

# Republican River Basin-Wide Challenges

From June 21, 2016, Stakeholder Meeting

## Legend

- People who agreed with a comment already posted
- Denotes individual stakeholder highest disagreement
- Denotes individual stakeholder highest agreement

Republican River Basin-Wide Challenges		
<b>1. Inequitable distribution of compact compliance burden</b>		
a. Allocations should be across the whole basin. ★★★★★		
b. What is a good metric for fairness and balance of different uses? ★★		
c. State plan for recharge to aquifer.		
d. Allocations based on model area		
e. Excess water in the Platte needs to be transferred to the Republican. ★★★		
f. Allocations by subbasin based on recharge		
g. Should have a plan to avoid two year compliance test.		
h. Consider importing water from east end of Republican.		
i. When there's excess water in the Platte and we need water here, why is the burden on wells and surface water? ★★		
j. Impossible to have open dialogue when litigation is constantly occurring. What is amount of money being spent on legal fees? ★		
<b>2. Limited understanding of water supply and use.</b>		
a. Our farming practices have changed dramatically- effects on stream flow.		
b. What do we work towards? (How short are we?) ★★		
c. What is a good metric? ★		
d. Need to address areas of depletions. ★		
e. Needs to be based on entire Basin, not just DNR 10/50 policy. ★★		
f. How much flow is needed at the head gates to sustain your system? Solution has to be based on science rather than poltiics. ★★		
<b>3. Over consumption of water has not been adequately addressed.</b>		
a. Are we fully or over appropriated (Use scientific approach)? ★★★★★		
b. Response times vary widely for actions we may propose. Think short, mid, and long term.		
c. Deal with depletions- no additional depletions on starting point. ★★		
d. We are using more water than we have.		
e. Is the amount pumped by N-CORPE an indication of how far we over developed? ★		
f. Remove non-beneficial vegetation. ★		
g. Find ways to reduce evaporation.		
h. Over consumption is based off compliance. How do we know what the "right" streamflow was? Was it right when the compact was signed?		
i. No way to make the river flow again.		
<b>4. Regulatory measures have been inconsistent through time and water use.</b>		
a. State law has created conflict between GW & SW.		
b. If regulation; Can trade \$ for water. ★		
c. Regulations don't work without consequences. ★		
<b>5. Compact compliance and accounting always a challenge</b>		
a. Must comply.		
b. Can we build a reserve? ★		
<b>6. Someone else will fix our problem (east) if we don't fix it ourselves</b>		
a. Lincoln is watching us.		
b. This is a basin problem, there needs to be some compromise.		
c. We've gotten more efficient and reduced our pumping. So we're not just paying \$10/acre. I've paid \$1,000 to be more efficient.		
<b>7. Lack of certainty for agricultural planning.</b>		
a. Certainty of knowing surface water receives an allocation. ★		
b. Reliability for planning and commuity viability. ★		
c. How many surface water H2O acres have underground well? Did original federal permits guarantee a certain supply of H2O? ★★		
<b>8. Loss of economic returns on investments in irrigated agriculture.</b>		
a. Effects on economy as a whole. ★		
b. This is a likely reality if based on false or absent water.		
c. H2O = Life.		