

Upper Platte Basin-Wide Second Increment Plan
Working Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
28 / 40 Area	The area within the North Platte, South Platte, or Platte River watershed in which groundwater intentionally withdrawn for 40 years will result in a cumulative stream depletion to the North Platte, South Platte, or Platte River or a baseflow tributary greater than or equal to 28 percent of the total groundwater consumed as a result of the withdrawals
Accretion	Addition to streamflow that results from an offset/mitigation action or project
Acre-Foot (AF)	Volume of water required to cover 1 acre of land (43,560 square feet) to a depth of 1 foot, equivalent to 325,851 gallons.
Appropriation	A permit granted by the NeDNR to use surface water for a beneficial use in a specific amount, purpose and location, and is based on first-in-time, first-in- right
Aquifer	A geological formation or structure of permeable rock or unconsolidated materials that stores and/or transmits water, such as to wells and springs
Augmentation Well	A groundwater well drilled to pump water into a stream to augment streamflows
AWEP	Agricultural Water Enhancement Program
AWREP	Agricultural Water Resources Enhancement Program
BWP	Basin-Wide Plan
CFS / Cubic Feet per Second	The flow rate or discharge equal to one cubic foot of water per second or about 7.5 gallons per second
COHYST	Cooperative Hydrology Study
Conjunctive Management	The coordinated and combined process that utilizes the connection between surface and groundwater to maximize water use, while minimizing impacts to streamflow and groundwater levels in an effort to increase the overall water supply of a region and improve the reliability of that supply.
Consumptive Use	The amount of water that is consumed under efficient practices, which satisfies the beneficial use without waste and does not return to a water resources system
CREP	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
Depletion	Reduction to streamflow that results from a new use of either groundwater or surface water
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
Flood Control	Referring to water withdrawn from the surface water source for the purpose of protecting health and well-being of society

Fully Appropriated From 46-713, subsection (3): A river basin, subbasin, or reach shall be deemed fully appropriated if the NeDNR determines based upon its evaluation conducted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section and information presented at the hearing pursuant to subsection (4) of section 46-714 that then current uses of hydrologically connected surface water and ground water in the river basin, subbasin, or reach cause or will in the reasonably foreseeable future cause (a) the surface water supply to be insufficient to sustain over the long term the beneficial or useful purposes for which existing natural-flow or storage appropriations were granted and the beneficial or useful purposes for which, at the time of approval, any existing instream appropriation was granted, (b) the streamflow to be insufficient to sustain over the long term the beneficial uses from wells constructed in aquifers dependent on recharge from the river or stream involved, or (c) reduction in the flow of a river or stream sufficient to cause noncompliance by Nebraska with an interstate compact or decree, other formal state contract or agreement, or applicable state or federal laws.

GDP / Gallons per Day	Referring to the approved amount of acre-feet of water legally allowed to be pumped from a surface water source, as long as all other conditions are met
Groundwater	Water which occurs in or moves, seeps, filters, or percolates through ground under the surface of the land, and shall include ground water which becomes commingled with waters from surface sources
Instream Use	Water that is appropriated for use within the stream and is not withdrawn from a surface water source
IWMPP	Interrelated Water Management Plan Program
LB 962	Bill passed by Nebraska Legislature in 2004. The amendment establishes a proactive approach to the integrated management of hydrologically connected groundwater and surface water and creates funds to direct money towards data gathering, research, conservation and implementation of integrated management plans in fully and overappropriated basins.
LB 1098	Passed in 2014, altered and created water sustainability funding opportunities
Moratorium	A legally authorized suspension of drilling of groundwater wells or approval of new surface water appropriations
NET	Nebraska Environmental Trust
NNDP	Nebraska New Depletion Plan
NSWCP	Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Program (alternatively NSWCF - Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Funds)
OAI	Ogallala Aquifer Initiative
Offset	A reduction in water use that corresponds with an increased use of water. An offset may be used as a management strategy to balance uses and supplies. The offset will have a corresponding amount, time, and location. Also referred to as mitigation.

Overappropriated	From 46-713, subsection (4a): A river basin, subbasin, or reach shall be deemed overappropriated if, on July 16, 2004, the river basin, subbasin, or reach is subject to an interstate cooperative agreement among three or more states and if, prior to such date, the NeDNR has declared a moratorium on the issuance of new surface water appropriations in such river basin, subbasin, or reach and has requested each natural resources district with jurisdiction in the affected area in such river basin, subbasin, or reach either (i) to close or to continue in effect a previously adopted closure of all or part of such river basin, subbasin, or reach to the issuance of additional water well permits in accordance with subdivision (1)(k) of section 46 -656.25 as such section existed prior to July 16, 2004, or (ii) to temporarily suspend or to continue in effect a temporary suspension, previously adopted pursuant to section 46-656.28 as such section existed prior to July 16, 2004, on the drilling of new water wells in all or part of such river basin, subbasin, or reach.
PBC	Platte Basin Coalition
PBHEP	Platte Basin Habitat Enhancement Program
PRRIP	Platte River Recovery Implementation Program
PRRIP Critical Habitat Reach	The reach of the Platte River from Lexington, NE, to Chapman, NE, which is of critical importance to the endangered target species
Recharge	A hydrologic process where water moves downward from surface water to groundwater, both naturally through the hydrologic cycle or through intentional practices
Replacement Well	A groundwater well drilled to replace an existing groundwater well which has become unusable. The replaced well must be decommissioned. No increase in irrigated acres is associated with a replacement well unless a variance is granted.
RCPP	Regional Conservation Partnership Program
Streamflow	The discharge that occurs in a natural channel of a surface stream course
Supplemental Well	A groundwater well drilled to either supplement an existing groundwater well or to augment surface water irrigation when surface water is not available. No increase in irrigated acres is associated with a supplemental well unless a variance is granted.
Surface Water	Water which occurs or moves on the surface of the planet such as in a stream, river, lake, wetland, or ocean
Telemetry	A process by which measurements and other data are collected at remote or inaccessible points and transmitted to receiving equipment for monitoring
Temporary Recharge	A temporary (for one year) surface water permit issued for the purpose of diverting excess streamflow (unappropriated water) to recharge groundwater, intended to supply baseflow accretions back to the river
Transfer	To allow for the historic consumptive use of water to be changed, in location and/or purpose without causing an increase in depletions to the river or an impact to existing surface water or groundwater uses

USDA – NRCS	U.S. Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service
Use	The legally accepted use of the well or water appropriation
Variance	To allow an exception to the stay on new irrigated acres and new consumptive uses while providing adequate mitigations or transfers to assure that there is no net increase in depletions to the river or impacts to existing surface water or groundwater uses; any request that is contrary to existing rules or regulations will require a variance
WWUMM	Western Water Use Model and Western Water Use Management Model

Sources:

USGS

Writing Standards

UNL

NRCS

NeDNR

- Upper Platte Annual IMP Report
- 2011 Presentation