



General Manager's Report

MEMORANDUM to the Board

John Winkler, General Manager

June 12, 2025

A. INFORMATION/EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS:

1. The Papio NRD was selected as Westview High School's Community Member of the Year Award for our education outreach, field trips, career fairs, and the District's cost share program that helped fund the school's new arboretum trail. Thank you, Austen, for your educational leadership and its impact on Westview students. The award is well-deserved.

B. PERSONNEL/MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:

1. I'd like to welcome several new hires. Deb Fuhrer is our new Field Office Programs & Administrative Specialist. The District hired Terry Hoch as a full-time Groundskeeper and Conner Wayman and William Cunard as summer Groundskeepers.
2. Westview High School held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the school's new arboretum and trail. The trail was partially funded through our Trails Assistance Program. The trail helps students experience nature first-hand and understand its impact on the environment.
3. Keep Omaha Beautiful shared its annual report that highlights projects that District funding supported, such as tree plantings, stream and trail cleanups, and water pollution prevention education. The report contains a breakdown of the impact of these programs and is attached.
4. A tour and presentations on the benefits of farming with prairie strips will take place on June 17th from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Craig, NE. The Papio NRD is a sponsor of the event. A flyer is attached.
5. The District received a nice thank you note from a family training for a summer bike trip, saying they appreciate the many traffic-free miles the metro area trail system provides. The note is attached.

C. REPORT ON PURCHASES – CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY: Pursuant to Board direction, the report indicating construction services, professional services, and personal property purchases from the month of May is attached for your review.

- D. **CURRENT AND ON-GOING PROJECTS – PAPIO NRD LEGAL COUNSEL**: A copy of current and on-going projects for District Legal Counsel, Husch Blackwell, as of June 5, is attached for your review.
- E. **PAPILLION CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP REPORT**: The PCWP did not meet in May. The next scheduled meeting is June 26th.
- F. **SOUTHERN SARPY WATERSHEDS PARTNERSHIP REPORT**: The SSWP met on May 1st and May 29th. Meeting minutes are attached for the May 1st meeting.



PAPIO
MISSOURI RIVER
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT

MAY 2025

COMMUNITY MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD



The Papio NRD was selected as Westview High School's Community Member of the Year Award for our education outreach, field trips, career fairs, and the District's cost share program that helped fund the school's new arboretum trail. Austyn Hill accepted the award at a ceremony held on April 5th.

2024 – 2025

Keep Omaha Beautiful Program Highlights



Thanks to support from the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District, Keep Omaha Beautiful was able to continue successfully implementing Tree Canopy Improvement plantings, stream cleanups, water pollution prevention education, and trail cleanups.

Report covers 7/1/2024 to 5/31/2025

Tree Canopy Improvement Program

The Papio-Missouri River NRD allocated \$15,000 that was used for multiple tree plantings throughout July 2024 to June 2025. These funds played a crucial role in procuring trees and ensuring their care through watering contracts under the new *Trees for Tomorrow* program, which launched in the fall of 2024 at a community event where more than 100 volunteers planted 75 trees at Ta-Ha-Zouka Park. Planting sites encompassed 12 parks, 2 trails, and 2 boulevards.

Impact Snapshot

413

Trees Planted

16

Trees for Tomorrow
Planting Locations

21

Native Species
Planted



Stream Cleanup Program

The Papio-Missouri River NRD allocated \$10,000 toward organizing volunteer efforts aimed at conducting cleanups in streams and adjacent areas in order to prevent litter pollution from entering our waterways. Volunteers were also tasked with installing “no dumping” decals and distributing educational door hangers to households across the city. In total, volunteers provided 5,858 service hours, equivalent to a \$132,400+ benefit to our community. NRD funding was essential in organizing these volunteers, purchasing supplies and educational materials, and covering staff time.

Impact Snapshot

2,836

Volunteers provided
5,858 service hours

212

Cleanups in Streams
or Near Waterways

1,636

Storm Drains Marked
and/or Cleaned

1,803

Bags of Litter
Collected



Trail Cleanup Program



The Papio-Missouri River NRD provided \$5,000 of funding for trail cleanups. These funds were used to recruit, coordinate, and train volunteers to complete cleanups along trails throughout Omaha. Volunteers provided more than 1,780 hours, equivalent to a \$37,400+ benefit to the Omaha community. NRD funding also helped to purchase supplies and support staff time to scout trails and manage the program.

Impact Snapshot

723

Volunteers Provided
1,787 Hours

66

Trail Cleanups
Completed

134

Miles of Trail
Cleaned

470

Bags of Litter
Collected





Thank You!

The support and partnership of the Papio-Missouri River NRD is integral to the success of our programming. We look forward to continuing the partnership into the future.

Farming with Prairie Strips



Join resource professionals **June 17** from 9:30am -2:30pm
for a discussion of prairie strips and their benefits, including a look into
the practicality and economics of the practice, along with
producer testimonials and a review of
program options to assist you.

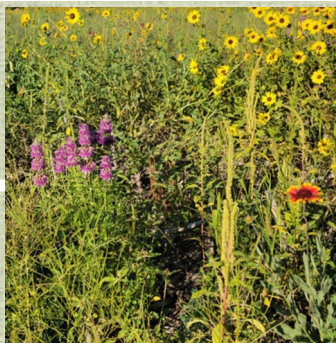
The morning portion of this event will be at the
Ed & Leta Olson Farm , located at:
1525 County Road A, Craig, NE 68019.
There we will have a field tour to existing CRP sites

Following the field tour, we will convene at the Logan View High School located at
2163 County Road G, Hooper, for lunch (provided) and afternoon presentations.

All members of the community are welcome. Advance registration is encouraged and
can be completed at the following: nebraskapf.com/habitat-tours

Please reach out to Rob Peterson with any questions
(402) 838-3022, Rpeterston@pheasantsforever.org

**Lunch
Provided!**



FARMING WITH PRAIRIE STRIPS

EVENT AGENDA

June 17, 2025

TIME	TOPIC / PRESENTER
9:30 - 10:00 AM	Event Sign-In, Coffee, and Rolls <i>Ed and Leta Olson Farm</i> <i>located at: 1525 County Road A, Craig, NE 68019</i>
10:00 - 10:15 AM	Introduction <i>Andrew Little & Ron Seymour, UNL Extension</i> <i>Tim Youngquist, Iowa State University-Prairie Strips</i>
10:15 – 12:00 PM	Field Tour <i>We'll cover the benefits of prairie strips, seed mixes & Plant ID,</i> <i>and discuss the applicability of the practice on the landscape.</i>
12:00- 1:00 PM	LUNCH (Provided) <i>Located at Logan View High School</i>
1:00 - 1:30 PM	Producer Testimonial <i>Presented by Karl Koch, a testimonial on how prairie strips have worked on his farm.</i>
1:30 - 2:00 PM	Economics of Prairie Strips <i>Presented by John Westra, Director Panhandle REEC</i> <i>The economic value of prairie strips will be showcased.</i> <i>We'll review prairie strips vs. terraces and highlight haying and grazing options.</i>
2:00 - 2:30 PM	A Review of Program Options Available to Assist with Prairie Strip Installation <i>Presented by various resource professionals.</i> <i>Programs reviewed will include CRP, EQIP, NRD WHIP, NE Buffer Strip</i>

To consult about your property's suitability for Prairie Strips, please visit your local USDA office.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

THANK YOU FOR BEING AWESOME

May 2025

Papio NRD —

Our family is training for a summer bike trip. We have been making good use of the Metro Area Trails System + want to send a note of GRATITUDE & APPRECIATION! We can enjoy

many traffic-free miles and have explored parts of the City we would not have had the chance to see were it not for the TRAILS. (+ we love the map!)

— Thanks —
The Engels

Report on Purchases
Construction Services, Professional Services, Personal Property

May 2025

Date	Project Name	Item / Task	Company	Cost
5/1-31/2025	Project Maintenance	Rip Rap	Whetrock	\$79,250.63
5/1/2025	Danish Alps – Project Maintenance	Rip Rap	LUX BROS INC.	\$43,495.92
5/29/2025	Douglas County Buyout – 24253 King Lake Rd	Asbestos abatement/demolition	Ashland Road Excavating LLC	\$32,500.00
5/29/2025	Douglas County Buyout – 24509 Laurel Ave	Demolition	Ashland Road Excavating LLC	\$37,500.00
5/29/2025	Douglas County Buyout – 5907 N. 242 nd St	Asbestos abatement/demolition	Ashland Road Excavating LLC	\$29,500.00



PAPIO

MISSOURI RIVER

NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

Updated: June 5, 2025

Current and On-Going Projects Legal Counsel

A = Active Project
B = Next Board Meeting
N = New Assignment

Little Papio: (Cleveland)

Big Papio: (Cleveland)

West Branch: (Cleveland/Grint)

Western Sarpy Dike, Union Dike and No Name Dike: (Cleveland)

Floodway Purchase Program: (Laster/Grint)

- Purchase Agreements for Washington/Douglas Acquisition Projects (A)

Trail Projects: (Williams)

- West Papio Trail, West Maple Underpass Interlocal Agreement (A)
- Applewood Creek Trail Interlocal Agreement (A)
- Elkhorn River Trail Bridge Interlocal Agreement (A)
- Surplus Land Sale Beltline (B)
- Land Acquisition and Hearing for Applewood Trail Connection (N)

Missouri River Corridor Project:

USDA PL 566 Projects, Silver Creek and Pigeon/Jones Watershed: (Schumacher/Cleveland/Grint)

Papio Watershed Dam Sites: (Grint/Laster/Ghanavati)

- DS12 Magnolia Trails Public Access Easement (N)
- Purchase Agreement DS7 (N)

Papio Creek Watershed Partnership (Stormwater): (Laster)

Southern Sarpy Watershed Partnership (Stormwater): (Ghanavati)

- Consultant Contract for Oakleaf Grade Stabilization

Missouri River R-613 and R-616 Levees: (Cleveland/Grint)

- Offutt Ditch O&M Agreement (A)
- Offutt AFB Storm Sewer Outlets O&M Agreement (A)
-

Rural Water Projects: (Novak)

- Contract Amendment with HDR for Wash Co Rural Water (B)

Other:

- E-500 Professional Service Agreement (2000 edition) (Project Managers) (A)
- Cole Creek Interlocal Agreement Amendment (N)
- Summit Carbon Solutions Permanent Easement Dakota County (A)
- 156th Street at Chalco Rec Area (N)
- Private Levee Program Purchase Agreement (N)
- Platte River Obstruction Contract Amendment (B)



Agenda

Partnership Coordination Meeting May 1st, 2025 | 10:00 am

1. Introductions

- a. See attached sheet for meeting attendance.

2. Current Activities and Future Work Plan

a. Partnership Led Projects – Oakleaf Stabilization

- i. Interviews for the design and permitting of the Oakleaf Stabilization project will be taking place on May 1st at 4 pm. Members of the Partnership are welcome and encouraged to attend. The firms that will be interviewed are Benesch, Embris Group, HDR, and JEO Consulting.

b. Developer Led Projects –

- i. No current projects underway or upcoming, pending new development along project streams.

c. Watershed Fees & Partnership Dues – Due June 15th

- i. Contact Papio NRD with any questions.

3. Study Opportunities w/ USGS



- a. Ben Dietsch and Dave Rus joined the SSWP meeting to help in discussion on the below options for hydrologic, hydraulic, and geomorphologic studies in the SSWP. Slides attached with the presented options. The SSWP group discussed options and preferences. Primary areas of interest are in low-cost citizen science options such as the Chronolog timelapse photography and in getting baseline long-term data collection options set up such as stream gages. The Partnership can build off of this in the future with other more sophisticated options and detailed studies. Next immediate step is to get preliminary cost information.
 - b. Citizen Science
 - c. Stream Gage Networks
 - d. Channel Stability Monitoring
4. Hydrologic & Hydraulic Models Discussion
- a. Discussion on finalization of H&H data from Watershed Planning effort. Data is available but is coarse and intended for planning effort. The Partnership discussed the pros and cons of more detailed modeling efforts. Next level of development would likely be a BLE project in the SSWP; will look into available grants and options for federal partnerships for this process.



5. Open Discussion

6. Next Meeting: **Thursday June 5th, 2025**

- a. Next meeting will be scheduled before the June 5th regular meeting in order to have the SSWP review the proposed contract for the design and permitting of the Oakleaf project. Additionally, regular SSWP meetings will be shifted to not fall on the first Thursday in order to better line up with Papio NRD Board meetings for approval of SSWP items.
- b. Send requests to be added to meeting invites to ighanavati@papionrd.org

SSWP Meeting – Sign In Sheet

~~February 14, 2025 – 1 pm~~

Papio-Missouri River NRD



	NAME & EMPLOYER	EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE
	Lori Laster Papio NRD	llaster@papionrd.org	(402) 444-6222
	Amanda Grint Papio NRD	agrint@papionrd.org	(402) 444-6222
EW	Eric Williams Papio NRD	ewilliams@papionrd.org	(402) 444-6222
	Ian Ghanavati Papio NRD	ighanavati@papionrd.org	(402) 315-1716
	Jeff Thompson Wastewater Agency	jthompson@wastewateragency.org	(402) 415-6734
	Alex Evans City of Papillion	aevans@papillion.org	(402) 597-2044
	Matt Knight City of Bellevue	matt.knight@bellevue.net	(402) 293-3028
X	Kathleen Gottsch City of Springfield	kathleen@springfieldne.org	(402) 253-2204
	Mike Sotak Houston Engineering	msotak@houstoneng.com	(402) 407-1099
X	Sara Mechtenberg Houston Engineering	smechtenberg@houstoneng.com	(402) 407-1099
	David Goedeken City of Bellevue	david.goedeken@bellevue.net	(402) 293-3144
	Kristine Stokes City of Gretna	kristine@cityofgretna.com	(402) 332-3336
	Zach Hergenrader Sarpy County	zhergenrader@sarpy.gov	(402) 537-6917
X	Kelly Jeck Sarpy County Planning	kjeck@sarpy.gov	(402) 593-2315
	Greg Perry City of Gretna	gregp@eagleengineeringgroup.com	(402) 964-2430
	Kevin Balentine Sarpy County Admin	kbalentine@sarpy.gov	(402) 964-2430
X	Joshua Nelson Sarpy County	jnelson@sarpy.gov	402-949-3892

Papio-Missouri River NRD

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Southern Sarpy Watersheds Partnership

May 1 2025, Partnership Coordination Meeting



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Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Current Activities and Future Work Plan
3. Study Opportunities w/ USGS
4. Hydrologic and Hydraulic Data Discussion
5. Open Discussion
6. Next Meeting: **Thursday May 29th, 2025**

Current Activities and Future Work Plan

- Partnership Led Projects
 - Oakleaf Stabilization
 - Interviewing Benesch, Embris Group, HDR Engineering, and JEO Consulting Group at 4 pm tonight at the Papio NRD
 - Contract to be approved at June 12th Papio NRD Board Meeting
 - FY26 budget includes design and construction funding
 - Springfield Stabilization
 - Application was submitted to the Water Sustainability Fund
 - If WSF funding is unsuccessful, can look at Partnership funded conceptual planning
 - FY26 Budget will also include some room for additional watershed planning/study work
- Developer Led Projects
 - None active, but have budgeted for reimbursement in FY26
- Reminder – Watershed Fees and Partnership Dues are due June 15th

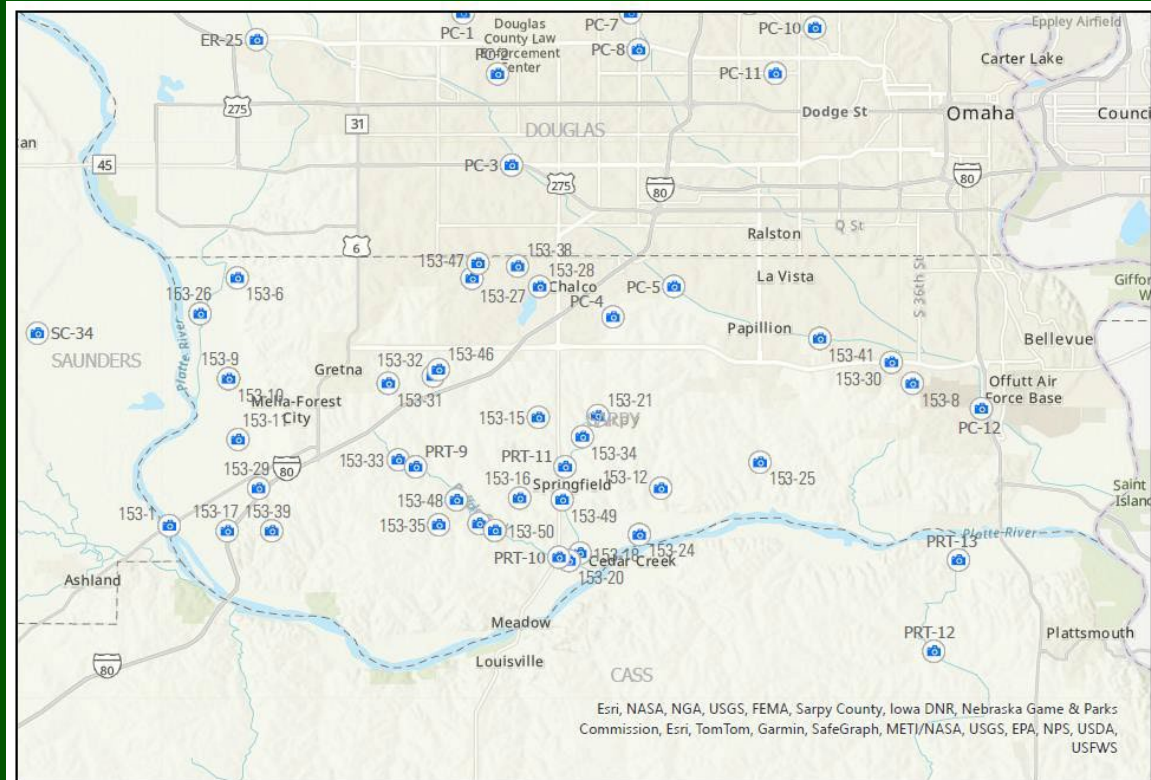
Study Opportunities in the SSWP

- Ongoing conversation with USGS on opportunities to collect data and conduct studies within the SSWP
- Some options:
 - Citizen Science Options (lower cost, rely on public participation)
 - Stream Gage Networks
 - Channel Stability Monitoring

Citizen Science

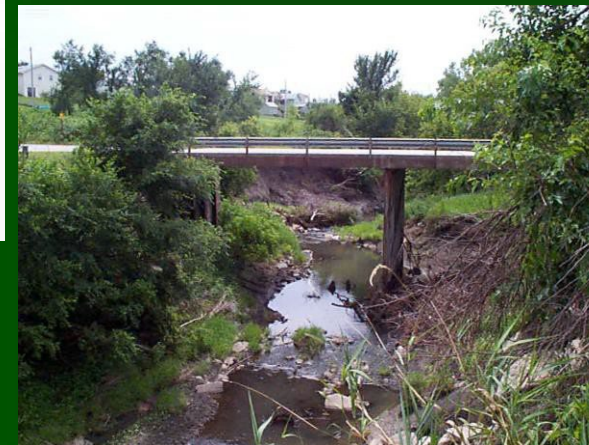
- Chronolog
 - Provides bracket and instruction sign for public to capture and upload landscape photos to create timelapses; could be used to capture stream geomorphology over time
- CrowdHydrology
 - Staff gage is installed and can be read by the public. Public can report on staff gage readings by texting the stage value to a phone number. Stages are tracked and reported on website.
- Flow Photo Explorer
 - USGS application to estimate stream flow based on time-lapse photos. Can be a more cost-effective approach to monitor hydrology in smaller tributaries

Bridge scour assessments



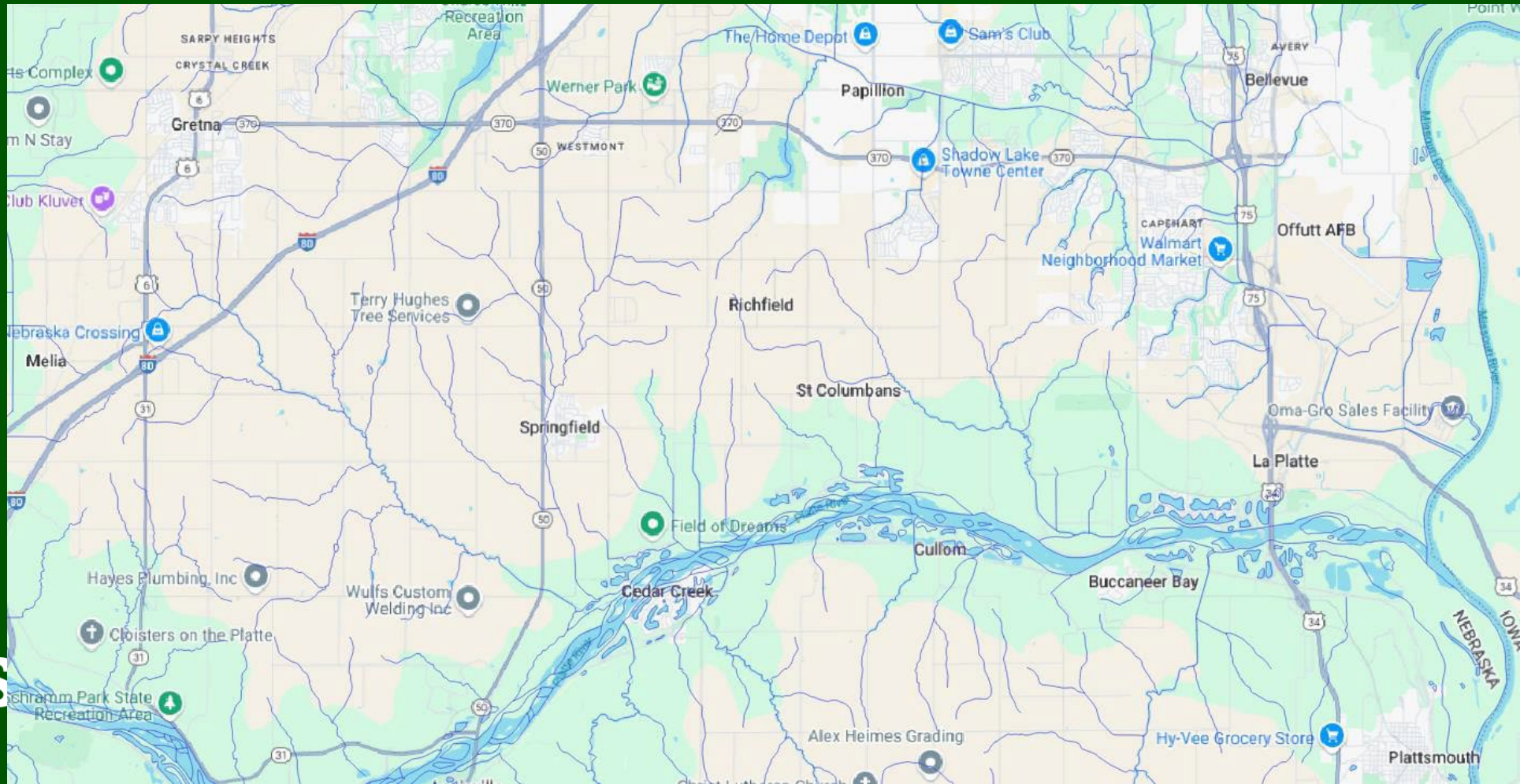
Map of locations of photos taken for U.S. Geological Survey and Nebraska Department of Roads bridge-indexing study, 1996-1999.

Springfield Creek at Platteview
Road (North side of Springfield)
looking south (downstream), July
1998



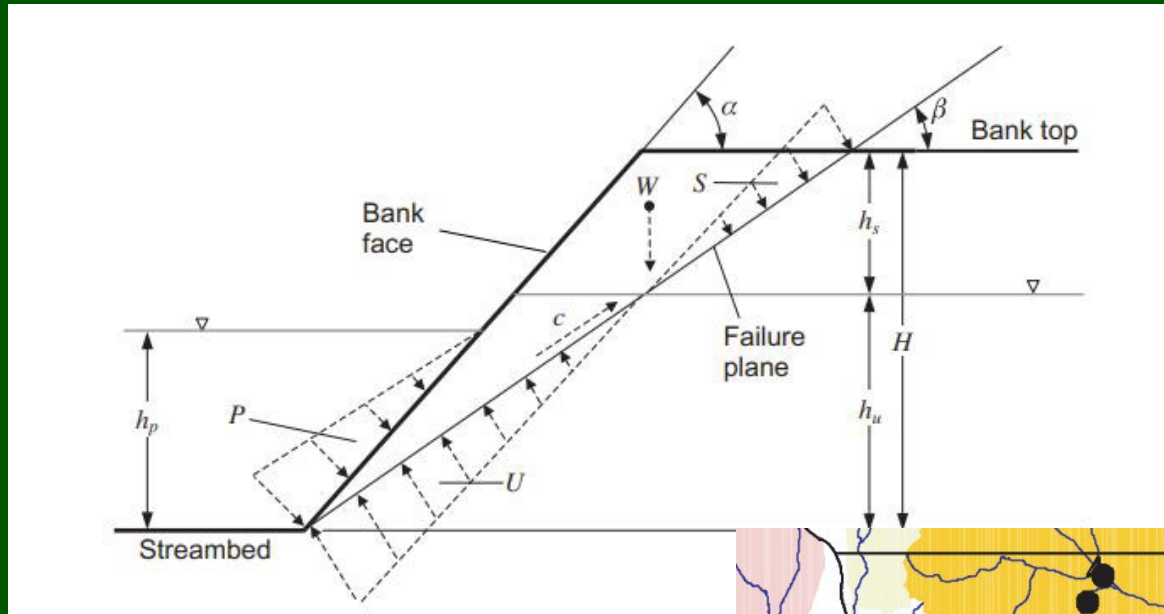
Streamgages

- Will be useful for calibrating future flood models and detecting change
- A paired watershed approach for making comparisons

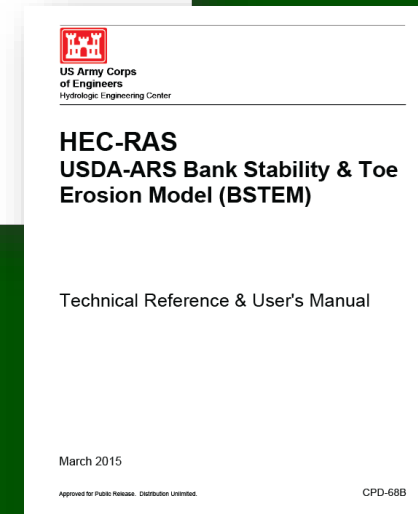
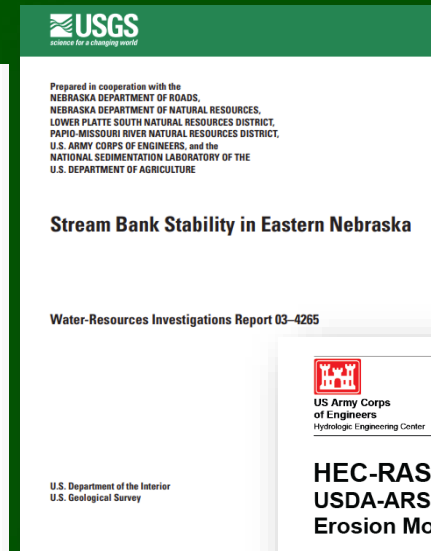
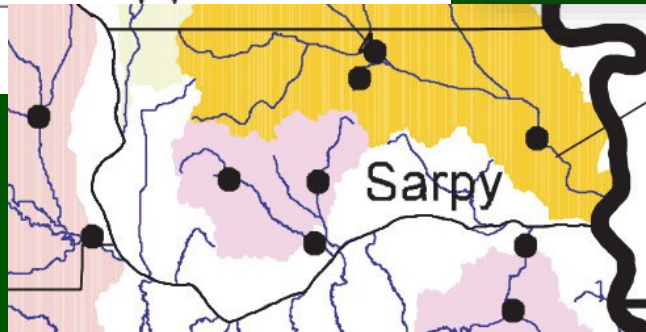


Channel erosion risk

- Combine geotechnical stability models with LiDAR-derived stream cross-section data to estimate channel erosion risk

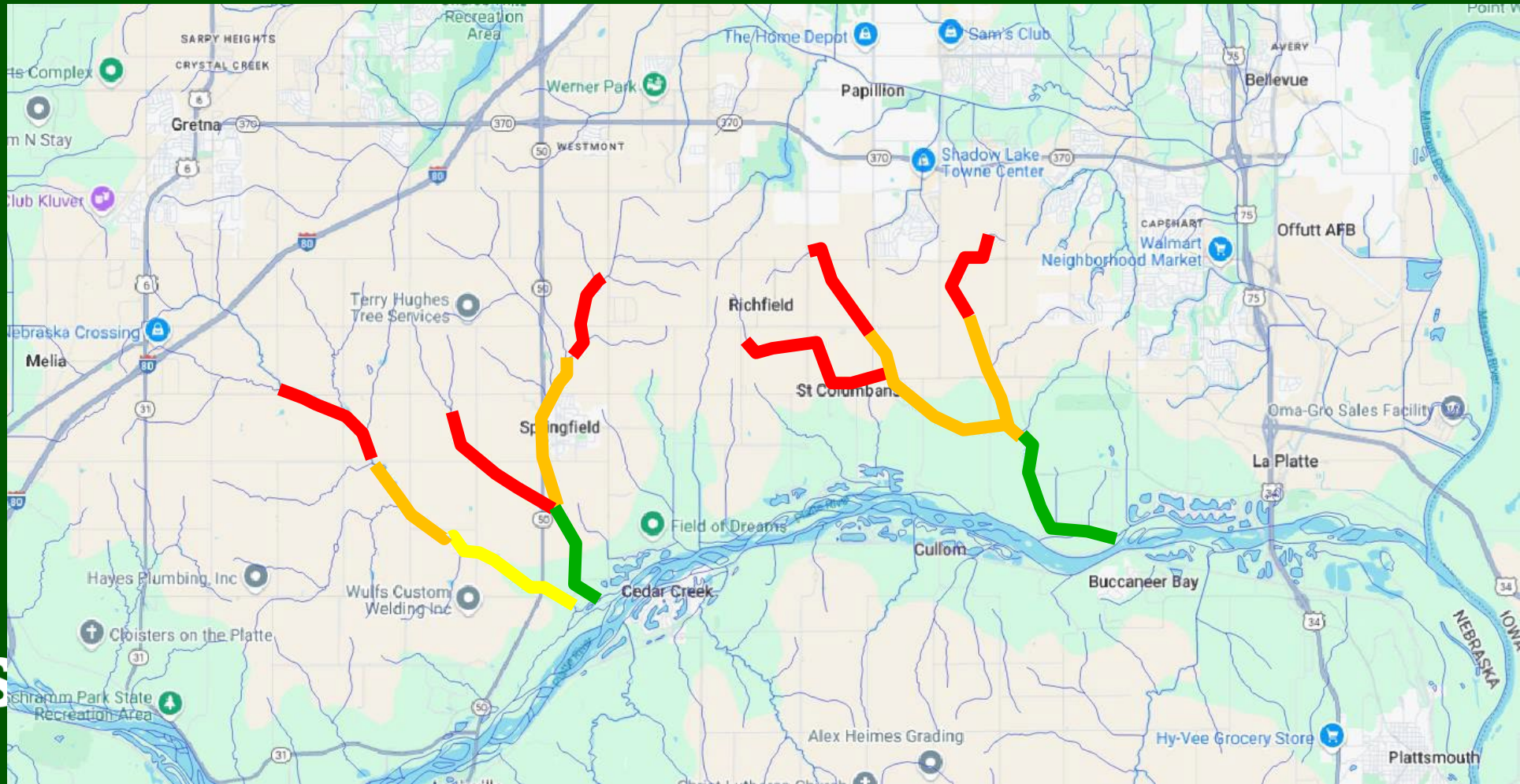


Soenksen and others (2003)



Channel erosion risk

- Color-coded based on existing risk
- Shading shown is not real but shows the idea



CONTACT INFORMATION

Ben Dietsch
Hydrologist
(402) 328-4122
bdietsch@usgs.gov

USGS Central Plains Water Science Center
(402) 328-4100
<https://www.usgs.gov/centers/nebraska-water-science-center>

Dave Rus
Supv. Hydrologist
(402) 328-4127
dlrus@usgs.gov



Tributary to S. Papio Creek at Cornhusker Road, 1998. Now under water as Prairie Queen Lake

Hydrologic and Hydraulic Data

- Papio NRD has been receiving more requests for best available H&H data in Southern Sarpy as new development occurs
- Available H&H data includes effective Springfield Creek and Buffalo Creek models (HEC-2 files) and the H&H developed for the SSWP WMP
- Have received final existing and future conditions models that were developed as part of the WMP by HEI
 - Models were developed for planning purposes only
- Papio NRD can provide data upon request – looking at housing on website
- As a Partnership, how do we want to proceed with further H&H data development?

Open Discussion & Next Meeting

- Next Meeting: **June 5th, 2025**
- Please send any potential meeting topics or requests to be added to the meeting invite list to ighanavati@papionrd.org