



# Republican River Basin Coalition

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## New Report Analyzes “Balance” of Water Resources in Republican Basin

IMPERIAL, Neb. – The findings of a wide-ranging report on the relationship between water availability and uses across the entire Republican River Basin and in the Middle Republican NRD will be presented during the Middle Republican NRD’s board meeting on June 14 in Curtis. The public is invited and strongly encouraged to attend the presentation by engineering firms Brown and Caldwell and H2Options during the meeting that begins at 7:30 p.m. Central at the Curtis Memorial Community Center, 201 Garlick Ave. The presentation will be an excellent educational opportunity for members of the public and businesses who have an interest in water issues that affect their livelihoods and communities. Information compiled for the Water Balance report provides an informative and unique overview of water sources and uses.

The first-of-its-kind study in the Basin launched by the Republican River Basin Coalition nearly two years ago could help eventually aid in the development of water-management tools that minimize adverse impacts to key sectors of the economy. Once water consumption in all its forms is better understood, unnecessary or low-value water consumption could be managed in a manner that benefits uses that have high value, such as agriculture.

At its core, the Water Balance report analyzes the relationship between all water inflows, namely precipitation and surface water, and all water outflows, namely water consumption by vegetation and surface water that leaves NRDs in the Basin. The Water Balance concept is gaining traction across the state as water users and managers seek a more comprehensive understanding of *all* uses of water and how those uses can be managed to optimize the water that is available while minimizing impacts on water that is stored both above and below ground.

For more information about the upcoming Water Balance presentation at the Middle Republican NRD board meeting and other presentations that will be made throughout the Basin in June, please contact Nate Jenkins, coordinator of the Republican River Basin Coalition, at 308-882-5173.

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