

To: "Mike Clements" <lrrnd@megavision.com>  
From: Steve Gaul <sgaul@dnr.state.ne.us>  
Subject: Re: Request for Information from Republican NRDs  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Attached:

Thanks Mike

Steve

At 09:21 AM 9/14/2005, you wrote:

Steve,

In my budgeted amounts I was figuring retiring 10,000 acres per year over the next five years. This would give us 50,000 acres new permanently retired acres in the Lower Republican. The EQIP acres I don't think you can count as they are for such a short period. The CREP will help but again after 10 or 15 years these acres will be irrigated again and then the problem compounds. The answer is permanent retirement and it's not going to be cheap. The question is does the State want to pay to fix the problem or litigate the problem. The other huge issue we face is no one at the State seems to know how much if any retirement is needed. So we're just kind of flying along by the seat of our pants. You know the old saying garbage in, garbage out. I think until we can get more modeling information and a better sense of direction the budgeting estimates you will receive will be guess work at best.

Mike

----- Original Message ----- From: "Steve Gaul" <sgaul@dnr.state.ne.us>  
To: <jasperfanning@urnrd.org>; <lrrnd@megavision.com>; <dsmith@mrrnd.org>; <jthorburn@tribasinrd.org>  
Cc: <ableed@dnr.state.ne.us>  
Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2005 4:21 PM  
Subject: Request for Information from Republican NRDs

In addition to the e-mail I just sent to all NRD managers, I am sending this additional e-mail to Republican Basin managers because of the importance of activity in your districts. We are especially interested in the basis for your estimates of needed funds for incentives and related compliance activities in your basins. In our future discussions with those responsible for funding decisions they are likely to ask us why we are asking for specific amounts of money for incentives. Since incentives and regulation are both means of meeting Compact requirements, they may also ask about existing and anticipated allocations or other regulation. Incentives in your basins comprise most of the overall expense noted in the integrated management budget surveys the NRDs just returned. Our best understanding is that the estimates provided are based upon paying a certain amount of money per acre to retire a certain amount of acres from irrigation over a certain number of years. Any specific information you can provide on that topic would be helpful. If you are able to provide the number of acres, lease vs sale of easement,

price assumptions and timeframe, that may be helpful to us in explaining how figures were derived.

Steve