

Projects Committee Meeting
 Thursday, March 31, 2016 8:00 AM
 Lower Platte North NRD Office
 P.O. Box 126
 Wahoo, NE 68066

1. SWCP

1.A. SWCP Application Approvals

2016 Tree Plantings

ndowner

<u>Cost Name Trees</u>	<u>Cost Share County</u>	<u># w/out Tax</u>	<u>Total Program75%</u>	<u>La</u>
Eric Nelson trees	Saunders	315	\$ 318.15	
Brett Miller trees	Colfax	410	\$ 414.10	
Bryan Hein trees	Butler	200	\$ 202.50	
Totals		925 trees	\$1,228.75	\$
934.75				

Summer SWCP Approvals:

Randy Brabec	Colfax Co.	Diversion	\$ 1,200.18
David Hartman	Saunders Co.	Terraces/Tile	\$ 12,500.00
Randy Fendrich	Butler Co.	Basins/Tile	\$ 12,500.00
Norman Lindgren Co.	Saunders	Basins/Tile	\$ 638.31 (25% Coordinating with EQIP)
Norman Lindgren Co.	Saunders	Terraces/Tile	\$ 2,366.22 (25% w/EQIP above NRD Structure)
Tom Smaus	Butler Co.	Terraces/Tile	\$ 7,753.52
James Fujan Trust	Saunders Co.	Terraces/Tile	\$ 9,327.38
David Sousek	Saunders Co	Terraces/Tile	<u>\$ 12,500.00</u>
			\$ 58,785.61

1.B. SWCP Payments

None

- 1.C. SWCP Cancellations
None
 - 1.D. Cottonwood Creek Payments
None
 - 1.E. Sand/Duck Creek Approvals
None
 - 1.F. Sand/Duck Cost Share Payment
None
 - 1.G. Wahoo Creek Cost Share Approvals
None
 - 1.H. SWCP Policy Review and Approval
The Committee reviewed the final proposed Soil and Water Conservation Program (SWCP) policy for further input and recommendation for approval.
2. WATERSHEDS

2.A. Shell Creek Watershed

2.A.1. Shell Creek Awards & Engraving Payment Request

We received the attached invoice from Awards & Engraving (Columbus) for student science medals, ribbons and engraved plates. This expense will be deducted from prepaid grant funds held at LPNNRD. A committee recommendation to pay this invoice is needed.

2.A.2. Shell Creek Cover Crop Payment

Attached is a 2015 cover crop payment request from Fred Siefken totaling \$3,200. This payment will be taken from prepaid NET grant funds that are in LPNNRD's account.

2.B. Wahoo Creek Watershed

2.B.1. Wahoo Creek Water Quality Plan Phase I

We have expended \$115,000 of NET grant funding and are now using approved NDEQ grant funds for projects and programs. One next step will be to work with NDEQ and Saunders County on proceeding with the design and permitting of two larger grade stabilization structures in the watershed. Last fall, JEO submitted a proposal to complete this work for approximately \$64,000. While most of this work will be paid from new approved grant funds, we need partnership concurrence on how best to move forward.

2.B.2. Wahoo Creek Watershed Phase II Grant Approvals

As mentioned earlier, we have been pre-approved for \$106,000 from the Nebraska Environmental Trust and another \$168,215 from the EPA/NDEQ for Wahoo Creek Phase II. NET has requested that we sign and return grant documents by April 30 to accept thier grant. We are also working on a Project Implementation Plan for the EPA/NDEQ funds.

NET has their grant awards ceremony and workshop on April 14, 2016 in Lincoln.

3. LOWER PLATTE RIVER CORRIDOR ALLIANCE

3.A. LPRCA Monthly Report

LPRCA Recreation Pubic Meeting @ Ashland

There was a great turnout at the first LPRCA recreation public meeting in Ashland on Tuesday evening! Fifty-six people participated in the meeting and we had people from Lincoln, Omaha, Ashland, Louisville, Bellevue, a couple of the lake house areas along the Platte and other spots from the surrounding area. Again, the meeting was held to present some of the outcomes of the LPR Recreation Master Plan, discuss the opportunities for expanded access to the Platte River and other recreational amenities among other things. Following an open house from 6-630 we had about 20 minutes of "welcomes" from the Ashland Mayor, a local outfitter from Louisville, a director of the air boat association and a resident of Ashland interested in economic development and recreation. Craig Wacker and I followed that with a presentation about the plan, current and potential access, education and partnerships. A representative of the Nebraska Tourism Commission also spoke for a few minutes. The National Park Service provided an overview from a regional and national perspective. We followed that with about an hour of discussion among those in attendance-first in small groups and then back as one large group. We had some great feedback and ideas and had a really broad array of interest and user types represented. Most importantly we seem to have engaged a lot of people that are really interested in partnerships, recreation, community development and the river itself (two of the most enthused seem to be the Ashland and Louisville Mayors). Don't forget the next two meetings are Tuesday, April 5th in Fremont at the Civic Auditorium community room (5:30-6:00 open house; 6:00-7:30 presentations and discussion) and Thursday, April 7th in Columbus at the Legion Hall (same time frame as Fremont).

Two Rivers Pier Removal Final Walk-through

The final walk through for the pier removal project took place on Monday, March 28th. The seeding was completed yesterday and a Corps' issue has been taken care of and documentation sent to the Corps. Hawkins has removed all equipment from the site as the project is now officially finished.

Events:

The Kayak Tour has been included as a National Park Service "Find your Park" Event as part of their Centennial Celebration. It is scheduled for Tuesday, June 7th. Public registration opens Tuesday, April 28th. Please let me know if any directors or staff are interested in attending.

The Summit is scheduled for Tuesday, October 25th at the Oak Ballroom in Schuyler. I have spoken with Matt Bailey about this (he actually recommended the ballroom) and hopefully working in a tour of Shell Creek into the Summit. More plans coming soon.

The next Quarterly Meeting is Tuesday, May 3rd at 9:00 a.m at LPSNRD.

4. OTHER

4.A. Army COE 205 Projects

General Manager Miyoshi reported that he and Mike Murren met with Army COE officials last week to discuss and tour the potential Fremont Levee Project site and the Platte River Levee Project site at Schuyler.

4.A.1. Fremont 205

General Manager Miyoshi reported that the Army Corps of Engineers informed our partners that additional work needs to be done to reassess flood plain elevations due to Dept. of Roads U.S. 30 Expressway project. DOR request to change the current flood plain maps for Fremont and Dodge County will require a reassessment of our project with DOR's proposed floodplain maps and expressway. This in turn increases the study cost \$600,000.

With an increase of \$600,000 the break down is: COE \$300,000, LPNNRD \$150,000, Fremont \$72,600, Dodge County \$65,100, Inglewood \$12,300.

We have ask the COE to complete the study by September 30, 2017 so there is an opportunity to be included for Federal Funding through the Water Resources Redevelopment Act (WRRDA) which maybe in the fall of 2017.

4.A.2. Schuyler 205

Mike Murren reported that we have been working with the Army COE and Schuyler on how to proceed with cleaning a drainage ditch (4000' long x 5' wide x 1' deep) located on NDOR property, which is needed so internal city drainage does not backup into Schuyler during heavy rainstorms. While NDOR has indicated that they will not participate with this cleaning, they will allow the sponsors access on their right of way to do this work. It appears the the estimated cost of \$12,500 will be included as part of the Army COE project. While details are being sorted out this work needs to be completed this week before de-watering wells are turned on for Schuyler's sewer project next week that will pass substantial flows through the subject drainage ditch.

4.B. Shell Creek Landowner Levee Project Update

Director Bailey reported that Colfax County is working with the Union Pacific Railroad on coordinating future project activities.

4.C. LPNNRD Local Working Group Meeting

Our annual Local Working Group Meeting with NRCS was held at our office on March 23rd. The group reviewed and gave input on eligible conservation practices for 2016 federal EQIP funding and priorities in LPNNRD. We are anticipating about \$400,000 - \$500,000 may be available for the general EQIP signup. In addition, we are anticipating another \$400,000 - \$500,000 of special EQIP Water Quality Initiative funding for the Wahoo Creek Watershed.

4.D. All Hazard Mitigation Plan Update- JEO Progress Report and Invoice

HMP contract work with JEO has been completed and we are preparing the final report and reimbursement request to NEMA. As you recall, of the \$126,000 JEO contract, \$76,000 was for the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update and up to an additional \$50,000 to include our breach inundation mapping on 20 of our non-high hazard flood control dams and a project analysis for Woodcliff. NEMA/FEMA

grant reimburses us 75% of the total contract and we are also billing UBBNRD and Woodcliff 25% for their portions of the HMP effort.

Attached is a full report on the analysis of the Woodcliff project which stated the following:

Conclusion: This project would appear to generally be eligible with the following considerations:

- Funding is not available at this time through the HMGP program as funds have generally been allocated. However, future disaster declarations may result in sufficient funding for a project such as this.
- The PDM program may be an alternative source for funding, which is nationally competitive.
- Documentation of damages or improvements will be very helpful in demonstrating the need for the project.
- USACE 404 permitting can be a lengthy process and it is highly recommended that these permits be obtained before securing FEMA grant funding as it can have significant impacts to the project schedule.
- Demonstration of cost-effectiveness will be vital in gaining grant approval. From preliminary review of benefit-cost analysis, it is inconclusive as to if the project will provide sufficient benefits to show cost-effectiveness. Further benefit-cost analysis is recommended to better determine cost-effectiveness.

4.E. Review of Projects Financial Statement

Attached is the February 29, 2016, Projects Expense Statement that shows 55.28% of the projects budget spent.

5. WESTERN SARPY/CLEAR CREEK LEVEE REPORT

Access gates on levee segment 5 should be completed soon.

6. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the Projects Committee adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

SWCP Monthly Report

March 31, 2016

SWCP LOCAL	\$30,000.00
SWCP TREE ALLOCATION	\$3,000.00
STATE ALLOCATION	\$112,186.68
AMOUNT SPENT	\$60,435.86
CASH BALANCE	\$84,750.82
ALLOCATION %	181%

APPROVED SMALL DAM PROJECTS:

SWCP #	STATUS	NAME	AMOUNT	PROJECT	SHELL CREEK FUND
15-S-12	Approved	Mike Chvatal	\$ 16,742.31	Small Dam	

APPROVED SUMMER PROJECTS:

14-S-60	Approved	Don Anderson	\$ 12,500.00	Terraces/Basins/Tile	
14-S-61	Approved	Carrieta Dappert	\$ 8,109.88	Terraces/Tile	

TOTAL SUMMER APPROVALS \$ 37,352.19

APPROVED PROJECTS:

14-B-48	Approved	Robert Schmit Family Tr	\$ 340.83	Planned Grazing	
14-B-54	Approved	Herman Ostry	\$ 13,207.44	Basins/Tile	
15-S-1	Approved	Kenneth Polacek	\$ 11,564.33	Terraces/Tile	
15-S-2	Approved	Don Anderson	\$ 9,468.34	Terraces/Tile	
15-S-3	Approved	Edward Kratky Jr.	\$ 7,046.25	Tile into existing	
15-S-4	Approved	Rudolph Houfek	\$ 11,062.50	Terraces /Tile	
15-B-5	Approved	Bill Perk	\$ 12,500.00	Terraces/Tile	
15-C-6	Approved	Randy Brabec	\$ 1,006.08	Diversion	
15-D-7	Approved	Vering Feedyard, llc	\$ 12,500.00	Terraces/Tile/Basins	
15-B-8	Approved	REMD, llc	\$ 2,982.73	Terraces/Tile	
15-B-9	Approved	Elizabeth Meysenburg	\$ 751.33	Crop ground to grass	
15-S-14	Approved	Mike Chvatal	\$ 12,500.00	Terraces/Basins/Tile	

TOTAL FALL APPROVALS \$ 94,929.83

APPROVED SHELL CREEK PROJECTS:

12-P-16	Approved	Randy Streblow	\$ 5,000.00	Dam Renovation - Tube	\$5,000.00
12-P-16	Approved	Louis Welch	\$ 7,915.31	W/S Basins	\$7,915.31
15-P-13	Approved	John Wiese	\$ 8,250.00	W/S Basins	\$ 8,250.00

TOTAL TOTAL \$21,165.31

TOTAL AMOUNT ALLOCATED \$ 153,447.33

PAID PROJECTS

SWCP #	STATUS	NAME	AMOUNT	PROJECT	
14-TREES	PAID	Johnathon Temme	\$ 212.63		
14-P-40	PAID	Jim Fehringer	\$ 12,500.00		\$12,500.00
14-B-51	PAID	Celestine Chapek	\$ 5,471.74	Basins/Tile	
14-D-55	PAID	Roberta M. Johnson	\$ 4,768.09	Terraces/diversion	
14-S-56	PAID	John Schultz	\$ 4,795.59	Terraces/Tile	Above Structure 21A
14-B-58	PAID	Randy Fendrich	\$ 10,504.22	Basins/Tile	
14-D-59	PAID	Raymond Mitchell	\$ 540.89	Grass Waterway/Fabric	
14-S-62	PAID	Eileen & Glenn Chvatal	\$ 1,352.80	Terraces/Tile	
14-S-63	PAID	Merlin Fick	\$ 1,891.48	Terraces/Tile	
14-B-64	PAID	David & Cynthia Hartman	\$ 7,536.40	Terraces/Basins/Tile	25% - W/EQIP
14-B-65	PAID	Marland Novacek	\$ 2,409.60	Cropland to Grass	
14-TR-2	PAID	Dayle Alswager	\$	Terrace Repair	\$1,000.00
S&D	PAID	Kenneth Johnson	\$ 5,343.22	Terrace/Basin	15% - W/EQIP
S&D	PAID	Larry Johnson	\$		
S&D	PAID	Soukup & Sons	\$ 3,109.20	Terrace/Basin	15% - W/EQIP

LOCAL FUNDS

PAID PROJECTS COTTONWOOD CREEK WATERSHED

SWCP PAID: \$ 60,435.86 \$1,000.00

PAID PROJECTS COORDINATING - SAND & DUCK CREEK

Total SWCP PAID: \$ 60,435.86

**Lower Platte North
Natural Resources District**

**Soil & Water Conservation Program
(SWCP)**

LPNNRD Board Approved 4/13/15

**3/31/16 Draft –
Proposed Additions in Red
Proposed Deletions in Orange**

Table of Contents

I. PURPOSE	PG. 3
II. ELIGIBILITY, DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS	PG. 3
III. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS	PG. 3
IV. ELIGIBLE HIGH PRIORITY PRACTICES	PG. 3
V. INELIGIBLE PRACTICES	PG. 4
VI. APPLICATION SUBMITTAL, APPROVAL & COMPETITION PERIODS	PG. 5
VII. 2014 PRIORITY AREAS & ELIGIBLE COST SHARE PERCENTAGES	PG. 6
VIII. COST SHARE PERCENTAGE - PRACTICE EXCEPTIONS	PG. 7
IX. MAXIMUM COST SHARE LIMITS	PG. 7
X. AMENDMENTS FOR ADDITIONAL COST SHARE	PG. 7
XI. APPLICATION EXTENSIONS	PG. 8
XII. CONSERVATION PRACTICE DESIGN, STAKING & PERMITS	PG. 8
XIII. SUBMITTING BILLS & PAPERWORK ON COMPLETED WORK	PG. 8
XIV. COST SHARE PAYMENTS	PG. 8
XV. PAYMENT OVERRUNS & REQUESTED REFUNDS	PG. 8
<u>ATTACHMENTS:</u>	
ATTACH A: SEDIMENT & WATER CONTROL BASINS/DIVERSIONS	PG. 9
ATTACH B: PLANNED GRAZING SYSTEMS	PG. 10
ATTACH C: WATER IMPOUNDMENT & GRADE STAB. STRUCTURES	PG. 11-13
ATTACH D: WINDBREAK RENOVATION PRACTICES	PG. 14
ATTACH E: EMERGENCY REPAIR OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES	PG. 15
ATTACH F: LANDS FOR CONSERVATION PROGRAM	PG. 16
ATTACH G: 2016 LPNNRD EQUIP AVERAGE COSTS	PG. 17

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT POLICY
2016 SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM (SWCP)**

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this program is to provide guidance for administering federal (EPA 319 grants), state (NSWCP, Environmental Trust grants) and local cost-share assistance as an incentive to landowners for the construction and application of soil and water conservation practices.

II. ELIGIBILITY, DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

- A. Any landowner within the Lower Platte North NRD (LPNNRD), individual, partnership, corporation or other legal entity is eligible to apply for SWCP funds.
- B. Cost-share program funds will be approved and distributed based on the number of high priority applications received each fiscal year (July 1 - June 30).
- C. Funds may be reserved and targeted toward high priority watersheds and projects as determined and approved by the LPNNRD Projects Committee and Board.
- D. Unobligated or unused SWCP funds in priority watersheds may be redistributed to other areas if not used in a timely manner.
- E. The LPNNRD may supplement the Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Program (NSWCP) state funds with **available federal, other state** & local funds. The amount of local funds budgeted and available will be decided each year.
- F. Landowners will be expected to apply for available federal EQIP cost-share funding when applicable and available, before state and local cost share funding is approved. It is also generally expected to approve available state funding before local funds are considered.

III. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A. Eligible SWCP applicants are to apply at their local NRCS Service Office (also the LPNNRD office if for tree planting or windbreak renovations). Applications with appropriate NRCS comments/recommendations are to be forwarded to the NRD for consideration.
- B. Applications will contain sufficient information to include:
 - 1. Date construction (summer or fall) is expected to be completed.
 - 2. Type of Project to be installed.
 - 3. Whether the proposed project is located in a priority watershed area or if other special conditions exist.
 - 4. An aerial photograph showing the project location.
 - 5. Total estimated cost-share needed for the project.
 - 6. When applying for a small dam or grade stabilization structure, the estimated percent of land treatment draining to the proposed site (Attachment C).

IV. ELIGIBLE HIGH PRIORITY PRACTICES

- A. **Establishment of warm and cool season grass on crop land**
- B. ***Construction of new terrace systems** (includes replacement of functionally obsolete terrace systems in excess of 20-years old).
- C. **Construction of sediment & water control basins when part of a new terrace system** (Attachment A).

- D. Construction of Diversions when part of a new terrace system or dam** (Attachments A & C).
- E. Planned Grazing Management Systems** (Attachment B)
- F. * Installation of Tiled Outlets into Existing Terraces** (includes the storage portion of the terrace).
- G. Water Impoundment and Grade Stabilization Structures** (Attachment C)
- H. Tree/Shrub Planting** (Only when NRD stock is provided and planted by the District)
For riparian buffer strips, field, acreage and farmstead windbreaks and for wildlife habitat 200- tree/shrub minimum is required for riparian buffer strips, and for field and farmstead windbreaks. A 300-tree/shrub minimum is required for wildlife habitat.
- I. Windbreak Renovation** (Attachment D)
- J. Supplementing EQIP Contracts in Priority Areas**
When federal EQIP funds are approved in LPNNRD priority areas, the District may approve additional local and/or state cost share not to exceed the established maximum cost share percentage approved for a practice or the specific area.
- K. New Grass Waterways** (when part of an approved terrace system or on 100% no-tilled fields)
- L. Replacement of Grass Waterways** (will be considered on a case-by-case basis, if over 10-years old and part of an approved terrace system or on 100% no-tilled fields)
- N. Emergency Repair of Conservation Practices** (Attachment E)

***NOTE:** Cost share only applies toward the tile outlet portion of approved terrace systems to establish a stable outlet. A stable outlet is considered to be on land that has a 2% grade or less. A landowner may choose to install a portion of the outlet without cost share assistance provided that it meets NRCS design standards and specifications.

V. INELIGIBLE PRACTICES

- A. Any application that would allow the installation of terraces on land that has established grass will not be approved.
- B. The LPNNRD will not approve any conservation practice that will encourage the conversion of grassland, including CRP land, to crop land. This includes CRP land in the last year of the contract.
- C. Rebuilding grassed waterways or tile outlets if under 10-years old. Note: Cost share for replacing grass waterways will be considered on a case-by-case basis when over ten (10) years old and part of an approved terrace system or on 100% no-till fields (see IV. M.).
- D. Work that is considered normal maintenance of existing conservation practices.
- E. Rebuilding terraces on existing terrace lines.
- F. Terraces systems on Class VI land or greater.
- G. Sediment removal from small dams or other impoundments and/or from adjacent lands of said structures.
- H. Work started or constructed prior to approval.
- I. Livestock Waste Pits.
- J. The District will not provide cost share for practices on farmland that does not have a certified Nitrogen operator or on irrigated land where the irrigated acres are not

certified by LPNNRD.

- K. Any practice on fields that are determined sod-busted by the NRCS.
- L. Repair of damage to conservation practices that is determined to be landowner negligence in performing normal maintenance as outlined in NRCS specifications.

VI. APPLICATION SUBMITTAL, APPROVAL & PROJECT COMPLETION PERIODS

A. Summer Construction Applications (For June through September 15):

To insure LPNNRD consideration, **applications for summer construction must be submitted by February 1.** Most generally, the Projects Committee will review, rank and recommend summer application approvals at the **February/March Projects Committee Meeting.** However, consideration and approval of summer applications received after **February 1** may occur depending on available funds. All **summer construction projects are to be completed by September 15** and **final paperwork submitted to the LPNNRD office by October 15.** The Projects Committee will review all uncompleted or unpaid applications at the end of each period to determine if application extensions and/or cancellations are warranted. **The field must be available for construction by August 1. The area must be planted to a cover crop or a crop preceding or after construction. The crop or cover may be harvested or pastured during the contract period.** Work not **completed by September 15,** may be canceled or receive reduced cost share as determined by the **Projects Committee/Board.**

NOTE: Cooperators who are approved for incentive payments within special designated watersheds, must follow these same summer construction requirements (refer to the “Lands for Conservation Program” – Attachment F).

B. Fall Construction Applications (September through December project completion):

To insure LPNNRD consideration, applications for fall construction must be received by **July 1.** Most generally, the Projects Committee will review, rank and recommend fall construction application approvals at the **July/August Projects Meeting.** However, additional approvals for fall work may occur after July/August as funds are available. **Approved fall applications will be given until December 31 to complete the work.** The Committee will review all unpaid applications at the end of each year to determine application extensions and cancellations.

C. Grass, Tree Planting, Windbreak Renovation Applications:

Application periods for grass establishment will be approved based on NRCS seed and seeding specifications. Applications for trees are generally considered for approval just before the spring planting season. For approved Windbreak Renovation applications, tree removal will normally be completed in the summer or fall so the site will be ready before spring tree planting.

D. Small Dam Application (Attachment C):

To ensure consideration for approval, the **District will need NRCS/NRD technician recommended applications by December 15.** The Projects Committee will review and prioritize and submit a recommendation for approval at the January Board Meeting.

E. LPNNRD Signatures on Approved Applications & Related Documents:

The Manager, Assistant Manager and Projects Coordinator are authorized to sign Board approved SWCP applications, Completion and Document Certifications and other related documents on behalf of the LPNNRD.

VII. 2016 PRIORITY AREAS & ELIGIBLE COST-SHARE PERCENTAGES

Priority areas for 2016 listed below are given first consideration for District cost share assistance. Each year, high priority practice applications located in priority areas are reviewed and approved by the Projects Committee and Board for the upcoming program year. The cost-share assistance payment may not exceed a total of the eligible percent for an area when combining all sources of federal, state and local assistance. **If there is not available funding for all applications for all listed priority areas, the Projects Committee will rank areas for approval.**

- A. **LPNNRD Lands North of the Platte River (Platte, Boone, Madison, Colfax & Dodge Counties): 75% ~~90%~~** (Shell Creek is also in ET & EPA 319 grant area - actual percent depends on priority area and practice as defined in approved grant application)
- B. **Lake Wanahoo (Sand/Duck Creek) Watershed: 75% ~~90%~~** - ~~This designated EPA/NDEQ 319 grant priority area extends through March 2016 to complete existing approved land treatment contracts. The actual percent to be paid depends on approved practice as defined in approved grant application)~~
- C. **Czechland Lake Recreation Area Watershed: 75%**
- D. **Homestead Lake Recreation Area Watershed: 75%**
- E. **Wahoo Creek Sub-Basins: Dunlap Creek; North Fork Wahoo Creek; Miller Branch Creek: 75%** - These Wahoo Creek Sub-Basins are designated EQIP WQI, EPA 319 and Environmental Trust Priority Areas.
- F. **Skull Creek Watershed: 75%** (It is anticipated to alternate this watershed with the Bone Creek Watershed every two years)
- G. **Watersheds Above All Existing and Planned LPNNRD Flood Control Structures (non-public structures that are or will be operated and maintained by the District): 75%**
- I. **Watersheds Above Proposed or Completed Landowner SWCP Cost Share Dams (That will or have received LPNNRD assistance): 75%**
- J. **Voluntary Compliance of Verified Erosion & Sediment Complaints District-wide: 75%**
- K. **All High Priority Practice Summer Applications District-wide (June 1 through September 15 completion): 75%**
- L. **Tree/Shrub Planting District-wide: 75%**
- M. **Windbreak Renovation - District-wide: 50%**
- N. **Emergency Repair of Conservation Practices District-wide: 50%**

~~**Cottonwood Creek Watershed: 75%** - This designated EPA/NDEQ 319 grant and EQIP WQI priority area extends through March 2016 to complete existing approved land treatment contracts.~~

VIII. COST SHARE PERCENTAGE - PRACTICE EXCEPTIONS

The maximum cost share percentage for most high priority conservation practices will be 75% ~~90%~~, depending on where the practice is located (**Refer to VII. above**). The exception to this is for the following high priority practices:

- A. **Water Impoundment Dams and Grade Stabilization Structures: 65% - 75%**
(Attachment C)

- B. Windbreak Renovation Practice: 50%** (Attachment D)
- C. Emergency Repair of Conservation Practices: 50%** (Attachment E)

IX. MAXIMUM COST SHARE LIMITS

A. General Maximum Limit:

A cooperators may receive up to \$12,500 SWCP funds within any program year (July 1 - June 30) for most high priority practices unless otherwise specified below.

B. Priority Areas with Federal or State Grant Funding:

Within priority areas that are receiving reimbursable federal or state grant funding, the maximum limits may be exceeded to expedite use of those special funds within the specified grant period time line.

C. Planned Grazing Systems – Livestock Well Pumping Plants:

The maximum limit for planned grazing systems is \$12,500, however a maximum cost share limit of \$5,000 will also apply toward the livestock well and well pumping plant components (combined) when part of the approved system (Attachment B).

D. Water Impoundment & Grade Stabilization Structures:

The maximum limit for water impoundment dams and grade stabilization structures is \$15,000 upon NRCS recommendation and Projects Committee/Board approval on a case-by-case basis (Attachment C).

E. Windbreak Renovation:

The maximum limit for windbreak renovation is \$1,000 per landowner per year (Attachment D).

F. Emergency repair of conservation practices:

The maximum limit for emergency repair of conservation practices is \$1,000 per landowner per year (Attachment E).

X. AMENDMENTS FOR ADDITIONAL COST SHARE

When applications are approved under the maximum limit, additional funds, up to the limit, may be approved if notified by the landowner or technician before construction. LPNNRD staff is authorized to approve an additional \$1,000 above the original approval (up to the maximum limit) if the request is received from the landowner and/or technician prior to construction. Staff will notify the Projects Committee of any staff authorized changes.

XI. APPLICATION EXTENSIONS

Extensions may be granted for inclement weather or for other conditions beyond the landowner's control. All extension requests will be considered by the Projects Committee and Board on a case-by-case basis. No more than one 6-month extension can be approved for the same application.

XII. CONSERVATION PRACTICE DESIGN, STAKING & PERMITS

- A. All conservation measures must be designed and staked by Natural Resources Conservation Service personnel (NRCS), NRD technicians or other NRCS approved technical service providers. All completed conservation work must be according to the NRCS design standards and specifications as outlined in the NRCS Procedures

Handbook for LPNNRD.

- B. The landowner is responsible for contacting the NRCS office to secure funds and schedule the layout (design and staking) of the approved work
- C. The landowner is responsible for obtaining all required local, state and federal permits.

XIII. SUBMITTING BILLS & PAPERWORK ON COMPLETED WORK

- A. The landowner is responsible for submitting all bills to the NRCS office. The NRCS will calculate the eligible cost share payment (on NSWCP form # 3) and submit completed and properly signed paperwork to the LPNNRD.
- B. Drawings of the completed practices at to be provided by the NRCS/NRD technician on an aerial photo and submitted with the payment request.

XIV. COST SHARE PAYMENTS

- A. LPNNRD has approved use of NRCS's 2016 EQIP conservation practice payment rates for calculating SWCP contract cost-share payments (see attachment G). Payments will be based on NRCS's EQIP cost-share practice payment schedule rates that were in force at the time the application was approved. The cost-share percent may be lowered if summer work is extended into fall.
- B. The LPNNRD calculates and pays cost-share on terraces only by the linear foot, not by the cubic yard.
- C. The cost-share percentages are calculated by multiplying the eligible cost share percentage by the approved cost share practice payment schedule rate or actual cost whichever is less. The cost-share assistance payment may not exceed a total of the eligible percent for an area when combining all sources of federal, state and local assistance.
- D. **Splitting Cost-Share Percentages:** When a field splits two cost-share priority areas, the corresponding eligible cost share percentage will be applied to each portion of the field being treated. When a field splits into a non-priority area, that area will be allowed up to 50% cost share assistance, if the non-priority area is 50% or less of the entire field being treated.

XV. PAYMENT OVERRUNS AND LANDOWNER REQUESTED REFUNDS

- A. **Payment Overruns:**
Overruns of up to 10 % above the approved project amount may be approved by staff. Overruns above 10% will need Board approval. Payments are not to exceed the maximum cost share limits set for the various practices. Exception to this is when payments are combined with grant funds in priority areas.
- B. **Landowner Refunds:**
If an SWCP practice is purposely damaged, removed or destroyed within ten years after completion (25 years for a small dam), the cooperators who received cost share, will be requested to reimburse the District, all or a portion of the SWCP cost share funds, as determined by the Projects Completion (25 years for a small dam), the cooperators who received cost share will be required to reimburse the District all or a prorated portion of the funding assistance, as determined by the Projects Committee and Board.

SWCP ATTACHMENT A
SEDIMENT & WATER CONTROL BASINS AND DIVERSIONS

This attachment is to help clarify the use of sediment & water control basins and diversions as an eligible cost-share practice. Basins and diversions are to be used as a part of an approved conservation system according to the NRCS technical guides and field manual.

- A. Sediment & water control basins and diversions may be approved as a high priority practice when in conjunction with terraces or dams.
- B. Basins and diversions will be considered a high priority practice when a part of a terrace system or in conjunction with a 100% no-till system. A 100% no-till system must have the goal of controlling soil erosion to soil replacement levels (“T”). A 100% no-till system is accepted land treatment when ephemeral and gully erosion is controlled or “T” is met. Basins and/or diversions built separately on a terraced field are not considered a part of the terrace system.
- C. Basins and diversions not part of a terrace system, may be considered as a high priority practice on fields where the NRCS or NRD technician determines terraces are not feasible and/or they offer the most practical solution to a problem. This will be determined by the Projects Committee on a case-by-case basis.

LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRDSWCP ATTACHMENT B PLANNED GRAZING SYSTEM PRACTICE

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. An applicant must have at least 40 acres of connecting grassland to be developed into at least two grazing cells with planned rest periods in accordance with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) recommendations.
- B. Applicants must complete a minimum 10-year planned grazing system developed by the NRCS prior to submitting an application.
- C. Applicants are required to sign a 10-year cost-share agreement with the LPNNRD. (Form NSWCP-10)
- D. All approved cost-share items must meet NRCS Standards and Specifications.
- E. Funds for approved practices may be used on CRP lands if such lands are in the last year of the CRP contract.
- F. The amount and type of eligible practices approved for each application will be determined by the overall grazing system plan and the most cost effective alternative available.
- G. Cost-share on eligible practices will be based on the approved cost-share percentage times the approved practice payment schedule cost share rate or 75 percent of the actual cost, whichever is less.

II. ELIGIBLE PRACTICES

- A. **Cross Fencing:** Only fencing designed to facilitate cell division is eligible for cost-share (Standard 382 specifications). Boundary fences are not eligible for cost-share.
- B. **Livestock Water Dugouts:** Dugouts will be sized by daily animal needs and Nebraska Engineering Handbook Standards.
- C. **Livestock Well Installation:** Livestock wells will be sized to provide a maximum of 15 gallons of water per animal-unit per day within each cell. No cost-share will be available for domestic or irrigation wells. Well test holes are not eligible for cost-share.
- D. **Pumping Plants for Livestock Wells** (As outlined by State NSWCP Guidelines): While a cooperator may receive up to \$12,500 SWCP funds toward completing a Planned Grazing System, a maximum cost share limit of \$5,000 will apply toward the livestock well and well pumping plant component (combined) if part of the approved system.
- E. **Livestock Water Tanks:** Tanks sized according to standard storage requirements in the NRCS Technical Guide, Standard 614, are eligible.
- F. **Livestock Water Pipeline Installation**

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD
SWCP ATTACHMENT C
GUIDELINES FOR WATER IMPOUNDMENT (SMALL DAMS) &
GRADE STABILIZATION STRUCTURES**

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this program is to assist landowners with the construction of water impoundment and grade stabilization structures on their property.

II. ELIGIBLE PROJECT ITEMS

A. Eligible Project Costs Include:

1. Construction (Not to include site preparation)
2. Seeding (Structure and emergency spillway)
3. Fencing when required by the NRCS

III. LAND TREATMENT REQUIREMENT

To be eligible for cost-share assistance, a minimum of 75% land treatment is required within the watershed above each proposed structure site. To calculate this percentage, non-highly erodible land is considered treated.

Land Treatment Definition:

Land treatment is defined as any practice or combination of practices (i.e. terraces, no-till etc.), that control soil erosion rates on highly erodible soils to soil replacement levels or less (Soil replacement level or "T" = 5 tons/acre in the LPNNRD). Any approved NRCS farm plan that treats land to "T" qualifies under this definition (8/2/00 Projects Committee).

IV. COST-SHARE PERCENTAGE AND MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE

The cost-share percent for approved applications outside selected priority areas is up to a maximum of 65%. For small dams approved within selected LPNNRD priority areas, the cost-share rate is up to a maximum of 75%. Eligible assistance will be based on the eligible cost-share percent times the county average costs or 75% of actual costs whichever is less. The maximum cost-share limit will be \$15,000 upon NRCS recommendation and Projects Committee approval on a case-by-case basis (see Special conditions below).

Special conditions: The Board may approve a higher cost-share percentage and increase the maximum assistance if an application site is above an LPNNRD recreation area, within a targeted watershed or when other special conditions exist. The Board may also approve a lower cost-share percent and decrease the maximum assistance for structure sites of lower priority. **Special** conditions will be evaluated by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

V. PRIORITY AREAS

Priority-areas for small dams and grade stabilization structures include the following watersheds:

- A. Sand & Duck Creek
- B. Wahoo Creek

- C. Skull Creek
- D. Shell Creek
- E. Bone Creek
- F. Watersheds above Pubic Recreation Structures (i.e. Czechland Lake, Homestead Lake, Lake Wanahoo)
- G. Above all existing LPNNRD Operated and Maintained Watershed Structures.

VI. APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY AND SIGN-UP

- A. Any landowner within the Lower Platte North NRD who is an individual, a partnership, a corporation or other legal entity.
- B. Applications may be submitted any time during the year; however, only NRCS inspected and recommended applications received by December 15, will ensure consideration for the following construction year. Unapproved applications will expire on May 1 of each year, requiring a new landowner application for future consideration. The Projects Committee will review, prioritize and submit a recommendation for approval at the January Board Meeting.
- C. The applicant shall apply at the county NRCS office on forms provided by the LPNNRD. An aerial photo showing the proposed project location must accompany the application. The application must be signed by the applicant and sent to the LPNNRD before December 15 of each year to insure consideration for the immediate year's construction.
- D. At the time of application, the NRCS will be requested to provide an estimate of drainage acres, percentage of land treatment present, quantities and costs for the project.

VII. APPLICATION EVALUATION AND TENTATIVE APPROVAL

- A. Application sites will be inspected by LPNNRD and NRCS representatives to evaluate feasibility, benefits and cost. Benefits to be evaluated will include but not be limited to: flood control, grade control, erosion and sediment control, wildlife habitat enhancement, livestock water, and protection to public roads and property.
- B. The Projects Committee will most generally review, prioritize, and make recommendations on applications at their January meeting.
- C. The NRD Board of Directors will generally approve, reject, or table each request at the January Board Meeting.
- D. After receiving LPNNRD approval, the applicant will be required to submit a \$500 deposit to the NRD before a survey or design is started. The deposit will be returned to the applicant after project completion. If the deposit is not received by February 1, the application will be canceled. If the applicant withdraws from the project after the design has been complete, the deposit will be retained by the LPNNRD unless conditions in XII. B. apply.
- E. In February of each year, the Natural Resources Conservation Service will be requested to proceed with survey and design of approved projects.
- F. After receiving LPNNRD approval, the applicant will be given two years to obtain necessary permits, complete the structure and submit all required paperwork. If the project is delayed due to adverse weather conditions, or other conditions beyond the

applicant's control, an extension may be granted by the LPNNRD Board of Directors. Extensions will be considered by the LPNNRD Board on a case-by-case basis.

VIII. LAND RIGHTS, AGREEMENTS AND PERMITS

- A. The applicant is responsible for obtaining any required easements and any required federal, state and local (i.e. NDNR, Army COE, and County Zoning) permits.
- B. The applicant is responsible for the relocation or modification of water lines, power lines and telephone lines and pay the costs involved.
- C. The applicant will be required to enter into a 25-year cost-share agreement with the LPNNRD. This agreement states that the applicant will refund cost-share funds if the project is removed, altered, or modified without the consent of the LPNNRD.

IX. STRUCTURE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

- A. The NRCS will be requested to survey, design, and supervise all structures approved by the LPNNRD Board.
- B. Construction will not commence until formal notice to proceed is given by the LPNNRD. This notice will be given after NRD Board approval, and after receiving the applicant's deposit and signed cost-share agreement.

X. FINAL APPROVAL AND PAYMENT

- A. Final Approval and Payment will occur when:
 - 1. The project is completed and certified by the NRCS/NRD technician to meet all NRCS standards and specifications.
 - 2. The completed application form NSWCP-3 is signed and returned to the LPNNRD with a copy of all project bills.

XI. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The landowner is responsible for all operation and maintenance after project construction.

XII. SMALL DAM DEPOSIT REQUIREMENT & REIMBURSEMENT

- A. The applicant will be required to submit a \$500 deposit to the NRD before a survey or design is started. The deposit will be returned to the applicant after NRCS approves the completed project and all paperwork is submitted and approved by the District. If the deposit is not received by February 1, the application will be canceled. If the applicant withdraws from the project after the design has been complete, the deposit will be retained by the LPNNRD unless conditions in B. apply.
- B. If a landowner does not proceed with the small dam project because the final cost estimate is 40% or more over the original project estimate, the LPNNRD will return the \$500 deposit based on financial hardship. All other conditions will be reviewed by the Projects Committee on a case-by-case basis.

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD
SWCP ATTACHMENT D
WINDBREAK RENOVATION PRACTICE**

I. PURPOSE

To provide for the restoration of farmstead, acreage or field windbreaks that have been rendered substantially ineffective due to the death of trees or other windbreak plantings as a result of weather, disease, or other natural causes.

II. PLAN REQUIREMENT

A windbreak renovation plan is to be based on a plan reviewed and approved by a forester of the Nebraska Forest Service. The forester is to certify that the windbreak has lost its effectiveness, should be renovated and that they approve the plan of renovation.

III. SITE PREPARATION

Tree removal off the site is required to be accomplished in late fall/early winter at least before the planting occurs the following spring. The only area that is replanted with a new windbreak receives cost share for removal costs. Tree removal work should not be initiated until the application is approved by the Lower Platte North NRD and the landowner agrees to replant the windbreak in the same area.

IV. COST SHARE RATE AND MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE

The windbreak renovation cost-share payment will not be based on a cost greater than the county average unit cost adopted by the USDA-FSA. The renovation practice is not to include the replanting of the windbreak because of different cost-share percentage rates. The windbreak planting cost-share will be separate. The Lower Platte North NRD will cost share at a 50% rate, up to \$1,000.

Tree planting cost-share is eligible for riparian buffers, farmsteads, acreages, field and livestock protection windbreaks. Windbreaks must contain 200 or more trees and shrubs which are purchased through and planted by the NRD. When the planting is strictly for wildlife habitat, a minimum of 300 trees/shrubs purchased and planted by the NRD is required.

**LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD
SWCP ATTACHMENT E
FOR EMERGENCY REPAIR OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES**

I. PURPOSE

On occasion, the LPNNRD Board of Directors may approve local SWCP funds for the Repair of conservation practices damaged from intense rainstorms. The decision for approving emergency repair funds will be considered annually, with the location and total amount of available funds dependent on the severity of storm damage to conservation practices in designated areas in the District. When approved by the Board, Emergency repair funds will be allocated in the following manner:

- A. The LPNNRD Board will consider approval of the amount and eligible area for emergency repair funds, with a recommendation from the Projects Committee. Typically, this will occur on or prior to the LPNNRD September Board Meeting.
- B. Only eligible Conservation Practices, two years old and newer that were originally built to NRCS design specifications, will be eligible for cost-share assistance.
- C. The committee will consider approval of emergency repair assistance only when it is determined by an NRCS technician that the damage was not due to landowner negligence in performing normal maintenance as outlined in NRCS O&M specifications.
- D. To be eligible for emergency repair funds, the landowner must be following an approved NRCS farm plan.
- E. Prior to LPNNRD approval, applications will receive recommendations from LPNNRD and NRCS staff. The LPNNRD Projects Committee will prioritize application practices and areas.
- F. Eligible assistance will be 50% of the approved amount up to a maximum of \$1,000 per landowner per program period.

LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD
SWCP ATTACHMENT F
2016 LANDS FOR CONSERVATION PROGRAM
(Sub-watershed areas: North Fork – Wahoo Creek, Dunlop –
Wahoo Creek and Miller Branch – Wahoo creek)

Purpose: The Lands for Conservation program provides landowners with an incentive to get conservation structures constructed on the land during the growing season.

1. The Lands for Conservation program will be on contractual basis between the landowner (cooperator) and the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District for one year while conservation practices are being established. Applications deadline for each calendar year will be February 1.
 2. Sediment and Water Control Basins with tile outlets and/or terraces with grassed waterways and terraces with tile outlets qualify for this program. Sediment and Water Control Basins/Terraces and/or waterways must be seeded during the contract period.
 3. NRCS and/or NRD personnel will design terraces with waterways or tile drains or Sediment and Water Control Basins with tile outlets. These practices must protect the entire field on which they are established. However, the area under contract will be the smallest practical area to encompass the practices, as agreed upon with the cooperator.
 4. Land enrolled in another program (ex: CRP) may not be eligible for Lands for Conservation contracts.
 5. Sediment and Water Control Basins with tile outlets and terraces with waterways or tile outlets may be cost-shared through the EQIP program administered by Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). If federal funds are not available, cost-sharing assistance may be available through LPNNRD's Soil & Water Conservation Cost-Share Program.
 6. **Construction must be done between June 1 and September 15.** The field must be available for construction by August 1. The area enrolled in the LPNNRD Lands for Conservation will be planted to cover crop or a crop preceding or after construction. The crop or cover may be harvested or pastured during the contract period.
 7. **For 2016: Payment is ~~\$220~~ \$184 per acre*.**
*Payment Rate will be reviewed annually. **Payment rate is based on 2014 Nebraska Non-Irrigated Cropland Cash Rent Paid per Acre, Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service – September 5, 2014. ~~Agricultural Land Values and cash rental Rates published by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension.~~**
Payment will not be processed and forward to the NRD applicant until the project (including the planting of the cover crop) has been certified as completed by the NRCS.
 8. If used for permanent pasture before or after the contract period, these areas are not eligible for the Lands for Conservation Program. Money received through this program resulting in permanent pasture after the contract period, must be returned. Land can be used for hayland as a normal part of the crop rotation.
 9. If ownership of land changes during the contract period, the contract becomes void. The new owner may continue the contract, if agreed to with the Lower Platte North NRD.
 10. Approval of contracts will be on a rotating basis.
 11. The landowner will contract for the construction of Sediment and Water Control Basins, terraces, waterways, tile outlets and any other necessary construction.
 12. Terraces, Sediment and Water Control Basins, waterways and tile outlets must be maintained for 10 years or as long as the current owner has control of the land, whichever is less.
 13. **Eligible Watersheds for the Lands for Conservation Program: Within the Wahoo Watershed, sub watershed that are eligible are; four of the HUC 12 sub watersheds were identified as highest priority areas for this program: ~~Cottonwood-Creek,~~ North Fork-Wahoo Creek, Dunlop Creek and Miller Branch-Wahoo Creek.**
-

Awards and Engraving

2512 13th Street
Columbus, NE. 68601

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/14/2016	9696

Bill To
LOWER PLATTE LOUP NORTH NRD <i>Shell Creek</i> <i>(Schwig)</i>

Ship To

P.O. Number	Terms	Rep	Ship	Via	F.O.B.	Project
			3/14/2016			

Quantity	Item Code	Description	Price Each	Amount
24	Total Sales - Taxable	Engraved Science medals with 2016 neck ribbons	3.25	78.00T
1	Total Sales - Taxable	Engraved plates	13.25	13.25T
		Columbus City Tax	7.00%	6.39

Please remit to above address.	Total	\$97.64
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Request for Assistance Shell Creek Watershed Land and Water Improvement Program



NAME Fred Siefken PHONE NUMBER 402-285-0296 COUNTY Platte
 ADDRESS 19396 385th Street SOCIAL SECURITY or TAX IDENT. NO. _____ LEGAL _____
 CITY, ST, ZIP Columbus, NE

IN ACCOUNT WITH THE SHELL CREEK WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT GROUP (SCWIG)	Please Check Appropriate Box: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual/Sole Proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Other
---	--

Approximate Completion Date: _____ Expiration Date: _____ (Date to be determined by SCWIG)

Practice Number	Description of Practice	Year	Unit Amount	Unit	Agency Share/acre	NRD / NRCS / FSA Total	SCWIG Share/acre	SCWIG Total Amt.	Cert. Unit	Payment
	Cover Crop	2013	320	ac			\$16/ac	3,200.-		
	Cover Crop	2014	320	ac			\$10/ac	3,200.-		
	Cover Crop	2015	320	ac			\$10/ac	3,200.-		
						TOTAL		\$9,600.-		\$

LANDOWNER AND/OR APPLICANT CERTIFICATION: I request assistance under the Shell Creek Watershed Land and Water Improvement Program administered by the Shell Creek Watershed Improvement Group. If applicable, the Practice(s) shown above are in accordance with a Resource Conservation Plan developed with the Shell Creek Watershed Improvement Group. I further certify that I have the authority on behalf of the Landowner(s) to make this request and carry out the above practices and assume full responsibilities of the same. I agree that I am obligated to pay at least ___ percent of the cost of this conservation practice. Any reduction in the contractors billing or refund of payment must be reported to the Shell Creek Watershed Improvement Group. Violation of these rules will result in a lawsuit against me.

SIGNATURE: Fred Siefken DATE: 8-2-2012

TECHNICIAN'S STATEMENTS:
 The Landowner has applied for EQIP Funds: YES [] NO or NA Amount Approved \$ _____
 TECHNICIAN'S SIGNATURE: Erica DATE: 9-18-12

REMARKS: _____

The SCWIG approved the extent and amount shown above.
 For SCWIG Board: Raymond L. Hood DATE: 8-14-12

CERTIFICATION:
 Acres Treated: 320
 The practice shown above has been performed to the extent shown in practice units performed column and meets SCWIG specifications.
 TECHNICIAN'S SIGNATURE: Erica DATE: March 8 2016

FOR SCWIG OFFICE USE:	
Actual Cost:	_____
Total Cost Share:	_____
Less Other:	_____
SCWIG Payment:	_____
Date Paid:	_____

12.03.11



The Nebraska Environmental Trust

preserving NATURAL NEBRASKA™ for future generations

Pete Ricketts, Governor

Mark A. Brohman, Executive Director

February 8, 2016

Tom Mountford
Lower Platte North Natural Resources District
PO Box 126
511 Commercial Park Road
Wahoo, NE 68066-0126



RE: **16-125- Implementation of the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan- Phase II**

Dear Tom,

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Board of the Nebraska Environmental Trust met on Thursday, February 4, 2016, and received a preliminary set of recommendations for funding in the 2016 grants cycle from the Grants Committee. We are pleased to inform you that your project was found eligible and your application was recommended for a grant award in the amount of \$106,000.00 for 2016. Terms are specified in the enclosed Rating Results Sheet. The 2016 Board Recommendation Rank Order listing of applications can be found online at <http://www.environmentaltrust.org/index.html>.

The enclosed Rating Results Sheet indicates "optional" points for geographic location. These points are an optional tool for the Board to utilize as necessary to ensure a more equal distribution of Trust funds across the state. This year projects located in District 6 received up to 20 points. All others received zero points for geographic location. The Rating Results Sheet also indicates "optional" points for Feature Program Bonus Points. Thirty-five (35) extra bonus points may be awarded to projects that meet **all** of the extra criteria outlined in the application package, which encourages large-scale collaborative projects with significant environmental impact.

THE NEXT STEPS:

The Board is accepting written public comment on these recommendations through Wednesday, April 6, 2016. Persons wishing to comment may do so by writing to our office, or may appear in person at a public hearing to be held at 1:30 p.m., on Thursday, April 7, 2016, at the Nebraska Environmental Trust Office, 700 South 16th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska. Your appearance at this meeting is optional; it is not necessary to assure your award. Following the hearing the Board will vote to award grants. You will be notified by mail, following the April 7th board meeting, of the formal action taken regarding your application.

To celebrate your success as a grantee and receive your grant contract, the Trust will be hosting Grantee Seminars:

Lincoln on Monday, April 11, 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Ferguson House, 700 South 16th Street
Lincoln on Thursday, April 14, 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Ferguson House, 700 South 16th Street
Grand Island on Friday, April 15, 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Central Platte NRD Office, 215 Kaufman Avenue

Individuals who will manage your grant should attend one of the seminars to receive the following items:

2016 Grant Contract
Grantee Information Form
Contract Budget Summary
Public Information Plan



NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND

APPLICATION COVER SHEET

Instructions to word processing users. Double click on each slash character (“ \ ”), including the ones below in the header, and replace them with your entry. Use your find function (Ctrl + F) to find the slash character “\”. This will position your cursor at each response.

H1. Project Sponsor: \Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

H2. Project Name: \Implementation of the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan - Phase II

3. County(s) where project is located: \ Saunders County 4. Nearest town: \Wahoo, Nebraska

5. Total Amount Requested: \ \$106,000 6. Years of funding requested (select one): 1 2 3

Contact Person:

7. Name: \Tom Mountford

8. Title: \Assistant Manager

9. Organization: \Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

10. Address, City, State & Zip: \511 Commercial Park Rd, Wahoo, NE 68066

11. Daytime Phone: \ (402) 443-4675

12. Alternate phone: \ (888) 764-0543

13. Fax: \ (402) 443-5339

14. E-mail: \tmountford@lpnnrd.org

15. Sponsor web site: \www.lpnnrd.org

16. Is this a continuation request for a project previously funded by the Trust: YES NO: \YES

Is this a resubmission of a project application previously not funded by the Trust: YES NO: \NO

17. Please indicate which category best describes the applicant: \

Selections are: Individual City or County Natural Resources District Federal Agency Private for Profit Private Nonprofit Consortium School, Irrigation, Power or Development District State Agency Other (specify):

18. Will this project receive federal funds or require a federal review or permit? YES NO: \YES

If yes, identify the agency(s) and its role:

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality – Section 319 Program

Natural Resources and Conservation Service – EQUIP Program

19. Will this project receive other State of Nebraska funds or require a state review or permit? YES NO: \YES

If yes, identify the agency(s) and its role:

\State review or permits for this project will include:

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) NPDES/SWPPP Permit

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources – Project Review

Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services – Project Review

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission – Project Review

Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office – Project Review



NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND

APPLICATION COVER SHEET

Instructions to word processing users. Double click on each slash character (“ \ ”), including the ones below in the header, and replace them with your entry. Use your find function (Ctrl + F) to find the slash character “\”. This will position your cursor at each response.

H1. Project Sponsor: \Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

H2. Project Name: \ Implementation of the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan - Phase II

20. In **300 words or less** provide an overview of the project for which you seek funding. If you are asking the Trust to fund only a portion of the project, indicate the components for which you seek funding.

Nebraska Environmental Trust Funds, combined with NDEQ Section 319 and project sponsors’ monies, will be used to continue the work of implementing the 2013 Wahoo Creek Watershed Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP), which has the ultimate goal of removing Wahoo Creek from the NDEQ “Impaired Waters” List. This project focuses on the first four (4) priority sub-watersheds (Cottonwood Creek, North Fork of Wahoo Creek, Dunlop Creek, and Miller Branch) of the Wahoo Creek Watershed. The specific activities prioritized for implementation during this phase will involve:

- Design and permitting of one (1) in-stream grade control structure and one (1) Wet Detention Basin structure to address stream instability and aquatic habitat issues, and
- Assist landowners with implementation of structural and agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) that reduce or prevents the runoff of nonpoint source pollution which contributes to the impairment of surface water and groundwater quality, instability of streams, and degradation of aquatic habitat.

The Wahoo Creek Watershed WQMP was prepared to guide development and implementation of future projects in sub-watersheds throughout the Wahoo Creek watershed through comprehensive implementation of structural and non-structural BMPs. These BMPs were prioritized to reduce pollution and pollutant loads to levels that will allow attainment of water quality standards and the improvement of the ecological integrity in affected waterbodies. In 2014 a supplemental implementation strategy document was completed to further identify critical areas within the priority sub-watersheds where BMPs should be directed. Both of these documents will be used in conjunction for this project to ensure the structures and BMPs are sited in locations to maximize cost-effectiveness and environmental benefits.

21. On behalf of the sponsor(s) named above, I hereby certify that the information contained in this application, including all attachments, is true, accurate and complete.

Authorized Signature of Sponsor Organization

Title

Date

John Miyoshi

General Manager

Typed or Printed Name of Authorized Signatory

Typed or Printed Title



NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND

NARRATIVE SECTION

H1. Project Sponsor: \ Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

H2. Project Name: \ Implementation of the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan - Phase II

In five pages or less, provide a discussion of your project. Be sure to cover the points specified in the instructions.

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

The Wahoo Creek Watershed consists of approximately 330,906 acres (517 square miles) in Saunders County, Nebraska. The watershed's primary land uses are row crop agriculture (74% or 243,700 acres) and pasture (17% or 56,301 acres) used for grazing livestock. Corn and soybeans are the principal crop, and livestock operations within the watershed include beef cattle, dairy herds, and swine. Wahoo Creek is listed as "impaired" Watershed due to *E. coli* bacteria levels that are above Nebraska's Surface Water Quality Standards (WQS). The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) developed a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Watershed, which identified a 76% reduction in *E. coli* needed to meet water quality standards.

The Lower Platte North Natural Resources District (LPNNRD) developed the Wahoo Creek Watershed Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) to identify a strategy to meet the TMDL load reduction and to restore and protect Wahoo Creek and its tributaries from nonpoint source pollution. As a part of the WQMP, fifteen (15) sub-watersheds were evaluated to identify and prioritize management actions to address water quality and aquatic habitat issues throughout the area. Water quality modeling indicates that four (4) of those sub-watersheds are contributing 35% of the *E. coli* concentrations to the impaired Wahoo Creek. These sub-watersheds include Cottonwood Creek (102002030701), North Fork of Wahoo Creek (102002030702), Dunlop Creek (102002030703), and Miller Branch (102002030704). Based on these *E. coli* contributions, as well as greater than average loadings for Phosphorous, Nitrogen, and Sediment, these four (4) watersheds were identified in the watershed plan as the highest priority for BMP implementation. While these sub-watersheds are not specifically impaired for *E. coli*, focusing on them as a first step will provide the largest reductions to downstream *E. coli* concentrations, specifically in the impaired sections of Wahoo Creek.

The WQMP recommends a combination of structural and non-structural BMPs to reduce pollutant loadings within the watershed. Instream recommendations include wet detention basins, grade control structures, stream bank stabilization, and several other land treatment practices throughout the watershed. Land management practices (BMPs) recommended included buffers, stream fencing and alternative livestock watering systems, septic system evaluations and upgrades, no-till farming, terracing, and information and education programs. In 2014, the LPNNRD completed a detailed stream assessment and supplemental implementation strategy to identify critical areas within these priority sub-basins in need of mitigation. The purpose of this proposed project to complete the design and permitting of two instream structures and increase the implementation of BMPs within those critical areas by providing cost-share opportunities.

GOALS/OBJECTIVES

This project is the next step in the LPNNRD's goal of reducing pollutant loads in the identified critical sub-watersheds, and ultimately in Wahoo Creek. This will be accomplished using the information gathered in the previous phases to complete following goals and objectives. Note that the adoption of the BMP practices are voluntary, and therefore these numbers are subject to changes as opportunities allow.

Goal 1: Hire a Consulting firm to complete the Siting, Design, and Permitting of one (1) Grade Control Structure and one (1) Wet Detention Basin to address stream instability concerns, reduce bacteria concentrations, and improve aquatic habitat conditions.

Objective 1: Work with the consultant, county, and landowners to finalize project implementation sites.

Objective 2: Conduct site survey.

Objective 3: Complete design and cost estimates for the two sites.

Objective 4: Submit applicable permit applications based on site specific requirements.



NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND

H1. Project Sponsor: \ Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

H2. Project Name: \ Implementation of the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan - Phase II

Goal 2: Increase adoption of BMPs identified in the WQMP by providing cost-share opportunities to area landowners.

- Objective 1: Construct 14,750 linear feet of exclusion fencing.
- Objective 2: Construct 10 Alternative Water Sources for Livestock
- Objective 3: Convert 500 acres of Land to No-Till Operation
- Objective 4: Construct 20,000 Linear Feet of Terraces
- Objective 5: Construct 35 Acres of Buffer Strips
- Objective 6: Complete 4 Septic System Upgrades
- Objective 7: Institute 4 Urban Stormwater Retrofits/Rain Gardens/Bio Swales
- Objective 8: Enroll 278 Acres into Crop Production Deferment as necessary
- Objective 9: Increase use of Cover Crops by 800 acres.

POLLUTANT SOURCES

Nonpoint source pollution is runoff pollution typically transported from broader areas during rain and snowmelt events; however their origin is often difficult or impossible to obtain due to their diffuse and large-scale nature. Within the Wahoo Creek Watershed, like many other watershed nationwide, nonpoint source pollution is considered the major source and cause of water quality impairments.

The WQMP outlines in detail the sources specific to Wahoo Creek. Because this project focuses specifically on bacteria loadings, a summary of the bacteria sources from the WQMP is included below. While focused on bacteria, many of the practices identified for this phase will also serve to remove sediment and nutrients from transporting to Wahoo Creek.

E. coli bacteria typically come from human or animal wastes. In Wahoo Creek several non-point sources are considered the primary cause of *E. coli* contamination. Non-point sources include run-off from urban stormwater systems, livestock pastures, pet waste, failing (non-permitted) onsite-wastewater treatment systems, and natural sources (wildlife). Run-off from rainfall and snow melt may cause *E. coli* to be washed into streams, rivers, lakes, or groundwater.

- **Wildlife:** Varieties of wildlife are native to or have adapted to the diverse habitat of the Wahoo Creek Watershed. Big game, upland game, furbearers, waterfowl and non-game species have been documented to reside within the basin. The estimated load from wildlife is diffuse; therefore in order to determine an estimated load from wildlife its contribution was correlated across both “cropland” and “pasture” land uses.
- **Cropland:** Cropland can also be an appreciable source for bacterial loads within rural watersheds. Waste deposited by wildlife is transported to water bodies via overland runoff.
- **Pastureland:** Run-off from livestock pastures is of concern because small livestock operations are not regulated. Cattle are recognized as a primary reservoir for this *E. coli*. Bacteria loads from pastureland includes both wildlife and livestock sources.
- **Urban Areas:** Pet waste in urban areas that are improperly disposed of affect water quality and increase the amount of bacteria found in surface waters. Bacteria from improperly disposed pet waste wash into to storm sewers and to the receiving body of water. While the urban areas only make up approximately 1% of the land use, its relative contribution is much higher due to the lack of natural vegetation and areas to treat runoff before it enters the storm sewer system.
- **Septic Systems:** Estimates from EPA indicate an average septic system failure rate of 40% in Nebraska, and therefore may be a significant source of bacteria within the watershed.



NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND

H1. Project Sponsor: \ Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

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Current pollutant load estimates were based on existing water quality data obtained from NDEQ. A breakdown of the relative contribution from these sources are:

Livestock and wildlife load from pasture lands:	40%	=	212.2 colonies/100ml
Wildlife load from croplands:	45%	=	237.8 colonies/100ml
Pet waste load from urban lands:	15%	=	81 colonies/100ml
Total Bacteria Load for Wahoo Creek Watershed	100%	=	531 colonies/100ml

PROPOSED MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Wet Detention Basins:

Retention basins, wet basins, and bio-retention cells are common structural BMPs utilized for pollutant load reduction. The basins can do so through various mechanisms including reduced runoff volumes and discharges, solar disinfection, natural attenuation and sediment removal. Through information obtained by a literature review, it is estimated that these basins have a bacteria removal efficiency of approximately 65%.

Currently the NRD has been in coordination with Saunders County and have conducted field visits to sites identified in the Supplemental Implementation Strategy. Through this effort, three (3) potential sites for the implementation of a wet detention basin have been identified. If this grant is successful, the LPNNRD will begin the process of coordinating with landowners to identify a final site for implementation

Grade Control Structure:

Grade control structures act to stabilize strategic locations along the stream corridor by providing a 'hard point' that head cuts and bank failures cannot move past. Their implementation is critical to reducing pollutant loads from in-stream degradation. It is anticipated that the LPNNRD will coordinate with Saunders County to finalize a grade control site in Dunlop Creek which will protect existing infrastructure as well as stabilize in-stream degradation.

Exclusion Fencing and Alternative Water Sources:

The WQMP also recommends removing direct livestock access to waterbodies and providing alternative watering sources. This effectively removes a direct source of *E. coli*. Bacteria that is still present in runoff from pasture lands (primarily from wildlife) will be treated, as previously discussed, by wet basins. The project team estimated an average of one system per farm would be sufficient to eliminate livestock access to water and provide alternative watering sources.

No-Till Conversion

Tillage of croplands can result in loss of organic material and increased erosion, and thus transportation of pollutants. No-till practices, allow the soil to maintain its cohesiveness stability, decreasing erosion. It is estimated that 72% of cropland within the study area is currently managed utilizing no-till practices and this is seen as an opportunity for further improvement. Based upon NRCS data for no-till usage in eastern Nebraska, it is feasible to reach up to 90% of cropland farming using no-till measures.

Terraces:

Areas of steep slopes are more susceptible to erosion and ideal for the implementation of terracing. Implementation of additional terracing across select, high-slope sub-watersheds can yield appreciable pollutant load reductions. The supplemental implementation strategy developed prior to this application identified areas in the four priority watersheds which currently do not have terracing. The LPNNRD will use this information as a starting point when contacting landowners to implement conservation practices.



NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND

H1. Project Sponsor: \ Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

H2. Project Name: \ Implementation of the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan - Phase II

Buffer Strips:

Buffer strips, filter strips, riparian areas, and other conservation areas are not common practices in the Wahoo Creek Watershed and could be an opportunity for improvement in pollutant load reductions. Buffer strips are effective at treating pollutants in many applications, and were considered for treating both cropland and pastureland. It was estimated that up to 80% of croplands and pastures could potentially be treated through buffer strips.

LOAD REDUCTIONS

Estimated load reductions from implementing this project were pro-rated from the water quality modeling which was conducted as part of the WQMP development. If implemented in its entirety, the following load reductions can be expected.

Practice	<i>E. Coli</i> (cfu/100ml)	Total Phosphorous (lb/yr)	Total Nitrogen (lb/yr)	Sediment (tons/yr)
Exclusion Fencing	11	--	--	--
Alternative Water Sources	11	--	--	--
Septic System Upgrades	20	--	--	--
No-Till Conversion	*	1278	7306	45
Terraces	*	215	366	4
Buffer Strips	*	376	1718	9
Urban Programs and Retrofits	10	--	--	--
Total	52	1869	9390	58

* *E. Coli* reductions from these practices are expected but could not be estimated due to lack of data and/or model limitations.

COMMUNICATION PLAN

Initial outreach will focus on explaining and promoting participation in assistance programs to implement agricultural BMPs. Contact with producers will be through direct mail, personal contact, commercial media, newsletters, fliers and web-based media. The ‘untreated areas’ identified in the Supplemental Implementation Strategy will be coupled with parcel information to provide a starting point for outreach efforts. Technical assistance will be provided to participants in planning, installing, and learning to manage practices. The LPNNRD will provide regular project updates to area residents through the use of the LPNNRD newsletter, website postings, press releases, etc.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Evaluation criteria for this project will be based on whether the milestones set forth in this project are being met. It is anticipated that there will be regular internal meetings regarding the implementation of this project. The LPNNRD will evaluate on a regular basis the success of implementing the identified BMPs in the watershed. If implementation efforts stall or are unsuccessful, they types of BMPs and the outreach approach will be adjusted as necessary.



NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND

H1. Project Sponsor: \ Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

H2. Project Name: \ Implementation of the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan - Phase II

SCHEDULE

This project is anticipated to begin near the start of 2016 and continue until the end of 2017. These dates are preliminary in nature, and may need to be adjusted as a result of delays in project reviews, or construction.

Task	2016				2017			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Survey of Structure Sites								
Design of Structures								
Permits Submitted								
Project Outreach								
Implementation of BMPs								
Semi-Annual Report Due								
Final Report Submitted								

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

Engineering Services: Costs based on fee estimate obtained from JEO Consulting Group. See attachments for a more detailed breakdown of costs.

Task	Estimated Cost
Task 1 - Project management	\$5,885
Task 2 - Topographic Survey	\$10,790
Task 3 - Design	\$33,190
Task 4 - Phase 1 Permitting and Regulatory	\$14,350
Total	\$64,215

BMP Implementation: Costs based on estimates set forth in the Wahoo Creek WQMP, this list is not meant to be exclusive and does not preclude the opportunity to substitute other appropriate practices.

PRACTICE	LANDUSE TARGETED	UNIT	COST/UNIT	NO. OF UNITS	SUB-TOTAL
Exclusion Fencing	Pasture	Lin-Ft	\$2.00	14,750	\$29,500
Alternative Water Sources	Pasture	Each	\$1,000.00	10	\$10,000
No-Till Conversion	Cropland	Acre	\$60.00	500	\$30,000
Terraces	Cropland	Lin-Ft	\$2.50	20,000	\$50,000
Buffer Strips	Cropland/Pasture	Acre	\$100.00	35	\$3,500
Septic System Inspection/Retrofits	Farmsteads	Each	\$5,500.00	20	\$110,000
Crop Production Deferment	Acre	Each	\$200	235	\$47,000
TOTAL					\$280,000



NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND

APPLICATION BUDGET SUMMARY

H1. Project Sponsor: \ Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

H2. Project Name: \ Implementation of the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan - Phase II

BUDGET YEAR: SUMMARY/1 YEAR ONLY

Column A	Column B	Column C	Column D	Column E	Column F
1. Source of Funds ►	Nebraska Environmental Trust	NDEQ Section 319	LPNNRD Cash	Other Project Partners: NRCS – Saunders County	TOTALS ▼
2. Budget Category ▼					
3. Survey & design of grade control structures	\$6,650	\$38,215	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$49,865
4. Project Permits	\$9,350		\$2,500	\$2,500	\$14,350
5. Landowner BMP's & Programs	\$90,000	\$130,000	\$10,000	\$50,000	\$280,000
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					
12.					
13.					
14.					
15.					
16.					
17.					
18. TOTALS ►	106,000	168,215	16,000	16,000	168,215



NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND

APPLICATION BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

H1. Project Sponsor: \ Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

H2. Project Name: \ Implementation of the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan - Phase II

1. Have other sources of funding not listed in the Budget Worksheet been approached for project support? If yes, name them and explain the outcome of your request.

The LPNNRD has applied for Section 319 Program funds through NDEQ to cost-share the Implementation of the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan - Phase II for priority subwatersheds.

2. Are all of the matching funds in the Budget Worksheet confirmed? If not, please identify those entities and list the date when confirmation is expected. Explain how you will implement the project if these sources do not confirm participation.

Historically, NDEQ Section 319 grantees are announced by the end of the calendar year. If unsuccessful in securing Section 319 funding, the LPNNRD will delay or scale-back cost-sharing for in-stream measures and upland BMPs until appropriate funding becomes available.

3. If any of the project costs identified in Column B of the Budget Worksheet have been expended or if debt has been incurred for these costs or a sponsor or partner is obligated for these costs in any other way: List these costs here. Explain clearly why Trust grant funds are requested for these costs.

No debt has been incurred on this project.

4. For each line item in column A of the Budget Worksheet, justify the basis for the dollar amount indicated for that item.

CATEGORY/COMPONENT (from Column A of the Budget Worksheet)	BASIS USED TO DETERMINE COST	Attachment? Y or N	ATTACHMENT LABEL
3. Contractual – Engineering	Proposal from JEO Consulting Group, Inc.	Y	See Narrative and Attached Fee Estimate
4. BMP Implementation	LPNNRD and NRCS guidance	N	See Narrative



NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT SPONSOR FINANCIAL INFORMATION

H1. Project Sponsor: \ Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

H2. Project Name: \ Implementation of the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan - Phase II

Please see the instructions for section C-3. Attachments to this document may be necessary to complete this section. Include these attachments with your hard copy submission.

LPNNRD is committing \$15,000 of direct cash and in-kind to the Wahoo Creek Watershed – Implement of Watershed WQMP Phase II and partnering with NRCS, Saunders County and landowners to contribute an additional \$223,215 toward this effort.



NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND
REAL ESTATE / SITE PLAN

H1. Project Sponsor: \ Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

H2. Project Name: \ Implementation of the Wahoo Creek Watershed Plan - Phase II

This section will not apply to every project. Please see instructions for section F. Attachments should be sent with the hardcopy submission.

Legal Description	County	#Acres
Cottonwood Creek, North Fork of Wahoo Creek, Dunlop Creek, and Miller Branch subwatersheds of the Wahoo Creek Watershed	Saunders	±105,065



PLATTE RIVER RENTALS LLC
402-234-2824

EXIT











Addressing Resource Concerns on the state level

- Expectations being met
- Expectations not being met with current local Program
- Comments on State Ranking Questions
- Revisions forwarded to State Technical Committee for consideration

Practice Payment Schedule Review

- Practices that should be considered

- New Scenarios that should be considered

- Practices or Scenarios that should be revised

- Practices that should be removed

- Scenarios that should be removed

- Payment rates that are too low

- Payment rates that are too high

Establishment / Adjustment of High-Medium-Low Ranking System

- Consideration should be given to adding additional criteria to the high ranking system category which aids in management of conservation planning workload. High ranking system criteria will directly impact the number of applications that are a high priority for conservation planning.

Preferred application cut-off dates:

Suggested edits to Practice Payment Guidance Document:

Other:



Project Screening and Eligibility for Woodcliff Lakes Bank Stabilization WOODCLIFF LAKES and LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD

December 2, 2015

As part of the Lower Platte North NRD Hazard Mitigation Plan update project, the Woodcliff Lakes bank stabilization project was selected for the project screening process to accurately determine eligibility for FEMA grant programs. The typical project screening process include: engineering review; environmental review; cost opinions; and benefit-cost analysis.

The river embankment along Woodcliff Lakes has experienced significant, sustained erosion that has developed into a safety hazard, threatening community infrastructure and residences. JEO Consulting Group, Inc. was retained for development of a series of engineering designs that propose implementing a sustainable, long-term protection strategy to alleviate the current trend of erosion and re-build the embankment. Current bank stabilization has been attempted with small rock hardpoints along the embankment; however, the features have not been successful in deterring erosion.

The study area is located along the Platte River adjacent to the community of Woodcliff Lakes, NE. The study area is located in Dodge and Saunders County within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City of Fremont, Nebraska. The approximate center of the study area is located at latitude/longitude: 41.389787; -96.477128. The study area is located in Section 35, Township 17 North, Range 8 East; Section 2, Township 16 North, Range 8 East; Section 1, Township 16 North, Range 8 East.

Engineering Review:

Current design sets for the project have two primary goals – protect the residential infrastructure of Woodcliff Lakes from bank erosion and soil loss; and, implement a system of protection that will enhance and restore a functional ecological baseline along the embankment adjacent to the Platte River. Proposed design plans propose include construction of 19 bendway weirs with locked logs along approximately a 10,000-foot section of embankment adjacent to Woodcliff Lakes. In addition, two \pm 500-foot sections and three \pm 50-foot sections of embankment will be reconstructed utilizing longitudinal stone toe protection for rebuilding areas that unmitigated erosion currently threatens integrity of community infrastructure. Refer to the attachments for the layout of conceptual improvements. In addition to the bank stabilization measures, other miscellaneous roadway and utility repairs will be necessary as part of this project. In total, the engineer-provided opinion of cost for these improvements is approximately \$725,000.

FEMA Grant Eligibility Discussion:

According to FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance dated February 27, 2015, soil stabilization is an eligible activity for mitigation projects. The guidance defines soil stabilization as:

“Projects to reduce risk to structures or infrastructure from erosion and landslides, including installing geotextiles, stabilizing sod, installing vegetative buffer strips, preserving mature vegetation, decreasing slope angles, and stabilizing with rip rap and other means of slope anchoring.”

Based upon this guidance, the proposed hazard identified at Woodcliff Lake and proposed improvements are eligible activities for FEMA grant programs.

Cost-Effectiveness

Cost-effectiveness is also among the key criteria for considering eligibility by FEMA. Cost-effectiveness is oftentimes quantified by determining the value of avoided future damages. A preliminary benefit-cost analysis (BCA) was performed utilizing FEMA BCA 5.1 to quantify these avoided damages. The minimum benefit-cost ratio (BCR) for eligibility is 1.0, meaning that anticipated benefits over the life of the improvements must be equal to or greater than the costs.

The current benefit cost analysis considers the loss of roadway access for several structures immediately adjacent to the banks at risk to erosion. The calculation of benefits is highly sensitive to certain parameters, such as project useful life and recurrence interval (length of time before roadway failure due to erosion). Preliminary estimates of BCR vary considerably, from 0.2 to 2.0. At this preliminary level, cost-effectiveness is inconclusive. Further detailed BCA is recommended. The detailed analysis may include further determination of project useful life, recurrence interval, and potentially inclusion of additional sources of benefits such as structural damage or utility damage.

Local Match

The Lower Platte North NRD and Woodcliff Lakes Association have both provided assurances of local cost-share in the event that this project is awarded funding and proceeds with construction.

Conform with the HMP Mitigation Goals

This project conforms with the goals of the Hazard Mitigation Plan in that it will reduce risks due to streambank erosion during flooding or high flow events, specifically identified in "Section 4, Risk Assessment of Flooding".

Independent Solution

The proposed improvements will provide armoring and bank protection to prevent erosion, whereby also promoting vegetative re-establishment to further stabilize the banks. This project is not contingent upon other improvements adjacent to, or upstream or downstream of the project area, to provide these erosion prevention benefits.

Specific Damages and Documentation

Documented damages due to erosion were not immediately available, which is a criteria that is highly favorable from the perspective of FEMA. However, there is documentation of prior bank stabilization work completed to reduce erosion which does support the case that erosion has been persistent problem.

Schedule

The project can be completed within the 36-month grant cycle as per the proposed construction schedule, assuming all necessary permits are obtained before grant approval.

Voluntary Cooperation by Landowners

Area residents have demonstrated full support of this project as they understand the long-term hazards presented by the Platte River erosion.

USACE Permitting

The bioengineered design will promote aquatic resource restoration and re-establish natural habitat along the embankment of Woodcliff Lakes. Based upon these benefits, USACE authorization will be initially sought under Nationwide Permit 27 - Aquatic Habitat and Restoration. The USACE may require authorization under an Individual Permit subject to the 404(b)(1) guidelines for review. It is expected that if the project were to require this level of review that it would not pose any significant issues to obtaining authorization. The primary difference between Nationwide 27 and an Individual permit authorization is the timeline for review. This review can have significant impacts on project schedule and it is highly recommended that all necessary USACE permits be obtained before pursuing FEMA grant assistance. Refer to the attachments for a map of wetlands in the project area.

Floodplain Permitting

The project is located along the edge of the Platte River floodway. Floodplain management regulations require that any improvements within the regulatory floodway shall not have adverse impacts to the floodplain or floodway, demonstrated through no-rise certification. As the proposed improvements are only bank improvements and small relative to the width of the floodplain, it would seem feasible to demonstrate floodplain no-rise and obtain proper floodplain permitting. Refer to the attachments for a floodplain map.

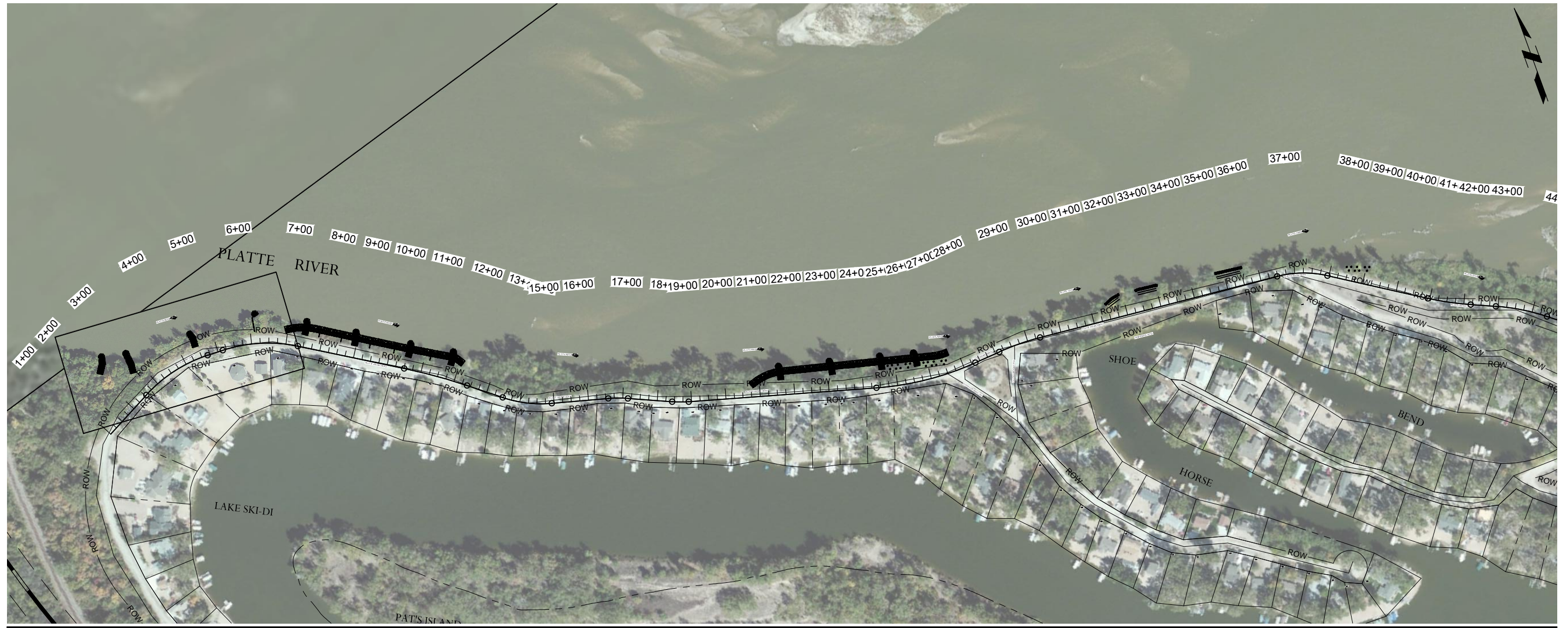
Conclusion:

This project would appear to generally be eligible with the following considerations:

- Funding is not available at this time through the HMGP program as funds have generally been allocated. However, future disaster declarations may result in sufficient funding for a project such as this.
- The PDM program may be an alternative source for funding, which is nationally competitive.
- Documentation of damages or improvements will be very helpful in demonstrating the need for the project.
- USACE 404 permitting can be a lengthy process and it is highly recommended that these permits be obtained before securing FEMA grant funding as it can have significant impacts to the project schedule.
- Demonstration of cost-effectiveness will be vital in gaining grant approval. From preliminary review of benefit-cost analysis, it is inconclusive as to if the project will provide sufficient benefits to show cost-effectiveness. Further benefit-cost analysis is recommended to better determine cost-effectiveness.

Attachments:

- Site Plan
- Wetland Map
- Floodplain map



**2015
WOODCLIFF LAKES
PLATTE RIVER BANK STABILIZATION
AND FLOOD CONTROL
PHASE II**


C1.0 OVERALL SITE PLAN

PRELIMINARY	NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION	PRELIMINARY
DATE	DATE	
9/30/2015	9/30/2015	
PROJECT NO.	121118.02	
DRAWN BY	EJO	
FILE NAME	S-121118.02.dwg	
FIELD BOOK	Woodcliff #13	
FIELD CREW	JG	
SURVEY FILE NO.	Survey File #	
PLAN IN HAND	INITIALS	PIH INI
DATE	DATE	PIH DATE
70 PERCENT REVIEW	DATE	70% INI
DATE	DATE	70% DATE
95 PERCENT REVIEW	DATE	70% INI
DATE	DATE	70% DATE
REVISIONS		







Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, I-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Legend

-  Environmental Study Area

NWI Type

-  R2UBH
-  R2USC



0 500 1,000
Feet

**Platte River Bank Stabilization
Woodcliff Lakes, Nebraska
JEO Project No. 121118.02**

**National Wetlands Inventory
(NWI) Map**

Figure 4

NOTES TO USERS

This map is for use in administering the National Flood Insurance Program. It does not necessarily identify all areas subject to flooding, particularly from local drainage sources of small size. The community map repository should be consulted for possible updated or additional flood hazard information.

To obtain more detailed information in areas where **Base Flood Elevations (BFEs)** and/or **floodways** have been determined, users are encouraged to consult the Flood Profiles and Floodway Data and/or Summary of Stillwater Elevations tables contained within the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report that accompanies this FIRM. Users should be aware that BFEs shown on the FIRM represent rounded whole-foot elevations. These BFEs are intended for flood insurance rating purposes only and should not be used as the sole source of flood elevation information. Accordingly, flood elevation data presented in the FIS report should be utilized in conjunction with the FIRM for purposes of construction and/or floodplain management.

Coastal Base Flood Elevations shown on this map apply only landward of 0.0' National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929. Users of this FIRM should be aware that coastal flood elevations are also provided in the Summary of Stillwater Elevations table in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction. Elevations shown in the Summary of Stillwater Elevations table should be used for construction and/or floodplain management purposes when they are higher than the elevations shown on this FIRM.

Boundaries of the **floodways** were computed at cross sections and interpolated between cross sections. The floodways were based on hydraulic considerations with regard to requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. Floodway widths and other pertinent floodway data are provided in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction.

Certain areas not in Special Flood Hazard Areas may be protected by **flood control structures**. Refer to Section 2.4 "Flood Protection Measures" of the Flood Insurance Study report for information on flood control structures for this jurisdiction.

The **projection** used in the preparation of this map was Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System of 1983, FIPS 2020. The **horizontal datum** was NAD 1983. Differences in datum, spheroid, projection or state zone used in the production of FIRMs for adjacent jurisdictions may result in slight positional differences in map features across jurisdiction boundaries. These differences do not affect the accuracy of this FIRM.

Flood elevations on this map are referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988. These flood elevations must be compared to structure and ground elevations referenced to the same **vertical datum**. For information regarding conversion between the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 and the North American Vertical Datum of 1988, visit the National Geodetic Survey website at <http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/> or contact the National Geodetic Survey at the following address:
NGS Information Services
NOAA, NNGS12
National Geodetic Survey
SSMC-3 #9202
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282
(301) 713-3242

To obtain current elevation, description, and/or location information for **bench marks** shown on this map, please contact the Information Services Branch of the National Geodetic Survey at (301) 713-3242, or visit its website at <http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/>.

Base map information shown on this FIRM was provided in digital format by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources. This information was photogrammetrically compiled at a scale of 1:12,000 from aerial photography dated 1999 or later.

This map reflects more detailed and up-to-date **stream channel configurations** than those shown on the previous FIRM for this jurisdiction. The floodplains and floodways that were transferred from the previous FIRM may have been adjusted to conform to these new stream channel configurations. As a result, the Flood Profiles and Floodway Data tables for *Elkhorn River, Platte River, and Peblie Creek* in the Flood Insurance Study report (which contains authoritative hydraulic data) may reflect stream channel distances that differ from what is shown on this map.

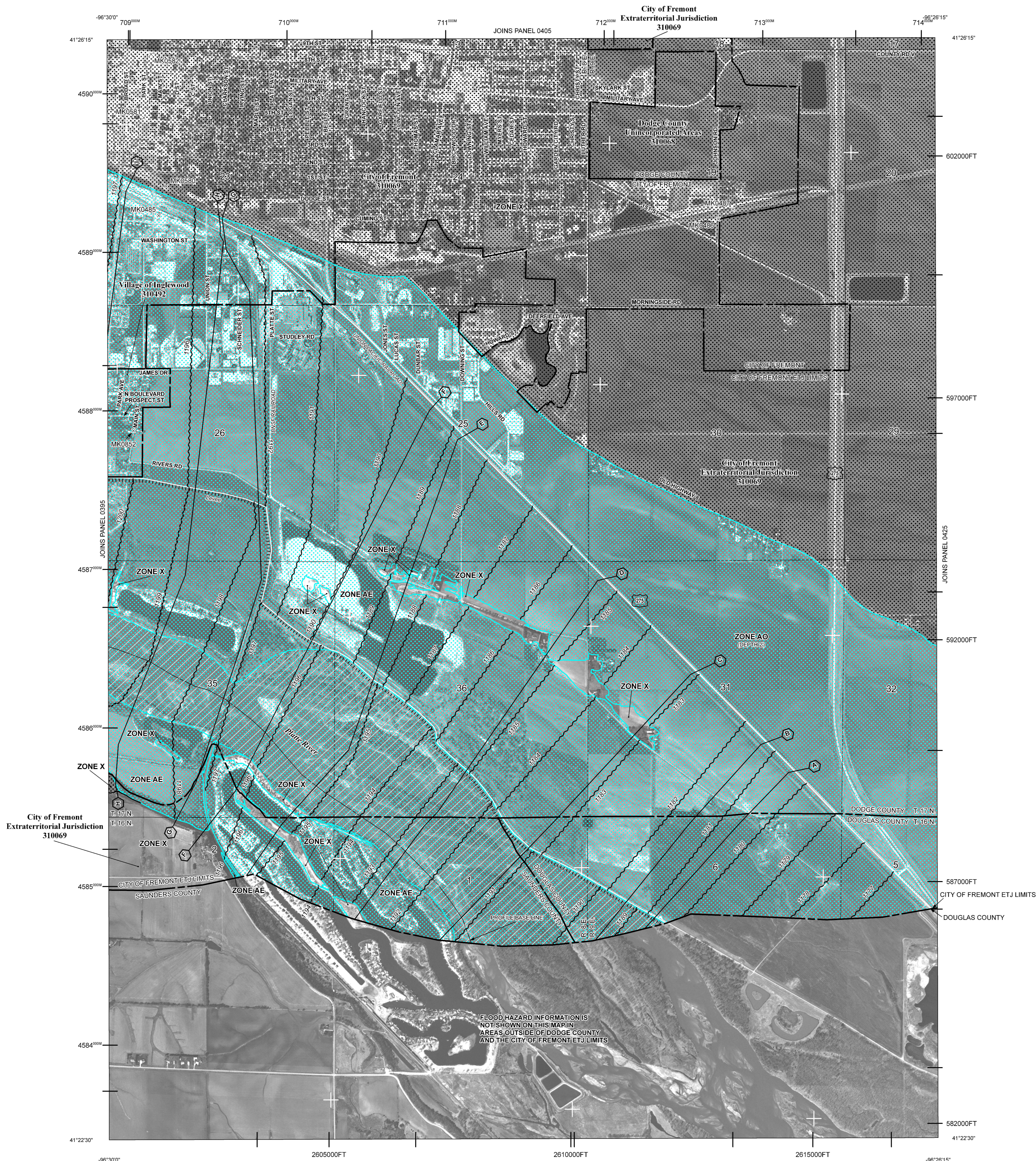
Corporate limits shown on this map are based on the best data available at the time of publication. Because changes due to annexations or de-annexations may have occurred after this map was published, map users should contact appropriate community officials to verify current corporate limit locations.

Please refer to the separately printed **Map Index** for an overview map of the county showing the layout of map panels; community map repository addresses; and a Listing of Communities table containing National Flood Insurance Program dates for each community as well as a listing of the panels on which each community is located.

Contact the **FEMA Map Service Center** at 1-800-358-9616 for information on available products associated with this FIRM. Available products may include previously issued Letters of Map Change, "a Flood Insurance Study report," and/or digital versions of this map. The FEMA Map Service Center may also be reached by Fax at 1-800-358-9620 and its website at <http://www.msc.fema.gov/>.

If you have **questions about this map** or questions concerning the National Flood Insurance Program in general, please call **1-877-FEMA MAP** (1-877-336-2627) or visit the FEMA website at <http://www.fema.gov/>.

The "profile base lines" depicted on this map represent the hydraulic modeling baselines that match the flood profiles in the FIS report. As a result of improved topographic data, the "profile base line", in some cases, may deviate significantly from the channel centerline or appear outside the SFHA.



LEGEND

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS SUBJECT TO INUNDATION BY THE 1% ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD

The 1% annual chance flood (100-year flood), also known as the base flood, is the flood that has a 1% chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year. The Special Flood Hazard Area is the area subject to flooding by the 1% annual chance flood. Areas of Special Flood Hazard include Zones A, AE, AH, AD, AR, A99, V, and VE. The Base Flood Elevation is the water-surface elevation of the 1% annual chance flood.

- ZONE A** No Base Flood Elevations determined.
- ZONE AE** Base Flood Elevations determined.
- ZONE AH** Flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually areas of ponding); Base Flood Elevations determined.
- ZONE AO** Flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually sheet flow on sloping terrain); average depths determined. For areas of alluvial fan flooding, velocities also determined.
- ZONE AR** Area of special flood hazard formerly protected from the 1% annual chance flood event by a flood control system that was subsequently decertified. Zone AR indicates that the former flood control system is being restored to provide protection from the 1% annual chance or greater flood.
- ZONE A99** Area to be protected from 1% annual chance flood event by a Federal flood protection system under construction; no Base Flood Elevations determined.
- ZONE V** Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); no Base Flood Elevations determined.
- ZONE VE** Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); Base Flood Elevations determined.

FLOODWAY AREAS IN ZONE AE

The floodway is the channel of a stream plus any adjacent floodplain areas that must be kept free of encroachment so that the 1% annual chance flood can be carried without substantial increases in flood heights.

OTHER FLOOD AREAS

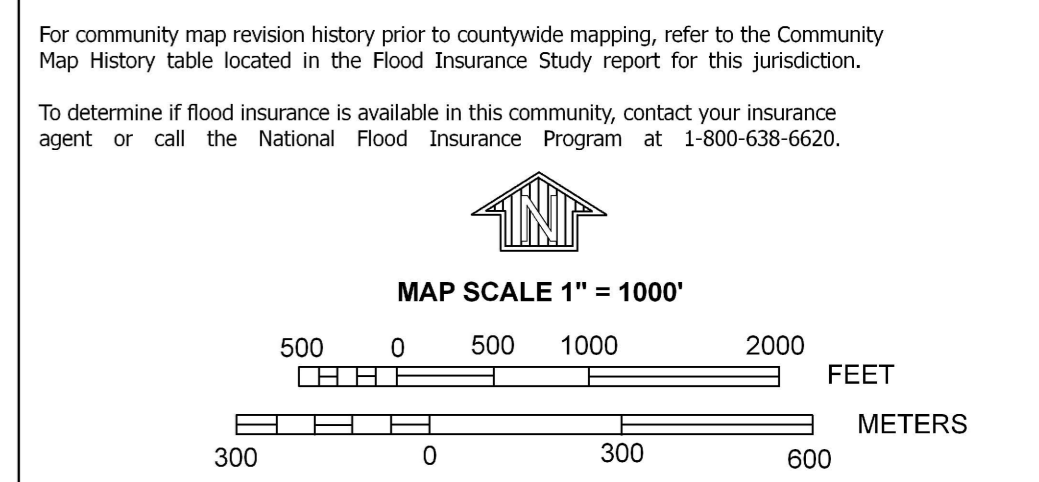
- ZONE X** Areas of 0.2% annual chance flood; areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; and areas protected by levees from 1% annual chance flood.
- OTHER AREAS** Areas determined to be outside the 0.2% annual chance floodplain.
- ZONE D** Areas in which flood hazards are undetermined, but possible.

COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM (CBRS) AREAS
OTHERWISE PROTECTED AREAS (OPAs)

CBRS areas and OPAs are normally located within or adjacent to Special Flood Hazard Areas.

- 1% annual chance floodplain boundary
- 0.2% annual chance floodplain boundary
- Floodway boundary
- Zone D boundary
- CBRS and OPA boundary
- Boundary dividing Special Flood Hazard Areas of different Base Flood Elevations, flood depths or flood velocities.
- Base Flood Elevation line and value; elevation in feet*
- Base Flood Elevation value where uniform within zone; elevation in feet*

*Referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88)
 A — A Cross section line
 23 — 23 Transsect line
 97°07'30", 32°22'30" Geographic coordinate referenced to the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83)
 4276^m 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14
 6000000 FT 5000-foot grid values; Nebraska State Plane coordinate system, (FIPSZONE 2600), Lambert projection
 DX5510 x Benchmark (see explanation in Notes to Users section of this FIRM panel)
 • M1.5 River Mile
 MAP REPOSITORIES Refer to listing of Map Repositories on Map Index
 EFFECTIVE DATE OF COUNTYWIDE FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP January 2, 2008
 EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF REVISION(S) TO THIS PANEL



NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0415E

FIRM
FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP
DODGE COUNTY,
NEBRASKA
AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 415 OF 450
 (SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL SUFFIX
DODGE COUNTY	310088	0415 E
FREMONT CITY OF	310069	0415 E
INGLEWOOD VILLAGE OF	310492	0415 E

Notice to User: The Map Number shown below should be used when placing map orders. The Community Number shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
31053C0415E
EFFECTIVE DATE
JANUARY 2, 2008
Federal Emergency Management Agency

Lower Platte North Natural Resources District
Budget to Actual Statement - Expenses (Accrual Basis)
For Month Ended February 29, 2016

	Account Number	Current Mo. This Year	Y.T.D. This Year	Annual Budget	(Over)Under Spent	Percent Spent
405 PROJECTS EXPENSES						
<i>Inter-Governmental</i>						
Emergency Repair	4050103	\$ -	\$ 1,520.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,480.00	30.40%
Road Structures	4050104	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	0.00%
Inter-Governmental-Other	4050105	\$ -	\$ 44,300.00	\$ -	\$ (44,300.00)	0.00%
Platte Center Bank Stabilization Phase II	4050110	\$ -	\$ 13,936.67	\$ 11,315.00	\$ (2,621.67)	123.17%
Trails	4050114	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	0.00%
Hazard Mitigation Update	4050123	\$ 4,924.90	\$ 42,111.00	\$ 42,111.00	\$ -	100.00%
<i>Special Projects</i>						
No-Till Conferences	4050309	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	0.00%
Luchinger Bank Stabilization (Platte Center)	4050813	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	0.00%
<i>Washoe</i>						
Legal	4050505	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	0.00%
Union Bank Interest	4050514	\$ -	\$ 25,774.13	\$ 49,500.00	\$ 23,725.87	52.07%
CCEI Interest	4050515	\$ -	\$ 8,558.00	\$ 8,558.00	\$ -	100.00%
<i>Other Projects</i>						
Fremont South Levee 205	4050702	\$ -	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	72.73%
Schuyler 205	4050705	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	0.00%
Boiley Levee	4050711	\$ -	\$ 3,619.67	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 76,380.33	4.52%
<i>Platte River Corridor Alliance</i>						
Administration	4011101	\$ -	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ -	100.00%
Contingency Fund	4011103	\$ -	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -	100.00%
Environmental Suitability Assessment	4011106	\$ -	\$ 8,101.00	\$ 8,001.00	\$ (100.00)	101.25%
Education & Outreach	4011122	\$ -	\$ 5,695.00	\$ 5,695.00	\$ -	100.00%
Water Supply Programs	4011125	\$ -	\$ 15,750.00	\$ 15,750.00	\$ -	100.00%
Recreation Planning	4011126	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 17,167.00	\$ 16,667.00	2.91%
LP Watershed Restoration	4011127	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26,667.00	\$ 26,667.00	0.00%
LP Time Lapse	4011128	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	100.00%
Total Projects Expenses		\$ 4,924.90	\$ 397,865.47	\$ 719,764.00	\$ 321,898.53	55.28%