



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

3125 Portia Street | P.O. Box 83581 • Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-3581
P: 402.476.2729 • F: 402.476.6454 | www.lpsnrd.org

Memorandum

Date: May 1, 2026
To: Platte River Subcommittee and F&P Subcommittee
From: David Potter, General Manager
RE: April 29th Platte River Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

The Platte River Subcommittee met in person at the district office on Wednesday, April 29, 2026. The only action item was to develop recommendations for the FY27 budget and updates for the FY28-31 Long Range Implementation Plan (LRIP). Subcommittee members in attendance included Luke Peterson, Gary Aldridge, Gary Hellerich, David Hibler, Don Jacobson, Christine Lamberty, Suzanne Mealer, and Ken Vogel. Others attending the meeting were Bob Andersen, Dave Landis, David Potter, Jeremy Gehle, Bryce Jensen, and Mark Vrtiska. The meeting was called to order by Chair Peterson at 5:00 p.m. and the agenda was reviewed.

The FY26 accomplishments for each program (Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance and Platte River), the nine-month update of the measurable goals, and the Natural Resources Benefits of Practices and Programs Table were reviewed and discussed. Potter provided information on the Alliance and how the two programs work together regarding the budget. Following discussion on the accomplishments, the LRIP and budget status codes and Master Plan goals, desired outcomes and objectives were identified. The subcommittee then discussed the proposed actions and expenditures for FY27 and for FY2028-2031. Potter explained each action item and proposed expenditure for each program and recapped some corresponding FY26 accomplishments and expenditures. Staff and the subcommittee discussed in some detail the Alliance membership, the ice jam agreement, control of invasive species and noxious weeds, the Western Sarpy/Clear Creek Project and Fuse Plug, and the Lower Platte River Restoration and Resiliency Study with USACE. Updated information from PMRNRD and LPNDRD was received after the proposed LRIP was sent to the subcommittee. There's been discussion between the three NRDs to consider a joint tour of the corridor and staff suggest increasing the budget amount for that item.

It was moved by Jacobson, seconded by Hibler, and unanimously approved to increase the proposed expenditure and revenue for Lower Platte River Tour in the Corridor Alliance Program to \$6K and increase the proposed expenditure in the Platte River Program for a tour to \$2K.

With no additional modifications, additions, or deletions, **it was moved by Peterson, seconded by Vogel, and approved 7-1 (with Aldridge voting no) to submit the final FY 2026 Actions and Budget Requests and the FY 2027-2030 Actions and Proposed Expenditures as presented to the Finance and Planning Subcommittee for inclusion in the first draft of the FY26 Budget and LRIP.**

The next item on the agenda was a presentation on the 2025 Interior Least Tern and Piping Plover Annual Report for the Lower Platte River from Mark Vrtiska with the Least Tern and Piping Plover Conservation Partnership. A copy of the Annual Report was distributed to the subcommittee.

With no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Peterson at 6:15 p.m.

SUBCOMMITTEE: Platte River
PROGRAM AREA: Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance
GOALS: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K

FISCAL YEAR 2027

ACTIONS	OBJECTIVES	STATUS CODE	FINAL BUDGET		PRIORITIES	BUDGET CODE	
			EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDS		EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDS
LPSNRD Support of LPRCA Programs & Projects ^ = Reserve							
Cooperate on Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance agency, if possible. (members include LPSNRD, PMRNRD, LPNNRD, NeDWEE, NG&P, UNL, & National Guard). Administration (includes ESRI, website and memberships). Receive payment and have involvement from each partnering	D1a	C1	\$0	\$3,000 \$4,000	1	419002 419002	302011 301720
Host semi-annual Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance meetings.			\$0	\$0			
Lower Platte River Restoration and Resiliency Study with Corps, NRDs & State <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for assistance on project with USACE and other partners (LPNNRD, LPSNRD and PMRNRD). 			\$0	\$0			
Participate in Nebraska Land Trust meetings and in Lower Platte River Workgroup, when needed.			\$0	\$0			
Monitor Lower Platte River instream flow review & basin determination / integrated management.			\$0	\$0			
Environmental Suitability Assessment projects, information and correspondence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESRI Agreement City/County Meetings 	D1d	A2	\$1,100 \$0	\$0 \$0	5	419002	
WQ Streamgauge Monitoring Network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of existing agreement--3 sites (Platte @ Louisville, Salt @ Ashland & Elkhorn@ Waterloo) Leshara Site Agreement continuation USGS Streamgauge Trend Analysis USGS Streamgauge Trend Analysis - DEE Section 319 	A5c	A4	\$86,800	\$86,800	2	419006	302014
	A5c	A4	\$32,000 \$0	\$32,000 \$0	3	419006 419006 419006	302014 302014 303014

FISCAL YEAR 2027

ACTIONS	OBJECTIVES	STATUS CODE	FINAL BUDGET		PRIORITIES	BUDGET CODE	
			EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDS		EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDS
Education & Outreach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lower Platte River Tour. Set up one tour of the Platte River (for Alliance reps and/or LPSNRD and PMRNRD). ● Newsletter; kiosks; I&E Materials; Other Events ● Advertising; Social Media; Video Production ● Website Hosting/Support/Maintenance ● Memberships 	D1f	C1	\$6,000	\$6,000	6	419006	302014
			\$0	\$0			
			\$0	\$0			
	D1f	C1	\$1,980	\$0	4	419002	
	D1f	C1	\$250	\$0	7	419002	
Water Quality Management Plan & Improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Watershed Management Plan Implementation ● Assistance with Wellhead Protection Program updates ● Planning 			\$0	\$0			
			\$0	\$0			
			\$0	\$0			
Monitor Water Trail Planning & Development			\$0	\$0			
Support efforts to control invasive species and noxious weeds along the Lower Platte River. Participating with the counties and the Lower Platte Weed Management Area (LPWMA) group.			\$0	\$0			

FISCAL YEAR 2028 ACTIONS		
	BUDGET	OTHER FUNDS
Cooperate on Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance Administration	\$0	\$7,000
Host semi-annual Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance meetings.	\$0	\$0
Approval of Lower Platte River Water Quality Management Plan Projects with NRDs, State and others	\$0	\$0
Lower Platte River Restoration and Resiliency Study/Projects with Corps of Engineers, NRDs, State and others	\$200,000	\$0
LPRCA Programs		
• Water Quality		
• Monitoring Network (3 long term sites and Leshara)	\$124,400	\$124,400
• Programs / Implementation	\$0	\$0
• Planning	\$0	\$0
• Recreation Access	\$0	\$0
• Ecosystem Studies	\$0	\$0
• Outreach, Education & Correspondence	\$4,500	\$0
• Miscellaneous efforts	\$0	\$0
• NE Land Trust	\$0	\$0
• Invasive Species & Noxious Weed Efforts	\$0	\$0
Identify and map nesting habitat for terns & plovers including sand bars and sand/gravel pits through involvement with the Tern & Plover Partnership	\$0	\$0
Monitor Lower Platte River instream flow review & basin determination / integrated management.	\$0	\$0

FISCAL YEAR 2029 ACTIONS		
	BUDGET	OTHER FUNDS
Cooperate on Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance Administration	\$0	\$7,000
Host semi-annual Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance meetings.	\$0	\$0
Approval of Lower Platte River Water Quality Management Plan Projects with NRDs, State and others	\$0	\$0
Lower Platte River Restoration and Resiliency Study/Projects with Corps of Engineers, NRDs, State and others	\$200,000	\$0
LPRCA Programs		
• Water Quality		
• Monitoring Network (3 long term sites and Leshara)	\$130,400	\$130,400
• Programs / Implementation	\$0	\$0
• Planning	\$0	\$0
• Recreation Access	\$0	\$0
• Ecosystem Studies	\$0	\$0
• Outreach, Education & Correspondence	\$5,000	\$0
• Miscellaneous efforts	\$0	\$0
• NE Land Trust	\$0	\$0
• Invasive Species & Noxious Weed Efforts	\$0	\$0
Identify and map nesting habitat for terns & plovers including sand bars and sand/gravel pits through involvement with the Tern & Plover Partnership	\$0	\$0
Monitor Lower Platte River instream flow review & basin determination / integrated management.	\$0	\$0

FISCAL YEAR 2030 ACTIONS

	BUDGET	OTHER FUNDS
Cooperate on Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance Administration	\$0	\$7,000
Host semi-annual Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance meetings.	\$0	\$0
Approval of Lower Platte River Water Quality Management Plan Projects with NRDs, State and others	\$0	\$0
Lower Platte River Restoration and Resiliency Study/Projects with Corps of Engineers, NRDs, State and others	\$200,000	\$0
LPRCA Programs		
• Water Quality		
• Monitoring Network (3 long term sites and Leshara)	\$99,800	\$99,800
• Programs / Implementation	\$0	\$0
• Planning	\$0	\$0
• Recreation Access	\$0	\$0
• Ecosystem Studies	\$0	\$0
• Outreach, Education & Correspondence	\$5,000	\$0
• Miscellaneous efforts	\$0	\$0
• NE Land Trust	\$0	\$0
• Invasive Species & Noxious Weed Efforts	\$0	\$0
Identify and map nesting habitat for terns & plovers including sand bars and sand/gravel pits through involvement with the Tern & Plover Partnership	\$0	\$0
Monitor Lower Platte River instream flow review & basin determination / integrated management.	\$0	\$0

FISCAL YEAR 2031 ACTIONS

	BUDGET	OTHER FUNDS
Cooperate on Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance Administration	\$0	\$7,000
Host semi-annual Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance meetings.	\$0	\$0
Planning - Update and approve WQMP (LPSNRD, LPNNRD, PMNRD)	\$0	\$0
Approval of Lower Platte River Water Quality Management Plan Projects with NRDs, State and others	\$0	\$0
Lower Platte River Restoration and Resiliency Study/Projects with Corps of Engineers, NRDs, State and others	\$200,000	\$0
LPRCA Programs		
• Water Quality		
• Monitoring Network (3 long term sites and Leshara)	\$131,000	\$131,000
• New agreement for 3 long-term sites and Leshara	\$0	\$0
• Programs / Implementation	\$0	\$0
• Planning	\$0	\$0
• Recreation Access	\$0	\$0
• Ecosystem Studies	\$0	\$0
• Outreach, Education & Correspondence	\$5,500	\$0
• Miscellaneous efforts	\$0	\$0
• NE Land Trust	\$0	\$0
• Invasive Species & Noxious Weed Efforts	\$0	\$0
Identify and map nesting habitat for terns & plovers including sand bars and sand/gravel pits through involvement with the Tern & Plover Partnership	\$0	\$0
Monitor Lower Platte River instream flow review & basin determination / integrated management.	\$0	\$0

SUBCOMMITTEE: Platte River
PROGRAM AREA: Platte River
GOALS: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K

FISCAL YEAR 2027

ACTIONS	OBJECTIVES	STATUS CODE	FINAL BUDGET		PRIORITY	BUDGET CODE	
			EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDS		EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDS
LPSNRD Support of LPRCA Programs & (Total LPSNRD costs \$51,300)							
Cooperate on Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance Administration. (LPSNRD Share)	D1a	C1	\$1,000	\$0	1	419022	302011
Environmental Suitability Assessment projects, information and correspondence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESRI Agreement 			\$0	\$0			302014
WQ Monitoring Network (LPRCA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of existing agreement - 3 sites (Platte @ Louisville, Salt @ Ashland & Elkhorn @ Waterloo) (LPSNRD Share) Leshara Site Agreement Continuation (LPSNRD Share) USGS Streamgauge Trend Analysis 	A5c	A4	\$43,400	\$0	2	419021	302014
	A5c	A4	\$6,400	\$0	3	419021	302014
			\$0	\$0		419013	
Education & Outreach (LPRCA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower Platte River Tour (LPSNRD Share) Newsletter; kiosks; I&E Materials; Other Events Advertising; Social Media; Video Production Website Hosting/Support/Maintenance Memberships 	D1f	C1	\$2,000	\$0	11	419021	302014
			\$0	\$0			302014
			\$0	\$0			302014
			\$0	\$0			302014
			\$0	\$0			302014
Water Quality Management Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine and prioritize projects identified in LPRCA WQMP. Identify WQMP 319 Project and apply for 319 Grant. Implementation (Consider establishing the Turkey Creek Watershed as a targeted area for cost-share assistance. See Land Resources) Water Quality Management Plan Review 			\$0	\$0			
			\$0	\$0		419013	303140
			\$0	\$0		419013	
Monitor Water Trail Planning & Development			\$0	\$0			
Lower Platte River Restoration and Resiliency Study with USACE (NRDs & State) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration and Resiliency Study initiation, planning and projects 			\$0	\$0		419017	Contingent Upon Federal Appropriation

FISCAL YEAR 2027

ACTIONS	OBJECTIVES	STATUS CODE	FINAL BUDGET		PRIORITY	BUDGET CODE	
			EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDS		EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDS
Platte River Recovery Implementation Program -review panel / coordination			\$0	\$0			
Cooperate on liaison service of Water Strategies, Washington, D.C. for Lower Platte River Corridor issues including appropriations for Lower Platte River Restoration and Resiliency Study.	D1d	C1	\$30,000	\$0	9	419003	
Participate in Nebraska Land Trust and in Lower Platte River Workgroup, when needed.			\$0	\$0		419009	
Platte River Ice Jam Agreement. (LPSNRD 15% of base fund amount.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interlocal agreement with PMRNRD for existing cameras on the Platte River at Hwy 6 and at Hwy 50 	C4a	A3	\$22,500	\$0	4	419008	
	C4a	A3	\$3,500	\$0	6	419008	
Monitor Lower Platte River instream flow review & basin determination / integrated management.	A4a	C2	\$10,000	\$0	12	419010	
Western Sarpy / Clear Creek Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance. 	C4	A3	\$50,000	\$0	5	419020	303786
Continue to monitor status of public water systems and wastewater facilities			\$0	\$0			
Monitor and inspect PL84-99 levees at Omaha Fish & Wildlife Club			\$0	\$0			
Identify and map nesting habitat for terns & plovers including sand bars and sand/gravel pits through involvement with the Tern & Plover Partnership	D1b	C1	\$5,000	\$0	10	419009	
Investigate acquisition of conservation easements to protect bluff and floodplain corridor along the Platte River and Missouri River. Participate as board member of NE Land Trust. Develop a strategy for identifying and evaluating critical areas for protection and landowner education and contacts. (See Cons. Eas.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement with NLT • Conservation Easement with NLT 	D1e	A3	\$30,000	\$0	7	419012	
	D1e	A3	\$20,000	\$0	13	419012	
Support efforts to control invasive species and noxious weeds along the Lower Platte River.	D1d	C1	\$60,000	\$0	8	419016	

FISCAL YEAR 2028 ACTIONS

	BUDGET	OTHER FUNDS
Cooperate on service of Water Strategies for Lower Platte River Corridor. LPR Restoration and Resiliency Study appropriation	\$31,200	\$0
LPRCA Programs		
• Water Quality Monitoring (3 long term sites and Leshara)	\$52,600	\$0
• USGS Streamgage Trend Analysis	\$0	\$0
• Water Quality Programs/Implementation	\$0	\$0
• Water Quality Planning	\$0	\$0
• Recreation Access	\$0	\$0
• Lower Platte River Restoration and Resiliency Study w/ Corps. et al	\$0	\$0
• Ecosystem Studies	\$0	\$0
• Admin., Outreach & Education	\$1,500	\$0
Identify and map nesting habitat for terns & plovers including sand bars and sand/gravel pits through involvement with the Tern & Plover Partnership	\$5,000	\$0
Platte River Ice Jam Agreement	\$22,500	\$0
• Interlocal agreement for camera(s) on Platte River	\$3,500	\$0
Nebraska Land Trust Agreement	\$30,000	\$0
Conservation Easement with NLT	\$20,000	\$0
Monitor Lower Platte River instream flow review & basin determination / integrated management.	\$10,000	\$0
Platte River RR Obstruction	\$0	\$0
Western Sarpy / Clear Creek Project	\$50,000	\$0
Invasive Species & Noxious Weed Efforts	\$30,000	\$0

FISCAL YEAR 2029 ACTIONS

	BUDGET	OTHER FUNDS
Cooperate on service of Water Strategies for Lower Platte River Corridor. LPR Restoration and Resiliency Study appropriation	\$32,400	\$0
LPRCA Programs		
• Water Quality Monitoring (3 long term sites and Leshara)	\$55,600	\$0
• Water Quality Programs/Implementation	\$0	\$0
• Water Quality Planning	\$0	\$0
• Recreation Access	\$0	\$0
• Lower Platte River Restoration and Resiliency Study w/ Corps. et al	\$0	\$0
• Ecosystem Studies	\$0	\$0
• Admin., Outreach & Education	\$1,500	\$0
Identify and map nesting habitat for terns & plovers including sand bars and sand/gravel pits through involvement with the Tern & Plover Partnership	\$5,000	\$0
Platte River Ice Jam Agreement	\$22,500	\$0
• Interlocal agreement for camera(s) on Platte River	\$3,500	\$0
Nebraska Land Trust Agreement - Consider extending the agreement that expires June 30, 2027.	\$30,000	\$0
Conservation Easement with NLT	\$20,000	\$0
Monitor Lower Platte River instream flow review & basin determination / integrated management.	\$10,000	\$0
Western Sarpy / Clear Creek Project	\$50,000	\$0
Invasive Species & Noxious Weed Efforts	\$30,000	\$0

FISCAL YEAR 2030 ACTIONS		
	BUDGET	OTHER FUNDS
Cooperate on service of Water Strategies for Lower Platte River Corridor. LPR Restoration and Resiliency Study appropriation	\$33,600	\$0
LPRCA Programs		
• Water Quality Monitoring (3 long term sites and Leshara)	\$42,400	\$0
• Water Quality Programs/Implementation	\$0	\$0
• Water Quality Planning	\$0	\$0
• Recreation Access	\$0	\$0
• Lower Platte River Restoration and Resiliency Study w/ Corps. et al	\$0	\$0
• Ecosystem Studies	\$0	\$0
• Admin., Outreach & Education	\$1,500	\$0
Identify and map nesting habitat for terns & plovers including sand bars and sand/gravel pits through involvement with the Tern & Plover Partnership	\$5,000	\$0
Platte River Ice Jam Agreement	\$22,500	\$0
• Interlocal agreement for camera(s) on Platte River	\$3,500	\$0
Nebraska Land Trust Agreement	\$30,000	\$0
Conservation Easement with NLT	\$20,000	\$0
Monitor Lower Platte River instream flow review & basin determination / integrated management.	\$10,000	\$0
Western Sarpy / Clear Creek Project	\$50,000	\$0
Invasive Species & Noxious Weed Efforts	\$30,000	\$0

FISCAL YEAR 2031 ACTIONS		
	BUDGET	OTHER FUNDS
Cooperate on service of Water Strategies for Lower Platte River Corridor. LPR Restoration and Resiliency Study appropriation	\$33,600	\$0
LPRCA Programs		
• Water Quality Monitoring (3 long term sites and Leshara)	\$52,000	\$0
• Water Quality Programs/Implementation	\$0	\$0
• Water Quality Planning	\$0	\$0
• Recreation Access	\$0	\$0
• Lower Platte River Restoration and Resiliency Study w/ Corps. et al	\$0	\$0
• Ecosystem Studies	\$0	\$0
• Admin., Outreach & Education	\$1,500	\$0
Identify and map nesting habitat for terns & plovers including sand bars and sand/gravel pits through involvement with the Tern & Plover Partnership	\$5,000	\$0
Platte River Ice Jam Agreement	\$22,500	\$0
• Interlocal agreement for camera(s) on Platte River	\$3,500	\$0
Nebraska Land Trust Agreement	\$30,000	\$0
Conservation Easement with NLT	\$20,000	\$0
Monitor Lower Platte River instream flow review & basin determination / integrated management.	\$10,000	\$0
Western Sarpy / Clear Creek Project	\$50,000	\$0
Invasive Species & Noxious Weed Efforts	\$30,000	\$0