



Surface Water

- · Water Dedicated to the Public
- Appropriation System 1895
- · Priority
- · Preference
- · Property Right



Appropriations

(Permits

- Type
- · Natural Flow
- · Storage
- · Storage Use
- · Natural Lake
- · Wells Within 50 Feet of Stream



Appropriations -

Approval or Denial

- **Beneficial Use**
- Unappropriated Water
- · Public Interest
- · Public Welfare



Beneficial Use

- · Perfection of Water Right
- · Adjudication



Water Administration

- Regulation
- · Closing



Modifying Appropriations

- · Relocations
- · Transfers
- · Incidental Underground Storage
- Changes in Returns and Delivery Systems



Miscellaneous

- Irrigation Maximum Allowed from Natural Flow
 - · Rate 1 cfs per 70 acres
 - . Volume 3 acre-feet per Acre Annually
- Maximum Allowed from Storage
 - · Beneficial Use

(Map Transfers Exception)



Ground Water

- · Belongs to Public
- Landowners Have Right to Make Reasonable and Beneficial Use on Overlying Lands Subject to Correlative Rights of Others and Public Management Policies.
- · Preferences



egistrations - 1957

- All Water Wells Drilled After September 9, 1993
- · Responsibility is Land Owner



Permits

- Construction NRD Management Areas
- Transfers
 - · Across State Lines
 - · Industrial
 - · Geothermal
 - · Public Water Supply
- Spacing



Ag and Domestic Transfers

- · Complaints to Local NRDs
- . Refer to DWR



Water Supply

Well Spacing

- · 600 Feet Between Irrigation Wells · 1,000 Feet Between Irrigation and Industrial, Irrigation and Public Water Supply, Industrial and Industrial, Industrial and Public Water Supply, and Public Water Supply and Public



History of Groundwater Management and **Protection Act**

- -1975 LB 577 Allowed Control Areas
- -1982 LB 375 Allowed GW Mgt. Areas
- After Approval of GW Mgt. Plan -1986 LB 894 Special Protection Area Legislation
- -1991 LB 51 Required NRD's to Address GW Quality in Mgt. Plans
- -1996 LB 108 Allowed or can Require Management of SW-GW Relationships - Consolidated Mqt. Authorities



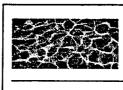
Act Gives NRD's and Others Powers Related to:

- Groundwater Quantity
- Groundwater Quality
- Integrated Management of Hydrologically Connected **Groundwater and Surface Water**
 - Conflicts Between GW and SW Use
 - Disputes Over Interstate Compacts and Decrees
 - Carrying Out State Contracts or Agreements



Districts Required to Prepare Groundwater Management Plan that

- Information About GW Supply
- Discussion of Quantity and/or Quality Problems Experienced/Expected
- Management Objectives with a Proposed GW Reservoir Life Goal
- GW Quality Goals and Solutions
- Proposed Controls



Designation the Easy Way

NRD Water Management Area Designation the Easy Way Plan DWR Drafts Control



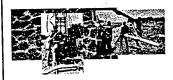
Options for Management Area Designation

- 1. NRD on its Own for:
 - A. Ground Water Quantity
 - **B.** Ground Water Quality
 - C. Integrated Management
- 2. NRD With DWR Participation and Assistance for:
 - A. Integrated Management
- 3. DEQ on its Own for:
 - A. Ground Water Quality (Old SPA Process)
- 4. DWR on its Own for:
- A. Integrated Management (Limited to Disputes Over Interstate Compacts and Decrees or Other Formal State Contracts or Agreements)

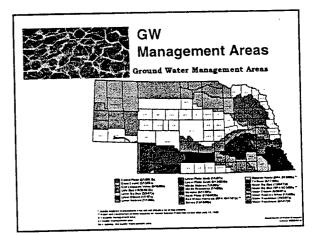


NRD Controls To Address Management Plan Objectives Include

- Allocations of Withdrawals
- Rotation
- Well Spacing
- Metering/Monitoring
- Use of Best Management Practices
- Chemicals/Fertilizer Analysis of Water or Deep Soil
- Mandatory Education
- Moratorium on New Wells
- Other Reasonable Rules and Regulations
- Reduction of Use



- Public Hearing Requirements
- Some New Wells in Management Area Must Have a Permit From the NRD Before Drilling





Other Important Items

- An NRD May Treat GW Users Differently on the Basis of Date of Drilling
 - Only Allowed for Integrated Mgt.
 - Effective Dates Limited
- 2. NRD May Treat GW Users Differently Based on Different Hydrologic Relationships



Other Important Items

(Continued)

- Replacement Wells Must be Treated the Same as the Wells they Replace.
- 4. The SW Appropriations that can be Protected Through LB 108 do not include Instream Appropriations.
- 5. Interrelated Water Management Fund



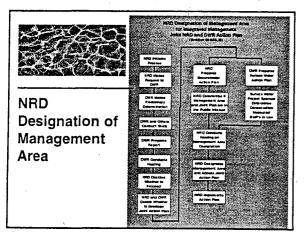
A Two Part Management Area Procedure for Integrated Management may Include an Action Plan for Both Surface Water and Groundwater

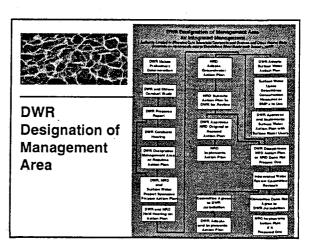


Surface Water Portion of Integrated Management Plan

Can Include:

- Increased SW Monitoring and Enforcement
- A Moratorium on New Appropriations
- SW Conservation Requirements
- Other Reasonable Restrictions to SW Users







Other Powers of NRDs that may Relate

- NRDs may use Taxation/Spending Authorities to Finance Studies/Enforcement
- NRDs may Apply for Grants to Assist in Studies
- NRDs may Sponsor and Fund Surface Water Shortage or Groundwater Recharge Projects
- NRDs can Provide Financial Incentives for Water Conservation Measures and Other BMPs
- NRDs Regulate Groundwater Runoff



Other Nebraska Water Issues and Laws

- Drainage
- Water Project Development
- Nebraska Non-Game and Endangered Species Act
- Nebraska Environmental Protection Act
- Water Well Standards and Contractors Licensing Act
- Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act
- Nebraska Pesticide Act-Statutes Related to State Agencies, NRD's and Irrigation Districts



Federal Laws Management

- Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Federal Endangered Species Act