

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**Nebraska Department of Natural Resources**

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 26, 2010, 3:30 p.m.

### **Contact:**

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## **High Water Conditions May Continue In North Platte Valley**

Increases in mountain snowpack and recent rainfall may contribute to high water conditions along much of the North Platte River Valley in Nebraska in coming weeks according to Tom Hayden, Supervisor of NDNR's Bridgeport Field Office. Hayden pointed to evidence that flows from Wyoming may remain high. In a May 26 press release the Wyoming Area Office of the Bureau of Reclamation indicated that all North Platte Reservoirs are expected to fill to near capacity this year and that Glendo Reservoir is anticipated to remain in the flood control pool until mid July.

Hayden also expects lower system releases and flows at the state line to remain at high levels in the coming weeks. "We know we are likely to have high inflows and low irrigation demand during the next month and that there is potential for fluctuation in flows" said Hayden. Hayden suggested landowners along the river from the State line to above Lake McConaughy be prepared for a period of higher flows and noted that it is possible that channel capacities may have changed somewhat over recent dry years.

On Wednesday, May 26 the NDNR gage on the North Platte at Lewellen, just above Lake McConaughy was measuring discharges of 3200 cfs with a stage of 7.3 ft, just below flood stage of 7.5 ft. The North Platte gage at the State line indicated discharges of over 3000 cfs on May 26, approximately three times the average long term daily May discharge.