



Lower Platte River
CORRIDOR ALLIANCE

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

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Monthly Report for June 2014

Meghan Sittler, Coordinator

River Obstruction Removal

Don Day of Olsson Associates submitted a memo to the LPRCA regarding some potential design and project alterations for the obstruction removal project at Two Rivers State Recreation Area. The memo primarily addresses some potential cost-savings with changes to the depth of removal of the obstructions, method of removal, and schedule. Following discussion of the proposed options we will submit the memo to the Corps for their approval. The plans to submit an RTP grant to help cover the costs of the removal along with river access at Two Rivers continue to move ahead.

Cumulative Impact Study

We received the final summary report from the Corps and USGS technical reports for the Cumulative Impact Study in June. The report will be distributed to LPRCA members and available on the LPRCA website. The long term study is anticipated to be formally closed out by this fall following cost-share documentation. There are additional identified studies that could follow the previous work but no definite plans have been made for that work to be completed.

Watershed Management Plan

The Watershed Management Plan is getting closer to being a complete draft that is ready for submission to NDEQ and then on to EPA. That draft will also be circulated to LPRCA members for their review and comment. EPA will have final approval of the plan. We will be well positioned to submit a request for funding to implement the identified management practices later this year and begin to put projects on the ground that will benefit the water quality and supply of the lower Platte River.

Newsletter

The Spring/Summer2014 edition of Platte River Update was sent out at the end of June. The new edition and all past editions can be found on the LPRCA website in our "Publications" section. If you have ideas for content for our next edition which will come out in the late fall, please let us know!

LPRCA Events

The **Water Quality Open** is planned for Thursday, August 28th at Quarry Oaks. The keynote presentation is planned for 10:00 a.m. with golf beginning at noon. Dr. Carrick Detweiller of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Computer Science and Engineering Department will provide this year's keynote presentation. Dr. Detweiller is leading an initiative to utilize aerial robotic technology within water sensing and sampling. Registration opens on July 10th and will be available via mail or on-line at http://www.lowerplatte.org/what_we_do/events/water_quality_open.html.

The **LPRCA Summit** is set for November 6 at Camp Carol Joy Holling near Ashland. Dave Sands of the Nebraska Land Trust, Matt Pillard of HDR and Rachael Herpel of the Rural Futures Institute and Water For Food Institute at UNL have graciously agreed to serve on the steering committee for the event this year. Chuck Schroeder, the Director of the Rural Futures Institute will be the opening speaker for the day. We plan to focus the Summit on challenges and opportunities at the rural-urban interface with particular attention to rural innovation as well as how the work of the LPRCA and our partners can assist communities, counties and individuals in meeting those challenges and seeking opportunities. More information on the event will be available very soon and will be discussed at the LPRCA Quarterly meeting. We would love to hear your ideas.

Plattsmouth Celebration

On Saturday, June 21st I attend the celebration of the 300th Anniversary of the Discovery of the Platte River in Plattsmouth. There were fun activities for kids, historical maps and documents related to the Platte River and other information. Unfortunately, the flood waters put a damper on the planned evening celebration at Schilling Wildlife Management Area on Sunday night but what a great event led by the Plattsmouth Historical Society, City of Plattsmouth and Cass County Tourism!

Upcoming Events:

NAYI Water Panel: July 8, UNL East Campus

University of Nebraska Water Tour: July 15 -18, Kearney through Colorado and Wyoming

LPRCA Water Quality Open: August 28, Quarry Oaks

LPRCA Kayak Tour Rain Date: TBD (Registration full)

NARD Fall Conference: September 28-30, Kearney

Water for Food Symposium: October 19-22, Seattle

Lower Platte River Summit: November 6, Camp Carol Joy Holling, Ashland