



PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM (PRRIP -or- Program)

Land Advisory Committee (LAC) Meeting

Wednesday, October 16, 2024; 10:00 AM - noon PM CST

Meeting held virtually & in-person at ED Office in Kearney, NE

Land Advisory Committee (LAC)

State of Wyoming

Michelle Hubbard – Member (online)

Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)

Brock Merrill – Member (online)

State of Colorado

Kara Scheel – Member (online)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service)

Matt Rabbe – Member

State of Nebraska

Caitlin Kingsley – Alternate (online)

Ted LaGrange – Member (online)

Environmental Entities

Cody Wagner – Member (Vice-Chair)

Power Districts

Dave Zorn – Member (Chair) (online)

Jim Jenniges – Member

Local Nebraska Rep. – Central Platte Natural Resources District (CPNRD)

Dave Carr – Member

Local Nebraska Rep. – Tri-Basin Natural Resources District (TBNRD)

John Thorburn – Member

Local Nebraska Rep. – Joint CPNRD/TBNRD

None

Executive Director’s Office (EDO)

Jason Farnsworth, ED

Tim Tunnell

Other Participants

Melissa Moiser - Audubon (online)

Tim Smith – Crane Trust



37 **WELCOME & ADMINISTRATIVE**

38 Chairman Zorn called the meeting to order at 10:02 am Central Time. Tunnell recognized members who
39 were attending in-person at the PRRIP conference room and acknowledged members attending
40 virtually. Zorn asked for agenda modifications. None were offered. Zorn asked for the LAC's
41 recommendation in the minutes of the August 14, 2024, LAC meeting.

42 **LAC MOTION:** *Thorburn* moved, and *Jenniges* seconded to approve August 14, 2024, LAC Meeting
43 minutes. Minutes approved.

44
45 **GENERAL UPDATE AND OTHER COMMITTEE COORDINATION**

46
47 Rabbe updated the committee on the TAC. TAC has met a couple of times with the Whooping Crane
48 Stopover telemetry Workgroup and will be discussed again at the TAC meeting next week along with a
49 No- Sediment Augmentation Plan. Additionally, plans for the environmental account releases in FY 25
50 will be discussed.

51
52 Farnsworth updated the committee on the big WAC & GC efforts. The choke point report is done-ish and
53 is being reviewed this week and written comments back to the contractors to edit before it goes to the
54 WAC next week. FY 25 Budget is being developed and will be presented to the GC at the November 14
55 special budget session, and then the GC meeting will be held on the 10th & 11th of December in Sterling,
56 CO.

57
58 Tunnell updated the committee on Land Objective Milestone summary. The EDO received a signed
59 management agreement that the GC approved last December with a landowner in the Rowe reach. This
60 increased the overall total for the land objective by 57 acres to 14,555 acres. Tunnell reiterated that
61 there remains 183.5 acres to fulfill the 1,500-acre acquisition goal for the Extension.

62
63 **Land Restoration and Management Plans**

64
65 TRACT 2024001 (Broadfoot South) & TRACT2024002 (Lindstrom)

66
67 Tunnell presented an overview of both plans focusing on the formatting and deletion of old language
68 from previous plans and more discussion of the restoration work that is planned at both tracts.

69
70 Thorburn asked if the monitoring berms that are going to be constructed at the Broadfoot South site are
71 necessary. Farnsworth answered yes, this allows biologists to better observe nesting with a spotting
72 scope mounted to the window of a pickup on top of the berm. A deer stand was used in years past but
73 unstable in the wind and harder for the biologist to observe and took more time.

74
75 LaGrange pointed out the boundary of Blue Hole WMA to the NE of the restoration maps in the
76 Lindstrom plan was not correct and a new boundary has been provided to update the conservation
77 lands file. Tunnell agreed and asked that a shapefile be provided of all NGPC properties to make sure
78 there are no other discrepancies, and the conservation lands file will be updated, and the maps will be
79 corrected. Other concerns were voiced by Jenniges and Zorn related to a newly constructed duck blind
80 on the upstream tip of the island that will be cleared on the Lindstrom tract. Tunnell reported that he
81 had a discussion and sent the restoration map with boundary to the landowner on the north side and he
82 agrees with the boundary and is supportive of the restoration work. There was no mention of a new
83 duck blind. Tunnell will follow up with the landowner and make sure that is removed prior to the tract
84 being included in the PRRIP next year.



85 **LAC MOTION:** *Rabbe* moved, and *Wagner* seconded to approve BFS & Lindstrom LMP. LMP's approved.

86
87 **FY 2025 Land Plan Budget Overview**

88
89 Tunnell provided an overview of each of the land budget line items pointing out budget increases from
90 2024. Prescribed fire management services, OCSW rehab, and building demolition were discussed from
91 a standpoint of increased budget. Other questions were about the fees for the LIHE. Farnsworth
92 explained that these are fees associated with the PRRIF administered by NCF. Other questions related to
93 property taxes. Farnsworth explained that beginning this year, the farm management entity is paying
94 property taxes for farm income rather than budgeting \$200k for taxes as we did before. Jenniges
95 requested that a management plan map for each complex be included in future budget plans.

96 **LAC MOTION:** *Rabbe* moved, and *Smith* seconded to approve to send the 2025 Land plan budget to GC.
97 FY 25 Land Plan budget approved.

98
99 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

100 Motion to go into Executive Session at 10:55 AM by *Thorburn* and *Rabbe* second.
101 Information and discussion.

102 Motion to come out of Executive Session AT 11:18 AM by *Wagner* and *Thorburn* second.
103 Recommendations on Land Offerings, etc.

104
105 **REORGANIZATIONS OF OFFICERS**

106 *Information and discussion, and action*
107 Discuss process and action:

108 **MOTION** TO REAPPOINT CURRENT OFFICERS DAVE ZORN AS LAC CHAIR and
109 CODY WAGNER AS LAC VICE CHAIR.

110 **LAC MOTION:**
111 *Jenniges* moved, and *Merrill* seconded to reappoint current officers for FY 2025. Pass a unanimous vote.

112
113 **PUBLIC FORUM**

114 Chairman Zorn asked for public comments, none were offered.

- 115 **LAC MOTION:**
- 116 • August 14, 2024, LAC Meeting minutes approved.
 - 117 • Recommend GC approval of LMP's for Tracts 2024001 & 2024002
 - 118 • Recommend GC approval FY 2025 Land Plan budget
 - 119 • Reappointed current offices for FY 2025

120 *Future calendar events (FY 2025 LAC meetings):*

- 121 February 12, 2025 - 9:00- 11:00 CDT
- 122 May 14, 2025 - 9:00- 11:00 CDT
- 123 August 13, 2025 - 9:00- 11:00 CDT
- 124 October 15, 2024 - 9:00- 11:00 CDT

125
126 **LAC MEETING END**

127 The LAC meeting adjourned at 11:25 AM Central Time.