



Lower Platte River  
CORRIDOR ALLIANCE

# From the Coordinator...

**\*Monthly Report for the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance for the Month of November 2007\***

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Rodney L. Verhoeff, Coordinator

- **Camp Ashland River Obstruction Removal Project – PHASE II:** Contractor began stockpiling sand on Mon, Nov 26<sup>th</sup>. They also have completed approximately 150' of causeway out from the Beacon View side. They are using sheet piling to reinforce the causeway and placing tubes in the causeway to allow for flow. Last week, the contractor reached the first set of pilings and began to build a coffer dam to hold back water while they removed piling. Attached to this report is a photo log and weekly report from our consultant, Olsson Associates.
- **WQ Monitoring Network – Shell Creek Site:** USGS is still working on an estimate to put in a realtime, continuous monitor on Shell Creek that would have 3 sensors to monitor temperature, conductivity, and turbidity. These 3 parameters recommended since they can be related to actual sampling to develop a relationship curve. The estimate will also include taking bacteria samples. Proposal would be to install and monitor from May – Sept. A rough funding estimate would be \$10,000 from USGS and \$15,000 from local sponsors. USGS has been invited to attend the next Projects Committee meeting. My phone messages have not yet been returned to confirm that request.
- **3 NRD Meeting to Discuss LPRCA:** Don't forget to mark your calendars for the 3 NRD meeting on Jan 22 to discuss LPRCA programs, projects, and direction. The meeting will take place at Mahoney State Park from 3 pm to 8 pm and includes a dinner at 5 pm. **Please RSVP by Jan 15 to Brenda at the LPSNRD 476-2729 or directly to me at [rverhoeff@lpsnrd.org](mailto:rverhoeff@lpsnrd.org).** A "bad weather day" has been reserved for Jan 29 at the LPSNRD from 3pm – 8 pm. Attached is a reminder card.
- **NRD MapMaker Partner Meeting:** There will be a meeting of the NRD MapMaker partners on December 12 at the LPNNRD from 1 pm – 3 pm. We will be discussing how we can continue to improve MapMaker and evaluate its features for usability and functionality. Anyone can attend.
- **Cumulative Impact Study (CIS):** We held a partner meeting on November 27 to review progress on the project. Because a federal budget has not yet been passed, the COE doesn't have all of its funding to work on the project. As a result, the completion date has been extended from Dec 31, 2007 to May 31, 2008. I have officially asked the NET for a 2<sup>nd</sup> six-month extension. We have experienced several of these delays on the part of the COE with most relating to temporary assignment of COE personnel to Hurricane Katrina and Iraq duty. Currently, the group is working on the final report format.

- **Environmental Suitability Assessment (ESA):** Along with our consultant, HDR, we continue to hold meetings with local jurisdictions such as counties and communities to get input and suggestions as we develop a land use planning tool for natural environments. We still have the following entities to meet with: Lincoln Water System (LWS), Douglas County, Plattsmouth, Cass County, NEBCO, **Fremont/Inglewood**, and **Saunders County**. We are compiling results of a needs assessment survey that we are administering to these jurisdictions.
- **UNL Community & Regional Planning Class:** I continue to assist with a UNL CRPL Class 470/870 that is studying the Lower Platte River Corridor. The past two weeks, student teams have been presenting land use concepts that incorporate resource protection ideas and economic development ideas such as ecotourism. The LPRCA has assisted with this class the past two years. Several students in this class would like to work for NRDs and other state agencies such as DNR or the NG&PC.
- **NE / IA Metroplex Conference \* Nov 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - “Building Resource Efficient Communities”:** Recently, I attended this conference developed by the Joslyn Castle Institute for Sustainable Communities (JCI) and held at Quarry Oaks Golf Course. With nearly 100 attendees, this event focused on energy, land use, and water and how they impact material use and consumption, food systems, and healthy communities. More info on this and other JCI programs can be found at [www.ecospheres.com](http://www.ecospheres.com).
- **Association of Information Technology Professional (AITP) Panel Discussion:** November 15<sup>th</sup> was the date of a panel discussion for AITP members regarding different certifications. I am not a member of AITP was asked to serve as a panel member to discuss my Project Management Professional (PMP) certification.
- **Other Items of Interest:**
  - River Management Society (RMS) Conference \* May 12-15, 2008 \* Portland, ME: I plan to attend deliver one or more presentations on the LPRCA if I am selected to do so.
  - Harvard Innovation Award – LPRCA nominated and awaiting word.
  - Budget Process to begin following 3 NRD meeting in Jan.

### Upcoming Meetings & Events

**LPNNRD Board of Directors Meeting** –Monday, Dec 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007 \* 5:30 p.m. \* LPNNRD Office – 511 Commercial Road \* Wahoo. ①

**P-MRNRD Board of Directors Meeting** – Thursday, Dec 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007 \* 8:00 p.m. \* 8901 S. 154<sup>th</sup> St - NRC \*Omaha, NE

**LPSNRD Board of Directors Meeting** – Wednesday, Dec19<sup>th</sup> 2007 \* 2:00 p.m. \* 3125 Portia Street \* Lincoln. ①

**3 NRD Meeting to Discuss LPRCA** – Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 \* 3 – 8 p.m. \* Mahoney State Park – main lodge. Bad weather date is Jan 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the LPSNRD in Lincoln – same times.

**LPRCA Quarterly Meeting** – Feb 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008 \* 9:30 a.m. – noon \* LPNNRD \* 511 Commercial Park Road \* Wahoo, NE.

① Note – Winter meeting times have changed.