# RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Reclamation Perspective and Future Needs



March 18, 2010

**Bureau of Reclamation Nebraska-Kansas Area Office** 



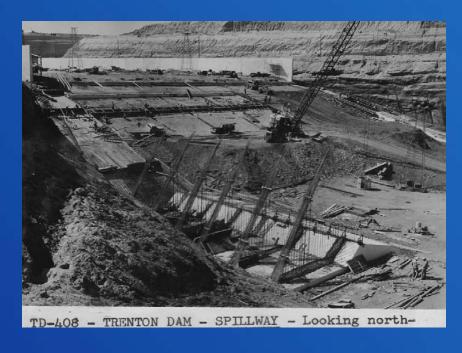
U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation

# **Reclamation Development**

 Projects specifically planned and designed to be in compliance with the Compact

# **Reclamation Development**

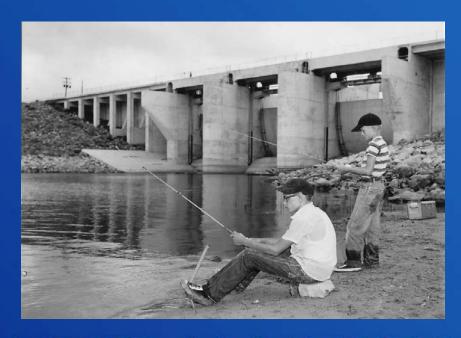




Federal Investment of approximately \$233 million was a major economic driver in the basin (1950s price level)

### **Reclamation Concerns**

- Reclamation Constructed Projects ability to meet full range of authorized purposes
  - Irrigation
  - Flood control
  - Recreation, Fish and Wildlife



### **Reclamation Concerns**

- Long-Term Viability of Reclamation Irrigation Districts
  - Financial ability to meet contractual obligations
  - Water supply availability to irrigators
- Concerned with all post 1946 water resource development that negatively impacts our storage rights

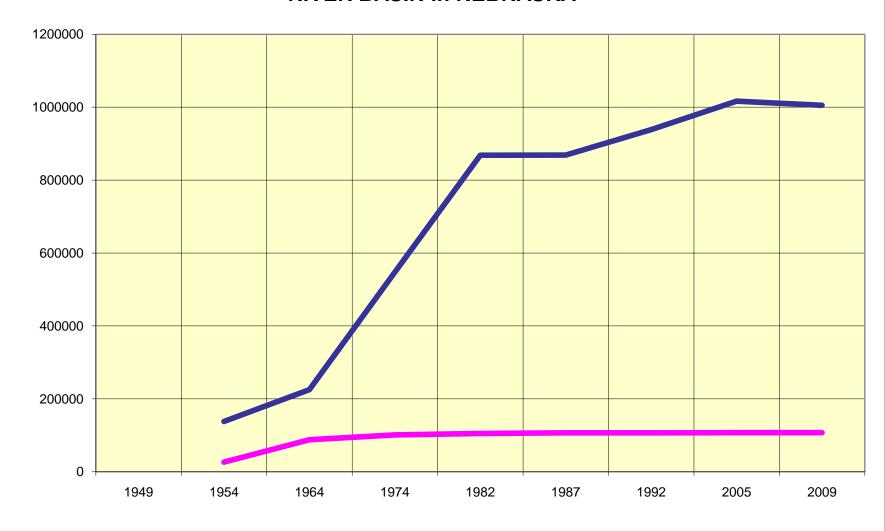
# Water Supplies

 Surface water supplies are needed to maintain Compact compliance

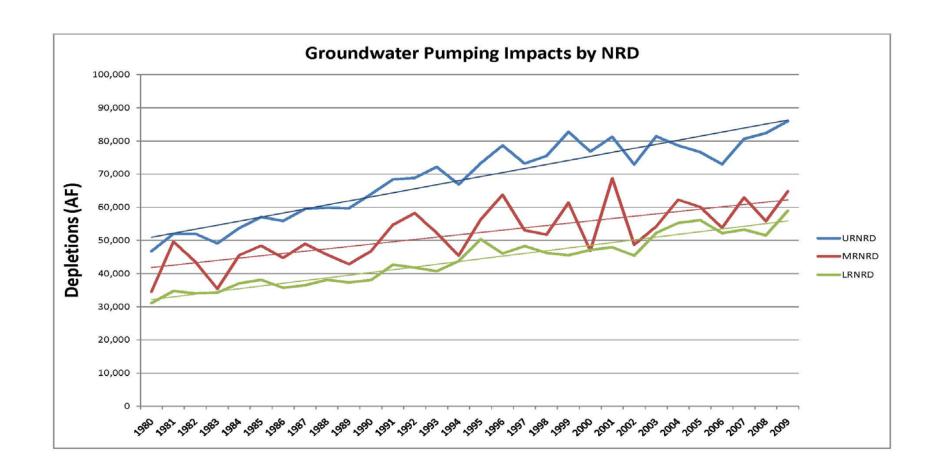
 Use of Surface water supplies should not be restricted – have been significantly short for many years

Irrigated Acres – surface vs. groundwater acres

### TOTAL IRRIGATED ACRES in the REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN in NEBRASKA

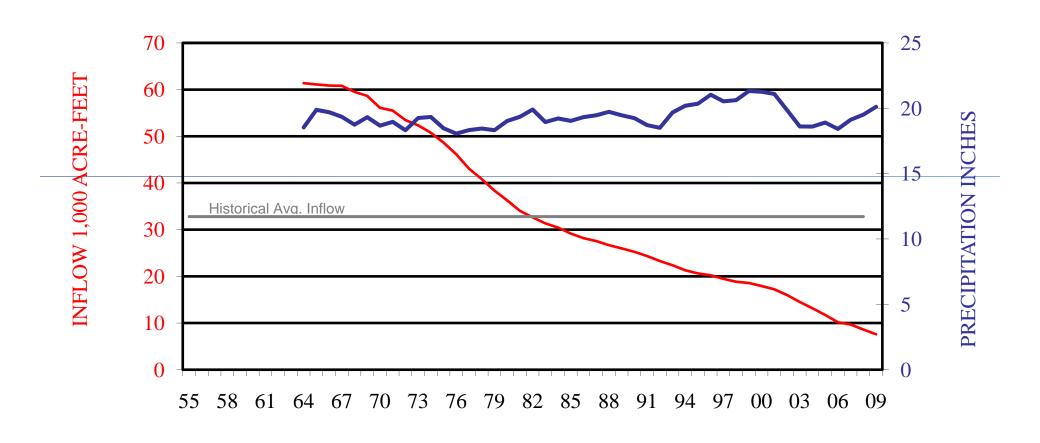


Surface Acres Groundwater Acres



#### **ENDERS RESERVOIR**

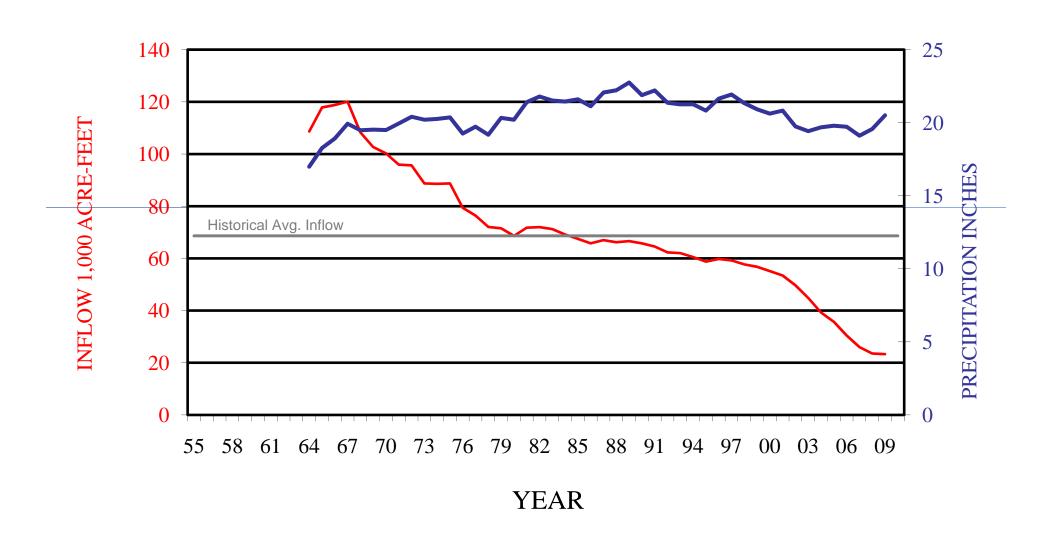
#### 10-Year Moving Average - Inflow & Precipitation



**YEAR** 

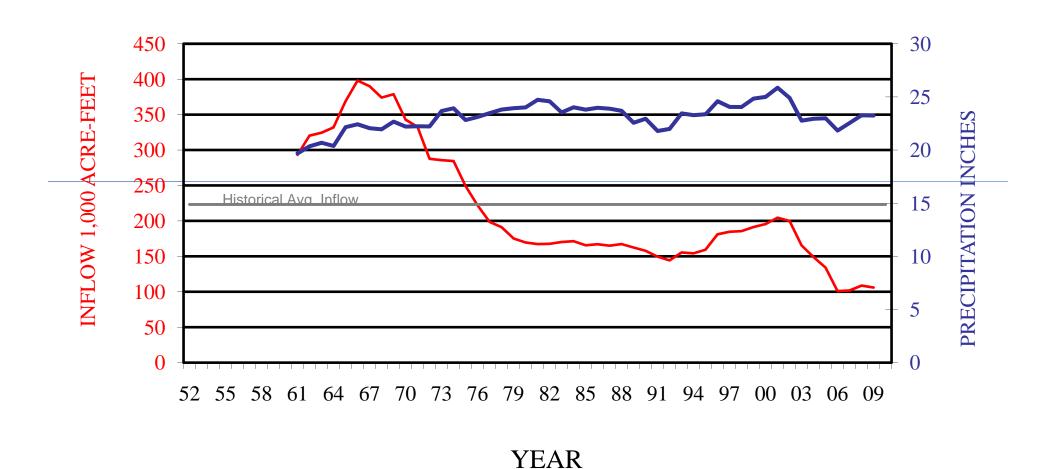
#### **SWANSON LAKE**

#### 10-Year Moving Average - Inflow & Precipitation



#### HARLAN COUNTY LAKE

#### 10-Year Moving Average - Inflow & Precipitation



### Reclamation's Interest

- Federally constructed projects maintain ability to provide full range of authorized purposes
- Long-term viability of Reclamation's contract holders (i.e. irrigation districts)

# Summary

- Willing to work with appropriate entities to craft a long-term solution to
  - Achieve Compact compliance
  - Meet multi-purpose objectives of Federal Project
  - Work within statutory framework and authorities