



PLATTE RIVER
RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

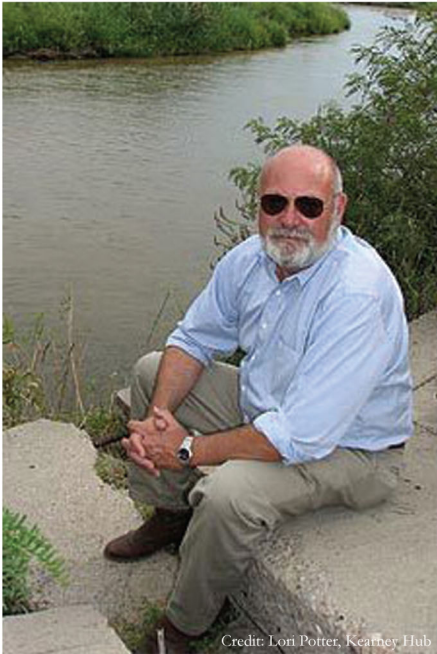
Bi-Annual Report
2009 & 2010

Program Target Species



- Top Left Piping Plover | 1986 Federally Listed as a Threatened Species
Top Right Pallid Sturgeon | 1990 Federally Listed as an Endangered Species
Bottom Left Whooping Crane | 1967 Federally Listed as an Endangered Species
Bottom Right Interior Least Tern | 1985 Federally Listed as an Endangered Species

From the Executive Director



Credit: Lori Potter, Kearney Hub

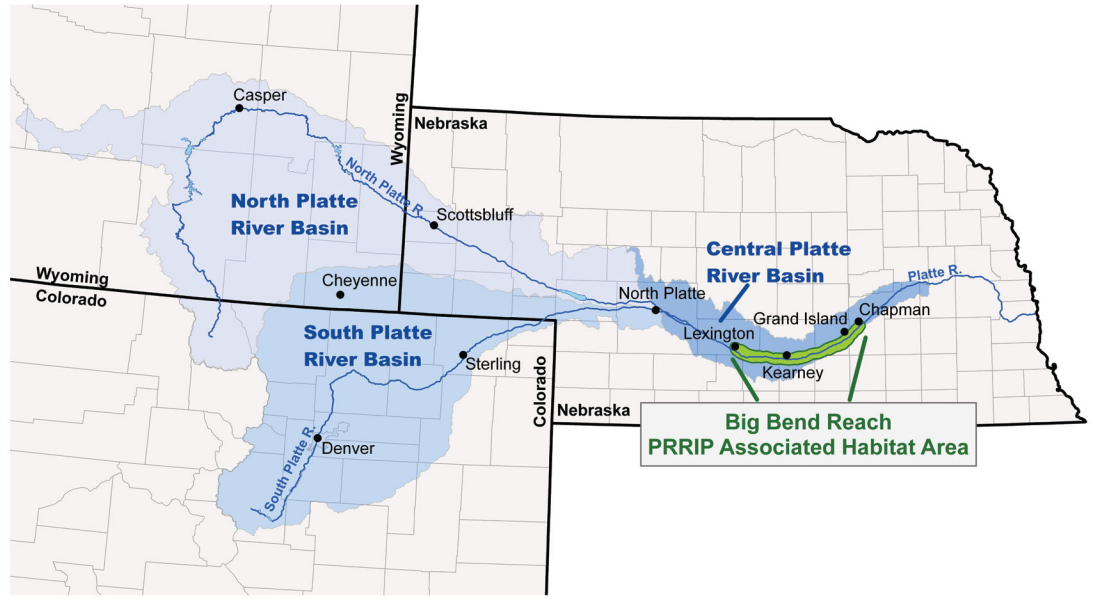
Serving the threatened
and endangered species
of the Platte River as
well as the people who
live here.

The Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (Program) is a model program of collaboration and cooperation among states, federal agencies, water users, and environmental groups who are working to achieve two goals—recover the threatened and endangered target species and allow water development to continue to occur. In 2009 and 2010, the Program achieved significant progress towards the Program objectives and goals for land, water and adaptive management. We have acquired 80% of the 10,000 acre target of the Land Plan. All of the Adaptive Management Plan monitoring is in place and the Independent Scientific Advisory Committee is assembled and monitoring protocols have been peer reviewed. In terms of the Water Plan, we are advancing feasibility studies and a path for developing and managing the needed water supply is emerging. Since the Program began, nearly 100 expedited ESA Section 7 Consultations have been completed by the USFWS for the coverage area of the three states without any litigation. The strength and depth of our partnerships is a significant advantage in progress towards meeting Program objectives and goals and providing Program benefits.

Over the past 24 months, we have assembled and maintained a high caliber workforce in the Executive Director's Office. The EDO has taken the lead in hiring and supervision of contractors, coordinating sub-committee work, carrying out the directives of the Governance Committee, ensuring that stakeholder input is incorporated, and representing the public face of the Program. The Executive Director's Office staff embrace opportunities, rise to the challenge and help drive the continued success of the Program.

In the coming pages, you'll learn about Program accomplishments over the past two years and I hope you'll stop for a moment and reflect on what the Program has achieved. I know the best is yet to come. 2011 brings both opportunities and challenges, a need for creativity, tenacity and resiliency. While the Program has accomplished a tremendous amount, we have a number of challenges ahead, but I am confident that the Program participants will rise to meet these challenges.

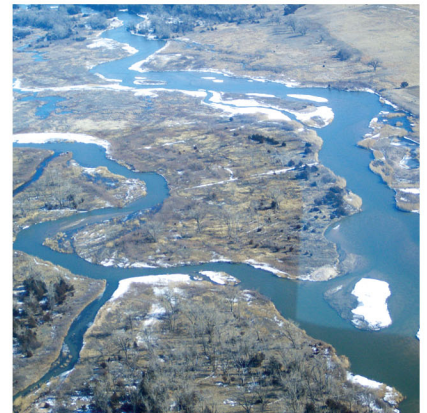
Jerry F. Kenny



Program History

On July 1, 1997 the governors of Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming and the Secretary of the Interior entered into a Cooperative Agreement to address the needs of four threatened or endangered species using the Platte River Basin while allowing water development to continue to occur. The named species were the endangered whooping crane, least tern, pallid sturgeon and the threatened piping plover. The agreement proposed a framework for a long-term Recovery Implementation Program to aid these species. Initially, the agreement was for three years to develop a basin-wide cooperative program. However, negotiations regarding the details of that program took place from 1997 to 2006.

In late 2006, the governors of Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming and the Secretary of the Interior signed the final program agreement, effective January 1, 2007. In May 2007 an Executive Director was selected and began his tenure with the program on July 1, 2007. On May 8, 2008 the President signed into law legislation to implement the federal share of the Program as part of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008. This legislation included authorization for the federal funding of the Program.



The Program provides Endangered Species Act compliance for water related activities within Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming, while working to recover the threatened and endangered target species. The Program is authorized for a 13-year First Increment, which began in 2007, and is estimated to cost roughly \$320 million in 2005 dollars with the monetary portion of that being \$187 million. The federal government will contribute \$157 million in cash, and Colorado and Wyoming will jointly contribute \$30 million. The remaining portion will come in terms of land and water from the states; Nebraska's entire contribution will be of this nature. The total cost of the program in terms of cash, water, and land is shared equally between the federal government and the states. Federal funds are appropriated on a year-to-year basis and distributed on a monthly basis. Wyoming provides funds on a quarterly basis and Colorado provides funds in lump sum blocks. To date, the majority of the states' funds have been secured.

Governance of the Program is provided by representatives of the Department of Interior; the States of Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming; water users; and environmental groups. Represented in the Program's Governance and Advisory Committee structure are a broad spectrum of diverse stakeholders from a variety of organizations and entities, including: the Bureau of Reclamation, Fish and Wildlife Service, the State of Colorado; the State of Nebraska; the State of Wyoming; Colorado Water Conservation Board, Colorado Department of Water Resources, Denver Water; Greeley Water and Sewer Department, Water Supply and Storage Company, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District Lower South Platte Water Conservancy District, Wyoming Water Development Board, Wyoming State Engineers Office, Casper-Alcova Irrigation District, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Central Platte Natural Resources District (NRD), Twin Platte NRD, Tri-Basin NRD, Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District, Nebraska Public Power District, Pathfinder Irrigation District, The Nature Conservancy; The Audubon Society, The Whooping Crane Trust, The National Wildlife Federation, The Nebraska Wildlife Federation, and Ducks Unlimited.

The Program is recognized as a model way to deal with ESA issues, and Secretary Kempthorne awarded the Program a Cooperative Conservation Award in 2008. Other emerging recovery programs are modeling their approach on the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program.

Executive Summary

In 2007 and 2008, the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (Program) was establishing itself and laying the foundation for the work ahead. While initial technical investigations and study efforts were launched in this period, we focused on primarily developing the administrative structure for the office and the Program. For example; establishing the Land Interest Holding Entity (Platte River Recovery Implementation Foundation), developing a detailed land evaluation and acquisition process, obtaining insurance for the Program, developing a procurement policy for the Program, and hiring staff. With the administrative and technical support foundation laid, we shifted focus and moved forward on implementation of the Program objectives and goals. This is the second accomplishments report of the Program, covering 2009 and 2010, and highlights the accomplishments achieved during that time. Hereafter, we will produce a formal accomplishment document bi-annually.

This report is organized to mirror the structure of the Program and is correspondingly divided into four main sections; Land, Water, Adaptive Management, and Program Administration and Outreach.

Land

Following the signing of the federal authorizing legislation for the Program in 2008, expenditures for land acquisition became the most significant portion of the budget for 2009 and 2010. Significant progress has been made toward reaching the land goal. The Program, to date, has acquired approximately 8,000 acres through sponsorship agreements, purchases, leases, or perpetual easements from willing sellers/partners. The Program pays taxes on all purchased lands. Land acquisition requires basic land management and the Program has developed and implemented land management plans that include activities such as building and repairing of fences, tree clearing, weed spraying and planting of grass. All of these activities are conducted under a good neighbor policy and the Program has maintained both good tenant and good neighbor relationships.

Water

The initial focus of the Program water plan has been primarily on developing projects that will retime excess flows and secondarily on the purchase or lease of water currently used primarily for agriculture. In 2010, the Program sponsored feasibility studies of two possible surface reservoir sites to investigate the potential for retiming flows from periods of excess to periods of shortage. The sites are Elm Creek Reservoir near the town of Elm Creek and the J-2 Re-Regulating Reservoir near the J-2 Return upstream of Overton. In 2009 the EDO lead a pre-feasibility investigation of storage through recharging the aquifer. This effort has led to the initiation of a feasibility/pilot testing investigation of groundwater recharge in late 2010. The path for developing the necessary water supply is emerging clearly, but much work remains to make it a reality.

Adaptive Management

Adaptive Management Plan activities in 2009 and 2010 focused on monitoring, research, and implementation. Whooping cranes, least terns and piping plovers monitoring was continued in both years. Data was collected in both years on tern and plover foraging habits and in 2010 for the whooping crane telemetry project. Geomorphology and vegetation data, Lidar data, and aerial photography were collected in 2009 and 2010. A 1-D Hydraulic/Sediment Transport Model from North Platte to Chapman was completed. The Plum Creek Complex, Cottonwood Ranch Complex, and Elm Creek Complex all saw implementation of adaptive management actions such as clearing of vegetation, roller-packing of nesting areas, and construction of off-channel nesting habitat. Program streamflow gages at Lexington and Shelton were operational and collecting data in 2009 for the Spring test flow release and for the natural high flows that occurred in the Summer of 2010. The Independent Science Advisory Committee and Peer Review panels were also active in both years. In 2010, the Database Management System and new Program website were implemented and fully operational. Many pieces of information, data, tools, and management actions in the field are coming together and setting the stage for full-scale implementation of the adaptive management process.

Program Administration and Outreach

Initially, in 2007, expenditures for Program administration were significant as EDO infrastructure was established. The percentage of expenditures for Program administration is shifting as the First Increment years go by. In 2009 and 2010, land acquisition and management was the highest percentage of expenditures for the Program. In the coming years, water acquisition will emerge as water rights are purchased and water projects are funded. Administrative costs will become a much smaller percentage of the budget as the Program progresses. While all of the Executive Director's Office is considered Administrative, staff efforts are largely focused on providing technical and organizational support for the planning and implementation of land, water, and adaptive management activities of the Program. Besides providing direct technical services, Program staff also provide the technical support, oversight, and direction to all Program contractors.

Public outreach educates and informs the public about the Program and Program activities through a variety of venues. In 2009, we established a partnership with the Nebraska Nature and Visitor's Center, a site that had approximately 20,000 visitors in 2009–2010. The Program sponsored seven events in 2009–2010 and we made over 6,600 contacts at Program exhibits at various professional conferences and public events. Executive Director's Office staff presented on various aspects of the Program to a variety of audiences in 2009 and 2010 (36 and 24 presentations, respectively).

While not directly an EDO function, one of the key benefits provided by the Program is a streamlined Section 7 Consultation process. During the Cooperative Agreement Era (1997–2006), approximately 400 streamlined Section 7 consultations were done. To date, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has provided nearly 100 streamlined Section 7 consultations since the Program began.



Acquiring, enhancing, restoring and protecting habitat lands for the target bird species



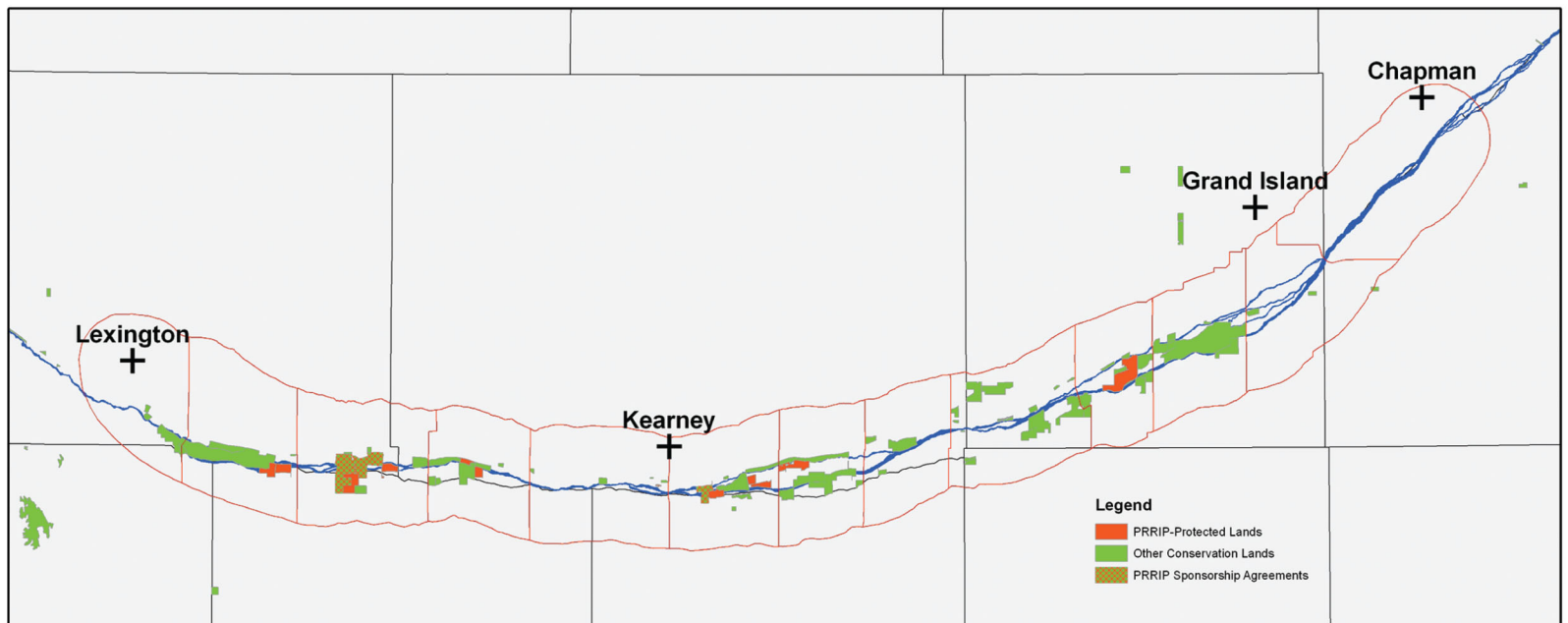


Land

Objective	Acquisition, protection and restoration of 10,000 acres of habitat for the three avian species
Key Concepts	Willing seller/willing buyer Good Neighbor Policy Will not shift tax burden
Highlights	Approximately 8,000 acres acquired through sponsorship agreements, purchases, leases or perpetual easements Lodging and storage facilities acquired with purchase of two land parcels Six buildings removed and 1.7 miles of power line buried on various parcels Good neighbor and tenant relationships maintained



Conservation Land Ownership in Associated Habitat Areas



Land Acquisition Through 2010

Property	Form (Leased, Purchased, etc.)	Area (Acres)	Location (Bridge Segment)
Tract 2008001	Sponsorship agreement	455	Kearney-Minden
Tract 2008002	Sponsorship agreement	2,650	Overton-Elm Creek
Tract 2009001	Purchased	182	Kearney-Minden
Tract 2009002	Purchased	139	Elm Creek-Odesa
Tract 2009003	Purchased	360	Lexington-Overton
Tract 2009004	Purchased	332	Kearney-Minden
Tract 2009005	Purchased	218	Elm Creek-Odesa
Tract 2009006	Purchased	337	Overton-Elm Creek
Tract 2009007	Purchased	356	Lexington-Overton
Tract 2009008	Purchased	516	Minden-Gibbon
Tract 2010001	Purchased	565	Overton-Elm Creek
Tract 2010002	Lease	15	Overton-Kearney
Tract 2010003	Perpetual Easement	304	Kearney-Minden
Tract 2010004	Purchased	1,526	Wood River- Alda
TOTAL		7,955	

In addition to acquiring land and restoring habitat, two existing lodging structures were also purchased as part of land acquisitions in 2009 and 2010; a lodge on the Plum Creek Complex and a cabin on the Elm Creek Complex. The structures are used to house seasonal workers who assist with tern and plover monitoring.



Infrastructure

- 2 lodging structures repaired
- 1 equipment storage Quonset Hut repaired
- 1.3 miles road upgraded and maintained
- 6 buildings demolished or removed
- 1.7 miles of power line buried

Land Management Activities

- 7 miles of fence removed
- 5 miles of barbed wire fence installed
- 1.4 miles of woven wire fence installed
- 200 acres of trees cleared from non-habitat land
- 1,000 acres weeds sprayed (total for 2 years)
- 150 acres grass planted (total for 2 years)
- 2 tanks solar powered livestock watering stations installed



Public Access

- 2009—36 hunting credentials issued
- 2010—47 hunting credentials issued

Number and type of Leases (2009) | Acres

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| 1 irrigated crop land | 142 |
| 2 dry land crop land | 293 |
| 1 grazing land | 110 |

Number and type of Leases (2010) | Acres

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 3 irrigated crop land | 375 |
| 3 dry land crop land | 387 |
| 3 grazing land | 1,024 |
| 2 hay land | 94 |



An aerial photograph of a wide river, likely the Platte River, showing a prominent white band of increased stream flow in the center. The surrounding water is a darker, mottled brown color. The white band is irregular in shape, following the course of the river and branching out in some areas. The overall texture of the water surface appears slightly grainy, typical of an aerial photograph.

Increasing stream flow in the central Platte River during relevant periods



Water

Objectives	Reducing deficits to USFWS target flows by average annual of 130,000 to 150,000 AFY Short Duration High Flow for Adaptive Management
Key Concepts	Addressing New (Post-1997) Water-Related Activity Impacts Three States and Federal Depletions Plans Addressing Existing (Pre-1997) Water-Related Activity Impacts Three Initial Projects—Tamarack 1 (CO), Pathfinder Modification (WY), Lake McConaughy Environmental Account (NE) New water conservation/supply projects Short Duration High Flow (SDHF)
Highlights	Feasibility studies to evaluate alternative reservoir locations to provide storage capacity in the Lexington to Kearney section of the habitat area Hydraulic and sediment transport model to evaluate the effects of vegetation and sediment deposition at the North Platte choke point Incorporated the SDHF concept in the Reconnaissance-Level Water Action Plan process

Water Objective—Reducing shortages to target flows by an average of 130,000 to 150,000 acre-feet per year (AFY)

A combination of reregulation and water conservation/supply projects will provide flows

Implementation of three initial water projects—the Environmental Account in Lake McConaughy, the Pathfinder Modification Project and Tamarack I—will be credited an average annual 80,000 AFY toward Program First Increment water objective.

Remaining portion of the First Increment water objective (50,000 to 70,000 AFY) will be met through a program of incentive-based water conservation and water supply activities, first identified in the 2000 Reconnaissance-Level Water Action Plan (WAP). Water plan activities during 2009–2010 focused on developing these alternatives.

Water Action Plan (WAP)—Provides the road map for developing water supplies to meet Program objectives

Updated the 2000 Reconnaissance-Level Water Action Plan

Information on project yields, cost and implementation schedules updated

Incorporated the concept of the SDHF into the WAP

Reservoir Feasibility Studies—Conducted studies in 2009 and 2010 to investigate the potential for retiming flows from periods of excess to shortage at two potential reservoir sites that offer joint project opportunities with other Program participants.

Elm Creek—site is being investigated by Central Platte Natural Resources District as a flood control and recreation structure with Program interest in storage for SDHF and target flow objectives.

J-2 Return—site under the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District (CNPPID) system is being studied for potential use in meeting Program SDHF and target flow objectives, as well as its potential to mitigate fluctuations in river flows due to CNPPID hydrocycling.





Recharge Demonstration Pilot Project—Conducted studies in 2009 and 2010 to investigate storage in the aquifer as another means for retiming flows.

2010 completed a recharge pre-feasibility study to advance concepts identified in the WAP

Team selected to design a recharge demonstration pilot project in Central Nebraska

Cost Share Funding and Coordination for Conveyance Capacity Issues—The ability to convey water downstream is critical to meeting Program objectives. The conveyance capacity of the North Platte and Platte River has been significantly reduced by phragmites and other channel obstructions. The Program cooperates with other agencies to counter this trend.

In 2010, the Program provided cost share funds to West Central and Platte Valley Weed Management Areas for channel spraying in the reach from North Platte to Chapman.





Systematic process to test actions and apply information learned to improve management of land and water





Adaptive Management

Objectives

Improve production of least tern and piping plover from the central Platte River Valley

Improve survival of whooping cranes during migration

Avoid adverse impact from Program actions on pallid sturgeon populations

Within overall objectives 1–3, provide benefits to non-target listed species and non-listed species of concern and reduce likelihood of future listings

Key Concepts

All research tied to management actions

Scientific rigor is essential for meaningful learning

Highlights

All monitoring is in place

Independent Scientific Advisory Committee and Peer Reviewers assembled and working

Database Management System is in place

Lower Platte River Stage Change study completed

Monitoring

Whooping Cranes

Monitoring done in both 2009 and 2010
Completed reports for both years

Terns and Plovers

Monitoring done in both 2009 and 2010
Completed revision of monitoring protocol in 2009 and implemented pilot study of additional research methods in 2010

Forage Fish

Executive Director Office staff assisted personnel from the Power Districts with implementing the Forage Fish Monitoring Protocol

Water Quality

Monitoring conducted in 2009 and 2010
Completed reports for both years

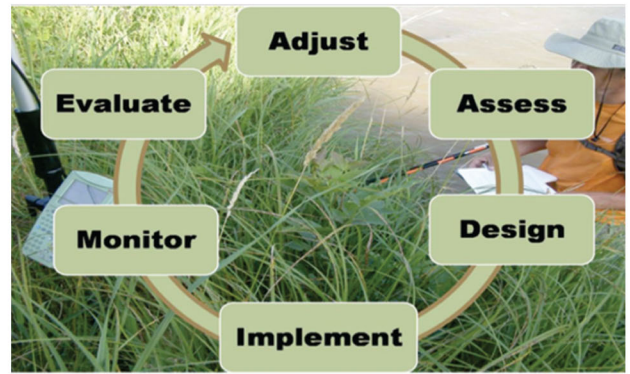
Geomorphology and In-Channel Vegetation

Monitoring conducted in 2009 and 2010
Completed reports for both years

LiDAR and Aerial Photography

Aerial imagery acquired in both 2009 and 2010
LiDAR successfully flown in 2009 and 2010
Acquired additional imagery of the river for comparison to previous years images





Research

Lower Platte Stage Change Study

Field work and analysis completed in 2009

Final report received in early 2010

Tern and Plover Foraging Habits Study

Field work in 2009 and 2010 during tern and plover nesting season

Directed Vegetation Research

Field work completed in 2010

Flume work completed in 2010

Whooping Crane Telemetry

Bird trapping and data collection in 2010

Wet Meadows Information Review

Initial draft of report completed in 2010

Independent Science Review

Independent Science Advisory Committee (ISAC)

Convened meetings in 2009 and 2010 focusing on revision of conceptual models, sequencing of hypotheses and initial drafts of Synthesis Report and Implementation Plan

First ISAC report to the Governance Committee in 2009; Program developed document responding to each ISAC finding in the 2009 report

First annual Adaptive Management Plan Reporting Session held in Denver, CO in 2010

Peer Review

Tern and plover monitoring protocol peer reviewed in 2009

Tern and plover nest-site selection research protocol peer reviewed in 2009

Water quality monitoring protocol peer reviewed in 2009

Geomorphology/in-channel vegetation monitoring protocol peer reviewed in 2009

Forage fish monitoring protocol peer reviewed in 2009



Implementation

Sediment Augmentation Feasibility Analysis Report

Completed first draft of Sediment Augmentation Feasibility Analysis Report in 2010

1-D Hydraulic/Sediment Transport Model

Received final 1-D hydraulic/sediment transport model from contractor in 2010

Off-Channel Sand and Water (ocsw) Construction at Cottonwood Ranch Complex

Construction began in Fall 2010

Permitting

Secured required U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits for actions at Cottonwood Ranch Complex and Elm Creek Complex in 2010

Complex and Non-Complex Management Actions or Habitat Rehabilitation Actions

Plum Creek Complex management actions—Cleared vegetation from peninsulas at the Dyer sandpit and roller-packed the nesting areas in Spring and Fall 2010. Removed trees between the Dyer sandpit and the river channel and removed trees and vegetation from three islands in the channel on the Dyer property in Fall 2010.

Cottonwood Ranch Complex management actions—Cleared vegetation and split a large island into three nesting islands Spring 2010. Removed trees along the bank line of the channel and began construction of off-channel nesting habitat Fall 2010; will be completed early 2011.

Elm Creek Complex management action—Cleared woody vegetation along both banks and in the channel to improve unobstructed view widths, disked in-channel macroforms upstream of Kearney Canal diversion Fall 2010. Work performed in preparation for implementation of “proof of concept” FSM management experiment in 2011.

Newark Sandpit management actions—Removed vegetation from the peninsula (nesting area) on the west sandpit at Newark Spring 2010, prepared plans for the construction of a second peninsula on the west sandpit at Newark Fall 2010 and developed plans and began construction of a peninsula on the east sandpit at Newark; will be completed in 3–5 years.

Streamflow Data Collection

Stream gages at Lexington and Shelton operational 2009 and 2010

Test Flow Release Spring 2009

Natural High Flows Summer 2010



Database Management System

Contracted with Riverside Technologies Inc. to develop Program database and new Program website in 2009

Transitioned Program Library and all historical documents to website

Program meeting calendars and all committee communication is now on website

Planning

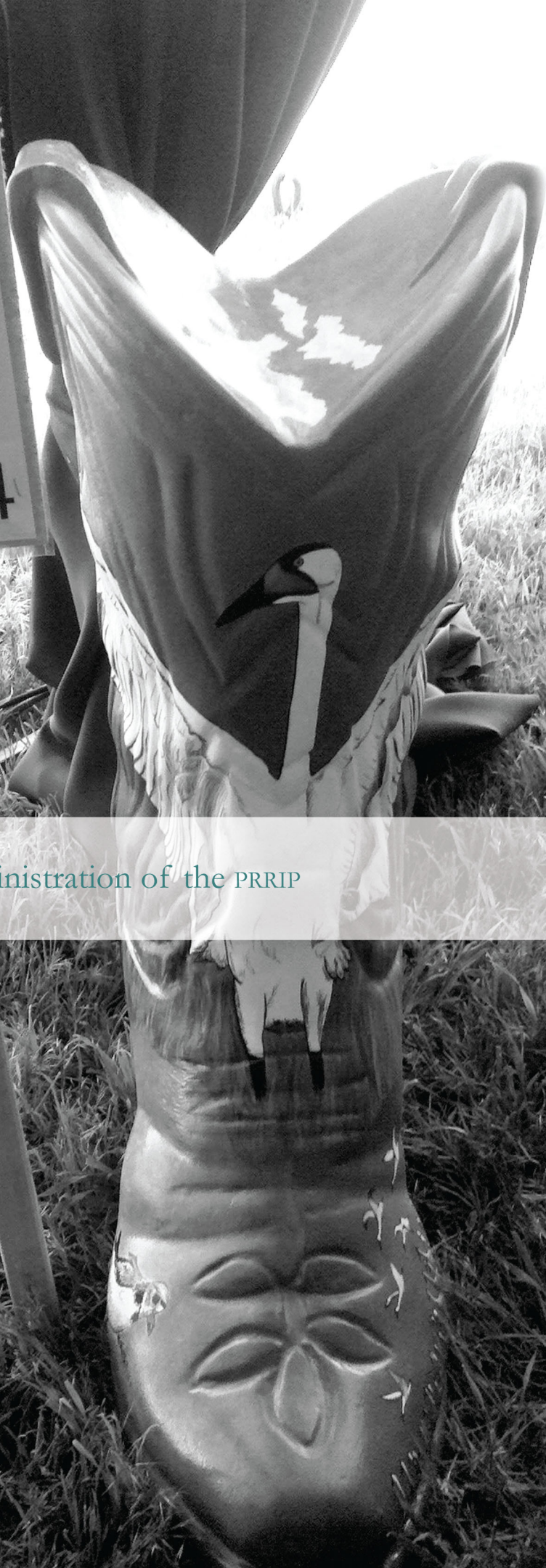
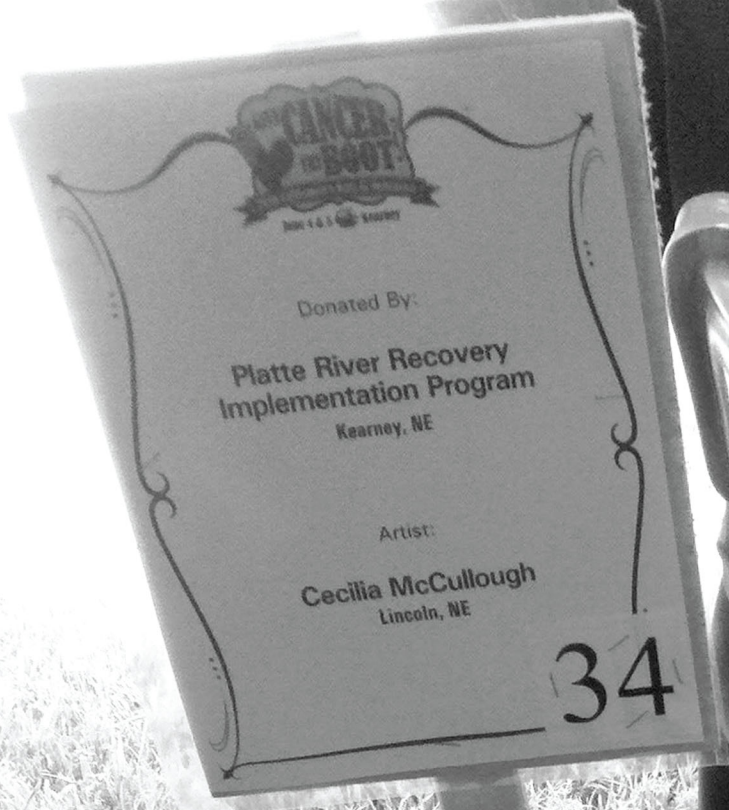
Completed first draft of Program Synthesis Report (2007–2010), providing decision guidance for AMP actions

Completed first draft of AMP Implementation Plan, providing implementation guidance for specific management actions

Revised conceptual models for terns and plovers, whooping cranes, and Flow-Sediment-Mechanical (FSM) management strategy

Sequenced tern/plover, whooping crane, pallid sturgeon, flow, sediment, and mechanical priority hypotheses – resulting in a list of hypotheses that will receive primary attention over the next five to six years through AMP implementation.





Cost effective independent administration of the PRRIP



Program Administration & Outreach

Highlights

Executive Director's Office moved into larger office space

Partnership in the Nebraska Nature and Visitor's Center

Over 6,000 contacts made at Program exhibits

The organizational structure of the PRRIP is different than many of the other existing Recovery Implementation Programs. The key organizational difference is that the actual day-to-day implementation actions are carried out by an independent entity, Headwaters Corporation (a private sector firm), rather than a government agency. Control of the Program rests with a group of stakeholders that prominently includes State and Federal representatives, water users and environmental groups. The services of the Executive Director and Program Staff are provided through a contract with Headwaters Corporation. In most other recovery Programs, these implementation functions are performed by Federal employees acting through their specific agency. This fairly unique structure was selected to truly embody the collaborative nature under which the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program has been undertaken.

Program Staff

At basic strength of 12 since 2009

9 in Nebraska

3 in Colorado

2 to 4 seasonal workers, as needed

Location

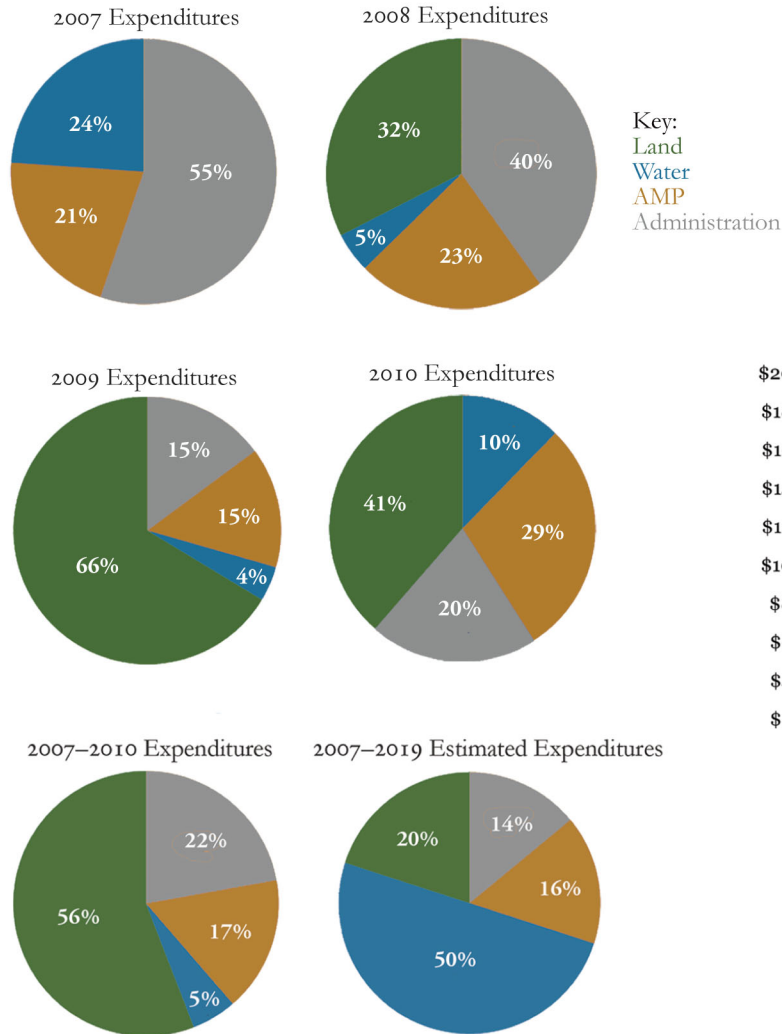
February 2010 the Executive Director's Office moved into new office space

Larger conference room accommodates 50 people and significantly reduces previous room rental costs for meetings

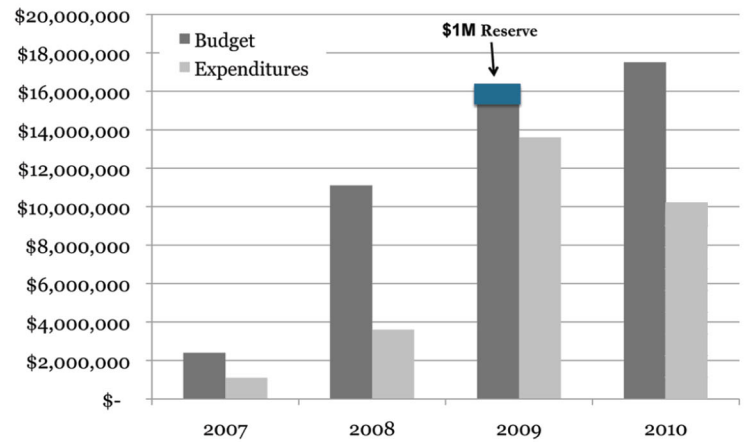
Conference room is also available at no charge for Program partners to utilize



Year by Year Expenditures



PRRIP Budgeted Vs Actual Expenditures



One of the benefits provided by the Program is a streamlined Section 7 Consultation process. To date, the USFWS has provided nearly 100 streamlined Section 7 consultations since the Program began.

Streamlined Section 7 Process				
State	Municipal	Irrigation	Industrial	Total
2007				
Nebraska	0	0	1	1
Colorado	2	4	7	13
Wyoming	2	2	2	6
2008				
Nebraska	4	0	2	6
Colorado	6	6	6	18
Wyoming	1	2	1	4
2009				
Nebraska	1	0	1	2
Colorado	13	4	6	23
Wyoming	1	2	1	4
2010				
Nebraska	1			1
Colorado	7	2	5	14
Wyoming	1		3	4
TOTAL				96



Outreach

The Program reaches many audiences; farmers and ranchers, recreational users of the Platte, the biological sciences community, bird watchers and beyond to many segments of the population. We have a broad and diverse public to which we must communicate effectively. Some of the key outreach activities for 2009 and 2010 are listed below.

Nebraska Nature and Visitor's Center

The Program was a supporting partner of the effort to reopen the former Crane Meadows Nature Center near Alda, Nebraska.

In 2008 the Program, along with Nebraska Game and Parks, Hastings College and the Johnson Family Foundation, applied for a grant for operating funds to open the Nebraska Nature and Visitor's Center (NNVC).

In 2009 the Nebraska Environmental Trust awarded a three-year \$240,000 grant to the NNVC.

In 2009 and in 2010 the Program contributed \$20,000 to NNVC as part of the Program's directive to promote education and public outreach and work cooperative with other organizations to leverage Program funds and efforts in pursuit of its mission.

Program information is available at the NNVC and the Program exhibited there during the 2009 and 2010 crane season and for the annual open house in 2009 and 2010.

NNVC opened late spring of 2009, September open house had an estimated 700 visitors.

Statistics from October 2009 to September 2010

Approximately 20,000 visitors, with 12,000 to 15,000 visitors during migration season

3,600 visitors for scheduled groups and business meetings

Over 1,000 paid guided wildlife viewing tours



Program Exhibits and Sponsorships

2009 Program Exhibits	State	Number of Contacts
Nebraska Nature and Visitor's Center–March	Nebraska	
Rowe Sanctuary–March	Nebraska	
Rivers and Wildlife Conference–March	Nebraska	75
American Water Resources Association National Conference–June	Utah	100
Husker Harvest Days–September	Nebraska	1,615
Nebraska Nature and Visitor's Center–September	Nebraska	145
Platte River Symposium–October	Nebraska	118
Gateway Farm EXPO–November	Nebraska	575

2009 Sponsorships	State
Rivers and Wildlife Keynote Address–March	Nebraska
National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration–June	California
Nebraska Grazing Conference–August	Nebraska
North American Weed Management Association Conference and Trade Show–September	Nebraska

2010 Exhibitions & Poster Presentations	State	Number of Contacts
Colorado Water Congress–January	Colorado	163
Tern and Plover Annual Meeting–February	Nebraska	
Collaborative Adaptive Management Network Rendezvous–March	Arizona	55
Nebraska Nature and Visitor's Center–March	Nebraska	
Rowe Sanctuary–March	Nebraska	
Rivers and Wildlife Conference–March	Nebraska	250
Water for Food International Conference–May	Nebraska	
Cattlemen's Ball–June	Nebraska	
Nebraska Grazing Conference–August	Nebraska	91
Nebraska State Fair–August/September	Nebraska	92
Husker Harvest Days–September	Nebraska	2,146
Nebraska Nature and Visitor's Center–September	Nebraska	122
South Platte Forum–October	Colorado	134
Gateway Farm EXPO–November	Nebraska	956

2010 Sponsorships	State
Oshler Lifelong Learning Institute–May	Nebraska
University of Nebraska Lincoln Summer Water	Colorado, Nebraska,
Tour of the Platte River Basin–July	Wyoming
Nebraska Grazing Conference–August	Nebraska

Staff Public Presentations (Audience)	2009	2010
Irrigators	3	3
Professional Associations	9	5
Natural Resources Districts	3	2
Academic	6	2
Water Conference/Symposium	8	6
Environmental Groups	3	2
General Public	4	4
Total	36	24

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