

Lower Republican Natural Resources District
Joint Action Plan
Statement
May 12, 2004

At this time the Lower Republican NRD is continuing to develop our Joint Action Plan. Our new legal counsel is reviewing the settlement agreement and exploring all of our options. We appreciate your understanding and look forward to working with all parties in the near future.

Proposal: May 11, 2004

1. 10% reduction in certified irrigated acres.
Acres identified for reduction may change from year to year but must have a history of use.
11" of allocation in lieu of 10% reduction.
2. 15" base allocation.
3 year allocation beginning in the 2005 crop year.
Limit reserve to 6 inches.
No more than 3" overuse in any year.
Not allowed to use reserve in "water short year"
3. New wells since July 1998 - 2" less than base.
4. WATER SHORT YEAR - Additional reduction of 10% in alluvium, 5% for upland wells. Short term incentive program to fund compensation for these additional reductions. Primary funding shall be other than district funds.
5. Incentive program to temporarily or permanently retire irrigated acres.
6. Significant penalties for overuse, especially in "water short years"

Current certified acres – 306,000 cap set at 320,000

This proposal reflects the intent of the MRNRD and is subject to revision.

CONCERNS:

Pumping and associated irrigated acres used in the model.

6% depletion for Tri-Basin being spread to other 3 NRDs.

Lack of proposals from other districts.

State funding for incentive programs.

Relationship of level of ground water development to share of depletions.

MRNRD 1 acre irrigated for every 7.7 acres in district.

URNRD 1 to 3.8

LRNRD 1 to 4.7

Future of H&RW and FV districts. Will these changes benefit those districts?

QUESTIONS concerning LB962:

Will there be a stay imposed in the Republican Basin portion of the Tri-Basin?

Will there be a stay imposed in the Republican Basin portion of the Twin Platte?