

2021 RRA Forms (Reclamation Reform Act of 1982)

Frenchman Cambridge Irrigation District

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FCID is currently preparing draft 2021 RRA documents for you, we prepare a draft document using last years (2020) information that you provided. If you had a change in ownership or change of tenant (s) then the RRA documents will need corrected to reflect the 2021 farm operation. Please watch for the draft RRA forms in the mail.

Every land holder (owner or tenant) that farms 240 acres or more that have Reclamation water rights are required by law to submit RRA forms each year before water can be delivered. All land holders that farm over 960 water right acres by law can only irrigate a total of 960 acres; the land in excess of 960 cannot be irrigated with ditch-water.

When land under a Reclamation project change ownership, the new owner has 60 days to inform the appropriate Irrigation Districts of these changes.



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Frenchman Cambridge Irrigation District

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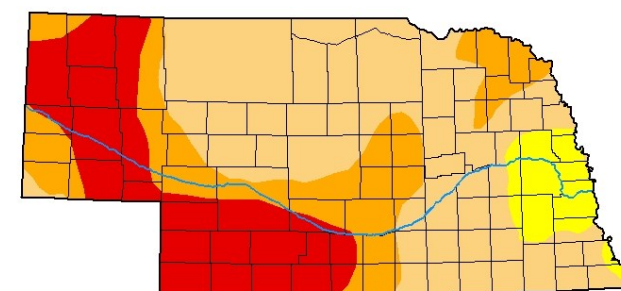
FCID Newsletter

FCID's 2021 Water Supply

The past several months the drought in southwest Nebraska has worsened. Southwest Nebraska is currently in 'Extreme Drought' conditions. With that said, FCID's three Reservoirs will have enough storage water to allocate the same inches per acre that we did in 2020.

**U.S. Drought Monitor
 Nebraska**

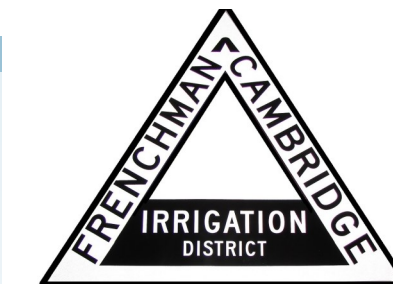
January 26, 2021
 (Released Thursday, Jan. 28, 2021)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Intensity:
 None
 D0 Abnormally Dry
 D1 Moderate Drought
 D2 Severe Drought
 D3 Extreme Drought
 D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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Notice

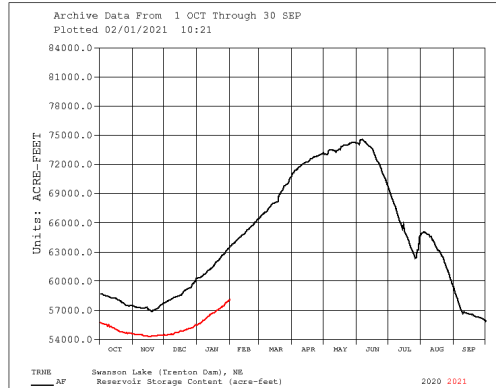
Due to the Covid-19 pandemic FCID's Annual Water Users Meeting will not take place this year.

Meeker-Driftwood Canal will have a 7 inch per acre allocation; Red Willow and Cambridge Canals will have an 8 inch per acre allocation and Bartley Canal will be at 6 inches per acre. We will begin diverting water in April for Cambridge and Bartley Canals. Much of what we do in April and May depends on the flow of water in the River at that time. Reclamation's January forecast indicates that Harry Strunk will fill and have approximately 30,300 acre feet available for irrigation; Hugh Butler Reservoir is estimated to have approximately 8,400 acre-feet; and Swanson Reservoir is estimated at 46,800 acre-feet of irrigation supply.

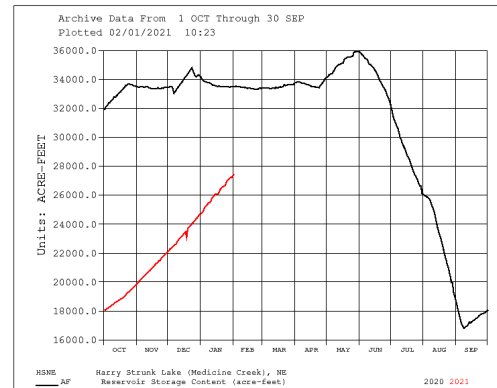
Frenchman Cambridge 2021 Storage Water Supply

Reservoir Content / Irrigation Supply

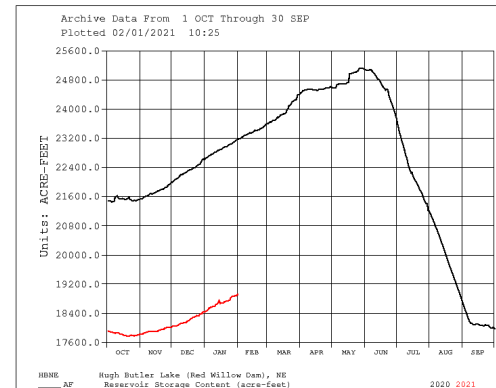
Reservoirs 2021	Swanson		Hugh Butler		Harry Strunk		Total AF
	Feet	A.F.	Feet	A.F.	Feet	A.F.	A.F.
Current 2021 Irrigation Supply	14.38	39,163	8.12	7,708	18.68	19,533	66,404
Monday, February 1, 2021	% Irr. Pool	42.9%	% Irr. Pool	30.8%	% Irr. Pool	73.0%	46.4%
Reclamation's 2021 Forecast		46,800		8,400		30,300	
One Year Change in total Storage							
Saturday, February 1, 2020	2,740.94	63,606	2,572.76	23,176	2,365.46	33,488	120,270
One Year Change in Storage (AF / Elevation)	-1.56	(5,485)	-3.64	(4,256)	-3.78	(6,058)	(15,799)



Swanson Reservoir



Harry Strunk Res.



Hugh Butler Res.

Compact Compliance for 2021

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources has indicated that 2021 will not be a “water short year”, this is based on the water supply in Harlan County Reservoir, which is currently at 90% of full. During non-water short years Compact compliance test is calculated using a 5 year average, therefore, all the extra water that went into Kansas during the 2019 calendar year is part of the 5 year average. This could give Nebraska a big boost for several years. FCID does not expect Compact regulations on our water rights this year.

One of the greatest challenges for FCID is insuring we have enough water at the Red Willow and Bartley Diversion Dams during July and August. FCID currently hold natural flow permits on Bartley Canal for 68.89 cfs and Red Willow Canal for 62.72 cfs. In addition to the natural flow permits we also have storage use permits from our three Reservoirs. It’s difficult to get storage water to the Bartley Diversion Dam once the Natural flow has diminished to nearly zero in the McCook area. In 2020 the average flow at the Republican River McCook gage was 15.6 cfs in July and 2.77 cfs in August.

Meeker-Driftwood Canal Automation

These past several years FCID has been making some serious upgrades to the canal system and how we deliver water. Currently, we are automating the Meeker-Driftwood Canal system with Rubicon Water technology. This is a big project, FCID has been awarded a WaterSMART grant from the Bureau of Reclamation and the matching funds for this grant came from Republican River Compact settlement monies that Nebraska received from the State of Colorado.

The major benefit from this automation will be less water spilled from the end of the canal. Additional benefits will be the ability to make changes to your water orders with a two hour notice and the ability to change your water order 7 days a week. In the future we could also have the ability to order water on line with your smart phone or computer.

