
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Fund

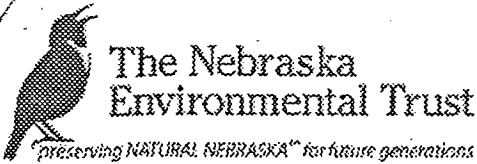
Republican Basin Water Meter Program Summary

Period 10/1/03 thru 1/29/04

Middle Republican NRD	60	\$27,682.32
Lower Republican NRD	164	\$77,055.68
Tri-Basin NRD	56	\$28,578.03
Total for State	280	\$133,316.03

Draft Agenda
Governor's Platte River Citizens Advisory Council
9:30 A.M., Friday, November 19, 2004
Holiday Inn - Kearney
110 Second Avenue, Kearney, Nebraska

1. Call Meeting to Order – Tim Anderson
2. Notice of Meeting - Tim Anderson
3. Update on Platte River Cooperative Hydrology Study – Dick Luckey
4. Update on Cooperative Agreement Process – Jim Cook
5. LB 962 Implementation Update – Jim Cook
6. Update on Water Supplies for Lake McConaughy / Outlook for Reservoir Storage and Environmental Account – Don Kraus
8. Maximizing Economic Return from Limited Water Supplies – Derrel Martin
9. Review of Activity on NPPD Wellfield Near Gerald Gentleman - Frank Kwapnioski
10. Update on Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program and EQUIP Program – Gayle Starr
11. Adjourn



NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND

H1. Project Sponsor: Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

H2. Project Name: Republican Basin Water Meter Proposal

Water conservation by individual irrigators will be a major outcome of having meters. Application of just the amount of water a crop needs at the time it needs it can help limit unnecessary evaporation and transpiration. In a water short basin under drought conditions this can be especially important.

Note: The Republican River Compact Settlement does not require that meters be installed on irrigation and other high capacity wells in the Republican River Basin. However, such meters would greatly improve the accuracy of Nebraska's water use calculations for the Basin Compact Administration and would also greatly aid in the implementation of measures to ensure future state compliance with the Compact. Therefore, the state asked all of the Republican River Basin Natural Resources Districts to require the installation of meters on such wells. The Upper Republican NRD has required meters for over 20 years. Each of the other districts responded affirmatively to the request and adopted regulations that now require the installation of meters according to the schedule set forth below.

MIDDLE REPUBLICAN NRD

December 31, 2003 wells in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of a section

December 31, 2004 wells in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of a section Wells in NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section in by Sept 30, 2004

Wells in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ are already required to have meters in place

LOWER REPUBLICAN NRD

January 1, 2004 – wells in Sections 1-12

April 1, 2004 – wells in Sections 13-24

April 1, 2005 – wells in Sections 25-36

Wells in sections 25 to 36 in by Jan 1, 2005

Tri-Basin (Republican Basin Portion Only)

December 31, 2004 – meters must be installed on $\frac{1}{2}$ of an individual's wells Any wells in by Sept 30, 2004

December 31, 2005 – meters must be installed on the other $\frac{1}{2}$ of an individual's wells

This Environmental Trust proposal would require that a meter be installed after April 1, 2004 and at least 3 months prior to its applicable deadline in order to be eligible for cost share from the Environmental Trust monies.

We recognize that this proposal raises a question as to whether it is to fund "actions mandated by regulations." If it is determined that the proposal is not consistent with the Trust's eligibility criteria, we request that such a conclusion be communicated to the department as soon as possible.

BACKGROUND

The need for metering groundwater pumping in the Republican River Basin has grown from a number of historic developments. In 1935 a major flood in the basin claimed more than 100 lives and served as part of the impetus for eventual development of federal surface water storage projects in the basin. In

Electronic Grant Application
April 2003