



ReadMe – Platte River Weekly Flow Summary

Purpose:

The Platte River Weekly Flow Summary is compiled and posted to the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (Program) website by the Program's Executive Director's Office (EDO). The summary is updated weekly and intended to provide a quick and easily-obtainable snapshot of flows and water levels in rivers, streams, canals and reservoirs in the Platte River Basin, with a focus on the Associated Habitat Reach of the Platte River. **ALL DATA PROVIDED IN THE SUMMARY IS PROVISIONAL.** The data should not be referenced or published elsewhere; refer to the original data source for updated data.

Overview:

The weekly flow summary contains two pages with the following information on each page:

Page 1:

- A short write-up regarding conditions throughout the Platte River Basin. Supplementary graphics such as Lake McConaughy levels or snowpack in the basin not included in every week's summary are often included on this page.
- Hydrographs at select gages within the North Platte and South Platte Basins, ending on the date of publication of the summary and beginning six weeks prior.

Page 2:

- The current hydrologic condition and accompanying U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-mandated target flow.
- Hydrographs at select gages within the Associated Habitat Reach of the Platte River, ending on the date of publication of the summary and beginning six weeks prior.
- Instantaneous or daily average flows and water levels of major rivers, streams, canals and reservoirs throughout the Platte River Basin.
 - Gages and canals are listed in upstream to downstream order.
 - River gages are on the left and canal diversions and returns are on the right.
 - Date column refers to the date of the most recently available data. Dates in this column generally vary by one to two days as the data comes from different sources (described below).

Data Sources:

The following are the data sources of flow and water level information referenced in this document:

- **USGS:** Real-time flow data, generally at 0.25 or 0.50 hour intervals, collected and reported by the USGS.
<http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis>
- **NDNR Website:** Real-time flow data, generally at 0.50 hour intervals, collected and reported by the NDNR.
<http://data.dnr.nebraska.gov/RealTime>
- **NDNR Updates:** Average daily data compiled by the NDNR and distributed via email as daily flow updates.
- **CNPPID Website:** Reservoir water levels and related information reported on the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District's website.
<http://www.cnppid.com/news-info/reservoirriver-data/>

**Details:**

The following are specifics on each of the values reported on pages 1 and 2 of the summary:

Page 1:

- *Short Write-Up*
 - This is a short write-up (one to two paragraphs) describing water levels throughout the basin. The following questions are typically addressed in each write-up, when applicable:
 - Are flows below, at or above FWS-mandated target flows?
 - Is hydrocycling present?¹
 - Are there any gages that are not functioning properly?
 - Is ice present in the river?
 - What are Lake McConaughy levels doing?
 - Other topics are highlighted as necessary.
- *Hydrographs on the North and South Platte Rivers:*
 - Figure depicting flows (in cfs) at select gages on the North Platte River and South Platte River.
 - Sources:
 - *SP @ Fort Morgan*
 - South Platte River at Fort Morgan, CO
 - 0.25 hr streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *USGS* – Gage #06759500
 - *SP @ Roscoe*
 - South Platte River at Roscoe, Nebraska
 - 0.25 hr streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *USGS* – Gage #06764880
 - *SP @ North Platte*
 - South Platte River at North Platte, Nebraska
 - 0.5 hr streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #6765500
 - *NP above Seminoe*
 - North Platte River above Seminoe Reservoir, near Sinclair, Wyoming
 - 0.25 hr streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *USGS* – Gage #6630000
 - *NP @ State Line*
 - Platte River at Wymoing-Nebraska State Line
 - 0.25 hr streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *USGS* – Gage #06674500
 - *NP @ Lewellan*
 - North Platte River at Lewellan, Nebraska
 - 0.5 hr streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #6687500

¹ Hydrocycling refers to the daily fluctuation in Platte River flow due to the CNPPID operating their J-2 Hydroplant in the most efficient manner possible. For information regarding hydrocycling, refer to CNPPID's website: <http://www.cnppid.com/operations/hydropower/j-2-hydroplant-generating-schedule/>



- *NP @ North Platte*
 - North Platte River at North Platte, Nebraska
 - 0.5 hr streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #6693000

Page 2:

- *Hydrologic Condition:*
 - The current hydrologic condition (dry, normal or wet) determined by US Fish and Wildlife (FWS) methodology and reported by the EDO. For additional information, see the Program website:
<https://www.platteriverprogram.org/PubsAndData/Pages/CurrentHydrologicCondition.aspx>
- *Target Flow:*
 - FWS-mandated target flow (in cfs) at Grand Island, Nebraska associated with the current hydrologic condition. For additional information, see the Program website:
<https://www.platteriverprogram.org/PubsAndData/Pages/CurrentHydrologicCondition.aspx>
- *Hydrographs through the Associated Habitat:*
 - Figure depicting flows (in cfs) at select gages within the Associated Habitat Reach of the Platte River.
 - Sources:
 - *Lexington*
 - Platte River at Lexington, Nebraska
 - 0.5 hr streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #228400
 - *Overton*
 - Platte River at Overton, Nebraska
 - 0.5 hr streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *USGS* – Gage #06768000
 - *Kearney*
 - Platte River at Kearney, Nebraska
 - 0.5 hr streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *USGS* – Gage #06770200
 - *Shelton*
 - Platte River at Shelton, Nebraska
 - 0.5 hr streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #229300
 - *Grand Island*
 - Platte River at Grand Island, Nebraska
 - 0.5 hr streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *USGS* – Gage #06770500
 - *Target Flow*
 - FWS-mandated target flow
- *Korty Diversion*
 - Sutherland Diversion from the South Platte River



- Average daily streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Updates*
- *SPR @ Roscoe*
 - South Platte River at Roscoe, Nebraska
 - Average daily streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *USGS – Gage #06764880*
- *SPR @ North Platte*
 - South Platte River at North Platte, Nebraska
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website – Gage #229300*
- *Sutherland Power Return*
 - Sutherland Power Return into the South Platte River
 - Average daily streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Updates*
- *NPR @ Lewellen*
 - North Platte River at Lewellen, Nebraska
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website – Gage #6687500*
- *Lake McConaughy*
 - Lake McConaughy water surface levels on date referenced
 - *WSEL*
 - Water surface elevation in feet at 8am
 - *Volume*
 - Total volume of storage in acre-feet at 8am
 - *% Max*
 - Percent of maximum total storage at reported level at 8am
 - Source: *CNPPID Website*
- *Sutherland Diversion, NP*
 - Sutherland Diversion from the North Platte River
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website – Gage #138000*
- *NPR @ Keystone*
 - North Platte River at Keystone, Nebraska
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website – Gage #6690500*
- *Keith and Lincoln Canal*
 - Keith and Lincoln Canal from the North Platte River
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website – Gage #6690500*
- *North Platte Canal*
 - North Platte Canal from the North Platte River
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website – Gage #114000*
- *Paxton-Hershey Canal*
 - Paxton Hershey Canal from the North Platte River



- Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #121000
- *NPR @ Sutherland*
 - North Platte River at Sutherland, Nebraska
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #6691000
- *Birdwood Creek*
 - Birdwood Creek near Hershey, Nebraska
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #6692000
- *Suburban Canal*
 - Suburban Canal from the North Platte River
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #136000
- *Cody-Dillon Canal*
 - Cody-Dillon Canal from the North Platte River
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #27000
- *NPR @ North Platte*
 - North Platte River at North Platte, Nebraska
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #6693000
- *Tri-County Diversion*
 - Tri-County Diversion near North Platte, Nebraska
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #142001
- *Phelps County Canal*
 - Phelps County Canal near Overton, Nebraska
 - Average daily streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Updates*
- *PR @ Maxwell*
 - Platte River at Maxwell, Nebraska
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #228500
- *PR @ Brady*
 - Platte River at Brady, Nebraska
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #6765980 & Gage #6765990
- *Jeffery Return*
 - Jeffery Return into the Platte River
 - Average daily streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Updates*
- *Gothenburg Canal*
 - Gothenburg Canal from the Platte River
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs



- Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #57000
- *Thirty-Mile Canal*
 - Thirty-Mile Canal from the Platte River
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #141000
- *Cozad Canal*
 - Cozad Canal from the Platte River
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #33000
- *Orchard-Alfalfa Canal*
 - Orchard-Alfalfa Canal from the Platte River
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #117000
- *Dawson County Canal*
 - Dawson County Canal from the Platte River
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #37000
- *Platte River @ Cozad*
 - Platte River at Cozad, Nebraska
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #33000
- *Platte River @ Lexington*
 - Platte River at Lexington, Nebraska
 - Average daily streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *Source: NDNR Website* – Gage #228400
- *Johnson Return*
 - Johnson-2 Return into the Platte River
 - Average daily streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Updates*
- *Platte River @ Overton*
 - Platte River at Overton, Nebraska
 - Average daily streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *USGS* – Gage #06768000
- *Kearney Diversion*
 - Kearney Canal Diversion from the Platte River
 - Instantaneous streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #73000
- *Platte River @ Kearney*
 - Platte River at Kearney, Nebraska
 - Average daily streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *USGS* – Gage #06770200
- *Platte River @ Shelton*
 - Platte River at Shelton, Nebraska
 - Average daily streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *NDNR Website* – Gage #229300



- *Platte River @ Grand Island*
 - Platte River at Grand Island, Nebraska
 - Average daily streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *USGS* – Gage #06770500
- *Platte River @ Duncan*
 - Platte River at Duncan, Nebraska
 - Average daily streamflow in cfs
 - Source: *USGS* – Gage #06774000