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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

July 1, 2022 Through June 30, 2027 | www.dwr.nd.gov

5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

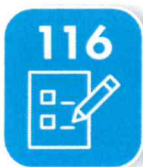
NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES



PURPOSE

DWR developed a five-year strategic plan to guide the deployment of resources toward key objectives, goals, and tactics that will remain a focus from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027. This plan is also intended to help create awareness among the public and stakeholders about DWR priorities.

BACKGROUND



Surveys
Completed

The North Dakota Department of Water Resources (DWR) was created in 2021 by legislative action through House Bill 1353. DWR was previously called the State Water Commission, which itself was created by legislative action in 1937 for the specific purpose of fostering and promoting water resources development throughout the state. The 2021 legislation also moved functions of the Office of the State Engineer (OSE) within the DWR, and allows the Governor to appoint a DWR Director subject to approval by the State Water Commission.



Personal
Interviews

DWR has the authority to investigate, plan, construct, regulate, provide water appropriations, develop water-related projects, and serves as a mechanism to financially support those efforts throughout North Dakota. There are currently six divisions that make up the DWR: Administration, Atmospheric Resources, Planning and Education, Regulatory, Water Appropriation, and Water Development.



Focus
Groups

In developing this plan, DWR commissioned a third-party vendor, Odney Inc., to engage DWR team members and stakeholders to gather input for the development of objectives, goals, tactics, and metrics.



MISSION STATEMENT

To responsibly manage North Dakota's water needs and risks for the people's benefit.



VISION STATEMENT

The Department of Water Resources will sustainably manage and develop North Dakota's water resources for the health, safety, and prosperity of its people, businesses, agriculture, energy, industry, recreation, and natural resources.



VALUES STATEMENT

The Department of Water Resources values fairness, objectivity, accountability, responsiveness, engagement, and credibility. We pledge to use professional and scientific methods to maintain the highest of standards in our delivery of services.

OBJECTIVES

The DWR Strategic Plan outlines five key overarching objectives to be accomplished with establishment of goals and tactics for each objective.



1 Effectively communicate with the public and stakeholders with a primary focus on collaboration and building partnerships.



2 Develop world-class, sustainable, and resilient water development and management practices.



3 Support beneficial use of Missouri River system water and other available water supply sources.



4 Implement innovative ideas, technology, and grow analytic capabilities to improve efficiencies in water management and development.



5 Improve the department's internal resilience and promote a positive culture.

