



**Lower Platte River
CORRIDOR ALLIANCE**

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

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Monthly Report for December 2013

Meghan Sittler, Coordinator

River Obstruction Removal at TRA

The planned construction for the removal of the abandoned pilings in the Platte near Two Rivers State Recreation Area was delayed due to the higher than anticipated bids for construction. While we continue to examine possible alterations of the design as well as the timeframe for construction that may reduce the construction costs some, we also continue to explore potential additional funding. In early December I had a brief meeting with Michelle Stryker (NGPC) regarding the possibility of funding assistance through the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). I will be meeting again with her and Jim Swenson (NGPC) regarding this possibility in January but I am very excited about this potential opportunity to fund the construction of the project while also possibly including some additional recreation enhancements.

Section 22 Recreation Planning Study

The online public opinion survey was fully developed at the end of December. NGPC and the LPRCA will be sampling our contact lists (email and mail) and sending invitations to individuals throughout the Corridor and surrounding cities/counties to complete the survey. We anticipate sending the invitations during the first two weeks of January.

Presentations

I gave presentations to a seminar class at UNL's School of Natural Resources and also to the Nebraska Agri-Business Association in December. The UNL seminar class was composed of primarily seniors in SNR and was a great opportunity to share information about the work of the LPRCA as well as our members. The presentation to the Nebraska Agri-business association not only was an opportunity to share general information on the LPRCA but also to focus on the important water quality efforts of the LPRCA. Both presentations prompted great questions and discussion and hopefully continued to increase the knowledge of the Lower Platte and LPRCA.

Quarterly Meeting

The next LPRCA Quarterly Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21st at 9 a.m. at LPNNRD. Planned agenda items include a review of the 2013 monitoring data from the Water Quality Monitoring Network, updates and discussion of the Watershed Management Plan and River Obstruction Removal effort. Also Mitch Paine (DNR) will discuss the plan to place a timelapse camera at a point along the lower Platte to assist with ice monitoring. Also we hope to have the new LPRCA website ready to be "demoed" to those in attendance. Hope to see you all there.

Upcoming Events:

UNL Water Seminar Series: begins Wednesday, January 15th and continues through April. Hardin Hall Auditorium

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

NARD Legislative Conference: January 28-29, Embassy Suites Hotel, Lincoln