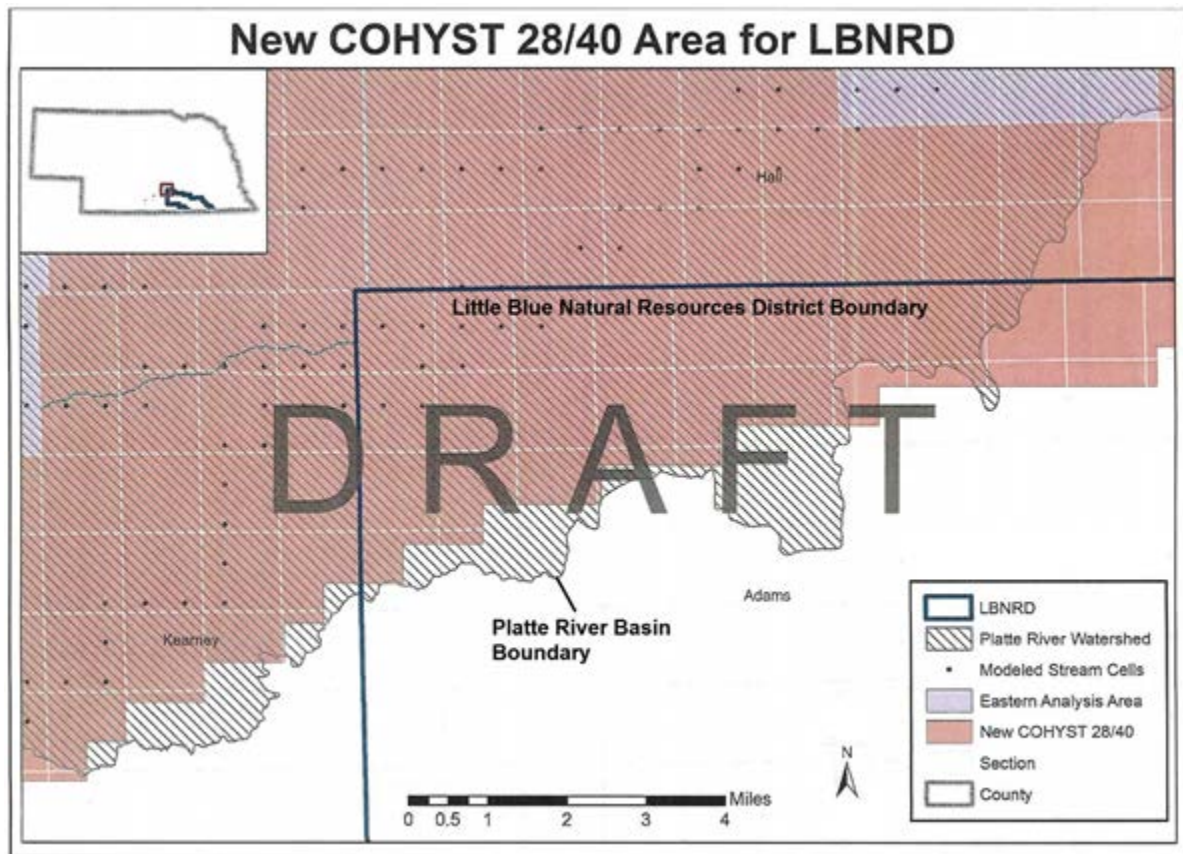


Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (PRRIP)

Recent refinements and updates to the Cooperative Hydrology Study (COHYST) model for the Platte River documented that water uses throughout the Platte River Basin are having a more acute impact on stream flows than earlier believed. A portion the Platte River Basin which lies within the Little Blue NRD boundary has also been identified as having impacts on Platte River stream flows. The area in the Little Blue NRD lies in the extreme northwest corner of Adams County and covers approximately 18 to 20 sections of land. The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR) has requested that the Little Blue NRD place an immediate temporary stay on new groundwater uses, including new high-capacity water wells and irrigated acres, in the Platte River basin drainage portion of our district.

The timing for this request is good because it provides the NRD time to develop the rules for the area as part of voluntary IMP which the district is currently developing. Below is a “Draft” map showing the approximate boundary of the Platte River Basin of the Little Blue NRD and the approximate area where 28% of the water withdrawn over 40 years would have impacted Platte River flows. The actual boundaries of final the stay area will not extend beyond the drainage boundary shown by the cross-hatched area.



The Little Blue Natural Resources District will hold a public hearing at the Kenesaw Senior Center, 110 Maple Street, Kenesaw, NE on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on a proposed stay on new groundwater uses in that portion of northwest Adams County lands which drain to the Platte River. A stay is necessary to protect Nebraska’s interests under the Platte River Recovery Implementation Plan.