Water Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 30, 2024 6:00 PM
Lower Platte North NRD Office
P.O. Box 126
Wahoo, NE 68066

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. REGULATORY

2.A. GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

2.A.1. Variance Request in the Hydrologically Connected Area (Limited Development Area)

At the October Board Meeting, variances were approved that scored 333 or higher. It was discovered that 3 applications were not included in the spreadsheet.

Dan Jarecki scored 494.26 with a depletion of 0.24 AF (S14-19-3W. Platte)
Dan Jarecki scored 427.62 with a depletion of 7.51 AF (S2-19N-2W, Platte)
John & Rose Wiese scored 376.95 with a depletion of 0.48 AF (S35-21-4W, Madison)

In the past, applications that fell in the red area but were within 1 mile were scored with the HCA applications. Two applications that were approved, TMV Farms and Larry Rassmussen, were in this situation with their total depletion being 24.08 AF. These applications would not be included in the depletion numbers for the HCA area, so approving the 3 applications that were overlooked would make the total depletion in the HCA area 183.63 acre feet,

2.A.2. Well Permit Program

2.A.3. Supplemental Well Permit

Phil Buhman is requesting a supplemental well permit for NW NE S4-18N-1W, Platte County, which is located in SQS #2. The staff have been working with Phil and Grosch Irrigation to determine why this well might not be producing enough water to keep all the nozzles working when the pivot is not on level ground. Staff have taken water samples to determine if iron or manganese is causing the screens to become plugged. The sample analysis is attached, which shows levels as ND or fairly low. Phil is requesting a supplemental well to assist in providing enough water. Katie Cameron from ENWRA has evaluated this area and made recommendations for areas in the field where a new well might produce more water. If a new location for the well does produce enough water, then this well would become a replacement well.

The Committee recommends that prior to drilling the supplemental well, Phil Buhman should drill test holes for verification.

2.A.4. Request for a Well Permit

Paul Kettelson representing Four L Farms Inc, is requesting a well permit for NW1/4 NW1/4 S7-21-5W, Boone County. Presently, he utilizes 1 well to irrigate 245 acres. He wants to put an additional well in the NW1/4 to irrigate 127 acres while the other well will continue to irrigate the 118 acres in the NE1/4.

Information is attached.

The committee commented that this should improve the efficiency of both irrigation systems.

2.A.5. Special Quantity Subareas

Last year the Board approved a 30 acre inch 3-year rolling allocation for 1-year in the Coflax-Platte Special Water Quantity Sub-Area (SQS #2), with an option to extend to another year until Groundwater Rules and Regulations are updated. New allocations need to be established annually by December 15. The Committee is planning on holding a vote on allocation at the next meeting with the intention of implementing the allocation policy by updating the Groundwater Rules and Regulation within 1 year.

2.A.6. Cost Share Programs

2.A.6.a. Irrigation Well Sample Kits

All sample kits have been received and analyzed.

2.A.7. Bellwood Phase 2 Area

2024 is the twenty-second year for this Phase 2 Area.

	Nitrate-nitrogen Range	**Percent Nitrate-nitrogen 0 to 8.0 ppm**	**Percent Nitrate-nitrogen 8.01 to 10.00 ppm**	**Percent Nitrate-nitrogen 10.01 to 15 ppm**	**Percent Nitrate-nitrogen greater than 15 ppm**
	0 to 25 ppm	46.3% (44 of 95)	8.4% (8 of 95)	45.3% (43 of 95)	
	0 to 25 ppm	47% (44 of 94)	15% (14 of 94)	38% (36 of 94)	
	0 to 24 ppm	41% (29 of 71)	14% (10 of 71)	45% (32 of 71)	
	0 to 31 ppm	48% (48 of 100)	9% (9 of 100)	43% (43 of 100)	
	0 to 28 ppm	53.75% (43 of 80)	7.5% (6 of 80)	38.75% (31 of 80)	
	0 to 22 ppm	45.5% (41 of 90)	15.5% (14 of 90)	39% (35 of 90)	

	0 to 35.7 ppm	48.65% (54 of 111)	11.71% (13 of 111)	39.64% (44 of 111)	
	0 to 26.6 ppm	51% (56 of 110)	6% (7 of 110)	43% (47 of 110)	
	0 to 28.9 ppm	57% (61 of 107)	9% (10 of 107)	34% (36 of 107)	
	0 to 25.8 ppm	50% (53 of 107)	9% (10 of 107)	14% (44 of 107)	26%
	0 to 22.3 ppm	51% (55 of 108)	13% (14 of 108)	18% (39 of 108)	20%
	0 to 32.3 ppm	43% (31 of 72)	8% (6 of 72)	14% (35 of 72)	33%
	0 to 35.1 ppm	34% (25 of 74)	11% (8 of 74)	26% (41 of 74)	26%
	0 to 23.5 ppm	36% (27 of 74)	15% (11 of 74)	19% (36 of 74)	22%
	0 to 30.9 ppm	40% (25 of 63)	11% (7 of 63)	22% (31 of 63)	28%
	0 to 24.5 ppm	46% (22 of 48)	10% (5 of 48)	28% (21 of 48)	22%
	0 to 20.5 ppm	33.33% (20 of 60)	13.33% (8 of 60)	35% (21 of 60)	18.33% (11 of 60)
	0.12 to 27.7 ppm	40.6% (26 of 64)	15.6% (10 of 64)	25% (16 of 64)	18.8% (12 of 64)

	0.13 to 23.0 ppm	43.75% (28 of 64)	12.50% (8 pf 64)	26.56% (17 of 64)	17.19% (11 of 64)
	0 to 19.8 ppm	50.8% (32 of 63)	15.9% (10 of 63)	20.6% (13 of 63)	12.7% (8 of 63)
	0.09 to 20.3 ppm	48% (28 ot 58)	12% (7 of 58)	29% (17 of 58)	10% (6 of 58)

2.A.8. Richland - Schuyler Phase 3 Area

Attached are graphs showing the 2 water quality areas for review.

2024 is the ninth year of this Phase 3 Area. This Phase 3 area went into effect September 1, 2015. The 55 sections of this area first went into a Phase 2 Area in 2004. The ten sections that were in Phase 2 are now in Phase 3. As such, the 2020, 2021 and 2022 numbers (at bottom of table) are for 65 sections.

Year	Nitrate-nitrogen Range	Percent Nitrate-nitrogen 0 to 8.0 ppm	Percent Nitrate-nitrogen 8.01 to 10.00 ppm
2004	0 to 47 ppm	30% (42 of 139)	10% (14 of 139)
2005	0 to 120 ppm	31.3% (74 of 236)	10.2% (24 of 236)
2006	0 to 53 ppm	28% (50 of 181)	14% (26 of 181)
2007	0 to 99 ppm	32% (75 of 231)	10% (22 of 231)
2008	0 to 46 ppm	28% (53 of 190)	12% (23 of 190)
2009	0 to 57 ppm	33% (72 of 216)	6% (13 of 216)
2010	0 to 57.5 ppm	31% (70 of 229)	7% (15 of 229)
2011	0 to 65.8 ppm	28% (67 of 241)	9% (21 of 241)
2012	0 to 52.6 ppm	29% (70 of 241)	9% (21 of 241)
2013	0 to 94.0 ppm	25% (63 of 252)	9% (23 of 252)
2014	0 to 101.0 ppm	27% (68 of 251)	9% (22 of 251)
2015	0 to 53.3 ppm	23% (55 of 238)	12% (29 of 238)
2016	0 to 50.5 ppm	25% (58 of 228)	10% (22 of 228)
2017	0 to 53.4 ppm	25% (60 of 238)	6% (14 of 238)
2018	0 to 56.9 ppm	26.5% (50 of 189)	6.3% (12 of 189)

2019	0 to 39.4 ppm	25% (53 of 209)	11% (22 of 209)
2020	0 to 50.8 ppm	26% (69 of 261)	6% (15 of 261)
2021	0 to 43.0 ppm	25.5% (67 of 263)	8.4% (22 of 263)
2022	0 to 58.5 ppm	23.0% (57 of 248)	6.45% (16 of 248)
2023	0 to 46.5 ppm	26% (68 of 263)	6% (17 of 263)
2024	0 to 60.4 ppm	24% (62 of 256)	8% (20 of 256)

2.A.9. LPNNRD Operator Certification

Staff and UNL have set up nitrogen/irrigation certification classes for 2025:

Tuesday, January 21 - David City at Highway 92 building from 10 to 12 pm
Wednesday, January 22 - Columbus at the Library from 6 to 8 pm
Thursday, February 6 - Ithaca at ENREEC from 1 to 3 pm
Thursday, February 13 - Lindsay at Community Center from 10 to 12 pm
Tuesday, February 18 - Fremont at Extension Office from 6 to 8 pm
Tuesday, March 18 - Ithaca at ENREEC from 7 - 9 pm

Online tests will also be available.

2.A.10. Groundwater Management Plan Update

Attached is an invoice from LRE for $12,009.26 for updating the Groundwater Management Plan. The staff have received some preliminary draft documents that they are reviewing.

2.A.11. Nitrate Assessment Project

An invoice is attached for $1,486 for's LPN share of the joint project with Newman Grove and Platte Center.

2.B. Phase Area Update

Information is attached for the hearing on November 14 at the Cobblestone Inn & Suites in Schuyler. The hearing will be held at 7:00 pm with staff available prior to the hearing.
Supporting documents are attached.
Cost share has been offered for the following with dollar amounts spent or committed.
Water Flow Meters - $150,000 with $170,000 budgeted
Gravity to Pivot Conversions - $90,000 with $100,000 budgeted
Cover Crops - $1,000 with $24,000 budgeted
Iron Chlorosis - $3,000 with $36,000 budgeted
Fertigation Equipment - $2,000 with $5,000 budgeted
Variable Rate Nitrogen Programs - $0 with $20,000 budgeted
Grid Soil Sampling - $0 with $20,000 budgeted
Soil Moisture Sensors - $3,750 with $7,500 budgeted
The cost share deadline for flow meters were April 1. 2024 to receive $1,000. Staff would like to continue offering $1,000 until March 1, 2025, as other cost share items were not utilized. Staff will also keep prioritizing gravity to pivot conversion to

producers who receive NRCS funding.
The Committee reviewed procedures and suggested some wording changes with 8-36 being acceptable with pre-approval.

2.C. Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act (NiRIA)

Attached is a draft application for NiRIA along with information on how they will be evaluated. This information was posted statewide last week. The NRD has received the contract from NeDNR to move forward as approved at the October Board Meeting.
Staff have started promoting this project throughout the District.

2.D. GROUND WATER ENERGY LEVELS

Staff are working on fall water levels.

3. GROUND WATER PROGRAMS

3.A. DECOMMISSIONED WELL PROGRAM

3.A.1. Well Estimates

One new well has been reviewed and approved for decommissioning since the last Committee meeting. This well is in the Shell Creek area so it will receive funding from the Shell Creek Grant for the additional cost listed below.

Well Owner	Type of Well	Cost Share Estimate	Shell Creek Cost Share
Wayne and Ardeth Loseke	Irrigation	$ 895.15	$ 298.38

3.A.2. Plugged Wells

No new wells have been plugged, reviewed, and ready for cost share payment approval this month.

Well Owner	Type of Well	Cost Share Estimate	County

3.B. LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD GROUND WATER STUDIES

3.B.1. Lower Platte River Consortium

The group met on October 23 to discuss a 5-year inter-local agreement between

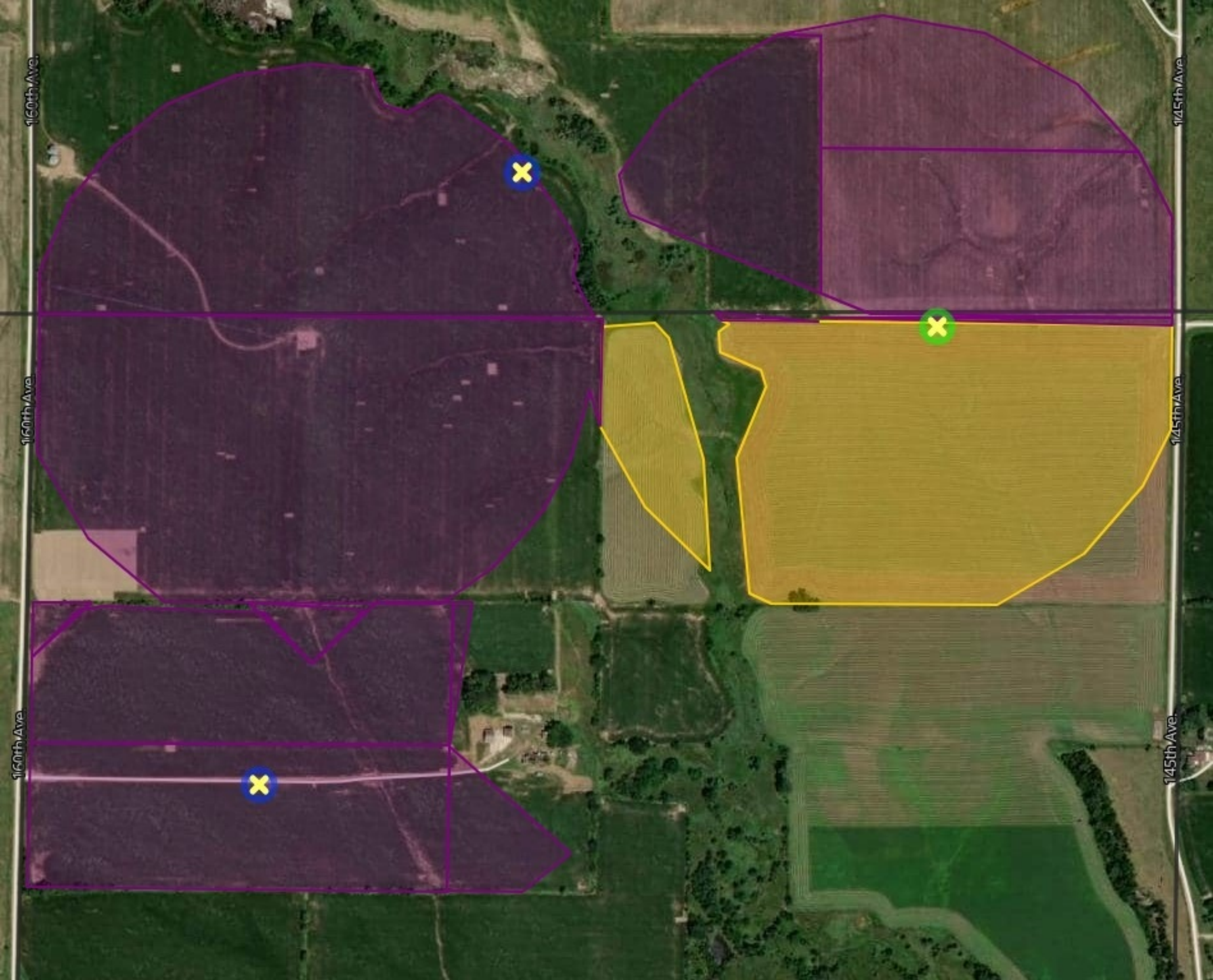
all parties. The group has been meeting regularly to discuss drought conditions in the Lower Platte River Basin. A drought plan was developed in 2019 which included projects to supplement water supply in the Platte River. These initial projects have been discussed and evaluated by the group. The group conducted a workshop to consider different alternatives which are included in the updated 5-year plan. Attached is the 5-year inter-local agreement to continue participating with the group. The budget is $0 for the upcoming year. If a project is brought forward in the future, each participating partner would have to approve and consider the dollar amount at that time.

A press release is planned to be released by the group, which is attached.

4. SURFACE WATER PROGRAMS

5. OTHER

5.A. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC


160th Ave
145th Ave
160th Ave
145th Ave
160th Ave
145th Ave

REPORT NUMBER
24-239-4228 v2

REPORT DATE
Sep 06, 2024

SEND TO
215

RECEIVED DATE
Aug 16, 2024

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ISSUE DATE
Sep 06, 2024

LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD
DARYL ANDERSEN
PO BOX 126
WAHOO NE 68066-

REPORT OF ANALYSIS

For: (215) LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD
IOC Package

Analysis	Level Found As Received	Units	Reporting Limit	Method	Analyst-Date	Verified-Date
Sample ID: **Buhman, G-164316** Lab Number: **70511855** Date Sampled: **2024-08-15 0950**						
Nickel (total)	n.d.	mg/L	0.01	EPA 200.7	Dsh7-2024/08/20	kkh9-2024/08/26
Sodium (total)	15.7	mg/L	0.20	EPA 200.7	Dsh7-2024/08/20	kkh9-2024/08/26
Beryllium (total)	n.d.	mg/L	0.0010	EPA 200.7	Dsh7-2024/08/20	kkh9-2024/08/26
Antimony (total)	n.d.	mg/L	0.0005	EPA 200.8	ras7-2024/08/22	kkh9-2024/08/26
Barium (total)	0.091	mg/L	0.005	EPA 200.7	Dsh7-2024/08/20	kkh9-2024/08/26
Cadmium (total)	n.d.	mg/L	0.005	EPA 200.7	Dsh7-2024/08/20	kkh9-2024/08/26
Chromium (total)	n.d.	mg/L	0.01	EPA 200.7	Dsh7-2024/08/20	kkh9-2024/08/26
Copper (total)	n.d.	mg/L	0.01	EPA 200.7	Dsh7-2024/08/20	kkh9-2024/08/26
Lead (total)	n.d.	mg/L	0.0005	EPA 200.8	ras7-2024/08/22	kkh9-2024/08/26
Selenium (total)	0.005	mg/L	0.001	EPA 200.8	ras7-2024/08/22	kkh9-2024/08/26
Thallium (total)	n.d.	mg/L	0.0005	EPA 200.8	ras7-2024/08/22	kkh9-2024/08/26
Sulfate	28.8	mg/L	1.5	EPA 300.0	jsp9-2024/08/19	mgn8-2024/08/21
Fluoride	0.3	mg/L	0.1	EPA 300.0	jsp9-2024/08/19	mgn8-2024/08/21
Mercury (total)	n.d.	mg/L	0.0004	EPA 245.1	Mab7-2024/08/26	kkh9-2024/08/26
Arsenic (total)	0.0030	mg/L	0.0005	EPA 200.8	ras7-2024/08/22	kkh9-2024/08/26
Nitrate/Nitrite nitrogen	2.09	mg/L	0.20	EPA 353.2	akn1-2024/08/21	mgn8-2024/08/21
Total dissolved solids	346	mg/L	10	SM 2540 C-(2015)	kpl8-2024/09/06	mgn8-2024/09/06
Iron (total)	0.34	mg/L	0.05	EPA 200.7	Dsh7-2024/08/20	trh1-2024/08/28
Manganese (total)	0.212	mg/L	0.005	EPA 200.7	Dsh7-2024/08/20	trh1-2024/08/28

The result(s) issued on this report only reflect the analysis of the sample(s) submitted.

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LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD
DARYL ANDERSEN
PO BOX 126
WAHOO NE 68066-

REPORT OF ANALYSIS

For: (215) LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD
IOC Package

Analysis	Level Found As Received	Units	Reporting Limit	Method	Analyst-Date	Verified-Date

This report was reissued on 2024-09-06 16:41:03 by mgn8 for the following reason:
TDS added on..
All results are reported on an AS RECEIVED basis, n.d. = not detected , ppm = parts per million, ppm = mg/kg, ppm = mg/L

For questions please contact:

Heather Ramig
Senior Account Manager
hramig@midwestlabs.com (402)829-9891

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LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD
DARYL ANDERSEN
PO BOX 126
WAHOO NE 68066-

REPORT OF ANALYSIS

For: (215) LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD
IOC Package

Detailed Method Description(s)

ME 043

Samples are analyzed by MWL ME 043 which is based upon EPA 200.7 using Inductively Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectroscopy (ICP-OES).

ME 075

Samples are analyzed by MWL ME 075 which is based upon EPA 200.8, Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectroscopy (ICP-MS).

EPA 300.0 ion chromatography

Analysis follows MWL ENV 001 which follows EPA 300.0. Aqueous samples or aqueous extracts are injected into the IC instrument where the ions are separated by a column. As the ions elute from the column, they are measured by a conductivity detector and reported.

ME 067

Samples are analyzed for mercury using MWL ME 067 which is based upon EPA 245.1, cold vapor atomic absorption (CVAA).

Samples are prepared via MWL ME 070 that uses a series of digestion steps involving hot mineral acids and oxidizers so as to destroy organic matter and solubilize mercury. The mercury is reduced by use of stannous chloride to elemental mercury that is then aerated to the light path of a mercury light of an atomic absorption spectrometer (AAS). The absorption of the mercury light at 253.7 nm is then correlated to the level of mercury present in the original sample.

Nitrate/nitrite by Cd reduction EPA 353.2

Sample analysis follows MWL EN 004 which is based on EPA 353.2 - automated cadmium reduction. Aqueous solutions are drawn into the instrument and passed through a copperized cadmium reduction column where any nitrate present is reduced to nitrite. The nitrite is reacted with sulfanilamide to produce an azo dye which is measured colorimetrically.

Total dissolved solids (TDS)

Sample analysis follows MWL EN 015 which is based on Standard Methods (SM) 2540 C. S known volume of an aqueous sample is poured through a pre-weighed filter with a known pore-size. The aqueous sample is evaporated and heated to obtain a solid. The amount of solid material passing through the filter is reported as total dissolve solids (TDS)

We are requesting a permit to drill an irrigation well on the NW1/4, Section 7, 21 & 5 West. There are 127 acres of irrigated bases on this quarter.

Four L Farms own the land. It was made up of the four children of my Aunt and Uncle, Cora and Dale Larson. I am now a ¼ owner of Four L Farms along with three of my first cousins. We have farmed this ground for over 50 years. We have been using no-till farming practices for 25 years. We have used soil moisture probes for Fifteen years to help schedule the irrigation. We have over 300 acres seeded with cover crops every year. We have flow meters on all of our wells, and we usually apply under 6" per year on any of our pivots.

The two pivots that are supplied by the well G-062886 have 20lb regulators and drops with rotator nozzles on them. In 2024 we needed to pump water on both pivots in August. One pivot is corn, and the other one is beans. We normally pump on the corn until the first week in August and then we switch over to pump on the beans. Some years we pump on the corn to be ahead so that we can pump on the beans when they need it, with two well we could possibly save water by not having to do that. With another well we would not apply more water, but we could apply it more efficiently. It would take some stress off of us in our operation.

Sincerely,

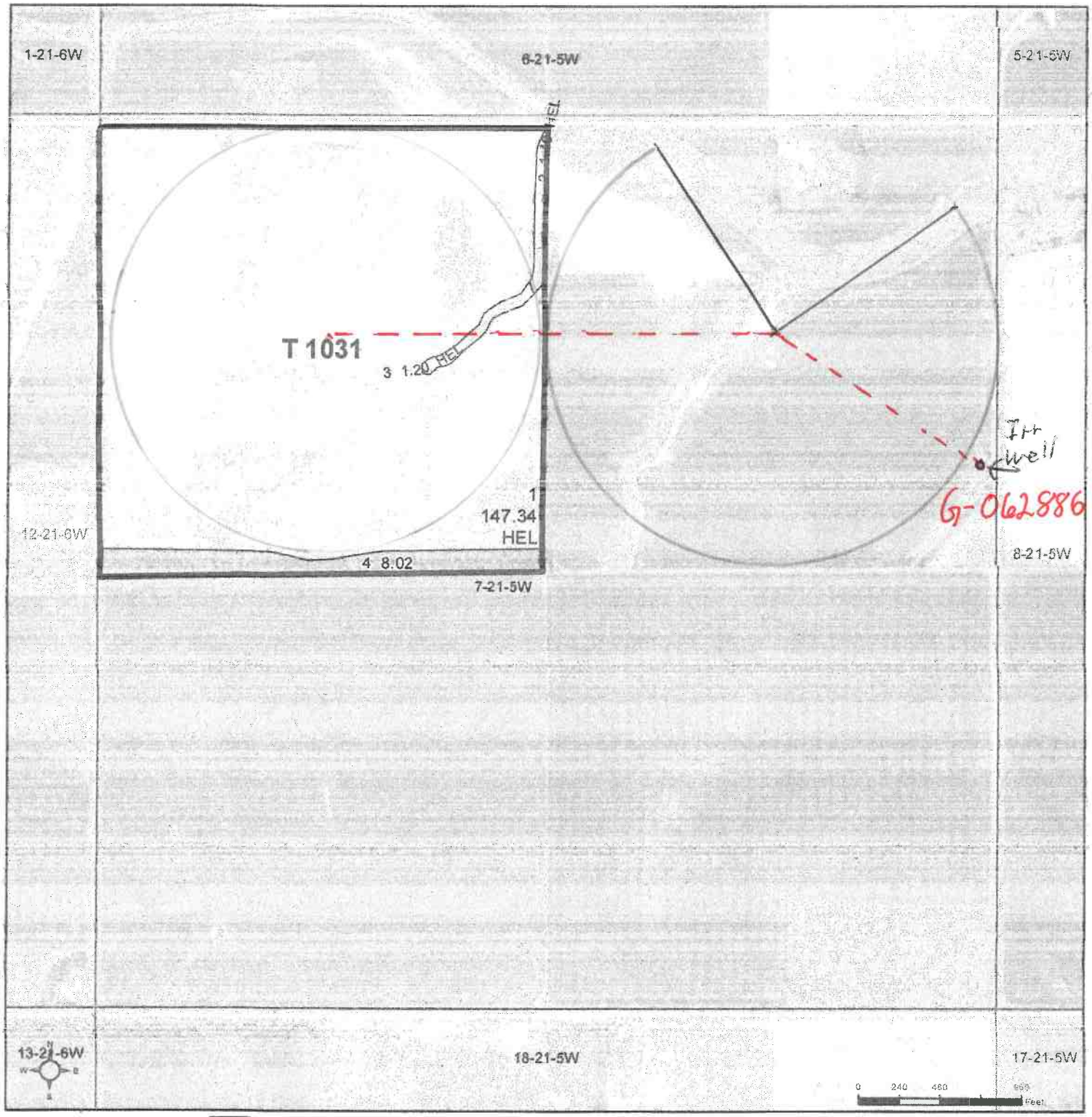
Paul Kettelson

Paul Kettelson

USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Boone County, Nebraska

2020



Common Land Unit
- Non-Cropland
- Cropland

Tract Boundary
PLSS

2018 NAIP Ortho Imagery

ALL CROPS ARE NON-IRRIGATED AND INTENDED USE IS GRAIN UNLESS SPECIFIED

2020 Program Year

Map Created April 23, 2020

Farm **3429**

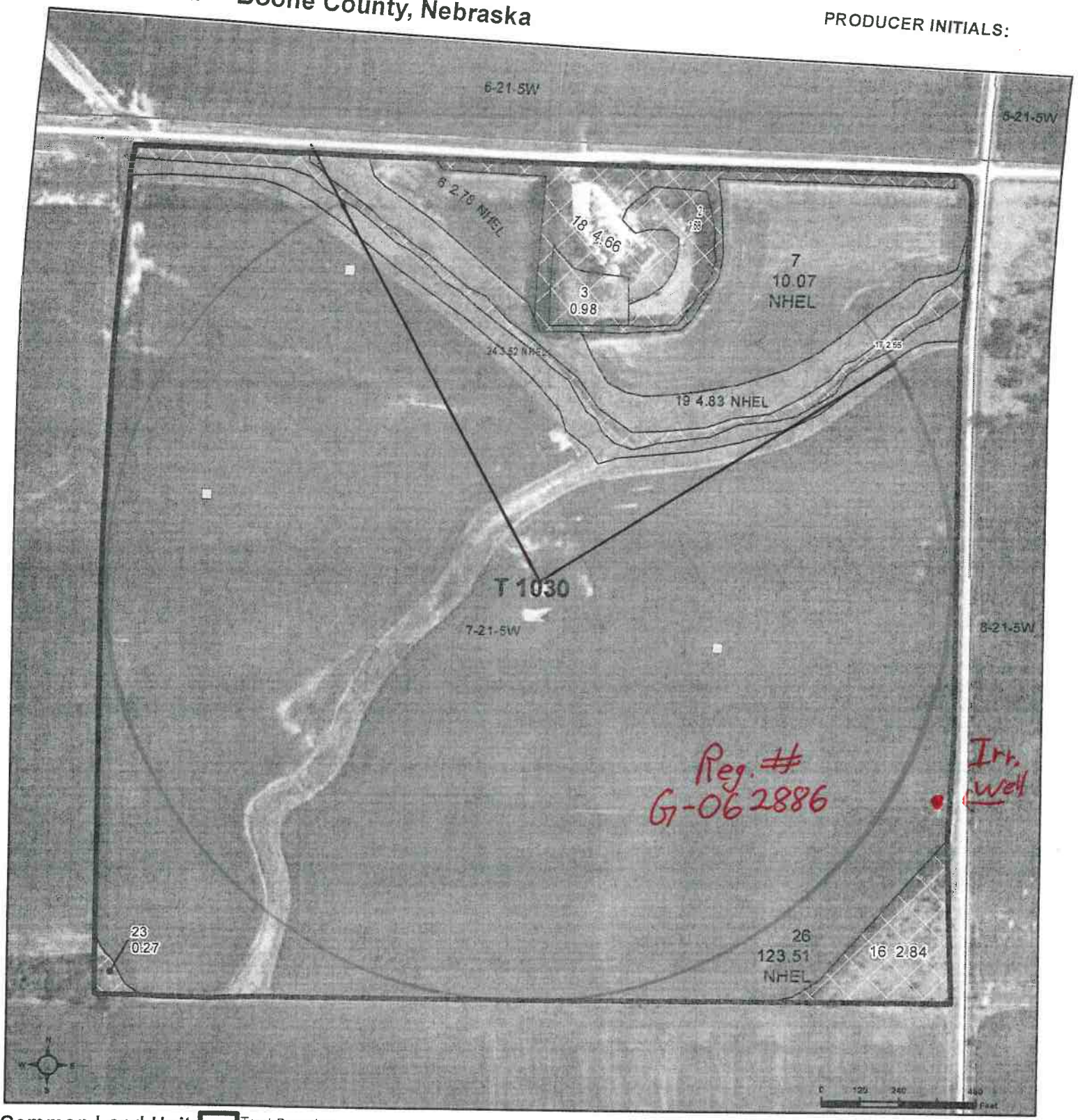
7-21-5W

Wetland Determination Identifiers
- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Wetland Provisions

USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Boone County, Nebraska

PRODUCER INITIALS:



Common Land Unit Tract Boundary

Non-Cropland

Cropland

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Wetland Provisions

2020 NAIP Ortho Imagery

ALL CROPS ARE NON-IRRIGATED AND INTENDED USE IS GRAIN UNLESS SPECIFIED

Tract Cropland Total: 144.71 acres

2023 Program Year

Map Created February 17, 2023

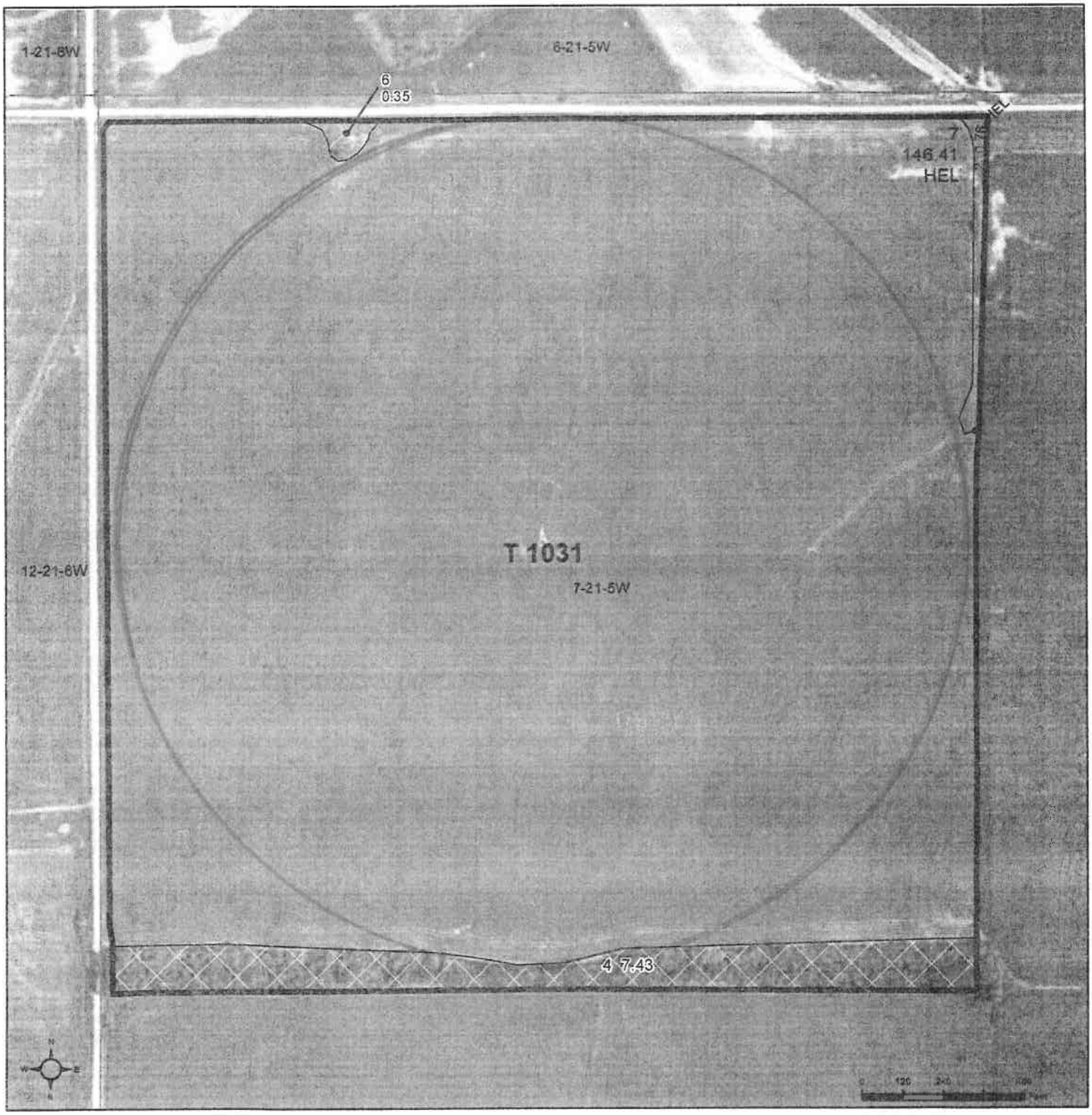
Farm **6001**

Tract **1030**

USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Boone County, Nebraska

PRODUCER INITIALS:



Common Land Unit Tract Boundary

Non-Cropland

Cropland

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Wetland Provisions

2020 NAIP Ortho Imagery

ALL CROPS ARE NON-IRRIGATED AND INTENDED USE IS GRAIN UNLESS SPECIFIED

Tract Cropland Total: 147.17 acres

2023 Program Year

Map Created November 30, 2022

Farm **3429**

Tract **1031**

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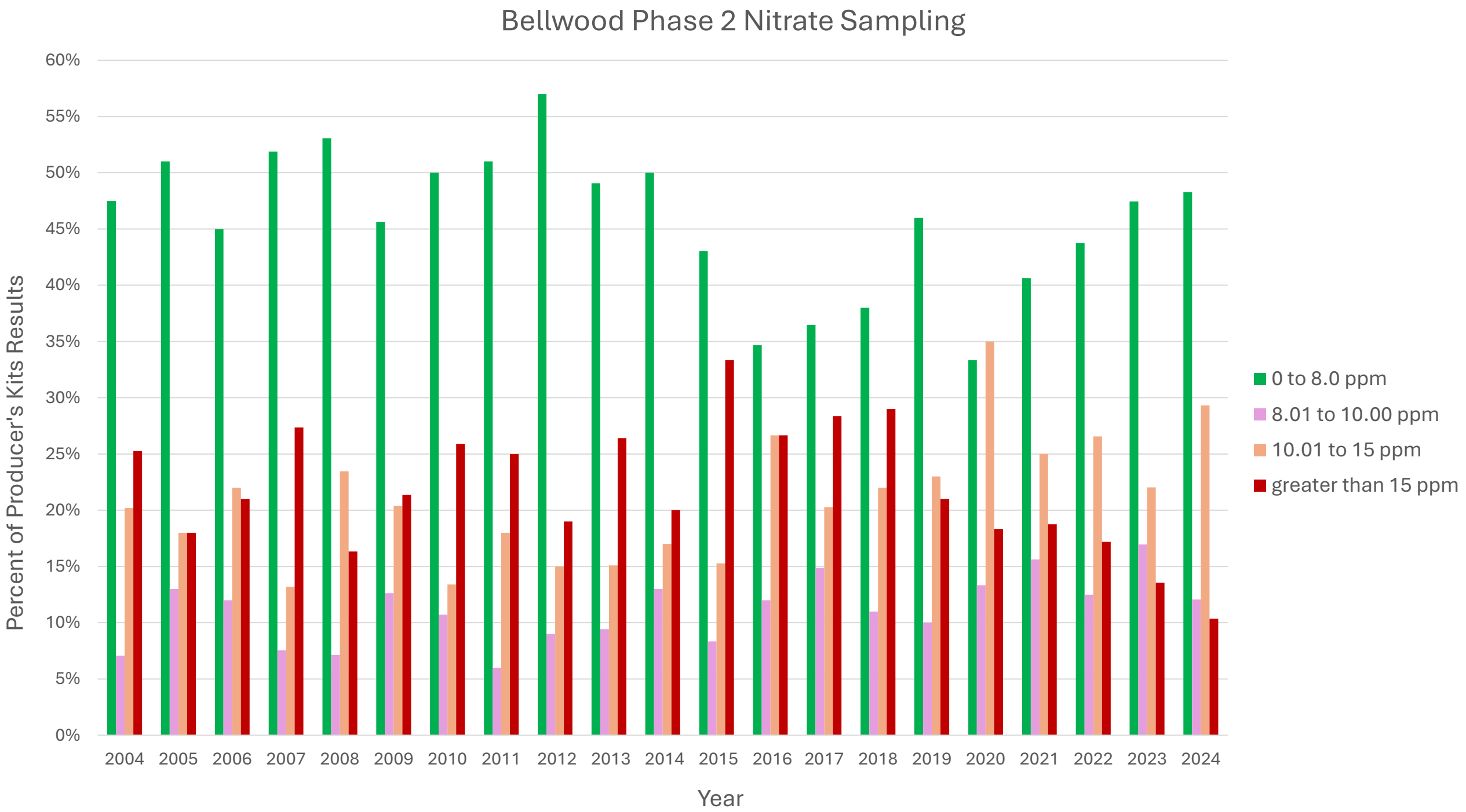
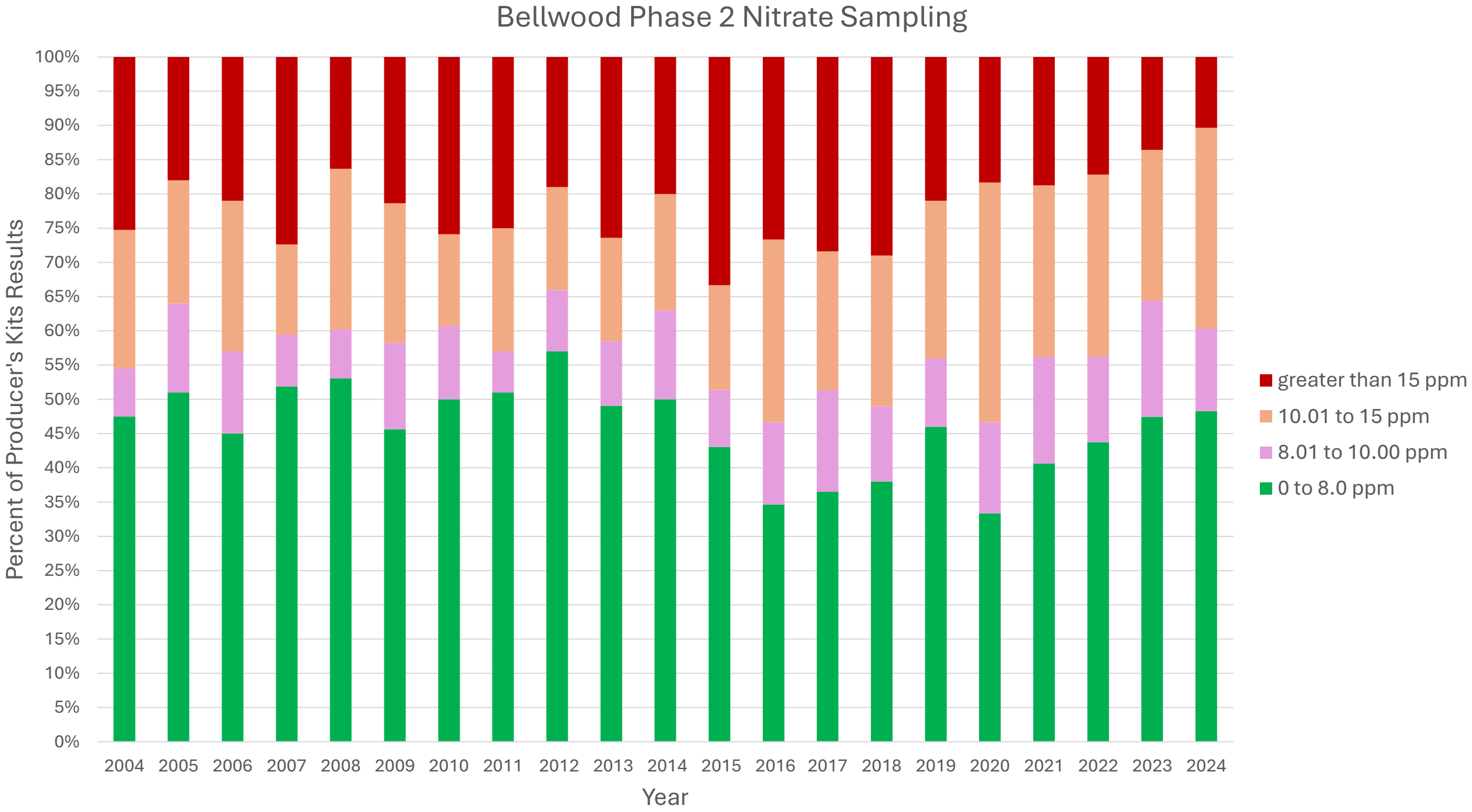
Bellwood Phase 2 Area


Bellwood Phase 2 Nitrate Sampling
60%
55%
50%
45%
40%
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
Percent of Producer's Kits Results
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
Year
0 to 8.0 ppm
8.01 to 10.00 ppm
10.01 to 15 ppm
greater than 15 ppm


Bellwood Phase 2 Nitrate Sampling
Percent of Producer's Kits Results
100%
95%
90%
85%
80%
75%
70%
65%
60%
55%
50%
45%
40%
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
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2011
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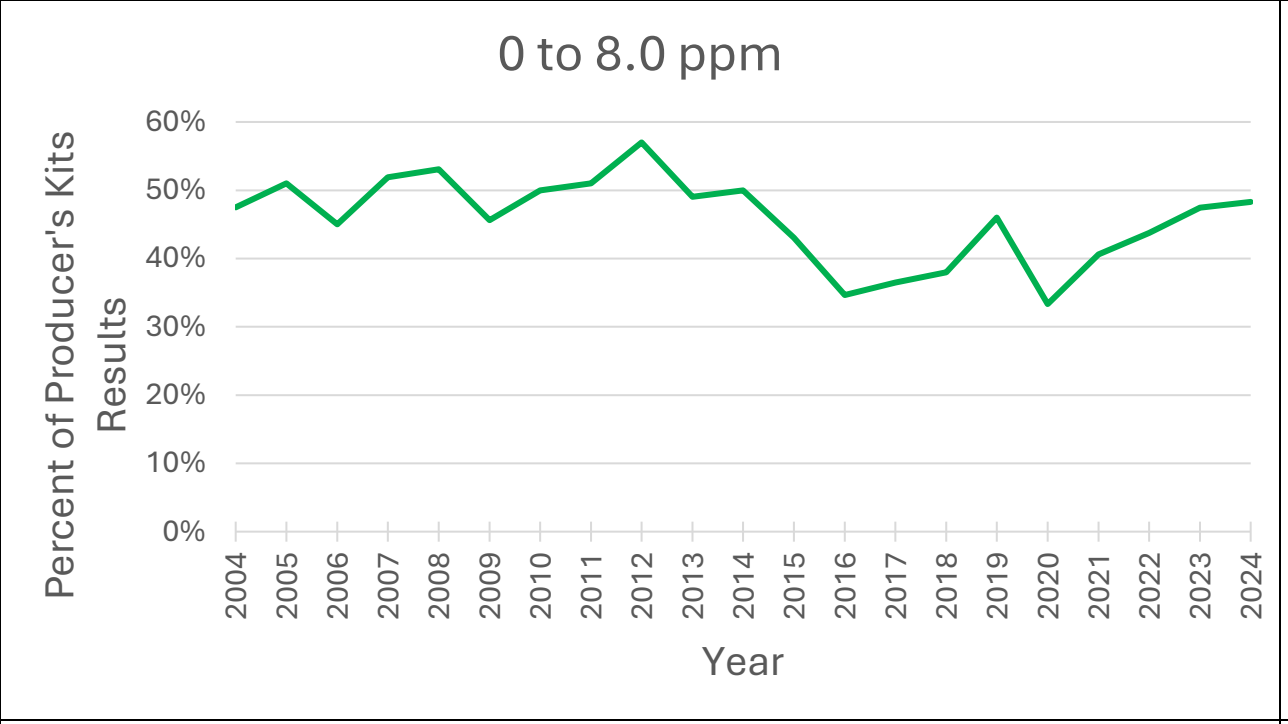
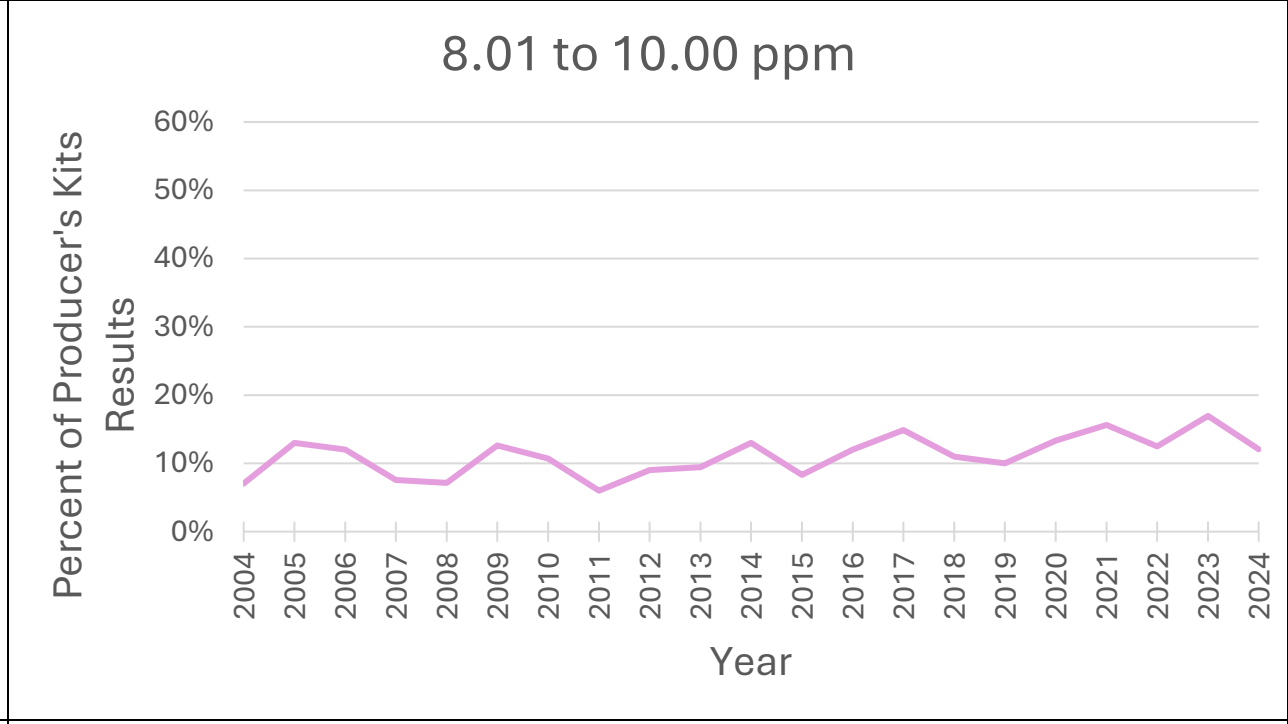
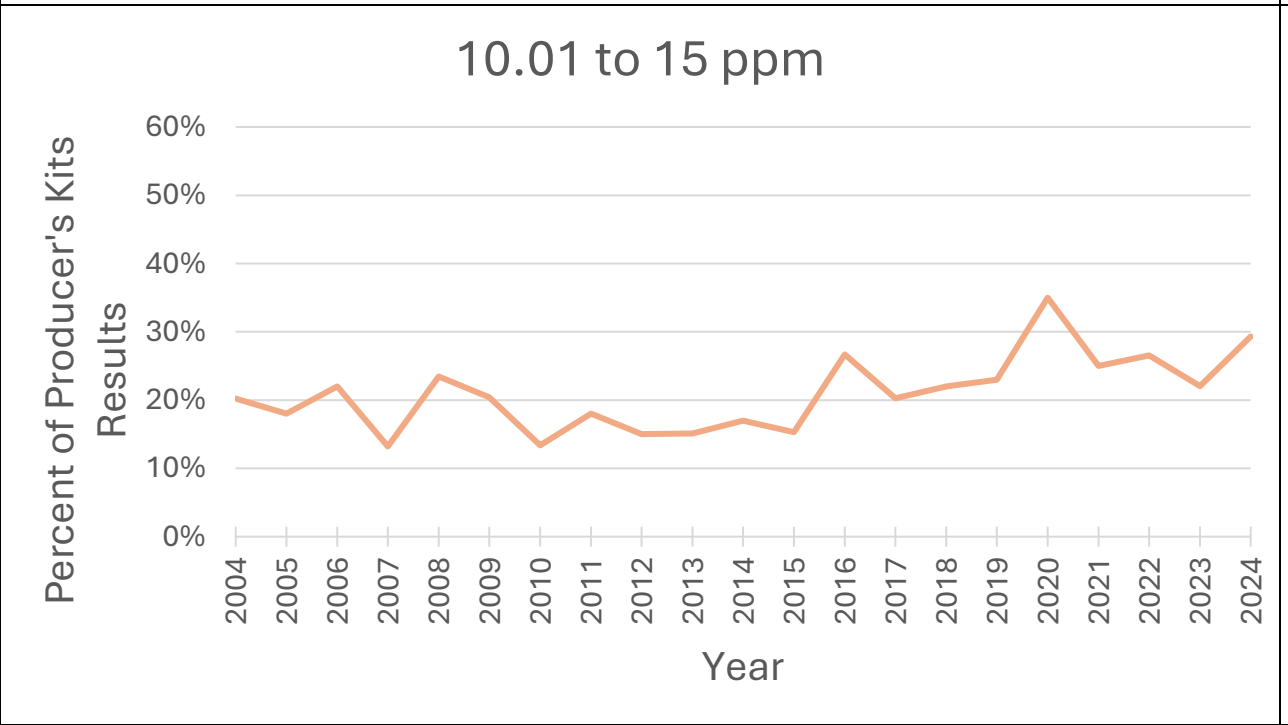
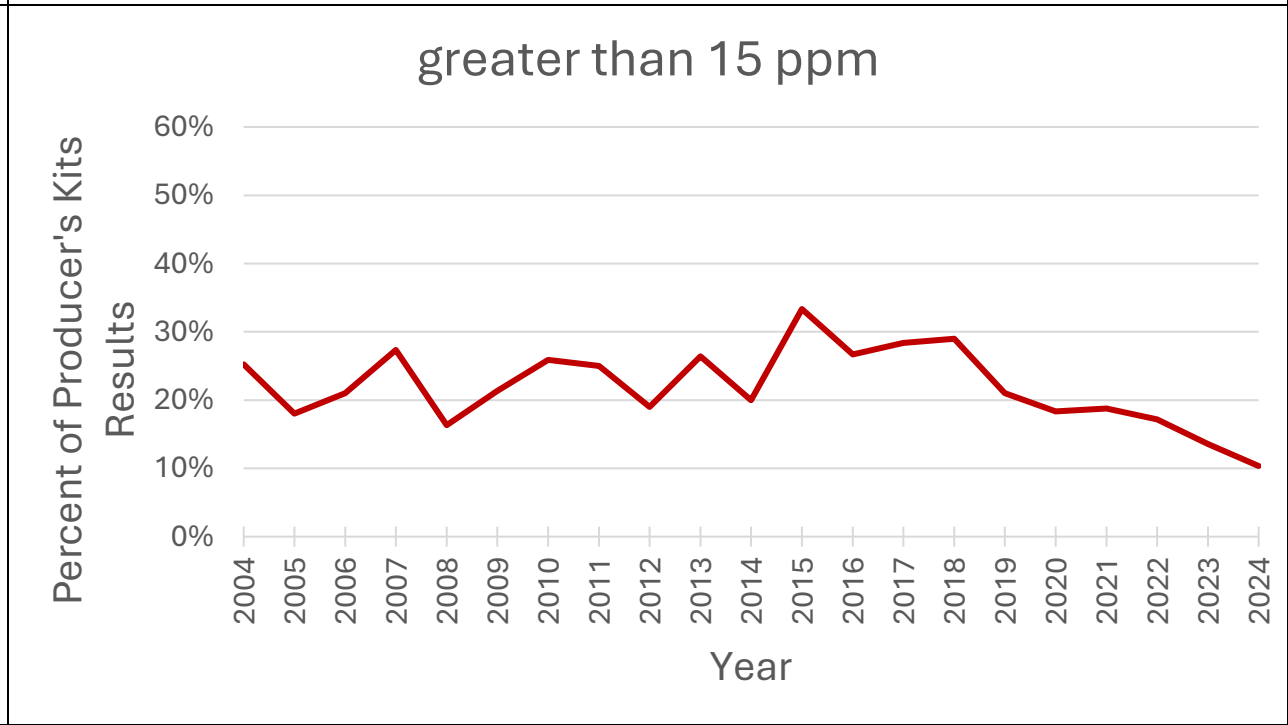
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
Year
greater than 15 ppm
10.01 to 15 ppm
8.01 to 10.00 ppm
0 to 8.0 ppm

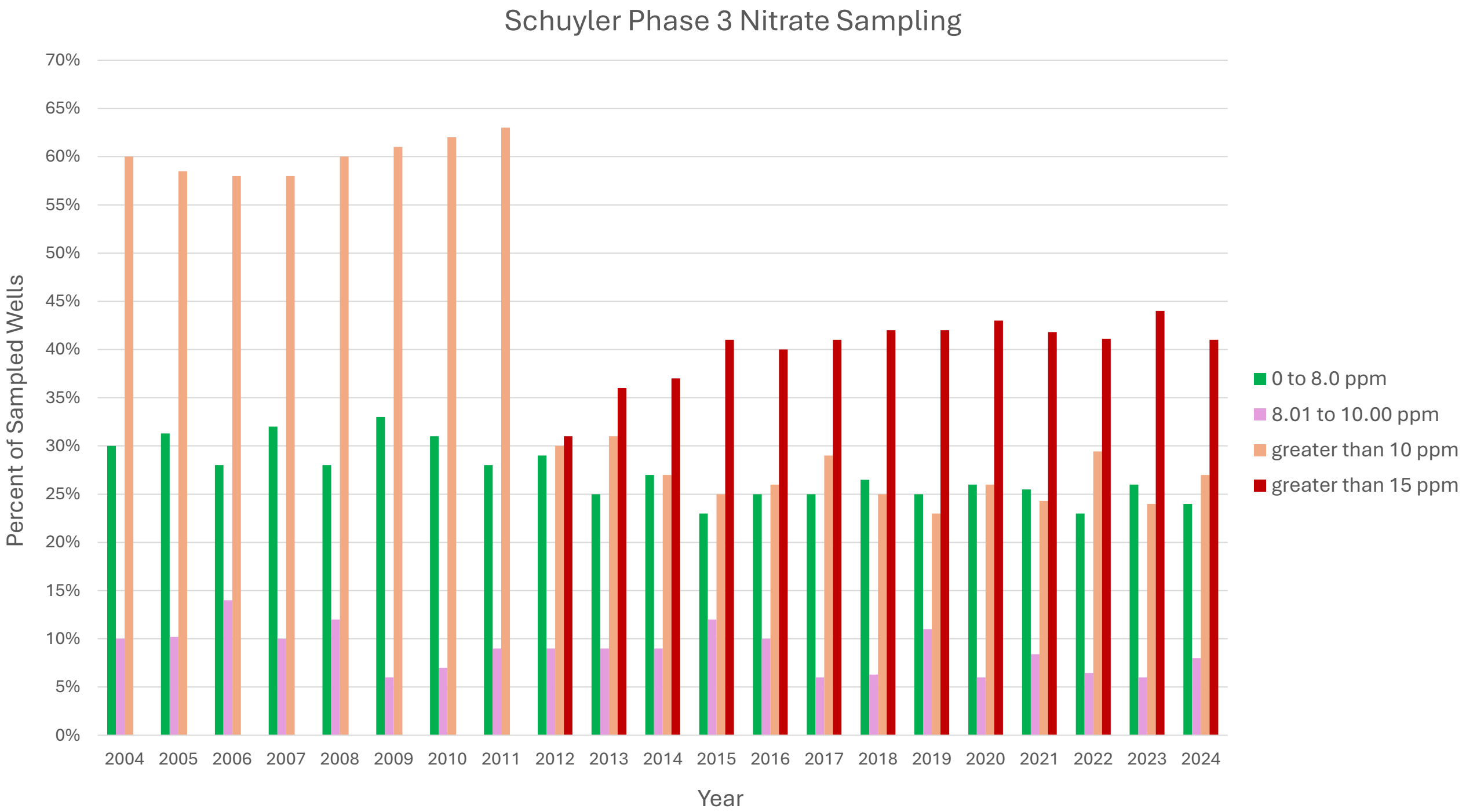

0 to 8.0 ppm
Percent of Producer's Kits Results
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024
Year

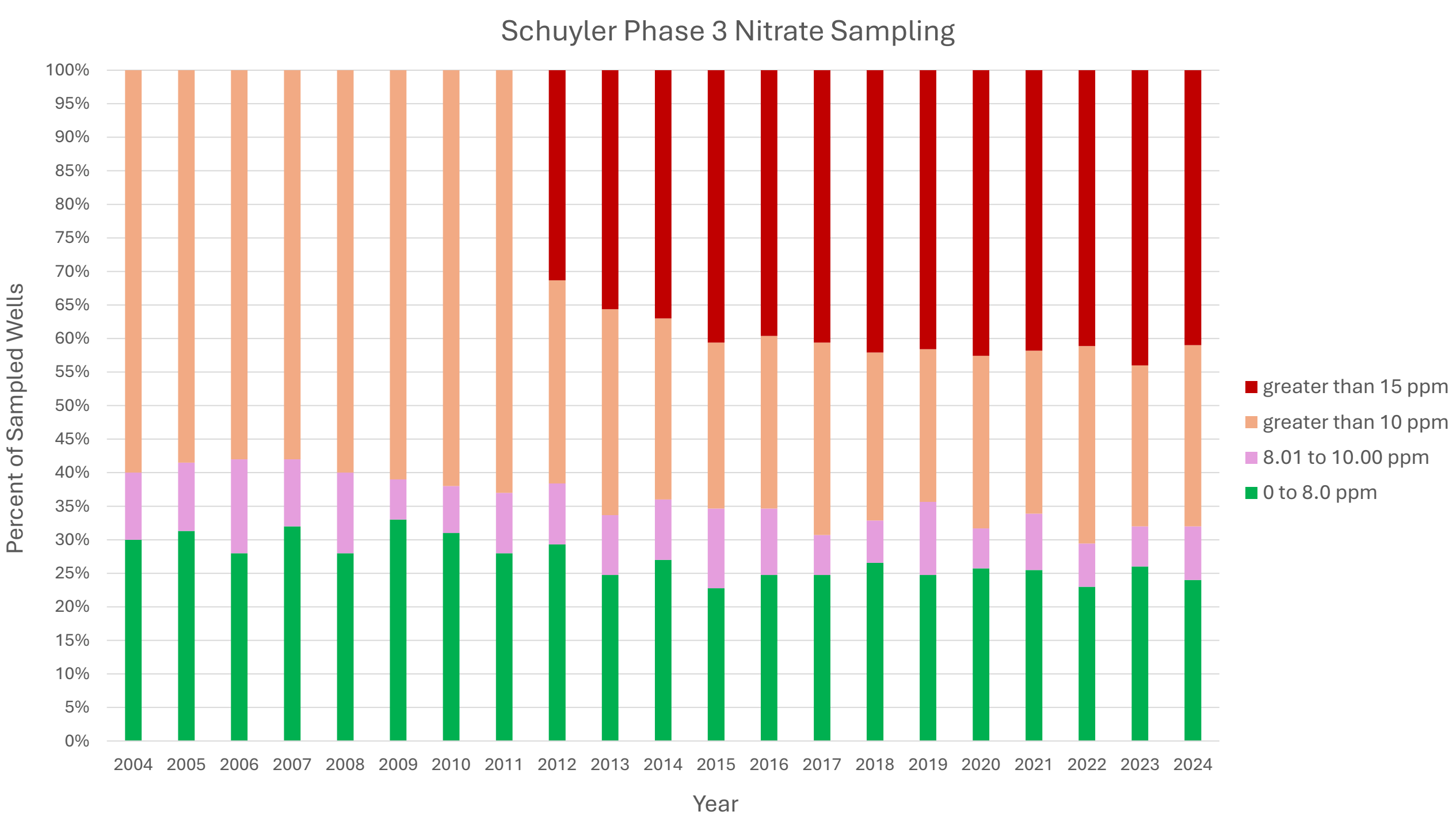

8.01 to 10.00 ppm
Percent of Producer's Kits Results
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024
Year


10.01 to 15 ppm
Percent of Producer's Kits Results
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024
Year


greater than 15 ppm
Percent of Producer's Kits Results
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024
Year

Schuyler Phase 3 Area


Schuyler Phase 3 Nitrate Sampling
70%
65%
60%
55%
50%
45%
40%
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
Percent of Sampled Wells
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
Year
0 to 8.0 ppm
8.01 to 10.00 ppm
greater than 10 ppm
greater than 15 ppm


Schuyler Phase 3 Nitrate Sampling
Percent of Sampled Wells
100%
95%
90%
85%
80%
75%
70%
65%
60%
55%
50%
45%
40%
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
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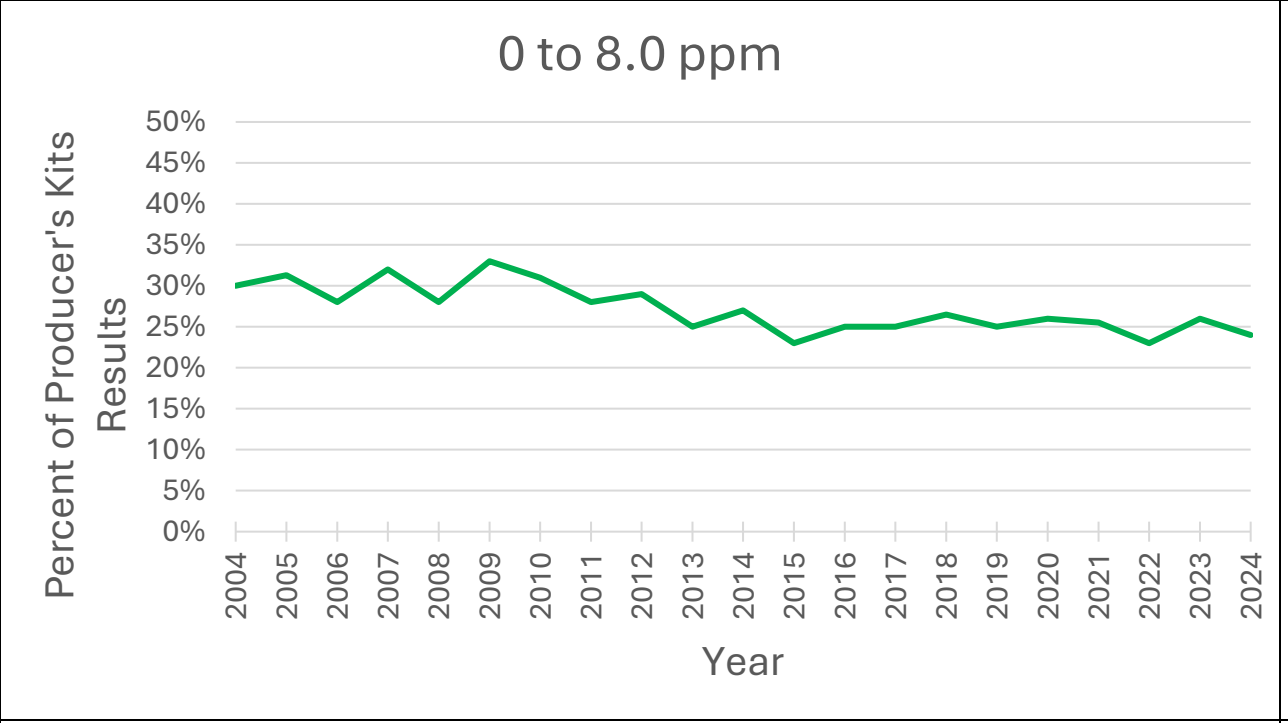
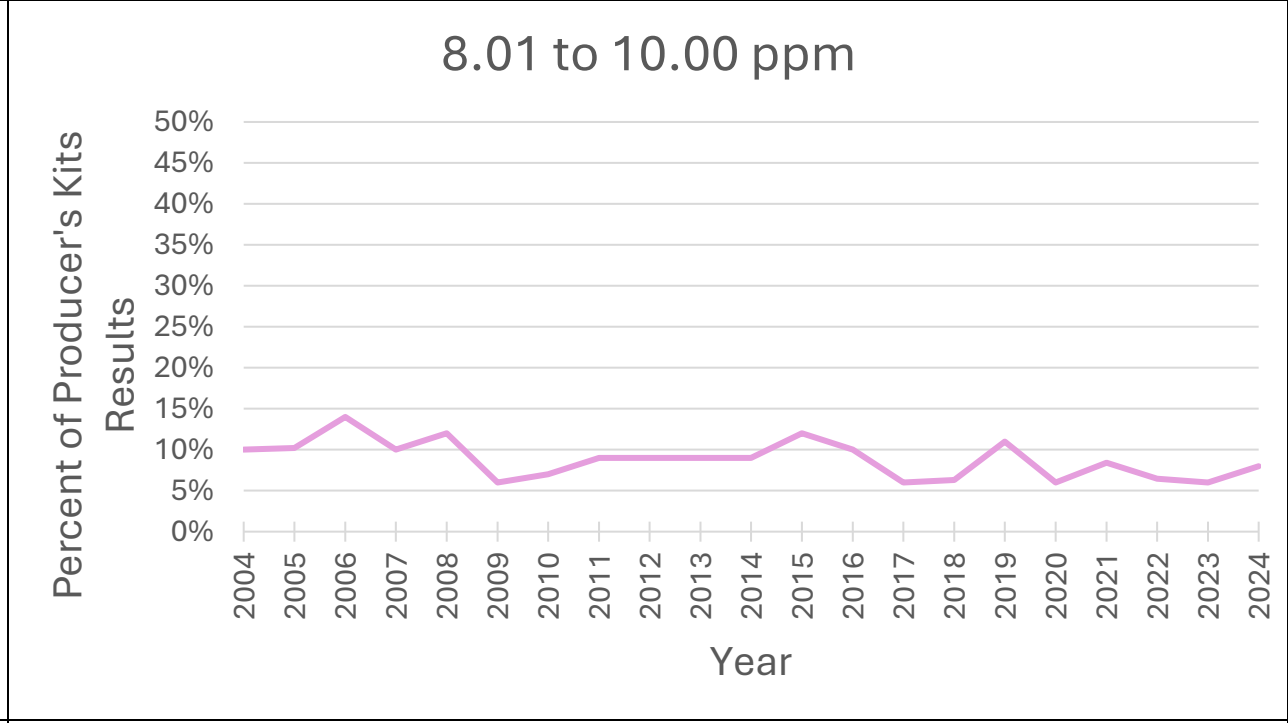
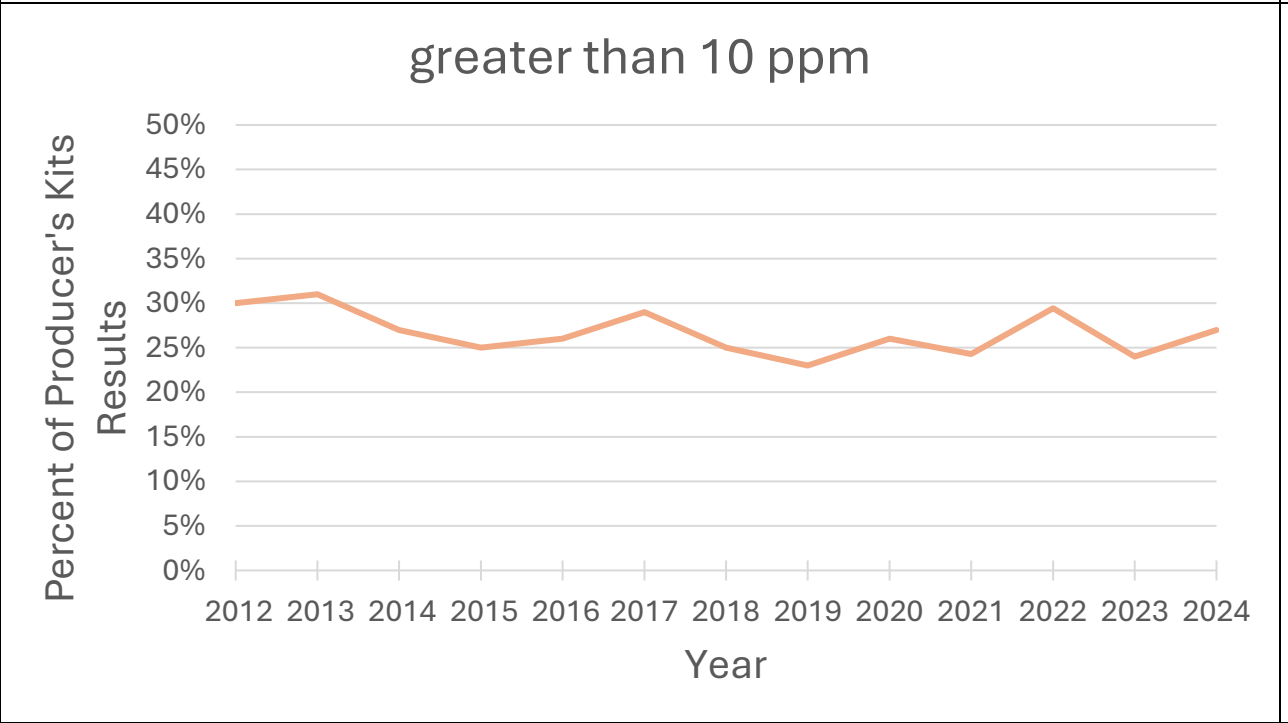
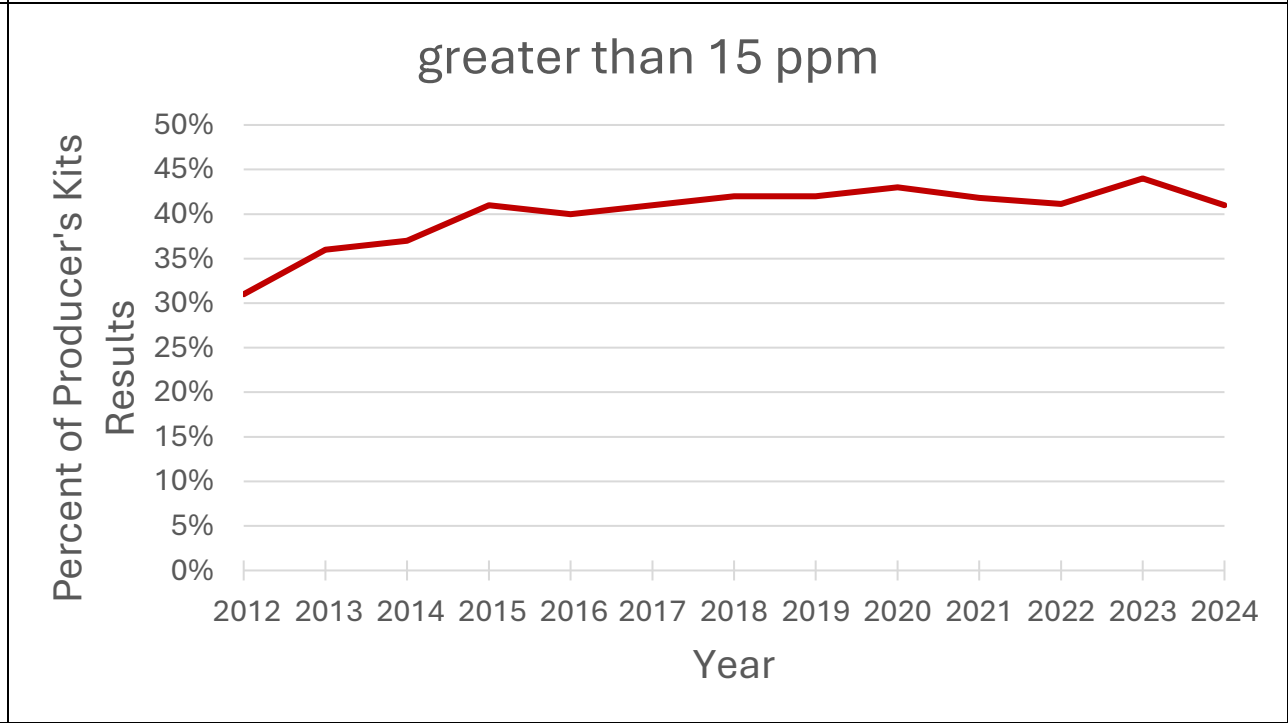
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
Year
greater than 15 ppm
greater than 10 ppm
8.01 to 10.00 ppm
0 to 8.0 ppm


0 to 8.0 ppm
Percent of Producer's Kits Results
50%
45%
40%
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024
Year


8.01 to 10.00 ppm
Percent of Producer's Kits Results
50%
45%
40%
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024
Year


greater than 10 ppm
Percent of Producer's Kits Results
50%
45%
40%
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024
Year


greater than 15 ppm
Percent of Producer's Kits Results
50%
45%
40%
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024
Year

CONNECTING WATER TO LIFE

October 16, 2024
Invoice No: 27949

Invoice Total: $12,009.26

Daryl Andersen
Lower Platte North NRD
511 Commercial Park Road
Wahoo, NE 68066-0126

Please Remit To:
LRE Water
1221 Auraria Pkwy
Denver, CO 80204
(303) 455-9589
billing@LREwater.com

Invoice Email: dandersen@lpnnrd.org
Project No.: 5036LPN03
Project Name: LPNNRD GW Management Plan

Professional Services through September 25, 2024

Task 02 Stakeholder Involvement

Professional Personnel

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Mohr, Jonathan	11.50	195.00	2,242.50	
Totals	11.50		2,242.50	
Total Labor				**$2,242.50**

Reimbursable Expenses

Mohr, Jonathan			10.26	
Total Reimbursables			**10.26**	**$10.26**
		Total this Task		**$2,252.76**

Task 03 Plan Development

Professional Personnel

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Mohr, Jonathan	31.00	195.00	6,045.00	
Stokes, Scott	1.00	149.00	149.00	
Totals	32.00		6,194.00	
Total Labor				**$6,194.00**
		Total this Task		**$6,194.00**

Task 05 Review & Refine Subarea Delineations

Professional Personnel

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Mohr, Jonathan	1.00	195.00	195.00	
Totals	1.00		195.00	
Total Labor				**$195.00**

				Total this Task	**$195.00**

Task 06 Review Spring/Fall Wells

Professional Personnel

	Hours	**Rate**	**Amount**	
Libra, Jon	21.75	143.00	3,110.25	
Mohr, Jonathan	.50	195.00	97.50	
Sopiwnik, Roscoe	.75	213.00	159.75	
Totals	23.00		3,367.50	
Total Labor				**$3,367.50**
			Total this Task	**$3,367.50**
			Total this Invoice	**$12,009.26**

Outstanding Invoices

Number	**Date**	**Balance**
27600	9/19/2024	12,800.37
Total		**$12,800.37**

Total Now Due	**$24,809.63**

CONNECTING WATER TO LIFE

October 16, 2024
Invoice No: 27950

Invoice Total: $1,486.00

Daryl Andersen
Lower Platte North NRD
511 Commercial Park Road
Wahoo, NE 68066-0126

Please Remit To:
LRE Water
1221 Auraria Pkwy
Denver, CO 80204
(303) 455-9589
billing@LREwater.com

Invoice Email: dandersen@lpnnrd.org
Project No.: 5036LPN04
Project Name: LPNNRD Nitrate Assessment Project

Professional Services through September 25, 2024

Task 01 Risk Tool Expansion

Professional Personnel

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Fullmer, Tucker	2.50	141.00	352.50	
Sopiwnik, Roscoe	.25	213.00	53.25	
Totals	2.75		405.75	
Total Labor				**$405.75**
		Total this Task		**$405.75**

Task 02 USC Groundwater Model

Professional Personnel

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Stokes, Scott	7.25	149.00	1,080.25	
Totals	7.25		1,080.25	
Total Labor				**$1,080.25**
		Total this Task		**$1,080.25**
		Total this Invoice		**$1,486.00**

Outstanding Invoices

Number	Date	Balance
27601	9/30/2024	1,773.00
Total		**$1,773.00**

Total Now Due **$3,259.00**

October 15, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lower Platte North Natural Resources District (LPNNRD) has scheduled a Public Hearing at the Cobblestone Inn & Suites located at 2218 Colfax Street, Schuyler NE. This hearing will begin at 7 pm on Thursday November 14, 2024. The purpose of this hearing is to hear comments regarding moving Sections 31-36, Township 18 North, Range 2 East, Sections 31-34, Township 18 North, Range 3 East, Sections 1-26, Township 17 North, Range 2 East and Sections 1-22 and 28-30, Township 17 North, Range 3 East from Groundwater Quality Phase Three to Phase Four. The criteria for this change are outlined in LPNNRD's Groundwater Management Area Rules and Regulation, dated June 15, 2018.

The Groundwater Rules and Regulations are available upon request at the Lower Platte North NRD office by regular mail at 511 Commercial Park Road, P O Box 126, Wahoo, NE 68066, by phone at 402-443-4675, or on our website at www.lpnnrd.org

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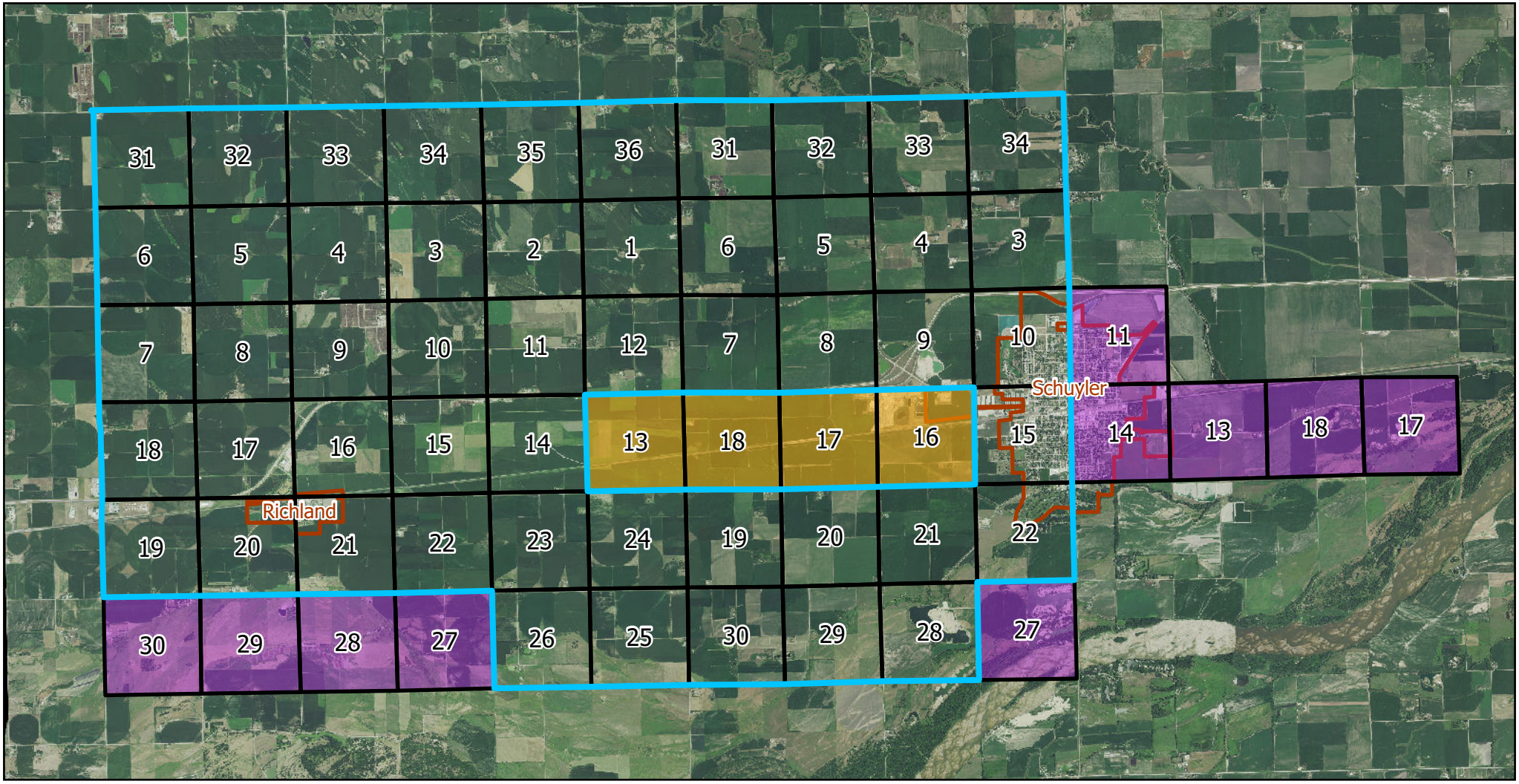
Please publish 3 consecutive weeks in your newspaper starting the week of October 21, 2024.

Invoice the: *Lower Platte North NRD*
Box 126
Wahoo, NE 68066

Jill Breunig
Administrative Manager



Proposed Phase 4
Phase 4 Uranium*
Phase 3
Sections
City Boundaries

Proposed Phase 4 Management Area

*Average uranium concentration in 4 sections is 40.7 ppb (6 samples).

Nitrate samples in proposed phase 4 area

Year	Above 15.01	Samples	> 15.01	Avg
2019	20	47	43%	14.1
2020	29	58	50%	16.7
2023	48	80	60%	17.4

0 2 4 Miles

N

Created January 2024 by LPNNRD
NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 (US Feet)
Data: LPNNRD Imagery: NRCS

LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District

Hearing Documentation:

The Lower Platte North Natural Resources District (District) will be conducting a hearing on November 14, 2024, for the purpose of implementing a Water Quality Phase 4 Management Area within the Schuyler-Richland Phase 3 Water Quality Management Area. The Board will be following the rules and regulations outlined in the District Groundwater Rules and Regulations (June 15, 2018).

The following describe the details of the Rules and Regulations being proposed:

Section I Groundwater Quality Management Area - Phase Four

Rule 1 Phase Four Criteria

When levels of nitrate-nitrogen exceed 15.01 parts per million, or levels of other human induced non-point source contaminants exceed 100% of the MCL or LHAL, a Phase Four area will be declared. Within the same aquifer; boundary setting for Phase Four Areas will be initiated when: water quality analytical results within a minimum 9 square mile area are at identified trigger levels for a minimum of 2 sampling events. The area must contain a minimum of 10 registered wells and contaminant trigger levels must be exceeded in over 50% of the wells. When irrigation wells are not available, other wells may be used. Initial investigation by the District will be to determine if the contamination is a result of point-source or non-point source pollution. If non-point source pollution is found to be the reason, more intensive investigation for boundary setting will ensue. If a Wellhead Protection Area should be established due to non-point source pollution, the District may set boundaries that are less than 9 square miles. After the establishment of a Phase Four Area, if non-point source contamination levels should decline, two consecutive sampling events below the trigger levels are needed before the Area could be placed in Phase Three, Phase Two or Phase One.

- **The criteria for the boundary have been met, which includes sections with human induced non-point source contaminants exceeding 100% of the MCL concentration of uranium.**

Rule 2 Continuation of Phase One, Two and Three Rules

A continuation of Phase One Rules as defined in Section E, Rules 1-6, Section F, Rule 2, Phase Two Rules as defined in Section G, Rules 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10 and 11, Phase Three Rules as defined in Section H, Rule 4.

- **A 2-step reporting process for Phase 4 reports with March 15th for soil samples and District nitrogen recommendations with a December 15th deadline for reporting actual yields and nitrogen applications.**

Rule 3 Fertilizer Application On All Soils

Split application of commercial nitrogen fertilizer is required with 80 pounds maximum applied before May 1.

- **Encouraging split applications and utilizing the manure credit.**

Rule 4 Nitrogen Recommendations

Nitrogen applications must not exceed District Recommendations. Application data may be required to verify the amount of nitrogen that is applied to the field(s) within the management area.

- **The District will utilize the nitrogen recommendation formula that has been used since the management area was established. Emphasis will be given on correct soil sampling protocols and realistic yield expectations when calculating nitrogen recommendations.**
- **The District will require soil samples down to 36 inches but recommendations can be made on 0-8 and 8-24 results if deep soil types are not realistic.**

Rule 5 Well Metering

Flow meters are required on all high capacity wells.

- **All high capacity irrigation wells of 50 gallons per minute (GPM) or greater will require a properly installed District approved flow meter.**
- **Water Use report is required annually with nitrogen report**

Rule 6 Acre-Inch Allocations

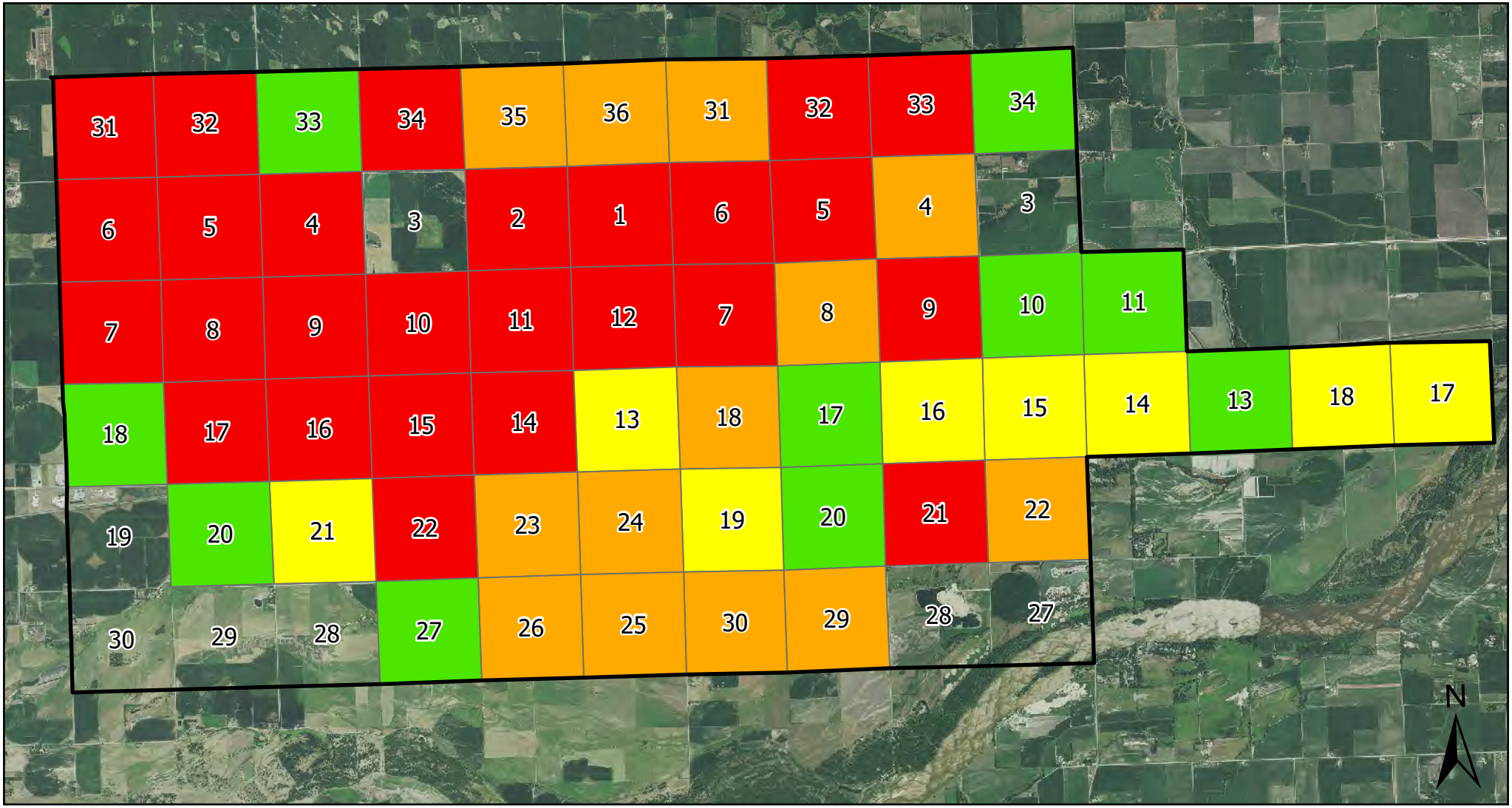
A rolling acre-inch allocation, in 3-year increments, will be put into place by the District and will be based on the aquifer subarea, crop planted, irrigation distribution system, percent decline of the aquifer, water use of the aquifer, climatic conditions, net corn crop requirements, and discretionary factors.

- **The District will collect 3 years of water use information from all of the producers within the Phase 4 area and then consider if an allocation should be implemented.**

Rule 7 Staff Assistance

NRD Staff will work directly with individuals on Best Management Practices. Staff may spot check fields before May 1 by collecting a soil sample to monitor Rule 3.

- **Staff will work with producers to implement a Nutrient/Irrigation Agreement or a Nitrogen Reduction Incentive**



Richland Schuyler Phase III

Producer Samples 2024

MEAN Nitrates

- 0 - 8
- 8.01 - 10
- 10.01 - 15
- > 15.01

Mean N by Section 2024 Producer Samples

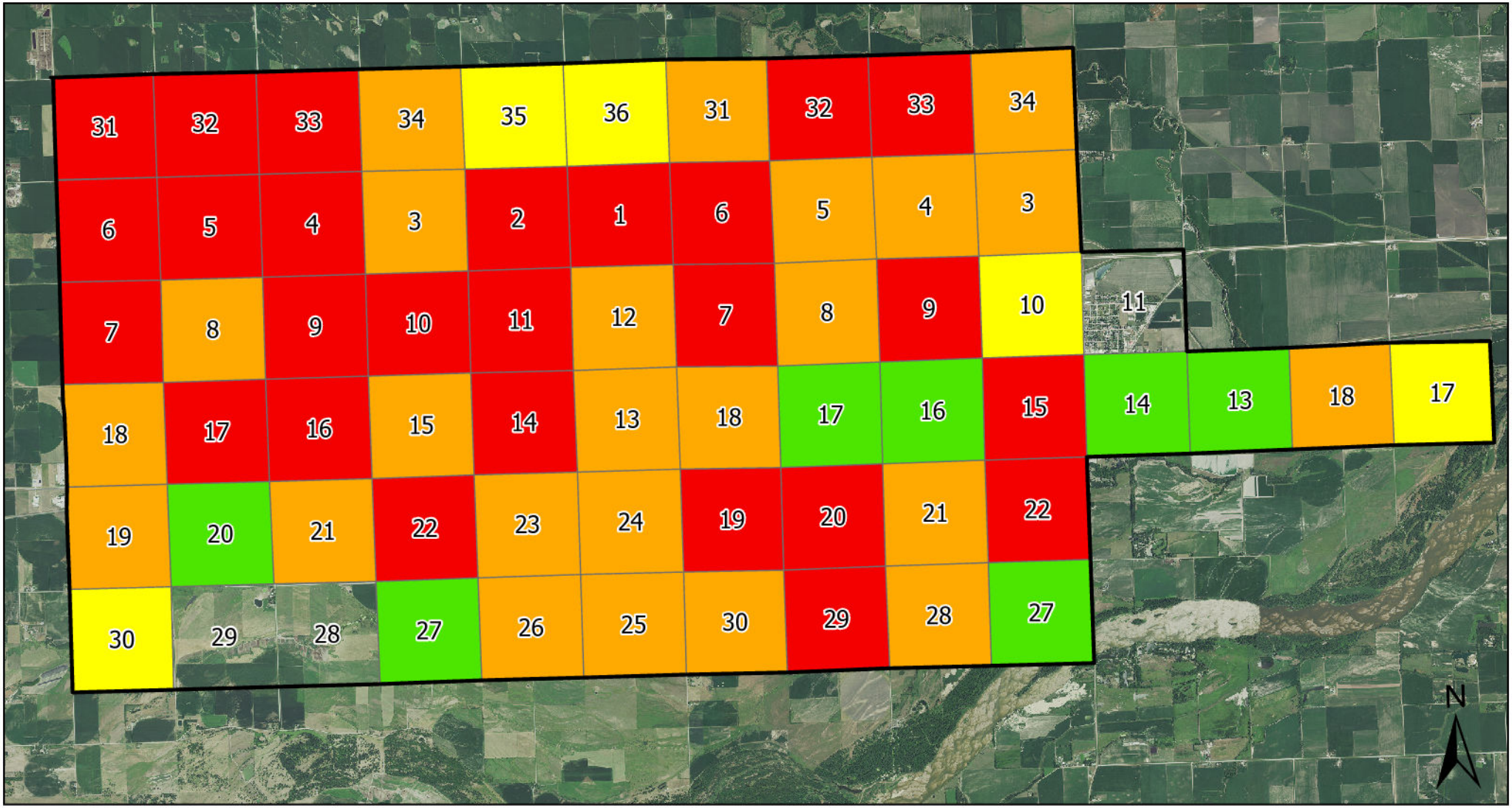
Includes data from 254 samples

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate in drinking water at 10 parts per million. This is due to health risks associated with consuming water with high nitrate levels.

0 1 2 4 Miles

Created 10/25/2024 by LPNNRD
NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 (US Feet)
Data: LPNNRD Imagery: NRCS

LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District



Richland Schuyler Phase III

2020, 2023, 2024

Mean Nitrates

- 0 - 8
- 8.01 - 10
- 10.01 - 15
- > 15.01

Mean N by Section 3-Year NRD Samples

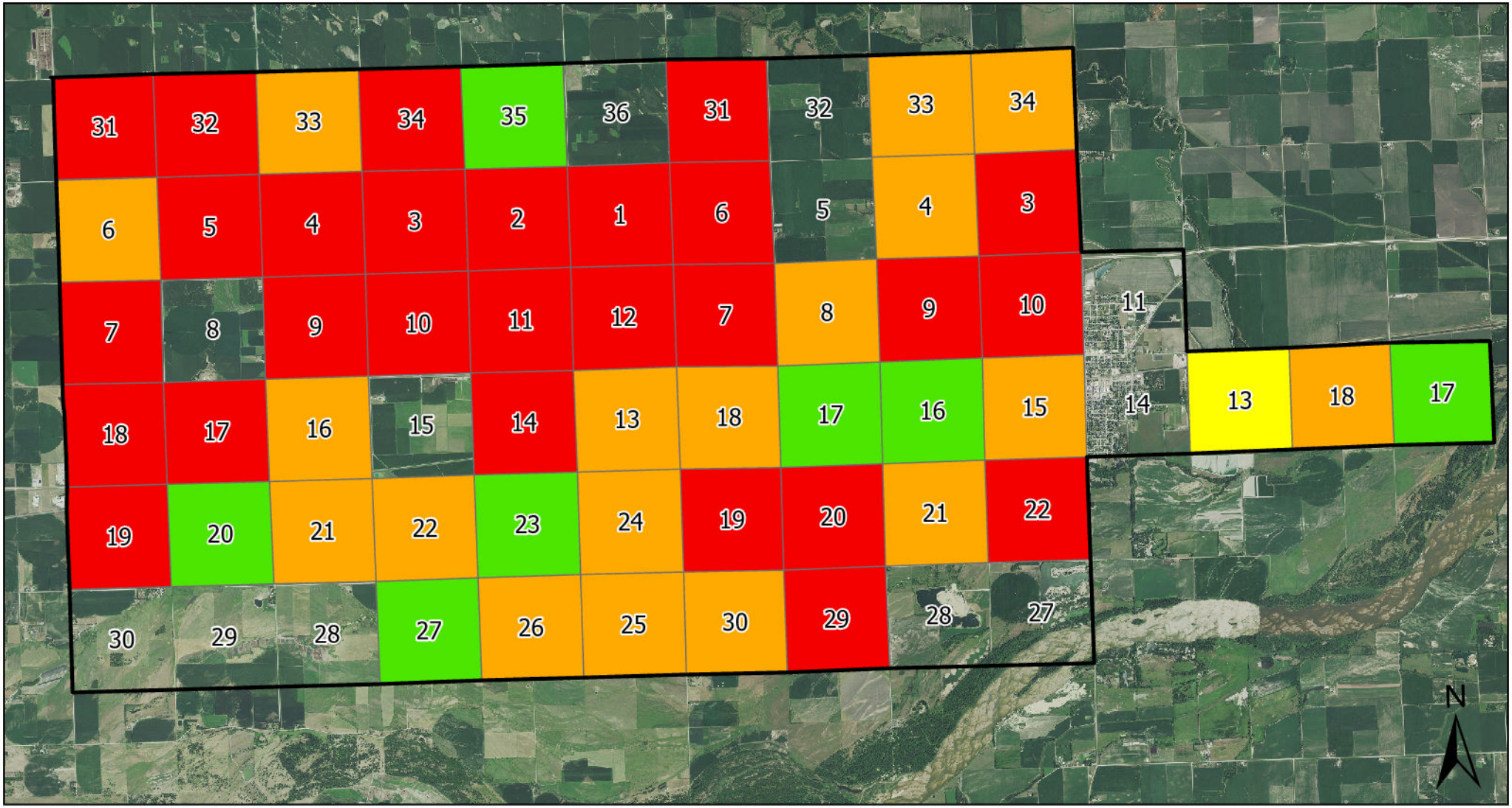
Includes data from 242 samples (2020, 2023, 2024)

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate in drinking water at 10 parts per million. This is due to health risks associated with consuming water with high nitrate levels.

0 1 2 4 Miles

Created 10/24/2024 by LPNNRD
NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 (US Feet)
Data: LPNNRD Imagery: NRCS

LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District



Richland Schuyler Phase III

2024

Mean Nitrates

- 0 - 8
- 8.01 - 10
- 10.01 - 15
- > 15.01

Mean N by Section 2024 NRD Samples

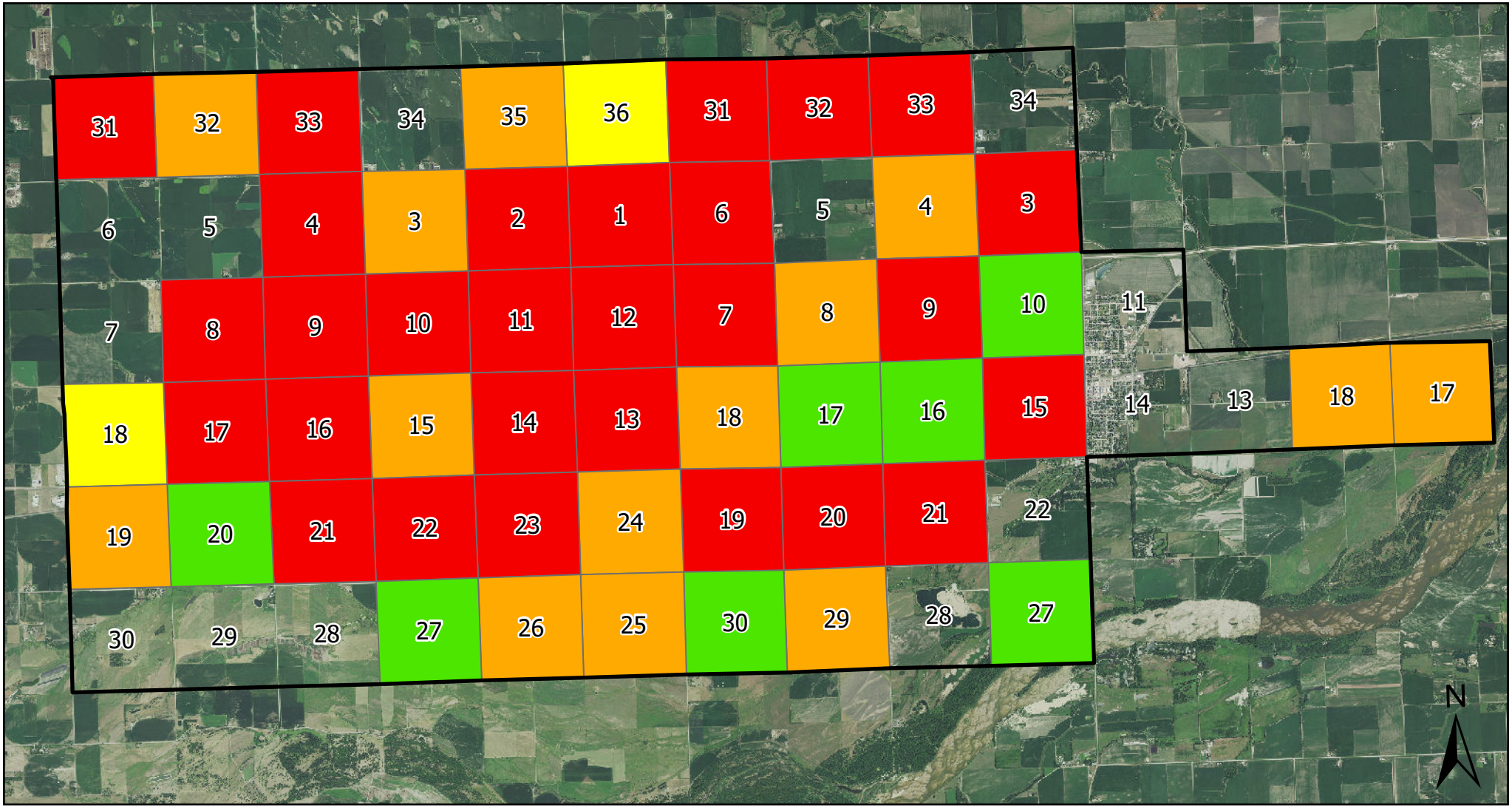
Includes data from 79 samples

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate in drinking water at 10 parts per million. This is due to health risks associated with consuming water with high nitrate levels.

0 1 2 4 Miles

Created 10/24/2024 by LPNNRD
NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 (US Feet)
Data: LPNNRD Imagery: NRCS

LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District



Richland Schuyler Phase III

2023

Mean Nitrates

- 0 - 8
- 8.01 - 10
- 10.01 - 15
- > 15.01

Mean N by Section 2023 NRD Samples

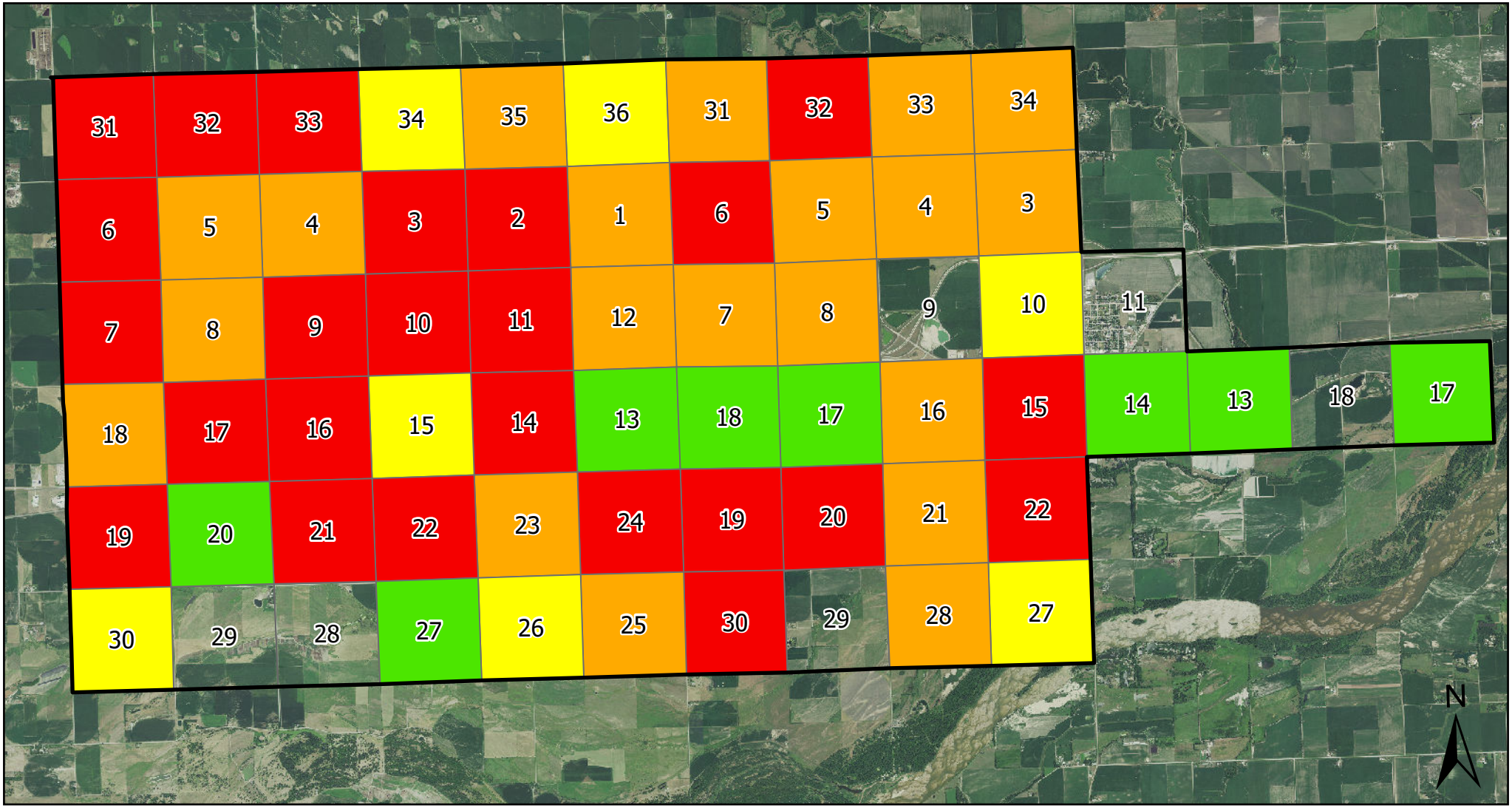
Includes data from 94 samples

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate in drinking water at 10 parts per million. This is due to health risks associated with consuming water with high nitrate levels.

0 1 2 4 Miles

Created 10/19/23 by LPNNRD
NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 (US Feet)
Data: LPNNRD Imagery: NRCS

LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District



Richland Schuyler Phase III

2020

Mean Nitrates

- 0 - 8
- 8.01 - 10
- 10.01 - 15
- > 15.01

0 1 2 4 Miles

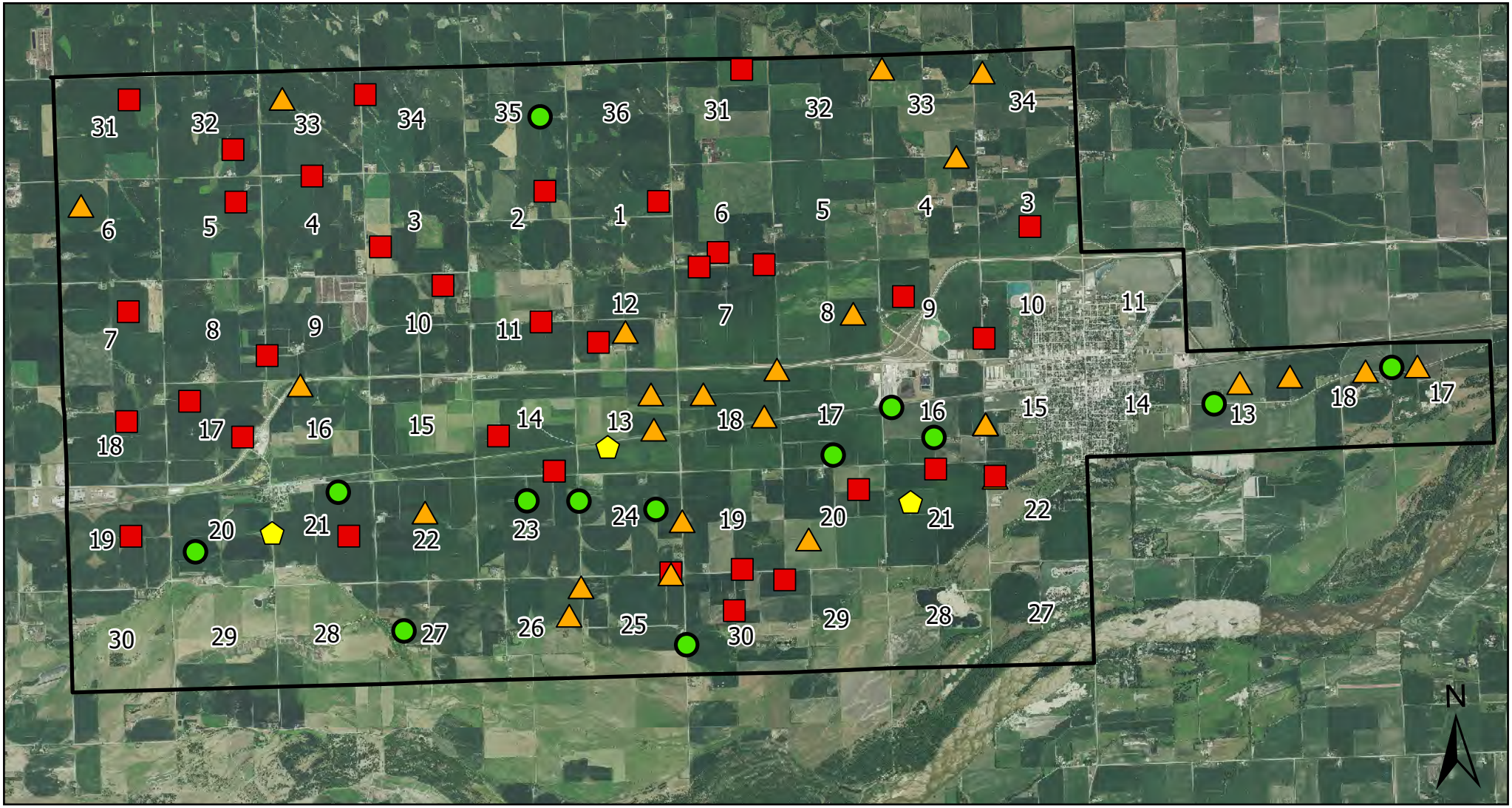
Mean N by Section 2020 NRD Samples

Includes data from 69 samples

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate in drinking water at 10 parts per million. This is due to health risks associated with consuming water with high nitrate levels.

Created 10/19/23 by LPNNRD
NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 (US Feet)
Data: LPNNRD Imagery: NRCS

LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District



Richland Schuyler Phase III

2024

Nitrates

- 0 - 8
- 8.01 - 10
- 10.01 - 15
- > 15.01

2024 NRD Sample Points

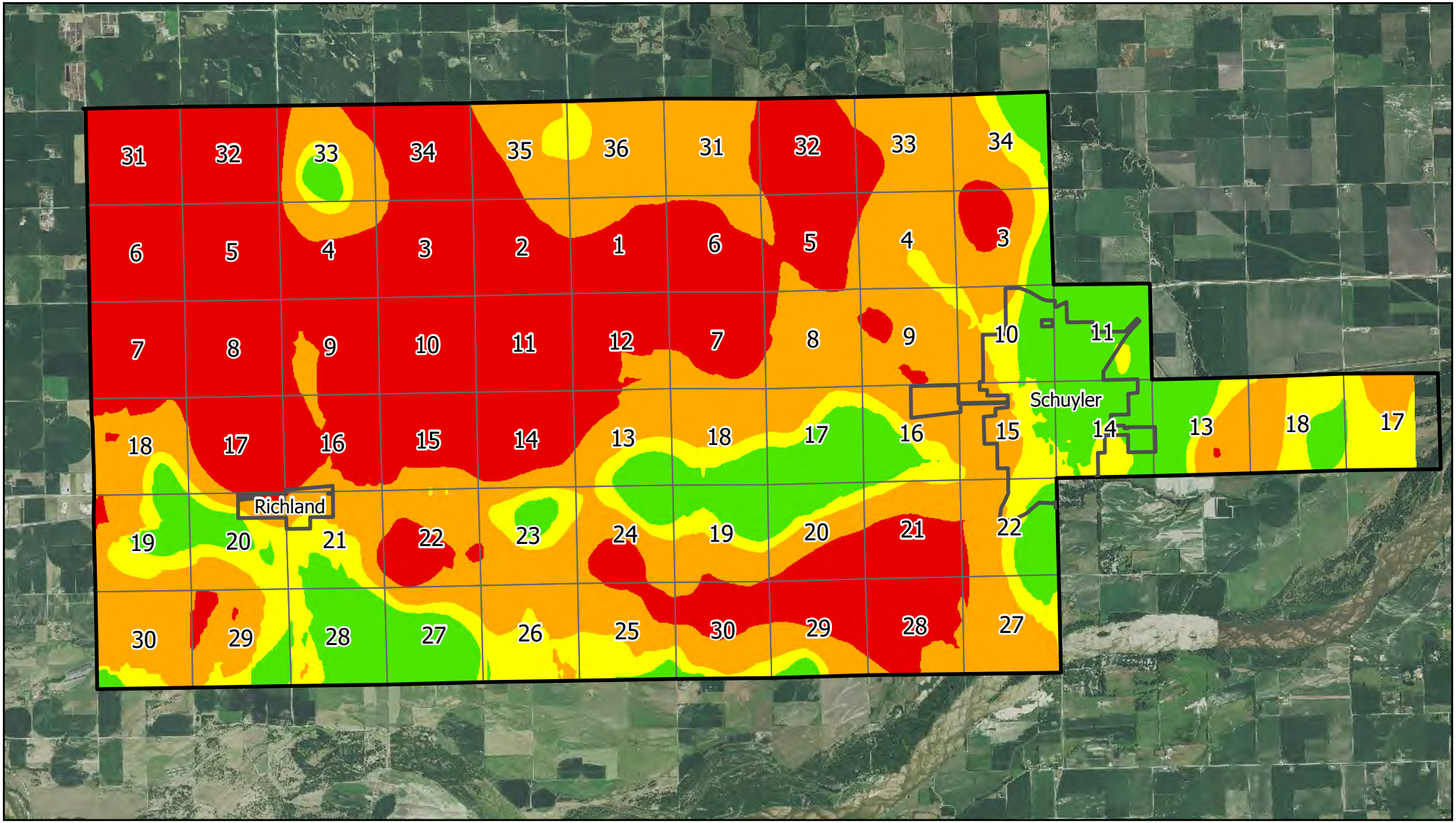
Includes data from 79 samples

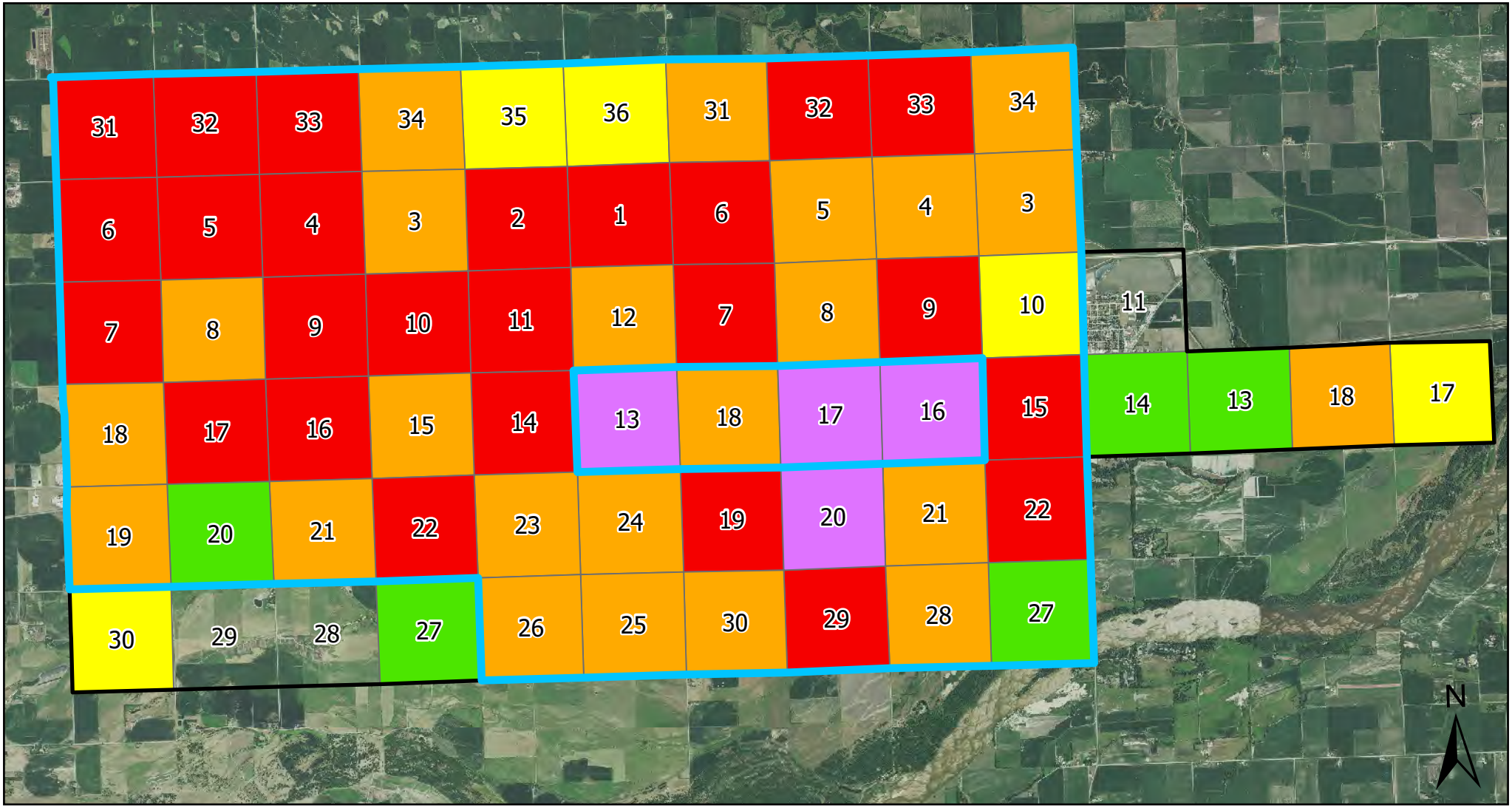
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate in drinking water at 10 parts per million. This is due to health risks associated with consuming water with high nitrate levels.

0 1 2 4 Miles

Created 10/24/2024 by LPNNRD
NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 (US Feet)
Data: LPNNRD Imagery: NRCS

LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District


31 32 33 34 35 36 31 32 33 34
6 5 4 3 2 1 6 5 4 3
7 8 9 10 11 12 7 8 9 10 11
18 17 16 15 14 13 18 17 16 15 14 13 18 17
19 20 21 22 23 24 19 20 21 22
30 29 28 27 26 25 30 29 28 27
Richland
Schuyler
City Boundaries
Richland Schuyler Phase III
Section
2024 Producer Sample Kits
VALUE
0 - 8
8.01 - 10
10.01 - 15
> 15
2024 Nitrate Results: Spatial Analysis (Producer Kits)
Includes data from 334 samples
LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District
N
0
2
4
Miles



Phase 4 Alternate Option

Richland Schuyler Phase III

2020, 2023, 2024

Mean Nitrates

- 0 - 8
- 8.01 - 10
- 10.01 - 15
- > 15.01

Uranium > 30 ppb

- Uranium > 30 ppb

Phase 4 Alternate Option with 3 Year Mean

Phase area mean % calculated from 204 samples

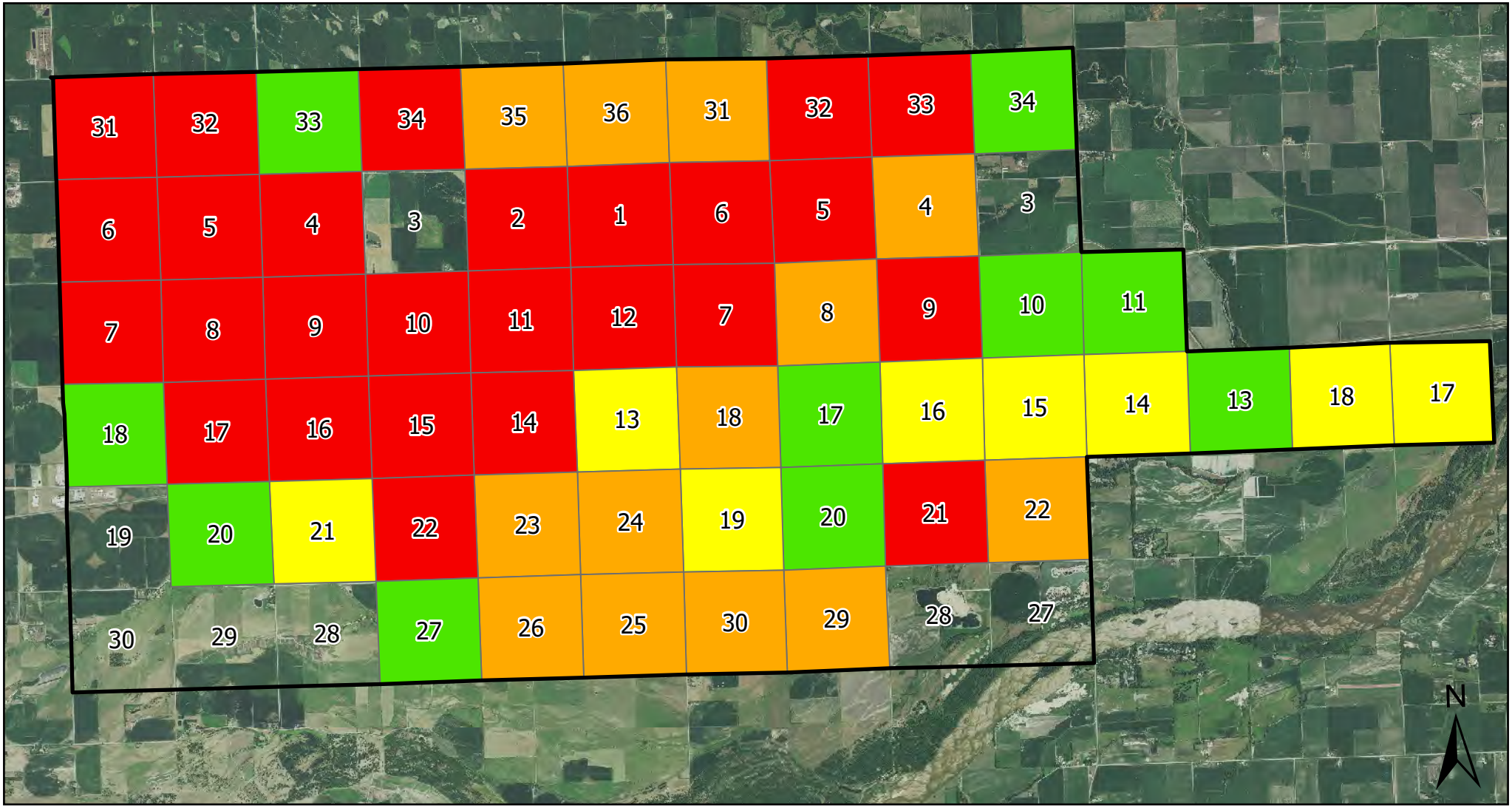
2020: 29/59 = 49% > 15.01
2023: 48/82 = 59% > 15.01
2024: 35/63 = 56% > 15.01

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate in drinking water at 10 parts per million. This is due to health risks associated with consuming water with high nitrate levels.

0 1 2 4 Miles

Created 10/28/2024 by LPNNRD
NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 (US Feet)
Data: LPNNRD Imagery: NRCS

LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District



Richland Schuyler Phase III

Producer Samples 2024

MEAN Nitrates

- 0 - 8
- 8.01 - 10
- 10.01 - 15
- > 15.01

Mean N by Section 2024 Producer Samples

Includes data from 254 samples

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate in drinking water at 10 parts per million. This is due to health risks associated with consuming water with high nitrate levels.

0 1 2 4 Miles

Created 10/25/2024 by LPNNRD
NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 (US Feet)
Data: LPNNRD Imagery: NRCS

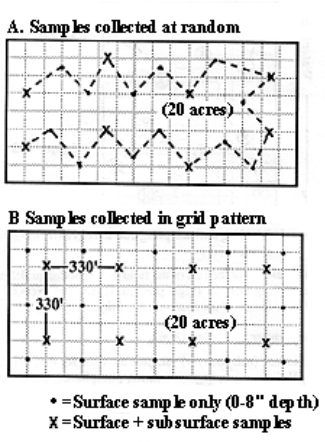
LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District

Goals and Objectives for Phase 4 Management

- To reduce nitrates in the groundwater for each section within the phase 4 area by 1 mg/l (PPM) within 3 years
    - To reduce the whole Phase 4 area average to below 10 mg/l within 10 years
- To change the current trendline from gaining in nitrogen groundwater concentration to decreasing.
- To improve the Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE) in 50 percent of the fields in 3 years
    - Improve NUE in all fields in 10 years
    - NUE equation can be found by dividing grain yield by the total amount of N available to the crop.
- Within 10 years, reduce the total amount of nitrogen applied by 15% against the baseline year of 2024.
- Provide safe drinking water without treatment.

Lower Platte North Soil Sampling Requirements for Water Quality Phase Areas

- Time of Sampling
    - Late fall or winter is a good time for soil sampling except for testing for nitrate-nitrogen in sandy soils.
- Sampling Depths
    - All fields that nitrogen is applied are required to be sampled to a minimum depth of **<u>36 inches</u>**.
    - A surface and subsurface is required per field for every 40 acres.
    - 0-8 inches for surface sample
        - 0-10 or 0-12 inches would be acceptable
    - 8-24 inches for subsurface sample
        - 8-36 inches would be acceptable but difficult to make accurate recommendations.
    - 24-36 inches for deep subsurface sample
    - In areas where the water table is within the 36-inch sample depth, the deep subsurface depth (24-36 inches) is especially needed to be differentiated from the surface and middle subsurface sample
- Collect one sample for each 40 acres
    - Collect 15 to 20 cores for surface sampling
    - Collect 6 to 8 cores for subsurface sampling
    - Example: 160-acre field would require 4 soil samples analysis.
    - Map shows a random sample pattern to collect the cores.
    - Sampling by soil types within field would be preferred.



Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act (NiRIA) Program Application

Name of Producer: _____

Primary Contact: _____

Primary Contact Phone Number: _____

Primary Contact Email (if available): _____

Name of Natural Resources District (NRD): _____

Are you already enrolled in a federal nutrient management plan? ☐No ☐Yes
If yes, list what program(s)_____

Type of Crop: ☐Corn ☐Sugar Beet ☐Potato
Legal Description (Submit one application per field)**:** _____

Total Acres to Be Enrolled in this field (Limit of 280 acres): _____ Average Yield: _____

Crop Year: _____

Will you apply manure or lagoon water to this field? ☐Yes ☐No
If yes, attach documentation with the known amount of nitrogen in manure or lagoon water.

Do you apply nitrogen in the fall? ☐Yes ☐No

Identify the practice(s)/ product(s) you plan to implement to achieve the 40lbs or 15% reduction of commercial fertilizer by checking a box below. *Note that the below options do not represent a ranked list and practices/products are subject to individual NRD approval.

☐ Reduction in Nitrogen Application
☐ Implementation of Biological Nutrition (Example: *Proven40*)
☐ Implementation of a Nitrogen Use Efficiency Technology (Example: *N-Time*)
☐ Implementation of a Nitrogen Stabilizer (Example: *Agrotain*)
☐Other Please Describe_____

Select type of documentation that will be used to determine baseline and to evaluate nitrogen reduction:

☐ NRD or producer crop reports (Priority A Areas)

☐ Submit all data required on local NRD phase reports for the prior 3 growing seasons (Priority B or C Areas)

☐ Complete soil sampling, as established by the NRD, prior to the cropping season (Priority B or C Areas)

*Please note that individual NRDs may require additional information.

Applicant Signature (Receiving 1099): _____ **Date:** _____

NRD Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

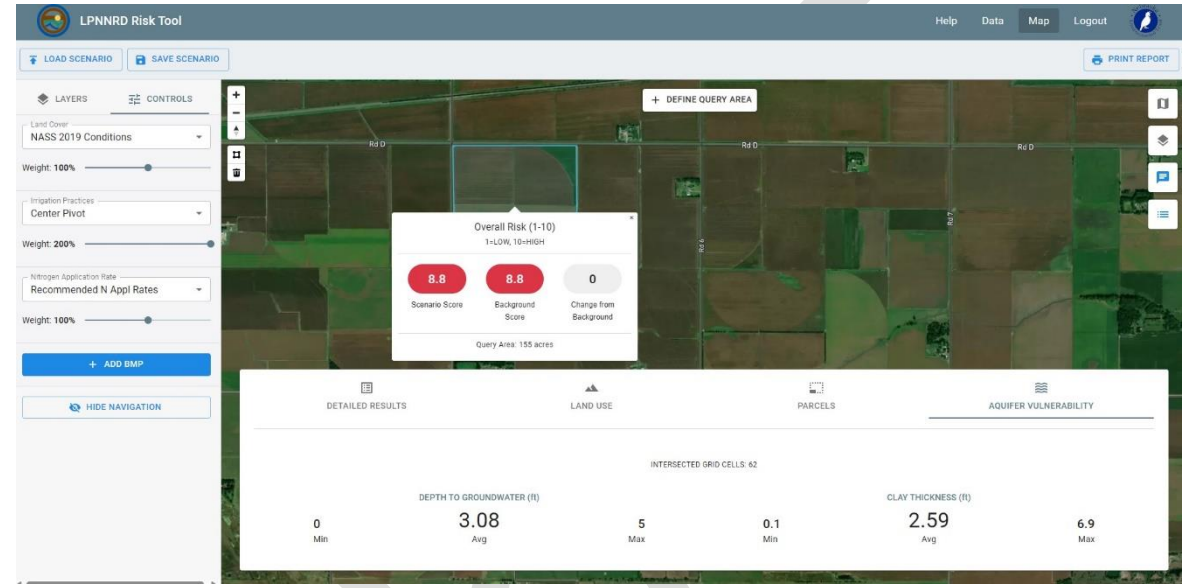
Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Program Ranking Process

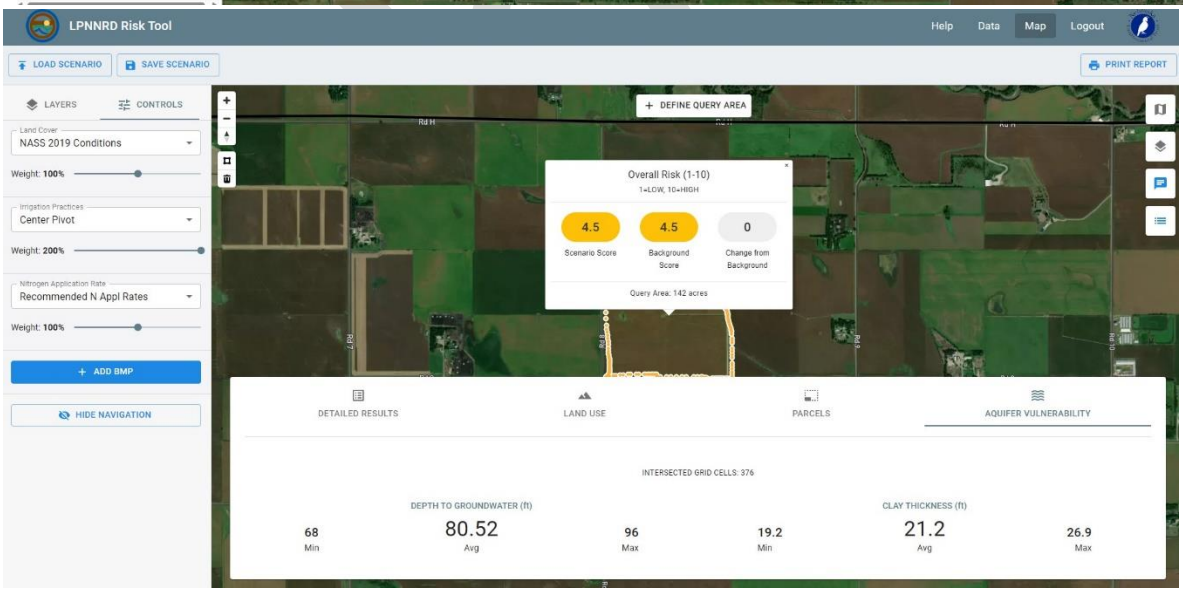
Step 1: Accept completed applications for all interested parties throughout the LPNNRD District for a maximum of 135 acres. Applications excepted until December 31, 2024.

Application Priorities will be as follows:

1. Land resides in a Water Quality Phase 2 or 3 Management Area (Priority A Areas)
2. Land resides in a Wellhead Protection Area
3. Land resides in the rest of the district.

Utilizing LPNNRD Risk Tool to assist in ranking for Priority 1 above (This sets a score of 1 to 10)





For priority 2 and 3, rank according to risk to aquifer from LRE hydrological data and/or proven technology implemented.

Now Open!

Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Program

This program will pay producers an incentive payment if they can reduce their nitrogen applications by the lesser of 40lbs or by 15%.

Contact your local NRD or Alexa at NeDNR if you have questions!

Scan the QR code to see the application and guidance document.

LOAD SCENARIO SAVE SCENARIO PRINT REPORT

LAYERS CONTROLS

Land Cover
NASS 2019 Conditions

Weight: 100%

Irrigation Practices
Center Pivot

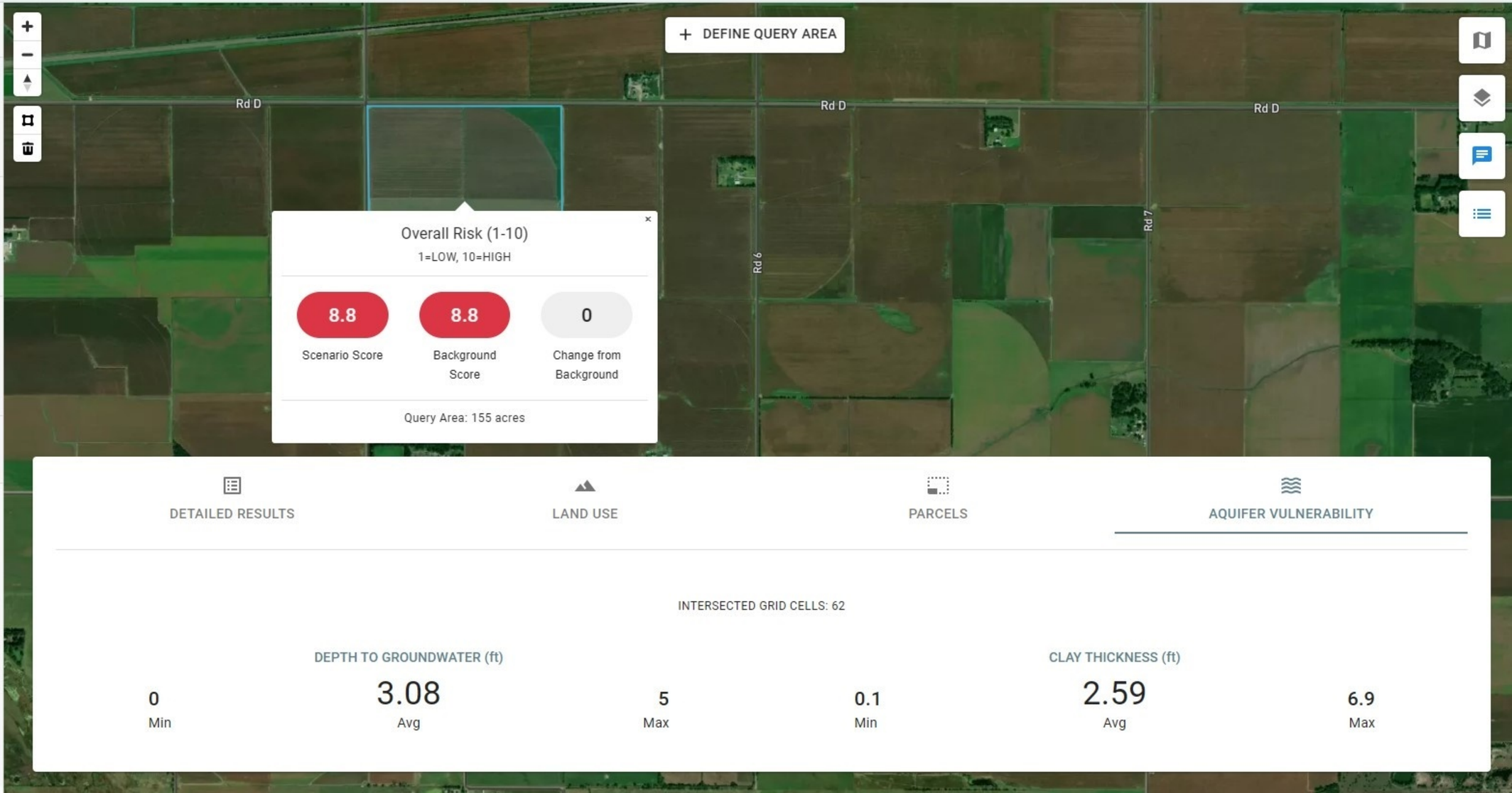
Weight: 200%

Nitrogen Application Rate
Recommended N Appl Rates

Weight: 100%

ADD BMP

HIDE NAVIGATION



DETAILED RESULTS LAND USE PARCELS AQUIFER VULNERABILITY

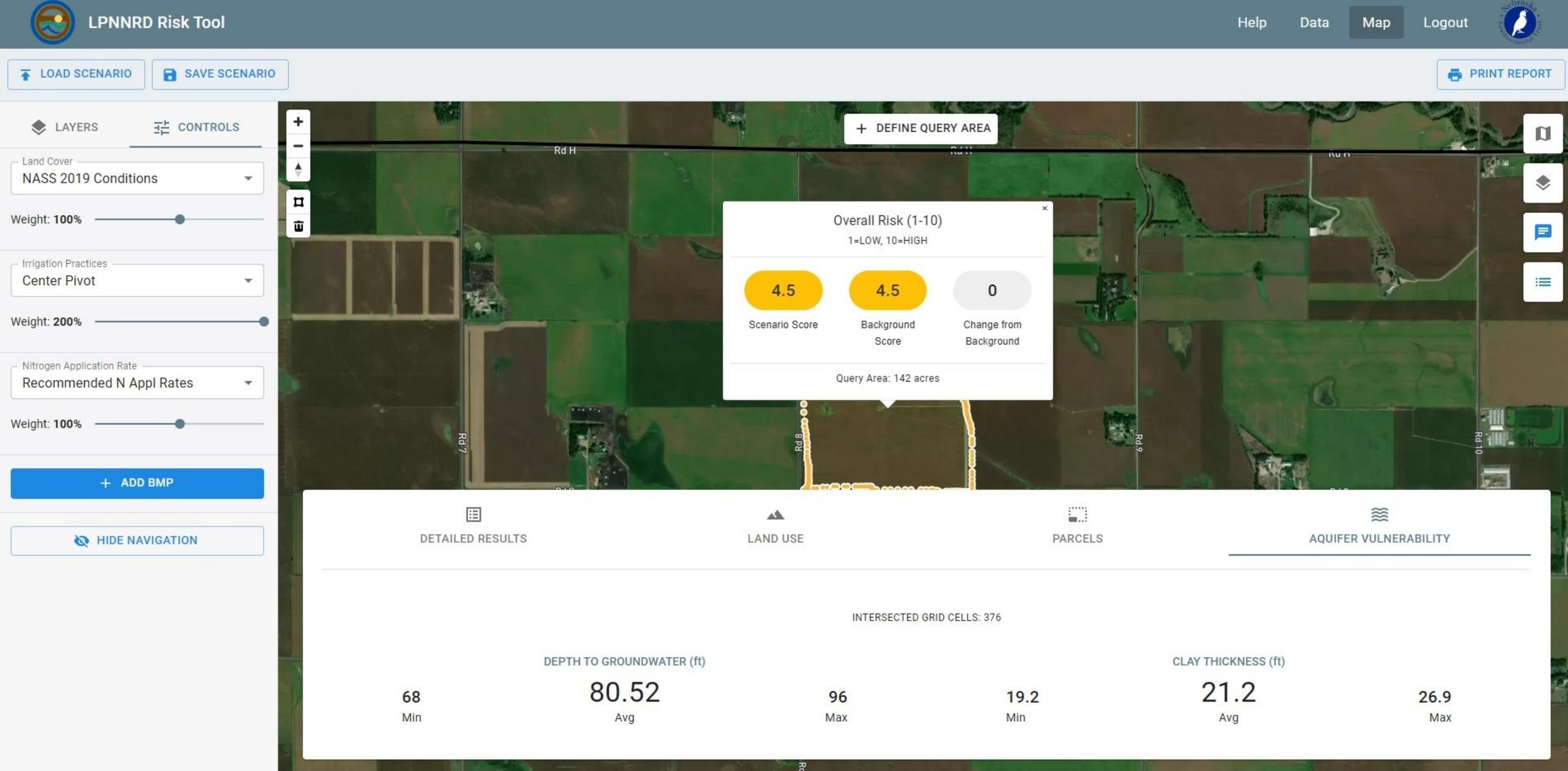
INTERSECTED GRID CELLS: 62

DEPTH TO GROUNDWATER (ft)

0	3.08	5
Min	Avg	Max

CLAY THICKNESS (ft)

0.1	2.59	6.9
Min	Avg	Max


LPNNRD Risk Tool
Help
Data
Map
Logout
LOAD SCENARIO
SAVE SCENARIO
PRINT REPORT
LAYERS
CONTROLS
Land Cover
NASS 2019 Conditions
Weight: 100%
Irrigation Practices
Center Pivot
Weight: 200%
Nitrogen Application Rate
Recommended N Appl Rates
Weight: 100%
ADD BMP
HIDE NAVIGATION
DEFINE QUERY AREA
Rd H
Rd 7
Rd 8
Rd 9
Rd 10
Overall Risk (1-10)
1=LOW, 10=HIGH
4.5
Scenario Score
4.5
Background Score
0
Change from Background
Query Area: 142 acres
DETAILED RESULTS
LAND USE
PARCELS
AQUIFER VULNERABILITY
INTERSECTED GRID CELLS: 376
DEPTH TO GROUNDWATER (ft)
68
Min
80.52
Avg
96
Max
CLAY THICKNESS (ft)
19.2
Min
21.2
Avg
26.9
Max

SECOND AMENDMENT OF
LOWER PLATTE RIVER CONSORTIUM
INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources ("Department"), Lower Platte South Natural Resources District ("LPSNRD"), Lower Platte North Natural Resources District ("LPNNRD"), Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District ("PMRNRD"), Lincoln Water System ("LWS"), and Metropolitan Utilities District ("MUD"), all of which are agencies or political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska, and are parties ("Parties") to the Lower Platte River Consortium Interlocal Cooperation Agreement ("Agreement") that was entered on December 5, 2022; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 10.05 of the Agreement, the Agreement may be amended in a writing duly executed by all of the Parties; and

WHEREAS, on December 2, 2023 the Parties executed the First Amendment to the Agreement, which extended the Agreement term to December 4, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Parties now desire to extend the Agreement and to change the title of the interlocal cooperation agreement in this Second Amendment.

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties hereby mutually agree to the following amendments to the Agreement:

1. The Parties agree to extend the Agreement for an additional period of five (5) years from the final execution date of this Second Amendment, to end on December 4, 2029.
2. The Parties agree to change the title of the interlocal cooperation agreement from "Lower Platte River Consortium" to "Lower Platte River Drought Consortium" to better describe the purpose of the Agreement.

Except as expressly set forth herein, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have signed and executed this Second Amendment on the dates shown next to their respective signatures.

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BY:_____ DATE:_____

LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

BY:_____ DATE:_____

LOWER PLATTE NORTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

BY:_____ DATE:_____

PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

BY:_____ DATE:_____

LINCOLN WATER SYSTEM

BY:_____ DATE:_____

METROPOLITAN UTILITIES DISTRICT

BY:_____ DATE:_____

Appendix G: Sample Press Release Series

Lower Platte Drought Consortium – Sample Press Release Series: 9/7/23

Drought Predicted

Lower Platte River Consortium encourages public to be aware of water supply conditions in basin

The Lower Platte River consortium urges the public to maintain awareness of water supply conditions in the Lower Platte Basin. Drought conditions are expected to emerge in the basin in the near future, affecting flows in the Platte River and groundwater wells fed by the Platte River. **Insert current drought status and updated seasonal drought outlook here.** Rural and urban populations in Nebraska rely on the Platte River for municipal use, agriculture, and recreation.

For current information on drought conditions, the public is encouraged to view the Lower Platte Drought Dashboard maintained by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources: https://gis.ne.gov/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=c0b751c512a24b83a6ad1c3214941ea8

Insert quote from agency representative and water conservation tips appropriate for agency's primary audience

The Lower Platte River Consortium continuously monitors water supply conditions in the basin and will continue to communicate with the public regarding current conditions and seasonal drought outlooks.

About the consortium

Formed in 2016, the consortium consists of six different entities (agencies) that monitor or rely on the Lower Platte River for their water supply. These agencies include:

- Lower Platte South NRD
- City of Lincoln Water System
- Lower Platte North NRD
- Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
- Papio-Missouri River NRD
- Metropolitan Utilities District

Questions should be addressed to your local water management agency.

Drought Conditions Occurring

Lower Platte River Consortium urges public to conserve water due to drought

The Lower Platte River Consortium is urging the public to utilize water conservation best practices due to the emergence of drought conditions in the basin. **Insert current drought status.** The majority of Nebraska's population relies on groundwater wells replenished by the Platte River for municipal and agricultural use. According to the Climate Prediction Center's Seasonal Drought Outlook, **insert drought outlook information.**

For current information on drought conditions, the public is encouraged to view the Lower Platte Drought Dashboard maintained by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources: https://gis.ne.gov/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=c0b751c512a24b83a6ad1c3214941ea8

Insert quote from agency representative and water conservation tips appropriate for agency's primary audience

The Lower Platte River Consortium will continue to monitor conditions in the basin and update the public on the basin's drought status and seasonal drought outlooks.

###

About the consortium

Formed in 2016, the consortium consists of six different entities (agencies) that monitor or rely on the Lower Platte River for their water supply. These agencies include:

- Lower Platte South NRD
- City of Lincoln Water System
- Lower Platte North NRD
- Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
- Papio-Missouri River NRD
- Metropolitan Utilities District

Questions should be addressed to your local water management agency.

Immediate Effects of Drought Conditions

Lower Platte River Consortium urges public to maintain awareness of drought effects

The Lower Platte River Consortium is urging the public to continue water conservation best practices due to the ongoing effects of drought conditions in the basin. **Insert current drought status.** The majority of Nebraska's population relies on groundwater wells replenished by the Platte River for municipal and agricultural use. Drought has resulted in lower river flows, which can make less water available for groundwater wells over time. **Insert further information about crop conditions, algae blooms, etc.** According to the Climate Prediction Center's Seasonal Drought Outlook, **insert drought outlook information.**

For current information on drought conditions, the public is encouraged to view the Lower Platte Drought Dashboard maintained by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources: https://gis.ne.gov/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=c0b751c512a24b83a6ad1c3214941ea8

Insert quote from agency representative and water conservation tips appropriate for agency's primary audience

The Lower Platte River Consortium will continue to monitor conditions in the basin and update the public on the basin's drought status and ongoing effects of drought.

###

About the consortium

Formed in 2016, the consortium consists of six different entities (agencies) that monitor or rely on the Lower Platte River for their water supply. These agencies include:

- Lower Platte South NRD
- City of Lincoln Water System
- Lower Platte North NRD
- Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
- Papio-Missouri River NRD
- Metropolitan Utilities District

Questions should be addressed to your local water management agency.

Drought Response Information

Lower Platte River Consortium responds to drought conditions

The Lower Platte River Consortium is taking actions to mitigate the effects of drought and is urging the public to continue water conservation best practices due to the ongoing effects of drought conditions in the basin. **Insert current drought status.** The Consortium and its member agencies are **insert drought mitigation and response activities here.** According to the Climate Prediction Center's Seasonal Drought Outlook, **insert drought outlook information.***

For current information on drought conditions, the public is encouraged to view the Lower Platte Drought Dashboard maintained by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources: https://gis.ne.gov/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=c0b751c512a24b83a6ad1c3214941ea8

Insert quote from agency representative and water conservation tips appropriate for agency's primary audience

The Lower Platte River Consortium will continue to monitor conditions in the basin and update the public on the basin's drought status and ongoing drought mitigation activities.

###

About the consortium

Formed in 2016, the consortium consists of six different entities (agencies) that monitor or rely on the Lower Platte River for their water supply. These agencies include:

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- City of Lincoln Water System
- Lower Platte North NRD
- Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
- Papio-Missouri River NRD
- Metropolitan Utilities District

Questions should be addressed to your local water management agency.

Lower Platte River Drought Consortium encourages public to be aware of dry conditions in basin

The Lower Platte River Drought Consortium urges the public to maintain awareness of water supply conditions in the Lower Platte Basin. Drought conditions have emerged and are expected to persist over the next few months, affecting flows in the Platte River and groundwater well levels. The Lower Platte Basin area of Nebraska is currently experiencing moderate to severe drought conditions after an abnormally dry September. The National Weather Service US Seasonal Drought Outlook predicts below normal precipitation and above normal temperatures in the Great Plains region through the end of January.

Rural and urban populations in Nebraska rely on the Platte River for municipal use, agriculture, and recreation. Although outdoor water uses such as crop irrigation, lawn watering, and recreation are winding down for the season, the Consortium urges the public to begin planning for water conservation measures next Spring. Winter is a great time to reassess water needs and install water-saving technology.

Due to heightened fire danger, the Consortium urges the public to maintain continued awareness of fire conditions by consulting the Nebraska Forest Service Fire Danger Forecast https://nfs.unl.edu/nebraska-fire-danger. Additionally, contact your local fire department for local conditions and burn permits and bans.

For current information on drought conditions, the public is encouraged to view the Lower Platte Drought Dashboard maintained by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources: https://gis.ne.gov/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=c0b751c512a24b83a6ad1c3214941ea8

“For the Lincoln area, September 2024 ranked as the 4th driest and 5th warmest September since 1887 according to University of Nebraska data. As a result, conditions are extremely dry throughout much of the Lower Platte River Basin and are expected to continue throughout the next several months. The Drought Consortium encourages all citizens to use water efficiently and carefully, and to avoid any situations which might lead to fires.” Dick Ehrman, Water Resources Coordinator, Lower Platte South NRD.

The Lower Platte River Consortium continuously monitors water supply conditions in the basin and will continue to communicate with the public regarding current conditions and seasonal drought outlooks.

About the consortium

Formed in 2016, the consortium consists of six different entities (agencies) that monitor or rely on the Lower Platte River for their water supply. These agencies include:

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Questions should be addressed to your local water management agency.

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