



Lower Platte River  
CORRIDOR ALLIANCE

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**QUARTERLY MEETING FINAL AGENDA**

**Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013 9:00 a.m.**

**Mallet Lodge, Platte River State Park**

**14421 346<sup>th</sup> St, Louisville, NE 68037**

1. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS
2. PROOF OF LEGAL NOTICE/PUBLICATION
3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA **[ACTION]**

Meghan Sittler corrected the agenda to reflect that Jeff Greenwald's business items were placed on the agenda twice. Agenda was adopted by consensus following Sittler's corrections.

4. APPROVAL OF LPRCA MINUTES FROM APRIL 23, 2013 MEETING **[ACTION]**

Gene Zeurlein provided written corrections for the minutes from the April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013. Corrections were noted and minutes were approved by consensus.

5. LOWER PLATTE RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN—MATT PILLARD AND GEORGE HUNT, HDR

Matt Pillard and George Hunt from HDR provided an update on the development of the watershed management plan. The goal topics from the April 4 Strategic Planning meeting were presented and are as follows:

1. Sediment Management
2. Uniform Implementation
3. Identification of sources of water quality impairments
4. Manage plan for pollutant sources
5. Identify funding partners and tools to address water quality issues

Following discussion of the goal topics, George Hunt led a discussion of collected and identified data sources. Those sources include data sets from USGS, NDEQ, NRCS as well as population, and land use. A meeting with LPRCA Stakeholders will be held in late October or early November to return to discussion of the goals and a more in depth discussion of the data sets and modeling.

6. CAMP ASHLAND CONSERVATION PROJECTS AND FACILITY UPDATE—LARRY VRTISKA, NEARNG

Larry Vrtiska presented an overview of the on-going work and conservation efforts at Camp Ashland. Camp Ashland is comprised of 981 acres along the Platte River. Current construction projects include improved waste water treatment, expansion of the front gate area, and remodeling of Building 23 which was historically used for horses. Future construction projects include upgrading the drinking water system to resolve chloroform issues and elevated arsenic levels. Finally, they will be building a new maintenance facility.

The Western Sarpy Clear Creek Project was the next portion of Vrtiska's presentation. The Guard utilizes the placement and removal of large sandbags as training for Chinook and Black Hawk pilots and crew. The Guard also conducts controlled burn on a portion of the camp property which provides for conservation value as well as another training exercise.

The Guard Camp has had an active bald eagle nest since 2004 with a successful hatch each year over that time. In 2010 a new nest was identified at the Camp as well. On June 26<sup>th</sup> of this

year, a mountain lion was spotted by two soldiers during a training exercise. NGPC was contacted but there have been no reports of the lion since.

The NEARNG is also currently participating in delineation of wetlands over the entire property. The delineation is anticipated for the end of September. They have also undertaken a treatment of Turner Lake to control blue green algae.

The final project Vrtiska presented was monitoring of the east chute. They continue to monitor the chute to evaluate the information and understand the sediment and nutrient exchanges with the Platte.

#### 7. NEBRASKA LAND TRUST UPDATE—DAVE SANDS, NEBRASKA LAND TRUST

Dave Sands provided an update on the work of the Nebraska Land Trust. NLT is now fully accredited as a Land Trust. They continue to expand their reach throughout the state as well as the Lower Platte River. The NLT holds easements on the lower Platte from near Fremont through Sarpy County. Since establishing the Schramm Bluffs Conservation Focus Area in 2008 they have completed 7 agreements that have preserved 957 acres. They continue to do outreach and coordination with the LPRCA to continue conservation and preservation of important areas in the lower Platte.

#### 8. LOWER PLATTE WEED MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY UPDATE—MIKE REED, DOUGLAS COUNTY

Mike Reed of Douglas County, provided an update on the work of the Lower Platte Weed Management Area. The LPWMA has placed information kiosks throughout the counties. The LPRCA is assisting with 5 kiosks at places along the Platte. Additionally they continue to focus on control of Phragmites in the Platte River. After difficulties with treatment in 2012 due to the drought, they continued upland treatment. Future plans include aerial surveys annually with helicopters being used for surveys every 2-3 years, with potential helicopter control every other year. Additionally they are planning to utilize remote sensing information when available. They are also expanding efforts to understand the spread of knotweed and expand control of the species.

#### 9. RIVER OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL AT TWO RIVERS SRA—DON DAY, OLSSON ASSOCIATES

Meghan Sittler updated on behalf of Don Day. The permit application was sent to the Army Corps of Engineers and we are currently awaiting a reply. Once the permit is received the project will be posted and the bidding process will be opened. We are aiming for October construction and anticipate \$815,000 in project costs for this phase—45% of which will come from the Trust.

#### 10. WATER QUALITY MONITORING NETWORK

An update was given by Matt Moser on the data collected so far this year. The continuous nitrate monitoring has shown elevated levels in mid-June. So far the warmest temperature recorded was 36.4 degrees Celsius at Louisville. They have also noticed increase recreation on the Elkhorn as well as Platte with a new kayaking business operating in Louisville that is headquartered in Cedar Creek.

#### 11. CORPS OF ENGINEERS STUDIES—JEFF GREENWALD

##### a. SECTION 22

Currently the Corps is updating all GIS information related to recreation. They have also contacted GIS Workshop to acquire a comprehensive set of information on a county basis. We will be contacting city and county representatives in the upcoming weeks to speak with them about the data set and potential for increased recreation. The Public Opinion Survey is behind schedule due to approval requirements. It is still slated for fall and will be web based.

b. CUMULATIVE IMPACT STUDY

The Corps is currently working in the summary report and USGS continues to make head way on the sediment budget analysis. Both reports should be in final stages by the next quarterly meeting and will be presented. The remaining task after the report conclusion will be the financial closeout of the Phase III. 1. 50/50 cost share agreement

12. LPRCA EVENTS—MEGHAN SITTLER

The LPRCA Kayak Tour was held in May with 43 people from the public, LPRCA and partner organizations participating. The Water Quality Open is the next planned event for August 29<sup>th</sup>. The event is full and we have and an increase in donations.

13. NRD INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT PLANS UPDATE

LPSNRD and P-MRNRD provided updates on their respective IMP process. Both are continuing to move forward. Both are still active with stakeholder involvement and public comments.

14. WRDA AUTHORIZED PROJECT UPDATES

a. ANTELOPE VALLEY-NONE

b. DEADMAN'S RUN-NONE

c. SAND CREEK: Recreation season is going well. They are still trying to establish trees on certain areas.

d. FREMONT & SCHUYLER 205: The 205 Study in Fremont continues to go Forward. The Army Corps of Engineers is wanting a contract by October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Schuyler 205 study is on hold due to funding issues.

e. WESTERN SARPY CLEAR CREEK—The Corps has completed the PACR and submitted it to Headquarters. Hopefully will received Secretary's signature and approval and can utilize the report to address the limit on funding be utilized to complete the project. Additionally, continue to work with Delegation on a potential WRDA to provide a fix for the 902 limit.

f. LOWER PLATTE RIVER WATERSHED AUTHORITY—**NOTHING TO REPORT**

15. NEXT MEETING DATE **[ACTION]**

The next Quarterly Meeting is planned for Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. at P-MRNRD.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT

17. ADJOURN—The meeting was adjourned by Sittler at 11:45 a.m. A tour of the Roger Sykes Education Center followed.