

GOVERNOR'S WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY TASK FORCE

FINAL REPORT

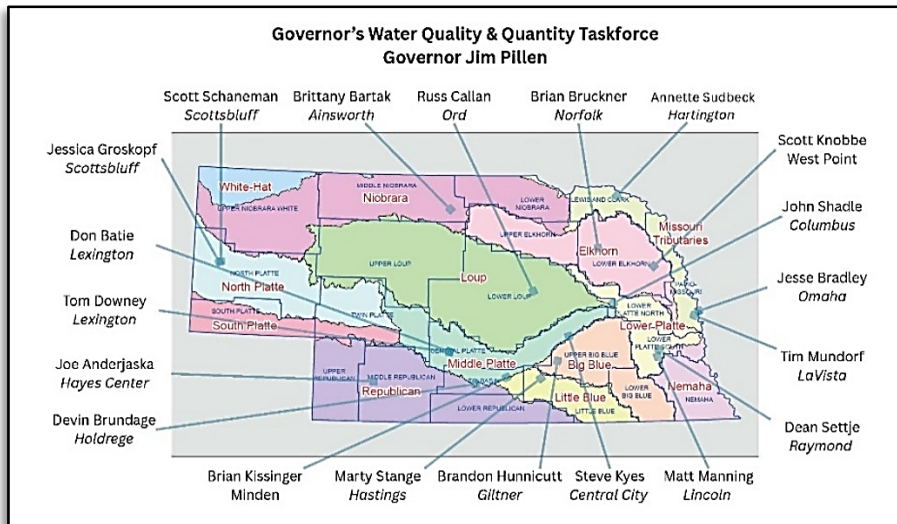
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Governor's Water Quality and Quantity Task Force has developed a comprehensive set of recommendations aimed at protecting Nebraska's water resources statewide, through a Final Report.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Increased statewide water measurement through voluntary efforts and cost-share opportunities
- Development of statewide education materials and increased individual engagements with producers
- Development of a nitrogen management education and certification program for fertilizer recommendations
- Promotion of in-season nitrate applications and advanced nutrient-management technologies
- Proactive drinking water system protections and identification of regionalization opportunities
- Development of a statewide clearing house identifying water project needs and funding opportunities
- Leverage diverse funding mechanisms, including ONE RED

Collectively, the implementation of the goals and actions that have been developed through this effort will serve to sharpen the focus of important water quality and quantity outcomes for the State.



BACKGROUND

The Task Force convened in the Spring of 2025 and was made up of members representing a cross-section of industries, businesses, and other relevant expertise.

Through four subcommittees, 20 members worked to develop actionable solutions to protect and preserve Nebraska's vital water resources for consideration by the Governor.

Members participated in monthly discussions and received presentations from subject-matter experts, allowing them to develop a shared understanding of the issues and identify goals and corresponding action items.

The Task Force prioritized incentives, innovation, and education over new regulatory requirements.

Subcommittees:

1. Water Conservation and Quantity
2. Methods and Resources
3. Nitrate Legacy and Drinking Water Access
4. Financing and Incentives

"We are the envy of the nation because of our water resources, and we must do everything possible to protect and enhance those resources. The approach we are taking is through innovation and education, not more regulation. I appreciate the efforts of the Task Force, and I believe that these recommendations will ensure Nebraska's water supply remains strong for generations to come" – Governor Pillen

For more information visit dwee.nebraska.gov/water-quality-and-quantity-task-force

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