



TO: PRRIP WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FROM: PRRIP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
SUBJECT: AUGUST 2020 WAP LEASING AND RECHARGE PROJECT UPDATES
DATE: JULY 30, 2020

This document provides a summary of recent activities related to Program water leasing and recharge projects. Unless otherwise specified, reports are based on invoices, data files, or other information provided by the districts.

CPNRD Groundwater Recharge and Surface Water Lease Projects

Thirty Mile, Cozad, and Orchard-Alfalfa canals

- **Groundwater Recharge**
 - Thirty Mile Canal¹ net recharge between April 17 and May 12 totaled 2,475 AF.
 - Orchard-Alfalfa² net recharge between April 22 and May 12 totaled 475 AF.
 - Cozad did not divert excess flows for recharge in the spring.
 - Net recharge (measured diversions minus measured surface returns/spills) to be billed at \$32.87/AF in 2020.
 - Score analysis for the CPNRD recharge project is ongoing.
- **Surface Water Lease**
 - In June, the GC approved a surface water leasing agreement for up to 15,000 AF to be credited to the Lake McConaughy EA in October 2020 at \$90/AF.

NPPD Groundwater Recharge and Surface Water Lease Projects

Gothenburg and Dawson County canals

- **Groundwater Recharge**
 - Gothenburg did not make spring recharge diversions for PRRIP.
 - Dawson County³ net recharge between April 5 and April 22 totaled 1,833 AF and was billed at \$32.87/AF.
 - Score analysis for the NPPD recharge project is ongoing.
- **Surface Water Lease**
 - In June, the GC approved a surface water leasing agreement for up to 3,306 AF to be credited to the Lake McConaughy EA in October 2020 at \$90/AF.

CNPPID Groundwater Recharge and Irrigator Lease

Phelps County Canal, Elwood Reservoir, and Cottonwood Ranch

- **Groundwater Recharge**
 - Phelps: No additional recharge diversions since ending on April 14.
 - Elwood: Studying seepage issues, no new information on recharge opportunities at this point.

¹ Thirty Mile Canal: <https://nednr.nebraska.gov/realtime/Stations/Details/00141000>

² Orchard-Alfalfa Canal: <https://nednr.nebraska.gov/realtime/Stations/Details/00117000>

³ Dawson County Canal: <https://nednr.nebraska.gov/realtime/Stations/Details/00037000>



Pathfinder Reservoir

- In a letter dated May 20, the Program and USFWS EA Manager accepted the full amount of 9,600 AF available for 2020. The Program pays \$65/AF for this water. The base release of 4,800 AF was effectively pre-paid in 2019, with the balance of \$312,000 paid in 2020.