

Steve Gaul  
Guy - Lind,  
Please follow up  
with John  
Thorburn and  
Bob Joseph.  
-thanks

Tri-Basin NRD  
1308 Second St.  
Holdrege, NE 68949



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*Natural Resources District*

August 21, 2003

General Manager  
JOHN THORBURN

Chairman  
BRADLEY LUNDEEN  
Wilcox, Nebraska

Vice Chairman  
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Bertrand, Nebraska

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DAVID NELSON  
Upland, Nebraska

DAVID NICKEL  
Kearney, Nebraska

DAVID RAFFETY  
Kearney, Nebraska

LARRY REYNOLDS  
Lexington, Nebraska

RAY WINZ  
Holdrege, Nebraska

Ms. Ann Bleed, Deputy Director  
NE Dep't. of Natural Resources  
POB 94676  
Lincoln NE 68509-4676

RECEIVED

AUG 22 2003

DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

Dear Ann:

Due to budget constraints, Tri-Basin NRD does not intend to renew our joint funding agreement with the US Geological Survey for maintenance of stream gages on North Dry Creek (USGS Gage # 06770195) and Fort Kearny Slough (USGS Gage # 06770240) in Kearney County. The agreement with USGS to maintain these gages ends September 30, 2003.

Tri-Basin NRD is interested in continuing the operation of these gages, if possible. We believe that data from these gages can help the NRD and the state to learn more about the interrelationship between groundwater and surface water in this portion of the Platte Valley. We are willing to work with the Department of Natural Resources to jointly operate these gages.

Tri-Basin NRD can purchase the data loggers and get telephone lines installed at the gage houses. We are also willing to assist with downloading data, if necessary. We would ask that, in exchange, the state maintain the gages and archive the data that they produce.

Please contact me at your convenience to let me know if the Department of Natural Resources is willing and able to work with Tri-Basin NRD to maintain these important gaging stations.

Sincerely,

John Thorburn  
General Manager

Cc: TBNRD Directors  
Bob Joseph, USGS

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General Manager  
JOHN THORBURN

August 21, 2003

Chairman  
BRADLEY LUNDEEN  
Wilcox, Nebraska

Mr. Bob Joseph, NE Section Chief  
US Dep't. of Interior, Geological Survey  
Room 406, Federal Bldg.  
100 Centennial Mall-North  
Lincoln NE 68508

Vice Chairman  
PHYLLIS JOHNSON  
Bertrand, Nebraska

Secretary  
DAVID OLSEN  
Axtell, Nebraska

Dear Bob:

I regret to inform you that, due to budget constraints, Tri-Basin NRD does not intend to renew our joint funding agreement (NE 303400) with the US Geological Survey for maintenance of stream gages on North Dry Creek (USGS Gage # 06770195) and Fort Kearny Slough (USGS Gage # 06770240) in Kearney County. The contract with USGS to maintain these gages expires September 30, 2003.

Treasurer  
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Loomis, Nebraska

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Arapahoe, Nebraska

GARY LINDSTROM  
Wilcox, Nebraska

DAVID NELSON  
Upland, Nebraska

DAVID NICKEL  
Kearney, Nebraska

DAVID RAFFETY  
Kearney, Nebraska

Tri-Basin NRD is interested in continuing the operation of these gages, if possible. We believe that data from these gages can help the NRD and the state to learn more about the interrelationship between groundwater and surface water in this portion of the Platte Valley. We are exploring the possibility of jointly operating these gages in cooperation with the NE Department of Natural Resources. We hope that USGS will be able to assist us during the anticipated transition period from federal to state/local maintenance of these gaging stations.

Tri-Basin NRD appreciates the efforts made by the Geological Survey to establish and maintain these gages. We regret that we are unable to continue to work with you on this project, but we look forward to collaborating in the future on projects of mutual interest and benefit.

Once again, thank you for your assistance. Please contact me at your convenience if you have questions, or if you need additional information.

LARRY REYNOLDS  
Lexington, Nebraska

RAY WINZ  
Holdrege, Nebraska

Sincerely,

John Thorburn  
General Manager

Cc: TBNRD Directors  
Ann Bleed, NDNR