

Meeting Summary
Technical Discussions between
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR)
Wyoming State Engineer's Office (WSEO)

10:00 (Central Time)/9:00 a.m. MDT
24 April 2013
Conference Call

1. Introductions

The following participated in the Conference Call:

Sue Lowry	WSEO
Brian Pugsley	WSEO
Matt Hoobler	WSEO
Wray Lovitt	WSEO
Jesse Bradley	NDNR
Brandi Flyr	NDNR
James Gilbert	NDNR

2. Updates

- Nebraska
 - i. Jesse gave a quick summary of how the Integrated Management Section of the NDNR is organized and duties assigned.
- Wyoming
 - Randy Tullis has retired from the State Engineer's Office and Brian Pugsley has been promoted into the Division Superintendent position.
 - Wyoming provided a spreadsheet of the groundwater applications and permit activity since the last Technical group call.

Both states noted the improved moisture outlook after the significant snowstorms received in April.

3. Niobrara Basin WaterSMART Grant

James provided an update on the modeling work being completed to assess/predict the relationship of groundwater levels to river baseflows and aquifer levels. Three models are being utilized: Modflow, CropSim and STELLA. The modeling boundary extends beyond the surface water divide for the Niobrara River to assure that the total extent of influence to groundwater levels is being captured.

The local NRD already has an allocation structure in place and no new wells are being permitted. The NRD will use the model results to aid them in making their allocation determination each year.

Some important parameters have changed since the Water SMART grant was first issued, including the development of alternatives. Since those alternatives have not been identified, it is uncertain how much of Reclamation's contribution of modeling the climate implications for the various alternatives can be completed prior to the September, 2013 deadline for the grant.

4. Next Niobrara River Compact Meeting

Tuesday, October 8 at 2:30 p.m. in Torrington was selected for the next meeting of the principles from the two states to discuss Compact issues. This is the day prior to the NPDC meetings, also in Torrington.

5. Adjourned at 10:00 a.m. MDT

Sue Lowry
7 12 2013