



Platte River Depletion

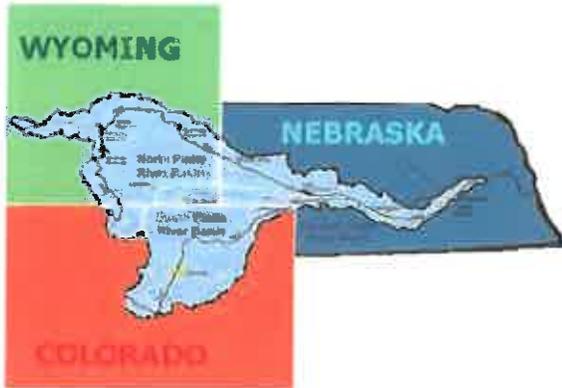


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The South Platte River in northwestern Colorado, including the Denver metropolitan area, flows easterly into Nebraska. Several threatened or endangered species depend upon the Platte River in Nebraska for their survival. Thus, any reduction or depletion of the river flow from Colorado could be harmful to these species downstream.

In 1997, the States of Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska entered into an agreement with the U.S. Department of Interior to address the depletion issue. The agreement is intended to benefit the following four protected species: least tern (endangered bird)whooping crane (endangered bird)piping plover (threatened bird)pallid sturgeon (endangered fish)

It will likely also benefit a threatened plant: western prairie fringed orchid

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