



Lower Platte River  
CORRIDOR ALLIANCE

LEAD. ORGANIZE. INSPIRE. The voice of the Lower Platte.

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## Monthly Report for April 2013

Meghan Sittler, Coordinator

### **LPRCA Strategic Planning Meeting**

The strategic planning retreat was held on Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at the LPSNRD office in Lincoln. Representatives of each member of the Alliance attended and provided updates on their agency/organization's current priorities and needs. Additionally, an update on the LPRCA achievements over the past 3 years was provided as well as discussion on the current and future efforts of the LPRCA. A good portion of the day was spent discussing the newly funded development of the watershed management plan for the Lower Platte River Corridor. Broad goals and objectives were provided and discussed by the LPRCA members. The information from the retreat will be valuable as we begin to better understand the water quality issues and the plan's goals and objectives.

### **Section 22 Recreation Planning Study**

The Corps of Engineers has an authority to provide Planning Assistance to States (commonly referred to as Section 22) to assist with funding and conducting planning studies for a variety of types of projects including recreation. The PAS authority has a cost-share of 50% federal and 50% local with the local share allowed to be up to 100% in-kind services. The LPRCA and NGPC representatives began coordinating with the Corps in fall of 2012 to outline a scope of work and study cost to conduct a recreation planning study in the lower Platte River. In April the LPRCA and the Corps entered into an agreement to conduct the study. The LPRCA will be the lead entity in working with the Corps with the NGPC providing project support and coordination. The developed scope has the primary tasks of reviewing existing recreation plans, public and agency input, developing a recreation facilities plan, conducting a hydraulics and geomorphology analysis; developing recommendations and final planning document. We look forward to conducting the study with the Corps and NGPC and continuing one of the emerging focus areas of the LPRCA.

### **LPRCA Quarterly Meeting**

The LPRCA Quarterly Meeting was held on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Nick McElvain from Lincoln Water Supply provided a presentation on Lincoln Water Supply's 2012 drought response as well as an update on their plans to expand Lincoln's well field. Gene Zuerlein from NGPC discussed the in-stream flow review and renewal on the lower Platte River. Additional agenda items included the river obstruction removal effort at Two Rivers State Recreation Area, an update on the USGS sandbar dynamics study, the Nebraska Watershed Network and NRD Integrated management plans. Meghan Sittler presented the proposed FY2014 LPRCA budget as well. The next Quarterly is scheduled for Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. and is tentatively planned to be held at Platte River State Park.

## **Kayak Tour**

The LPRCA and NGPC have set the date for the 2013 LRPCA Kayak Tour for Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. The tour will begin by participants meeting at Platte River Landing in Valley at 8:30 a.m. We we shuttle the kayakers to the put-in at Hormel Park in Fremont. The kayakers will paddle from Hormel Park back to Platte River Landing with a stop along the way for a presentation and refreshments. We will conclude the tour with lunch and some more presentations. If the river conditions remain higher than anticipated it may be possible to hold a second tour later in the year. Registration for the May tour opened at 9 a.m. on April 30<sup>th</sup>. Registration filled in about 6-7 minutes again this year. We look forward to another great day on the water!

## **Upcoming Events:**

LPRCA Kayak Tour: May 21<sup>st</sup>, 8:00-1:30, Hormel Park to Platte River Landing

LPRCA Quarterly Meeting: August 8<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. Platte River State Park

LPRCA Water Quality Open: August 29<sup>th</sup>, Quarry Oaks