

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Board Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Jim Bendfeldt called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. He reported that the NRD abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business and said that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was displayed on the south wall of the conference room, that the Board reserves the right to change the order of an item on the agenda, and some items on the agenda are subject to closed session.

ATTENDANCE: Board members present were:

LeRoy Arends	Charles Maser	Jay Richeson
Jim Bendfeldt	Jerry Milner	Ed Stoltenberg
Alicia Haussler	Barry Obermiller	Deborah VanMatre
Ed Kyes	Mick Reynolds	

Excused Absences: Lon Bohn, Chris Henry, Brian Keiser, Dwayne Margritz, Keith Ostermeier, Doug Reeves, Marvion Reichert, Steve Sheen, Jerry Wiese. **Absent –** Keith Stafford

Staff present: Lyndon Vogt – General Manager, Jesse Mintken – Assistant Manager, Dianne Miller – Administrative Director, Brandi Flyr – District Hydrologist, Mark Czaplewski – District Biologist, Dan Clement – Water Resources Specialist, Marcia Lee – Information/Education Specialist, Kelly Cole – Programs Coordinator, Luke Zakrzewski – GIS Image Analyst, Angie Warner – GIS Programs Coordinator, Courtney Widup – Water Resources Technician, Tricia Dudley – Resources Conservationist,

Others present – Joe Krolilowski–NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, Katie Ringland & Christy Eurek – NE Dept. of Natural Resources, Matt McGuire - Kenesaw, Lori Potter – Kearney Hub.

MEETING NOTICES: Chairman Jim Bendfeldt reported that the notices of the meeting had been published in the Grand Island Independent and the news release was provided to other media outlets in the District.

MEETING MINUTES: Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the September board meeting minutes. Deborah VanMatre seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

Chairman Bendfeldt asked if there were any announcements or suggestions for future meetings. There were none.

PUBLIC FORUM: Chairman Bendfeldt asked if anyone wanted to address the board on any item not included on the agenda.

Matt McGuire of Kenesaw addressed the board about his concerns with the flooding along the Wood River earlier this year and also expressed his concern about doing too much clearing of trees along the Wood River.

League of Municipalities – Chairman Bendfeldt reported that at the League's annual meeting Deborah VanMatre had been elected as their Vice-chairwoman.

NE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES – BUYOUT OPTIONS IN FLOOD PRONE AREAS: Katie Ringland, NE DNR's Chief Floodplain Manager, presented several buyout options and requirements in flood-prone areas and provided information on three FEMA hazard mitigation assistance grants that give communities a way to purchase flood prone structures and maintain the land as open space. (See enclosed materials from slide presentation and information concerning property acquisitions for open space).

NRCS REPORT: Joe Krolkowski, NRCS Liaison District Conservationist, reviewed the U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service's Highly Erodible Land (HEL) compliance review procedures (see enclosed).

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Chairman Jim Bendfeldt reported that Lon Bohn, Chris Henry, Brian Keiser, Dwayne Margritz, Keith Ostermeier, Doug Reeves, Marvion Reichert, Steve Sheen, and Jerry Wiese had requested to be excused from the board meeting.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the absences as requested. Barry Obermiller seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

EASTERN PROJECTS COMMITTEE: Committee Chairman Ed Stoltenberg reported on their meeting held earlier that day.

Town of Wood River Flooding – Ed reported the committee had met in early October with area citizens and Wood River Mayor Greg Cramer to discuss what is needed to reduce flooding risks within the town of Wood River due to storm runoff. Landowners interested in replacing riprap or dirt berms may apply for cost share through Central Platte NRD's Streambank Stabilization cost share program. No action required.

Amick Acres – Ed also reported the committee discussed the possibility of providing some assistance for the Amick Acres flooding problems. He said it is very early in the discussions and no action is required at this time.

NITROGEN MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE VIOLATIONS FOR 2019: Resource Conservationist Tricia Dudley reported that last Friday violation letters were sent by certified mail to 153 tenants who have not submitted their Nitrogen Management forms for the Groundwater Quality Management Program.

Tricia said corresponding letters were also sent by regular mail to the landowners. She said in the last few days we have received 21 completed forms. Tricia said at the November board meeting she would request Cease and Desist Orders be issued to those producers who have not submitted their forms by that date.

MANAGER'S REPORT: General Manager Lyndon Vogt's report included the fact that I&E Specialist Marcia Lee had made a presentation to Leadership Tomorrow in Grand Island and Assistant Manager Jesse Mintken had made a presentation to that group in Kearney. He said he had made presentations to the Kearney Homebuilders group and at Congressman Adrian Smith's Infrastructure Event in Hastings. He also said that all Basin Governors, Congressmen and Senators have now signed on to the proposed second increment of the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program. He briefly reported on the NE Dept. of Environment & Energy's funding program available to assist farmers with the replacement of diesel engine irrigation pumps with electric motors or connecting a submersible pump directly to the electric grid. He also said that staff has been meeting with Olsson on the Groundwater Management Plan rewrite.

NE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REPORT: Mick Reynolds, Middle Platte Basin Commission member, said there was nothing new to report.

NE ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS REPORT: Jim Bendfeldt, CPNRD's NARD representative, reported that he and NARD Executive Director Dean Edson had visited with the Nebraska LEAD Program concerning adding a natural resources focus.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS: Request for Transfer of Funds – Kelly Cole, Programs Coordinator, said we have received more requests for the Cover Crop Program than funds are available. She requested a transfer of \$500.00 from the Grazing Deferment Program to the Cover Crop Program.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to transfer \$500.00 from the Grazing Deferment Program to the Cover Crop Program. Barry Obermiller seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

Applications – Kelly reported that we have received cost share applications for the following cost share programs: NE Soil & Water Conservation, Capacitance Probe, Burn Preparation, Cover Crop, and Well Decommissioning (see enclosed). She said the applicants are in compliance with the District's rules and regulations, funds are available, and she recommended they be approved.

Alicia Haussler made the motion to approve the cost share applications as reported. Jay Richeson seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Alicia Haussler made the motion to accept the October financial report as presented. Mick Reynolds seconded the motion. All board members present, voting by roll call vote, were in favor. Motion carried.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Next Board Meeting – Scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, November 21st, one week early due to Thanksgiving. Details to follow.

ADJOURN: Chairman Bendfeldt adjourned the board meeting.

Using FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants for Acquisitions

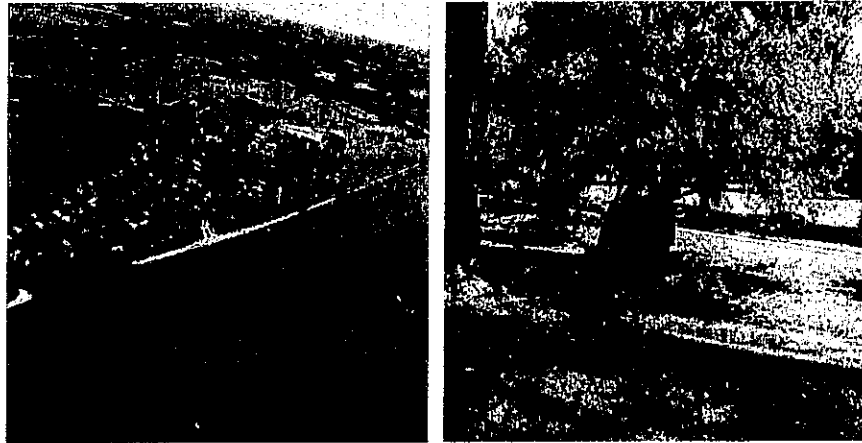
Katie Ringland, PE, CFM

NEBRASKA
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Why Acquisitions?

- Removes people and structures from high risk areas
- It allows communities to recover quickly from flood events
- Reserves open space for the natural functions of the floodplain

Tale of Two Communities May 2015 Flood Event



Tale of Two Communities

- Community #2 is the City of Beatrice
 - After the flood event of 1973, they started their acquisition program with the first acquisitions occurring in 1977.
 - Beatrice has acquired more than 120 floodprone properties, and over 95 structures.
 - A total of \$4.9 Million has been invested in the acquisition program.
 - It is estimated that \$19 Million in flood damages have been avoided, only considering the 2015 and 2019 flood events.
 - This means approximately \$3.8 dollars were saved for each \$1 invested in mitigation for just these two events.
 - Visit <http://arcg.is/1LXin5> to learn more.

FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Program

- FEMA's HMA program currently includes three grants.
- The State of Nebraska is the Applicant for each of these grants.
- Sub-applicants can consist of:
 - State agencies
 - Local Government (Village, City or County)
 - Natural Resources Districts
 - Certain 501C nonprofits
 - Federally recognized Tribes
- Each program typically requires a local cost share. The cost share is typically 75% federal and 25% local.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

- Provides funds for implementing long-term hazard mitigation planning and projects.
- Administered by NEMA.
- Available following a Presidential disaster declaration.
 - Nebraska has approximately \$50 Million for the March through mid-July 2019 disaster.
 - The Governor's Task Force has prioritized acquisitions.
 - In general, the money must be allocated within one year from the date of the disaster declaration.
- State competitive.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)

- Provides funds for hazard mitigation planning and projects.
- Administered by NEMA.
- Available on an annual basis (FY2019 application period opened on September 30, 2019 and closes January 31, 2020).
- Nationally competitive.

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

- Provides funds for planning and projects to reduce or eliminate risk of flood damage to buildings that are insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
- The number of NFIP policies in the project area plays a significant role in scoring applications.
- Large emphasis on buyouts with higher cost shares for Severe Repetitive Loss (100% Federal Share) and Repetitive Loss properties (90% Federal Share).
- Administered by NeDNR.
- Available on an annual basis (FY2019 application period opened on September 30, 2019 and closes January 31, 2020).
- Nationally competitive.

Acquisitions (Buyouts)

- All three of the Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants give communities an avenue to purchase flood-prone structures and maintain the land as open space.



Acquisitions (Buyouts)

- It is a voluntary program, property owners are not required to participate and must make a statement as part of the application that they are volunteering to have their property acquired.
- There are two types of Acquisitions:
 - Property Acquisition and home demolition.
 - Property Acquisition and home relocation.

Costs Covered by HMA

- Fair market value of the real property.
 - For a property acquisition and home demolition the real property includes the land and structure.
 - For a property acquisition and home relocation the real property includes only the land.
- Fees for the appraisals, title searches, title insurance, property inspections, and surveys
- Fees for the title transfer, contract review, deed recording, and deed restriction
- Demolition, site restoration, and site stabilization of the acquired site.
- Asbestos remediation.

Costs Covered by HMA

- Structure (Relocation Specific)
 - Jacking and moving of the structure.
 - The reasonable cost of disassembling, moving, and reassembling any attached appurtenances such as porches, decks, skirting, ramps, and awnings.
 - Necessary site preparations including foundation, water, sewer, and utility hookup.
 - *NOT included: aesthetic improvements and landscaping, new property acquisition, or public infrastructure and utility development*

Fair Market Value

- Typically determined by obtaining an appraisal of the current value or the value immediately before the most recent flood
- Appraisers are to perform the appraisals in accordance with the *Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP)*.

Sources for the Local Match

- NFIP Increased Cost of Compliance payments
- Insurance payments
- U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loan
- Project Sponsor
- Donated Resources (in-kind)

Deed Restriction

- The acquired property is deed restricted to remain open space for the conservation of natural floodplain functions.
- Examples of allowed open space uses are:
 - Parks
 - Ballfields
 - Wetland Management
 - Farming
 - Camping spots
 - Grazing

Application Requirements

- Scope of Work
- Statement of Assurances
- A sample of the Deed Restriction
- Property Owner Documentation (Citizenship)
- Voluntary interest documentation
- Certification of owner status (Title Search)

Application Requirements

- Budget
 - Needs to be itemized as much as possible
- Schedule
 - Can be no longer than 36 months in length, I recommend an 18 month schedule
- Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA), if applicable
 - The Benefit Cost Ratio must be greater than 1.
 - If the structure is in the SFHA and the cost of the structure less than or equal to \$276,000 then no BCA is necessary.

Other Items to Note

- During the project
 - Demolition must occur within 90 days of the closing and settlement of the property acquisition transaction.
- Project Close-Out
 - Photographs of the property, before and after the project implementation
 - A copy of the recorded deed and attached deed restriction for each property
 - A signed Statement of Voluntary Interest for each property owner for all properties

Other Items to Note

- Post-Project Requirements
 - Every three years the sub-recipient must verify that the property continues to be used and maintained within the provisions of the sub-award/award.
 - The property can be sold, but only with prior approval from the FEMA Region VII Administrator.

Guidance

- HMA Guidance & Addendum
 - <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/103279>
- Application Development
 - <https://www.fema.gov/application-development-1>

Contacts

- Nebraska Emergency Management Agency:
 - **Donny Christensen**
Recovery Section Manager
donny.christensen@nebraska.gov (402) 471-7416
- Nebraska Department of Natural Resources:
 - **Katie Ringland, PE, CFM**
Chief | Floodplain Management
katie.ringland@nebraska.gov (402) 471-2094



NEBRASKA
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Property Acquisitions for Open Space

Each year, flooding causes millions of dollars' worth of property damage. This creates a heavy burden for many, especially the property owners whose homes are flooded and damaged. After the flood, many property owners struggle with the difficult decision of whether to return to the flood-prone area to repair and rebuild. For some, participating in an acquisition or buyout project may be the answer.

What is the acquisition / buyout program?

FEMA's acquisition/buyout mitigation activity helps communities purchase flood-prone properties, remove the buildings, and maintain the land as open space. Acquisitions are funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) program, and the funds are managed by each state. In Nebraska, the State Administrative Agency is the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. For a property owner, whose house is located in high flood risk area and suffered substantial damages, having their flooded home purchased and demolished, or moved out of the flood-prone area may provide the best solution.

Will I be forced to sell my property or home?

No, participation in FEMA's acquisition programs is strictly voluntary and property owners are not required to participate. FEMA has two types of acquisitions: (1) property acquisition and structure demolition, and (2) property acquisition and structure relocation. Property acquisition and structure demolition allows the community to purchase the structure and the land, while property acquisition and structure relocation allows the community to purchase only the land and assist the property owner with relocating the structure to an area outside the flood zone. Property owners are paid fair market value for their property.



Open space areas flood in Beatrice, Nebraska during the March 2019 Nebraska Flood. More than 60 structures acquired through the City's floodprone property acquisition program would have been impacted by this event. The acquisition program saved an estimated \$5.7 million in damages from this event.

Photo courtesy of the City of Beatrice

Who decides whether my home will be demolished or relocated?

The property owner makes the decision whether to have their home demolished or relocated. If a property owner wishes to relocate their home, the following conditions must be met:

- The structure must be sound and feasible to move, and
- The house must be relocated outside of any flood-prone area (also called the Special Flood Hazard Area).

Who can apply for FEMA-funded acquisitions?

If an individual home or business owner wants to participate in a buyout project and meets the HMA program requirements, they need to contact the Nebraska State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO). Local governments Natural Resource Districts, Certain 501C nonprofits, and tribal governments can sponsor a buyout project and submit an application to the state and FEMA on the individual's behalf.

How does the application process work?

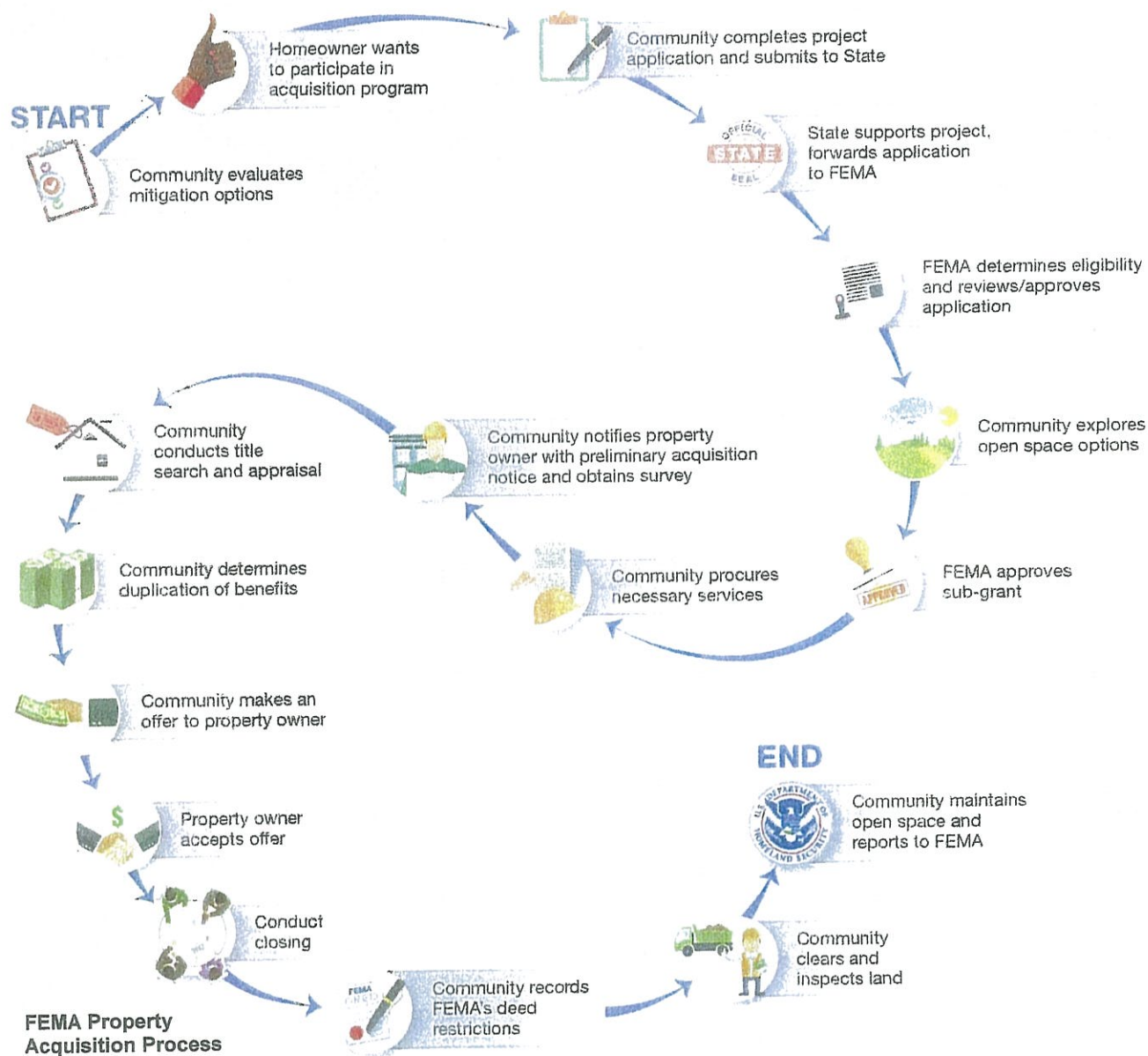
The application process begins with individuals or communities interested in a property acquisition project contacting the SHMO to determine if the project is a good candidate for a formal application. The application requires input and information from the community and all interested property owners.

The community sends the application to the SHMO, who will review it for eligibility, prioritize it among other eligible applications

received, and submit the prioritized applications to FEMA for approval.

FEMA then reviews applications to ensure they meet HMA program requirements, are cost-effective and feasible, and address environmental/historic/cultural resource issues. Once approved, FEMA awards mitigation grant funds to the state, which disburses those funds to communities.

Once the funding is received, the community will purchase the property, remove or demolish the structure, and deed restrict the land as open space.



What costs are included when I get paid as part of a buyout?

The costs that are covered as part of a property acquisition and structure demolition or relocation depend on the scope of the project (either acquisition demolition or relocation). Property owners may be reimbursed for:

- Fair market value of the real property (land and structures) either at the time of sale or immediately before the most recent flood
- Fees for necessary appraisals, title searches, title insurance, property inspections, and surveys
- Fees associated with the title transfer, contract review, and other costs associated with conducting the real estate settlement, including recording the deed and deed restrictions
- Demolition, site restoration, and site stabilization of the acquired site
- If the structure is being relocated, the reasonable cost of disassembling, moving, and reassembling any porches, decks, skirting, ramps, awnings, or other items.
- Asbestos abatement

Who pays for the project?

Generally, FEMA pays up to 75 percent for hazard mitigation projects. The remaining 25 percent is the responsibility of the homeowner, unless the subapplicant has identified an alternative payment method. The state, territory, or federally-recognized tribe may have a different cost-sharing strategy.

For example, if your mitigation project cost is \$200,000, FEMA will pay 75 percent (\$150,000) of the cost. The homeowner is responsible for the remaining 25 percent (or \$50,000).

Homeowners may receive funding assistance through:

- Increased Cost of Compliance payments
- Insurance payments
- U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loans

- State, territory, federally-recognized tribe, and/or local government
- Donated resources

How is the value of my property determined?

The most common approach to estimate fair market value of the real property (land and structures or land only) is for the community to hire an appraiser when the community receives an official grant award, and the homeowner agrees to sell the property. The appraisal must be conducted in accordance with the *Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice*. The community must coordinate with the state to determine the assumptions that will be used in the appraisal (i.e., current or pre-event market value), and the assumptions must be applied consistently throughout the project area for all properties to be acquired.

When determining the value for a large number of structures, the community may conduct appraisals to establish a statistical sampling of property values, and develop an adjustment factor to apply to tax-assessed values so that they reasonably reflect each property's market value.



This home is the first house to be demolished as part of the New Jersey Blue Acres Acquisition program after Hurricane Sandy devastated the state.

How can I find out if FEMA funds are available for acquisitions in my community or state?

Property owners should contact their local community officials or their SHMO to find out what FEMA mitigation opportunities are available in their state.

Are FEMA acquisition funds only available after a major flooding disaster?

FEMA has three HMA grant programs to support states, tribal governments, and local communities in implementing acquisition projects. All three HMA programs share the purpose of protecting communities from natural disasters, but they have different periods of funding availability.

Before a disaster – The Pre-Disaster Mitigation program is a competitive national program that annually provides funds to States and communities, including tribal governments, to manage risk by implementing hazard mitigation planning and mitigation projects before a disaster.

After a disaster – The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program provides funds to states, tribes, and local communities after a Presidential disaster declaration to protect public or private property through various mitigation measures based on state/tribal priorities.

Every year – The Flood Mitigation Assistance program is another competitive national program that annually provides funds to states and local communities for projects that reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, homes, and other structures that are insured under FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program.

Additional information on the three programs can be found at www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance.

Nebraska State Hazard Mitigation

State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
Nema.hazardmitigation@nebraska.gov

Phone: 402-471-7421

Website: <https://nema.nebraska.gov/recovery/nebraska-state-hazard-mitigation-program>

What happens to my property after acquisition and demolition or relocation?

The property shall be dedicated and maintained in perpetuity as open space for the conservation of natural floodplain functions. A few examples of allowed open space uses are below:

- Parks for outdoor recreational activities
- Wetlands management
- Nature reserves, cultivation, grazing, and camping (except where adequate warning time is not available to allow evacuation)
- Unimproved, unpaved parking lots
- Buffer zones
- Other uses FEMA determines compatible

Useful Links and Resources

FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance and Addendum:

<https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance-program-guidance>

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Brochures:

<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/107704>

Homeowner's Guide to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program:

https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1478272128411-2eca27a89d418bb73e817edfb702cc15/HMA_HO_Brochure_508.pdf

Statement of Voluntary Participation for Acquisition of Property for Purpose of Open Space:

<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/13708>

October 23, 2019

Central Platte NRD
215 North Kaufman Avenue
Grand Island, NE 68803

October Report to CPNRD

I would like to take this time to update the Central Platte Natural Resources District Staff, and Board of Directors, on the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND (HEL) COMPLIANCE REVIEW PROCEDURES.

We have discussed these procedures in the past, but as a refresher please find attached an old News Release from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in 2017, discussing the control of ephemeral gully (concentrated flow) erosion and Conservation Compliance. This was a follow-up message to an earlier News Release and presentation given by NRCS to partners and the public earlier that winter and spring.

So back on January 2, 2017, the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) National Headquarters (NHQ) issued a National Circular that prompted Nebraska NRCS and other states to adjust their HEL compliance review procedures regarding ephemeral gully erosion. The National Circular specifically stated:

- Whether eroded soil leaves the field or not, is not part of the criteria to determine compliance or noncompliance.

In response to the National Circular, Nebraska NRCS developed a strategy to transition our compliance review procedures to include guidance outlined in the National Circular. NHQ approved our strategy, and the strategy was transmitted to our staff with a Nebraska Bulletin on February 24, 2017.

The strategy outlined our compliance review procedures for Fiscal Years 2017-2019. During those three years, we have used variances to provide producers with one year to fix ephemeral gullies that were not controlled. The strategy indicated that beginning in Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, this procedure would change.

Updated Guidance:

Nebraska NRCS will continue to use our current HEL compliance review process until further notice by NHQ. We will continue to grant variances to allow producers one year to fix ephemeral gullies that were not required to be controlled prior to 2017.

So once again, the timing of this message and my report is to help get producers thinking about ephemeral gully erosion on their farms, and if present, making mental notes during harvest of the spots in the field that require attention. Once these spots have been identified, our hope is that producers will come to our offices to talk over conservation practices and the planning process to address these resource concerns in their fields. Together we will use a planning process to help treat this type of erosion when required for conservation compliance, and to remain eligible for USDA program benefits.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joe Krolikowski

Joe Krolikowski
District Conservationist

Attachments: 2017 NEWS RELEASE: Got a Gully? Fix it. Don't Disc it

Contact:
Joanna Pope, NRCS Public Affairs Officer
(402) 437-4123

GOT A GULLY? FIX IT. DON'T DISC IT.

Conservation compliance requires treating ephemeral gully erosion on highly erodible land.

LINCOLN, Oct. 4, 2017 – Harvest isn't just about cutting stalks, it's about taking stock.

According to Britt Weiser, state resource conservationist with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in Lincoln, during harvest farmers should study the areas in their fields where erosion is occurring.

"If you notice rough spots in your cropland where the soil has washed away, take stock. Chances are that area is not only losing soil and productivity, but it could potentially cost you your USDA farm program benefits," Weiser said.

Since the passage of the 1985 Farm Bill, farmers have been required to control erosion on fields that are classified as highly erodible. A non-compliance ruling can impact the benefits farmers receive from USDA agencies, such as access to federal crop insurance premium subsidies and conservation program dollars.

Each spring, NRCS conducts compliance reviews on a random selection of highly erodible fields to determine if erosion has been adequately controlled. The two factors measured for conservation compliance are sheet-and-rill erosion, and ephemeral gully erosion.

Sheet and rill erosion is generally controlled through no-till farming. Ephemeral gullies are small ditches in fields that are often smoothed out with a disc. According to Weiser, disking or smoothing gullies does not fix the problem, and it puts farmers at risk of losing USDA farm program benefits.

"Using a disc to smooth out ditches in cropland can make the issue worse, causing soil to be more unstable and susceptible to washing away. If it is necessary to smooth out a ditch, farmers should plant a cover crop or grass, or install another practice to prevent erosion from occurring," Weiser said, "We're telling farmers, 'Fix it. Don't Disc it.'"

NRCS is available to help "fix it" by providing both technical and financial assistance to install conservation practices like no-till farming, cover crops, grassed waterways, and terraces to control erosion.

-more-

Helping People Help the Land

“The conservationists in our field offices are available to help farmers identify ephemeral erosion in their fields or where it may occur in the future, and assist them with applying the conservation practices that best fit their farming operations,” Weiser said.

If you discover ephemeral gully erosion this fall, visit your local NRCS office before discing any areas of highly erodible fields. For more information, visit your local USDA Service Center.

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Note to Reporters: Photos are available by contacting Joanna Pope at joanna.pope@ne.usda.gov or (402) 437-4123. Low resolution examples are shown below.



The top two photos show ephemeral erosion on cropland. The bottom photos show conservation practices that can be installed with help from NRCS to control ephemeral erosion – grass water way shown left and cover crop shown right.

Helping People Help the Land

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

CENTRAL PLATTE NRD

Cost Share

October 24, 2019

NEBRASKA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COST SHARE PROGRAM...	\$	12,500.00
Brett Douglas – Buffalo – Planned Grazing	\$	7,500.00
MKEE, LLC – Merrick – Underground pipeline to a pivot		5,000.00
CAPACITANCE PROBE COST SHARE PROGRAM.....	\$	2,500.00
Gary Eggers – Hall	\$	2,500.00
BURN PREPARATION COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	6,780.00
Tim Dean – Dawson	\$	6,780.00
COVER CROP COST SHARE PROGRAM	\$	500.00
Leslie H Brown - Dawson	\$	500.00
WELL DECOMMISSIONING COST SHARE PROGRAM.....	\$	500.00
Steve Fokken – Dawson	\$	500.00
Total		\$22,780.00

