



**Lower Platte River
CORRIDOR ALLIANCE**

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

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Monthly Report for February 2016

Meghan Sittler, Coordinator

Recreation Plan

February was focused on setting up public meetings to discuss the completed recreation plan and opportunities to increase or improve existing access to the Platte River, other recreational opportunities and educational resources. The Nebraska Game & Parks Commission and the National Park Service are also partnering with the LPRCA to set up and conduct the meetings. The first meeting will be held in Ashland at the Ashland Community Center on Tuesday, March 22nd with an open house at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. The Fremont meeting is planned for Tuesday, April 5th at the City Auditorium Community Room with an open house beginning at 5:30 and presentations beginning at 6:00 p.m. The final planned meeting at this time will be in Columbus on Thursday, April 7th at the Legion Hall. The Columbus meeting will also begin with an open house at 5:30 with the more formal meeting portion beginning at 6:00 p.m. More information can be found on the LPRCA website.

Water Quality Monitoring Network

The LPRCA in partnership with USGS has operated three to four real-time continuous water quality monitoring sites in the Lower Platte River and its tributaries for eight years. The LPRCA began exploring the possibility of expanding the network to include an additional site at Leshara over the winter. That location was identified as a site that can assist with identifying contaminant loads and contributions from contributing watersheds. Additionally, conversations with both MUD and Lincoln Water System indicated that a site at that location would be of use in their operations as well. All three NRDs will partner with the two municipalities to fund the Leshara site beginning this spring and continuing over the two following years. This site will be in addition to the three longer term sites: Platte River at Louisville, Salt Creek at Ashland, and Elkhorn River at Waterloo. It is also in addition to the Shell Creek near Columbus site that LPNNRD has operated for the past 6 years.

Two Rivers Pier Removal

Hawkins Construction started removing the remaining temporary bridge sections that they had left on site over the winter during the end of February and first week of March. Once the sections have been removed the final grading of disturbed areas will be done as well as reseeding. They anticipate having the seeding completed during the week of March 14th. Once the seeding is complete and the work has been signed off on the project will be complete.

Upcoming Events:

Nebraska Wildlife Society Conference, Kearney: March 8-10.

NARD Washington DC Conference, Embassy Suites, Washington DC: March 11-16

2016 Global Water for Food Conference, April 24-26, Innovation Campus, Lincoln.

LPRCA Quarterly Meeting, May 3, 2016, 9:00 a.m., LPSNRD in Lincoln.

LPRCA Kayak Tour, June 7, 2016. *The LPRCA Kayak Tour has been included as a "Find your Park" event as part of the National Park Service Centennial celebration.*