

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Water.

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

August 24, 2022

Governor Pete Ricketts
State Capitol
2nd Floor, N.E.
P.O. Box 94848
Lincoln, NE 68509-4848

Clerk of the Legislature
State Capitol, Room 2018
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509-4604

SUBJECT: Nebraska Resources Development Fund Biennial Report for July 1, 2020 –
June 30, 2022

Dear Governor Ricketts & the Clerk of the Legislature:

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat § 2-1588(3) the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is pleased to submit the 2022 Biennial Report for the Nebraska Resources Development Fund (NRDF). This report briefly summarizes the history of the Fund and focuses on the current status of NRDF including related legislative activities.

Since 1974, the NRDF has helped local subdivisions of government promote natural resources development opportunities and address related problems. By using funding from this program to leverage other monies, sound projects have been completed that likely would not otherwise have been undertaken due to local funding constraints. The \$119.8 million of state funds invested has leveraged \$152 million of federal and local funds to provide the citizens of Nebraska an estimated \$1.42 billion in benefits over the projected lives of the projects.

In addition, 65 projects that the Nebraska Resources Development Fund helped to build have and will continue to protect the state's natural resources and, although often taken for granted, have also produced significant recreation and economic benefits for our citizens. These projects have leveraged significant federal and local funding to develop, preserve and maintain the state's water, and related land resources, including: programs and projects for the abatement of pollution; reduction of potential flood damages; reservation of lands for resources development projects; provision of public irrigation facilities; preservation and creation of fish and wildlife resources; protection and improvement of public land; provision of public outdoor recreation lands and facilities; provision and preservation of the waters of the state for all

Thomas E. Riley, P.E., Director

Department of Natural Resources

245 Fallbrook Blvd., Suite 201
Lincoln, Nebraska 68521

OFFICE 402-471-2363
FAX 402-471-2900

dnr.nebraska.gov



Pete Ricketts, Governor

acres of Todd Valley wetlands, pond habitat, central deciduous forest and tall grass prairie. Located on Sand Creek just upstream of Wahoo, Nebraska, this project provides educational and recreational activities including swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, camping, youth hunting and wildlife viewing in conjunction with the 660-acre reservoir and ancillary flood reduction benefits. Construction is complete, close-out is pending USA COE project "true-up".

- **Lower Turkey Creek**

Sponsor: Lower Big Blue NRD

This flood control project consists of seven floodwater-retarding structures (earthen dams) in Saline and Fillmore counties and drainage structure improvements in the Village of DeWitt. All construction related activities are complete. The sponsor is preparing a letter of map revision as required by the USA COE. Once completed, the project will be closed out.

- **Upper Prairie/Silver/Moores**

Sponsor: Central Platte NRD

This project, which includes four upland dams and large high water detention cells along the stream channel, will serve to reduce flooding along portions of Prairie, Silver and Moores Creeks west of Grand Island. It will also remove a portion of northwestern Grand Island from the 100-year flood plain. Four upstream dams, two on Duck Creek and two Prairie Creek are complete, as well as excavation of detention cells. Engineering design of the education facility located within the detention cells' wetland complex is underway. Once completed, this project will be closed out.

- **Western Sarpy/Clear Creek**

Sponsor: Papio-Missouri River NRD

The Western Sarpy/Clear Creek Project, planned and designed by the Corps of Engineers, involves the improvement of levees on both sides of the Platte River near Ashland, and the elevation, relocation or removal of several cabins. Construction is complete, close-out is pending USA COE project "true-up".

If you have questions or would like further info, please contact Kent Zimmerman at kent.zimmerman@nebraska.gov or refer to the Natural Resources Commission's website at <https://nrc.nebraska.gov/resources-development-fund>.

With best regards,



Thomas E. Riley, P.E.
Director

