



	PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM (PRRIP -or- Program) 2026 Science Plan Reporting Session (Virtual)
Date:	Day #1 – Tuesday, February 24, 2026 Day #2 – Wednesday, February 25, 2026
Time:	Day #1 – 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM Central Time Day #2 – 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM Central Time
Location:	Virtual in Teams: Day #1 – Join the meeting now Day #2 – Join the meeting now
Attendees:	Independent Scientific Advisory Committee (ISAC); members of the Governance Committee (GC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC); Program staff from the Executive Director’s Office (EDO)
General Pre-Read Material:	1) PRRIP Extension Science Plan – pages 4-11 including Extension Big Questions (EBQs) table. 2) EBQ Reframe Document + GC Presentation – revised approach to assessing progress toward answering the EBQs.
General Discussion Questions:	1) For each EBQ: a. Are there research, monitoring, or analysis gaps we need to address, and if so, how? b. Do we know enough to estimate relationships with confidence (i.e., answer the EBQ) and stop focusing on the question? c. How do we address experienced and/or potential surprises? d. Are we generating useful information that can inform short-term management and long-term policy decision-making?

Agenda Color Code:	
PRRIP Administration & Decision-Making	
PRRIP Land Plan & Land Management Actions	
PRRIP Water Plan & Water Management Actions	
PRRIP Science Plan & Science Implementation	



Time	Day #1 Agenda
11:00-11:15 AM (:15)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and Introductions Meeting Objectives Agenda Review
11:15-11:30 AM (:15)	PRRIP Science and Decision-Making <i>Chad Smith, EDO – presentation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRRIP obligations, moving to a Second Increment beyond 2032. What information is useful for Extension management actions? How might information from land management, water management, and implementation of the Science Plan be used in Second Increment negotiations and Program decision-making?
11:30 AM-12:00 PM (:30)	PRRIP Land Plan Discussion Topics & Questions <i>Jason Farnsworth & Tim Tunnell, EDO – presentation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How much land do we have? How distributed and why? How is it managed? On-channel management in relation to PRRIP goals/management objectives. Off-channel management in relation to PRRIP goals/management objectives.
12:00-12:30 PM (:30)	PRRIP Water Plan Discussion Topics & Questions <i>Jason Farnsworth & Seth Turner, EDO – presentation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How much water do we have? How much control do we have? What alternatives are available in terms of water management actions? Focus of First Increment Extension – how much water is necessary to avoid impacts and provide benefits? First Increment Extension goals – water portfolio to get there – status update – likely outcome.
12:30-12:45 PM (:15)	Meeting Break
12:45-1:15 PM (:30)	PRRIP Target Species Discussion Topics & Questions <i>Malinda Henry, EDO – presentation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whooping Crane (WC) monitoring and use over time (10 min.) – Ethan Ideus, EDO Least Tern/Piping Plover (LTPP) monitoring and use over time (10 min.) – Alyx Vogel, EDO Pallid Sturgeon (PS) recap (05 min.) – Malinda Henry, EDO Non-Target Species (bats and others) and efforts to get a baseline (05 min.) – Jon Wentz, EDO
1:15-2:00 PM (:45)	PRRIP Science Plan Discussion Topics & Questions <i>Malinda Henry & Jason Farnsworth, EDO – presentation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How much water for management actions? – balancing the use of water over Program goals, management objectives, and multiple target species. Potential tool development – objectives, performance metrics, alternative management actions, simple models for use in a potential Structured Decision-Making (SDM) framework. Why are the EBQs prioritized? What information are they designed to provide? Is that information putting us in a good position for learning from implementation of management actions, use in a potential SDM framework, and for negotiations related to a PRRIP Second Increment?



2:00-2:30 PM (:30)	PRRIP Water & Land Management Actions Implementation Discussion Topics & Questions <i>Malinda Henry & Jason Farnsworth, EDO – presentation</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responses of channel (geomorphology and vegetation) and species to management actions (germination suppression flows, channel widening and diking, events beyond the control of the Program) Use WC as focus of synthesis – what is the “story”?
2:30-3:00 PM (:30)	Group Discussion Topics & Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarifying questions from the ISAC Discussion among ISAC, GC, TAC, and EDO Preview of Day #2 Agenda
3:00 PM	Day #1 Meeting End

Time	Day #2 Agenda
9:00-9:15 AM (:15)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and Introductions Meeting Objectives Agenda Review
9:15-10:15 AM (1:00)	EBQs 1-3: Water for Channel Maintenance (Geomorphology & Vegetation Control) <i>Malinda Henry, EDO – presentation</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EBQs 1 and 2 (30 min.) – Patrick Farrell, Quinn Lewis, & Malinda Henry, EDO EBQ 3 [no sediment augmentation experiment] (30 min.) – Quinn Lewis, EDO
10:15 AM-11:00 AM (:45)	EBQs 4-6: Water Needed During WC Spring and Fall Migration <i>Patrick Farrell, EDO – presentation</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-channel factors important for WC stopover decisions Off-channel factors important for WC stopover decisions
11:00-11:15 AM (:15)	Meeting Break
11:15 AM-11:30 AM (:15)	EBQ 10: Water Needs Supporting Wet Meadow Hydrology <i>Malinda Henry, EDO – presentation</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WC use of CPR wet meadows Feasibility of creating/maintaining wet meadows
11:30-11:45 AM (:15)	EBQ 7: Water that may Mitigate Impacts or Provide Benefits for PS <i>Malinda Henry, EDO – presentation</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Factors associated with PS immigration/emigration to/from the Platte River Factors associated with PS movement through the Platte River system Characterizing PS habitat Modeling potential effects of PRRIP CPR water management on LPR
11:45 AM-12:15 PM (:30)	EBQs 8-9: Improvement of LTPP Productivity Through Predator Management <i>Josh Carrell, EDO – presentation</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Predator management actions and predator monitoring – Alyx Vogel, EDO Potential risk associated with nest cameras – Josh Carrell, EDO Evaluation of effectiveness of management, factors affecting losses to predation – Josh Carrell, EDO
12:15-1:00 PM (:45)	Looking Ahead (for July 2026 ISAC Meeting @ Kearney, NE) <i>Malinda Henry, EDO – presentation</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preview thinking about possible re-design of germination suppression flow implementation (in 2027 and beyond) Drone monitoring of <i>Phragmites</i> growth General group Q&A, discussion questions for ISAC
1:00 PM	Day #2 Meeting End