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*Natural Resources District*

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## NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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### **Tri-Basin, Little Blue NRDs to Work Together to Manage Groundwater**

At their October board meeting, Tri-Basin Natural Resources District's (NRD) directors approved a joint groundwater management plan developed by Tri-Basin and Little Blue NRDs for the Little Blue Basin. The plan identifies issues with groundwater and surface water quality and quantity in the Little Blue Basin and develops strategies for addressing these concerns. It also prioritizes needs in the basin and lays the groundwork for developing an Integrated Management Plan (IMP) for the Little Blue Basin in the near future. By working with Little Blue NRD to manage groundwater, Tri-Basin NRD's directors hope to focus on maintaining the basin's groundwater supply indefinitely, as opposed to simply reducing groundwater declines.

Directors also decided to apply for funds from the Natural Resources Commission's newly established Water Sustainability Fund. The district's proposals for projects to build a groundwater recharge reservoir on Sand Creek and to divert excess flows of the Platte River to the Republican Basin will be submitted to the commission for consideration. Both projects are designed to help the district maintain adequate groundwater supplies for future generations.

Tri-Basin NRD's board also:

- Approved one groundwater transfer and one request to adjust certified irrigated acres.
- Approved one application for well decommissioning cost-share funds totaling \$500 and nine applications for Tri-Basin NRD and NSCWP cost-share funds totaling \$13,245.86.

Tri-Basin NRD's next Board of Directors meeting will be Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at Tri-Basin NRD, 1723 Burlington in Holdrege, Nebraska.

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