

# NEWS RELEASE

## Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Department of Natural Resources Director Resigns

(Lincoln, NE) Director Brian Dunnigan of the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources resigned on Thursday. Director Dunnigan was appointed by Governor Heineman to the position in 2008 after serving in the Department for over 30 years. Director Dunnigan said, "It has been a great privilege to serve the citizens of the state and I will miss all of the wonderful people that I have worked with across the state."

The Department has broad water management authorities, including floodplain management, interstate water management, permitting, and dam safety. During his tenure, Director Dunnigan was able to provide a strong foundation to support effective water management activities across the state by engaging local partners.

Director Dunnigan's early days as director found him wrestling with key interstate water matters in the Republican River and Platte River basins. His leadership was instrumental in resolving those critical interstate water matters and improving the overall resilience of Nebraskans to respond to extreme droughts and floods. Through the course of Director Dunnigan's tenure with the Department the disputes of the Republican River Compact have been stabilized and a new path of collaboration with the state of Kansas has been opened. Nebraska has also established a successful plan to implement the requirements of the federal endangered species program in the Platte River Basin. His 25 years of expertise in developing Nebraska's framework for flood management also allowed for improved floodplain mapping and effective and efficient support in providing timely warnings to those individuals at high risk during flooding events.

Director Dunnigan said, "I certainly appreciate all of the relationships that I have developed over the years and believe that Nebraska is well poised to proactively address our state's future water needs."

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