

Assistant Manager's Report

August 12, 2025

The last week of July, my wife and I took a trip to Idaho to spend a week in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness rafting and kayaking the Middle Fork of the Salmon River to celebrate our 20th wedding anniversary. That's a mouthful to say, but to be honest I was left speechless after the float trip. If you have any appetite for adventure, I would find it difficult to believe you wouldn't enjoy it as well. A guided trip is probably the best method for securing a spot on the river – which typically requires an application into a lottery for access. Not only do the guides get you safely down the 100 miles of wilderness river, but they prepare each meal, set camp, and provide evening entertainment as well. We're already talking about returning in a couple years to do it all over again!

It was also interesting to travel the Snake River Plain in Idaho between Twin Falls and Pocatello. Pivots were irrigating corn and potatoes, straw was being cut and bailed, and the mountains were not far off in the background which made for a beautiful sight, but I still enjoy the Nebraska sunset the most.

Closer to home, summer work is going well. Water sampling is ongoing and seems to be on track to collect a good majority of samples this summer, thanks to our interns Kendra and Ashley for all their help! Jane, our seasonal chemigation inspector, had an incredibly busy summer. We were fortunate she was able to begin inspections at 7:00 a.m. and work past 5:00, otherwise we would have been in a real pickle with so many inspections this season! We still have plenty of reinspections to complete, Jeff and Pat will be busy for a while, but thankfully Jane was a trooper all summer and left them in a good place!

Tammy and Dana spent several days examining supplemental to surface water wells which were drilled post-2004. Directors asked if this data was available during the July board meeting. While the data is available, it wasn't readily compiled for quick examination. Thanks to Tammy and Dana's painstaking effort, I will have that data available for the August board meeting for directors to review.

We will hold a retirement party for Lori Hagan on August 19th. Lori and I have spent many hours at the lunch table talking about our families, travels, and our various amateur construction antics after each weekend. Her cheerful attitude and 'can do' work ethic has been greatly appreciated over the years. I know she is excited about retirement and finding more of her own adventures. Best wishes with retirement, Lori!

Don't forget our August board meeting will be held in Kearney at the Younes Conference Center SOUTH at 10:30 a.m. on August 20. Our NRD Board Work Session will begin at 1:00 p.m. at the same location. I look forward to the discussion!