

06/08/2010

1	PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM
2	Governance Committee Meeting Minutes
3	Ramada Inn – Kearney, NE
4	March 9-10, 2010
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6	Tuesday, March 9, 2010
7	
8	Executive Director's Office (ED Office)
9	Jerry Kenny – Executive Director
10	Chad Smith
11	Beorn Courtney
12	Jason Farnsworth
13	Bruce Sackett
14	Justin Brei
15	Tim Tunnell
16	
17	Governance Committee (GC)
18	Brian Barels – Nebraska Public Power District
19	Alan Berryman – Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District
20	Mike Besson – State of Wyoming
21	Kevin Urie – Denver Water
22	Ted Kowalski – Colorado Water Conservation Board
23	Mark Czaplewski – Central Platte Natural Resources District
24	Don Kraus – Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District
25	Mike Purcell – State of Wyoming
26	Harry LaBonde – State of Wyoming
27	John Lawson – Bureau of Reclamation, Chair
28	Jim Schneider – Nebraska DNR
29	Norm DeMott – Upper Platte River Water Users
30	Dennis Strauch – Pathfinder Irrigation District
31	Michael Thabault – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
32	Greg Wingfield – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
33	Bill Taddicken – Audubon Rowe Sanctuary
34 35	John Heaston – The Nature Conservancy
-	George Williams – Upper Platte River Water Users
36 37	Participants
38	Pat Engelbert – HDR
38 39	Mike Drain – Central Nebraska Public Power and District
40	Brock Merrill – Bureau of Reclamation
40 41	Cory Steinke – Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District
42	Matt Lindburg – Brown & Caldwell
43	Dan Bigbee – EA
44	Jim Jenniges – Nebraska Public Power District
45	Rich Walters – The Nature Conservancy
45 46	Doug Hallum – Nebraska DNR
40 47	Kevin Prior – Olsson Associates
т/	

- 48 Matt Rabbe U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- 49 Larry Schulz ED Office contractor
- 50 Mark Pegg University of Nebraska Lincoln
- 51

#### 52 Welcome & Administrative

- 53 Lawson called the meeting to order and the group proceeded with introductions. Lawson asked for
- 54 agenda modifications; none offered. Berryman moved to approve the December 2009 GC minutes;
- 55 DeMott seconded. Minutes approved. Kenny said Wingfield would be stricken from the attendance list
- 56 at the February 2010 GC Special Session. Purcell moved to approve the February 2010 GC Special
- 57 Session minutes; Kowalski seconded, adding that Wingfield's name needs to be removed from several 58 places in the minutes. **Minutes approved.**
- 58 59

60 Kenny circulated a membership list for the GC to review and make modifications if necessary by the end 61 of the meeting on Wednesday, March 10.

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## 63 Program Committee Updates

64 *Land Advisory Committee (LAC)* 

65 Czaplewski provided an update on the latest LAC activities. The LAC last met on January 29 in Kearney.

66 Most of the discussion was related to Program land management activities and the LAC took action

67 several Program land management plans. The next LAC meeting is April 9 in Kearney.

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- 69 *Water Advisory Committee (WAC)*
- 70 Steinke provided an update on the latest WAC activities. Courtney provided an update to the Water
- 71 Action Plan and the WAC approved. The ED Office is moving forward on permitting that includes

72 potential Water Action Plan projects. The WAC approved the J-2 Re-Regulating Reservoir Prefeasibility

- 73 Study. Steve Smith from the ED Office provided an update on potential groundwater recharge projects.
- 74 Kenny provided an update on water management incentives scoping underway by the Flatwater Group
- 75 and University of Nebraska experts. The next WAC meeting is in May in Ogallala and that agenda will
- 76 include depletions plans updates.
- 77
- 78 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- 79 Besson provided an update on the latest TAC activities. The TAC had two meetings since the last GC
- 80 meeting in December 2009. Discussion at the January 2010 meeting included Program monitoring
- 81 protocols, tern and plover annual reporting, initial report from the tern and plover foraging habits study,
- 82 whooping crane monitoring report, forage fish monitoring report, geomorphology/in-channel vegetation
- 83 monitoring report, water quality monitoring report, PRRIP Responses to 2009 ISAC Findings, and
- 84 Program land management plans.
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- 86 At the March 3 meeting, the TAC approved revisions to the tern and plover and water quality monitoring
- 87 protocols. The TAC discussed and recommended the FC approve the Cottonwood Ranch OCSW & Flow
- 88 Consolidation Conceptual Design RFP. Chad Smith provided a presentation on AMP implementation
- 89 activities and next steps on prioritizing and sequencing hypotheses. The TAC then held a long
- 90 conversation on wet meadows and agreed to do an information review on wet meadows without
- 91 refinement of the wet meadows Conceptual Ecological Model (CEM). The RFP focuses on gathering wet
- 92 meadows information and the TAC will work on taking that information and using it to help establish
- 93 next steps on wet meadows.
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- 95 Kraus asked if wet meadows would be discussed during the GC meeting. Kenny said the only item on the
- 96 agenda relates to approval of the RFP Proposal Selection Panel. Kraus asked about the discussion at the 97 TAC regarding the Program's McCormick Tract. Besson said the focus was on whether to clear trees on
- 98 the parcel, if that land could be restored to wet meadows, and how it relates to other surrounding
- 99 properties.
- 100
- 101 Finance Committee (FC)
- Purcell provided an update on the latest FC activities. The FC met on February 10 and approved the next
   phase of the J-2 reservoir geotechnical contract and the Sediment Augmentation Feasibility Analysis
   contract amendment. The FC recommended spending Program funds on the geomorphology/in-channel
- vegetation monitoring atlas if the funds could be moved from another existing Program budget line item.
   The FC approved the Directed Vegetation Research RFP.
- 106
- 108 The FC met again the morning of March 9 to discuss the indexing of Program funds. The FC approved
- 109 the recommendations from Lawson and seeks support of the GC at the meeting today. The FC also
- approved the Cottonwood Ranch OCSW RFP. The ED Office will work with the FC to develop standard
- 111 consultant contract language.

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## 113 **Program Outreach Update**

## 114 Presentations

- Bruce Sackett and Tim Tunnell hosted an appreciation with the landowners that were kind enough to help us this year at river Anchor Points on December 10, 2009 at the Kearney office. The Program's geomorphology and vegetation contractors gave a presentation to the landowners on the years activities.
  - Justin Brei presented on GIS and the Program to the Holdrege Rotary Club on January 28, 2010.
- Jerry Kenny and Beorn Courtney presented on the Program's Water Plan at Colorado Water
   Congress on January 29, 2010.
  - Bruce Sackett and Jason Farnsworth presented on the Program's Land Plan at the Holdrege Water Conference on February 4, 2010.
  - Chad Smith and David Baasch presented on the Adaptive Management Plan at the Tern & Plover Annual Meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska on February 23, 2010.
  - Jerry Kenny presented on the Program to the Central Plains Irrigation Conference in Kearney, Nebraska on February 23, 2010. The conference rotates among the states of Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska and has an audience of producers and agricultural industry personnel.
  - Jerry Kenny presented on the Program to the Nebraska Legal Professionals Association Spring Seminar in Grand Island, Nebraska on March 6, 2010.

### 132 *Future Presentations*

- Chad Smith will be presenting on the Program at the annual Rivers & Wildlife conference in Kearney, Nebraska on March 20, 2010.
  - Chad Smith will be presenting on the Program to the UNL Lifetime Learning course on April 27, 2010.
  - Jerry Kenny will be presenting on the Program to the North Platte NRD board on March 18, 2010 in Oshkosh, NE.
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#### 141 Exhibits/Sponsorships

- The Program had a poster exhibited at the Colorado Water Congress on January 28 & 29, 2010.
   We made 163 direct contacts with attendees over the course of those two days. The estimated overall attendance was 500 people.
- The Program had a poster exhibited at the Tern & Plover Annual Meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska on February 23, 2010.
- The Program had a poster exhibited at the annual CAMNet rendezvous in Tucson, Arizona on March 7, 2010.
  - The Program will have an exhibit at Rivers & Wildlife on March 20, 2010 in Kearney, Nebraska.
- The Program will have exhibits and materials at both the Nebraska Nature and Visitors Center
   and Rowe Sanctuary during migration season.

#### 153 Press Coverage

David Freeman's book, tentatively titled *Negotiating New Environmental Governance on the Platte River Basin Water Commons: Mobilizing Water Users to Implement the Endangered Species Act*, has been accepted for publication and is scheduled to be published in October 2010.

### 158 AMP Implementation Update

- 159 Smith provided a presentation on the results of the February 2010 AMP Reporting Session in Denver,
- 160 PRRIP responses to the 2009 ISAC Findings, and next steps on AMP implementation. Thabault asked
- about the context for some of the tern and plover numbers and how the Program is going to consider
- 162 looking at Platte River birds in the context of the larger population. Smith said that is a challenge that the
- 163 ED Office and technical representatives of the Program continue to assess. Smith noted one example of
- 164 how to address context is to collect tern and plover data and analyze it by plugging that data into a
- 165 population model that can reflect how the Platte River population is faring, but that can also reflect what
- 166 is happening with the larger population (Missouri River, Niobrara River, etc.). Kowalski said he thought
- the meeting went very well, provided a great opportunity for horizontal communication, and is a session
- 168 that should continue in the future.

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# 170 AMP Monitoring Protocols

- 171 Smith provided a brief summary of how changes were made to the tern and plover and water quality 172 monitoring protocols. Czaplewski moved to approve the tern and plover monitoring protocol; Urie
- 173 seconded. Approved.
- 174

# 175 Purcell moved to approve the water quality monitoring protocol; Heaston seconded. Approved.

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# 177 FY 2010 Program Budget and Contract

178 Kenny provided an update on the Program budget, with graphics showing Program budgets and

- 179 expenditures over time, as well as breakdowns of annual expenditures by administration, land, water, and
- 180 adaptive management. Kenny discussed the Program's current financial status report, which included a
- 181 final tally for FY 2009 expenditures. Purcell asked what qualifies for Unliquidated Obligations (UO).
- 182 Kenny said those are contract commitments. Lawson asked if UO becomes a liability for the following
- 183 year. Kenny said that is correct. Barels asked why \$2.1 million was budgeted for IMRP activities in
- 184 2009, but only \$1.9 million was spent. Kenny said it was the result of several items: No money was
- spent on monitoring a Short-Duration High Flow (SDHF); reduced spending from IMRP-2 on research
- activities; no money was spent on tern and plover monitoring; the wet meadows information review
- 187 stalled until 2010; etc. Monitoring was accomplished, but there was a budget savings as Program staff



- and Program cooperators performed some of the work. Kraus asked about the status of the Database
- 189 Management System. Farnsworth said the contractor is completing the content management portion,
- 190 which will mean that for the next GC meeting, GC members will be able to access meeting documents
- 191 through the web site. The scientific data repository piece is still in development.
- 192
- 193 Sediment Augmentation Feasibility Analysis contract amendment
- 194 Kenny discussed the need for amending the Sediment Augmentation contract to allow for an extension of
- the model being developed under that contract. The amount of \$10,000 would be shifted from PD-12 to
- 196 PD-13. Purcell moved approval; Thabault seconded. Budget shift approved.
- 197
- 198 Purcell asked about the status of shifting funds in the budget for the purposes of developing the
- 199 geomorphology/in-channel vegetation monitoring atlas. Kenny said the ED Office is not yet comfortable 200 moving money in the budget for this project and will continue to assess the possibility throughout the
- 201 year.

# 202

### 203 Program RFPs

- 204 The GC discussed the recommended Proposal Selection Panels for three Program RFPs:
- 205 Directed Vegetation Research
- 206 Recommended panel: C. Smith, Farnsworth, Jenniges, Drain, Czaplewski, Fritz, Harner
- 207208 Cottonwood Ranch OCSW & Flow Consolidation Conceptual Design
- 209 **Recommended panel:** Farnsworth, Jenniges, C. Smith, Rabbe, Besson, Urie, Goltl, Heaston
- 210211 Wet Meadows Information Review:
- 212 Recommended panel: C. Smith, Baasch, Czaplewski, Heaston, Rabbe, Jenniges, Hallum, Fritz, Urie
- 213
  - 214 Taddicken moved to approve the Proposal Selection Panels; Kowalski seconded. **Panels approved.**

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### 216 Indexing of Program Funds

- Lawson discussed the proposal for indexing Program funds for inflation. Consultation and coordination with the Department of the Interior (DOI) Office of the Solicitor and states of Colorado and Wyoming has resulted in the development of a methodology that has been approved by the DOI and is acceptable to the two states. Indexing will be based on the Bureau of Reclamation's Construction Cost Trends (CCT). All land acquisition costs will be indexed using CCT Nebraska Land Index, water conservation/supply projects will be based on the CCT General Property Index, and all other Program costs will be based on
- the Federal Salary Index, since they are primarily staff driven.
- 224
- Of the cash contributions, funding which remains to be expended each October 1<sup>st</sup> will be indexed and NOT the remaining balance of Program funding to be appropriated. The first index will be applied on
- 227 October 1, 2009 per guidance from the DOI Office of the Solicitor. In order to maintain the established
- cost share equality between Federal and State contributions, an index adjustment will also be applied to
- the cast equivalent water and land contributions provided by the States. The cash contribution index ratios
- will also be applied to the cash equivalent contributions in order to maintain the cost share equality.
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- 232 Kowalski asked why Lawson did not take the state contributions out. Lawson said page 2 of Program
- 233 Document Attachment #1 says includes the state contributions as well so they need to stay in the
- calculation. Reclamation approves of and supports this indexing process. Kowalski moved to support



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235 the indexing process; Purcell seconded. Kowalski said Colorado has a little bit of heartburn because of 236 what is specified in the legislation when it was passed, especially in light of Colorado sending its 237 contributions into the Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF) for the Program. Nevertheless, Lawson 238 has provided a clear and understandable template for talking to the Colorado General Assembly about the 239 state's contributions to the Program. Colorado believes there is a risk in terms of whether interest will 240 cover the contributions. It seems odd to apply an inflationary index to contributions of land and water. 241 Purcell said the reason is the 50/50 cost-share and the need to stick with that 50/50 split as outlined in the 242 federal statute. In addition, water contributions are annual contributions and as such are annual payments 243 just like money.

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Besson asked how the Program is going to deal with the interest in the NCF. Lawson said the federal government cannot use interest on those dollars and the federal share is based on annual appropriations. Besson said there will still be interest earned by Wyoming with their quarterly payments to the Program. Lawson agreed and said Wyoming receives that interest. Czaplewski said there does not seem to be a lot of room for play in the "other" category, which contains administration and monitoring/research. Lawson said we are using indices to retain the 2005 buying power. Kraus said the Program still has to live within a budget.

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# Motion approved (approved methodology attached).

#### 255 Water Action Plan Scoring Status Update

256 Lawson discussed the recent work of the sub-group working on issues related to Water Action Plan 257 scoring. Work has continued with the ED Office and Don Anderson (formerly of the U.S. Fish and 258 Wildlife Service) to develop a scoring proposal that can be brought back to the GC for approval. The 259 sub-group asked the ED Office and Anderson to use the J-2 reservoir project as an example to show how 260 it would score. The sub-group held a conference call to discuss this example and work continues on 261 refining the process. Once that is complete, the sub-group will report to the GC on alternatives for 262 consideration. Lawson expects to report to the GC during the June meeting. The expectation is that the 263 GC will be presented with a scoring plan for the J-2 project, but each project will likely require its own 264 specific scoring process.

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### 266 Miscellaneous Program Business

Kenny said every year in Nebraska in June there is a Cattlemen's Ball that is a fundraiser for cancer
research. The event in 2009 was held on property owned by the Platte River Whooping Crane
Maintenance Trust. The 2010 event will be near Kearney on property owned by Norris Marshall. One of
the planned events is airboat rides. Kenny asked if there is any objection to use of the Program airboat,

- 271 piloted by Headwaters staff as volunteers, to assist with providing airboat rides at the Ball. The Program
- will not be charged for gas, and current insurance will cover use of the boat. Heaston asked what happens
- if the airboat is broken. Kenny said insurance will cover it, as well as any potential injuries. Heaston
- asked what the problem would be with having staff serve on billable time to the Program to ensure they
- are fully covered by proper insurance. Kenny said he would not be opposed to that.
- 276
- Heaston moved to have Program staff serve on billable time to the Program during this event and toauthorize use the Program airboat. Berryman seconded. Motion approved.
- 278 279
- 280 Meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m. Central time.
- 281



## Wednesday, March 10, 2010

#### 284 Welcome and Introduction

Lawson called the meeting to order and the group proceeded with a roll call.

#### 287 **Re-regulating Reservoir Agreement**

- 288 Kenny presented an agreement between CNPPID and PRRIP concerning feasibility analysis of CNPPID
- 289 reregulating reservoirs. The agreement provides a framework for advancing the J-2 Return/Elwood
- 290 regulating reservoir(s) through full feasibility. The agreement outlines responsibilities, future steps, and
- commits CNPPID to contributing \$30,000 toward the analysis. The agreement will terminate on June 30,
- 292 2011 or completion of the feasibility studies, whichever occurs sooner. Purcell moved to approve the
- agreement and Kowalski seconded. The motion was approved with Kraus abstaining.
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## 295 <u>2009 Tiered Platte River Biological Opinions</u>

- Rabbe provided a summary of 2009 tiered United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) Section 7
- consultations for projects seeking ESA coverage for water-related activities through the PRRIP. 24
- 298 consultations were completed in 2009. Eighteen were in Colorado, two in Nebraska and four in
- 299 Wyoming. The Service also worked with the State of Colorado to develop a memorandum of
- 300 understanding (MOA) outlining how federal depletions will be handled consistently with Colorado's
- 301 depletions plan. The Service is also working with other federal agencies and the State of Wyoming to 302 develop similar MOAs.
- 302 303

# 304 Lower Platte River Stage Change Study

- 305 Engelbert and Pegg gave a presentation on the results of the Lower Platte Stage Change Study performed 306 for the Program by HDR in association with TetraTech and the University of Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL). 307 In general, the hydrologic analysis, hydraulic modeling, and habitat classification work conducted for the 308 study indicated that Program diversions or retiming of flows in the central Platte would likely not have a 309 negative impact on pallid sturgeon in the lower Platte River. Relative change in lower Platte habitat for 310 pallid sturgeon would be very small to undetectable and thus these changes should not provide additional 311 . Impacts could occur if Program diversions occur during times of extremely stress to the population. 312 low flow in the lower Platte and the impacts would likely be in the form of reduced lateral channel 313 connectivity, although Pegg noted that longitudinal connectivity was maintained even at these low flows.
- Those impacts could be avoided by monitoring flows in the lower Platte and not diverting or retiming
- 315 flows when lower Platte flows fall below approximately 4,000 cfs.
- 316
- 317 Purcell asked if pallid sturgeon use the lower Platte. Pegg indicated that approximately 70 pallid sturgeon
- 318 were caught on the lower Platte last year during an ongoing shovelnose sturgeon research project. Three
- 319 of the pallid sturgeon were caught above the mouth of the Elkhorn River. Czaplewski asked what the
- 320 Program's next step will be regarding the pallid sturgeon. Kenny explained that the Program committed to
- 321 performing a literature review, stage-change study, and conducting water quality monitoring in the lower
- 322 Platte. Those items have been completed and the Program is now at a decision-point, and consensus needs
- to be reached on what, if anything, needs to be done next. Lawson indicated that next steps should be
- discussed at the June GC meeting. Thabault requested that Program staff prepare a summary
- memorandum that provides information regarding the results of the work done to-date and outlines the
- 326 limitations and information gaps associated with that work; further, the document should provide
- 327 guidance with respect to risk management regarding potential GC decisions related to the pallid sturgeon.
- 328 In general, the GC should be able to use the memorandum to determine if the Program has adequately



- tested the hypothesis of whether or not Program actions in the central Platte would negatively impact the pallid sturgeon in the lower Platte. Barrels requested that the memorandum be completed in time for
- discussion at the June GC meeting. **The ED office will prepare a pallid sturgeon summary**
- 332 memorandum for the GC.
- 333

# 334 Land Management Plans

335 Sackett introduced the 5-year Land Management Plans and gave a brief overview of the structure of the 336 Complex plans, which include individual tract operations and maintenance plans, as well as 1-year work 337 plans contained in the appendices of each Complex plan. Farnsworth described AMP activities that will 338 occur in the Elm Creek Complex under the proposed plan. A Flow-Sediment-Mechanical experiment will 339 take place from the Elm Creek bridge to the Kearney Canal Diversion. This includes clearing and 340 leveling islands to an elevation that can be overtopped at flows around 3,000 cfs. The Program intends to 341 test the theory that it can maintain target species habitat with the use of sediment augmentation and 342 control of river flows. Barels said NPPD would like a better understanding of the effects on NPPD assets. 343 Farnsworth said that NPPD has been involved in TAC discussions to this point, and the ED Office will be 344 working with NPPD to insure understanding before any action takes place. In the Elm Creek Complex 345 downstream of the Kearney Canal Diversion, a bird response experiment will be constructed. The goal of 346 this experiment is to assess species response to a variety of available habitat characteristics such as island

- sizes, heights above water, and distance to disturbance. Lawson asked about expected future operations
- 348 and maintenance costs within the complex. Farnsworth said barring any major flood events causing
- 349 problems with in-channel experiments, operations and maintenance would likely be limited to
- 350 maintenance of islands, invasive species control off-channel, other land maintenance activities, and would 351 likely be in the \$20,000-\$30,000 per year range.
- 352

353 Sackett then gave an overview of the Fort Kearny Complex plan. Farnsworth discussed management and 354 restoration activities planned for this Complex, including: a second bird response experiment, possible 355 relocation of a power distribution line near the river channel on 2009004, the potential involvement of 356 2008001 in the upcoming directed vegetation research, and the preparation of the sandpit peninsula on 357 2009008 for the upcoming nesting season.

358

359 Farnsworth then discussed activities to take place under the proposed 2009003 Operations and 360 Maintenance Plan. Since at the time of acquisition, 2009003 was not associated with any other Program 361 or partner lands, a complex plan was not yet developed. Activities on 2009003 include conversion of 362 poor cropland areas (old food plots) back to grass, some in-channel vegetation clearing, clean-up of 363 cedars, logged cottonwood stumps, and other woody vegetation in riparian area, and the potential clearing 364 of invasive woody vegetation in the area north of the channel. In addition, the mobile home that was 365 located on the property as been sold and will be moved off the property. The hunting lodge is being 366 maintained and will house the USGS team performing the Program's Tern and Plover Foraging Habits

- 367 study this summer.
- 368

Heaston asked why we planned to keep the grain bins on 2009003, indicating they are a tax and insurance
liability and of limited use to the Program. Heaston would like the Program to consider their removal.
Sackett said they provide some use to the Program, which has entered into crop share agreements with

- 371 Sackett said they provide some use to the Program, which has entered into crop share agreements with 372 some tenants of Program cropland, as well as potential for some rent income and good neighbor benefits.
- 373
- Thabault asked why rehabilitation of the old slough on 2009003 (the track faintly visible on aerial photography) was not considered. Farnsworth said it is an issue of water level and channel degradation.
  - PRRIP GC Meeting Minutes



- Just upstream of the slough there is a large Tri-basin NRD groundwater drain that is 10-15 feet below ground level which controls the groundwater level in the area. In addition, output of the water would be an issue, as the historic slough track continues south to the cropland off Program lands.
- 379

Barels requested some synthesis to how Program FSM and MCM activities are being tackled across the
 associated habitats. Farnsworth said that is already under way in the form of experimental design
 documents for those activities.

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Strauch asked if any invasive removal activities have cost shares available. Czaplewski said CPNRD has
 cost sharing for prescribed burns. Tunnell said the Program is working with CPNRD to perform
 prescribed burns on Program lands where needed.

- 388 Sackett then discussed the 2008002 1-year work plan. The 5-year plan for 2008002 (Cottonwood Ranch)
  389 was approved in 2009.
- 390
- 391 Heaston moved to approve the 5-year and 1-year plans as presented, including the Elm Creek Complex
- 392 plan (with associated tract plans for 2009002 and 2009005), the Elm Creek Complex 2010 work plan, the
- 393 Fort Kearny Complex plan (with associated tract plans for 2009001 and 2009004), The Fort Kearny 2010
- work plan, the 2009003 Operations and Maintenance plan, the 2009003 2010 work plan, and the 2008002
- 395 2010 work plan. Thabault seconded. Land plans approved.
- 396

# 397 Public Comment

- 398 Lawson asked for public comment. None was offered.
- 399400 Executive Session
- 401 Berryman moved to enter Executive Session to discuss land issues; Czaplewski seconded. GC entered
- 402 Executive Session at 10:40 a.m. Central time.
- 403 Purcell moved to end Executive Session; Berryman seconded. GC ended Executive Session at 11:40
- 404 **a.m. Central time.**
- 405

# 406 Future Meetings & Closing Business

- 407 Upcoming GC meetings are scheduled for:
- 408 409 June 8-9, 2010 @ Cheyenne, WY
- 410 September 14-15, 2010 @ Kearney, NE
- 411 December 7-8, 2010 @ Denver, CO
- 412
- 413 Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. Central time.
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# 415 Summary of Action Items/Decisions from March 2010GC meeting

- 416 1) Approved December 2009 GC minutes
- 417 2) Approved February 2010 GC Special Session minutes.
- 418 3) Approved Tern and Plover Monitoring Protocol
- 419 4) Approved Water Quality Monitoring Protocol
- 420 5) Approved shifting \$10,000 from budget item PD-12 to budget item PD-13.
- 421 6) Approved selection panels for three RFPs: directed vegetation research, Cottonwood Ranch OCSW &
   422 flow consolidation conceptual design, and wet meadows information review.



- 423 7) Approved proposed process for indexing Program funds.
- 424 8) Approved use of Program Staff and Program airboat at Cattleman's Ball fundraiser in June.
- 425 9) ED office will prepare a pallid sturgeon summary memorandum for the June 2010 GC meeting.
- 426 10) Approved land plans for Elm Creek Complex, Fort Kearny Complex, and 2009003.