

Report of Water Policy Task Force

(2) The Task Force also recommends the Legislature consider funding current DNR programs through the Water Resources Trust Fund as well. Presently these programs are funded through general fund appropriations and amounted to roughly \$6.3 million in FY03. If current programs are included:

- (a) Dedicated funding needed would total \$11.1 million, or 1/20 of one cent of sales tax collected;
- (b) At least 40% of annual receipts to the fund should be dedicated to funding interrelated water management activities identified above and up to 60% of the annual receipts be dedicated to fund existing programs like the Nebraska Resources Development Fund, Soil and Water Conservation Fund, and Small Watershed Fund.
- (c) After 10 years, the percentages of annual receipts to the funds dedicated above should be at the discretion of the Natural Resources Commission.
- (d) Local matching fund requirement for existing DNR programs should continue.

**Annual Budget Detail of New Funding Package**

	<u>State Contributions to Nebraska Water Trust Fund</u>	<u>Local Match Local Expenditures</u>
1. <b>Interrelated Research/Data/ Planning/Implementation</b> Data Gathering/Organizing COHYST Type Studies Local Specialized Studies Planning and Implementation	1,193,000	707,000
2. <b>Tools in Integrated Management Plans</b> Alternative Supplies Incentives/Payments Water Transfer Mechanisms	3,500,000	700,000
3. <b>Discretionary/Other GW Mgmt. Funding<sup>(1)</sup></b>	83,000	(1)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,776,000</b>	<b>1,407,000<sup>(1)</sup></b>

(1) No attempt was made to identify individual NRD expenditures already occurring in this category, but they are substantial. The budget amounts in the "Discretionary/Other GW Mgmt. Funding" category should be viewed as only a small portion of the total funding already going into these activities.