

SOUTH PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
**PIPELINE**  
NEWSLETTER

# SPNRD BOARD SETS ALLOCATIONS FOR THE 2025 - 2027 ALLOCATION PERIOD

As you may recall, county wide advisory meetings were held in Sidney, Chappell, and Kimball to discuss the proposed amendments to the Districtwide Ground Water Management Area (GWMA) Rules and Regulations. The amendments were also a main topic at the February, March, and April 2024 SPNRD Board Meetings; additionally, a public hearing was held on May 13, 2024. The purpose of the meetings was to provide an opportunity for the public to present testimony or other relevant evidence.

The District received official testimony in support of the proposed changes from the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. After considering all testimony and evidence, the District approved and adopted the

Amended and Restated GWMA Rules and Regulations. The effective date was June 14, 2024. There were no changes to the allocations from the current period.

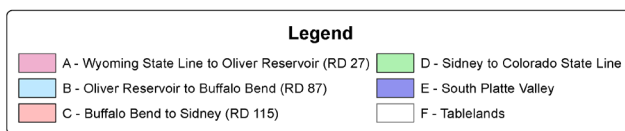
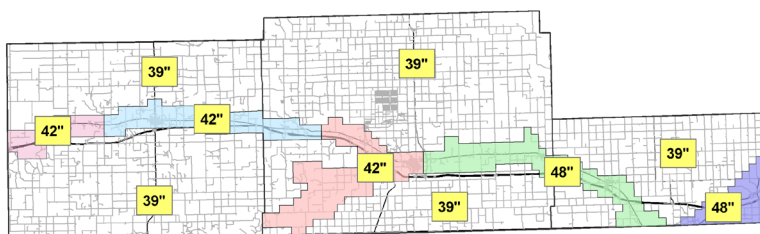
Allocations are of great importance to producers. The color-coded map shows allocations which commence in 2025 for all subareas. The Board sets allocations approximately one (1) year in advance of each new allocation period.

Additionally, carry-forward of up to ten (10) Acre-Inches is allowed following the three (3) year Allocation Period in Subareas A, B, C, D, E, and F. The cap on the amount of carry-forward that may be accumulated over multiple Allocation Periods and used in subsequent Allocation Periods is ten (10) Acre-Inches.

For the full GWMA Rules and Regulations, Board Meeting Agenda and Minutes visit [spnrd.org](http://spnrd.org) or the SPNRD office. Questions should be directed to Ryan Reisdorff or Galen Wittrock, both can be reached at (308) 254-2377.

## South Platte Natural Resources District

Allocation Subareas & Allocations (Acre-inches) for the 2025 through 2027 Allocation Period



## BOARD MEETINGS

Board of Director Meetings are hosted the second Tuesday of every month at the South Platte NRD office located at 551 Parkland Drive, Sidney, NE.

## BOARD MEETING DATES

- August 13, 2024
- September 10, 2024
- October 8, 2024

# COST SHARE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

## WATER WELL ABANDONMENT PROGRAM

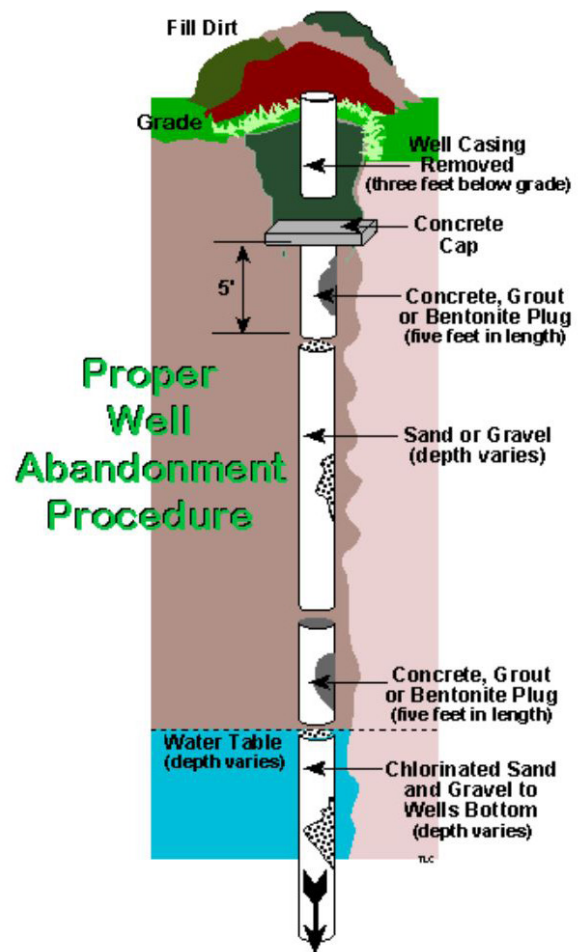
Unused or abandoned water wells can be a direct pathway to ground water where harmful sediments, bacteria, chemicals, waste, or rodents can cause contamination. Additionally, they can pose a safety hazard for humans and animals.

Because of this potential threat to ground water supplies, the Water Well Decommissioning Fund was established by the 1994 Nebraska Legislature and is administered by the Department of Natural Resources. Nebraska state law requires that water wells that are no longer used be properly decommissioned (plugged and sealed) by a licensed water well contractor according to rules and regulations of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

The SPNRD Water Well Abandonment Program provides cost share assistance to help encourage the proper decommissioning of water wells that are no longer needed or used. All categories of water wells are eligible. Cost share assistance of 65% of the actual costs for labor and material to decommission is available for District landowners. The maximum contribution by the District is \$600.00 for drilled water wells, and \$700.00 for hand-dug water wells. A landowner is eligible to receive funding assistance for three abandoned wells annually.

Applications will be accepted and approved anytime throughout the year, and are on a “first come, first served” basis and will continue until budget funds are expended.

The SPNRD Water Well Abandonment Program, Application, and Agreement are available on our website: [sfnrd.org/programs](http://sfnrd.org/programs). Select the Well Abandonment button. Contact Chris Kaiser, Natural Resources Conservationist, [ckaiser@sfnrd.org](mailto:ckaiser@sfnrd.org) or 308-254-2377 for further assistance.



## SUBDISTRICT 4 VACANCY FILLED



David Kucera  
Subdistrict 4

The SPNRD Board of Directors appointed David Kucera during the May 14, 2024 meeting. His appointment begins immediately and ends January 9, 2025. Kucera may file for re-election on the general election ballot for the SPNRD Board of Directors Subdistrict 4 for the remainder of the unexpired term, 2025-2026. Subdistrict 4 boundaries include southwest Cheyenne County and western portions of the City of Sidney.

Kucera is Regional Manager for Settje Agri Services and Engineering, Inc., and co-owner of TOP Concrete LLC. While serving as regional manager for nearly seven years, he has also developed a working relationship with the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy.

Born and raised in Brainard, NE in Butler County, he grew up in the country on the farm, assisting area farmers with row crop farming and raising a cattle herd with his brother. David graduated from Southeast Community College-Milford with an associate degree in Building Construction and transferred to University of Nebraska-Kearney into Construction Management. Prior to Settje Agri Service and Engineering, Inc., David was employed by Cabela's, Inc. as an assistant category manger in the Hunting Apparel Department. He was employed with Cabela's, Inc. for 15 years.



# EDUCATION UPDATES



## \$500 SPNRD CONSERVATION SCHOLARSHIP

Kimball high school graduate Braylon Miller is the recipient of this year's scholarship program. He will receive \$500 toward his college education. Miller will attend Western Nebraska Community College and continue his education at Chadron State College pursuing a major in wildlife management/wildlife biology.

Miller is an animal lover and outdoor enthusiast and is eager to pursue a career in wildlife conservation. He is the son of Chad and Julia Miller of Kimball.

Our scholarship program is designed to recognize achievements and encourage students who have an interest in Natural Resources, Environmental or Agricultural studies. Each year, the SPNRD awards one \$500 scholarship to an outstanding high school senior based on academic performance and personal statement. Applicants must be a resident of Kimball, Cheyenne, or Deuel counties and attend college in the State of Nebraska.

Thank you to everyone who applied, we have so many outstanding students in our District. Congratulations and best wishes to Braylon Miller, this year's scholarship recipient, and to the Class of 2024!

**NATURAL RESOURCES DAY** was held on May 6th at the Lodgepole Valley Youth Camp in Sidney. In spite of the breezy day, approximately 135 students from Creek Valley, Leyton, Sidney, and South Platte Public Schools participated in this year's event.

Natural Resources Day is an opportunity for students to learn more about our valuable natural resources through numerous engaging activities. We teamed up with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, Conservation and Survey Division, Pheasants Forever, North Platte NRD, Nebraska Game and Parks, and Bird Conservancy of the Rockies. These agency experts were excited to share their knowledge with us in an interactive and hands-on outdoor environment.

This annual event is sponsored by ESU 13 and South Platte NRD. Fourth grade students in Kimball, Cheyenne and Deuel counties are invited to attend.



**OUTDOOR CLASSROOM**, organized by Hilary Cook, NRCS Soil Conservation Technician, was held on May 7th at Oliver Reservoir in Kimball. The South Platte NRD, Nebraska Game and Parks, Bird Conservancy of the Rockies, and Kimball Recycle Center met with 35 students from Kimball Public Schools for a day of fun! The sixth grade students learned about the aquifer and ground water movement. They participated in planting trees, bird watching, cleanup efforts, grassland management, and enjoyed a mammal lesson with skulls, pelts, and replica tracks. This event was sponsored by Natural Resources Conservation Service and South Platte NRD.

## SIDNEY WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

FRIDAY | AUGUST 2, 2024 | 8:30 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

ELKS LODGE | 1040 JACKSON ST. | SIDNEY, NE

REGISTER ONLINE: [GO.UNL.EDU/SIDNEY](https://go.unl.edu/sidney) | \$35 IF REGISTERED BY JULY 22

(\$45 AFTER JULY 22—WALK-INS WELCOME)

\*Registration forms are also available at the SPNRD Office, 551 Parkland Dr., Sidney\*

THIS PROGRAM IS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NEBRASKA WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE PROGRAM





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# PIPELINE

NEWSLETTER

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