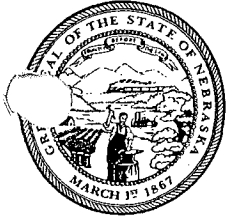


STATE OF NEBRASKA



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Roger K. Patterson

Director

July 23, 2004

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mike Johanns
Governor

TO: Irrigation Districts,
Reclamation Districts,
Public Power and Irrigation Districts,
Mutual Irrigation Companies,
Canal Companies,
Municipalities, and
Surface Water Appropriators in the Republican River Basin

FROM: Roger K. Patterson, Director

SUBJECT: Republican River Basin Integrated Management Planning Process: Consultation

As you may be aware, the Department of Natural Resources ("Department") is involved in integrated management planning for the Republican River Basin. The Natural Resource Districts ("NRDs") within the Republican River Basin are working with the Department to develop Integrated Management Plans that are in compliance with the requirements of LB 962 and that ensure that Nebraska will stay in compliance with the Republican River Compact.

As part of the planning process, the Department and the NRDs are required to consult with any irrigation district, reclamation district, public power and irrigation district, mutual irrigation company, canal company, or municipality that relies on water from the Republican River Basin. We have also determined that it is appropriate to provide the same consultation opportunity to appropriators not receiving their water from an irrigation district or canal company. If you would like to have input into the development of these plans please provide your comments to the appropriate NRD or the Department.

There have been several recent meetings throughout the Basin to provide information and get input on various management scenarios. Hopefully you've been able to attend one or more of these meetings. Additional meetings and hearings will be held later this summer. I encourage your participation. Please feel free to contact me or Ann Bleed at (402) 471-2366 or Brad Edgerton at our Cambridge office (308) 697-3730 with any comments.

cc: Lower Republican Natural Resources District
Upper Republican Natural Resources District
Middle Republican Natural Resources District

URNRD 11,000 satellite

Pumpage and Ground Water Irrigated Acres by NRD

Depletion

NRD	Volume Pumped			Irrigated Acres	
	Average 1998-2002	5% Reduction	10% Reduction	Estimated Total GW Irrigated Acres 2002	Estimated Certified GW Acres
URNRD	531,763	505,175	478,587	455,031	448,716
MRNRD	309,479	294,005	278,531	290,191	335,000
LRNRD	242,289	230,175	218,060	277,503	330,000

14.2" $\frac{11}{ac}$
14.2
+15.4%
+18.9%

$\frac{11}{ac}$ model ^{UR} 14.2" ^M 12.8 ^L 10.5"
Cost 14.2" 11.9 8.8" 312,000

Water Short Year Reduction by NRD Percentage Based on Percentage Depletion 1998-2002

URNRD	MRNRD	LRNRD	Total
44%	30%	26%	100%
Acre Feet	Acre Feet	Acre Feet	Acre Feet
8800	6000	5200	20000
11000	7500	6500	25000
13200	9000	7800	30000
17600	12000	10400	40000

Dep 74,161 52,168 43,954 170,283

QR area
Total Gw only Comingled
U 89,446 88,212 1234
M 93,479 71,055 22,424
Allow 63,000?
L 23,044 97,547 25,497

2005 (NRD records)
5% Δ
426,585 505,175 78590
221,362 294,005 72643
191,241 230,175 38934

839,188 1,029,355 190,167

9 9
9

52,200
- 2730
49,5

3.6% x 70

2520
2730

+10

REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN INCENTIVE PROGRAM

GOAL: Reduce pumping in dry years by up to 120,000 Acre-Feet

ASSUMPTIONS:

- Dry year reductions will be on a voluntary basis
- Each acre not irrigated will reduce pumping by 1 Acre-Foot
- At least 50,000 Acres will participate in CREP
- NRDs will access an additional 1¢ to be used for the incentive program

ANNUAL COSTS:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| - Federal Funding for CREP - (Platte and Republican) | \$10.0 Million |
| - State/Local CREP Cost Share - (Platte and Republican) | \$ 2.5 Million |
| - Additional Funding Need - (Republican Basin) | <u>\$ 7.0 Million</u> |

State/Local Need - Subtotal \$9.5 Million

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| - Existing Funding Mechanisms - NRD 1¢ Assessment | \$0.5 Million |
| - FY 04-05 WPTF Appropriation | <u>\$1.0 Million</u> |

Credit Subtotal \$1.5 Million

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| - Additional Need for Water Resources Trust Fund | \$8.0 Million |
|--|---------------|