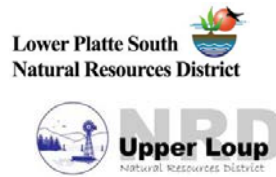


SUMMARY

**Lower Platte River Basin Water Management Plan Coalition
Technical Committee Meeting
April 2, 2015, 10:00 to 1:00 P.M.
Offices of Lower Elkhorn NRD
601 E. Benjamin Ave., Suite 101, Norfolk, NE**

In Attendance: S. Rock (HDR), D. Schulz (LPSNRD), D. Ehrman (LPSNRD), John Petersen (JEO), M. Hart (UENRD), M. Petermann (PMRNRD), P. Woodward (PMRNRD), L. Angle (LPNNRD), R. Callan (LLNRD), D. Schueth (UENRD), A. Baum (ULNRD) (by telephone), T. Freed (NDNR), J. Engel (HDR), D. Wilcox (NARD), T. Naprstek (LLNRD), Curt Becker (LENRD)

- I. **Introductions** were made and review of ground rules for the meeting was discussed.
- II. **Administrative Items:**
- III. **Recap of March 10, 2015 Water Banking Workshop:** John provided a recap of the first Water Banking Workshop. There were approximately 60-70 people in attendance. The next water banking workshop is anticipated to occur at the end of May or early June.
- IV. **Examples of CPNRD/LLNRD water banking accounting:** John went through the portion of the presentation given at the Water Banking Workshop related to the CPNRD/LLNRD water banking examples. John also went through a brief presentation on accounting in the Republican basin. Discussion from the technical committee included:
 - a. How did the CPNRD come to the \$8,000/AF figure?
 - b. How to account for banked acres? (Russ indicated that Jesse Bradley is looking into this).
 - c. John referenced presentation given by David McAdams of Duke University to PRRIP Governance Committee. The DNR is working with McAdams to develop options for a water market structure.
 - d. The Republican basin is set up for allowable depletions by basin and basins can trade depletions.
 - e. Currently NDNR has no way to administer passive recharge to a river once it reaches the river.
 - f. Some discussion on how to monitor Streamflow and the need for more stream gages.
- V. **Unappropriated Water Analysis and example:** John walked the technical committee through the Excess Flow spreadsheet, the revised methodology for upstream basins, and how to read the plots for the quantity and number of days excess flow. John walked through a sample linear recharge project on Sargent canal using the ELM SDF grid, AWAS, and the available excess flows. Discussion from the presentation included the following:
 - a. Would it be better to call the project “accretion” and not “recharge” project?
 - b. Could incorporate a 3-day or 7-day consecutive flow constraint into the excess flow to have a better idea of how reliable flows.



- c. Middle Loup, why are the flows post-2008 so much greater? Is it something with the gage itself or the number of days excess flow was available due to operations either at Genoa or on the Platte itself.
- d. Not all water is new water. Look into discounting (TPNRD example).
- e. Is Sargent a federal project?
- f. Sargent canal water can be diverted to Semler dam for storage.
- g. Should trim back dates of available excess flow due to ice. Irrigation season runs Apr 15 – Sept 15.
- h. Would be beneficial to look into benefit of retiming of water and create a \$/AF similar to TPNRD example.

JEO presented the group with a draft matrix for ranking potential recharge projects. LLNRD posed some questions on the need and applicability of using a matrix such as the one that was presented. LPNNRD and LPSNRD had some discussion on the use of non-hydrologically connected water in bedrock. LPSNRD discussed using recharge in their special management areas as a way of maintaining water surface elevations.

VI. **Concept for basin-wide accounting:** Time did not allow for discussion of this agenda item.

VII. **Action items:**

- a. HDR to work up TM on basin-wide accounting for distribution to the technical committee prior to the next meeting.

VIII. **Next Technical Committee Meeting:** John to send out Doodle Poll for May 12 – May 15; Next meeting at LLNRD (Ord) on May 12, 2015.

IX. **Upcoming Meetings:**

- a. Management Committee meeting – April 28, 2015 at LPSNRD (Lincoln); 1:30 – 3:30 (time and location changed due to water sustainability funding rules public hearing).
- b. Water Banking Workshop #2 – TBD (End of May/early June)

X. **Adjourn at 1:00 pm**