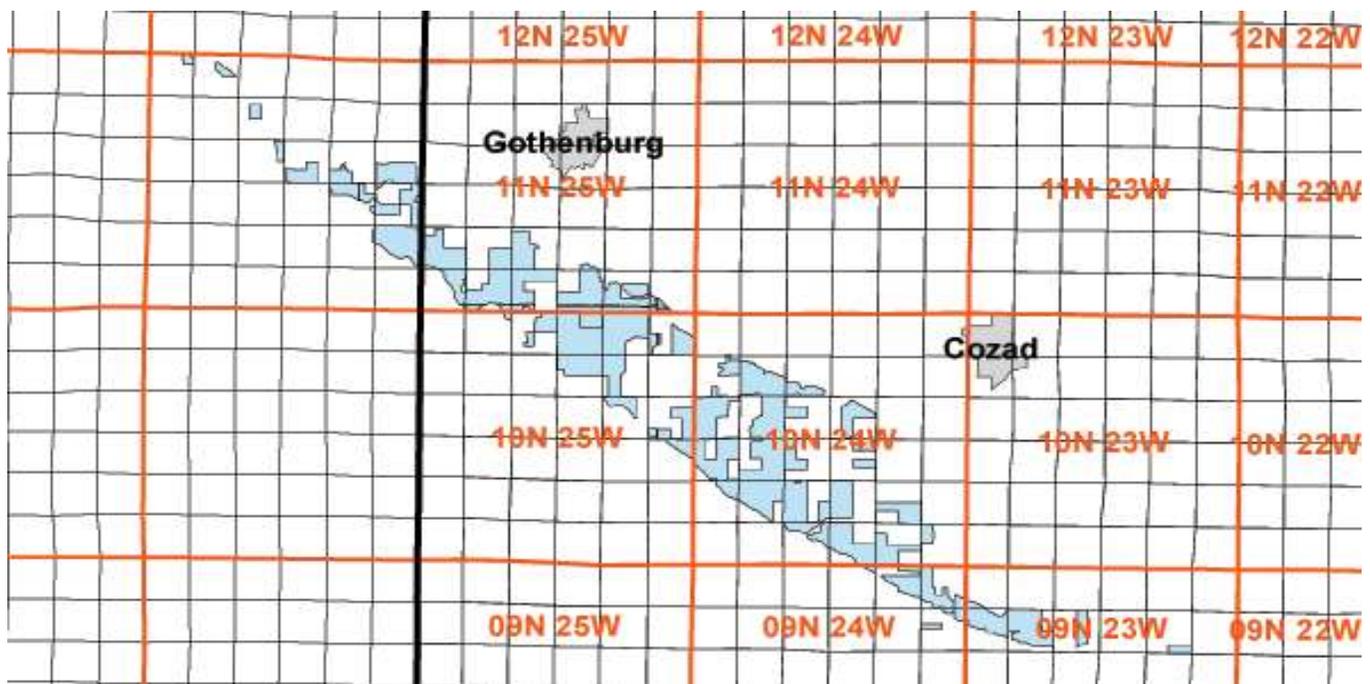


# Central Platte NRD's Partnership with Thirty Mile Canal Company

The partnership between Central Platte NRD and Thirty Mile Canal Co. includes a purchase agreement. The CPNRD will pay about \$2 million for 1/2 interest in the irrigation district; which includes 1/2 of the irrigation district's water rights and 1/2 of the value of buildings and equipment. CPNRD will use the canals after irrigation season to hold diverted off-season excess Platte River flows, when available. Water will seep from the canals into groundwater that is hydrologically connected to the river and provide river enhancement credits for the NRD. Rehabilitation is estimated to cost about \$3 million. Grants from the Platte Basin Habitat Enhancement Program, which involves money from Platte Basin NRDs, the Nebraska Environmental Trust and state water management fund; will pay 60 percent of project costs or \$1.80 million. Thirty Mile project was constructed in 1927 and now has 52 structures, including bridges, siphons and culverts, that will be replaced in the later phases.

## Thirty Mile Canal Quick Facts

- NRD purchase 50% interest in canal company.
  - NRD secured 60% grant to rehabilitate canal.
    - PBHEP 60%, NRD 20%, Canal Company 20%
    - NRD transfers and leases water rights.
    - Canal Company delivers irrigation water.
    - NRD applied for water rights for excess flow to recharge and lease for river flow enhancement.
    - All maintenance, operation costs and income shared 50%-50%.



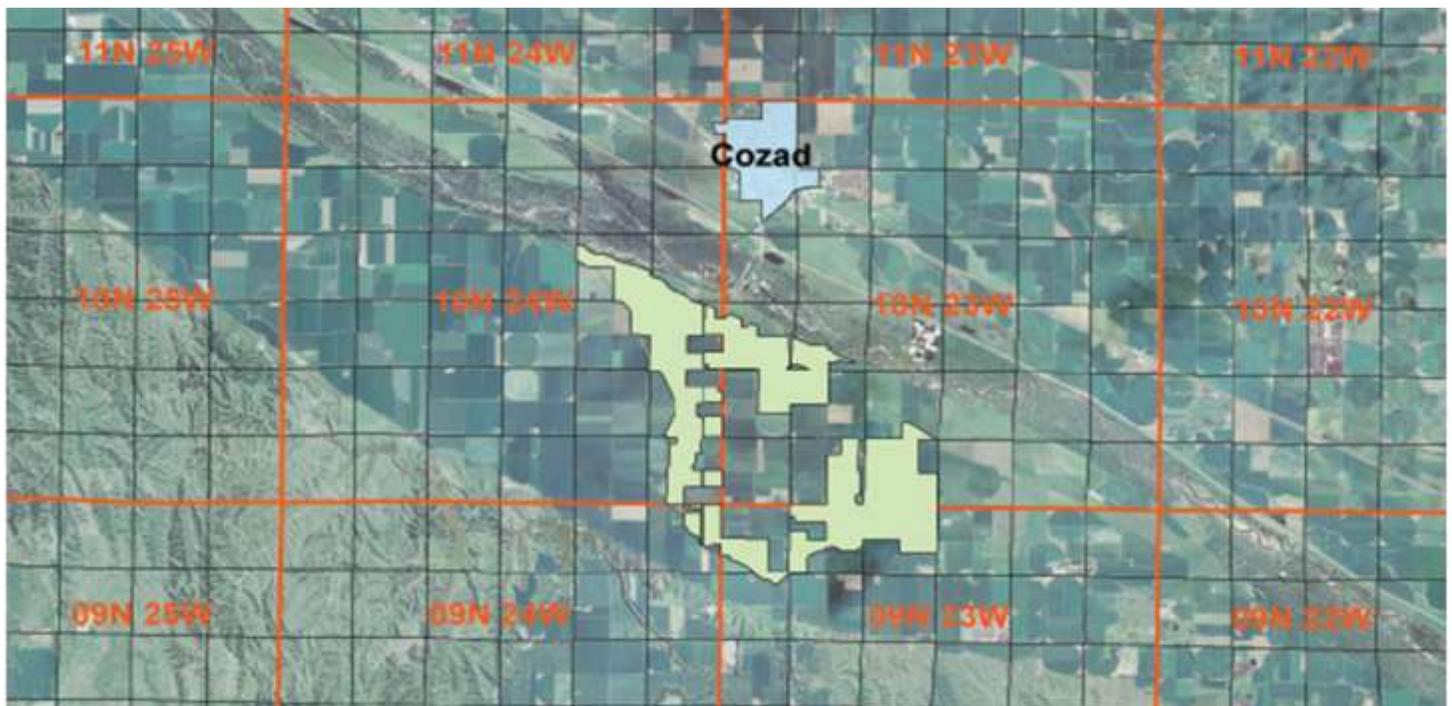
The canal runs about 36 miles on the south side of the Platte River from near Jeffrey Lake east to the I-80 exit at Darr.

# Central Platte NRD Partners with Southside (Orchard Alfalfa) Canal Company

The Central Platte NRD and the Southside Irrigation Company, also known as the Orchard-Alfalfa canal, are considering a management-lease agreement. As part of the agreement, the CPNRD will assist in operations for all of the irrigation district's benefits, pay half of the operations and maintenance costs, and get half the revenues. The CPNRD will use the canals after irrigation season to hold diverted off-season excess Platte River flows, when available. Water will seep from the canals into groundwater that is hydrologically connected to the river and provide river enhancement credits for the NRD. Rehabilitation work is estimated to cost about \$3 million. The project will be funded through the Department of Natural Resources Water cash fund (60%), Southside Irrigation Company (20%) and Central Platte NRD (20%).

## Quick Facts on the Southside (Orchard Alfalfa) Canal

- Management/Lease between NRD & Canal Company-similar to Cozad Canal
- Canal Company investigating possibility of converting to Irrigation District.
  - Interlocal Agreement possible
- NRD applied for water rights for excess Platte flows to recharge & lease for river flow enhancement.



Map of the Southside (Orchard Alfalfa) Canal.