



Status Report of Water Planning Activities

Nebraska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
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Overview

- State Water Planning
- Integrated Management Planning
- Specific Planning Activities
 - Statewide activities
 - Basin level activities



Statewide Water Planning

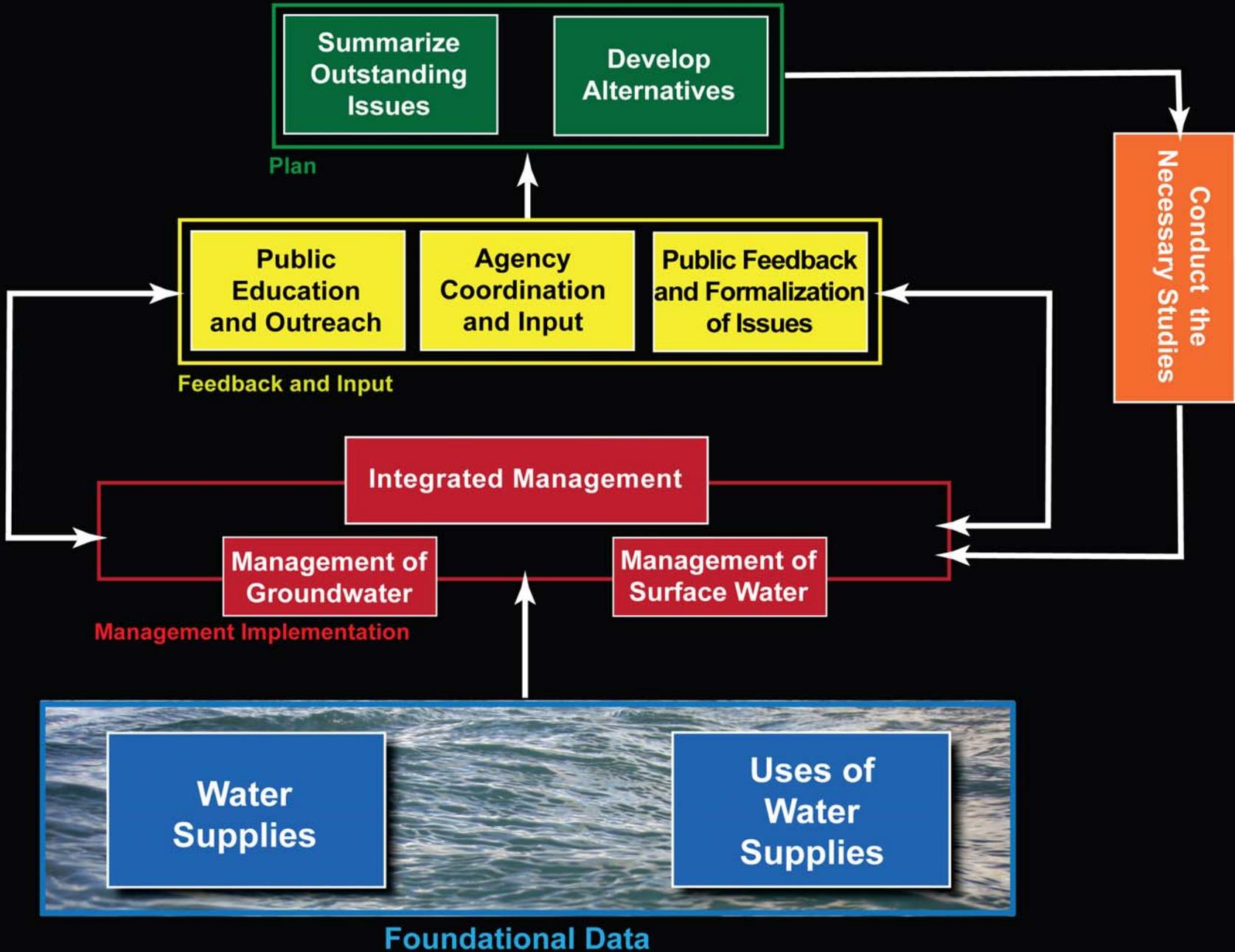
- The challenge is to manage the water supply and its current and future variability, in:
 - Time
 - Location
 - Types of Use
- Understanding our water supplies and uses creates great opportunities within integrated water management and can ultimately provide the opportunity and information needed for comprehensive water planning at the local, basin, and state level.

Understanding the Water Supply

- Impossible to plot a course without clear knowledge of where we are
- The undepleted “Virgin” streamflow is our water supply
- The only way to use more than this supply, on average, is to borrow from storage
- Uses must be understood in order to quantify the water supply

Statewide Water Use and Supply

- Utilize CROPSIM Model developed at UNL by Dr. Derrel Martin
- Location-based parameters for soils and crop types established for different parts of the state
- Quality assurance and quality control task
- Surface water data compilation
- Develop statewide framework
 - Construct water portfolios for the state
 - Prepare future scenarios
 - Construct management strategies



Integrated Management Planning

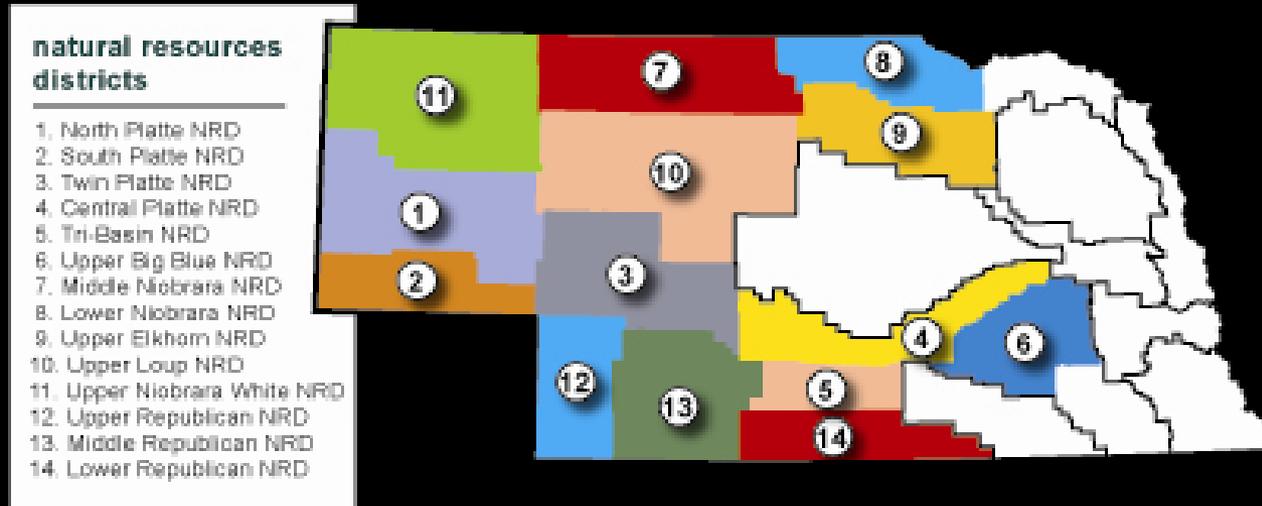




'FAB' Report

- Annual Evaluation of Availability of Hydrologically Connected Water Supplies
- Evaluates the long-term availability of surface water supplies and hydrologically connected groundwater supplies of areas determined to be fully or overappropriated
- Required by *Neb. Rev. Stat.* §°46-713 of the Ground Water Management and Protection Act

Status of Integrated Management Plans



14 Natural Resources Districts

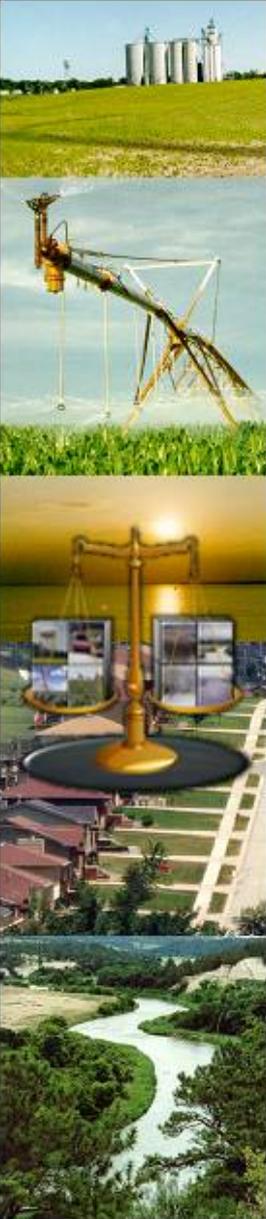
- Ten natural resources districts have completed IMPs
- Four natural resources districts are in the process of developing IMPs

Specific Planning Activities



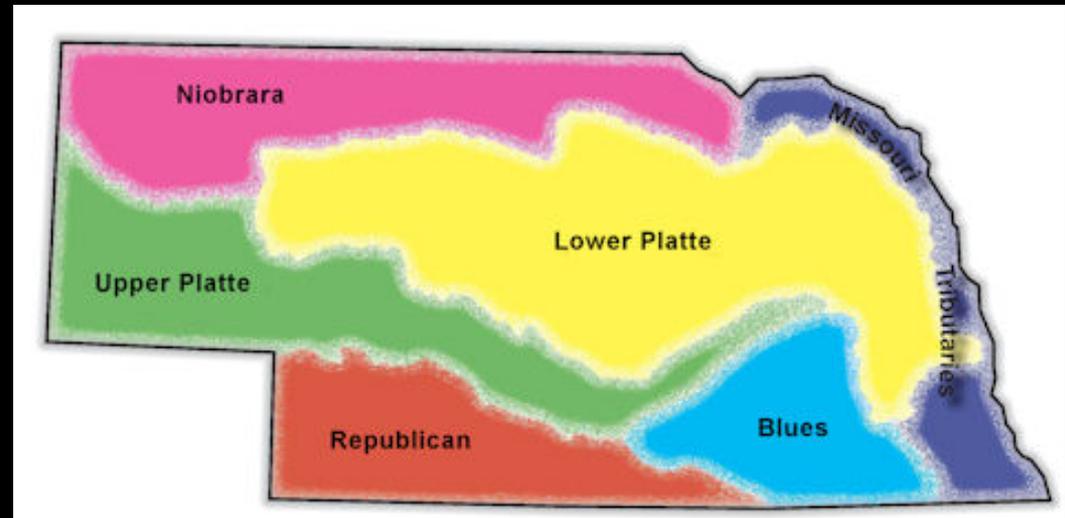
Statewide Activities

- Stream Gaging Program
- Flood Prone Area Mapping
- National Hydrography Dataset



Basin Activities

- Upper Platte River
- Lower Platte River
- Republican River
- Niobrara River
- Blue River
- Missouri River



Upper Platte River Basin

- Encompasses six natural resources districts (NRDs) with portions declared over and fully appropriated.
- Platte River Recovery and Implementation Program (PRRIP) in place to mitigate impacts of water-related activities through depletion plan implementation. Goal is to return to July 1, 1997, level of development of water use.
- PRRIP also provides for the protection, restoration and maintenance of habitat for endangered species.



Upper Platte River Basin

- Platte Basin Habitat Enhancement Project (PBHEP)
- Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP)
- North Platte Decree Implementation
- South Platte Compact Activity

Lower Platte River Basin

- Encompasses seven NRDs.
- At this time, no portion of the Lower Platte Basin is fully appropriated.
- The basin was preliminarily determined to be fully appropriated and the decision was later reversed. The area will be re-evaluated in the future.

Republican River Basin

- Republican River Basin Water Sustainability Task Force is created by the Legislature.
- Republican River Compact Activity



Niobrara River Basin

- Encompasses portions of five NRDs.
- Portions of the Niobrara River Basin have been declared fully appropriated.

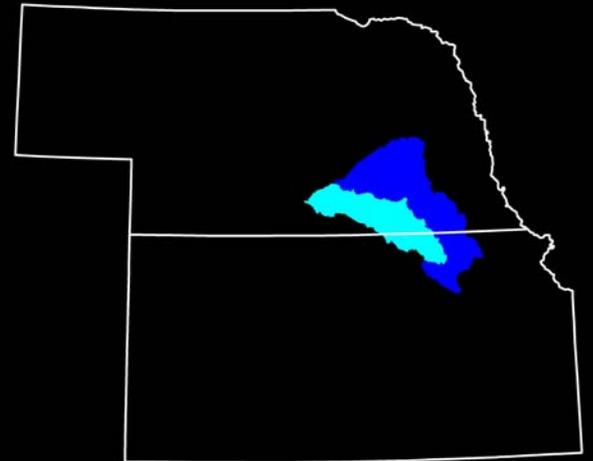


Niobrara Basin Study

- Bureau of Reclamation funded study providing \$350,000 (in-kind funding) to define options for meeting future water demands – expands UNWNRD studies to entire Niobrara River Basin.
- Assist in the development and implementation of IMPs and other water planning activities.
- Identify opportunities for meeting water supply needs through structural and nonstructural means.
- Analyze potential effects of climate variability on water supply.

Blue River Basin

- Encompasses four NRDs.
- None of the basin has been declared fully appropriated at this time.
- Blue River Compact Activity
 - Annual Compact meetings are held each spring.



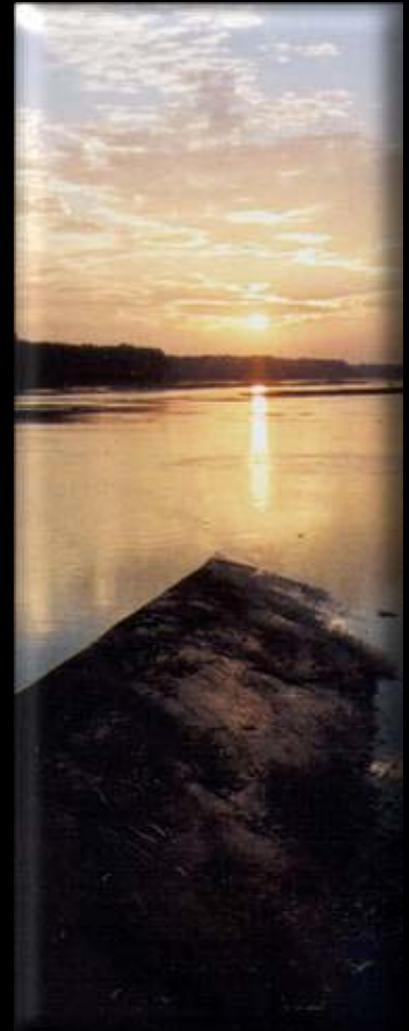


Missouri River Basin

- Encompasses four NRDs.
- None of the basin has been declared fully appropriated at this time.
- Missouri River Association of States and Tribes (MoRAST) – www.mo-rast.org
- Missouri River Recovery Program (MRRP) – www.moriverrecovery.org
- Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRRIC) – www.mrric.org
- Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan (MRERP) – www.mrerp.org
- Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study (MRAPS) – www.mraps.org

Summary

- Statewide Planning
- Integrated Management Planning
- Significant activity throughout the state





and
Questions ?

