area*

## **ACTION ITEMS FOR ABOVE GOALS**

### **GOAL 1**

#### **Action Items**

- A - Collect, compile and condense data of Republican River for distribution and education
  - o Obtain hard copy of Jim Goeke's presentation. Jim is putting together information on the "big picture" of the Ogallala Aquifer.
  - o Talk with USGS on information they have
  - o Sue will contact Jim Goeke and request information by April 15.
  - o Sue will contact Hal Simpson about Compac Information by April 15
- B - Compile list of potential partners
  - o File cards will be developed to gather information
  - o Cards will be passed out at April 15, 2004 meeting in Oberlin, Kansas and any other event where project is being discussed.
  - o Cards will be developed by Southwest Nebraska RC&D
  - o Information requested will include:
    - Name of organization
    - Contact person
    - Address
    - Phone number
    - E-mail
    - Comments

Goal 2

Action Items

- A – Each state will identify demonstration sites that are showing control of plant species within the Republican River riparian project

- o Following is a chart for action

State	Colorado	Nebraska	Kansas
Person responsible	Scott	Con	Duane
Who to contact	Fred Raish	Rick Hedkey	?
When	April 15	April 15	April 15

- o Each contact will be asked a minimum of the following questions;
  - What funding do you presently have?
  - How can we help you develop more sites or obtain more funds?
  - What sites do you presently have or plan to have in near future?

- B - Each state will find out who is on coordinating committee for the Republican River Compact. Those responsible are:

- o Colorado – Sue
- o Nebraska – Rich
- o Kansas – Duane

It was proposed that each state select a chairperson and that each state chairperson serve as a vice chair for the tri-state group and a chairperson be selected from the entire group. Sue Jarrett from Wray, Colorado is willing to accept the position as Chairperson for the present time.

Partners that are listed as of April 1, 2004:

NE Forest Service  
NE Dept. of Environmental Quality  
NE Games and Parks Commission  
Pheasants Forever  
Congressman Tom Osborne  
USDA-NRCS  
Bostwick of NE Irrigation District  
Burlington County Conservation District  
Caribou Land and Cattle Co.  
Western Prairie RC&D  
City of Wray  
Clay County Conservation District  
Lower Republican NRD  
Cloud County Conservation District  
Dickinson County Conservation District

Senator Hagel Ag Director  
Decatur County Conservation District  
Frenchman Valley H&RW Irrigation  
NE Department of Natural Resources  
Southwest NE RC&D  
South Central NE RC&D  
Haxton County RC&D  
Solomon Valley RC&D  
Upper Republican NRD  
National Wildlife Turkey Federation  
Trailblazer RC&D  
Jewell County Conservation District  
USGS  
Nelson Institute  
Northeast Colorado RC&D  
Frenchman Cambridge Irrigation District  
Phillips County Conservation District  
Republican County Conservation District  
Riley County Conservation District  
Sheridan County Conservation District  
Sherman County Conservation District  
Middle Republican NRD  
Smith County Conservation District  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Cambridge EDC  
The Groundwater Foundation  
Thomas County Conservation District  
Tri-Basin NRD  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
Yuma County Conservation District  
Yuma Conservation District