



Media Advisory/Clarification

It has come to Central's attention that inaccurate reports concerning Central's irrigation deliveries for the 2015 irrigation season are circulating through the media, which is causing some confusion among Central's irrigation customers.

Central plans to deliver an allocation of up to 12 inches/acre to its irrigation customers during the 2015 season, not the "full allocation" of 18 inches/acre as is being reported by some media outlets.

The origin of the inaccurate reports is unclear and we will not speculate about how the information as originally – and accurately – reported by the *Kearney Hub* changed from what was actually said by Central representatives as the story was picked up by various other news outlets.

The *Hub's* article, excerpted below, originally – and again, accurately – reported:

Central irrigators have a 2015 base allocation of 12 inches of water per acre, compared with a full allocation of 18 inches. Irrigation Division Manager Dave Ford said irrigation delivery options were six runs over 12 weeks from early June through the end of August or four runs over eight weeks from July to the end of August.

Steinke hopes that good base flows in the South Platte River, the allocations and wet growing season weather will allow Lake McConaughy to end the 2015 crop season at 69 percent of full, as it did this year.

It currently holds about 1.34 million a-f of water, which is nearly 77 percent of maximum.

"My gut reaction is that we should have full delivery next year," Steinke told the Central Water Users. "But that can change."

In context, "next year" obviously refers to 2016, not next summer's irrigation deliveries.

Central's news release that summarized the March 2 board meeting made no specific mention of irrigation deliveries, either in 2015 or 2016.

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