

Topeka Regional Irrigation Assessment for the 2010 Crop Year

In accordance with Section 6, Insurable Farming Practices, paragraph 40F, Irrigation Assessments of the 2010 the Loss Adjustment Manual Standards Handbook (FCIC-25010), the Risk Management Agency Regional Office will assist in a clearinghouse capacity for information concerning regional irrigation assessments in order to identify areas, water districts, aquifers, reservoirs, and other water sources where inadequate irrigation water is suspected. The following is a listing of counties meeting the criteria as reported by the Topeka Regional Office:

Nebraska

Southwest and Central Nebraska:

The following information was received from the Bureau of Reclamation in McCook, Nebraska. The irrigation districts with estimated water allocations are shown below.

<u>Irr District</u>	<u>** Est. Farm Delivery (Ac. Inches as of 01/13/2010)</u>
Mirage Flats	4.5"
Frenchman Valley and H & RW	1.0"
Frenchman-Cambridge	
Meeker, Bartley & Cambridge	8.0"
Red Willow Canal	0.0"

** These estimates do not reflect the possible sale of water to the State of Nebraska for delivery to the State of Kansas.

Counties affected by the above allocations are **Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, and Red Willow.**

Colorado

South Platte Basin (Northeast Colorado)

The Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) value was reported at +1.8 for May 1, 2010. This SWSI value would indicate that water supplies are normal. Cumulative storage in the major plains reservoirs: Julesburg, North Sterling, and Prewitt is at 99% of capacity. Cumulative storage in the major upper-basin reservoirs: Cheesman, Eleven Mile, Spinney, and Antero is at 95% of capacity. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) reported that May 1 snow pack is 87% of normal. While the South Platte Basin has shown improvement, the two districts under Central Colorado Water Conservancy District (CCWCD) are still not back to 100% allocation.

Topeka Regional Irrigation Assessment for the 2010 Crop Year

The counties affected by potential irrigation water shortages at this time in the South Platte are: **Adams, Morgan, and Weld.**

Arkansas Basin (Northeast Colorado)

The SWSI value was reported at -1.5 for May 1, 2010. Storage in Turquoise, Twin Lakes, Pueblo, and John Martin reservoirs totaled 121% of normal as of May 1. NRCS reported that May 1 that snow pack is 93% of normal.

Total storage in John Martin Reservoir between November 1, 2009, and April 30, 2010, distributed into accounts was approximately a net of 63,165 acre-feet. This is a considerable improvement from 2009 when the conservation storage total transferred in April was 32,757 acre-feet.

The estimated 2010 irrigation water supply from Division 2, Colorado Division of Water Resources indicates that some of the irrigation canals in the Arkansas Basin may be short of an average delivery. These include the Bessemer, Highline, Holbrook, Fort Lyon, Hyde, and Buffalo. The 2010 irrigation estimates based on May 1 indicators are attached.

The counties affected by potential irrigation water shortages at this time in the Arkansas Basin are: **Bent, Crowley, Otero, Pueblo, and Prowers.**

The crops that are affected in Colorado are **Barley, Corn, Sweet Corn, Dry Beans, Grain Sorghum, Oats, Onions, Popcorn, Potatoes, Silage Sorghum, Soybeans, Sugar Beets, Sunflowers, and Wheat.**

This assessment is being provided for information purposes only. Approved insurance providers will make their own claim determinations based on the individual policyholder's agronomic situation relative to available irrigation water. This information is not a factual determination on the part of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, the Risk Management Agency, or the Spokane Regional Office.

Attachment (1)

June 16, 2010