



**Lower Platte River
CORRIDOR ALLIANCE**

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

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Monthly Report for November 2013

Meghan Sittler, Coordinator

Rural Futures Institute

The University of Nebraska Rural Futures Institute hosted a symposium at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln on November 3-5. I attended the conference on behalf of the LPRCA and was fortunate enough to be asked to participate in a panel discussion on land use issues in rural, urban and urban-rural fringe settings. The panel was led by a professor from England who leads rural development programs in Britain and in greater Europe. Also on the panel with me were representatives of the Center for Rural Affairs, the Federated Tribes of Nebraska, Utah Grazing Coalition, and Hall County Regional Planning. It was a great opportunity to discuss the work of the LPRCA to collaborate with city, counties and other stakeholders to balance different types of land use in our diverse area. It was also a great opportunity for me to interact with representatives of many different organizations from many states to try to relate challenges and successes they have had to our future endeavors. I look forward to continuing to work with the RFI.

Section 22 Recreation Planning Study

Troy Thompson of LPNNRD began assisting us with the development of the on-line survey at the end of November. We have a few technical things to work out with the NGPC and Corps of Engineers before we are able to take the survey live and send to the NGPC and LPRCA contact lists. We hope to get that done before Christmas. We also basically wrapped up contacting city, county and organizational representatives throughout the Corridor regarding the planning study, their recreation resources and interest in developing more. We are preparing a summary document to share with the NGPC and Corps before potentially scheduling some follow up meetings.

Watershed Management Plan

The draft goals and objectives of the Watershed Management Plan were presented to the LPRCA stakeholders at a meeting on November 13. The results of the data acquisition and modelling were also presented. There was a lengthy and good discussion on the modeling results for the pollutant loads as well as the goals and objectives. This plan is not a typical watershed management plan and the discussion represented the challenges in assessing an area of this size and unique quality. The plan is on track to be a great tool to continue that discussion and help to better focus our efforts. The plan development is on schedule for completion in late winter/early spring 2014. A draft plan should be available by the end of the year.

Newsletter

In November the Fall/Winter edition of *Platte River Update* the LPRCA Newsletter was wrapped up. It will be sent to the printer in early December and we hope to have it mailed out by the middle of the month. Look for it coming soon!

Upcoming Events:

LPRCA Quarterly Meeting: January 21st, 9 a.m., LPNNRD