

Support Services for the  
**WATER FUNDING TASK FORCE**

July 26, 2013

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ASSOCIATES

**FYRA**  
ENGINEERING  


**vireo**

LAKE  TECH

## Project Directives

1. Recommend a strategic plan that prioritizes programs, projects and activities in need of funding.
2. Recommend ranking criteria to identify funding priorities related to LB517 goals.
3. Recommend legislation to define the process by which the plan will be funded and administered.
4. Recommend a funding amount.
5. Recommend statutory changes required to administer the plan.

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## The Strategic Plan

*Throughout history, Nebraskans have built their lives around and supported good stewardship of our natural resources. Water, arguably our most valuable resource, demands that same stewardship today so that our impact on generations to come is a positive one. We must strive toward sustainability, practicable uses of our water so our children can enjoy the health and wealth of the supply that we enjoy today. Our investment in the development of those uses will ensure our legacy on the State.*

# The Strategic Plan

## Investment in Four Efforts:

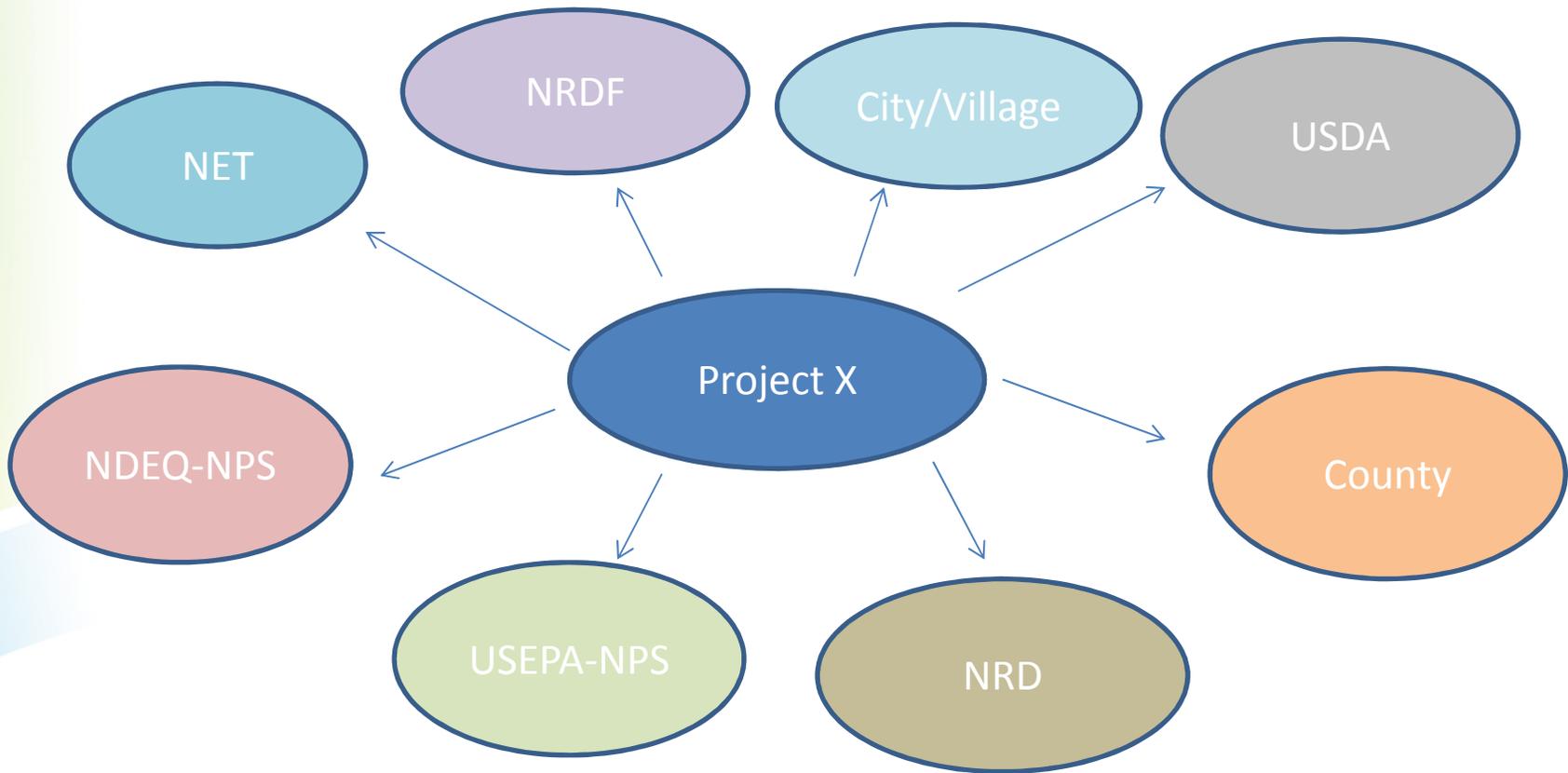
1. Research, data and modeling needed to assist the state in meeting its water management goals
2. Rehabilitation or restoration of water supply infrastructure, new water supply infrastructure, or water supply infrastructure maintenance
3. Conjunctive and integrated management of groundwater and surface water
4. Compliance with interstate compacts or agreements or other formal state contracts or agreements

# Ranking Criteria

## Defining Programmatic Goals:

1. Provides increased water productivity
2. Assists Nebraska in interstate compact or decree obligations
3. Utilizes objectives described in the Annual Report and Plan of Work for the Nebraska State Water Planning and Review Process
4. Has received funding through established state program
5. Cost-effectiveness of the PPA
6. Extent to which PPA leverages federal or other (non-State) funding sources
7. Extent to which PPA meets multiple water supply management goals

# Project Evaluation/Ranking



## Project Evaluation/Ranking

- Take home points from slide
  - Most projects in NE require multiple funding sources & partnerships
  - And in most cases each funding source or program has their own evaluation and ranking system.
  - Which means most projects are subjected to multiple rankings/evaluations.
  - Must rank high in all to be fully funded.

## Existing Criteria for State Progr

### Three Examples of Current Systems

- Nebraska Resources Development Fund (NRDF)
- Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET)
- NDEQ – EPA Section 319 (319)

## NRDF

- Established process for benefits related to flood control and recreation
- Accepts methodologies deemed reliable for groundwater recharge, irrigation or other benefits

From computed benefits, projects are analyzed for economic feasibility

Once a project qualifies, it is eligible for funding.  
There is no comparison of one project to another

# NRDF

## NEBRASKA RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FUND FINANCIAL STATUS

November 20, 2012

| APPROVED PROJECTS                 | SPONSOR & RDF COST SHARE | AMOUNT ALLOCATED        | TOTAL PROJECT OBLIGATION | UNOBLIGATED BALANCE    | OBLIGATED THIS FISCAL YEAR | PAYMENTS THIS FISCAL YEAR | PAYMENT SINCE LAST REPORT <sup>1/</sup> | TOTAL AMOUNT EXPENDED TO DATE | OBLIGATED FUNDS AVAILABLE |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>FULLY FUNDED:</b>              |                          |                         |                          |                        |                            |                           |   |                               |                           |
| Little Sandy Creek Watershed      | LBNRD 70%                | 2,873,189.36            | 2,873,189.35             | 0.01                   | 472,845.20                 | 236,422.60                | 118,211.30                              | 2,636,766.75                  | 236,422.60                |
| <b>PARTIALLY FUNDED:</b>          |                          |                         |                          |                        |                            |                           |   |                               |                           |
| Buck & Duck Watershed (2)         | NNRD                     | 130,000.00              | 0.00                     | 130,000.00             | 0.00                       | 0.00                      | 0.00                                    | 0.00                          | 0.00                      |
| Lower Turkey Creek Watershed (2)  | LBBNRD 60% / 70%         | 5,732,258.80            | 4,120,143.01             | 1,612,115.79           | 666,869.95                 | 150,634.57                |   | 3,603,907.62                  | 516,235.39                |
| Pigeon/Jones Creek (2)            | P-MRNRD                  | 4,254,920.55            | 0.00                     | 4,254,920.55           | 0.00                       | 0.00                      | 0.00                                    | 0.00                          | 0.00                      |
| Upper Prairie/Silver/Moores Creek | CPNRD 52.5%              | 8,899,005.82            | 6,947,445.85             | 1,951,559.97           | 666,869.95                 | 361,139.58                | 258,527.85                              | 6,221,673.12                  | 725,772.73                |
| Wanahoo (Sand Creek Env. Rest)    | LPNNRD 60%               | 12,268,720.00           | 3,845,499.42             | 8,423,220.58           | 666,869.95                 | 0.00                      | 0.00                                    | 3,025,734.96                  | 819,764.46                |
| Western Sarpy/Clear Creek         | P-MRNRD 60%              | 8,820,000.00            | 6,691,816.90             | 2,128,183.10           | 666,869.95                 | 333,434.96                | 166,717.48                              | 6,358,381.91                  | 333,434.99                |
| <b>Completed Projects (64)</b>    |                          | <b>63,925,604.31</b>    | <b>63,925,604.31</b>     |                        |                            |                           |   | <b>63,921,520.91</b>          |                           |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                     |                          | <b>\$106,903,698.84</b> | <b>\$88,403,698.84</b>   | <b>\$18,500,000.00</b> | <b>\$3,140,325.00</b>      | <b>\$1,081,631.71</b>     | <b>\$543,456.63</b>                     | <b>\$85,767,985.27</b>        | <b>\$2,631,630.17</b>     |

**NOTES:**

- <sup>1</sup> Last Report - 9/17/2012
- <sup>2</sup> Allocation Increase 7/1/2012

| <b>NRDF APPROPRIATION</b> |                  |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Total Available           | \$ 88,273,210.66 |
| Amount Obligated          | \$ 88,403,698.84 |
| Amount Expended           | \$ 85,767,985.27 |
| Amount Unexpended         | \$ 2,635,713.57  |
| Unobligated Funds         | \$ 0.00          |

| APPROVAL DATE          | REMAINING REIMBURSEMENT |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 5-23-02 Little Sandy   | \$126,540.83            |
| 9-20-05 Lower Turkey   | \$0.00                  |
| 11-17-04 Upper Prairie | \$0.00                  |
| 7-11-07 Wanahoo        |                         |
| 7-25-02 Western Sarpy  | \$813,327.77            |

| RDF Cap Analysis:            |                  |                |  |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------|--|
| Allocated Total              | (Col. D, Row 19) | 106,903,698.84 |  |
| Obligated Total              | (Col. E, Row 19) | 88,403,698.84  |  |
| Unfunded Balance             |                  | 18,500,000.00  |  |
| Less: Available to Obligate  | (Col. I, Row 26) | (0.00)         |  |
| Cap Utilized                 |                  | 18,500,000.00  |  |
| Cap Maximum                  |                  | 18,500,000.00  |  |
| <b>Available to Allocate</b> |                  | <b>0.00</b>    |  |

# NET

**FY 11-12 Grant Awards \$ 19,292,396.00**

Funding Categories (based on stakeholder input, re-visited every five years)

Habitat

Surface and Ground Water

Waste Management

Air Quality

Soil Management

Evaluation & Ranking Process

- Use Technical Reviewers for Initial Evaluations (no points assigned)
- Projects are then ranked by a Project Committee

# NET

## Application Rating Criteria

| Rating Criteria                                     |   | Low |    | Ave. |    | High |
|---|---|-----|----|------|----|------|
| <b>Section 1</b>                                    |   |     |    |      |    |      |
| Degree project advances categories of the Trust     | 0 | 5   | 10 | 15   | 20 | 25   |
| Sound planning and design                           | 0 | 5   | 10 | 15   | 20 | 25   |
| Direct measurable environmental benefits            | 0 | 4   | 8  | 12   | 16 | 20   |
| Cost-effective                                      | 0 | 4   | 8  | 12   | 16 | 20   |
| Duration of benefits                                | 0 | 3   | 6  | 9    | 12 | 15   |
| Matching (non-state) resources (monetary & in kind) | 0 | 3   | 6  | 9    | 12 | 15   |
| Prevents contamination or degradation of resources  | 0 | 3   | 6  | 9    | 12 | 15   |
| Many people or communities served by project        | 0 | 3   | 6  | 9    | 12 | 15   |
| General public benefit                              | 0 | 2   | 4  | 6    | 8  | 10   |
| Public/Private partnerships                         | 0 | 2   | 4  | 6    | 8  | 10   |
| Economic impact                                     | 0 | 2   | 4  | 6    | 8  | 10   |
| Evaluation plan                                     | 0 | 2   | 4  | 6    | 8  | 10   |
| Unique need   | 0 | 1   | 2  | 3    | 4  | 5    |
| Public health                                       | 0 | 1   | 2  | 3    | 4  | 5    |
| Innovation  | 0 | 1   | 2  | 3    | 4  | 5    |
| Replication potential                               | 0 | 1   | 2  | 3    | 4  | 5    |
| Individual or local initiative                      | 0 | 1   | 2  | 3    | 4  | 5    |

# NET

| Section 2   |            |
|---|------------|
| Feature Program Bonus Points  |            |
| <p>An eligible application that meets <u>all</u> of the following criteria will receive 35 additional points to encourage large-scale collaborative projects with significant environmental impact.</p> <p>1) The project is designed on an ecosystem, resource-based or regional approach.</p> <p>2) The project includes components to inform and educate on sound resource management practices.</p> <p>3) The project includes representatives of public and private interested parties and organizations in comprehensive planning, design and evaluation activities.</p> <p>4) The project recognizes community and economic values which may affect conservation action and design appropriate actions to enhance attainment and sustainability of resource objectives.</p> <p>5) The project creates efficiencies of delivery and maximizes available resources through the development of formal and informal interlocal or interagency agreements and/or public/private partnerships.</p> | 35         |
| <b>TOTAL POINTS AVAILABLE</b>   | <b>250</b> |
| Section 3   |            |
| Geographic points-vary each year  |            |

## NDEQ Nonpoint Source Management

- Funded through Federal Clean Water Act - Section 319
- Administered by NDEQ
- No State Funds Dedicated to Program, 40% match required for projects
- FY2012 Grant Awards - \$1,496,645
- Project Categories
  - Stream Watershed Rehabilitation and Protection
  - Lake Watershed Rehabilitation and Protection
  - Wetland Rehabilitation and Protection
  - Ground Water Rehabilitation and Protection
  - Statewide Education Capacity Development
- Project Evaluation & Ranking
  - Committee of Technical Experts
  - Use Point System to Determine Project Rank
  - Projects and Rankings Sent to EPA for Final Review & Funding Approval

# NDEQ Section 319

**Project Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Rating:** Please consider the quality of this project and its likelihood of enhancing nonpoint source pollution management in the state. In the table below, circle the whole number that best describes your opinion of the value and appropriateness of the project.

|          |     |        |   |      |   |
|----------|-----|--------|---|------|---|
| No Value | Low | Medium |   | High |   |
| 0        | 1   | 2      | 3 | 4    | 5 |

**Project Ranking:** Please consider the quality and value of the project (*as apposed to the proposal*) to rank this project in respect to the other applications. In the table below, circle the whole number that best describes your ranking of the project.

|        |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |         |
|--------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---------|
| Lowest |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | Highest |
| 16     | 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1       |

**Funding Recommendation:** Please indicate a recommended funding level below for this project based on the appropriateness of the over-all budget or specific budget items.

**No Funds:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Full Funding:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Reduce to:** \_\_\_\_\_ (*explain below*)

**Comments:** (Strength, weakness, general)

## Developing New Criteria

- Don't let criteria define your mission and goals
- Start from the Top Down
  - Define Mission & Goals
  - Define “Projects” that Support the Mission
  - **Define Criteria that Support the Projects**
  - Sponsors Develop Projects that Support the Criteria

## Developing New Criteria

### **We must:**

- Match the criteria to the perceived value
- Decide if the fund needs to be divided
- Consider objective and subjective ranking criteria