

LPSNRD PROPOSED DRAFT GWMP UPDATE

MAY 2026 | PUBLIC MEETING

Thank you for joining us today! The purpose of this meeting is to discover more about the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District's (LPSNRD) proposed draft of their updated Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP). This is the first full plan update since 1995. The information provided to you will explain what is included in the draft plan and a summary of what has been changed.

WHAT IS A GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN?

A GWMP is a strategic document that outlines long-term goals, strategies, and actions to maintain and protect groundwater quality and quantity. The LPSNRD Board must enact revised Groundwater Management Rules and Regulations before any new requirements or recommendations from the GWMP can be implemented.

NEED FOR AN UPDATED GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

- Incorporate decades of new data
- Look at new hydrogeology and latest groundwater modeling
- Evaluate climatic variations impact on groundwater quantity and quality:
 - Reconsider triggers in relation to groundwater levels
 - Reconsider triggers in relation to public health and contaminant levels
- Incorporate new solutions to improve or protect groundwater quality and quantity

ASPECTS OF THE GWMP REVIEWED FOR UPDATE

- Current background information
- Hydrogeologic data and maps
- Groundwater reservoir life goal
 - GWMP objectives to support life goal
- Groundwater Management Strategies
 - Potential management actions and practices to achieve various strategies
- GWMP implementation
 - Groundwater quantity and quality monitoring and triggers
 - Groundwater Management Areas (GMAs)

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT

- Keep reservoir life goal, add updated objectives
- Changes to groundwater quantity triggers for Phases II and III (see chapter 7 for more details)
- Changes to groundwater quality triggers for Phases II, III and IV (see chapter 7 for more details)
- Incorporate new strategies and actions that address:
 - Groundwater quality and public health
 - Soil health
 - Joint climate and groundwater monitoring
 - Continued data collection

UPDATED OBJECTIVES

The objectives necessary to achieve and support the GWMP's life goal remained mostly unchanged, with a few minor updates to language and wording.

Two new objectives have been proposed:

- Work collectively with other agencies to evaluate groundwater quantity data and groundwater models
- Work cooperatively with other agencies and stakeholders to encourage and promote wellhead protection and public health initiatives for drinking water supplies



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PROPOSED CHANGES TO TRIGGERS

Groundwater Quantity Triggers

- Proposed changes address climate variability, sustainable use, and potential groundwater elevation declines during drought.
- During drought, groundwater elevations decline because:
 - There is less groundwater recharge.
 - More groundwater is used for both urban and rural irrigation.
- Some baseflow to streams still occurs.

GROUNDWATER RESERVOIR	PHASE II (30 % OF MONITORING WELLS DECLINED)	PHASE III (50 % OF MONITORING WELLS DECLINED)
Lower Salt Creek	15 10%	30 15%
Missouri River	8%	15%
Platte River	8%	15%
Crete-Princeton	8 6%	15 12%
Dwight-Valparaiso	8 6%	15 12%
Remaining Areas	8%	15%

Groundwater Quality Triggers

- To address public health risks, groundwater quality triggers are based on the maximum contaminant levels (MCL) from the latest Safe Drinking Water Standards.
- Proposed updates:
 - Any GMA previously designated as Phase II will remain designated as a Phase II area and will never fall below the Phase II designation.
 - GMAs designated as Phase III or Phase IV may be redesignated as Phase III or Phase II once determined to fall below the required triggers.

PHASES	PERCENT OF MCL	MINIMUM PERCENT OF WELLS AT OR ABOVE PERCENT OF MCL
Phase I	<50%	N/A
Phase II	50% - <80 75%	50%
Phase III	80 75% - <100%	80 75%
Phase IV	>100%	75%

For more information on triggers, please see Chapter 7 in the draft GWMP

NEXT STEPS



QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?

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A copy of the draft plan, story map, and online comment form can be found on the LPSNRD website. Visit lpsnrd.org/ground-water-management-plan and look at the bottom of the page under "Meeting Materials", or scan the QR code



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The GWMP will be reviewed and revised regularly.