## FACTS ABOUT YOUR AQUIFER WHAT IS NCORPE'S LONG-TERM EFFECT ON THE OGALLALA AQUIFER?

## STATE-OF-THE-ART SCIENCE INDICATES NCORPE IMPACTS LIKELY WON'T EXCEED THE EFFECTS OF IRRIGATION.

- Exact future pumping at NCORPE cannot be predicted, but the long-term goal is to not exceed pumping that would occur if it remained an irrigated farm.
- We assume the Platte River will receive the same amount of water per year. History indicates the project will be used about one-third to one-half of the time for the Republican River. For instance, pumping wouldn't have been needed from 2007-2013 for the Republican River.

NCORPE's water modelers came up with this possible scenario for augmentation pumping-shown on the graph to the right.

45,000 40,000 Pumping (Acre-Feet) 35,000 30,000 25,000 Possible Augmentation 20,000 Average Historical Pumpi 15,000 10,000 5,000 0 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 Year Estimated Platte River Basin Republican River Basin Measured

## HOW DOES THIS AUGMENTATION PUMPING SCENARIO AFFECT GROUNDWATER LEVELS?

Through water modeling, we can predict the possible scenario of augmentation pumping–shown on the graph to the right. The graph demonstrates what water levels will be under this scenario and what they would have been if irrigation had continued.

Water levels rise and fall in both scenarios, and they return to being approximately equal in 2019 and 2028. This indicates NCORPE may have **no greater impact** than pre-existing irrigation over the long term.





**NCORPE** can adjust to compact needs. New agreements between Nebraska, Kansas, and Colorado present the possibility that less water will be pumped at NCORPE than before the agreements were approved.