

Lower Republican NRD Review

Summer 2021 Volume 66

Protecting Lives, Protecting Property, Protecting the Future



Simonson Hired as Assistant Manager

The Lower Republican NRD welcomed Nick Simonson to the staff as its new Assistant Manager on May 10, 2021.

Simonson grew up on a ranch outside of Mullen, Nebraska, where he graduated from high school. He went on to college at Chadron State College and graduated with a B.S. in Range Management with minors in Animal and Plant Science. While at college, Simonson did an internship with the USDA-NRCS in Rushville and O'Neill and was hired on as a Rangeland Management Specialist upon graduation. He moved to Elwood the next year and to Alma in 2007 as the District Conservationist for NRCS. He worked for a private oil and gas exploration company as the land manager before going back to the NRCS in 2019.

Nick and his wife, Melissa, live in Alma and have three children. Tucker will be in 3rd grade, Kelcee will be in 2nd grade and Hazel will be in her last year of pre-school this fall. Nick also serves on the Alma School Board and the Alma City Planning Commission.

The LRNRD is in a NON-Compact Call Year

How much can we pump in a Non-Compact Call Year?

In a Non-Compact Call Year, you can pump as much as your allocation balance will let you. There is no limit or penalty, but remember, whatever you pump will be deducted from your current allocation balance and then that balance will need to carry you through the rest of the allocation period.

Example: We are in year 4 of the 5 year allocation period.

Your allocation balance shows after three years—28.5 inches

You pump in the fourth year (2021)—10.0 inches

Your balance—18.5 inches left (At the end of the 2021 irrigation season)

This balance will be the volume left for the final year of the allocation period. (2022)

Up to nine inches may be carried over to the next allocation period. (2023—2027)

If you have any questions, please contact the Lower Republican NRD at 308-928-2182.

Irrigation Season— **Flowmeters**

Please check flowmeters on your wells periodically throughout the irrigation season. Making sure they are working correctly benefits both the Lower Republican NRD and you, the irrigator, for accurate irrigation records. It is your responsibility to make sure the flowmeters are functioning correctly during the irrigation season. If you have a problem with a meter, please contact our office.



New **Water Resources** **Technician**

We have a new Water Resources Technician for the eastern part of the district. PJ Holmes and his wife Angie recently moved to the area from Colorado to be closer to family. PJ has a son Jordon, 26, and a granddaughter Layla, 3. In his spare time, PJ enjoys softball, wrestling, football, Crossfit—pretty much anything sports! He has coached wrestling the past 8 years.



Lower Republican NRD Scholarship Recipients

The Lower Republican NRD is proud to support Natural Resources education. Three students within the district were awarded a \$1000 scholarship to the Nebraska college of their choice. Kiara Mikkelsen, Kristen Herrick and Cody Hubl were this year's recipients. They were selected from several exceptional applicants. We wish them all a bright future.

Kiara is a graduate of Superior High School and will attend the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis. She will be majoring in Agricultural Education. Kiara is the daughter of Jarod and Melissa Mikkelsen.

Kristen, daughter of Scott and Rhonda Herrick, will be attending the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. She will be majoring in Agriculture Leadership, Education and Communication. Kristen is a graduate of Franklin Public Schools.

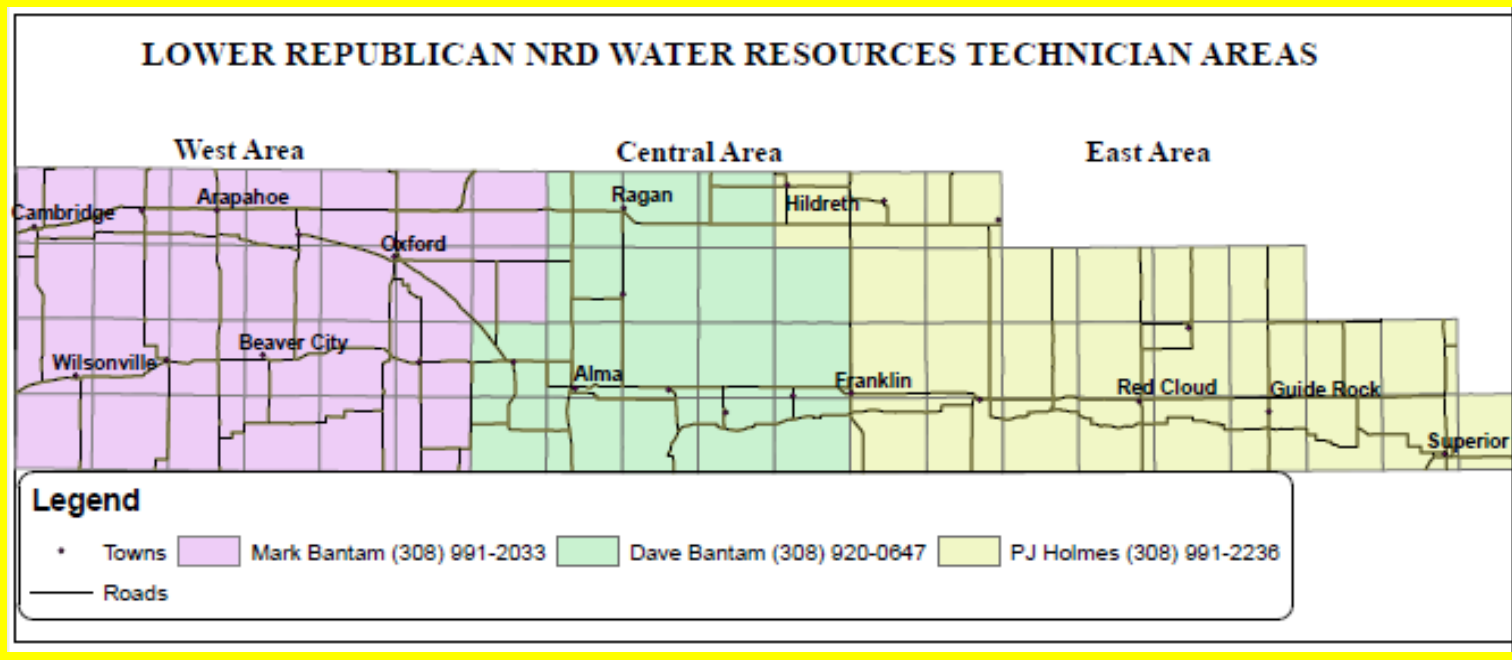
Cody Hubl graduated this spring from Blue Hill Community School and will be attending Northeast Community College in Norfolk. He will be majoring in Agronomy and Precision Agriculture. Cody is the son of Doug and Tammy Hubl.

Congratulations to these outstanding students.



Water Resources Technician Areas

The Lower Republican NRD has 3 Water Resources Technicians to cover the district. The western area is covered by Mark Bantam. Dave Bantam covers the central area and PJ Holmes takes care of those in the eastern area. Below is a map that is color coded for the areas along with the technicians name and phone number.



NSWCP FUNDING

The Lower Republican NRD will be receiving funding for the Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Program in July. The program has three major categories: range, erosion, and water conservation and water quality. Some eligible conservation practices include range seeding, critical area plantings, planned grazing systems, irrigation water management, terrace systems, impoundment dams, grade stabilization structures, diversions, grassed waterways and water and sediment control basins. The projects must be designed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service in your area. The LRNRD cost shares on 50% of the average or actual cost of the project, whichever is less with a maximum of \$5000 per year. For more information on this program, please contact your local NRCS office.

2022 Tree Planting

You may be asking, "Why are they talking about tree planting for next year?" The most successful tree plantings are those that are thought of long in advance of planting the trees. It's especially important to have the site properly prepared prior to tree planting. If the site is currently in native grass, alfalfa, or in a location where trees have been recently removed, tilling the site and allowing moisture infiltration and the soil to mellow will significantly enhance tree survival rates next spring. The site should be tilled at least once this summer/fall and again just prior to tree planting.

If planting trees may be in your future, contact your local NRCS Office.

Board of Directors	
Subdistrict 1	Clark Andrews, Holbrook
Subdistrict 1	Toby tenBensel, Holbrook
Subdistrict 2	Bill Bose, Orleans - Vice Chair
Subdistrict 2	Marlin Murdoch, Orleans - Chair
Subdistrict 3	Tim Kahrs, Franklin - Treasurer
Subdistrict 3	Matt Harrison, Naponee
Subdistrict 4	Nelson Trambly, Campbell
Subdistrict 4	David Bartels, Riverton - Secretary
Subdistrict 5	Terry Hoit, Red Cloud
Subdistrict 5	Roger Nelson, Superior
At-Large	Bradley Wulf, Red Cloud

LRNRD Staff	
Todd Siel	General Manager
Nick Simonson	Assistant Manager
Shirlee Poyser	Admin. Assistant/Bookkeeper
Kristi Heft	Water Resources Administrator
Mary Goebel	Water Secretary/Info. & Edu.
Jim Zimmerman	Rural Water Superintendent
PJ Holmes	Water Resources Technician
Dave Bantam	Water Resources Technician
Mark Bantam	Water Resources Technician
Deb Klingenger	Franklin County Office Secretary
Jennifer Helms	Furnas County Office Secretary
Brittnay Nurnberg	Harlan County Office Secretary
Lynetta Snelling	Webster County Office Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 12—Board Meeting 7 pm, LRNRD Meeting Room, Alma

August 28-Sept. 7—Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island

September 6—Labor Day, Office Closed

September 9—Board Meeting 7 pm, LRNRD Meeting Room, Alma

September 14-16—Husker Harvest Days, Grand Island

September 16—Area 3 Range Judging, MRNRD

October 6—Land Judging Contest—Southwest Area, URNRD

October 14—Board Meeting 7 pm, LRNRD Meeting Room, Alma

October 11—Columbus Day, Office Closed

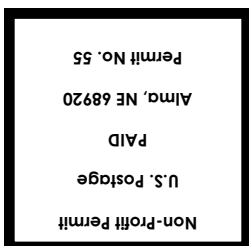
October 20—State Land Judging Contest, TBNRD

This is a publication of the Lower Republican Natural Resources District

30 North John Street, PO Box 618, Alma NE 68920

308-928-2182 Toll Free: 800-353-1297

E-mail: lrnrd@lrnrd.org website: www.lrnrd.org



Lower Republican Natural Resources District
PO Box 618 - 30 North John Street
Alma NE 68920

