

Reply-To: <rpatterson@dnr.state.ne.us>  
From: "Roger Patterson" <rpatterson@dnr.state.ne.us>  
To: "Mike Thompson \ (E-mail)" <mthompson@dnr.state.ne.us>, "Steve Gaul \ (E-mail)" <sgaul@dnr.state.ne.us>, "Ann Bleed \ (E-mail)" <ableed@dnr.state.ne.us>  
Subject: FW: Rep. basin issues (two items)  
Date: Fri, 5 Sep 2003 17:00:53 -0500  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook CWS, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2911.0)  
Importance: Normal

Suggestions on how to advise John? I'll tell him to talk to Fred Ore or Steve Ronsaugen on item 1.

-----Original Message-----

From: John Thorburn [<mailto:jthorburn@tribasinprd.org>]  
Sent: Friday, September 05, 2003 4:19 PM  
To: rpatterson@dnr.state.ne.us  
Subject: Rep. basin issues (two items)

Roger

Two items I need your help with:

1) I sent you a copy of my grant proposal for the Republican Basin Water and Habitat Conservation Project, a proposal to develop incentives for converting irrigated land to wildlife habitat and controlling invasive hydrophytic plants like saltcedar. I talked with Mike Thompson and I think that we came up with a reasonable level of participation for NDNR in this project. I anticipate some financial assistance (\$12500) for analyzing land use basinwide (a cross-check on irrigated acres) and some personnel time (primarily Brad and Mike) for public meetings and developing educational materials (Terry Carpenter or others). Call or email if you want more details about what I have in mind.

I want to include the Bureau of Reclamation as a partner in this project, but I am uncertain who I should contact. Should I talk to Fred Ore, Marv Swanda or others? I need to explain to someone what kind of role I want them to play. As I understand it, they pay for herbicides to control invasive plants like saltcedar on BuRec reservoirs. I want to leverage those dollars as match for NETF funds. I would also like a small contribution from BuRec (\$2000?) for educational materials and meeting expenses, and some "in kind" staff contribution. Could you help me get them on board?

2) Another aspect of convincing landowners to convert irrigated land to dryland cropland or grassland is to provide them with economic data that shows them the pros and cons. Bob Bettger is working on this with Ray Suppala and some other UNL researchers. Would it be appropriate for your economist Kris Reed or someone else from your staff to participate in a planning meeting for this study? Bob and I will meet with Ray and other University folks on September 24 at 10 AM at Ag Hall Room 211 on East Campus at UNL. Let me know if you will be represented.

# STATE OF NEBRASKA



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Roger K. Patterson  
Director

June 25, 2004

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mike Johanns  
Governor

Alice Johns, Area Manager  
Nebraska-Kansas Area Office  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
P.O. Box 1607  
Grand Island, NE 68802

Dear Ms. Johns:

I am writing to you concerning State priorities for the revised allocation of FY06 General Investigations Program Funding that I first requested in an October 3, 2003 letter to your office. At that time I requested that the FY06 Nebraska General Investigations Program budget include \$110,000 for examination of water management opportunities in the Enders/Culbertson canal area and \$110,000 for examination of conjunctive use opportunities in the Central Platte area. I also requested that \$10,000 be kept in the Nebraska Investigations budget for a study of a Platte River Decision Support System.

My understanding is that a total of \$128,000 is available for the program in FY06. Given that funding total our requested allocation of funds is: \$110,000 for the study of management opportunities in the Enders/Culbertson Canal area and \$18,000 for the examination of conjunctive use opportunities in the Central Platte area. At this time we are not requesting any funding for a Platte River Decision Support System effort as current agency priorities mean we will likely not have significant staff time to devote to such efforts for the next several years.

Sincerely,

Roger K. Patterson  
Director

sg

cc: Mike Kube  
Jack Wergin  
Steve Gaul

Thanks,

John Thorburn