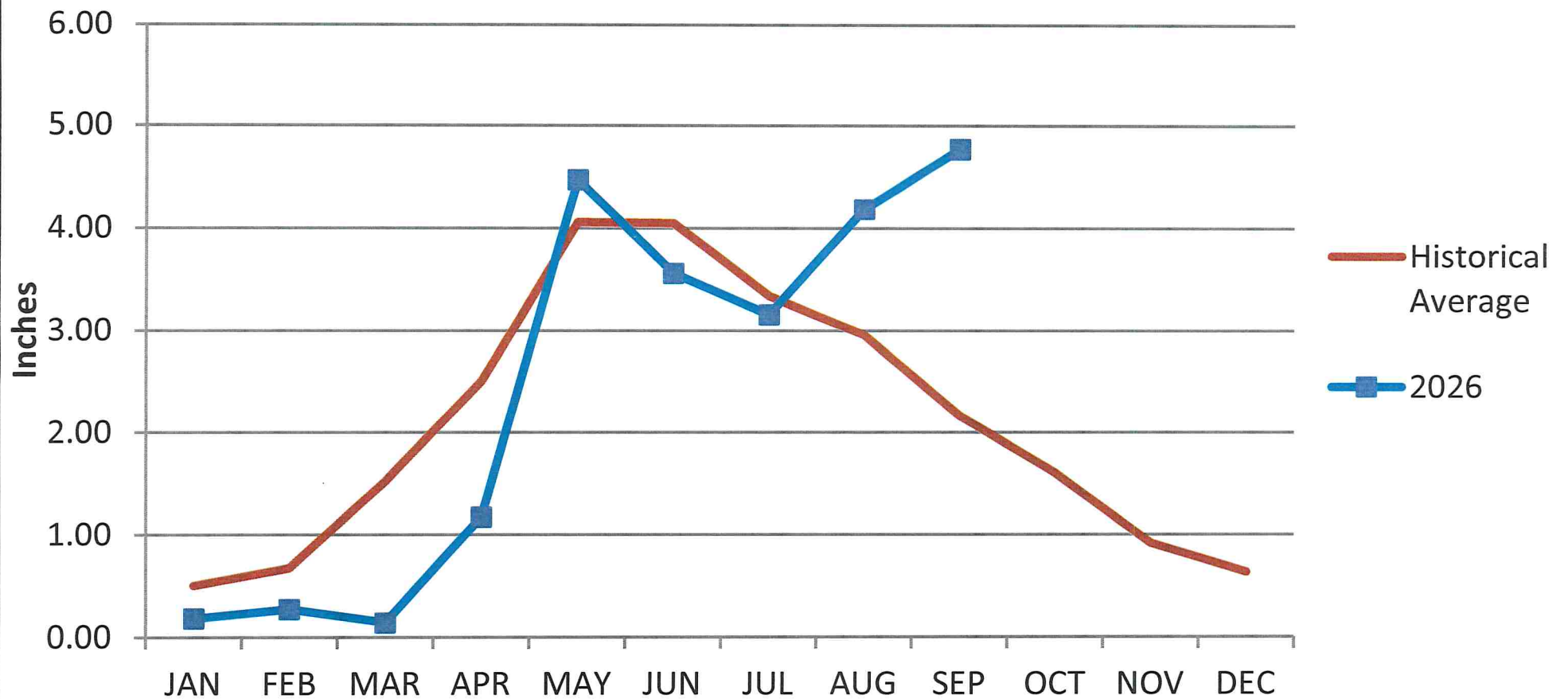


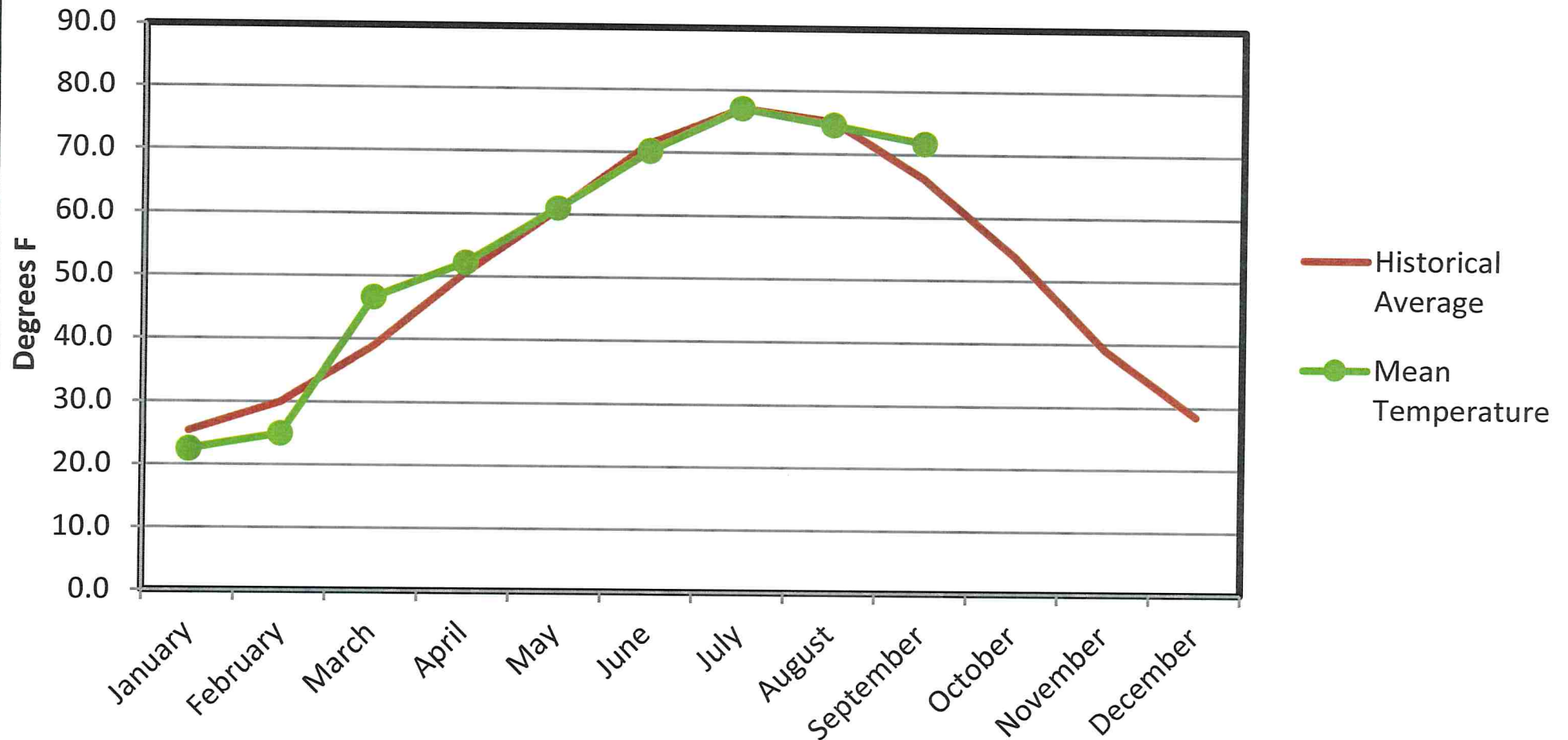
Tri-Basin NRD

Holdrege Monthly Precipitation - 2026



Tri-Basin NRD

Holdrege Monthly Mean Temperature - 2026



Tri-Basin NRD

1723 Burlington

Holdrege NF 68949



Phone: (308) 995-6688

Fax:

(308) 995-6992

Email:

tribasin@tribasininrd.org

Natural Resources District

September 2026 - Holdrege

Temperature: (°F)

* High: 97° (Recorded September 3 & 4)

* Low: 53° (Recorded September 13)

* Mean: 71.7° (Normal for September 66.5°)

Mean High: 83.2° (Normal: 80.2°)

Mean Low: 61.2° (Normal: 52.6°)

NOTES:

Precipitation for September 2026: 4.77"

(Normal for September: 2.24")

Precipitation for the year through September: 22.09"

(Normal for the year through September: 21.09")

NOTES: Fog noted 2 days
Rain noted 10 days
Trace noted 1 day
Hail noted 1 day

September 2025

Temperature:

High: 96°

Low: 42°

Mean: 66.8°

Precipitation:

For the month: 3.56"

For the year: 20.12"

[illegible]

Fourth Quarter 2026 Grand Island Stream Gauge Data

	Oct Act	Oct Tar	Well Run	Nov Act	Nov Tar	Well Run	Dec Act	Dec Tar	Well Run
1	3.75	1300			1300			1000	
2	3.79	1300			1300			1000	
3	3.69	1300			1300			1000	
4	3.65	1300			1300			1000	
5	3.59	1300			1300			1000	
6	3.64	1300			1300			1000	
7	446	1300			1300			1000	
8	319	1300			1300			1000	
9	345	1300			1300			1000	
10	218	1300			1300			1000	
11	209	1300			1300			1000	
12	181	1300			1300			1000	
13	141	1300			1300			1000	
14	173	1300			1300			1000	
15	242	1300			1300			1000	
16	349	1300			600			1000	
17	349	1300			600			1000	
18	349	1300			600			1000	
19	551	1300			600			1000	
20	466	1300			600			1000	
21		1300			600			1000	
22		1300			600			1000	
23		1300			600			1000	
24		1300			600			1000	
25		1300			600			1000	
26		1300			600			1000	
27		1300			600			1000	
28		1300			600			1000	
29		1300			600			1000	
30		1300			600			1000	
31		1300			600			1000	

Fourth Quarter 2026 Overtaon Stream Gauge Data

		Oct Tar	Well Rur	Nov Act	Nov Tar	Well Rur	Dec Act	Dec Tar	Well Run
1	1490	1300			1300			1000	
2	203	1300			1300			1000	
3	188	1300			1300			1000	
4	417	1300			1300			1000	
5	164	1300			1300			1000	
6	M	1300			1300			1000	
7	M	1300			1300			1000	
8	148	1300			1300			1000	
9	115	1300			1300			1000	
10	142	1300			1300			1000	
11	1290	1300			1300			1000	
12	152	1300			1300			1000	
13	120	1300			1300			1000	
14	353	1300			1300			1000	
15	310	1300			1300			1000	
16	410	1300			600			1000	
17	1760	1300			600			1000	
18	161	1300			600			1000	
19	167	1300			600			1000	
20	142	1300			600			1000	
21		1300			600			1000	
22		1300			600			1000	
23		1300			600			1000	
24		1300			600			1000	
25		1300			600			1000	
26		1300			600			1000	
27		1300			600			1000	
28		1300			600			1000	
29		1300			600			1000	
30		1300			600			1000	
31		1300						1000	



Natural Resources District

1723 Burlington
Holdrege, NE 68949
308. 995.6688
FAX 308.995.6992
tribasin@tribasinrdr.org

General Manager
JOHN THORBURN

August 28, 2026

Chairman
TODD GARRELTS
Holdrege, Nebraska

Vice Chairman
JOE BILKA
Holdrege, Nebraska

Treasurer
JEFF RYAN
Heartwell, Nebraska

Secretary
ROB HINRICHS
Axtell, Nebraska

BRIAN BERGSTROM
Axtell, Nebraska

JOEL GRAMS
Minden, Nebraska

DAVID GRIMES
Minden, Nebraska

ED HARRIS
Loomis, Nebraska

JOE LARSON
Loomis, Nebraska

BRAD LUNDEEN
Wilcox, Nebraska

G. REED PHILIPS
Bertrand, Nebraska

LARRY REYNOLDS
Lexington, Nebraska

ANDREW STADE
Minden, Nebraska

Mr. Robert Lawson, NE State Conservationist
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
1121 Lincoln Mall Room 360, Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Rob:

Tri-Basin Natural Resources District hereby requests financial assistance through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954 (Public Law 83-566) to develop a watershed plan for the North Dry Creek Watershed in Phelps and Kearney Counties, Nebraska, to address flooding, erosion, and sedimentation. NRCS completed a Preliminary Investigation Findings Report for the watershed in 2023 and found that the watershed met the statutory requirements of the program and would be eligible for financial assistance for watershed planning. Tri-Basin NRD would prefer to enter into a locally-led agreement with NRCS and hire a consulting firm to complete the watershed plan. Feel free to contact me if you need additional information. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

John Thorburn

Manager

CC: TBNRD Directors



Natural Resources District

1723 Burlington
Holdrege, NE 68949
308.995.6688
FAX 308.995.6992
tribasin@tribasinncrd.org

General Manager
JOHN THORBURN

Memo

Chairman
TODD GARRETS
Holdrege, Nebraska

To: Mr. Brian Kissinger, Ft. Kearny Feeders

Vice Chairman
JOE BILKA
Holdrege, Nebraska

From: John Thorburn 
CC: TBNRD Directors

Treasurer
JEFF RYAN
Heartwell, Nebraska

Date: 10/2/2026

Re: Regulatory requirements for wells that pump 50 gallons per minute or less

Secretary
ROB HINRICHS
Axtell, Nebraska

BRIAN BERGSTROM
Axtell, Nebraska

JOEL GRAMS
Minden, Nebraska

DAVID GRIMES
Minden, Nebraska

ED HARRIS
Loomis, Nebraska

JOE LARSON
Loomis, Nebraska

BRAD LUNDEEN
Wilcox, Nebraska

G. REED PHILIPS
Bertrand, Nebraska

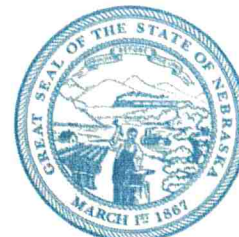
LARRY REYNOLDS
Lexington, Nebraska

ANDREW STADE
Minden, Nebraska

In response to your inquiry regarding permitting of wells, I would direct you to Rule 8.3 in the TBNRD Rules and Regulations to Protect Soil and Water Resources. Rule 8.3 A. states: "8.3. *Phase I Rules and Regulations- The following regulations shall apply to all Landowners in a Phase I Quantity GMA:*

- A. Landowners must obtain Well construction Permits from Tri-Basin NRD before drilling new Wells, Conditional Replacement Wells, Alternate Use Wells, interconnected series of Wells or Replacement Wells which have a capacity greater than 50 gallons per minute (g.p.m.) Landowners shall specify the intended pumping capacity of new Wells when they apply for a Well construction Permit. The NRD Board of Directors may determine that it is necessary to place additional conditions and constraints on the operation of Wells Permitted by the District. (Underline added).

I would note that the rule states that wells that pump 50 gallons per minute (gpm) or less must be permitted if they are interconnected. Wells that pump 50 gpm or less must also conform to well spacing requirements in NRD rules and state law. Specifically, commercial and industrial wells must be at least 1000 feet away from wells owned by other landowners. All wells are also subject to state-mandated well construction standards. Finally, even though wells that pump 50 gpm or less don't require a permit from the NRD, they must be registered with the Nebraska Department of Water, Energy and Environment. Feel free to call or email me if you have questions, or if you need additional information.



Jim Pillen, Governor

September 9, 2026

John H. Wubbenhorst
KCC Feeding, Inc. - Main Yard
PO Box 174
Minden, NE 68959

RE: KCC Feeding, Inc. - Main Yard Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation
Facility ID: 72493
Program ID: NPDES GENERAL PERMIT
Subject: **NPDES General Permit for CAFOs**
Permit Coverage Application No. NEG022020
NW 1/4, Section 04 and NW 1/4, SE 1/4, Section 05, Township 05N, Range 13W, Kearney County
Consultant: Settje Agri-Services & Engineering, Inc.

Dear Mr. Wubbenhorst:

The Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (Department) hereby issues coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) (NEG022000) to your operation. This General Permit becomes effective April 1, 2027 and will expire on March 31, 2032. It may be modified or reissued to reflect regulatory changes.

Coverage under this NPDES General Permit is for the number of livestock waste control facilities (LWCF) and the number of livestock listed below:

Type of LWCF	No. Each Type
Holding Ponds	3
Debris Basins	11
Wet Basin	1
Diversion Ditch	1

Species	Number of Head
Feeder Cattle	15,000

Open Lot Area: 83.3 acres
Total Drainage Area: 129.0 acres

Your CAFO shall be operated and maintained according to the approved application, this NPDES General Permit, the site-specific permit terms in Attachment 1 to this letter and the requirements in Title 130, *Livestock Waste Control Regulations*. Please review this permit carefully as you are responsible for your operation's compliance with all permit requirements. Copies of the General Permit and of your Request for Coverage are enclosed for your records. A copy of both documents must be kept on-site at your operation.



U.S. Department of Homeland Security
FEMA Region 7
11224 Holmes Road
Kansas City, MO 64131

FEMA

September 25, 2026

Ervin Portis
Assistant Director
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
Attn: Hazard Mitigation
2433 Northwest 24th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68524-1801

Subject: FEMA-4838-DR-NE
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Approval - 7% Planning
Subrecipient: Tri-Basin Natural Resources District
Project: 0002
Tri-Basin Natural Resources District HMP Update

Assistant Director Portis:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 7 has granted approval of your subapplication submitted on April 20, 2026, by Tri-Basin Natural Resources District for the Tri-Basin Natural Resources District HMP Update project. FEMA will release funds to the state in the amount of \$42,500.00. The non-federal match requirement of \$42,500.00 will be provided through local funding.

The milestones included in the application indicate that the time to complete this subaward will be 32 months from the date of this letter. Any delays or extensions regarding this timeframe must be reported to FEMA. The period of performance for the grant ends on April 21, 2030. It is the responsibility of the recipient and subrecipient to ensure all approved activities associated with this subaward are completed by the end of the period of performance. Any costs incurred that were not identified as pre-award prior to the date of this approval or any costs incurred after the period of performance will be disallowed.

This review does not address all federal, state, and local requirements. Acceptance of federal funding requires recipients to comply with all federal, state, and local laws.

Environmental Historic Preservation (EHP) Requirements/Conditions

A change to the approved scope of work (SOW) requires prior approval from FEMA. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) stipulates that additions or amendments to a HMGP subrecipient SOW shall be reviewed by all state and federal agencies participating in the NEPA process. NEPA sign off for all SOW additions or amendments is essential before the revised SOW can be approved by FEMA or implemented by the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program subrecipient.

Assistant Director Portis
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Approval
FEMA-4838-DR-NE

Page 2

This review does not address all federal, state, and local requirements. Acceptance of federal funding requires recipients to comply with all federal, state, and local laws. Failure to obtain all appropriate federal, state, and local environmental permits and clearances may impact federal funding.

Subrecipient Management Costs:

HMGP Subrecipient Management Costs (SRMC) funds for DR-4838-NE Project #0002 Tri-Basin Natural Resources District HMP Update have also been approved. Federal funds will be released to the state in the amount of \$4,250.00 (100% Federal funds).

Federal funding of SRMC is based on actual documented management costs incurred, up to 5% of the total amount of the HMGP award. Recipients and subrecipients are required to maintain appropriate documentation to support expenses. All costs must be reasonable, allowable, allocable, and necessary as required by 2 C.F.R. Part 200 Subpart E, applicable program regulations, and the HMA Guidance (2023).

Quarterly progress reports for both HMGP projects and SRMC grants are required; please include this HMGP project and SRMC grant in your future quarterly reports.

If you should have any questions concerning this action, please contact Brian Woltz, Hazard Mitigation Assistance Branch Chief, at (816) 808-3664 or Brian.Woltz@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

**LAURIE L
BESTGEN**

Laurie L. Bestgen, Director
Mitigation Division

Digitally signed by
LAURIE L BESTGEN
Date: 2026.09.25
13:26:22 -05'00'



Dear Tri Basin NRD,

At Turner Technology, we take our role as your trusted Technology Partner seriously. We are continually working to improve our services and processes to better support your business.

As part of this ongoing effort, we are writing to inform you of the upcoming changes:

Hourly rate increase: We have an hourly rate increase to announce for work that is done on a time and materials basis to be effective on work starting November 1, 2026.

Your hourly rate will increase to \$160

We truly appreciate your continued partnership and look forward to serving you with the same dedication and excellence.

Best regards.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary Bren".

Gary Bren
Managing Partner/CEO
Turner Technology



September 29, 2026

Dear Natural Resource District and Natural Resources Conservation Service Partners:

Dawson Public Power District has issued Procedure 733, Controlled / Prescribed Burn, effective August 4, 2026. We are sharing the procedure with you because your staff may work with landowners, burn associations, fire departments, and conservation partners who plan or assist with prescribed burns within Dawson PPD's service territory.

The purpose of Procedure 733 is to promote early communication and coordination when a controlled or prescribed burn may occur near Dawson PPD electric facilities. Advance notice allows Dawson PPD to review the burn area, identify utility infrastructure that may be affected, and discuss appropriate precautions with the landowner or burn coordinator.

Please review the full procedure with staff and partners involved in prescribed burn planning, landowner outreach, or related conservation work. Early coordination with Dawson PPD will help ensure that potential risks to electric facilities are identified before ignition and that appropriate precautions can be discussed in advance.

For questions or to notify Dawson PPD of a planned prescribed or controlled burn, please contact me at 308-324-2386 or dkunkee@dawsonpower.com.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for helping promote safe, coordinated prescribed burn practices throughout central Nebraska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dean Kunkee".

Dean Kunkee, CLCP
Safety Director
Dawson Public Power District



Approved by Board: 8/4/2026

Effective: 8/4/2026

PROCEDURE 733

CONTROLLED / PRESCRIBED BURN

Prescribed or controlled burns are an important land management tool; however, caution must be used to protect Dawson PPD infrastructure for the safety of the burn team, landowner, the public and Dawson PPD employees. Dawson PPD requires the following:

- Dawson PPD should be notified of a prescribed burn by the landowner or burn group during the planning stage of the burn. A Dawson PPD representative will meet with the landowner or burn coordinator within five (5) business days of initial notification to survey the burn area and utility infrastructure.
- Prior to the burn, the site should be prepared to mitigate damage to utility infrastructure.
 - Grass around each pole should be mowed or pre-burned to a minimum 60-inch radius.
 - Trees should be cleared from under powerlines 50 feet on either side of centerline in accordance with Dawson PPD's right of way. Trees within 10 feet of the power line will be trimmed or removed by Dawson PPD.
 - Large slash piles should be piled at least 100 feet away from powerlines. Slash piles less than 5 feet in height can be piled at least 50 feet away.
- Dawson PPD requests notification the day of the burn prior to ignition. When possible, Dawson PPD will de-energize and ground the involved power lines prior to burn ignition. If Dawson PPD deems it necessary, a crew will be available to observe and assist helping prevent or minimize damage to powerlines in the burn unit.
- The burn crew should inspect utility poles for signs of smoldering at ground level or within power poles. In the days following the burn, Dawson PPD will perform a general inspection of all overhead powerlines in the burn unit to ensure the integrity of the lines.

This policy does not release the burn group or landowner from liability for damaged infrastructure.

Date adopted: 8/4/2026

Last reviewed:

Amendment date:

Effective date: 8/4/2026

Approved by: Board 8/2026; then Leadership Team

NRD ONE RED Training Schedule Table

These training courses will be approximately 6 hours.

General Agenda:

- The morning session would be the educational session. For this session other educational partners will be invited.
 - ONE RED Overview
 - Why the Program Matters
 - Eligibility Requirements
 - Incentive Opportunities
 - Approved Practices
 - Participating ASPs by Geography
 - Referral Procedures
 - Questions and Resources
- We would break for lunch and then have the next session.
- The afternoon session would be the technical session. For this session PCM will be invited.
 - ASP Responsibilities
 - Ag Data Bank Producer Enrollment Process
 - Producer Data Requirements
 - Data Integration
 - Submitting ASP Contract Reimbursements
 - Questions

It is my intention that these training courses are the same and people do not need to attend all of them.

If you have a laptop or tablet, please bring them. I will bring a few laptops to work on.

Training Number	Training Location Name	Location Address	Dates	Education Training Time	ASP Training Time
1	Nemaha NRD	62161 Hwy 136 Tecumseh, NE 68450	Thursday October 15th	1100-1330	1400-1630
2	North Platte NRD	100547 Airport Road P.O. Box 280 Scottsbluff, NE 69363-0280	Monday October 19th	1100-1330	1400-1630
3	Central Platte NRD	215 Kaufman Avenue Grand Island, NE 68803	Tuesday October 20th	0730-0930	1400-1700
4	Lower Elkhorn NRD	1508 Square Turn Boulevard Norfolk, NE 68701	Wednesday October 21st	0800-0930	1400-1430

5	Lower Platte North NRD	1616 County Road 17 Wahoo, NE 68066	Thursday October 22nd	0900-1130	1200-1530
6	Papio-Missouri River NRD	8901 S. 154th St. Omaha, NE 68138-3621	Friday October 23rd	0900-1130	1200-1530
7	Fillmore County Extension Office	1340 G St. Geneva, NE 68361	Wednesday October 28th	0900-1130	1200-1530
8	North Platte NRD	100547 Airport Road P.O. Box 280 Scottsbluff, NE 69363-0280	Thursday October 29th	0730-0930	1400-1700
9	Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture	404 East 7th Ed Center 131 Curtis, NE 69025	Friday October 30th	0900-1130	1200-1530
10	North Platte NRD	100547 Airport Road P.O. Box 280 Scottsbluff, NE 69363-0280	Tuesday November 3rd	0900-1130	1300-1630
11	Central Platte NRD	215 Kaufman Avenue Grand Island, NE 68803	Thursday November 5th	0900-1130	1200-1530
12	Lower Elkhorn NRD	1508 Square Turn Boulevard Norfolk, NE 68701	Friday November 6th	0900-1130	1200-1530
13	Middle Niobrara NRD	303 US-20, Valentine, NE 69201	Monday November 2nd	1000-1230	1200-1530
14	Lower Platte North NRD	1616 County Road 17 Wahoo, NE 68066	Monday November 16th	0900-1130	1200-1530
15	Fillmore County Extension Office	1340 G St. Geneva, NE 68361	Thursday November 19th	0900-1130	1200-1530
16	Nemaha NRD	62161 Hwy 136 Tecumseh, NE 68450	Friday November 20 th	0900-1130	1200-1530
17	Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture	404 East 7th Ed Center 131 Curtis, NE 69025	Monday November 30th	0900-1130	1200-1530

In the meantime, please review the ONE RED website for any questions:

<https://oneredag.com/>

ONE RED
YOUR LAND  YOUR PLAN



NRD 55th Anniversary Items

These items will be available in an online store for districts to order.

Supplier	Brand	Brief Description	SKU #	Colors	Design Number	Design Location
SCREENPRINT						
SanMar	Bella+Canvas	Bella+Canvas Unisex Triblend Short Sleeve Tee	3413	Aqua Tri, AthGrey Tri, Blue Tri, Dusty Blue Tri, Green Tri, Ice Blue Tri, Mint Tri, Mustard Tri, Oatmeal Tri, Pale Yellow Tri, Solid Car Blue Tri, Solid Natural Tri, Solid Silver Tri, Sunset Tri, Tan Tri	76512 Green SP	Full Front
SanMar	Gildan	Gildan Softstyle Midweight Tee	65000	Light Blue, Mustard, Paragon, Sport Grey, Sand, Sage, Stone Blue	76512 Green SP	Full Front
S&S	American Apparel	American Apparel Unisex Reflex Fleece Crewneck Sweatshirt	RF496	Bone, Heather Grey	76512 Green SP	Full Front
SanMar	Gildan	Gildan Unisex Heavyblend Hooded Sweatshirt	18500	Ash, Carolina Blue, Graph Hthr, Light Blue, Mint Green, Sand, Sport Grey	76512 Green SP	Full Front
EMBROIDERY (WITH STATE SHAPE)						
SanMar	Sport-Tek	Sport-Tek Posicharge Tri-Blend Wicking Polo	ST405	Black Triad Solid, Dark Grey Heather, Forest Green Heather, True Royal Heather, True Navy Heather	76511 White	Left Chest
SanMar	Sport-Tek	Sport-Tek Posicharge Tri-Blend Wicking Polo	ST405	Light Grey Heather	77349 Navy	Left Chest
SanMar	Sport-Tek	Sport-Tek Women's PosiCharge Tr-Blend Wicking Polo	LST405	Black Triad Solid, Dark Grey Heather, Forest Green Heather, True Royal Heather, True Navy Heather	76511 White	Left Chest
SanMar	Sport-Tek	Sport-Tek Women's PosiCharge Tr-Blend Wicking Polo	LST405	Light Grey Heather	77349 Navy	Left Chest
S&S	Adidas	Adidas Men's Performance Pique Polo	A430	Black, Blue Fusion, Col Green, Col Navy, Col Royal, Grey Three, Onix, Vivid Green	76511 White	Left Chest
S&S	Adidas	Adidas Women's Performance Pique Polo	A431	Black, Col Green, Col Navy, Col Royal, Grey Three, Onix	76511 White	Left Chest
SanMar	Port Authority	Port Authority Women's Long Sleeve Carefree Poplin Shirt	LW100	Carolina Blue, Deep Black, Graphite, Rv Blue Navy, Tr Royal	76511 White	Left Chest
SanMar	Port Authority	Port Authority Women's Long Sleeve Carefree Poplin Shirt	LW100	Gusty Grey	77349 Navy	Left Chest
SanMar	Port Authority	Port Authority Crosshatch Easy Care Shirt	S640	Chambray, Deep Blue, Soft Black	76511 White	Right Chest
SanMar	Port Authority	Port Authority Crosshatch Easy Care Shirt	S640	Navy Frost	77349 Navy	Right Chest
SanMar	Port Authority	Port Authority Tall Crosshatch Easy Care Shirt	TL5640	Chambray, Deep Blue, Soft Black	76511 White	Right Chest
S&S	Columbia	Columbia Women's PFG Tamiami II Short Sleeve Shirt	212466	Black, Col Navy, Vivid Blue	76511 White	Right Chest
S&S	Columbia	Columbia Women's PFG Tamiami II Short Sleeve Shirt	212466	Cool Grey, Sail	77349 Navy	Right Chest
S&S	HUK	HUK Men's Kona Short Sleeve Solid Shirt	H150154	Moss, Naval Academy, Stormy Blue, Volcanic Ash	76511 White	Right Chest
S&S	HUK	HUK Men's Kona Short Sleeve Solid Shirt	H150154	Coastal Drift Heather, Harbor Mist	77349 Navy	Right Chest
SanMar	Port Authority	Port Authority Women's Concept Open Cardigan	LS430	Black, Dusty Blue, Grey Smoke	76511 White	Left Chest
SanMar	Brooks Brothers	Brooks Brothers Women's Cotton Stretch Long Cardigan Sweater	BB18403	Charter Blue Hthr, Deep Black, Navy Blazer	76511 White	Left Chest
SanMar	Brooks Brothers	Brooks Brothers Women's Cotton Stretch Long Cardigan Sweater	BB18403	Light Shadow Grey Hthr	77349 Navy	Left Chest
S&S	HUK	HUK Women's Coldfront+ Quarter Zip Pullover	H6130024	Volcanic Ash Hthr	76511 White	Right Chest
S&S	HUK	HUK Women's Coldfront+ Quarter Zip Pullover	H6130024	Harbor Mist Hthr	77349 Navy	Right Chest
S&S	HUK	HUK Men's Airweight Heather Quarter Zip Pullover	H1200715	Hthr Moss, Silverblue Hthr, Volcanic Ash Hthr	76511 White	Right Chest

SanMar	Eddie Bauer	Eddie Bauer Sweater Fleece 1/4 Zip	EB254	Black, Dark Grey Hthr, Rv Blu Nvy Hthr	76511 White	Left Chest
SanMar	Eddie Bauer	Eddie Bauer Stretch Soft Shell Vest	EB546	Deep Black, Iron Gate, Rv Blue Navy	76511 White	Left Chest
SanMar	Eddie Bauer	Eddie Bauer Women's Stretch Soft Shell Vest	EB547	Deep Black, Iron Gate, Rv Blue Navy	76511 White	Left Chest
S&S	American Apparel	American Apparel Unisex ReFlex Fleece Crewneck Sweatshirt	RF496	Black, Asphalt, Brown, Lieutenant, Sea Blue, True Navy	76511 White	Left Chest
S&S	American Apparel	American Apparel Unisex ReFlex Fleece Crewneck Sweatshirt	RF496	Bone	77350 Green	Left Chest
S&S	American Apparel	American Apparel Unisex ReFlex Fleece Crewneck Sweatshirt	RF496	Hthr Grey	77349 Navy	Left Chest
SanMar	Gildan	Gildan Unisex Heavyblend Hooded Sweatshirt	18500	Black, Charcoal, Dark Chocolate, Dark Heather, Forest, Hthr Dark Green, Hthr Dark Navy, Hthr Deep Royal, Indigo, Military Green, Navy, Royal	76511 White	Left Chest
SanMar	Gildan	Gildan Unisex Heavyblend Hooded Sweatshirt	18500	Ash, Sport Grey	77349 Navy	Left Chest
SanMar	Gildan	Gildan Unisex Heavyblend Hooded Sweatshirt	18500	Sand	77350 Green	Left Chest
		EMBROIDERY (TEXT ONLY LAYOUT)				
SanMar	Carhartt	Carhartt Rain Defender Paxton Heavyweight Hooded Zip Mock Sweatshirt	CT100617	Black, Carb Hthr, Forestry Green, New Navy	77167 White	Left Chest
SanMar	Carhartt	Carhartt Tall Rain Defender Paxton Heavyweight Hooded Zip Mock Sweatshirt	CTT100617	Black, Carb Hthr, New Navy	77167 White	Left Chest
SanMar	Richardson	Richardson Laser Perf Performance Rope Cap	355	Black/BlackGrey, Light Olive/Olive, Navy /Midnight Navy Grey Blue, Smoke Blue/Grey White,	77167 White	Cap Front
SanMar	Richardson	Richardson Laser Perf Performance Rope Cap	355	Clay/White Black, Dark Loden/Tannin Grey, Oatmilk/Elmwood White, Trenchcoat/Russet Grey	77352 Green	Cap Front
SanMar	Richardson	Richardson Laser Perf Performance Rope Cap	355	Silver/Black Silver	77351 Navy	Cap Front
SanMar	Port Authority	Port Authority Beanie Cap	CP91	Ath Oxford, Ath Oxford/Black, Ath Royal, Black, Navy	77167 White	Low Hem Beanie
SanMar	Carhartt	Carhartt Watch Cap 2.0	CT104597	Black, Coal Hthr, Dark Brown/Sandstone, Navy	77167 White	Beanie Cuff
SanMar	Carhartt	Carhartt Watch Cap 2.0	CT104597	Heather Grey	77351 Navy	Beanie Cuff
SanMar	Carhartt	Carhartt Watch Cap 2.0	CT104597	Carhart Brown	77352 Green	Beanie Cuff
		OUTSIDE PROMO				
	N/A	Deluxe Zippered PU Leather Padfolio with Custom Logo	336467	Black, Brown, Blue	77314	Debossed Padfolio Front
	Owalla	Owalla 24oz Free Sip Water Bottle	OWALA24FS	Green House, Shy Marshmallow White, Cosatal Mist, Very Very Dark, Tan	77280	Laser Engraved Side 1
	YETI	Authentic YETI 20oz Tumbler	YETI20R	Black, Navy, White	77279	Laser Engraved Side 1

Normal 2027 irrigation OK'd despite Shrunken Lake Mac

Todd Von Kanpen, North Platte Telegraph

9-10-2026

Normal 2027 irrigation deliveries from drought-lowered Lake McConaghy to its core Tri-County farmer won a 10 to 2 split vote Tuesday for the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District Board.

The decision, on the heels of the 2020²⁰6 irrigation season's conclusion last weekend, continues the Kingsley Dam owner's minimum 9-inch annual water supply in place since 2010 for Central's irrigation customers in Gosper, Phelps, and Kearney counties.

But maximum 2027 deliveries from early June to end of August will be capped at 18-inches per customer, said Mike Drain, the district's natural resources and compliance manager. Irrigator⁵ must pay extra for water supplies between 9 and 18 inches.

Keith County Commissioner Lane Anderson said about a dozen county leaders and residents, concerned about the tourism and economic effects of Lake Mac' drawdown, attended the quarterly meeting at Central's Holdrege headquarters. He himself was unable to attend, he said.

McConaughy, about three miles wide and 22 miles long when full, was 22.3% full Tuesday at an elevation of 3,201.3 feet above sea level.

It bottomed out at 3,201.2 feet. Friday was the lowest since a multiyear drought left the lake at a record low of 3,197.6 feet on Sept. 14, 2004.

Lake Mac first filled after Kingsley 's 1941 completion.

Outflows through the dam have been cut nearly in half. Since Aug. 28. Central's Civil Engineer Tyler Thulin said. Most of that water will prepare Nebraska Public Power and District's canal system for a planned outage at the Keystone Diversion Dam below Lake Ogallala, Keith County's lone board member and Phelps County member Gary Robison, of Betrand were ^{the} ~~he~~ ~~one~~ ^{the} ~~one~~ opponents of maintaining minimum put in place after the 2004 record low.

Each of Central's core counties has three members each, while upstream countries (Kieth. Lincoln, and Dawson) have one apiece.

Board President Klye Shepard of North Platte voted with the 10-member majority, as did David Rowe of Johnson Lake area in Dawson County.

Drain said the Central Board unanimously approved rate increase of \$3.14 per inch for extra 2027 water purchase between 12 and 18 inches.

That measure is meant "to further encourage conservation" in the district's core counties, he told the Telegraph in Tuesday meeting preview story.

Central's board members Tuesday left the base 9-inches allocation fee at \$44.96 per acre. The first 3 extra inches will cost Tri-County irrigators \$1.56 per acre for each inch.

Eight years after its 1004 record low, McConaughy reached the 3,250-foot elevation that has been its typical legal limit after disastrous gales seriously damaged Kingsley's face on May Day, 1972. The lake can top out at 3270 feet at limited times or in emergencies.

Unusually limited Rocky Mountain snowpack from the dry 2025-2026 winter played a major role in Lake Mac's 2026 decline. But Drain said Central expects the lake to regain enough water for full deliveries, though it's too early for snowpack forecasts for next winter.

Cory Steinke, Central's Hydraulic project operations manager, told the board Tuesday the customers have about 424,550 acre feet in McConaughy water usage since 2003. Much of that has come from nearly doubling their total number of center pivots since 2010, enabling them to tap groundwater reinforced over the decades by Lake Mac water leaching from the district's canals and reservoirs.

Installation of canal liners and pipelines have saved another 131,000 acre feet since 2003, Steinke said. "Conservation achievements made by Central and its irrigators in water is you see in Lake McConaughy right now, and that is a success story not to be overlooked but rather applauded."

Colorado disputes Nebraska's claims in South Platte

Fred Knapp, Nebraska Public Media

10/1/2026

Colorado is denying claims that it is not providing water owed to Nebraska

Under the South Platte River Compact. In fact, Colorado claims Nebraska

Is depriving it of water to which it's entitled, by allowing wells along a tributary, Lodgepole Creek, and too close to the Colorado line.

Colorado make its arguments in a filing Monday with the U.S. Supreme Court.

It also asked the court to dismiss Nebraska 's claim that Colorado's complex water management system violates the century-old interstate compact.

That agreement governs how much water Nebraska gets during the irrigation season.

And it allows Nebraska more in the non-irrigation season, but only if it Builds the so-called Perkins Canal, which is still on the drawing board.

Nebraska says it needs to build the canal to prevent Colorado from drying the river to supply fast-growing Front Range communities before the water ever reaches Nebraska.

Nebraska Attorney General Mike Hilgers has said it could be four years Before the court reaches a decision.

Rail fuel surcharges on grain hit record highs

Tim McLaughline, Lisa Baertlen, and Julie Ingwersen

Kearney Hub

9/17/2026

Railroad fuel surcharges on U.S. grain shipments have more than doubled over the past year, rippling through the farm belt and raising transportation costs as many farmers also struggle with higher production costs.

The average fuel surcharge rate on grain shipments climbed to 48cents a mile per rail car in the second week of September, up 153% compared with the weighted average a year earlier, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture data. Railroads use surcharges to recover most of what they have paid for fuel and combine them with long-hauling freight rates.

With higher per-mile rates, surcharges accounted for 11% of total rail transportation costs for shipping corn and soybeans, compared with 5% a year ago, according to the USDA's Sept. 10 report

The timing is particularly challenging for farmers, with corn and soybeans harvests just beginning. As The U.S. war with Iran pushes crude oil and refined product prices sharply higher, diesel fuel surcharges are becoming a bigger part of grain shipping costs just as transportation demands increase.

Whenever railroads pass excess costs on to shippers, such as grain elevators, they buy from farmers and ship grain by rail, growers typically see a weaker basis, meaning they receive a lower price when they sell crops.

Gary Milershaski, a wheat and sorghum farmer in Kansas and chairman of U.S. Wheat Association, an export promotion group, said the basis at his local grain elevator was around 70 cents per bushel below Chicago Board of Trade K.C. hard wheat futures, when it is normally closer to 40 cents under.

"We don't even like to look at it because it just upsets you," Millershaskil said.

Brentt oil futures rose above \$104 a barrel last week, the highest level since mid-May, on

Worries about the escalating Iran war. The price for diesel fuel, which locomotives burn, is at a record above \$6 a gallon.

"What's causing absolute conniptions and fits is how fuel prices are changing so quickly," said Frayne Olson, a North Dakota State University expert on crop economics.

"When you think about an industry where your profit margin is only a couple cents per bushel, that makes a difference."

Many corn, soybeans and wheat growers lack access to inland waterways and lean on railroads to move crops long distance to processors, export terminals and livestock feeding operations., Olson said.

"Everyone is quick to raise the fuel surcharges and very, very slow to pull them back. It just gives them an excuse to elevate those freight rates, which further exacerbates the problem we already have," said Steve Compton, a Kansas farmer.

Fuel surcharges are levied on top of long-haul freight tariffs by railroads BNSF, CXS, Norfolk Southern, Canadian Pacific, Kansas City and Union Pacific. CSX and Norfolk Southern did not respond to request for comment; BNSF and Union Pacific declined to comment.

For railroads, surcharges are designed to respond to fluctuating fuel prices while reducing their exposure to them, a Canadian Pacific spokesperson said.

Surcharges are pegged to the U.S. On-highway diesel Fuel index, up about 60% year over year, and triggered when the cost of fuel equals or exceeds a strike price that generally ranges between \$2.30 and \$3.25 per gallon.

The surcharges escalate as the index rises.

The railroads collected \$2.93 billion in fuel surcharges in the second quarter up more than 90% from the year earlier period, according to Surface Transportation Board, the industry's regulator. That covered about 90% of their diesel costs," a Canadian National spokesperson said.'

Railroads analysts expect surcharges to remain elevated for the rest of the year.

Archer-Daniels -Midland and other major shippers have not reported negative impacts from surcharges, according to their latest financial reports. They can pass along some of the cost, and ADM last month boosted the upper end of its 2026 profit forecast 10% rising oil prices increase margins for corn-based ethanol.

Grain elevators, owned by companies such as ADM and privately held Cargill, factor and fuel surcharges into the cash price, sometimes lower the prices farmers get for grain. ADM and Cargill did not comment.

During periods of strong export demand, transportation costs shift and can be passed on to buyers in key markets such as China, Olson said.

Transportation costs could become a larger issue if Union Pacific buys Norfolk Southern in a deal the railroads say could streamline freight movements and improve service.

Farm groups worry the merger would hurt the cash price for grains, "if you put two big railroads together, that market power is only going to increase," said Daniel Munch, an economist with the American Farm Bureau Federation the leading U.S. farm lobby.

Attorneys general from major grain state agree.

"There is no reason to create a behemoth railroad that will take more money from farmers, shippers and ultimately consumers in our States and across the country," officials in Iowa, Kansas, Montana and other states wrote in an Aug 11 letter to the STB.

The Game Has Changed: New reality is altering Nebraska's prairies

Kaitlyn Kelly, Flatwater Press

Kearney Hub

10/5/2026

Nine miles from the heart of downtown Lincoln lies an ecological rarity. Surrounded by farm fields and a retired Cold War-era bomb storage depot, A 230-acre plot of native prairies remain untouched.

Named for its distance from Lincoln's urban core, Nine-Mile Prairie is one of the last tallgrass remnants that once dominated eastern Nebraska.

Home to species such as big blue stem, Indiangrass, and goldenrod, the prairie plants can reach peaks of 8 feet tall in the fall, when gold and red hues begin to replace the summer green.

But among the sea of grass and flowering plants is a now-common sight that alarms grassland experts, including David Wedin, who formerly oversaw the Nine-Mile Prairie: shrubs and trees.

"One of the things prairies conservation's coming to grips within the Midwest is 'How much shrubs and trees (and) which shrubs and trees are acceptable?' "Because we can never go back to no trees at all.

"The game has changed"

Nebraska used to be 98% prairie. Agriculture, urban development and heavy grazing changed that and much of the states' native ecosystem has disappeared over time.

Although advocates continue to manage and restore the state's remaining prairies, experts say that factors such as rising CO2 and increased atmospheric nitrate levels have created new conditions that favor woody and invasive species.

The Nine-Mile Prairie is owned by the University of Nebraska Foundation and managed by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Center for Grassland Studies. The top priority : Keeping the land a prairie.

But that is becoming harder to do.

At least once every three years, The Nine-Mile Prairie's managers and student workers remove unwanted species and dead plant material by mowing, haying and conducting prescribed burns. They sometimes carefully use herbicides to keep woody species like dogwood and eastern red cedar trees at bay.

While these are typical prairie management practices, Wedin said they're no longer enough. Shrubs and trees are growing faster than they can manage them.

One reason for the change Wedin said is the increase in CO₂ in the atmosphere. While CO₂ itself is essential for plants, extra CO₂, he said, "tilts the balance away" from Nebraska's warm-season grasses that don't benefit from it as much as shrubs and trees and cool-season grasses.

The shifting climate has also caused warmer winters, Wedin said, and cool season grasses, shrubs and trees can establish themselves long before warm-season grasses and flowering plants start growing in mid- to late spring.

The changes, combined with extra nitrogen in the atmosphere primarily from farming, he said mean conditions are stacked against tallgrass prairies. Land managers can't get "too hung up on what was 'nature' in 1850, Wedin said.

"I'm willing to let it go, he said. "As long as we're removing biomass every three years, I can live with dogwood and the sumac and the little red cedar seedlings."

Prairies in North America formed around 10,000 years ago, when the climate warmed and the last major ice age ended. Indigenous tribes, such as the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, have long been intertwined with them.

Stacy Laravie, a Ponca membered 3x great-granddaughter of Chief Standing Bear, said the prairie was ~~and~~ "a way of life."

Living in earth lodges along the Niobrara and Missouri rivers in Nebraska, the Ponca farmed and hunted bison. They would also set fire to the prairie, a practice of many Great Plains tribes.

The fresh, nutritious growth after a burn would attract bison, Laravie said.

It also created habitat for different plants and animals during regrowth phases and helped to keep the shrubs and trees away.

"(Burn) was our guide to what happens within the season and next," Laravie said. "The land spoke to us in that way."

Without burning by indigenous tribes, areas of the state would have more woodlands and less prairie, said Gerry Steinauer, Nebraska Game and Parks plant ecologist and botanist.

Now, Nebraska is made up of four prairie ecoregions from east to west; tallgrasses, mixed-grasses prairie, Sandhill prairie and shortgrass prairie.

Steinauer said only about 1 % of the state's tallgrass prairie remains in restored and preserved patches, and much of it is degraded. Most of it was plowed under by 1880 because eastern Nebraska's fertile soil and higher precipitation rates made it ideal for homesteading farmers.

Urban sprawl in the 20th century has reduced it to even smaller fragments.

While conservation groups are working to protect the state's prairies, Steinauer said Nebraska is still "behind the eight ball" in prairie conservation.

The Prairie Plains Resource Institute is a nonprofit that preserves and restores tallgrass and mixed-grass prairies in the state.

Founded in 1980, by Bill Whitney and his wife, the institute manages eight prairies totaling 6,512 acres, Mostly in central and eastern Nebraska.

Whitney, who retired in 2019, said prairies are dependent on people. A large part of prairie conservation, he said, is educating a community to care for them.

“Restoration as a process is a great human thing to do,” Whitney said.

“People that do it love it, and it’s going to catch on.”

To Chris Helzer, science and stewardship director for The Nature Conservancy, prairie management standards need to change especially for tallgrass prairies.

“We need to learn how to manage today’s grassland than we’ve been used to,” Helzer said, “and we need to figure out how to do that in a way that’s going to allow pollinators and a lot of wildlife species to thrive.”

Sarha Bailey, conservation educator of the Prairie Plains Resource Institute, said she notices a lot more woody species in “much denser areas, mostly in the state’s eastern tallgrass prairies.

“We never want to lose prairie ecosystem,” said Bailey. “That’s where we see the most biodiversity in this region.”

Helzer said grasslands are “one of the most diverse communities in the world.” Much of his work as a scientist he said is ~~solving~~ to optimize grassland use while conserving its biodiversity.

A good example of that, he said, is happening in the Sandhills.

For 33 years, the Sandhill Task Force, a nonprofit based in Broken Bow, has promoted conservation and private, profitable ranching.

Shelly Kelly, the task force’s executive director, said they typically complete 50 -100 projects a year with assistance from Conservation partners. In 2024, the task force helped private landowners improve over 77,000 acres of Sandhill prairie.

“Every piece of land we touch, we’ve impacted for the better,” Kelly said. “and probably increase the chances of it either staying prairie or improved the productivity of it.”

The Sandhills remains ~~onto~~^{one} to the largest intact temperate grasslands on earth, spanning about 12 million acres in north-central Nebraska. But it also undergone cropland conversion and faces threats from woody encroachment, Kelly said.

Most landowners are open to conservation switches that will help their ranching operations, Kelly said. And the tack force, she said, helps move things along.

To Helzer, the story of Nebraska's prairies is a story of survival and resilience.

"We have a lot of work to do but I still think there's a ton of reasons to be optimistic about the future of prairies in Nebraska," he said. :,,,,I think the biggest challenge we have it getting people to care.

The Flatwater Free Press is Nebraska's first independent nonprofit newsroom focused on investigations and feature stories that matter.