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Jackson Co Property Owner Pleads To Pollution Violation

(KAIR)--A Jackson County property owner pleaded guilty Friday to violating the federal Clean Water Act.

U.S. Attorney Barry Grissom says 38-year-old Dawson, Nebraska resident Rodney Heinen pleaded guilty to one count of discharging pollutants into a stream without a permit. In his plea, he admitted he caused earthen fill and wood debris to be placed in streams flowing through properties he owns in Jackson County.

A regulatory specialist with the Corps of Engineers discovered a violation on one of Heinen's properties in early 2012. The violation affected several unnamed tributaries to Straight Creek, which drains into the Delaware River.

A similar violation was found in 2013 on another Jackson County property owned by Heinen affecting two unnamed tributaries to North Cedar Creek, which also drains into the Delaware River.

Sentencing has been set for February 6th, with Heinen facing a possible sentence of five years supervised probation and a fine between \$20,000 and \$150,000.

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