



**Lower Platte River
CORRIDOR ALLIANCE**

LEAD. ORGANIZE. INSPIRE. The voice of the Lower Platte.

3125 Portia St.
PO Box 83581
Lincoln, NE 68501-3581

p: 402.476.2729
f: 402.476.6454

www.lowerplatte.org

Monthly Report for October 2015

Meghan Sittler, Coordinator

Two Rivers Obstruction Removal

Hawkins Construction finished the removal of the fifth and final pier on Thursday, October 22nd which was two months ahead of schedule based on their anticipated removal timeline. The entire project went very smooth with Pier 1 removal completed Monday, September 21st after work in-river started during the third week of August. Following the removal of the fifth pier they began pulling out the temporary bridge. Removal of the bridge was anticipated to be completed during the second week of November. They will be installing some rip rap on the bank that was slightly disturbed by the bridge piles and coffer dam installed for the removal of pier 1. They will also remove the majority of the rock used for the access road to the piers. Seeding and final demobilization will occur in the spring. Pictures from October are included at the end of the report.

Quarterly Meeting

The LPRCA Quarterly Meeting was held on Tuesday, October 27th at 6:00 p.m. at Papio-Missouri River NRD. Jim Swenson, Director of the Parks Division at NGPC, provided a presentation on the NGPC Venture Parks initiative for the Lower Platte River parks and recreation areas. Mitch Paine, Department of Natural Resources, provided an update on the Cass County Flood Mitigation project and Meghan Sittler provided an overview of the pier removal project at Two Rivers State Recreation Area. Additional discussion was on the Lower Platte Basin Management Plan as well as each NRD's individual IMPs and progress on WRDA funded projects. The next Quarterly Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 19th at 9:00 a.m. at LPNNRD in Wahoo.

Nebraska Water Center Faculty Retreat

The LPRCA in partnership with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service presented a poster at the Nebraska Center Faculty Workshop at UNK in early October. The poster focused on the work the LPRCA, USFWS and our other partners have completed as part of the Lower Platte River Cumulative Impact Study. The poster was intended to show the faculty the data sets that have been compiled as part of the CIS and related studies. The LPRCA hopes that there would interest in integrating those data sets to create more of a defined assessment tool to understand the changes in the lower Platte River from land use changes as had been previously identified as the desired end product from the CIS. We had several good conversations with faculty and I hope that we can move that project forward. Additionally, I spent several minutes discussing the LPRCA and our other major past and present initiatives.

Rural Futures Institute

As part of the Rural Futures Institute conference in October, I participated on a panel discussion with staff from the University of Nebraska and the National Drought Mitigation Center. The panel's theme was discussing the opportunities that water-based ecotourism/recreation can provide communities or regions as well as the impact of drought and climate change on water resources. I discussed the work the LPRCA

has done as part of the recreation plan development and related efforts. I also discussed the critical water supply that the Lower Platte River provides and how NRDs and the LPRCA have worked to address the impacts of both droughts and floods.

Upcoming Events:

NeFSMA Annual Meeting, Ashland: November 19th.

NWRA/NSIA Joint Convention, Kearney. November 22-24

LPRCA Quarterly Meeting, LPNNRD, Wahoo: January 19th, 9:00 a.m.



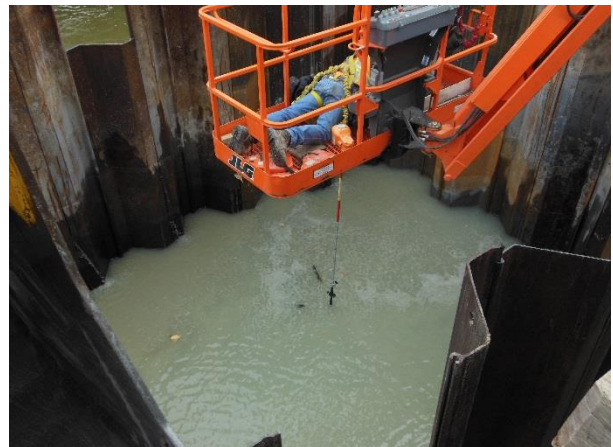
October 22, 2015 – Photo showing final demolition of Pier #5.



October 22, 2015 – Photo showing steel reinforcement removed from Pier #5.



October 22, 2015 – Photo showing example of debris removed from Pier #5.



October 22, 2015 – Photo showing survey of pier #5.



October 22, 2015 – Photo showing cut off bollards.



October 22, 2015 – Photo showing final excavation of pier #5.