

WSF 2023 Final Report # 5244

PROJECT: Lower Loup NRD Drought Management Plan –
WSF Application # 5244 (awarded December 18, 2019)

DATE: MARCH 27, 2023

See Application 5244 Section D #2 For Project Tasks Summary and Timeline

PROJECT PROGRESS APRIL 2022 TO PROJECT END:

The final draft of the Lower Loup NRD (LLNRD) Drought management Plan was completed and accepted by the LLNRD Board of Directors at their November 2022 meeting. The development of this document took several years to complete and included input from a wide array of stakeholders, including state agencies such as Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, Department of Environment and Energy, and Game and Parks Commission. A copy of the final plan has been made available on the LLNRD website under the “Forms, Rules, and Plans – Regulations and Plans” tab.

A copy of the Drought Management Plan was also provided to the Lower Platte River Basin Coalition, which includes NEDNR, as part of the objectives of the recently amended Goal 2: “Evaluate impacts of new development during drought conditions.” The Lower Platte River Basin Coalition – Technical Committee was able to review the specific management recommendations and drought monitoring that are included in the plan.

A copy of the complete plan is included with this report.

ANTICIPATED ACTIVITIES FROM NOW UNTIL NEXT ANNUAL REPORT:

N/A, this report serves as the final report for the Lower Loup NRD Drought Management Plan – WSF Application # 5244 (awarded December 2019).

ANTICIPATED CASH FLOW FOR REMAINDER OF THE PROJECT:

\$0 – A final reimbursement was submitted to on March 24, 2023, the LLNRD and Water Sustainability Fund (WSF) met their funding obligations towards this project (\$52,260 from the WSF, \$87,100 total project costs) under grant award # 5244.

LIKELIHOOD THAT BENEFITS PROJECTED IN APPLICATION 5244 WILL BE REALIZED:

With the approval of the Drought Management Plan, the Lower Loup NRD will continue its dedication for management and research of ground and surface water quantity. The monitoring portion of the plan provides a good framework that will be incorporated into the ongoing field work by the Lower Loup NRD. The Board will consider each of the management actions when drought impacts water availability across the District.

Drought monitoring and water quantity management will continue to be a topic of discussion by the Lower Loup NRD if its effects are being observed by the water users within the lower Loup River basin.