

ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION
WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF INTERIM COMMITTEE HEARINGS
July 13, 2007

TRANSPORTATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

7/16/07

LR 181 (Fischer) Interim study to examine the current municipal-provided wireless Internet services and their overall success

1:30 p.m.--Room 1113, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

7/31/07

LR 198 (Louden) Interim study to examine information collected from flow meters installed to measure ground water use and surface water use

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon--McDonald-Belton Building,

North Platte Community College, 601 W. State Farm Road, North Platte, NE

7/31/07

LR 174 (Christensen, Louden) Interim study to examine coordination between natural resources districts, state agencies, and state and federal government with respect to surface water flows during times of great need

→ LR 177 (Christensen, Louden) Interim study to examine the ground water model development as set forth from the Final Settlement Stipulation of the Republican River Compact regarding inputs and accounting

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.--McDonald-Belton Building,

North Platte Community College, 601 W. State Farm Road, North Platte, NE

If auxiliary aids or reasonable accommodations are needed for attendance at a hearing, please call the office of the Clerk of the Legislature at (402) 471-2271, or for persons with hearing and/or speech impairments, please call the Nebraska Relay System at (800) 833-7352 TTY or (800) 833-0920 Voice. Advance notice of seven days is needed when requesting an interpreter.

The Interim Hearing Schedule is also available via the Internet at www.unicam.state.ne.us

Jim, it is LR 177
in Act.

Inconsistencies - definition confusion

Problems getting it through the engineering committee
→ Can't get much more McO out of model
well-calibrated

considering additional development of model inputs

these issues address ^{microeconomic} ^{input}
of an adequate model &
don't address underlying
need to reduce beneficial consumption

Paul,

How are you currently handling this permit in the model? They are currently pumping from Nebraska (Section 33-T1N-R5W) and irrigating in Kansas (4-T1S-R5W).

Are we including all Little Blue NRD wells in the model? I understand that they believe they have 100% voluntary metering, and that the meter readings for 2006 were sent to Thompson. Let me know if we need to ask for them again.

--Jim

James R. Williams, P.E., CFM
Republican River Coordinator



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From: Ann Bleed [<mailto:ableed@dnr.ne.gov>]
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2007 3:31 PM
To: Dunnigan, Brian; Williams, Jim; Justin Lavene; Andersen, Pamela
Subject:

I am crafting a response to Mike Onnen of the LBNRD regarding the request of an irrigator in the LBNRD to transfer water from a well in the LBNRD across the state line to Kansas for 35 acres in Kansas. The LBNRD recommended the permit be denied and the permit was denied by DNR. The applicant is requesting reconsideration of the LBNRD's position.

Onnen is asking whether the affects of the proposed pumping could be credited to Nebraska and if this is the case, would DNR approve the permit if the LBNRD board were to change their positon. He is also asking what if any negative consequences would occur as a result of the transfer. Attached is a draft response to the letter. Do you have any comments or concerns?
Ann

110365 = 57.1 AF 135 acres 88.42 acres as NASS
110366 = 45.126 AF 100 registered acres 65.5 acres as NASS
Both are 1-5-33



Dave Heineman
Governor

STATE OF NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Ann Bleed
Acting Director

IN REPLY TO:

May 1, 2006

Mr. Hal D. Simpson, State Engineer
Colorado Division of Water Resources
1313 Sherman St., Rm. 818
Denver, CO 80203

Mr. David Pope, Chief Engineer
Division of Water Resources
Kansas Department of Agriculture
901 S. Kansas Avenue, 2nd Floor
Topeka, KS 66612-1283

Mr. Steve Raunshagen, Acting Area Manager
Great Plains Region
Nebraska – Kansas Area Office
P.O. Box 1607
Grand Island, NE 68802-1607

Subject: Water Short Year Administration Measures

Dear Hal, David and Steve:

This letter is to formalize what we previously discussed with you on an informal basis. As identified in the Final Settlement Stipulation Section V.B.2.d., Nebraska is advising you of the following measures Nebraska plans to take in anticipation of a Water Short Year. The measures are cited by the corresponding Section in the Final Settlement Stipulation:

V.B.2.a.i. – “supplementing water for Nebraska Bostwick Irrigation District by providing alternate supplies from below Guide Rock or from outside the Basin”. Nebraska intends to enter into an agreement with the Nebraska Bostwick Irrigation District whereby it is unlikely that Superior Canal will be diverting surface water during 2006. It is estimated that 5,000 AF of natural flow would have been available for diversion into Superior Canal. This action will allow Kansas to divert the natural flow into Courtland Canal. Some irrigators in the Superior Canal surface water delivery area will be using an alternate supply from ground water wells located below Guide Rock Diversion Dam.

clrshare\patterson

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DNR 018577



Surface Water Appropriator in the Republican River Basin

May 1, 2006

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V.B.2.a.iv. - "reducing use of storage by Nebraska Bostwick Irrigation District above Guide Rock". As previously stated, Nebraska intends to enter into an agreement with the Nebraska Bostwick Irrigation District to purchase the use of storage available from Harlan County Lake based on the January 2006 estimate of storage from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The January 2006 estimated irrigation storage supply in HCL is 15,700 AF. Nebraska Bostwick would be entitled to approximately 10,118 AF of the total.

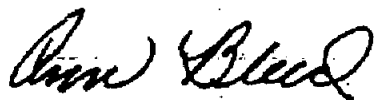
As discussed with State of Kansas and Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District Officials, it is expected that those supplies relinquished for the 2006 irrigation season will be diverted by Kansas Bostwick at the Guide Rock Diversion Dam along with the natural flow previously mentioned.

V.B.2.a.v. - "dry year leasing of water rights that divert at or above Guide Rock". Nebraska will enter into two additional agreements with surface water users. The first is an agreement with the Riverside Canal Company to forgo diversion from Frenchman Creek during the 2006 irrigation season. The diversion is immediately above the confluence of Frenchman Creek with the Republican River. It is estimated that action will maintain 2,000 AF in the river above HCL, which would have been diverted into Riverside Canal.

The second agreement above HCL is with Frenchman Valley Irrigation District (FVID). FVID's Culbertson Canal diverts from Frenchman Creek above the Riverside Canal headgate. It is estimated that would maintain 8,000 AF in the river above HCL, which would have been diverted into Culbertson Canal.

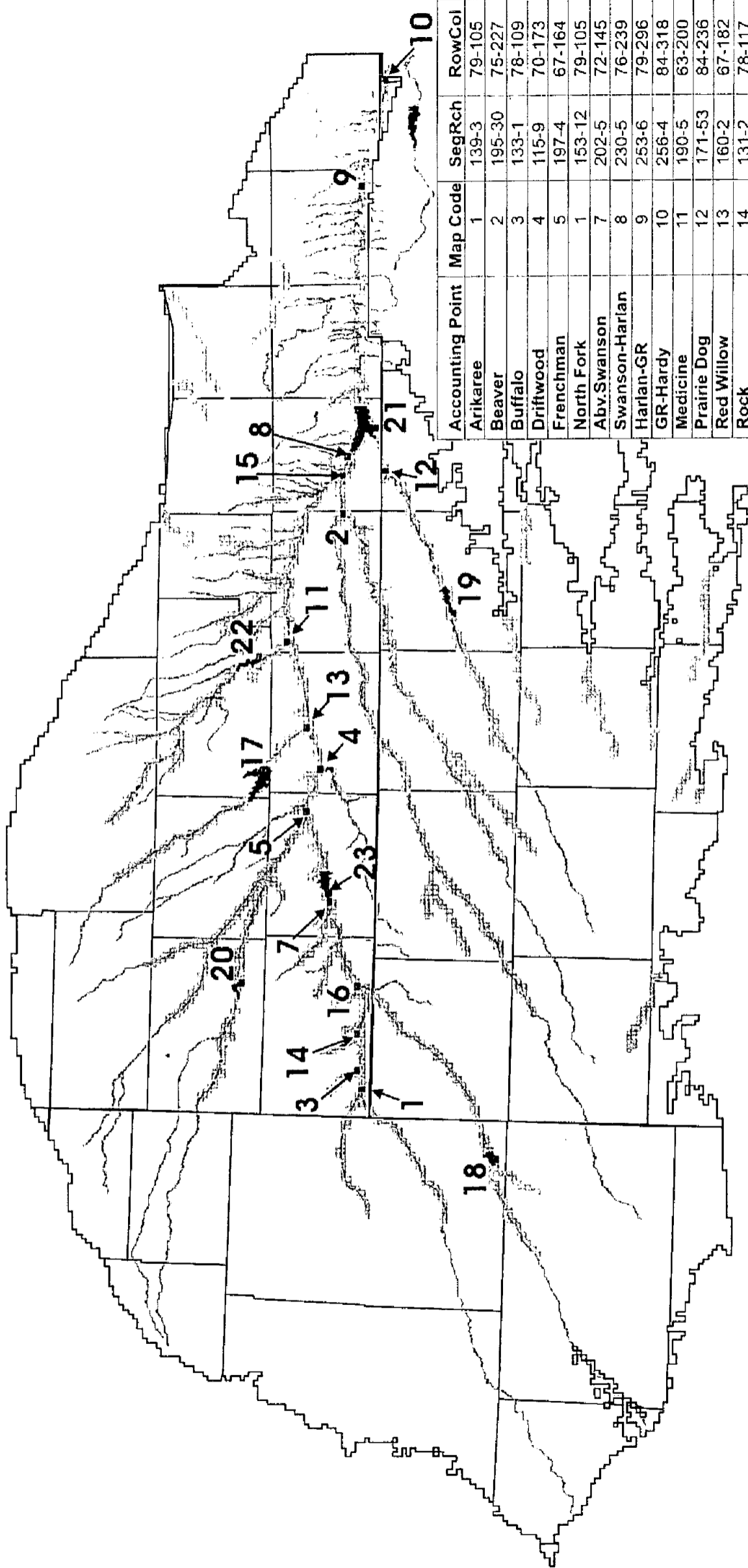
If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Ann Bleed,
Acting Director

RRCA Groundwater Model Accounting Points



Accounting Point	Map Code	SegRch	RowCol
Arikaree	1	139-3	79-105
Beaver	2	195-30	75-227
Buffalo	3	133-1	78-109
Driftwood	4	115-9	70-173
Frenchman	5	197-4	67-164
North Fork	1	153-12	79-105
Abv.Swanson	7	202-5	72-145
Swanson-Harlan	8	230-5	76-239
Harlan-GR	9	253-6	79-296
GR-Hardy	10	256-4	84-318
Medicine	11	190-5	63-200
Prairie Dog	12	171-53	84-236
Red Willow	13	160-2	67-182
Rock	14	131-2	78-117
Sappa	15	201-6	75-235
South Fork	16	185-7	78-127
Hugh Butler	17	132-12	58-173
Bonny	18	150-8	108-90
Keith Sebelius	19	151-22	99-206
Enders	20	155-15	53-128
Harlan	21	233-18	82-245
Harry Strunk	22	183-8	57-197
Swanson	23	203-11	72-147

Who signed compact?

Dear Editor,

I would like to say AMEN to Tom Kiplinger's letter.

First, I do not think that just people from Southwest Nebraska signed the original water compact. I believe it was signed in Lincoln as an official policy of the State of Nebraska. Why does it now become Southwest Nebraska's financial problem? It is a state compact; the entire state should bear the burden. We pay our fair share of taxes for the costs of issues that arise in the eastern part of Nebraska.

When is the state going to wake up and realize that something needs to be done to protect the aquifer, it brings to mind the story of the goose that laid the golden egg. To make the point, the Legislature could not even pass a well-drilling moratorium state wide to get a handle on the situation. We have known what is happening for the past 20 years. Enders



Reservoir and the Frenchman River are good examples.

As for the NRDS being put in charge as well as getting the power to levy taxes. WAKE UP! We have put the fox in charge of guarding the chicken house.

If you will look at the NRD board membership, it is almost all big irrigators, it was so important to them that they even campaigned in blocks so they could get complete control of the boards.

Where is the representation for recreation, private citizens house wells, and city water supplies? That is hard to answer because there is very little, if any.

Any time I wanted something, I had to pay for it myself. I could not levy a tax to pay my bills. Why don't those who use the water pay? The surface irrigators that used water from the area lakes had to pay for their water, why can't a price per acre foot of well water be applied? These wells are already supposed to be metered so it would be quite

simple to invoke. It is quite simple, if you cannot afford the water, you cannot afford to irrigate.

I do not feel I should have to pay the bill for those who plowed up thousands of acres of marginal land and made millions on their investments because they could get free water and government subsidies.

Just my point of view

Paul J. Forch,

Trenton

Jim W

Jim S

Tina K

RECEIVED

APR 20 2007

DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES