



**NORTH PLATTE**  
Natural Resources District

Press Release

100547 Airport Rd, PO Box 280 Scottsbluff, NE 69363-0280  
PH: 308-632-2749 FAX: 308-632-4346 [www.npnrd.org](http://www.npnrd.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

For More Information please contact John Berge or David Wolf, 632-2749

Date: June 5, 2018

**North Platte NRD Receives \$150,000 for PRECIP Partnership from NET**

The North Platte Natural Resources District (NPNRD) would like to announce a \$150,000 grant from the Environmental Trust for the Panhandle Region Evaluation & Conservation Irrigation Partnership (PRECIP) project. The partnership is between the NPNRD, the Upper Niobrara White NRD, South Platte NRD, and the Nebraska Water Balance Alliance with the purpose of helping producer better utilize technology in their operations.

North Platte General Manager John Berge believes advances in technology to help save both the producers inputs on their water use and help the District reach its obligation under their Integrated Management Plan (IMP). “Due to the shift away from retirements and lease, the North Platte NRD will now focus on increasing on-farm efficiencies to help the District meets its obligation under our Integrated Management Plan. Working with the two panhandle NRDs and Aquamart on the PRECIP project will help provide peer to peer water saving management strategies to help producer become more efficient.”

The goal of PRECIP is to generate sustainable and measurable improvement to Nebraska's water resources by providing value at all levels to all stakeholders. Aquamart representative John Heaston, “The Aquamart Project of NEWBA is about bringing people together to manage water sustainably. PRECIP is going to be an excellent set of tools for water managers in the

panhandle to share and learn technology and practices that will support their efforts to be good stewards of our states water resources.”

Over the next 3 years, PRECIP will: establish 6 demonstration sites across the panhandle to demonstrate agricultural management systems that will help producers better manage their water resources, provide peer to peer consultation between producer, host field days to demonstrate technologies and management practices, and identify any gaps and research priorities.

The NRD general managers and Aquamart are very excited about the dual benefit of helping producer and the NRD.

South Platte General Manager Rod Horn likes the partnership with the private sector to help meet their IMP goals. “We support this private/public partnership approach to establish on-farm water use budgeting to protect and enhance surface and ground water resources for people and wildlife. The South Platte Natural Resources District is confident that implementation of this project will result in lasting and innovative results that will be of great benefit to the people, land and water resources in our District.”

\*\*\*