



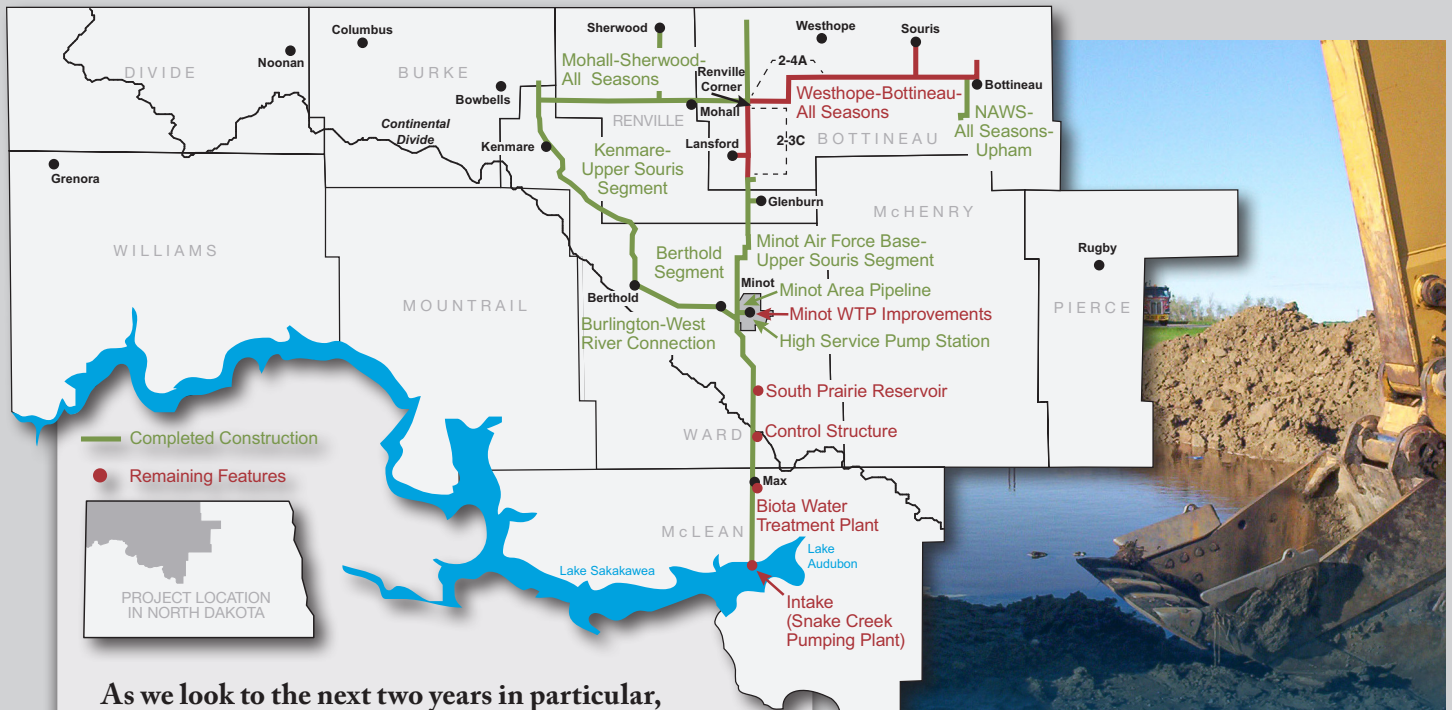
Northwest Area Water Supply Set Up to Move Forward

After nearly 17 years of litigation, the city of Minot and the State of North Dakota (through the State Water Commission) are seizing the opportunity to make substantial progress on the Northwest Area Water Supply (NAWS) project. The advancement of NAWS is a critical step toward meeting the water supply needs of north central North Dakota.

Since 2008, the city of Minot has been providing water from the city's groundwater wells to surrounding communities and rural water systems on a temporary basis in anticipation of NAWS. However, this is not a suitable water supply long-term. The Minot and Sundre aquifers, although recharged during the record flooding of 2011, continue to decline. The aquifers will be used to augment the water supply from Lake Sakakawea in the long term, and will be used to feed the system in the interim.

Looking Ahead - Providing water to the city of Bottineau is a priority. This pipeline route will also allow delivery of water to the communities of Lansford, Westhope, and Souris along the way (see map). Preliminary design has begun for the transmission line to Bottineau as well as other remaining project components to include a Biota Water Treatment Plant, intake modifications at the Snake Creek pumping plant, and a reservoir/pump station near Lansford. As components like these are completed, more water will become available to the system, which will alleviate the project's main limiting factor - hydraulic capacity.

Currently, the Minot Water Treatment Plant can treat over 13 million gallons per day (MGD); but NAWS contract customers are limited to approximately 800,000 gallons per day. However, when expansions are completed in winter 2019, another 1 MGD will become available



As we look to the next two years in particular, NAWS advancements are anticipated on the following remaining features as depicted on the project map.

- Biota Water Treatment Plant at Max
- Minot Water Treatment Plant Phase II Improvements
- Pipeline from Glenburn to Westhope
- Intake Modifications at Snake Creek Pumping Plant
- Lansford Reservoir/Pump Station
- Pipeline to Bottineau
- South Prairie Reservoir

PROJECT DESIGN

NAWS is designed to service a project area of 81,000 people (63,000 in urban areas). While population projections for the service area were based upon long-term historical trends in the region, namely outmigration and rural to urban migration, the oil and energy development that the state is currently experiencing means projections used in the original project scoping may be conservative. For example, population projections in the NAWS EIS were to the year 2060 when water use is estimated to be 32% higher than today. However, in a 2012 study conducted by North Dakota State University, the seven counties in the area where NAWS will ultimately provide service are projected to increase in population by an astounding 35% by as early as 2025.

for NAWS customers. This amount of water will allow approximately 350,000 gallons of water to be delivered to Bottineau daily. Ultimately, Minot will begin receiving water from Lake Sakakawea, which will allow the system to run near full capacity.

NAWS funding for the 2019-2021 biennium totals \$99 million, which includes a \$75 million line of credit from the Bank of North Dakota. In addition, a carryover from the previous biennium of approximately \$19 million may become available. This strong financial support, coupled with fewer delays, will allow Minot and the Water Commission to design, bid, and construct the remaining project components of NAWS that are needed to deliver a reliable supply of safe, high quality drinking water to thousands of North Dakotans.