

DRAFT Outline

Second Increment Goals and Objectives

Water Management Planning Values

- **Generational Stewardship**
- **Maintaining the good life**
- **There is a space for all; willingness and interest in working together; shared burden**
- **Looking beyond our own fences**
- **Others can make good use of the water we save**
- **We are making a difference!**
- **We have a long culture of adapting and changing with the times**
- **“Putting water back to the river without causing economic harm”**

KEY

- **Highlighted** text needs to be revisited once we know OA/FA.
- **Red** text indicates SPG changes/updates
- **Bold Underline** indicates reworked or new text from DNR
- **Blue underlined** indicates suggestions for SPG consideration

Goal 1: **Incrementally achieve and sustain** a fully appropriated condition.

Objectives:

1. **Offset impacts of streamflow depletions to (A) surface water appropriations and (B) water wells constructed in aquifers dependent upon recharge from streamflow to the extent those depletions are due to water use initiated after July 1, 1997.**
2. Maintain first increment mitigation efforts.
3. Conduct a technical analysis as described in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 46-715(5)(d)(iii) for this Plan and the individual Platte River Basin NRDs' integrated management plans (IMPs) after they have been in effect for at least five years, to determine whether the controls adopted in the respective plans or other management actions taken by the NRD are sufficient to offset depletions due to post- July 1, 1997, water uses and whether the provisions of this Plan and the IMPs are adequate to sustain progress toward a fully appropriated level of water use.
4. Continue to refine the methodology to calculate determine the difference between the current and fully appropriated levels of development in each NRD.
5. Use available funds and actively pursue new funding opportunities to offset depletions as well as to develop and maintain data and analytical tools needed to implement this Plan.
6. Propose and support changes to laws, policies, and rules that would help DNR and the NRDs achieve and sustain a fully appropriated condition.

7. **Update and continue** implementing IMPs in each Platte River Basin NRD.

Goal 2: Prevent or mitigate human-induced reductions in the flow of a river or stream that would cause noncompliance with an interstate compact or decree or other formal state contract or agreement.

Objectives:

1. Prevent **human-induced** streamflow depletions that would cause noncompliance by Nebraska with the Nebraska New Depletions Plan (NDP) included within the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (Program), for as long as the Program exists.

Goal 3: Keep the Plan current.

Objectives:

1. Meet at least annually to review progress toward achieving the goals and objectives of this Plan and those portions of individual NRD IMPs that implement this Plan.
2. Gather and evaluate data and information to measure the effectiveness of controls, incentives and/or other programs in the individual NRD IMPs used to implement this Plan.

Goal 4: Work cooperatively to identify and investigate disputes between ground water users and surface water appropriators and, if determined appropriate, implement management solutions to address such issues.

Objectives:

1. Identify disputes between ground water users and surface water appropriators.
2. Investigate and address issues between ground water users and surface water appropriators, based on investigation results.
3. When a water quantity management action may have quality implications – we'll take that into consideration in our best management practices. When equal, choose the one that is best for quality.

Goal 5: Partner with municipalities and industries to maximize conservation and water use efficiency.

Objectives:

1. Continue to collect data on water use by municipalities and industries within the Basin.
2. Create templates for conservations plans to maintain consistency across the Basin.
3. Invite municipalities and industries to the annual meetings.

Goal 6: Work to maintain economic viability of the basin.

Objectives:

1. During the first three years, determine impact of surface water depletions on hydropower uses; once determined, amend plan with potential mitigation options.
2. Improve sustainability for surface water uses (canal improvements, storage improvements, diversion improvements, conjunctive management, etc.)
3. **Increase sustainability under cyclical and geographic supply conditions.**
 - A. **Identify storage opportunities**
 - B. **Conjunctive management**
 - C. **Continue to encourage diversity in revenue streams (hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, cattle, alternative crops, hydro, etc)**
 - D. **Continued support of advancing technological practices in irrigation management to conserve water**
 - E. **Forecasting of water supplies and demands**
4. Assess drought specific impacts and develop a drought contingency plan for the Basin (strategies for drought)
 - A. Survey water users to continue to assess (economic) impact of drought
 - B. Financial offsets
 - C. Use of storage water
 - D. Conjunctive management practices during drought
 - E. **Flexibility to allow for cooperation across basin but also for specific local strategies**
 - F. **Triggers (tied to forecasting)**
5. **During the first three years, establish and monitor economic viability indicators; amend the plan with potential mitigation options.**

Parking Lot Issues - Cross-Reference Table

Indicates items for SPG discussion

Topic	Plan Reference
Administrative	
Revisit order of goals	
Define FA (unknown numbers)	1.4
Timeline; number of increments	1.4
Meter the whole basin	NRD IMPs
General Management	
Oversight	3
Monitor Progress (score sheet)	3.1
Improved model for lower reaches	1.4, also tactics
Accounting for surface water appropriators	1.5 or 6.2
Offsets based on timing and locations	1.1A.6
Economic, Social, Environmental	
Food & clean water for future generations	Planning Values
Water Quality	4.3
Fish, wildlife, parklands	2.01? 6?
Check valves on wells	NRD IMPs
Economic analysis (scenarios)	6.5, 6.1
Management of the resource	6?
Power	6.1
Funding variability	1.6
New Sections / Additional	
	1.1A3
Drought Conditions	6.4
Storage capacity & maintenance	6.3A, 6.2
Conjunctive Management (ground & surface)	6.3B and 4D
Dave Fisher's Suggestions	
1. End the IMP and address the basic storage problems.	1.1, 6.2 & 3A
2. Relax surface water regulation at the discretion of local DNR managers in the fall and while river flows are up so water can return, retimed, during drought.	6.3B & 4D, 3.1 (tactics)
3. Direct budgeted IMP money toward building a breakwater and addressing silt problems so McConaughy can use its full capacity. Federal infrastructure money may also be available.	1.6, all of Goal 6; NRD IMPs
4. Multitask that new McConaughy storage with PRRIP (wildlife) and humans in return for multitasking PRRIP Pathfinder storage. Limiting pulse flows during drought would avoid conflict between humans and wildlife.	6.4C, 1.1A3
5. Enlarge existing flood control dams to store river water to benefit humans, wildlife and groundwater recharge. (like the Inland Lakes north of Scottsbluff)	6.3A & 4C, 1.6
6. Encourage silt removal and storage improvements in Wyoming and Colorado. Supplies are limited during drought but water is reusable: Use it upstream first, downstream later, retimed to supplement river flows during drought.	6.4C
7. The Legislature should review, perhaps eliminate, LB962.	3.3