

Challenges and Opportunities in Coordinating Joint Water Management Plans

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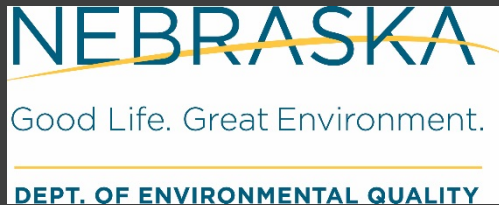
Introduction

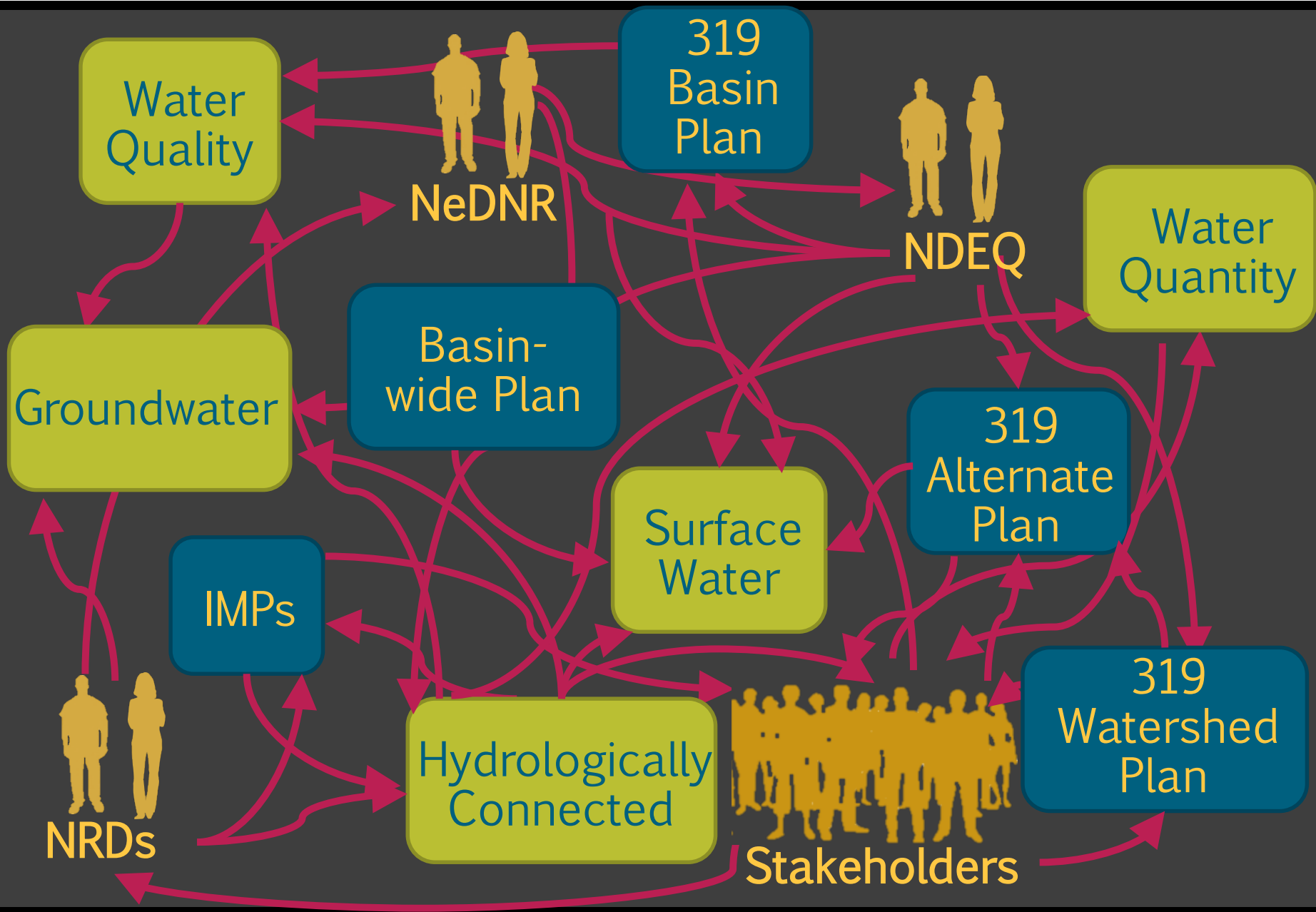
- Several types of joint water management plans are developed between:
 - NRDs and NeDNR
 - NRDs and NDEQ
- Various plans serve specific purposes and have different requirements.
- NeDNR and NDEQ are looking into possible opportunities to coordinate planning where possible.

Why so many different plans?

NDEQ	NeDNR
Surface Water and Groundwater	Surface Water and Groundwater
Water Quality	Water Quantity
Voluntary	Mandated, voluntary (depends)
Federal Clean Water Act (319 Nonpoint Source Pollution)	Nebraska State Statutes Interstate Water Agreement

How do the plans fit together?





Plans developed jointly with NRDs that we will cover today

NDEQ	NeDNR
Watershed and Basin (9-Element)	Integrated Management Plans (IMPs)
Alternative	Basin-Wide Plans

NDEQ - Nonpoint Source Pollution

- From landscapes, not pipes
- Runoff transports pollutants
- Affects lakes, rivers, wetlands and groundwater
- Common pollutants are sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus and bacteria



NDEQ - Nonpoint Source Pollution Program

- Nonpoint Source Program funded via EPA through the Federal Clean Water Act, Section 319(h).
- Nebraska receives annual '319' grant and has 5 years to spend the grant funds.
- ~\$1.2 million has gone out annually to project sponsors (e.g. NRDs) for on-the-ground projects.



NDEQ - Nonpoint Source Pollution Program

- Requirements to qualify for 319 funds for project funds:
 - 9-Element or Alternative Plan.
 - Plan must be accepted by NDEQ and EPA R7.
 - Plan must be no more than five years old.
 - Projects require a 40% non-federal match.

NDEQ Nonpoint Source Plans

9-Element Plans	Alternative (to a 9-Element Plan)
Watershed	Groundwater Protection
Basin (NRD)	Drinking Water Protection

NDEQ Nonpoint Source Plans

9-Element Plans	Alternative (to a 9-Element)
Watershed	Groundwater Protection
South Loup Watershed	Bazile Groundwater Management Plan
Long Pine Creek Watershed	
Basin (NRD)	Drinking Water Protection
Papio-Missouri Basin Plan	Auburn
Lower Elkhorn Basin Plan	Waverly

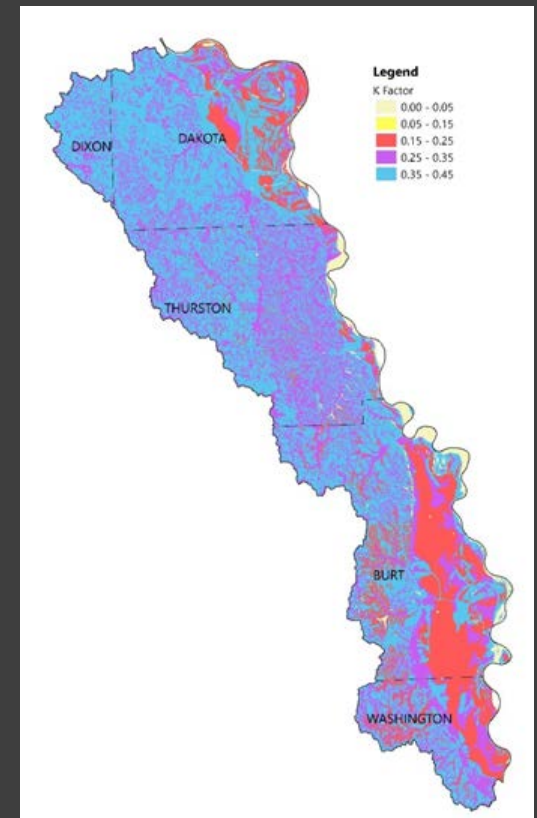
9-Element Watershed Management Plans



- What are 9 Element WMPs?
 - Roadmap for water quality improvement
 - Voluntary plans
- Why do a 9 Element WMP?
 - Community Based Planning
 - Funding for Nonpoint Source Projects

9-Element Watershed Management Plans

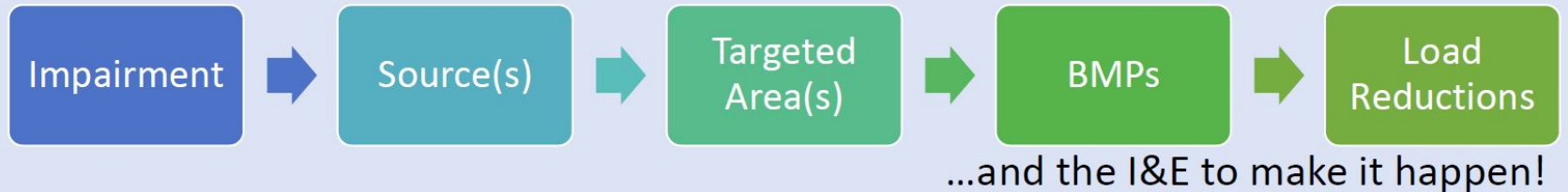
1. Identification of Pollutant Sources
2. Estimation of Pollutant Loads
3. ID Best Management Practices
4. Communication & Outreach
5. Implementation Schedule
6. Milestones to Measure Progress
7. Evaluation Criteria
8. Monitoring
9. Technical & Financial Assistance



From Papio-Missouri NRD Draft Plan, Fyra.

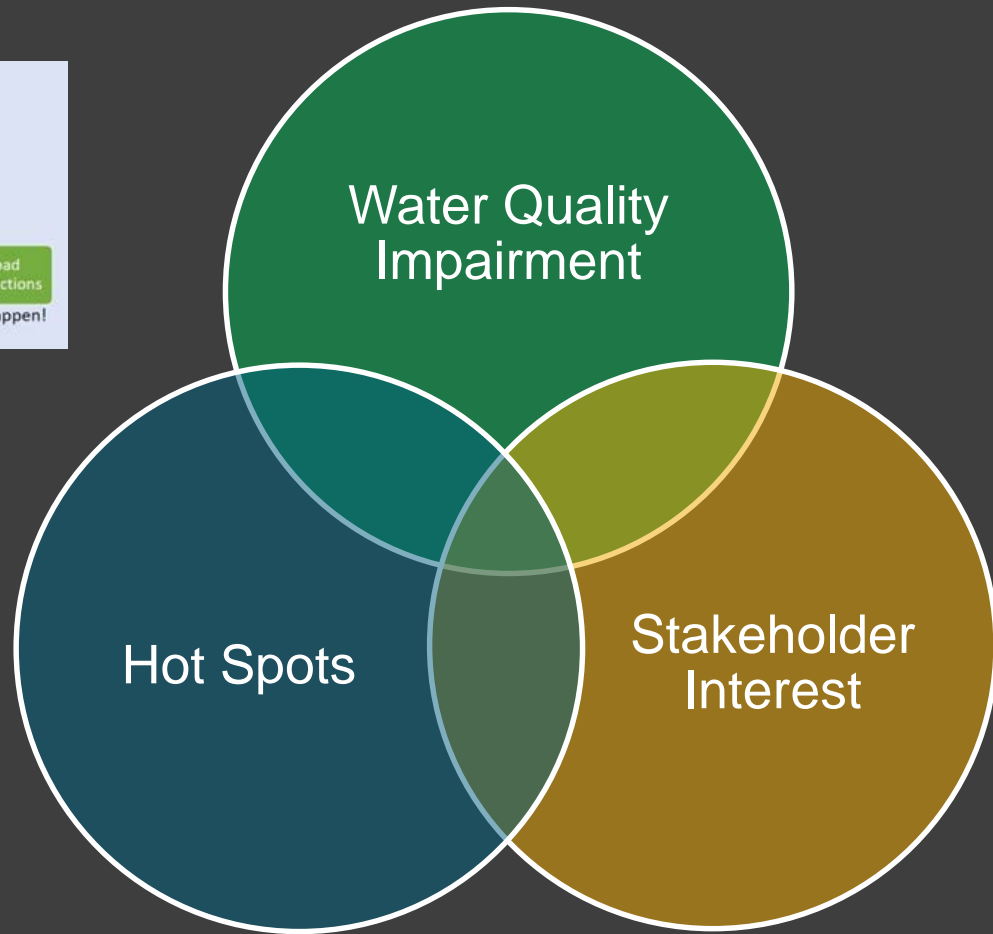
NDEQ – Writing Acceptable Plans

The Path of Least Resistance



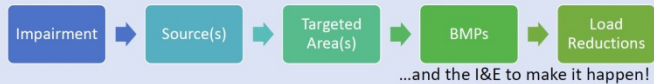
NDEQ – Targeted Areas

The Path of Least Resistance



NDEQ - Implementing Plan with Projects

The Path of Least Resistance



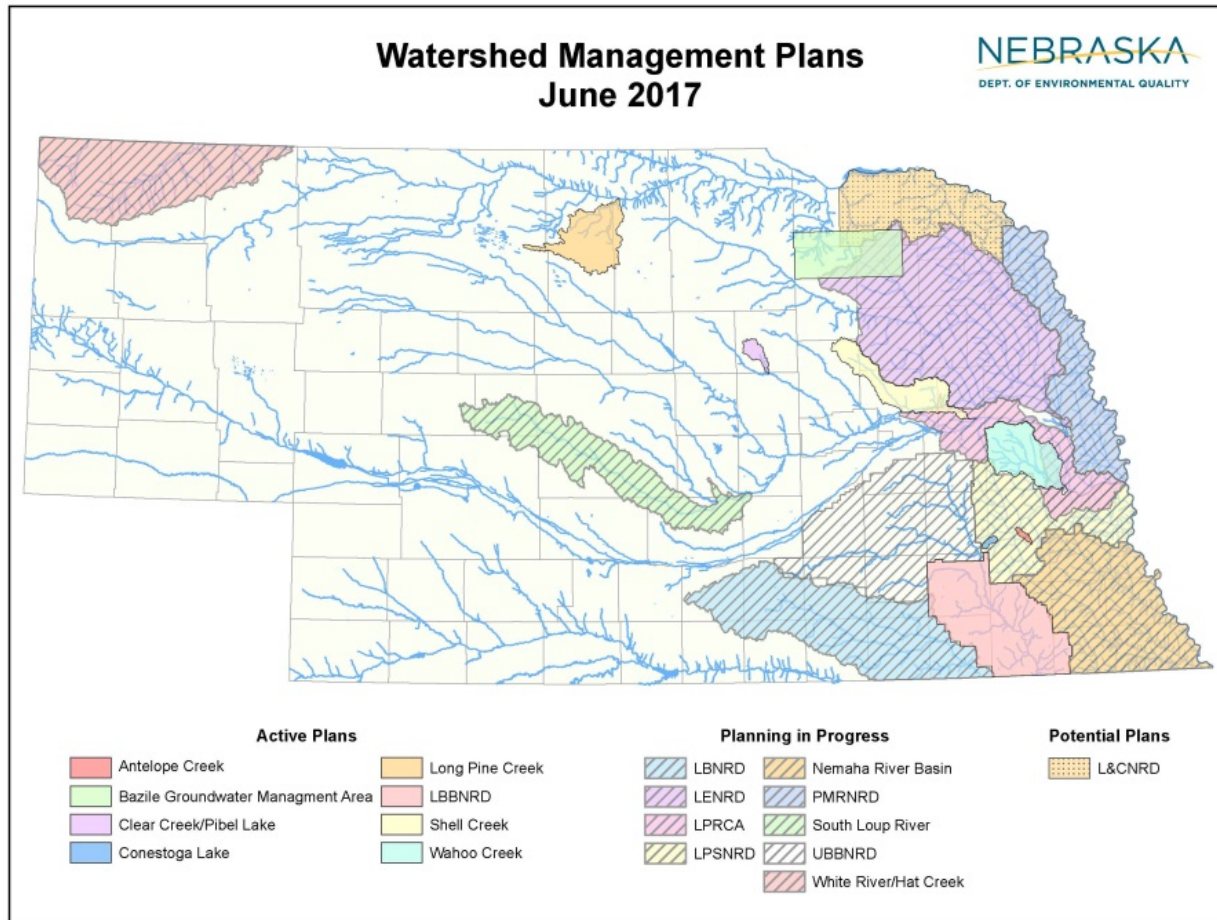
- Project Implementation Plan (PIP)
- Contract signed between NDEQ and Sponsor
- Project starts
 - Cost-share for BMPs
 - Watershed Coordinator
 - Evaluate results

Plan

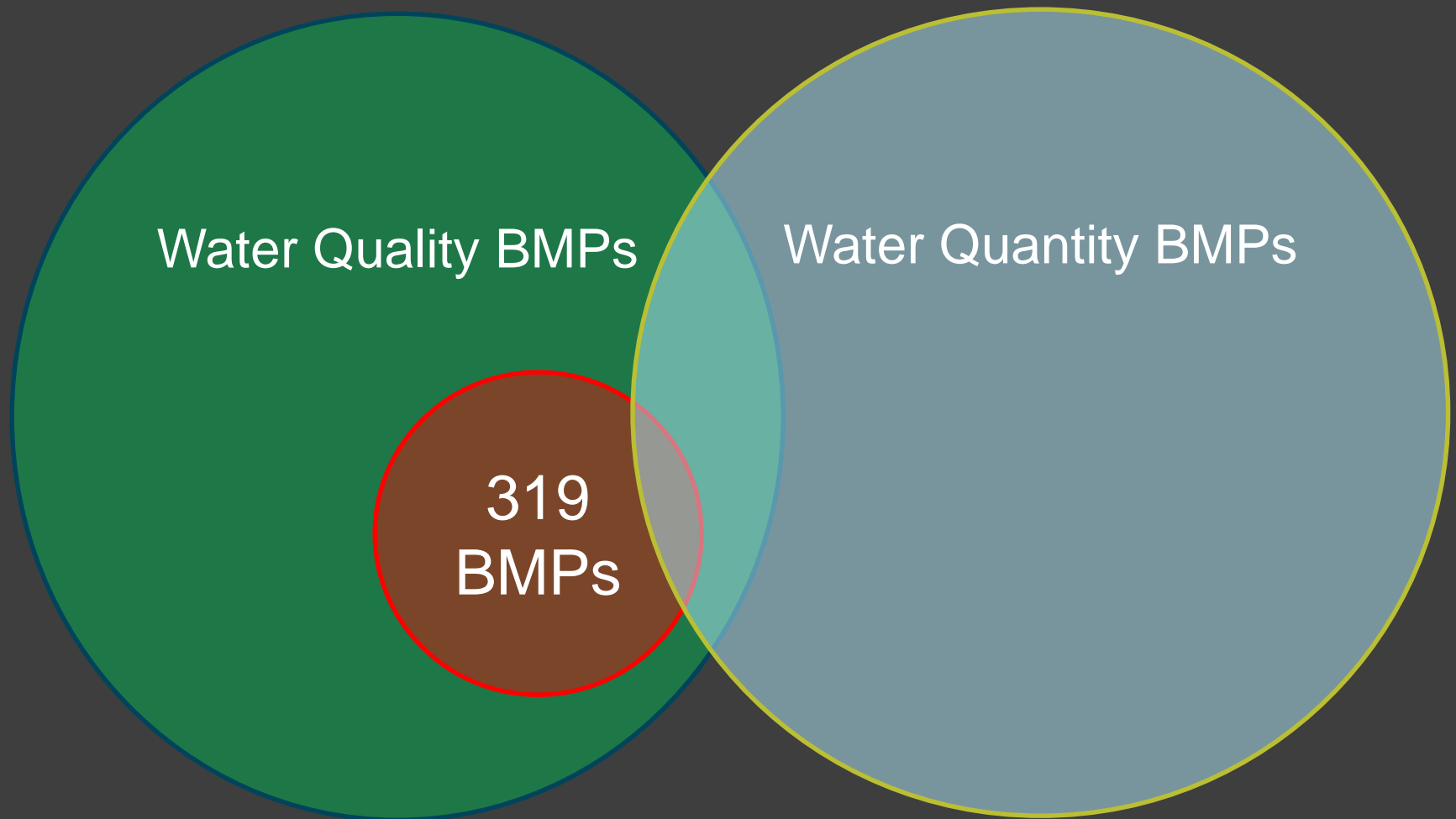
PIP

Project

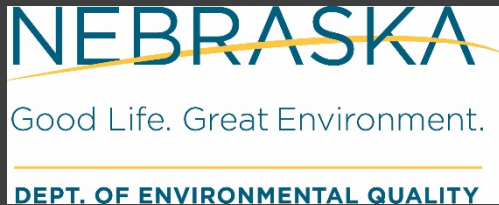
NDEQ – Where are we planning?



NDEQ – Plan Implementation



NeDNR Joint Water Management Plans



NeDNR Joint Water Management Plans

- Primarily Water Quantity
- Emphasis on hydrologically connected ground and surface water
- Basin-wide or NRD specific
- Voluntary or mandated

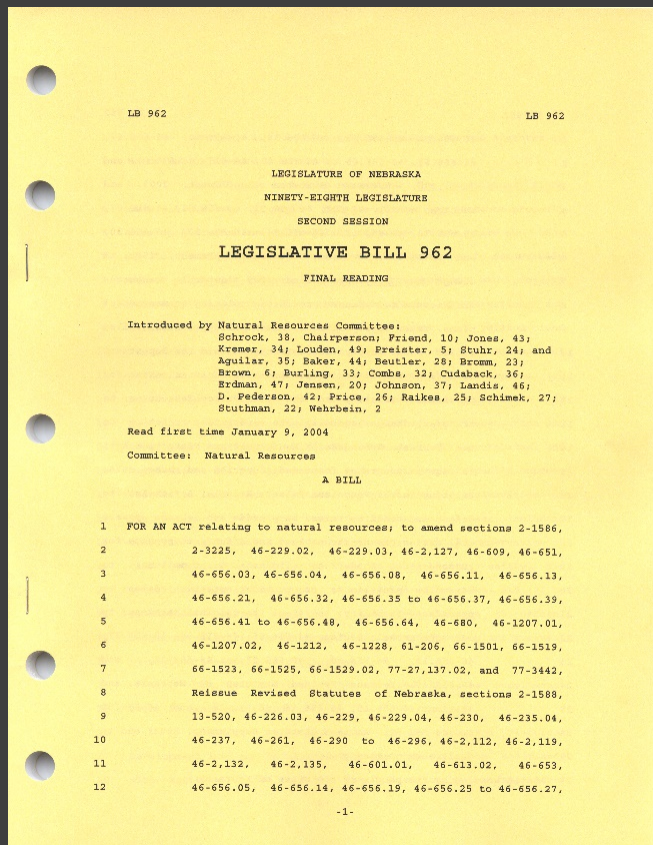
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NRD/NeDNR Plans--Legislative Framework

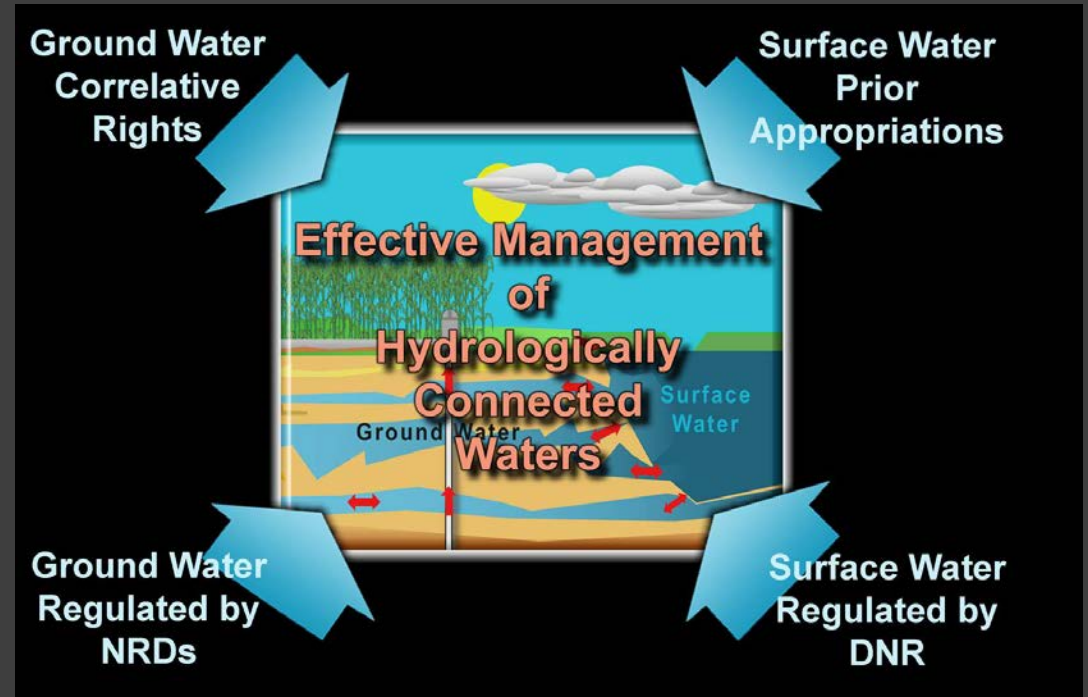
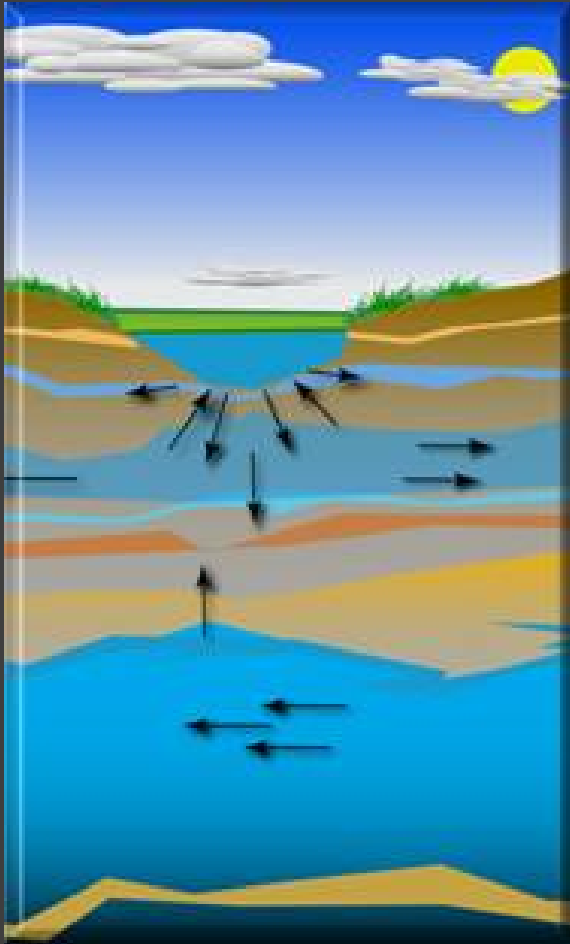
LB962 was signed on April 15, 2004



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NRD/NeDNR Plans: Management of Hydrologically Connected Ground and Surface Water



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NRD/NeDNR Plans: Legislative framework

- LB962 (2004)
 - Integrated Management Plans
 - OA Basin-wide Plan
- LB764 (2010):
 - Voluntary Integrated Management Plans
- LB1098 (2014):
 - Basin-wide Plan (Republican River Basin)

NeDNR Joint Water Management Plans

Basin-wide plans

- All basin NRDs & NeDNR
- Focused on regional, cross-boundary issues and opportunities
- Goals, objectives
- Voluntary or Mandatory
 - No statutes for voluntary

Integrated Management Plans

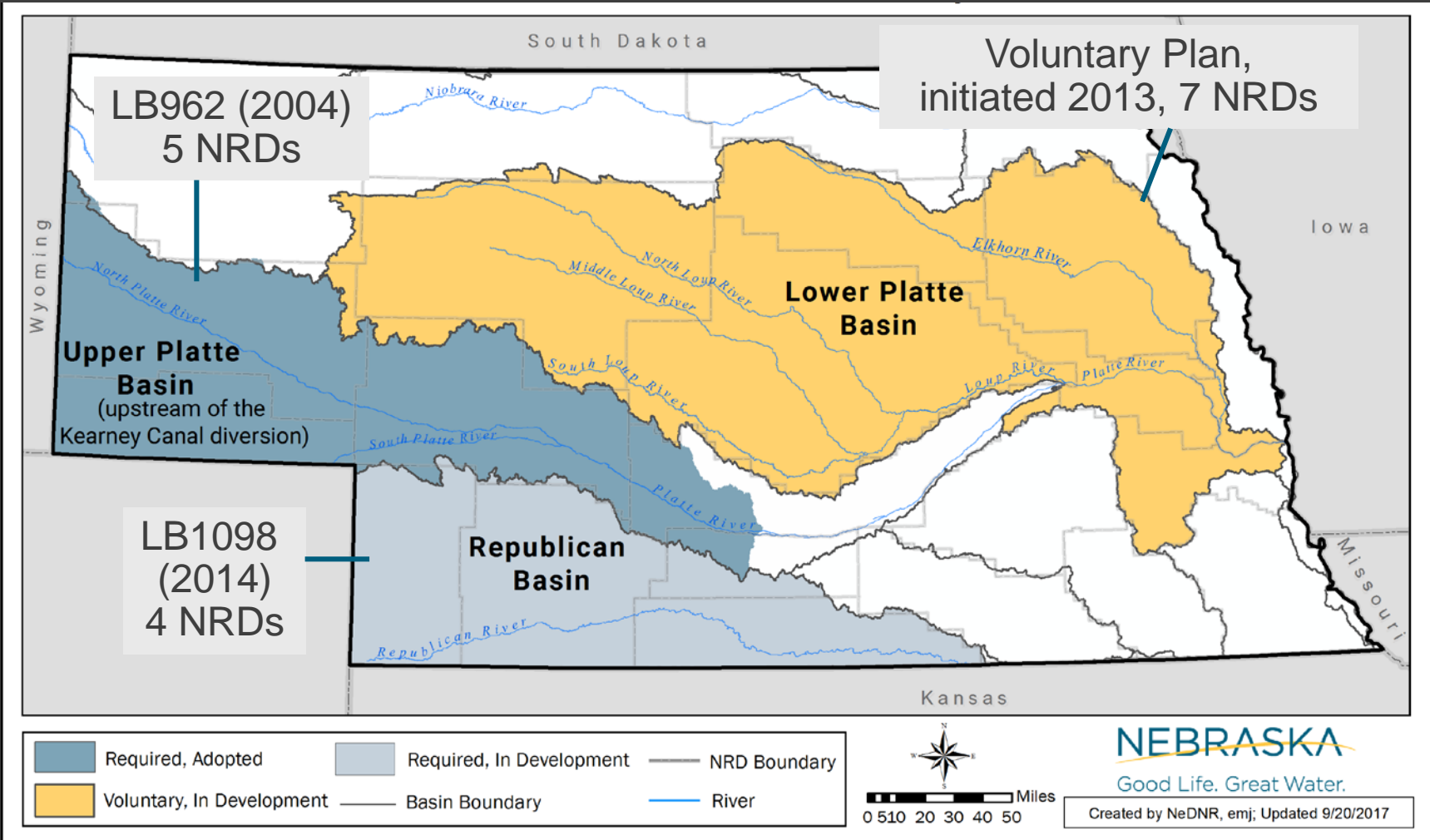
- 1 NRD & NeDNR
- Tailored to local issues and opportunities
- Goals, objectives, & controls
- Voluntary or Mandatory
 - Voluntary addressed in statute

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Joint NRD, NeDNR Basin-wide Plan Areas

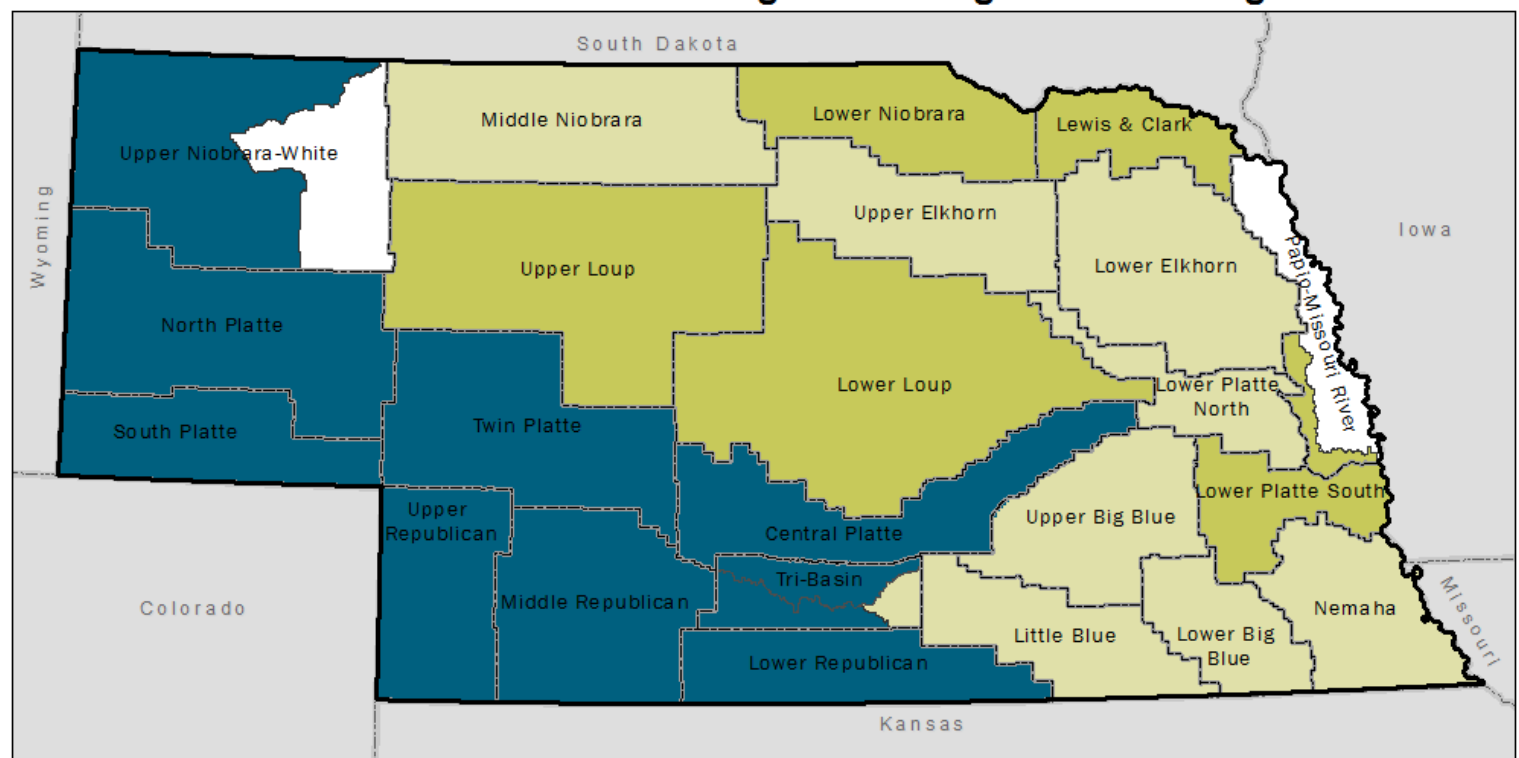






Mandated and voluntary Integrated Management Plans

Mandated IMP	Voluntary IMP
Achieve and sustain a balance between water uses and water supplies for the long term	
Protect existing water uses	
Fully appropriated basins, sub-basins	Non-fully appropriated basins, sub-basins
<u>May</u> have more stringent controls	<u>May</u> have more “encouraging” controls
Moratorium (GW, SW) initiated	No Moratorium initiated


Jointly Developed Integrated Management Plan Areas

NRD Areas Involved in Integrated Management Planning



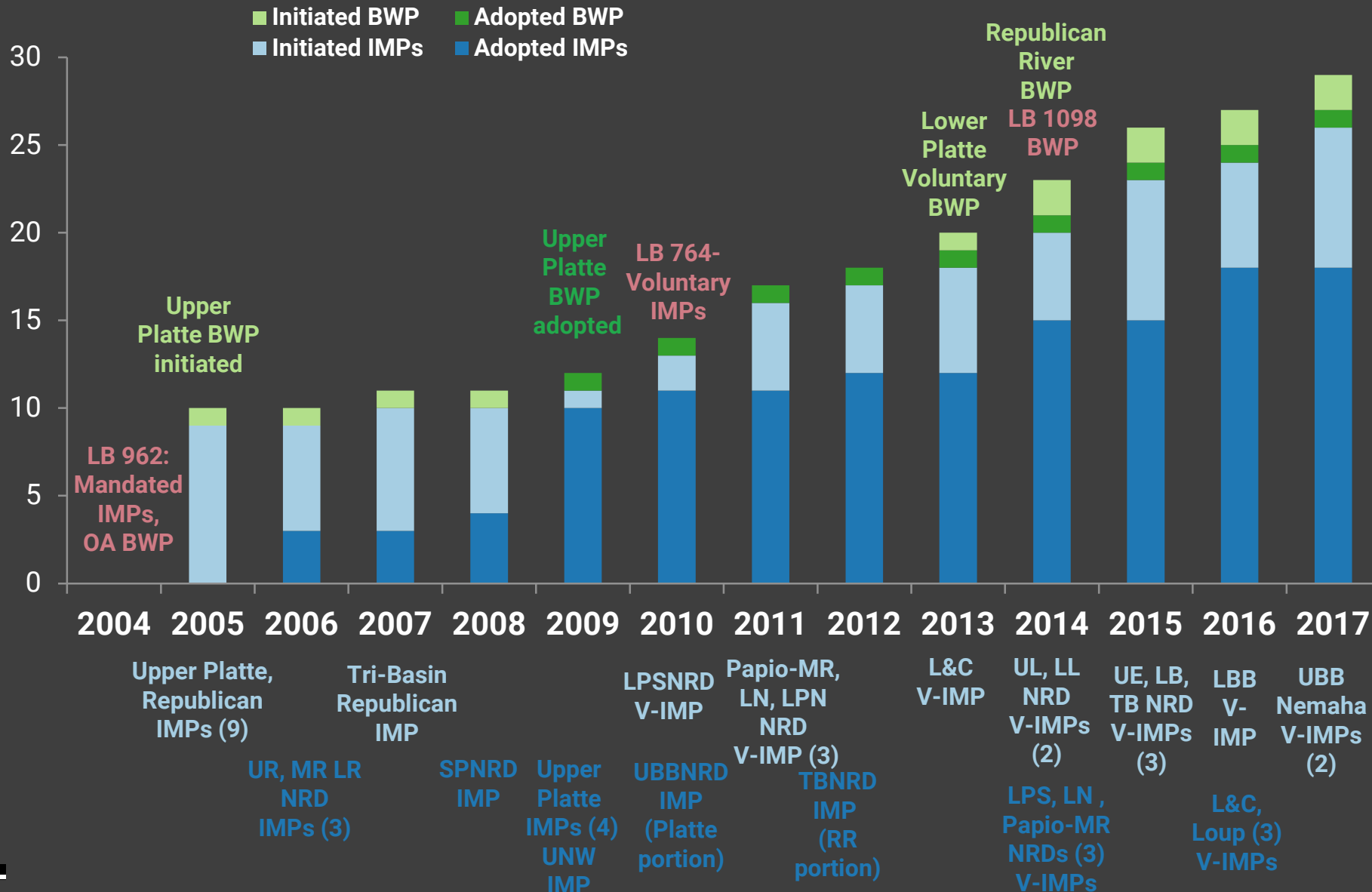
 Required, Approved	 Voluntary, In Development
 Voluntary, Approved	 Natural Resources District

Created by NeDNR, emj
Updated February 27, 2017



Timeline of IMP Activity

Integrated Management Plan (IMP)
 Voluntary Integrated Management Plan (V-IMP)
 Basin-wide Plan (BWP)



Can NDEQ and NeDNR planning processes be streamlined?

- A case study in the Upper Big Blue NRD...
- NRD is starting both a V-IMP and 9-Element plan.
 - Streamline processes?
 - Joint Plan?
 - Joint stakeholder group?
 - Same timeline?

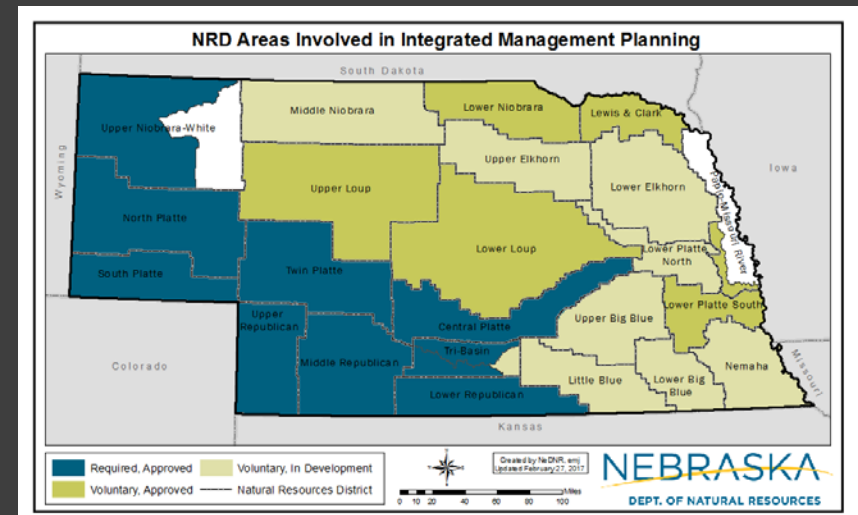
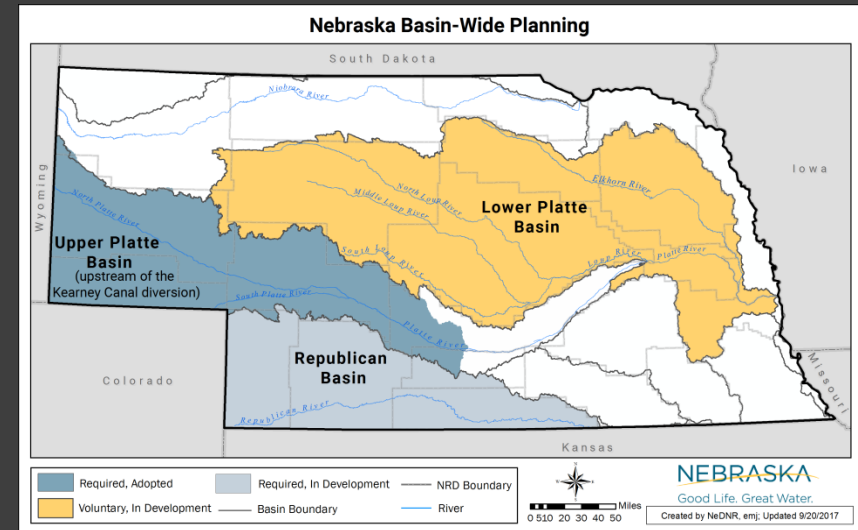
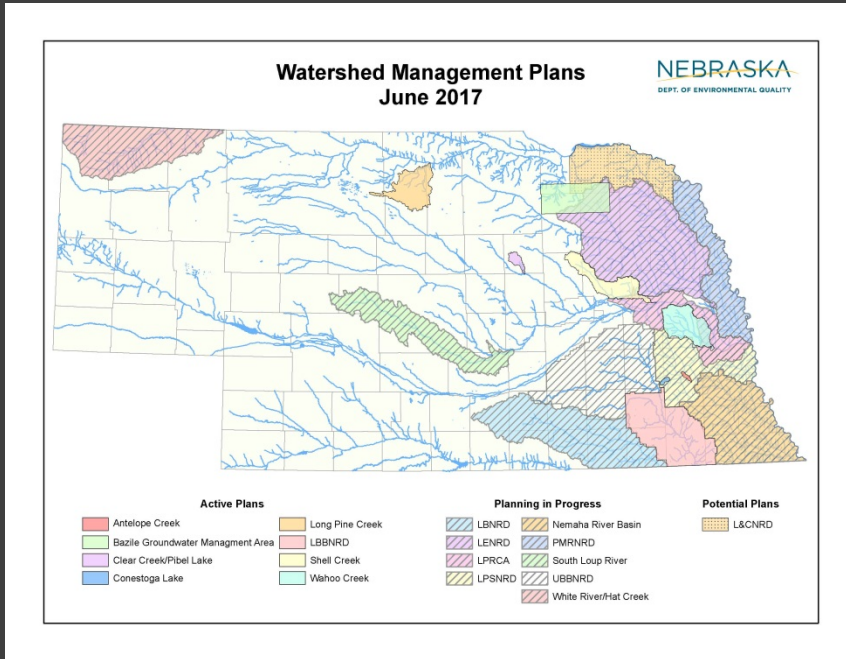
Challenges: Upper Big Blue NRD Case Study

- Statutory framework
 - Nebraska Statutes for water quantity
 - Federal Clean Water Act for water quality
- Timelines
 - NeDEQ — ~2 years to write/accept plan;
 - NDEQ-EPA and DEQ reviews for acceptance
 - NeDNR — 3 to 5 years
 - NeDNR-Annual reviews for IMPs

Challenges of coordinating NeDNR-NRD and DEQ-NRD plans

- Funding
 - EPA funding for NDEQ plans
 - Plan development and project implementation
 - 40% non-federal match
 - NeDNR plans
 - Development-NRDs and NeDNR
 - Implementation-various grants (WRCF, WSF, NET, etc.)
- Stakeholder Process
 - NDEQ-citizen and technical advisory committees
 - NeDNR-stakeholder groups

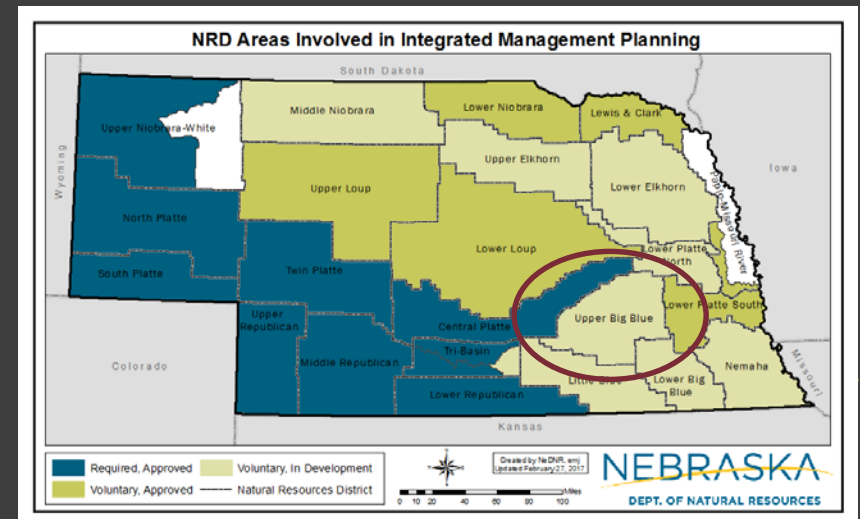
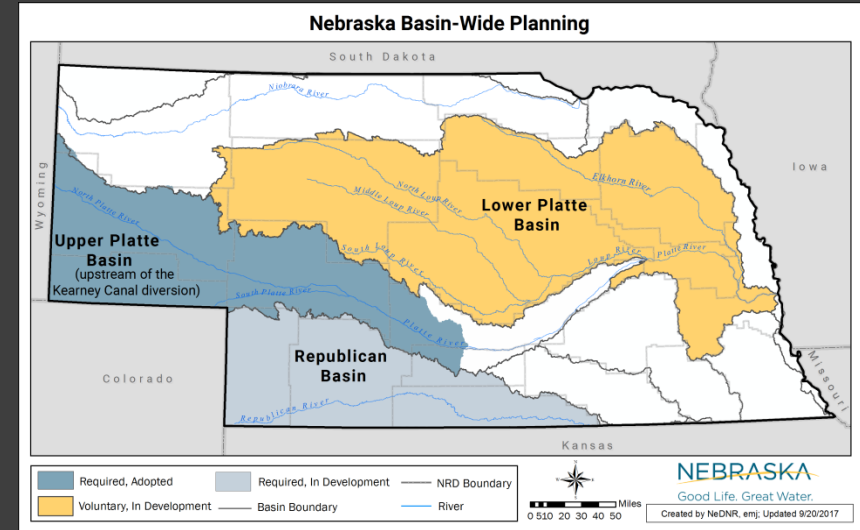
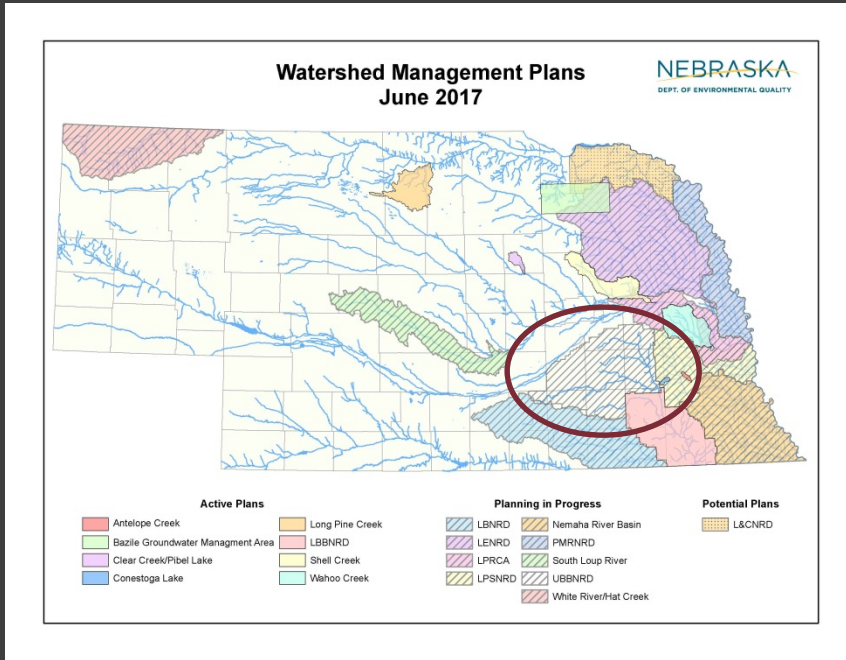
Challenges- Geographic Area



Opportunities

- NeDNR and DEQ have started the discussion
 - Initiation of quarterly meetings
 - Initiated joint outreach
 - Attempt to clarify for the public and constituents
 - Utilize NARD liaisons (Dustin and Jennifer)
 - An interested NRD!!
 - Upper Big Blue NRD joint planning process

Opportunities

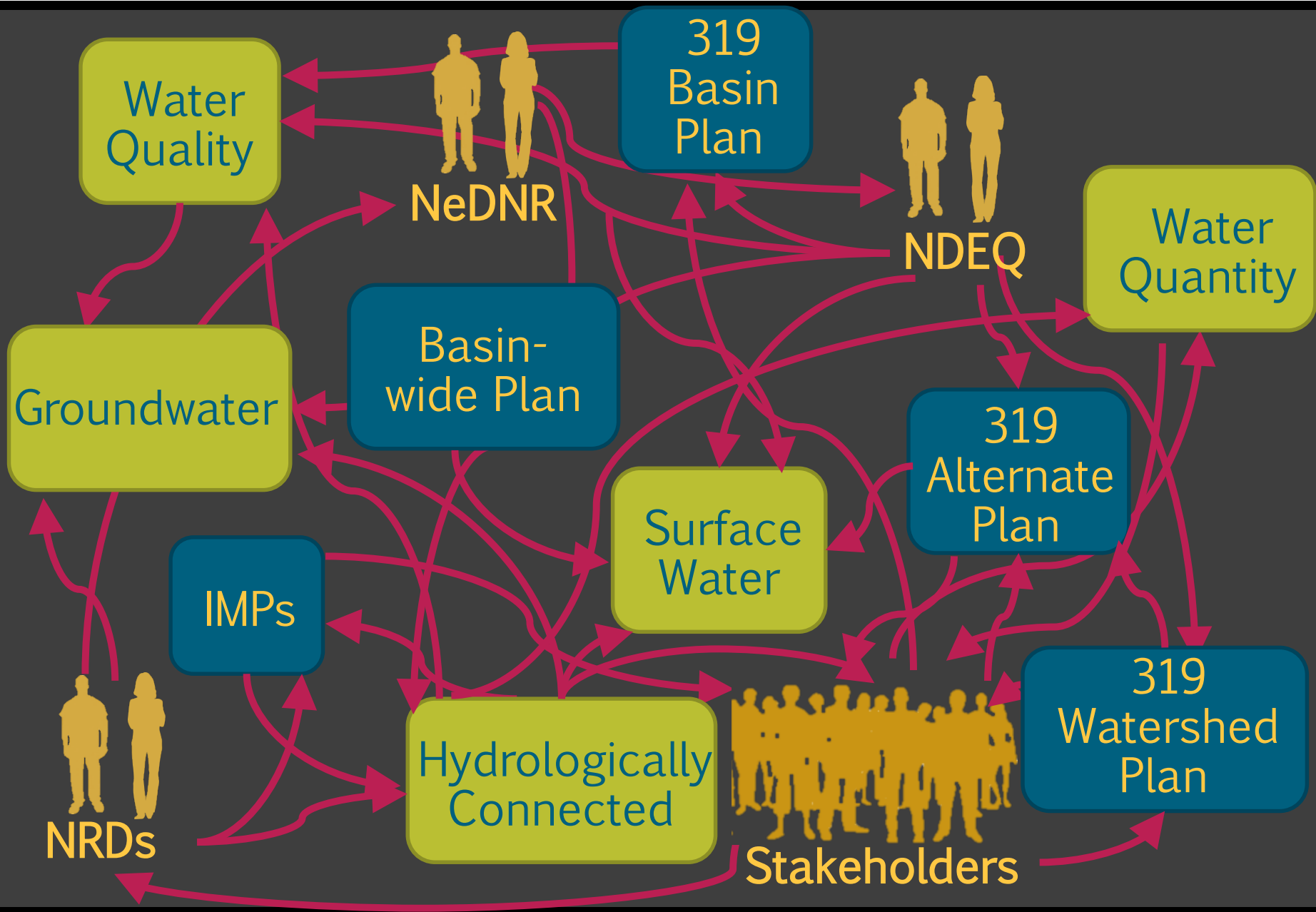


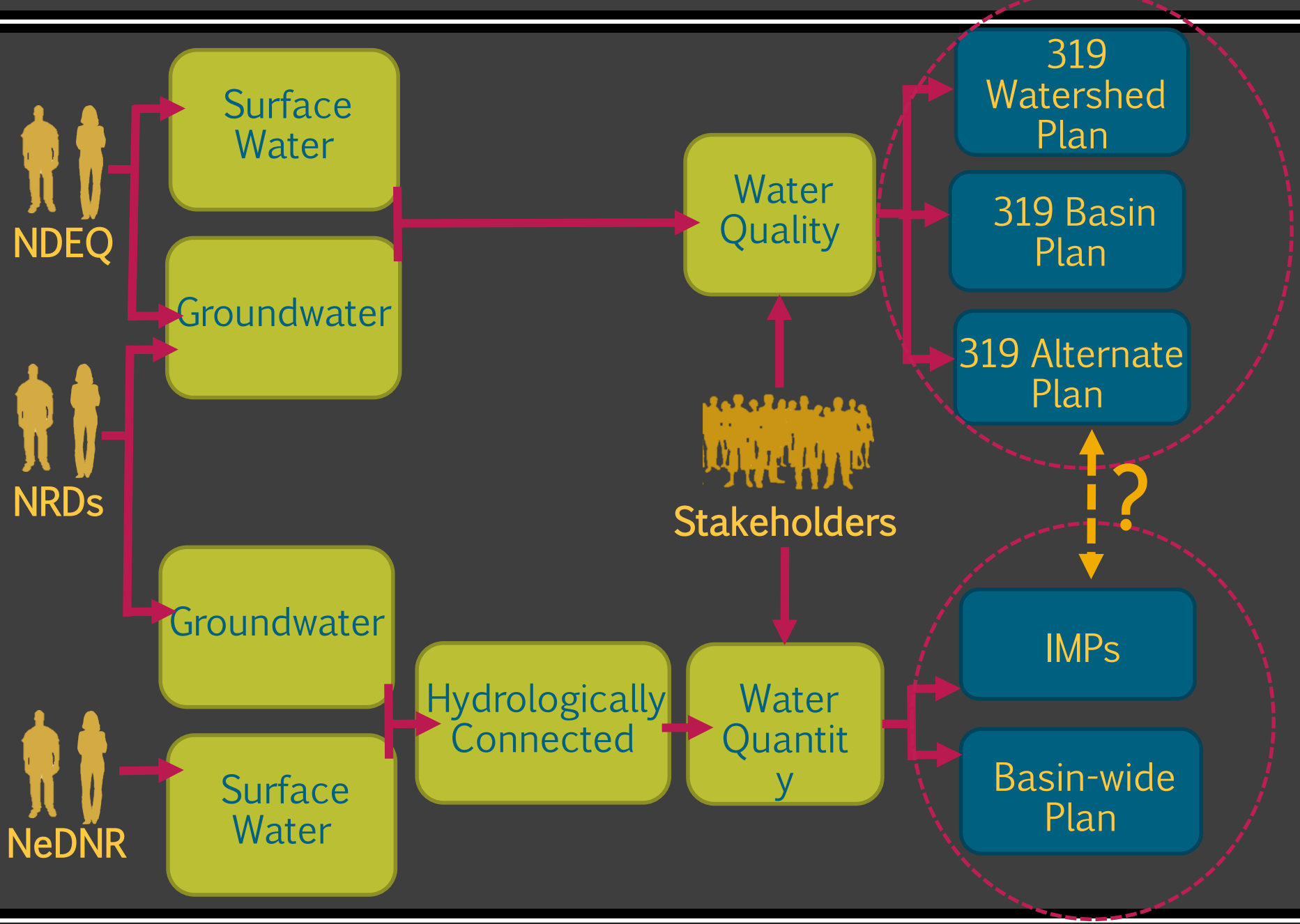
Conclusions: Pilot with UBBNRD

- 2 Separate Plans (9-Element Basin, V-IMP)
- Stakeholder Group, Committees may have overlap
- NDEQ rep at V-IMP meetings, NeDNR rep at 319 meetings
- Initial Joint Kick-off Meeting with stakeholders to clarify each process

Conclusions: Pilot with UBBNRD

- Goal of Pilot
 - Some streamlining for UBBNRD
 - ***Complementary Goals and Objectives***
 - Great learning opportunity for agencies/NRD





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Questions?

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Thank You

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