



# **PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET AND ANNUAL WORK PLAN**

## **Prepared by:**

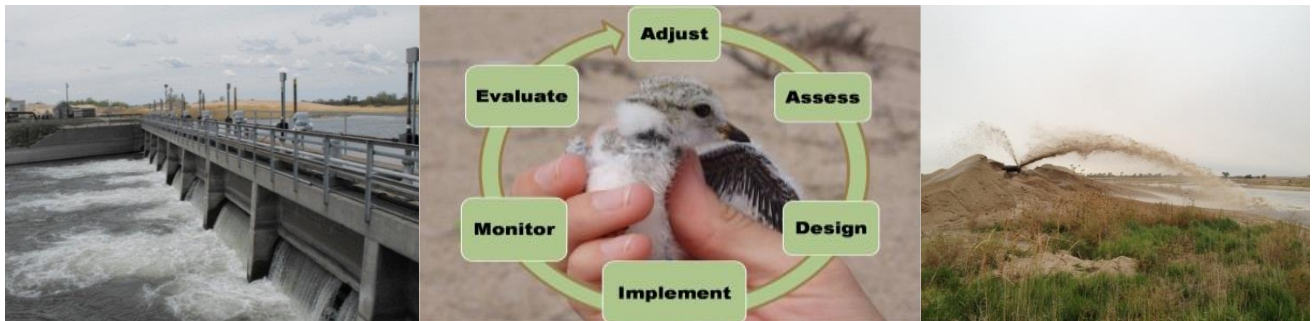
Executive Director's Office (EDO)  
Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (PRRIP or Program)  
Kearney, Nebraska

## **Prepared for:**

PRRIP Governance Committee  
Don Ament, Chair

Final Budget and Work Plan Recommended by Executive Director  
**December 3, 2013**

Final Budget and Work Plan Revised and Approved by Governance Committee  
**December X, 2013**





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# **PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM** **FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET AND ANNUAL WORK PLAN**

## **Introduction**

The Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (Program) was initiated on January 1, 2007 as a basin-wide effort between the states of Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska and the Department of Interior to provide land, water, and scientific monitoring and research to evaluate Program benefits for the target species. The Program is being implemented in an incremental manner, with the First Increment covering the 13-year period from 2007 through 2019. In general, the purpose of the Program is to implement certain aspects of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s (Service) recovery plans for the target species that relate to the Program’s identified “associated habitats” in the central Platte River by securing defined benefits for those species and their habitats. The Program will also provide ESA compliance for existing and certain new water-related activities in the Platte basin upstream of the Loup River confluence for potential effects on the target species; help prevent the need to list more Platte River species under the ESA; mitigate the adverse effects of certain new water-related activities through approved depletions plans; and establish and maintain an organizational structure that will ensure appropriate state and federal government and stakeholder involvement in the Program.

The Program is led by a Governance Committee (GC) consisting of representatives of Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Service, South Platte River water users, North Platte River water users, Nebraska water users, and environmental groups. The Program established key standing Advisory Committees to assist the GC in implementing the Program. Those committees include the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), the Land Advisory Committee (LAC), the Water Advisory Committee (WAC), the Finance Committee (FC), and the Independent Scientific Advisory Committee (ISAC). In addition, an Adaptive Management Working Group (AMWG) has been formed to inform the GC on implementation of the Program’s Adaptive Management Plan (AMP).

Dr. Jerry Kenny serves as Executive Director of the Program. Dr. Kenny and staff in the Executive Director’s (ED) Office maintain offices in Nebraska and Colorado. The Executive Director’s Office worked closely with the GC, the Advisory Committees, the AMWG, Program cooperators and partners, and others to develop the FY 2014 Program Budget and Work Plan based on guidance from the Final Program Document and Program goals and priorities.

This document presents the final FY 2014 Program Annual Work Plan. The Final FY 2014 Program Budget Spreadsheet is a separate document but is incorporated by reference.

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: ED-1. Salaries/Travel/Office Expenditures****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office (Executive Director, Headwaters Corp. staff)

**Task Location**

Kearney, NE; Lincoln, NE; Denver, CO

**Task Description**

Salaries, travel, and other direct costs associated with ED and staff in ED Offices. ED and EDO responsible for implementation of all items detailed in remainder of the Work Plan.

**Products**

Staff support for all Program activities.

**Notes on Cost**

See Exhibits A and B from 2014 ED Contract/Office Budget and 2014 Headwaters Corporation Staffing Plan for detailed documentation of effort.

Program Task ED-1		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 361,861.00	\$ -
2008	\$1,110,800.00	\$ -
2009	\$1,427,759.00	\$ -
2010	\$1,599,900.00	\$ -
2011	\$1,600,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$1,800,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$1,875,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 2,100,000.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: ED-2. Administrative and Other Support Services****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office

**Task Location**

ED Office

**Task Description**

Assistance to ED Office for administrative and other support services such as publishing public notices including Requests for Proposals, attorneys with land or water specialties, real estate related specialists, and other specialty services not specifically linked to another line item.

**Products**

Contract services support for Program activities.

**Notes on Cost**

The primary use of ED-2 is to cover the expense of attorneys with expertise in: Nebraska water rights; water service/leasing agreement contract law; environmental law covering NEPA, ESA, or CWA; Nebraska NRD processes; and county statutory authorities. These are very specialized areas of practice, limiting our options and commanding, in many cases, a premium rate. Attorneys for work in the arenas cited above are selected based on knowledge and experience in these arenas, availability resulting from lack of conflict of interest, reputation, quality of work, and previous direct dealings with EDO staff. Rates are compared to customary and standard rates for the Denver/Lincoln/Omaha areas, and based on a comparative, extensive vetting process are known to be fair and reasonable. An average rate of \$200/hour is a representative of rate based on the vetting experience of the past four years. Given the level of legal support required over the past four years and the anticipated lesser need for legal counsel in 2014, 400 hours of legal support is estimated (equivalent to about 4 days a month). Based on a fee of \$200/hour, and an estimated 400 hours of service, the estimated legal fees for 2014 are \$80,000.

The second most common use of line item ED-2 is to cover the expense of publishing public notices or Request for Proposals/Invitations to Bid in local and regional newspapers. The Denver Post, Omaha World Herald, Wyoming Eagle Tribune (Cheyenne, WY), and the Kearney Hub are the newspapers that we always use to run notices and RFP/IFB announcements. When appropriate for specific, local interest, other papers may also be added, such as the Grand Island Independent, North Platte Telegraph, Lincoln Journal Star, or Keith County News. Recent actual costs in 2013 to run an announcement in the papers always used, for two days (Saturday and Sunday) is tabulated below:

Program Task ED-2		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 17,000.00	\$ -
2008	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00



Newspaper	Two Day Cost (\$)
Denver Post	986
Omaha World Herald	788
Wyoming Eagle Tribune	358
Kearney Hub	40
TOTAL	2,172

- 1  
2 Anticipated costs for three day ads (typical length of run) for 2014 are tabulated below:

Newspaper	Three Day Cost (\$)
Denver Post	1400
Omaha World Herald	1200
Wyoming Eagle Tribune	500
Kearney Hub	60
TOTAL	3,160

- 3  
4 Assuming we will run six notices or ads based on anticipated number of RFPs/IFBs to be issued (T&P  
5 Monitoring, AMP Permitting, Sediment Augmentation Oversight, Third Party Neutral for Peer Review  
6 /ISAC panels, two large earth moving bids),  $6 \times \$3,160 = \$18,960$ , plus ten additional newspapers notices  
7 (either for IFBs published exclusively in local papers or supplemental ads in local papers for RFPs/IFBs  
8 also published in regional papers) @ \$250,  $10 \times \$250 = \$2,500$ ;  $\$18,960 + \$2,500 = \$21,460$  for  
9 newspaper adds.

- 10  
11 Adding attorney fees and newspaper notices produced the total estimate, as shown below.

Item	Cost
Attorney Fees	\$80,000
Newspaper Notices	\$21,460
TOTAL	\$101,460, say \$100,000

13

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: ED-3. Public Outreach****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office

**Task Location**

ED Office (Kearney, NE)

**Task Description**

Communication of information about the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program and general education oriented activities are an important function to gain and advance acceptance of the Program in all of our stakeholder communities. The Program stakeholders include; residents of the three states, the Department of the Interior agencies, farmers and ranchers, recreational users of the Platte, the biological sciences community, national and international conservation and environmental groups, and bird watchers from around the world.

**Products**

Program visibility and communication with the public.

**Notes on Cost**

To reach our audiences, the Program utilizes the following:

1. Program exhibit booths at scientific and professional conferences, community events, farm shows and nature centers. Venues are chosen based on both location, i.e. coverage of the three states and the ability to reach our target audience of stakeholders. There are several annual events at which the Program exhibits; Husker Harvest Days in Nebraska, Colorado Water Congress in Colorado, and the Four States Irrigation Council Annual Meeting (held in Colorado and includes Wyoming and Nebraska). Exhibits provide written information about the Program as well as Program giveaways. Typically the Program exhibits at five to six events per year and booth costs vary from no charge to \$1,250 per event. Including display costs and printed material an approximate annual expenditure for exhibits is \$5,000.
2. Major sponsorship of educational programs for children at nature and agricultural centers and special projects that are presented to the Program. Sponsorships are chosen based on both location and the ability to reach our target audience of stakeholders. Examples include: a Nebraska Educational Television camera time-lapse project of the Platte River which includes sites in all three states, a one-time partial funding of construction of outdoor activity stations in a nature education circuit for the Prairie Loft Center, public educational programs for Rowe Sanctuary in Nebraska, and Prairie Loft Center for agricultural education for children in Nebraska. The education programs we focus support

Program Task ED-3		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ 30,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 70,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 65,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 60,000.00





upon are youth oriented, experience based activity programs. For 2014, \$40,000 was budgeted for major sponsorships including: \$25,000 for the time lapse project, and \$5,000 each for public educational programs for Rowe Sanctuary in Nebraska, Prairie Loft Center for agricultural education for children in Nebraska, and for the South Platte River Environmental Education children's educational program by The Greenway Foundation in Colorado.

3. Other Sponsorship is a category used to allow the Program to participate in events that were not anticipated at the time of budget development or events that were under consideration but decisions had not been made as to which events to support. These sponsorships assist in defraying the cost of a conference or event. The Program receives higher visibility and recognition at these conferences and events as a result. Program staff is at these conferences or events to interact with the participants and capitalize on the increased visibility achieved by the sponsorships. Depending on the organization and event, sponsorships provides recognition in the event program and proceedings, recognition by emcees during meals, the ability to display banners, recognition for sponsoring specific breaks or meals, and other similar types of enhanced visibility and recognition. Examples include:

- Program logo ads in newspapers in when special edition sections are printed, such as the Earth Day and Lincoln Highway editions in the Kearney Hub - \$500
- Break or event sponsorships at conferences such as National Committee of Ecological Restoration, Society of Ecological Restoration, Collaborative Adaptive Management Network, Nebraska Association of Resource Districts Conference, Nebraska Water Resources/Nebraska Irrigation Association Conference, and Colorado Water Foundation for Education events, and Colorado Summer Water Congress are typical of the events that are considered for sponsorships. The decision on which events to sponsor depend on the relevance of the group or conference theme to the Program, which can vary from year to year. Such sponsorships can range from \$500 to \$1500, allowing three to five such sponsorships to be awarded. - \$6,000

4. The distinctive Program logo is utilized in all Program communications, reports, and on all promotional materials including fact sheets, brochures, bi-annual reports, and giveaways. Promotional materials are chosen for their uniqueness and compatibility with the overall goals and objectives of the Program. Chosen items are branded either with the Program logo or the Program website and all items must cost below \$4.00 an item. On average, the cost of the promotional material is approximately \$3.25. Examples of giveaways include pens, carabiner key chains, can coolers, tote bags, small tools and pocket knives, and collapsible water bottles. Based on past years' experience, the Program anticipates distributing about 3,000 items, for a cost of \$9,000.

**Summary:**

Exhibit Fees = \$5,000

Major Sponsorships = \$40,000

- NET Time-lapse Project - \$25,000
- Rowe Sanctuary Education Program - \$5,000
- Prairie Loft Education Program - \$5,000
- Greenway Foundation SPREE Program - \$5,000

Other sponsorships - \$6,000

Promotional Materials = \$9,000

TOTAL = \$60,000

**NET Time-lapse Project**

Item	Cost (\$)	Comments
Rowe Solar Project and IR camera	\$4,000	This project will install a night capable infrared camera on the tower at Rowe Sanctuary to observe cranes' roosting behavior at night and provide additional solar power for future live video and basic camera operation.
Four movable TL cameras	\$12,800	These are the types of systems that were used recently to record the PRRIP sediment project downstream from the J2 power plant and will be used in the future for similar short term events throughout the basin. Equipment to be purchase is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Four Nikon D7100 camera w/18-105 f/3.5-5.6 AF-S DX VR ED kit lens</li><li>• Two Nikon 10-24mm f/3.5-4.5G ED DX AF-S</li><li>• Four Nikon EN-ENL15 spare batteries</li><li>• Eight 128gb Class 10 SD cards</li><li>• Four Transport cases</li><li>• Four tripods/mounting systems</li></ul>
Retrofit wireless cameras to allow cell phone download capability	\$8,200	This is to transition a portion of TL camera systems to cell phone modem based hourly downloading. PRRP funds to be used to retrofit 8 systems at an average cost of \$1,025/installation. These costs include equipment, travel, and labor for installation costs. The locations will be selected based on signal strength. These new systems mean that cameras can be monitored to see that they are working daily and eliminate travel costs associated with trading out image cards.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>	

**Rowe Sanctuary Education Program Cost Estimate Breakdown**

Category	Unit Rate (\$/hr.)	Quantity	Cost (\$)	Comments
LABOR				Personnel hours include planning preparation, and in-field instructor time
Sr. Instructor	\$30/hr.	100	\$3,000	
LABOR TOTAL			\$3,000	
MATERIALS				
Butterfly Nets	\$30	14	\$750	
Binoculars	\$80.76	14	\$1,050	
Birds of Nebraska Books	\$8.00	25	\$200	
MATERIALS TOTAL			\$2,000	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$5,000</b>	

**Prairie Loft Education Program Cost Estimate Breakdown**

Category	Unit Rate (\$/hr.)	Quantity	Cost (\$)	Comments
LABOR				Personnel hours include teaching facilitation, curriculum and program development, and outreach to schools teachers, families, and partner organizations
Instructor	\$20/hr.	150	\$3,000	
Instructor Assistant	\$10/hr.	50	\$500	
LABOR TOTAL			\$3,500	
MATERIALS				Education program supplies: including items such as books, writing materials, field study equipment, curriculum materials and training, printing, tools, and resources for additional and enhanced outdoor learning areas.
MATERIALS TOTAL			\$1,500	
TOTAL			\$5,000	

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: GFC-1. NCF Fees****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office, Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF)

**Task Location**

ED Office; NCF (Lincoln, NE)

**Task Description**

Fees paid to the Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF) for administration of the financial aspects of the Program in 2014.

**Products**

Financial support services for Program.

**Notes on Cost**

The Foundation will be reimbursed for its direct and indirect costs pursuant to the Department of the Interior's acquisition services requirements. In addition to the direct and indirect costs prescribed by this Agreement, the Foundation will be reimbursed at actual cost of extraordinary expenses incurred at the request of Parties to the Agreement, such as overnight express mail services, and/or reasonable travel expenses for travel at the request of the Governance Committee, Finance Committee, or a Party to the Agreement. The estimated cost associated with Financial Management Services rendered by the NCF is based on estimated direct costs of approximately \$60,000 (1200 hours X \$50/hour), and the provisional indirect cost ratio of 2.72% applied to approximately \$26.84 million in direct costs. Only actual indirect costs will be recouped by the Foundation. Based on verbal discussions, it is estimated that the Foundation will be entitled to \$450,000, hence that is the amount that will be obligated for FY2014.

Program Task GFC-1		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -
2008	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 255,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 260,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 300,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 450,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 450,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 450,000.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: GFC-2. Pulse Flow and Other Insurance****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2013 Start Date**

January 1, 2013

**FY 2013 End Date**

December 31, 2013

**Task Completed by**

ED Office, Dunbar-Peterson

**Task Location**

ED Office; insurance provider office in Omaha, Nebraska

**Task Description**

Insurance acquired for representatives of the GC and subcommittees (including alternates) and ED Office for certain actions that will be undertaken through Program implementation. Coverage will be for a number of actions that the Program will undertake including short duration high flow releases and because of land and facilities ownership.

**Products**

Program insurance policy.

**Notes on Cost**

Insurance acquired for representatives of the GC and subcommittees (including alternates) and ED Office for certain actions that will be undertaken through Program implementation. Coverage will be for a number of actions that the Program will undertake including short duration high flow releases and because of land and facilities ownership. The estimated cost of insurance is based upon previous year's expenses, experience, and previous negotiations with insurance providers.

Program Task GFC-2		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
2008	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 60,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 70,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 70,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 75,000.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: GFC-3. Expenses, Meeting Rooms, etc.****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2013 Start Date**

January 1, 2013

**FY 2013 End Date**

December 31, 2013

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; GC; FC

**Task Location**

Meeting locations in NE, WY, and CO

**Task Description**

Limited budget amount to cover meeting room rentals for GC and FC meetings; other miscellaneous costs for holding meetings (e.g. conference call fees, AV fees).

**Products**

Meeting space and associated needs.

**Notes on Cost**

The Meeting Expenses table provided below provides a breakdown of costs and additional information for GFC-1 and subsequent meeting expense-related line items (LAC-1, WAC-1, and TAC-1).

Program Task GFC-3		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
2008	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 1,700.00

Line Item	Meeting Room Rental Cost	Meeting Costs	Conference Call Costs	Total Costs
GFC-3	\$1,400 (December GC, two half days)	\$100 (phone and screen at each meeting)	\$216 (6 FC calls of @2 hours, \$0.30/minute)	\$1,711, say \$1,700
LAC-1		\$1,200 (annual two half day field tour expenses { @\$600} and 4 land evaluation site visits { @\$150 each})	\$300 (4 calls of @4 hours, \$0.30/minute)	\$1,500
TAC-1	\$1,200 (1 off-site meeting, two half days)	\$100 (phone and screen at each meeting)	\$1,080 (15 calls of @4 hours, \$0.30/minute)	\$2,380, say \$2,400



WAC-1	\$2,000 (2 one- day off-site meetings for specific water projects)	\$200 (phone and screen at each meeting)	\$1,296 (8 calls of @4 hours and 20 calls of @2 hours, \$0.30/minute)	\$3,496, say \$3,500
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Because each meeting may be held in a different location (different cities and different hotels) a range of meeting room costs are possible. The typical range of room rental rates is \$500 to \$750/day. The typical rate for providing refreshments (coffee, sodas, juices), morning or afternoon break foods (rolls, fruit, cookies), and box lunches (if the agenda calls for a working lunch) can vary considerably by location, the range of options selected, and the number of people attending. For planning purposes, a rate range of \$250 to \$500 per meeting is used. Equipment costs for projector and screens and polycom conference phones vary considerable depending on location. Projector/screen costs can range from \$50 to \$250 per day. Polycom conference phones with microphone extension costs can range from \$50 to \$100 per day. Conference call costs are broken down in the table by number, rate, and duration of calls, the number and duration are estimated based on experience and the rate is set by contract with the provider.

Governance Committee meetings are held quarterly, two are held in Kearney, NE at the EDO, one in Cheyenne, WY at the WWDC, and one in Denver, CO. There is no room charge or equipment charge for the Kearney and Cheyenne locations, just for the Denver location. The Denver meeting has recently been held in downtown Denver, CO at the Warwick Hotel for two half days (Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning). Refreshments, one afternoon break and one morning break provided. Based on 2011, 2012 and 2013 experience, 2014 estimate of room and break expenses is \$1,200. Equipment costs are limited to polycom conference phone and screen at \$100, as EDO can provide projector from Denver office.

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: LAC-1. Expenses, Meeting Rooms, etc.****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2013 Start Date**

January 1, 2013

**FY 2013 End Date**

December 31, 2013

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; LAC

**Task Location**

All LAC meetings are held in central Nebraska, typically in Kearney, NE.

**Task Description**

Limited budget amount to cover costs for LAC meetings; primarily miscellaneous costs for holding meetings (e.g. conference call fees, site visit expenses).

**Products**

Meeting space and associated needs.

**Notes on Cost**

The LAC meets quarterly at in Kearney, NE at the EDO which has no room charge. Two activities associated with LAC do have costs specifically associated to them, an annual field tour for LAC members and site evaluation of potential properties. The annual field tour for LAC members consists of two half days in the field with lunch and drinks (water and sodas) in field provided for 15 to 18 people each day at an average cost of about \$20.00 per person per day, based on 2011 and 2012 experience, was the basis for the \$650 estimate. Land evaluation site visits (typically multiple sites per day) costs consist of refreshments (water and sodas), break snacks (fruit and granola/energy bars), and working lunches. Each site evaluation team consists on average of six people. An estimated four site evaluation days will be performed in 2013. Based on 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012 experience, a cost of \$25 per person per site visit was used to develop the \$150 per site visit estimate and the corresponding \$60 total for four site visits.

Program Task LAC-1		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -
2008	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00



**PROGRAM TASK & ID: WAC-1. Expenses, Meeting Rooms, etc.****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2013 Start Date**

January 1, 2013

**FY 2013 End Date**

December 31, 2013

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; WAC

**Task Location**

Meeting locations in NE, WY, and CO, typically in Ogallala, NE.

**Task Description**

Limited budget amount to cover meeting costs for WAC and WAC Working Group meetings; including miscellaneous costs for holding meetings (e.g. conference call fees, AV fees, site visit expenses).

**Products**

Meeting space and associated needs.

**Notes on Cost**

The WAC meets quarterly at the Visitor's Center near Lake McConaughy in Ogallala for which there is no room or equipment charge, but working groups and subcommittee frequently meet by conference call and at other locations. As progress accelerates on implementation of various Water Action Plan projects, the frequency of project related meetings will increase. Meeting room costs for two one-day meetings in Denver, CO or Omaha, NE are assumed. Refreshments, lunch, and morning and afternoon breaks assumed for each day. Estimated cost of \$1,000 per day at either location, at a facility near the airport based on previous years' experience, was used to develop the \$2,000 estimate. Equipment cost of \$100 per day for a polycom conference phone and screen. All meetings assumed to be focused on J2 Regulating Reservoir Project or other Water Action Plan projects (e.g., Net Controllable Conserved Water, Ground Water Recharge Project scoring, Pathfinder scoring, hydrologic monitoring, or other candidate topics) with meetings involving a mix of technical/administrative topics.

Program Task WAC-1		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
2008	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 6,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 2,400.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: TAC-1. Expenses. Meeting Rooms. etc.****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; TAC

**Task Location**

Meeting locations in NE, WY, and CO

**Task Description**

Limited budget amount to cover meeting room rentals for TAC and TAC Work Group meetings; other miscellaneous costs for holding meetings (e.g. conference call fees, AV fees).

**Products**

Meeting space and associated needs.

**Notes on Cost**

The TAC meets quarterly, but working group and sub-committee meetings can meet more frequently. Most of these meetings are held in Kearney, NE at the EDO or via conference call, but it is not uncommon for a few meetings to be held at other locations. Meeting room costs for one meeting away from Kearney, meeting for two half days. Location assumed in Omaha, NE. Refreshments, morning and afternoon breaks assumed. Estimated cost for room and breaks/lunch at \$1,200 per day based on experience. Equipment cost of polycom conference phone with microphone extensions and screen estimated at \$100 for two half days.

Program Task TAC-1		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
2008	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: LP-3. Land Acquisition****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; LAC; Land Interest Holding Entity (LIHE)

**Task Location**

Land interest locations TBD

**Task Description**

Funding for acquisition of interest in land (own, lease, easements, other agreements) according to implementation of the Land Plan and the AMP; fees for Platte River Recovery Implementation Foundation, the LIHE for the Program, as well as property taxes and other annual fees.

**Products**

Program lands

**Notes on Cost**

**LIHE Fees:** LIHE fees are the fees charged to the Program by the Platte River Recovery Implementation Foundation. The fees are assessed based on actual incurred direct expenses (attorney fees and insurance), baseline fee, number of parcels held in various categories (fee simple, easement, lease, or management agreement), and number of transactions. The fees are billed quarterly. The 2012 charges are tabulated in the table below along with the Request for Disbursement number on which they were processed.

2012 Quarter	Fee	Request #
First	\$14,614	274
Second	\$11,117	286
Third	\$14,668	311
Fourth	\$14,637	327
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$55,033	
<b>AVERAGE</b>	\$13,755	

Although our portfolio of holdings has increased, the number of transactions will decline in 2013 from the level in 2012 (fewer purchases and boundary modifications), with an anticipated decline in fees. Therefore, a smaller quarterly average fee of \$12,500 was used to arrive at the annual number of \$50,000.

Copies of the four invoices cited in the table above are provided in separate documents. These provide a complete breakdown of the LIHE charges. These invoices are included in the Request for Disbursement reviewed by the BOR and are provided to all of the signatory parties.



The insurance cost is for General Liability to provide specific protection to PRRIF as title holder for any claims that might arise associated with injury or damage incurred on or associated with the properties. This is separate and distinct from the insurance carried by the Program that is covered in Program line item GFC-2.

**Taxes:** PRRIP is required to pay property taxes. A summary of the property taxes paid in 2012 is provided by county below. All PRRIP properties are located in Nebraska.

Nebraska County	Total Property Tax Paid - 2012
Buffalo	\$50,404
Dawson	\$2,086
Gosper	\$584
Hall	\$32,616
Phelps	\$21,619
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$107,309</b>

The 2013 estimate of \$85,000 was based on 2011 payments and is obviously too low. Tax rates have increased and holdings have increased, which were not adequately incorporated in the 2013 estimate. It is anticipated that a similar pattern of 2013 payments will be made by county as in 2012, but with higher numbers in all counties, particularly Hall and Buffalo.

**Land Acquisition:** Assumptions for land acquisition in 2014:

*Purchase*

- Tract 1301
- Tract 1303
- Additional 165 acres of palustrine wetlands
- Possible land trades

**Associated Costs:** These costs are based on experience from 2009 through 2012 acquisitions. The associated costs per transaction are provided in the table below:

Item	Fee
Appraiser fee	\$5,000
Surveyor fee	\$4,000
Attorney fee (@\$200/hr for 40 hours)	\$8,000
Miscellaneous costs and fees (@8-10% of total other fees)	\$1,750
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$18,750</b>

Assuming four acquisitions in 2013, each in the 120 to 200 acre range, an estimate of \$75,000 was developed.

Appraisers are selected through mutual agreement with the seller based on knowledge of real estate in specific locales, reputation, ability to meet “Yellow Book” standards, and previous direct experience of EDO staff with the appraisers. Appraisals must meet “Yellow Book” Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions in conformance with Federal Law 91-646 of the Uniform Appraisal Act. This criterion limits the number of appraisers qualified to perform appraisals for the Program, and increases the cost. Rates are compared against customary and standard rates for appropriately qualified appraisers in



the Lexington to Grand Island, NE area. Contracts are verbal agreements and have worked without problem since 2008. A fee of \$5,000 per appraisal is the average fee for a relatively straightforward appraisal of rural land in the Lexington to Grand Island area.

*\*Based on this market survey rate comparison and the qualifications of the potential appraisers, an appraiser mutually acceptable to both parties is selected.*

The market survey process is composed of the following steps:

- Determine which appraisers are qualified to do a “Yellow Book” Uniform Appraisal Standard. This is accomplished through asking LAC members experienced in real estate transactions in the Associated Habitat Region who they know to be qualified and what their experience has been with various appraisers, and internet and yellow page searches followed up with phone calls or office visits to determine qualifications, experience, and assess skill levels. While this search may not be exhaustive it is extremely comprehensive with virtually all “Yellow Book” qualified appraisers in the Lexington to Grand Island area considered. Appraisers outside of this region would not have sufficient local knowledge to be considered qualified.
- As part of the list development process, rates and estimated (by the appraisers) costs of a standard basic appraisal were solicited.
- A comparison of qualifications, reputation, specific experience, and assessed skill level together with rates and estimated cost formed the basic information basis for then soliciting appraiser services for specific tracts. Acceptability by the selling party is also a critical factor.
- The experience gained through 5 years of land acquisition for the Program provides a solid basis for a verification or modification of initial information gathered and is of great value in selecting appraiser services.

A number of surveyors have been used by the Program over the past five years, but one has emerged as far superior in quality of work, responsiveness, and overall level of service. Unless there are special circumstances that require use of a different surveyor, the Program always uses Land Services LLC for property boundary surveys. Charges are based on time and materials, with hourly rates of approximately \$75/hr. for research, \$85/hr. for drafting, and \$125/hr. for in-field surveying. Contracts are verbal agreements and have worked without problem since 2009. A fee of \$4,000 per survey is an average fee for a basic boundary survey of a 160 to 240 acre parcel with the Platte River as one boundary, including basic research and a filed, stamped survey document.

*\*Based on a market survey of surveyor rates in the eastern half of Nebraska, these rates are known to be fair, reasonable, and competitive.*

The market survey process is composed of the following steps:

- Determine which surveyors are qualified to perform riparian boundary surveys. This is accomplished through asking LAC members experienced in surveying issues and that have required the service of riparian boundary surveyors in the Associated Habitat Region who they know to be qualified and what their experience has been with various surveyors, and internet and yellow page searches followed up with phone calls or office visits to determine qualifications, experience, and to assess skill levels. Also, supplementing this information with the over 25 years of experience working with surveyors in Nebraska represented by the Program Staff person leading the land acquisition effort. While this search may not be exhaustive it is extremely comprehensive with virtually all experienced riparian boundary surveyors in the North Platte to Omaha area considered.
- As part of the list development process, rates and estimated (by the surveyors) costs of a standard basic riparian boundary survey were considered



- A comparison of qualifications, reputation, specific experience, and assessed skill level together with rates and estimated cost formed the basic information basis for then soliciting surveyor services for specific tracts.
- The experience gained through 5 years of land acquisition and associated surveys for the Program provides a solid basis for a verification or modification of initial information gathered that is of great value in selecting surveyors.

Attorneys for real estate work are selected based on knowledge and experience in riparian boundary law, specific experience in a particular section of river, reputation, quality of work, and previous direct dealings with EDO staff. Rates are compared to customary and standard rates for the South Central and Eastern Nebraska areas. Contracts are verbal agreements and have worked without problem since 2008. A fee based on 40 hours per transaction is a conservative estimate of time required for legal efforts, assuming some unique issues will need resolution, such as complications from riparian boundaries, and occasionally multiple county jurisdictions that arise on properties that straddle the river and lie in two counties.

*\*Based on this market survey rate comparison and the qualifications of the attorneys being considered, a selection is made and these rates are known to be fair, reasonable, and competitive.*

The market survey process is composed of the following steps:

- Determine which attorneys are qualified to perform riparian real estate transactions. This is accomplished through asking Advisory Committee or Governance Committee members experienced in riparian real estate legal issues and that have required the service of such attorneys in the Associated Habitat Region who they know to be qualified and what their experience has been with various attorneys, and internet and yellow page searches followed up with phone calls or office visits to determine qualifications, experience and to assess skill levels. Also, supplementing this information with the over 25 years of experience working with riparian real estate attorneys in Nebraska represented by the Program Staff person leading the land acquisition effort. While this search may not be exhaustive it is extremely comprehensive with virtually all experienced riparian real estate attorneys in the North Platte to Omaha area considered.
- As part of the list development process, rates and estimated (by the attorneys) costs of a standard basic riparian boundary survey were considered.
- A comparison of qualifications, reputation, specific experience, and assessed skill level together with rates and estimated costs for a basic riparian real estate transaction formed the basic information basis for then soliciting surveyor services for specific tracts.
- The experience gained through 5 years of land acquisition for the Program provides a solid basis for a verification or modification of initial information gathered that is of great value in selecting attorneys.

Miscellaneous fees could include items from among the following: Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (@\$1,000 to \$1,500 per site with one always performed for each tract purchased), additional title searches, clouds on the title that must be resolved (fence issues, material removal from site, previous owners or heirs of previous owners that must be tracked down to positively clear titles), copying and printing fees, and unusual boundary issues that require additional research or surveys. No two acquisitions are the same, and some peculiarity often arises that must be dealt with. They rarely involve large expenditures to resolve, but, on the other hand, when they arise they are not trivial, negligible costs either.

**Purchase Costs:** One property (@150 acres) has been acquired in 2013 for \$582,113. Three properties with a total area of 300 to 400 acres remain for acquisition. Current land prices for the types of non-complex lands we will be acquiring typically range from \$4,000 to \$6,500 per acre (these non-complex



1 lands are not prime agricultural lands which range from \$6,500 to \$8,000 per acre or more). With this  
2 range of acres and range of prices per acre, \$1,200,000 to \$2,600,000 could be required to complete these  
3 acquisitions. With expenditures to date and other estimated expenditures for this item in 2013,  
4 approximately \$2,260,000 remains for land acquisition. This value falls comfortably within the probable  
5 acquisition cost range estimated. Appraisal Reports for properties acquired by the Program are provided  
6 in four separate documents as a basis for land value estimates. These properties are two palustrine  
7 wetland properties near Overton, NE (Debore Tract (1203) and Liehs Tract (1114)), an off-channel sand  
8 and water property near Alda, NE ( Folmer, Whitney (1019)), and a complex property near Alda, NE  
9 (Martin Meadows Hunting Club Lealman (1210)). When reviewing these reports, consider that even  
10 though these are relatively recent appraisals, that land prices continue to climb in Nebraska and that these  
11 now represent low end estimates for these properties.

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: LP-4. Land Management****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; LAC; Land Interest Holding Entity (LIHE)

**Task Location**

Land interest locations

**Task Description**

Funding for non-AMP related management activities (fencing, routine agricultural operations, weed management, property maintenance, day-to-day management, non-AMP tree and channel clearing, etc.). Specific land management activities for the year are defined in the Land Management Plans developed through the LAC and approved by the GC. A summary of Program land work proposed for 2014 is included as **Appendix A** in this document.

**Products**

Program lands managed properly according to Program guidelines and “Good Neighbor” policy.

**Notes on Cost**

See **Appendix A** in this document for specific details.

LP-4		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ 500,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 588,800.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 365,500.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 409,800.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 448,400.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 192,500.00



**PROGRAM TASK & ID: LP-6. Land Plan Special Advisors****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; Contractor

**Task Location**

ED Offices; Contractor Offices

**Task Description**

- Land management will be needed by United Farm Management for the Plum Creek Complex, Cottonwood Ranch Complex, and Elm Creek Complex and for non-complex land at the DeBore Wetland.
- Land management will be needed by AgriAffiliates for the Shoemaker Island Complex, Fort Kearney Complex and for non-complex lands at Alda pit, Leaman East pit and Broadfoot Newark pits.
- Both advisors shall continue grassland leases for haying and grazing on all properties annually to the end of the First Increment.

**Products**

- Meeting participation
- Memoranda and reports

**Notes on Cost**

Two agricultural management firms will be used to handle tenant leases for Program properties in 2014. The properties will be divided geographically between the two firms, with the properties at and east of Kearney handled by AgriAffiliates and the properties to the west of Kearney handled by United Farm Management.

The work load will be slightly heavier for the west of Kearney section. Labor costs are billed at \$75 per hour by each firm. The breakdown of hours and costs estimated for each firm based on experience and discussions with each firm are tabulated below:

Firm	Direct Costs	Hours	Labor Costs	Total
AgriAffiliates	\$3,500	220 hrs @\$75/hr	\$16,500	\$20,000
United Farm Mgmt.	\$4,500	340 hrs @\$75/hr	\$25,500	\$30,000
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

LP-6		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ -	\$ -
2010	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 120,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 20,000.00



1 The firms were selected based on a comparative vetting process involving most of the firms that provide  
2 such services that were located within the Lexington to Grand Island corridor. The selection was made  
3 based on qualifications, reputation, capacity, and competitive labor rates/time estimates.

4  
5 ***General note on all Special Advisor budget line items:*** Please refer to the third paragraph in the  
6 Exceptions: section of the Procurement Policy adopted by the Governance Committee in August of 2008,  
7 “Retention of special advisors to the ED of a technical or legal nature is exempt from the procedures  
8 provided in this directive.”

9  
10 Consequently, special advisors are not selected through a competitive process involving advertised RFQs  
11 or RFPs. Special advisors are selected by the Executive Director based on qualifications – education,  
12 relevant experience, expertise and skills, reliability, credibility, and ability to work effectively with the  
13 ED and the staff of the EDO. Special Advisors and the firms they are associated with cannot do any other  
14 work for the Program, individually or as part of a team. This is a critical restriction and generally orients  
15 special advisor selection to individuals who are sole proprietors or part of small firms that would not  
16 likely be doing significant levels of work for the Program on other specific, larger projects.

17  
18 The billing rates are negotiated with the special advisors by the ED and are kept within the industry  
19 standard of practice based on each individual’s qualifications. While industry standard of practice may  
20 not be precisely defined, anyone who is a practicing member of that professional community understands  
21 the limits of reasonableness associated with those boundaries. Appropriate expertise to make this  
22 assessment resides with the ED or EDO staff. The industry standard of practice rates guidelines used in  
23 this process is established based on an on-going market survey process comparing labor rates of similarly  
24 qualified professionals in the field.

25  
26 In the case of Special Advisors, individuals with similar experience and qualifications have been part of  
27 consultant teams selected through the Program’s competitive procurement process over a six plus year  
28 period. Comparison of the Special Advisor rates to the rates charged by comparable individuals through  
29 the competitive procurement process provides an indisputable basis for comparison. In all cases the  
30 Special Advisor rates are not only within the range of rates seen on the consultant teams which have been  
31 selected competitively, but typically at the middle to lower end of the range. As rates charged by Special  
32 Advisors are at the middle to low end of the range of rates for similar work acquired through the  
33 Program’s competitive procurement process, the estimate for Special Advisors is considered fair and  
34 reasonable.

35 The anticipated level of effort for the upcoming year is also discussed with the special advisors by the ED  
36 and members of the EDO staff, but all work is assigned on an as-needed basis with no guarantee of any  
37 minimum level of assignments.

38  
39 During the budgeting process, the special advisors anticipated to be needed and roughly the level of effort  
40 expected to accomplish the work plan for the budget year is scrutinized by and discussed with the  
41 appropriate advisory committees, the Finance Committee, and the Governance Committee. Input is  
42 received and taken under advisement from all these sources as to the appropriateness of the budgets for  
43 these line items with appropriate adjustments made prior to budget approval.

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: LP-7. Public Access Management****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2013 Start Date**

January 1, 2013

**FY 2013 End Date**

December 31, 2013

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; Contractor (Nebraska Game and Parks Commission)

**Task Location**

All Available PRRIF properties

**Task Description**

Cost associated with public recreation access to Program lands. Costs are for the maintenance and administration of an on-line reservation system and the on the ground monitoring of recreational use of the properties. This program will need to plan for additional costs resulting from increased time commitments as the use of the system increases and more lands are added to the access program. In addition, we can expect increases in unit costs from the provider, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, to handle inflation and other increased costs to them.

**Products**

Opportunities for the general public to use Program lands for outdoor recreation and access under acceptable guidelines without interfering with Program Goals and primary species needs. Conformance with expectations of America's Great Outdoors initiative.

**Notes on Cost**

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission will manage public access to Program lands in 2014 pursuant to a contract between the Nebraska Community Foundation and the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission.

LP-7		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ -	\$ -
2010	\$ -	\$ -
2011	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 55,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: WP-1 (a-b). Active Channel Capacity Improvements****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; Contractor

**Task Location**

ED Offices; Contractor Offices; North Platte River and Platte River between Kingsley Dam and Chapman

**Task Description**

The objective of the Active Channel Capacity Improvements task is to increase and maintain the active river channel capacity. Channel capacity improvements will assist the Program in managing water for the Short Duration High Flow tests made under the Adaptive Management Plan and in delivery of Program water to meet shortage reduction to target flow goals under the Water Plan. There are two sub-tasks:

- WP-1(a) will continue efforts toward increasing North Platte River channel capacity at National Weather Service (NWS) flood stage upstream of the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District (CNPPID) diversion dam to at least 3,000 cfs. This includes efforts toward raising NWS flood stage at North Platte from 6.0 feet to 6.5 feet and increasing by-pass capacity to the South Platte River upstream of North Platte. Additional technical and/or contracting services will be engaged to implement the State Channel Reactivation flood-risk reduction project begun in 2013 and make improvements to by-pass canals on the Suburban and Platte Valley Canals. Specific items associated with this effort and estimated ranges of costs associated with each item are:

1. Implement of flood-risk reduction projects	\$80,000 to \$100,000
2. Vegetation clearing and deep tillage	\$50,000 to \$100,000
3. Design and implementation of canal by-pass projects	\$70,000 to \$120,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$200,000 to \$320,000</b>
	<b>Budget for \$260,000</b>

The budget number is based on approximately 75% of the estimated maximum as a conservative means of dealing with uncertainty associated with cost estimates and experience regarding the ability to accomplish all that is planned. Further detail of the cost estimates for the items described in the 2014 Work Plan follow:

1. Implementation of flood-proofing projects: \$80,000 to \$100,000

The Program is currently amending an existing contract for additional design and permitting services related to the following which will include refined implementation costs estimates. In the interim, the cost estimates provided below are based preliminary estimates from the design professionals. Based on previous estimates provided by the firm for similar work for the Program, these estimates are considered fair and reasonable.



State Channel Improvements \$40,000 to \$60,000  
Estimate for Individual Permit for State Channel \$40,000  
**TOTAL \$80,000 to \$100,000**

2. Vegetation clearing and deep tillage: \$50,000 to \$100,000

Cost will vary, depending on the number of acres of non-woody vegetation sprayed, cleared, and tilled (\$400/acre if all operations performed) and the number of acres of trees cleared, burned, and buried (\$1,500/acre). Unit costs are based on experience and areas are based on preliminary assessment of vegetation removal efforts required. Assumptions used to define low and high end scenarios are included in Table 1.

Table 1. Cost Assumptions.

Scenario	Management Action	Acres*	Unit Cost** (\$/acre)	Cost (\$)
Low End	Non-woody clearing	50	400	20,000
	Tree clearing	20	1,500	30,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>50,000</b>
High End	Non-woody clearing	160	400	64,000
	Tree clearing	24	1,500	36,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100,000</b>

\* Area estimates are based on map delineation of minimum and maximum areas likely to increase hydraulic conveyance if cleared.

\*\*Unit cost estimates have been developed from compilation of bids and costs incurred for this type of work in the riparian woodland/river fringe environment in this area over the past six years. Non-woody clearing consists of shredding and deep, rip tillage. Tree clearing consists of a push over, pile, burn, and bury type of operation. Specific clearing activities have not been identified at this time and additional refinements to these estimates is not currently possible.

3. Design and implementation of canal by-pass projects: \$70,000 to \$120,000

The following cost estimates are for canal improvements on the North Platte and Suburban canals. The estimates are based on experience for similar work performed for the Program awarded through competitive bid processes as well as recent canal improvements undertaken by the Central Platte Natural Resource District (CPNRD) awarded through competitive bid processes. The projects would require hiring a contractor to design and implement.

Design Cost of canal improvements \$30,000 to \$50,000  
Construction Cost of canal improvements \$40,000 to \$70,000  
**TOTAL \$70,000 to \$120,000**  
**Budget for \$100,000**

- WP-1(b) is a cost share with Platte Valley and West Central Weed Management Areas to clear biomass from the North Platte River channel between Kingsley Dam and the CNPPID diversion dam



and from the Platte River between North Platte and Chapman. The work will consist of control, removal and monitoring of invasive vegetation within Platte River channels and its tributaries in Lincoln, Dawson, Buffalo, and Hall counties. Particular emphasis will be placed on work at locations of specific concern with respect to NWS flood stage, for example, the channel in the vicinity of Kearney.

Table 2. Cost Assumptions for WP-1(b).

Category	Amount	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Control (helicopter)	35 hrs	\$1,975/hr	\$69,000
Control (Airboat)	90 hrs	\$140/hr	\$13,000
Survey (helicopter)	5 hrs	\$1,025/hr	\$5,000
Herbicide	203 gals	\$75.13/gal	\$15,000
		Total:	\$102,000

**Budget for \$100,000**

### Products

- Cleared channel.
- Completed flood proofing projects.
- Improved canal capacity.
- Cost estimates for 2015 and 2016 maintenance and additional clearing efforts to maintain all channel sections between Kingsley Dam and Chapman.

### Notes on Cost

Costs for WP-1(b), Active Channel Capacity Maintenance Platte River for the Platte River between the CNPPID Diversion Dam and Chapman, are based on a cost-share program with the Platte Valley and West Central Weed Management Areas. The Program funds will provide matching funds for this effort on a one-for-one match basis.

### Budget

Program Task WP-1								
	2007 Approved	2008 Approved	2009 Approved	2010 Approved	2011 Approved	2012 Approved	2013 Approved	2014 Estimated
<b>WP-1(a):</b> N Platte Channel Above CNPPID Diversion Dam	\$241,000	\$40,000	\$80,000	\$50,000	\$250,000	\$100,000	\$500,000	\$260,000
<b>WP-1(b):</b> North Platte and Platte River Biomass Clearing <sup>a</sup>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$100,000

<sup>a</sup> Matching funds in a cost-share program with Platte Valley and West Central Weed Management Areas

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: WP-4 (a-h). Water Action Plan****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; Contractor

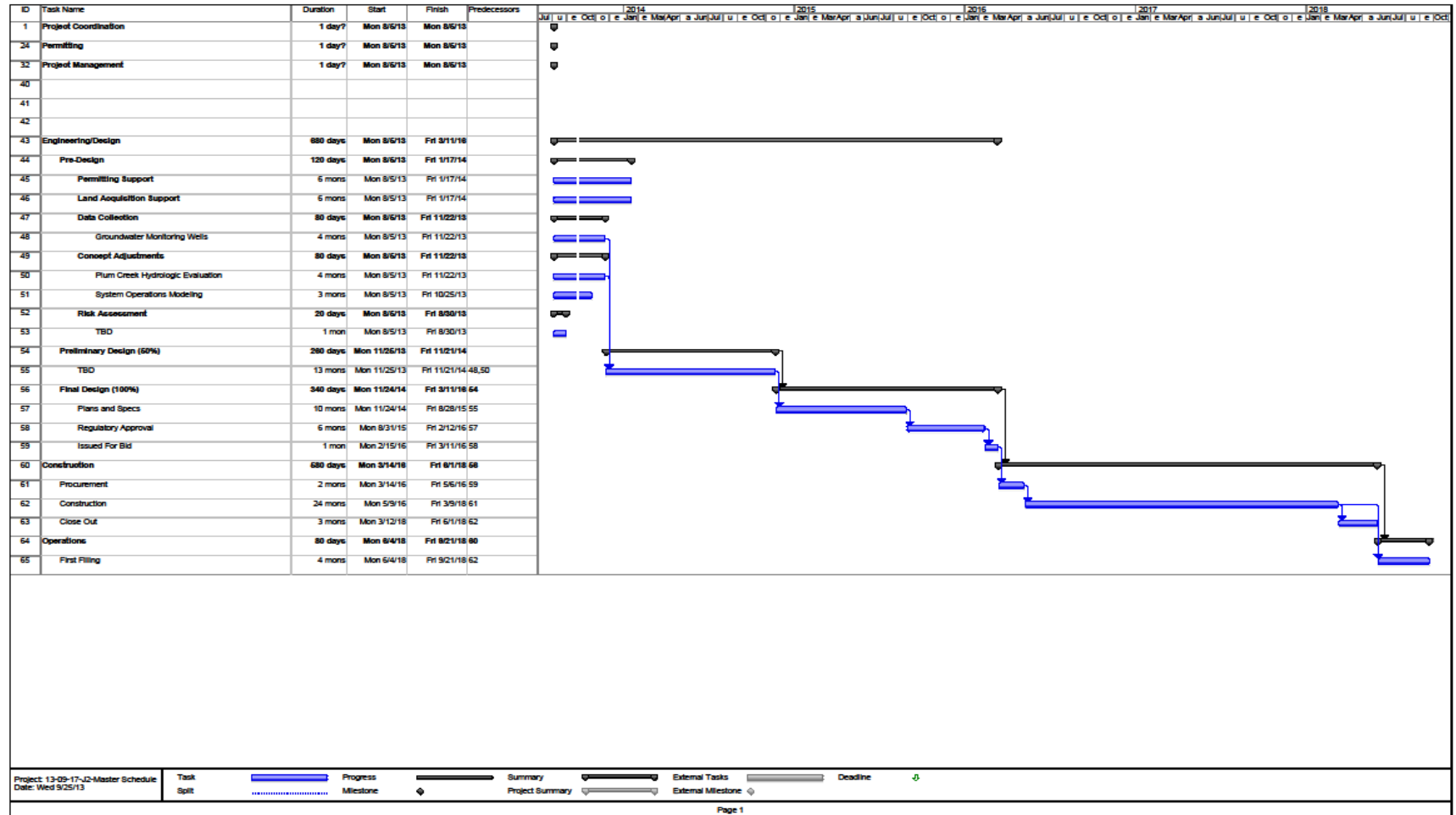
**Task Location**

ED Offices; Contractor Offices; Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming

**Task Description**

Under WP-4, the Program intends to advance projects from the 2009 Water Action Plan Update through feasibility into full implementation, including design and construction. The ED Office will work with the Water Advisory Committee and associated Work Groups to evaluate the potential yield, permitting requirements, and costs associated with various projects. The potential benefits of joint project operations will also be considered (e.g. ground water recharge projects may assist in mitigating impacts of ground water management activities). The following paragraphs provide a brief description of the anticipated sub-tasks included in the 2014 budget:

- WP-4(a) J2 Regulating Reservoir – In 2014, the budget will be used to fund the first year of construction costs for the J2 Regulating Reservoir. The total construction cost budget of \$57,662,554 is required to be available before construction begins to ensure the full funds to complete the project are reserved. Therefore, the budgeted funds for the project will be acquired in 2014, 2015 and 2016, whereas construction is projected to begin in 2017. The final design for the reservoir is anticipated to be completed by the contractor in 2015 and 2016 and the project's construction and final permitting are projected to initiate in 2017 and continue through 2018. The schedule through construction is based on the projected schedule provided by RJH Consultants, Inc. in the J-2 Regulating Reservoir Conceptual Design Report (February 2013). The projected schedule is provided on the following page.







1 The budget estimate for 2014 is based on the first year of a three-year projected upfront construction cost  
2 payment, projected for budgeting in 2014 through 2016. The 2014 portion of the three-year projected  
3 upfront cost payment is approximately \$19,200,000 from all parties, which includes approximately  
4 \$14,400,000 from the Program and \$4,800,000 from the NDNR. Construction costs payments are  
5 anticipated to be reserved in the 2014, 2015 and 2016 budgets so that the full funds are available for  
6 actual reservoir construction in 2017 and 2018. The total Program portion of the cost through construction  
7 is approximately \$43,200,000 in three years (2014, 2015 and 2016), or about \$14,400,000 per year. This  
8 cost covers the Program portion of base construction cost (general site work, seepage management/liner,  
9 embankments, slope protection, tributary work, inlets/outlets, Phelps County Canal work),  
10 mobilization/demobilization (1.5% of base construction cost), bonds/insurance (1% of base construction  
11 cost), a 20% contingency on the direct construction cost (base construction cost plus  
12 mobilization/demobilization and bonds/insurance), construction engineering (8% of the direct  
13 construction cost) and a 2.5% administration cost (based on the subtotal cost less CNPPID's share of  
14 \$1,500,000). The construction cost estimate is based on the J-2 Regulating Reservoir Conceptual Design  
15 Report prepared by RJH Consultants, Inc. in 2013. A summary of estimated costs are shown in Table 1.



1 Table 1. J-2 Regulating Reservoir Cost Summary.

Item	Row	Cost
General Site Work	A	\$ 1,468,900
Seepage Management/Liner	B	\$ 13,794,900
Embankments	C	\$ 8,003,450
Slope Protection	D	\$ 10,447,900
Plum Creek/Unnamed Tributary	E	\$ 2,558,000
Inlets and Outlets	F	\$ 5,136,892
Phelps County Canal	G	\$ 2,540,075
<b>Base Construction Cost (BCC)</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>\$ 43,950,117</b>
Mob/Demobilization & Bonds and Insurance (2.5% of BCC)	I	\$ 1,098,753
<b>Direct Construction Cost (DCC)</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>\$ 45,048,870</b>
Contingency (20% of DCC)	K	\$ 9,009,774
Construction Engineering (8% of DCC)	L	\$ 3,603,910
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>\$ 57,662,554</b>
CNPPID Share	N	\$ 1,500,000
NDNR and Program Share	O	\$ 56,162,554
Administration (2.5% of NDNR and Program Share)	P	\$ 1,404,064
<b>NDNR and Program Total Share</b>	<b>Q</b>	<b>\$ 57,566,617</b>
NDNR Share (25%)	R	\$ 14,391,654
Program Share (75%)	S	\$ 43,174,963
<b>Program Three-Year Cost</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>\$ 14,391,654</b>

## Row Notes:

A through G. Based on RJH Consultants, Inc.'s J-2 Regulating Reservoir Conceptual Design Report (Feb 2013).

H. Sum of Rows A-G.

I. Row H  $\times$  2.5%.

J. Rows H + I.

K. Row J  $\times$  20%.L. Row J  $\times$  8%.

M. Sum of Rows J-L.

N. Based on CNPPID's portion in the Three-Party Agreement.

O. Row M - Row N.

P. Row O  $\times$  2.5%.

Q. Row O + Row P.

R. Row Q  $\times$  25%. Based on NDNR's portion in the Three-Party Agreement.S. Row Q  $\times$  75%. Based on Program's portion in the Three-Party Agreement.T. Row S  $\div$  3 years. Based on estimated payment schedule from 2014-2016.

- WP-4(b) Nebraska Ground Water Recharge – The Phelps County Canal (CNPPID) and Central Platte Natural Resources District (CPNRD) ground water recharge leasing projects are included in this line item.



1 The Phelps County Canal ground water recharge project commenced in fall 2012. The installation of  
2 the associated monitoring equipment was previously approved and completed under the 2012 and  
3 2013 budgets. The 2013 budget will be used for the 2013-2014 recharge season operations. The 2014  
4 budget will be used for the 2014-2015 recharge season operations. A Water Service Agreement with  
5 CNPPID and the full-scale implementation of the project will continue in the fall of 2014 through  
6 spring 2015. The anticipated 2014 activities include continued water permitting for recharge  
7 operations (it is anticipated that the permanent recharge permits may be approved in 2014), minor  
8 canal-related infrastructure improvements, and operation and maintenance associated with full-scale  
9 canal recharge. The permanent recharge permits include recharge in the Tri-County Canal, Phelps  
10 County Canal and E65 Canal with a maximum total diversion rate of 700 cfs, or 350 cfs in the Phelps  
11 County Canal and 350 cfs in the E65 Canal. The canal capacity rates are 1,000 cfs and 350 cfs for the  
12 Phelps County Canal and the E65 Canal, respectively. The permanent recharge permits were  
13 submitted to the NDNR in 2012 and are currently pending. CNPPID filed for an application for a  
14 permit to appropriate excess natural streamflow for the purpose of recharge operations for instream  
15 uses for the Program. CNPPID and the Program may operate under the temporary recharge permits  
16 during the 2013-2014 season, depending on whether the permanent recharge permits are approved by  
17 the NDNR in the coming year. In 2013, CNPPID applied for a temporary permit to appropriate  
18 natural streamflow for recharge in the Phelps County Canal for instream uses for the Program, up to  
19 350 cfs. This permit is also currently pending.

20  
21 The Program and CNPPID intend to divert excess flows into both the Phelps County Canal and the  
22 E65 Canal for recharge in the fall of 2014 under the permanent permits, which are anticipated to be  
23 approved by the NDNR before the start of 2014-2015 season operations. The budget cost estimate is  
24 \$26/acre-foot per the long-term Water Service Agreement with CNPPID for water delivered into the  
25 Phelps County Canal for ground water recharge operations. CNPPID intends to divert recharge into  
26 the canal through (and potentially) beyond Mile Post 13.3, which is a canal check location, allowing  
27 the canal to serve as surface water storage. The budget cost for recharge in the E65 canal is \$37/acre-  
28 foot of water delivered by CNPPID, per the long-term Water Service Agreement. For the 2014  
29 budget, it was assumed approximately 75% of the water delivered by CNPPID will be diverted into  
30 the Phelps County Canal and approximately 25% will be diverted into the E65 Canal for recharge  
31 purposes.

32  
33 The ED Office estimated a 2014 volume of 9,261 acre-feet delivered into the Phelps County Canal for  
34 recharge purposes. The Program intends to purchase 50% of the delivered volume, per the Water  
35 Service Agreement with CNPPID. The volume delivered is based on the ED Office's preliminary  
36 Phelps County Canal Ground Water Recharge Scoring Analysis Memo (dated 7/22/2013 to the  
37 Governance Committee's Scoring Subcommittee) for recharge operations from mid-September  
38 through mid-April. The estimate is based on the excess flows available using OpStudy Hydrology and  
39 a canal diversion of 115 cfs, which is conservative considering the permit appropriations submitted to  
40 NDNR assumed a maximum diversion rate of 350 cfs per canal (Phelps County Canal and E65  
41 Canal). Many of the assumptions used in the Phelps County Canal ground water recharge preliminary  
42 score analysis are similar to the score model assumptions approved by the Governance Committee for  
43 the J-2 Regulating Reservoir.

44  
45 The ED Office did not evaluate the delivery potential and recharge operations in the E65 Canal in the  
46 preliminary scoring analysis; therefore, the ED Office used the Phelps County Canal preliminary  
47 scoring analysis results to calculate a projected delivery volume for recharge in the E65 Canal. Since  
48 it is assumed approximately 75% of the water delivered by CNPPID will be recharged in the Phelps  
49 County Canal and 25% will be recharged in the E65 Canal, the ED Office estimated an additional



3,087 acre-feet delivered into the E65 Canal in the 2014-2015 season. Again, the Program intends to purchase 50% of the water delivered in the E65 Canal per the Water Service Agreement. This projected volume is based on the following calculation:  $9,261 \text{ acre-feet} \div (75\% \div 25\%) = 3,087 \text{ acre-feet}$  delivered in the E65 Canal. Therefore, the total volume of recharge in the Phelps County Canal and E65 Canal is projected to be 12,348 acre-feet ( $9,261 \text{ acre-feet} + 3,087 \text{ acre-feet}$ ) during the 2014-2015 recharge season. The Program portion will be 50% of the total volume, or 6,174 acre-feet. The projected volume may change during actual operations; the actual volume diverted into the Phelps County Canal for recharge in 2014 will be measured and recorded. Note that the deliveries into recharge do not represent the Program's score towards to the First Increment at Grand Island. In the Phelps County Canal preliminary scoring analysis, it was determined that approximately 40% of the deliveries into recharge contribute to the project score (referred to as the "score efficiency"), based on the timing of the lagged accretions to the river during target flow shortages periods. It is assumed the score efficiency of deliveries into the E65 Canal may be lower than the Phelps County Canal due to a greater distance from the river; however, this has not been modeled at this time.

Based on the assumptions described above, the total cost for recharge operations with CNPID in the Phelps County Canal and the E65 Canal is \$355,000 (\$240,800 for the Phelps County Canal and \$114,200 for the E65 Canal). The Program will pay for 50% of this cost, or approximately \$177,500. The total cost is based on a Phelps County Canal delivery cost of \$26/acre-foot  $\times$  9,261 acre-feet, or a total cost of approximately \$240,800 and an E65 Canal cost of \$37/acre-foot  $\times$  3,087 acre-feet, or a total of approximately \$114,200. The actual costs during recharge will be based on measured deliveries by CNPID.

The CPNRD ground water recharge Water Use Lease Agreement would be for recharged water in the Orchard-Alfalfa, 30-Mile, and Cozad Canals. The water supply for recharge operations in the three canals will be flows in excess of target and instream flows in the Platte River. CPNRD submitted permanent permits for new surface water appropriations of natural flow for the purpose of recharge with the NDNR in 2011 and the permits are currently pending at this time. CPNRD filed for permits for 100 cfs of excess flow diversion in the 30-Mile Canal, 100 cfs in the Cozad Canal and 75 cfs in the Orchard-Alfalfa Canal. The budget for CPNRD recharge lease based on \$35/acre-foot for 5,125 acre-feet of recharged water, per the draft Water Use Lease Agreement with CPNRD. The draft Water Use Lease Agreement provides information regarding the costs and volumes associated with CPNRD's ground water recharge leasing and surface water leasing with the Program. The unit cost and yield volume are based on the draft Water Use Lease Agreement, which estimates half of the 20,500 acre-foot yield of the project (10,250 acre-feet) will be available for the Program. The lease will be divided into a 50% ground water recharge volume (5,125 acre-feet) and a 50% surface water lease volume. The total volume is based CPNRD's historical water use evaluation; however, the actual volume of recharge in 2014 is dependent on the excess flows available for diversion into the canals, and is subject to change from the value provided in this document. The actual diversions into recharge will be measured and recorded. The surface water leasing budget is not included in this line item; surface water leasing with CPNRD is included in line item WP-4(f).

- WP-4(c) Net Controllable Conserved Water – The annual lease agreement with CNPID is anticipated to be for a volume of 10,586 acre-feet of Net Controllable Conserved Water available at Lake McConaughy. The budget estimate is based on \$219/acre-foot for 10,586 acre-feet. The volume estimate was provided by CNPID in an offer letter to the Program on September 5, 2013. CNPID's offer letter listed \$5,472/acre-foot for a 25-year lease agreement or a total of \$57,922,300 for the 10,586 acre-feet ( $\$5,472/\text{acre-foot} \div 25 \text{ years} = \$219/\text{acre-foot}$ ). The budget estimate of



\$219/acre-foot for the Program in 2014 based on assumption that the Program will be able to negotiate a short-term contract with CNPPID for the remainder of the First Increment at a cost of \$219/acre-foot, which is the unit cost value per acre-foot in CNPPID's offer letter. The Program intends to lease water for the remainder of the First Increment (2014 through 2019) with an option to renew for the remainder of the 25-year period offered by CNPPID.

- WP-4(f) Nebraska Water Leasing – The Program intends to work with CPNRD under the Orchard-Alfalfa, 30-Mile, and Cozad Canals and with Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) under the Dawson Canal to lease surface water flows with direct returns to the river during the irrigation season.

CPNRD proposes to transfer the consumptive use from natural flow associated with surface water irrigation rights to instream flow purposes to increase streamflow in the Platte River. The transferred surface irrigation rights are from willing irrigators who may switch to a groundwater supply to irrigate their land. Surface water rights from the Thirty-Mile Canal, Cozad Canal and Orchard-Alfalfa Canal will be transferred to instream uses for the Program. CPNRD anticipates filing the water right transfer permits for temporary changes of use from irrigation to instream flows with the NDNR in fall of 2013. Based on the draft Water Use Lease Agreement with CPNRD, the estimated yield is 5,125 acre-feet per year at the river for \$35/acre-foot. The unit cost and yield volume are based on the draft Water Use Lease Agreement, which estimates half of the 20,500 acre-foot yield of the project (10,250 acre-feet per year) will be available for the Program. The leased water will be divided into a 50% ground water recharge volume (5,125 acre-feet per year) and a 50% surface water lease volume, based on CPNRD's evaluation. The projected volume of water under the water leasing project is depending on the water available in 2014 and is subject to change from the estimate provided in this document. Although the draft Water Use Lease Agreement includes both the surface water leasing and the ground water recharge leasing, each project will be itemized separately in the Program budget. The ground water recharge leasing budget is not included in this line item; recharge leasing is included in line item WP-4(b).

The yield of approximately 5,125 acre-feet will be available for the Program at the Platte River where the future return flow structures will be constructed on each canal. The water will be diverted and measured at each headgate and subsequently returned to the river at a location below each canal headgate. CPNRD will use an accounting system to track the surface water diverted into the canals, the volume returned to the river via return structures and the volume of groundwater pumping impacting the river. Daily account records from the return structure will be summed each month and the monthly groundwater depletions for the transferred acres will be calculated. The monthly accretions and depletions at the Platte River will be used to determine the volume of water leased.

NPPD proposes to temporarily transfer the consumptive use portion of the natural flow available from 886.5 relinquished acres under the Dawson Canal Water Appropriation D-622 to an instream use for the Program. Irrigators can willingly relinquish surface water acreage where they no longer need the water. NPPD filed for a temporary change of appropriation permit with the NDNR in July 2013. The permit application requested a temporary change from irrigation to instream use for 6 years from May 14, 2014 through 2019 at a rate of a maximum of 7.6 cubic feet per second (cfs) up to a maximum of 761 acre-feet. Based on NPPD's analysis of water right availability data from 2001 through 2012, the transfer will yield an average annual volume of 690 acre-feet. The Program submitted a letter of support for the temporary change of use that was included with the permit application. The status of the permit application is currently pending. For the water leasing project, NPPD intends to continue diverting Appropriation D-622 into the Dawson County Canal and then return the consumptive use



portion to the Platte River. The yield will be available for the Program just downstream of the Dawson County Canal headgate, at a return flow station that will be constructed in the future.

The NPPD lease cost per acre-foot is based on a projected maximum cost estimate completed by the ED Office. The ED Office multiplied the Crop Irrigation Requirement (CIR) per acre by the value of an acre of cropland, estimated at \$160 per acre. The CIR value was calculated by NPPD as 10.3 inches/acre. This is based on a weighted average canal area CIR of 11.1 inches/ acre multiplied by 93%, which is the estimated proportion of natural flow in the canal (storage water will not be transferred), as shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Summary of NPPD Water Leasing Calculations.

(A) Transferred Acres	(B) Weighted Average CIR (inches/acre)	(C) Proportion of Natural Flow	(D) Natural Flow CIR (inches/acre)	(E) Volume of Water for Transfer (AF)
886.5	11.1	93%	10.3	761

(A) Relinquished acres historically irrigated with surface water.

(B) Average CIR based on cropping patterns in the canal area and CIR values from COHYST.

(C) Proportion of natural flow diverted into the canal (the remaining 7% is storage water, which will not be transferred).

(D) Natural Flow CIR = Columns (B  $\times$  C)

(E) Transfer Volume = Columns (A  $\times$  D)  $\div$  12 inches/foot

The ED Office divided the \$160/acre by (10.3 inches/12 inches per foot) to obtain an estimated water leasing cost, which equates to a unit cost of approximately \$190 per acre-foot of water. The total volume of water available to the Program is estimated at a maximum of 761 acre-feet per year, based on NPPD's historical consumptive use analysis and included in the permit application to the NDNR for a temporary transfer to instream uses.

- WP-4(h) Nebraska Ground Water Management – The Funk Lagoon a series of three basins that fill with water from runoff and precipitation, located in the Tri-Basin Natural Resource District south of Kearney. The property is located just north of CNPPID's Phelps County Canal, which can be used to provide a water supply to the lagoon. The Funk Lagoon property is owned by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and managed by the Rainwater Basin Wetland Management District as waterfowl habitat. The Program will work with the Rainwater Basin Wetland Management District and CNPPID in 2014 to develop a conceptual project design, likely involving storing leased water from CNPPID in the Funk Lagoon and later releasing water to reduce shortages and retime flows. The conceptual design will be further refined in 2014. The natural runoff in the Funk Lagoon may also be used to reduce shortages to target flows. It is anticipated the Program will lease approximately 2,000 acre-feet in 2014 from CNPPID to supply the Funk Lagoon, per the draft Water Service Agreement with CNPPID dated September 20, 2013. The unit cost described in the Water Service Agreement is \$25/acre-foot of water delivered from the Phelps County Canal to the Funk Lagoon, similar to the water delivery charge of the Phelps County Canal ground water recharge project. The Rainwater Basin Wetland Management District will also sponsor the Funk Lagoon project and pay 20% of the lease cost with CNPPID. The lease contract will be for 2,000 acre-feet for a total cost of approximately \$50,000 per year (2,000 acre-feet at \$25/acre-foot). The total Program cost will be \$40,000, which is based on 80% of the \$50,000 total project water cost. CNPPID intends to submit a



temporary permit to recharge excess flows in the Funk Lagoon for feasibility testing and instream uses for the purpose of the Program.

The 2014 budget will also be used to complete feasibility study analyses for the Funk Lagoon project. The feasibility study budget included in this line item will be for equipment, such as measuring and recording devices for the Funk Lagoon. This may include equipment to support ground water recharge operations and well monitoring, surface water monitoring and releases to meet shortages to target flow at Grand Island. The equipment budget is estimated by the ED Office as \$20,000 for 2014.

### Products

- J-2 Regulating Reservoir: First year of three-year (2014-2016) construction cost for reservoir and canal improvement.
- Nebraska Groundwater Recharge: Water Service Agreement with CNPPID, temporary and permanent permits for recharging excess flows available in CNPPID's system.
- Net Controllable Conserved Water: Water Agreement with CNPPID for conserved water available in Lake McConaughy.
- Nebraska Water Leasing: Lease agreements with CPNRD and NPPD for surface water leases in canals.
- Nebraska Ground Water Management: Lease agreement with Rainwater Basin Wetland Management District for use of Funk Lagoon and lease with CNPPID for a water supply. Temporary permit to recharge excess flows for Program purposes. Feasibility study monitoring, measure and/or recording equipment for the 2014 operations of the Funk Lagoon.
- Water supply-related permits/proof of ownership, as necessary for projects.
- Water rights evaluations and feasibility studies, as necessary for projects.
- Cost estimates for 2014 and long-term operations and maintenance of projects.

### Notes on Cost

Specific expenditures will require authorization of Finance Committee. Cost estimates are based on feasibility study information, ED Office analyses and other project sponsor estimates and will be updated based on any additional studies currently being completed. In general, estimates account for project sponsor contributions.

**Budget**

	Program Task WP-4							
	2007 App	2008 App	2009 App	2010 App	2011 Approved	2012 Approved	2013 Approved	2014 Estimated
<b>WP-4(a):</b> Rereg. Reservoir	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,500,000	\$9,000,000	\$13,000,000	\$14,392,000
<b>WP-4(b):</b> Nebraska Ground Water Recharge	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$600,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$357,000
<b>WP-4(c):</b> Net Control. Conserv. Water	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$2,318,000
<b>WP-4(d):</b> Pathfinder Municipal Account	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0
<b>WP-4(e):</b> CO GW Mgmt.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>WP-4(f):</b> NE Water Leasing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500,000	\$150,000	\$324,000
<b>WP-4(g):</b> Water Mgmt. Incentives	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>WP-4(h):</b> NE Ground Water Mgmt.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$250,000	\$60,000
<b>WP-4 Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$5,100,000</b>	<b>\$11,800,000</b>	<b>\$15,100,000</b>	<b>\$17,451,000</b>



**PROGRAM TASK & ID: WP-5. Management Tool****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; Contractor

**Task Location**

ED Offices; Contractor Offices

**Task Description**

The COHYST Tool, as it is being developed, will provide an integrated surface water, ground water, and watershed model for the Platte River between Lake McConaughy and Duncan, Nebraska. It is anticipated to be a valuable tool for planning efforts under the PRRIP Water Plan. The COHYST Tool is being funded by several PRRIP participants, and in 2009 the PRRIP received authorization from these participants to use the tool for PRRIP purposes. Under this agreement, model enhancements or analyses specifically for PRRIP purposes, as well as any ED Office staff training or software needed, must be provided directly by PRRIP funds.

The COHYST modeling system is on schedule to be functional in the first quarter of 2014, and will be a candidate for use as the comprehensive operational tool. Consequently, some level of training on the modeling system will be required for ED Office staff to assess the COHYST tool for this role. In addition, while any scenarios that will be run on behalf of PRRIP in 2014 will need to be run and documented by the COHYST consultant team because of the complexity of use of the tool at this point, fundamental training will be required to allow ED Office staff to confirm that the scenarios were run as intended and to interpret the results. The details of the cost estimate for these efforts are provided in Table 1.

WP-5		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ -	\$ -
2010	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 67,000.00



1 Table 1. COHYST Training, Model Analysis, and Reporting Cost Summary.

Item	Description	Cost
Software and Training	Costs include STELLA software or other software required to run the COHYST modeling system and training in the fundamentals of use and operation of the COHYST modeling system for EDO staff. Software costs are estimated at \$2,000, based on the vendor's website, and training costs are estimated at \$8,000, based on 40 hours at \$200/hour. Billing rates are based on previous contracts awarded in a competitive process and are assumed to be fair and reasonable. Training costs assume a very senior individual and/or a skilled modeler with excellent instructor skills providing 24 hours of training classes with 16 hours of follow up support when questions arise.	\$10,000
Model Analysis	Costs are based on experience and assume a contract for the COHYST consultant team to run 6 specific model scenarios at a cost of \$7,500 each. Costs assume a mid-level modeler will spend 60 hours for each scenario at a billing rate of \$125/hour. Billing rates are based on previous contracts awarded in a competitive process and are assumed to be fair and reasonable. Model scenarios will be prepared by the EDO staff and the Water Advisory Committee to assist in project feasibility analyses, scoring of individual projects, and analyzing impacts of multiple projects, etc.	\$45,000
Documentation and Reports	Costs are based on experience and include a contract for the COHYST consultant team to develop documentation for 6 scenario simulations at \$2,000 each. Costs assume a mid-level modeler will spend 20 hours for each scenario at a billing rate of \$125/hour. Billing rates are based on previous contracts awarded in a competitive process and are assumed to be fair and reasonable.	\$12,000
TOTAL		\$67,000

2  
3 **Products**

- 4 • ED Office training and software needed to run the model(s).
- 5 • Model analyses performed by the ED Office and/or consultant for PRRIP purposes.
- 6 • Briefing documents or reports with model evaluations and recommendations.

7  
8 **Notes on Cost**

9 Specific expenditures will require authorization of Finance Committee.

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: WP-8. Water Plan Special Advisors****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; Contractor

**Task Location**

ED Offices; Contractor Offices

**Task Description**

The ED Office may rely on special advisors to assist in Water Plan-related issues beyond staff expertise or to assist with short-term schedule challenges. These areas may include, but not be limited to: economics, water infrastructure, structural, and hydrogeology/ground water. Anticipated Special Advisors include:

*Economics and Water Markets: \$20,000 to \$30,000*

Economic and water market expertise may be required for analysis of costs on the Net Controllable Conserved Water project, the Water Management Incentives project, and the water lease agreements with the Nebraska Public Power District and the Central Platte Natural Resource District. Cost estimates are based on 160 to 240 hours at a billing rate of \$125/hour, for a total of \$20,000 to \$30,000. Billing rates are based on previous contracts awarded in a competitive process and are assumed to be fair and reasonable. George Oamek is contracted as the Program's special advisor for economics and water markets.

*Hydrogeology and Groundwater: \$45,000 to \$75,000*

Several projects include hydrogeologic elements that may require further expertise, including the Phelps groundwater recharge project, the groundwater recharge component of the CPNRD lease agreement, the wet meadows hydrologic monitoring project, the Funk Lagoon project, and COHYST scenario runs. Cost estimates are based on 300 to 500 hours at a billing rate of \$150/hour, for a total of \$45,000 to \$75,000. Billing rates are based on previous contracts awarded in a competitive process and are assumed to be fair and reasonable. Bill Hahn is contracted as the Program's special advisor for hydrogeology and groundwater.

*Civil Infrastructure: \$20,000 to \$40,000*

The J-2 Regulating Reservoir may require civil infrastructure, water project permitting, and/or dams and hydraulic structures expertise. Cost estimates are based on approximately 130 to 260 hours at a billing rate of \$155/hour, for a total of \$20,000 to \$40,000. Billing rates are based on previous contracts awarded in a competitive process and are assumed to be fair and reasonable. Tara Schutter is the Program's contracted special advisor for civil infrastructure.

WP-8		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ -	\$ -
2010	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 125,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00



**PROGRAM TASK & ID: WP-9. Miscellaneous Water Resources Studies****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; Contractor

**Task Location**

ED Offices; Contractor Offices

WP-9		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ -	\$ -
2010	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 25,000.00

**Task Description**

The purpose of this task is to establish reserved but readily accessible funds for water resources studies and investigations, if necessary, to meet the Water Plan objectives. These investigations would be related to, but not necessarily limited to, specific Water Action Plan alternatives, such as investigations to better define fundamental hydrologic and water balance components such as evapotranspiration of non-crop areas, channel loss/bank storage, and surface/ground water interactions. Potential specific projects for 2014 might include:

- Extension of work on use of Hydroclimatic Indices as long-range predictors of stream flow.
- Investigations or analysis of agricultural practices related to conservation practices project underway under auspices of Platte River Coalition.
- Investigations or monitoring separate from but related to wet meadow hydrology efforts under Adaptive Management Plan item IMRP-2.

**Products**

- Reports and study results.

**Notes on Cost**

The purpose of this task is to establish reserved but readily accessible funds for water resources studies and investigations, if necessary, to meet the Water Plan objectives. These investigations would be related to, but not necessarily limited to, specific Water Action Plan alternatives, such as investigations to better define fundamental hydrologic and water balance components such as evapotranspiration of non-crop areas, channel loss/bank storage, and surface/ground water interactions. **Any expenditure of funding under this budget item will require specific authorization from the Program Finance Committee.**

The contracts for these services will be awarded based on a competitive process in conformance with the Procurement policy. The selection of the firms performing these services will be made through a competitive process as defined in the Procurement Policy. These costs were estimated based on costs incurred for similar work performed for the Program through the competitive procurement process over the previous six plus years. The work was awarded in conformance with the Procurement Policy through competitive procurement processes. As the budget estimate is developed by using rates and the level of effort for similar work acquired for the Program through the competitive procurement process, and final



- 1 negotiation and award of the contract will be acquired through competition, the estimate for this work is
- 2 considered fair and reasonable.

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: PD-12. Model Application****Program First Increment Timeline**  
FY2009-FY2014**FY 2014 Start Date**  
January 1, 2014**FY 2014 End Date**  
December 31, 2014**Task Completed by**  
ED Office; AMWG; TAC; Contractor (Tetra Tech and HDR)**Task Location**

ED Office (Kearney, NE; Lincoln, NE; Denver, CO); various meeting locations

**Task Description**

As-needed assistance from Program modeling contractors (Tetra Tech and HDR) for application and maintenance of Program hydrodynamic and sediment transport models.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Integral to learning about physical process priority hypotheses Flow #1, Flow #3, Flow #5, Sediment #1, and Mechanical #2 and related Big Questions (#1, #2, #3, and #4). Supporting information for flow-vegetation-sediment relationships and what FSM management strategy will do on the central Platte River.

**Products**

Technical assistance to EDO for the operation of existing models.

**Notes on Cost**

Costs were estimated through discussions with the team that originally developed the model. The team that originally developed the model was selected for that project in 2010 through a competitive process in conformance with the Procurement Policy. These estimated costs were validated based on costs incurred for similar work performed for the Program through the competitive procurement process over the previous six plus years. The work was awarded in conformance with the Procurement Policy through competitive procurement processes. As the budget estimate is developed by using rates and the level of effort for similar work acquired for the Program through the competitive procurement process, and final negotiation and award of the contract was acquired through competition, the estimate for this work is considered fair and reasonable.

PD-12		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ 360,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 400,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 20,000.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: PD-13. Sediment Augmentation Feasibility  
Analysis, Design, and Permitting****Program First Increment Timeline**  
FY2009-FY2019**FY 2014 Start Date**  
January 1, 2014**FY 2014 End Date**  
December 31, 2014**Task Completed by**  
ED Office; AMWG; TAC; contractor**Task Location**

ED Office (Kearney, NE and Lincoln, NE); Central Platte River, NE

**Task Description**

Implementation of full-scale sediment augmentation, including construction oversight, monitoring, data analysis, and reporting.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Integral to learning about physical process priority hypothesis Sediment #1 and Big Question #3.

**Products**

Construction oversight, annual reporting including data analysis.

**Notes on Cost**

A new contractor will be secured through the Program's competitive selection process. As the budget estimate is developed by using rates and the level of effort for similar work acquired for the Program through the competitive procurement process, final negotiation and award of this contract will be acquired through competition and the estimate for this work is considered fair and reasonable.

PD-13		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ 400,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 350,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 540,888.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 671,404.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 500,000.00



**PROGRAM TASK & ID: LP-2. FSM/MCM Actions at Habitat Complexes****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; contractors

**Task Location**

Plum Creek Complex, Cottonwood Ranch Complex; Elm Creek Complex; Fort Kearny Complex; Shoemaker Island Complex; and non-complex properties.

**Task Description**

Implementation of target species habitat restoration and maintenance activities at Program habitat complexes and non-complex properties. Activities generally include creation and maintenance of tern and plover on and off-channel nesting habitats and creation and maintenance of on and off-channel whooping crane roosting habitat. Some of the specific management actions are tree clearing, nesting island construction, channel disking, herbicide application, and seeding. See **Appendix A** for a detailed breakdown of LP-2 actions by habitat complex.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Habitat complexes for implementation of AMP management actions and testing of priority hypotheses.

**Products**

Tern/plover nesting islands, minimum channel widths, and minimum unobstructed widths at habitat complexes for evaluation of target species use. Cost experience is captured in bid tabulation spreadsheets capturing five years of bid/contracting experience through the Program's competitive procurement process at this point. The appropriate spreadsheets are updated after each competitive bid process is completed. The competitive bid/contracting experience of the Program is also compared to similar information developed by conservation partners in the Lexington to Grand Island area to have a solid handle on the market in the local area. The selection of the firms performing these services will be made through competitive processes as defined in the Procurement Policy. As the budget estimate is developed by using rates and the level of effort for similar work acquired for the Program through the competitive procurement process, and final negotiation and award of the contracts will be acquired through competition, the estimate for this work is considered fair and reasonable.

**Notes on Cost**

See **Appendix A** for specific details.

LP-2		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$1,400,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$1,270,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 483,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 639,130.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 890,450.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 432,080.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: PD-15. AMP Permits****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; contractor (HDR)

**Task Location**

ED Office (Kearney, NE and Lincoln, NE)

**Task Description**

Contract services from HDR (extension of existing permit work) to secure site-specific Individual Permits for AMP management actions at the Ft. Kearny Complex.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Necessary to ensure implementation of AMP management actions.

**Products**

Permit(s)

**Notes on Cost**

Contract services from HDR (extension of existing permit work) to secure site-specific Individual Permits for AMP management actions (island building, vegetation clearing, channel widening). The team performing this work was selected in 2009 through a competitive procurement process in conformance with the Procurement Policy. The industry standard of practice cost guidelines used in the negotiation process is established based on an on-going market survey process comparing labor rates and time estimates of similarly qualified professionals in the field. As the budget estimate is developed by using rates and the level of effort for similar work acquired for the Program through the competitive procurement process, and final negotiation and award of the contract was acquired through competition, the estimate for this work is considered fair and reasonable.

PD-15		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: PD-18. AMP-Related Equipment****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office

**Task Location**

Central Platte River

**Task Description**

Headwaters Corporation owns equipment and will charge the Program a use rate for Program-related activities.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Specific equipment important as management and monitoring tools related to AMP implementation.

**Products**

Equipment charges are calculated on an annual basis and then converted into monthly rates. The basic methodology was described in detail in a memo to the Finance Committee/Governance Committee dated 11/02/11. Some adjustments were made in costs based on 2013 experience and anticipated changes for 2014, but these were shifts between categories and did not raise the estimated PD-18 budget amount. Expenses were shifted from Use & Maintenance category to Fuel or License/Insurance categories. The categories and associated calculation methods are summarized and the corresponding values tabulated below.

The cost categories used and the calculation methodologies are as follows:

Use & Maintenance – the use portion is calculated on an annualized replacement cost for the equipment or a passed through lease cost and the maintenance portion is calculated based on experience data and known periodic significant maintenance items (e.g., replacement of the bottom shield of the airboat) that are annualized to stabilize equipment costs between years.

Fuel – the anticipated fuel costs based on anticipated miles, known miles per gallon rates, and anticipated cost of gasoline (weighted toward summer prices because that is the season of heaviest equipment use). A rate of \$3.95/gallon is used in developing these costs.

License/Insurance – the cost of licensing (trucks, airboats, and trailers all require licenses) and insuring the equipment, including liability insurance, is included in this cost.

PD-18		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ 140,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 55,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 66,215.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 66,215.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 80,000.00

1 **MONTHLY EQUIPMENT COSTS**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Use &amp; Maintenance (\$)</b>	<b>Fuel (\$)</b>	<b>License/Insurance (\$)</b>	<b>Monthly Total (\$)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
2011 Toyota Tundra	600.00	815.00	250.00	1,705.00	Leased by Headwaters Corp
2009 Chevy Silverado	350.00	670.00	150.00	1,200.00	Owned by Headwaters Corp
1987 Toyota 4X4	150.00	125.00	125.00	415.00	Owned by Headwaters Corp
Airboat & Trailer	750.00	350.00	300.00	1,300.00	Owned by Headwaters Corp
Argo & Trailer	350.00	25.00	150.00	505.00	Owned by Headwaters Corp
ATV & Trailer	150.00	25.00	100.00	295.00	Owned by Headwaters Corp
Canoe Trailer	40.00		25.00	80.00	Owned by Headwaters Corp
<b>TOTAL</b>	2,390.00	2,010.00	1,100.00	5,500.00	Owned by Headwaters Corp

- 2
- 3 The cost of fuel is a significant piece of the equipment costs (nearly 40% of the total), and the unit cost of
- 4 gasoline is the most uncertain of all factors used in the development of these costs.

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: G-1 & G-2 (combined). LiDAR & Aerial Photography****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

Contractor (Kucera International, Inc.)

**Task Location**

Central Platte River, NE (Program associated habitats in central Platte)

**Task Description**

Acquire annual LiDAR data and aerial photography.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Integral to learning about physical process priority hypotheses Flow #1, Flow #3, Flow #5, Sediment #1, and Mechanical #2 and related Big Questions (#1, #2, #3, and #4). Supporting information for flow-vegetation-sediment relationships and what FSM management strategy will do on the central Platte River.

**Products**

Processed LiDAR point data, bare earth digital elevation model including special in-channel processing using break lines (hydro-flattening), 2-foot resolution 4-band (CIR and true-color) aerial photography from May/June, 6-inch resolution CIR aerial photography flown simultaneously with LiDAR in November/December. The contract is awarded through a competitive procurement process in conformance with the Procurement policy. The most recent contract was awarded in 2011. As the budget estimate is developed by using rates and the level of effort for similar work acquired for the Program through the competitive procurement process, and final negotiation and award of the contract was acquired through competition, the estimate for this work is considered fair and reasonable.

G-1 & G-2 (combined)		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
2008	\$ 270,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 21,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 118,100.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 118,100.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 118,100.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: G-5. Geomorphology/In-Channel Vegetation  
Monitoring****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

Contractor (Tetra Tech)

**Task Location**

Central Platte River

**Task Description**

Implementation of Program geomorphology/in-channel vegetation monitoring protocol; field work, data analysis (analysis of collected data according to performance measures of importance for addressing Big Questions and Tier 1 hypotheses), and reporting.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Integral to learning about physical process priority hypotheses Flow #1, Flow #3, Flow #5, Sediment #1, and Mechanical #2 and related Big Questions (#1, #2, #3, and #4). Supporting information for flow-vegetation-sediment relationships and what FSM management strategy will do on the central Platte River.

**Products**

Protocol data – transect surveys, longitudinal profile, vegetation surveys, etc.; data analysis and reporting.

**Notes on Cost**

The contract is awarded through a competitive procurement process in conformance with the Procurement policy. The most recent contract was awarded in 2012. As the budget estimate is developed by using rates and the level of effort for similar work acquired for the Program through the competitive procurement process, and final negotiation and award of the contract was acquired through competition, the estimate for this work is considered fair and reasonable.

G-5		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ 95,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 395,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 300,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 447,500.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 450,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 477,738.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 450,000.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: H-2. Program Water Gages****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2013 Start Date**

January 1, 2013

**FY 2013 End Date**

December 31, 2013

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; contractor

**Task Location**

Central Platte River

**Task Description**

Gage maintenance and research gages; real-time Program gage data on Program web site.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Stream gages provide data to test priority hypotheses, including all key Tern/Plover, Whooping Crane, Flow, Sediment, and Mechanical hypotheses.

**Products**

Gage maintenance, new gages, and data.

**Notes on Cost**

Stream gages have been installed at the request of the Program. The US Geological Service (USGS) has installed and maintains two gages located on the Cottonwood Ranch Complex. These gages are used primarily in conjunction with geomorphology and sediment augmentation related research. The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR) has installed and maintains two gages, one a Lexington and one at Shelton. The annual maintenance costs, which includes physical maintenance of the gage, checking and adjusting the rating curve through field measurements, QC/QA of the data, and making the data available real-time, for the USGS gages were established in a service agreement negotiated and still held by NPPD, but with the costs passed through to the Program. These costs are set @\$20,000, but vary slightly annually if significant equipment components, such as probes or cables need replacing. The annual maintenance costs for NDNR include the same services as described for the USGS and are set @\$20,000 when data line charges paid directly by the Program are included.

There are two entities in Nebraska that can establish official stream gaging stations, which are the USGS and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources. Each entity charges a flat rate of \$10,000/year per gage. Because each entity charges the same rate, and each entity is a government agency bound by their rules and regulations, there are no other options and these rates are considered fair and reasonable.

H-2		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ 29,500.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 30,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 60,000.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: IMRP-2. Adaptive Management Plan Directed Research Projects****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; contractors

**Task Location**

Central Platte River

IMRP-2		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ 700,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 325,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 450,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 335,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 450,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 263,688.00

**Task Description**

- 1) Further investigation of wet meadow hydrology including groundwater/river interactions (\$100,000).
- 2) Lateral erosion research to provide additional predictive capability to Shoemaker FSM Proof of Concept Project (96,733).
- 3) Update to Program 1-D hydraulic model to facilitate analysis of geomorphology and vegetation monitoring data.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

- 1) The primary linkage is to USFWS target flows. The early and late spring pulse flows include wet meadow hydrology objectives. The water balance network will facilitate quantification of the benefits of those releases.
- 2) Fundamental to testing ability of FSM management strategy to create and/or maintain target species habitat.
- 3) Fundamental to testing ability of FSM management strategy to create and/or maintain target species habitat.

**Products**

- 1) Continued monitoring and reporting on wet meadow hydrology at Program complexes.
- 2) Lateral erosion study report and calibrated erosion model for Shoemaker FSM project.
- 3) Updated and calibrated 1-D hydraulic model.

**Notes on Cost**

These numbers are estimates based on similar work that has been performed for the Program by contractors selected through the competitive procurement process. Before RFPs or Requests for bids are advertised, contracts are executed, or money is expended, each step is reviewed by one or more of the following oversight committees: the Water Advisory Committee, the Technical Advisory committee, the Finance Committee, and often the Governance Committee. The selection of contractors is made through a competitive process as defined by the Procurement Policy. The negotiated contract and budget must be approved by the Finance Committee. As the budget estimate is developed by using rates and the level of effort for similar work acquired for the Program through the competitive procurement process, and final





- 1 negotiation and award of the contract will be acquired through competition, the estimate for this work is
- 2 considered fair and reasonable.

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: IMRP-3. Adaptive Management Plan Special  
Advisors****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; special advisors

**Task Location**

ED Office (Kearney, NE and Lincoln, NE); various locations of advisors

**Task Description**

- Advisors on AMP-related specialty topic of geomorphology. Review Program documents, attend workshops and meetings, assist with development of experimental design, research/monitoring goals and objectives, and data analysis.
- Advisor/facilitator for beginning of PRRIP target flow process for potential Second Increment. Planning with EDO; development of full scope of work and budget for target flow process in coordination with EDO; coordination with EDO, TAC, and ISAC; communication with GC as per EDO direction; participation in conference calls, GoTo meetings, and face-to-face meetings as requested.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Special advisors fill important areas of expertise necessary to evaluate effects of Program management actions and progress toward AMP management objectives.

**Products**

Review of Program documents, advice on specific actions related to AMP implementation, and development of process documents as requested.

**Notes on Cost**

This FY 2014 budget line item is for expert assistance for the Executive Director's Office (EDO) on key topics for the Program. The budget breakdown for this line item is as follows:

Name	Area of Expertise	Hourly Rate	Estimated Hours
Brad Anderson, P.E.	Sediment Transport and Geomorphology	\$167.00	100-150
Chester Watson, Ph.D., P.E.	Sediment Transport and Geomorphology	\$122.00	150-250
Kent Loftin, P.E.	Adaptive management, environmental flows, facilitation	\$175	100



Total not to exceed:

\$70,000

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: IMRP-5. FSM “Proof of Concept” Activities @  
Shoemaker Island Complex****Program First Increment Timeline**

FY2012-FY2016

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; Contractor (EA and subcontractors)

**Task Location**

Shoemaker Island Complex

**Task Description**

2013 activities under the existing contract include:

- Evaluation of potential 2-D mobile bed sediment transport models and development of hydrodynamic and (possibly) sediment transport models of the Shoemaker Island Complex reach.
- Year 2 sediment, topographic, and vegetation monitoring including implementation of the project-scale monitoring protocol before and after any natural high flow events.
- Data analysis and reporting at the 2014 AMP reporting session.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Integral to learning about physical process priority hypotheses Flow #1, Flow #3, Flow #5, Sediment #1, and Mechanical #2 and related Big Questions (#1, #2, #3, and #4). Supporting information for flow-vegetation-sediment relationships and what FSM management strategy will do on the central Platte River.

**Products**

Monitoring and modeling results; contractor presentations and participation in one TAC meeting and the 2014 Adaptive Management Plan Reporting Session.

**Notes on Cost**

The firm performing these services was selected through a competitive procurement process in conformance with the Procurement Policy in 2012. The industry standard of practice cost guidelines used in the negotiation process is established based on an on-going market survey process comparing labor rates and time estimates of similarly qualified. The market survey process used for this study was to compare level of effort and labor rates proposed against level of effort and labor rates for a variety of projects of a similar nature to this project that had been performed and acquired for the Program over the previous 6 years through the competitive procurement process. These projects of comparable nature included Sediment Augmentation Study, 1D Model Development, Elm Creek FSM Proof of Concept Study, and Geomorphology and In-Channel Vegetation Monitoring. All of these projects had been awarded through a competitive process in conformance with the Procurement Policy. As the budget

IMRP-5		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ -	\$ -
2010	\$ -	\$ -
2011	\$ -	\$ -
2012	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 245,200.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 339,900.00



- 1 estimate is developed by using rates and the level of effort for similar work acquired for the Program
- 2 through the competitive procurement process, and final negotiation and award of the contract was
- 3 acquired through competition, the estimate for this work is considered fair and reasonable.

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: IMRP-6. Habitat Availability Analysis****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; Contractor (RBJV)

**Task Location**

Central Platte River, NE

**Task Description**

Complete habitat availability assessments for terns/plovers and whooping cranes using 2013 data under the existing contract with Rainwater Basin Joint Venture. Utilize models and equipment from previous 2007-2013 assessments.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Critical data for assessing tern/plover priority hypotheses T1, P1, and TP1 and whooping crane priority hypotheses WC1 and WC3. Data utilized to assist with evaluation of Big Questions #5, #6, #7, and #8.

**Products**

Tern and plover summary report presenting acres of on- and off-channel bare-sand habitat and Program defined “suitable” nesting habitat for 2013. Whooping crane summary report presenting acres of WC foraging and roosting habitat by habitat type for 2013.

**Notes on Cost**

Rainwater Basin Joint Venture (RBJV) was contracted during 2011 to complete habitat availability assessments for the Program through 2012. 2007-2012 assessments are now complete, so the 2013 assessment will require a contract amendment with the RBJV.

IMRP-6		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ -	\$ -
2010	\$ -	\$ -
2011	\$ -	\$ -
2012	\$ 143,227.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 35,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 35,000.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: PD-8. Database Management System Development & Maintenance****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; Riverside Technology, Inc. (RTi)

**Task Location**

ED Office (Kearney, NE); contractor (RTi) in Ft. Collins, CO

**Task Description**

Ongoing database development and management by RTi.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

System will house and manage all Program administrative and technical data.

**Products**

Database maintenance, website support and hosting for meeting coordination and interface with Program technical data, public Program website and document library support and hosting. The contract was awarded through a competitive procurement process in conformance with the Procurement policy. The contract was awarded in 2009. As the budget estimate is developed by using rates and the level of effort for similar work acquired for the Program through the competitive procurement process, and final negotiation and award of the contract was acquired through competition, the estimate for this work is considered fair and reasonable.

PD-8		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
2008	\$ 159,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 370,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 140,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 165,615.18	\$ -
2013	\$ 130,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 130,000.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: TP-1. Tern & Plover Monitoring****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

April 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; Program partners; Contractor

**Task Location**

Central Platte River, NE

**Task Description**

Implement monitoring protocol during nesting season; Program staff will coordinate and lead field work, but seasonal technicians and contracted personnel will be necessary to work with Program staff and partners to properly collect all data. Monitoring effort will remain elevated in FY2014 to: ensure proper data collection at nest sites (elevation, vegetation, etc.); conduct independent observer counts on Program Associated Habitats to evaluate techniques used to monitor tern and plover adults, nests, chicks, and fledglings (inside versus outside counts); band least tern and piping plover chicks and adults; and to document habitat conditions (availability and elevation of nesting habitat, vegetation establishment on islands, etc.) on the central Platte River.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Data for evaluation of tern and plover priority hypotheses T1, P1, TP1, T2, and P2. Data utilized to assist with evaluation of Big Questions #6, #7, #8, and #10.

**Products**

Annual report detailing nest activity, bird activity, and habitat conditions; data for longer-term analysis of effects of Program actions.

**Notes on Cost**

New monitoring contractor will be selected through the Program's competitive selection process. Contract award will likely be for a three- to four-year period. As the budget estimate is developed by using rates and the level of effort for similar work acquired for the Program through the competitive procurement process, and final negotiation and award of the contract will be acquired through competition, the estimate for this work is considered fair and reasonable. Predator trapping will be conducted under the existing agreement between the Program and USDA; the 2014 trapping effort will require a contract amendment with the USDA.

TP-1		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 14,000.00	\$ -
2008	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 300,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 215,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 290,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 325,000.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: WC-1. Whooping Crane Monitoring****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

March 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

Contractor (WEST, Inc.; AIM Consultants subcontracted for field work)

**Task Location**

Central Platte River, NE

**Task Description**

2014 implementation of the whooping crane monitoring protocol and data analyses associated with the four-year contract (Fall 2011 – Spring 2015) established with WEST Inc.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Data for evaluation of whooping crane priority hypotheses WC1 and WC3. Data utilized to assist with evaluation of Big Questions #5 and #10.

**Products**

Spring and fall report; data analysis.

**Notes on Cost**

The Program entered into a 4-year contract spanning 8 migration seasons (fall 2011 – spring 2015) with WEST. WEST will analyze and report on data collected during the 2014 spring and fall migrations. This line item includes funds to cover additional costs associated with increasing the spring monitoring season by 15 days. The contract was awarded through the competitive procurement process in conformance with the Procurement policy. The most recent contract was awarded in 2012. As the budget estimate is developed by using rates and the level of effort for similar work acquired for the Program through the competitive procurement process, and final negotiation and award of the contract was acquired through competition, the estimate for this work is considered fair and reasonable.

WC-1		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 130,000.00	\$ -
2008	\$ 130,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 170,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 225,091.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 290,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 275,000.00



**PROGRAM TASK & ID: WC-3. Whooping Crane Telemetry Tracking****Program First Increment Timeline**

FY2011-FY2016

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

Whooping Crane Tracking Partnership including Canadian Wildlife Service, Crane Trust, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Platte River Recovery Implementation Program, and U.S. Geological Survey.

**Task Location**

Whooping crane migration route; central Platte River, NE

**Task Description**

As per the Whooping Crane Tracking Project Partnership Agreement budget, these costs are for data download and data management costs.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Data for evaluation of whooping crane priority hypotheses WC1 and WC3. Data utilized to assist with evaluation of Big Questions #5 and #10.

**Products**

Spring and fall migration reports and database through 2014.

**Notes on Cost**

This FY 2014 budget line item is for Program participation in the multi-year Whooping Crane Tracking Partnership. The Program entered into a 6-year agreement (2011-2016) with the Partnership during 2011 that allows the Program access to telemetry data and reports through 2016 and the ability to evaluate whooping crane response to management actions along the central Platte River. The Partnership and the telemetry project are led by the United States Geological Survey (USGS). Permission to sole source this contract was granted in 2011 by the Governance Committee due to the unique capabilities of the entities performing the work. Cost is a consideration in the sole source process and justification was provided to the Governance Committee. Although permission was granted to sole source this contract, the rates and level of effort were compared to contracts for similar work acquired by the Program through the competitive procurement process in order to ensure that the cost of this work is fair and reasonable.

WC-3		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ 125,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 125,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 125,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 125,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 167,100.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 95,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 35,500.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: WC-6. Whooping Crane Stopover Site Evaluation Project****Program First Increment Timeline**

FY2013-FY2016

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

Contractor (USGS; The Crane Trust sub-contracted for a portion of the fieldwork)

**Task Location**

Whooping crane migration corridor within a one-day's flight distance (600 miles) of the central Platte River.

**Task Description**

This is the Program's contribution for the second year of a three-year contract with the USGS for the USGS and the Trust (sub-contractor) to provide staff for a research study to evaluate habitat metrics at whooping crane stopover sites from northern Texas to North Dakota.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Additional data for evaluating whooping crane priority hypotheses WC1 and WC3. Data will be utilized to refine the Program's habitat suitability criteria for whooping cranes and assist with evaluation of Big Questions #5 and #10.

**Products**

Stopover site data, annual report, and participation in the 2014 Adaptive Management Reporting Session.

**Notes on Cost**

In 2013 the Program entered into a four-year contract spanning six migration seasons (spring 2013 – fall 2015) with USGS; final analyses and reporting would occur under contract during 2016. The FY2014 budget line item would fund costs associated with data collection during the 2014 spring and fall migration seasons. USGS will analyze and report on data collected during the 2013 spring and fall migration seasons and would present findings at the 2014 Adaptive Management Plan Reporting Session. The total Program contribution to the four-year project is estimated at \$317,513; out-year budgets will be approved annually by the GC.

Permission to sole source this contract was granted in 2012 by the Governance Committee due to the unique capabilities of the entities performing the work. Cost is a consideration in the sole source process and justification was provided to the Governance Committee. Although permission was granted to sole source this contract, the rates and level of effort were compared to contracts for similar work acquired by the Program through the competitive procurement process in order to ensure that the cost of this work is fair and reasonable.

WC-6		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ -	\$ -
2010	\$ -	\$ -
2011	\$ -	\$ -
2012	\$ -	\$ -
2013	\$ 110,297.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 97,408.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: WQ-1. Water Quality Monitoring****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

Contractor (EA)

**Task Location**

Central and lower Platte River, NE; specific monitoring on Program lands in central Platte River.

**Task Description**

Water quality monitoring of key parameters based on specific Program actions (e.g. sediment augmentation, island building in the channel) at locations in the central Platte and lower Platte.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Data for evaluation of pallid sturgeon priority hypothesis PS2 for the lower Platte River and target species priority hypotheses in the central Platte River (T2, P2, WC1). Data utilized to assist with evaluation of Big Questions #5, #8, and #9.

**Products**

Annual report and data analysis; annual budget estimates; involvement in the annual AMP Reporting Session.

**Notes on Cost**

Water quality monitoring will be conducted pursuant to the scope of work of the existing contract between the Nebraska Community Foundation and the contractor. The contract was awarded through a competitive procurement process in conformance with the Procurement Policy. The most recent contract was awarded in 2011. As the budget estimate is developed by using rates and the level of effort for similar work acquired for the Program through the competitive procurement process, and final negotiation and award of the contract was acquired through competition, the estimate for this work is considered fair and reasonable.

WQ-1		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 184,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 180,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 280,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 152,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 152,000.00

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: ISAC-1. ISAC Stipends & Expenses****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; Independent Scientific Advisory Committee (ISAC)

**Task Location**

Basin meeting locations TBD

**Task Description**

- Six ISAC members x 2 meetings x 4-day meetings (3 days of meetings, one day of travel) x \$1,400 per ISAC member per day (\$175/hour x 8-hour day) = \$67,200
- Six ISAC members x 3 GoTo meetings (voice and Web) x 2-hour meetings x \$175/hour = \$6,300
- Two emeritus ISAC members x 2 conference calls x 2-hour calls x \$175 hour = \$1,400 (mentoring for new ISAC members)
- Additional stipend for ISAC chair to complete FY2014 report to GC (10 days x \$1,400/day) = \$14,000
- Ten days of document review x 6 ISAC members x \$1,400/day = \$84,000
- Total travel expenses for ISAC members and associated meeting expenses = \$24,000
- TOTAL = \$196,900; round up to \$200,000

EDO proposes the following 2014 ISAC meeting schedule:

- 1) **ISAC meeting in Nebraska in (April/May)** – field visits to implementation sites; possible field trip to other similar river systems (as discussed at October 2013 ISAC meeting; examples include Loup, Niobrara, and lower Platte); general discussion of key PRRIP issues
- 2) **AMP Reporting Session in Omaha, NE** (October) – ISAC interaction with EDO staff, Program participants, and contractors; review and discussion of 2014 “State of the Platte” Report; review and discussion of latest drafts of AMP documents
- 3) **Potential GoTo Meetings (voice and Web)** – Up to three GoTo Meetings as needed to discuss key issues via conference call and the Web

**Linkages to AMP and Big Questions**

Key element of independent scientific review of AMP, IMRP, management strategies, Big Questions, and associated priority hypotheses. Annual review of “State of the Platte” report

**Products**

ISAC review of Adaptive Management Plan (AMP) implementation, experimental design, and other Program products and activities; work will culminate in annual report by the end of 2014.

ISAC-1		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -
2008	\$ 115,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 70,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 185,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 185,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 221,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 200,000.00

**Notes on Cost**

The daily service rate for ISAC members is based on industry standard rates for individuals of the caliber and stature required for the ISAC. A review of standard rates for PhD-level independent science experts revealed rates routinely in the range of \$150 to \$250 on an hourly basis. We were able to negotiate an equivalent rate of \$175/hour which is at the low end of that range.

Labor rates for ISAC members is compared against individuals of similar qualifications and experience that are part of consultant teams that are awarded contracts with the Program through competitive processes in conformance with the Procurement Policy. The level of effort is established by comparison of level of effort for similar tasks contained in contracts with consultants for the Program that were awarded through competitive processes in conformance with the Procurement Policy.

Travel costs are compiled based on air fares from the location the ISAC member starts their travel from to the location of the meetings, together with any mileage or surface travel costs that will be incurred. For ISAC members who have served for more than one year, these costs can be estimated with great certainty based on the costs incurred from previous years. The locations for the ISAC meetings are always either Denver, CO; Kearney, NE; or Omaha, NE. Meal and lodging expenses are based on government per diem rates for specific cities or general regions adjusted as necessary to accommodate solicited quotes from the potential, probable venues for the meetings. This compilation is made for each ISAC member for each meeting to arrive at the total. Costs are based on a market survey of lodging, meals, and transportation costs accounting for different points of origination of each individual and different locations for each session. Cost data from previous years factored into the process to develop a simplified, average cost approach.

**2014 Travel Expense estimate breakdown:**

AMP Reporting Session – 6 individuals (4 days x \$200 per diem/person + \$750 travel) =	\$9,300
Spring Meeting – 6 individuals (4 days x \$200 per diem/person + \$750 travel) =	\$9,300
GoTo meetings expenses – 3 meetings x \$2,500/meeting (conference call and web costs) =	\$5,000
TOTAL =	\$23,600
Round up to =	\$24,000

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: PD-3. AMP & IMRP Peer Review****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

December 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

Contractor; peer review panelists

**Task Location**

Various locations of peer reviewers

**Task Description**

Peer review of up to eight (8) Program documents and identification of two (2) new ISAC candidates:

PD-3		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2008	\$ 105,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 115,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 90,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 108,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 302,450.00

Document	# Reviewers	per Reviewer Cost	Total Review Panel Cost	ISR Contractor Costs	Total Cost
Inundation risk memo	3	\$7,000	\$21,000	\$10,050	\$31,050
Elm Creek Proof of Concept final report	3	\$7,000	\$21,000	\$10,050	\$31,050
Geomorphology data analysis report	3	\$7,000	\$21,000	\$10,050	\$31,050
LiDAR imagery results	3	\$7,000	\$21,000	\$10,050	\$31,050
Lateral erosion final report	3	\$7,000	\$21,000	\$10,050	\$31,050
Watson memo, "Management of the Platte River for braided planform"	3	\$7,000	\$21,000	\$10,050	\$31,050
Flow consolidation final report	3	\$7,000	\$21,000	\$10,050	\$31,050
Whooping crane data analysis	3	\$7,000	\$21,000	\$10,050	\$31,050
EDO analysis from 1998 aerial imagery	3	\$7,000	\$21,000	\$10,050	\$31,050
GoTo meetings with peer reviewers	8		\$1,000		\$8,000
Identify two (2) replacement candidates for ISAC	2 new members	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000
					<b>\$302,450</b>

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Independent peer review of key documents to ensure projects are consistent with Program goals and objectives.

**Products**

Peer review reports for each reviewed document.

**Notes on Cost**

The Program utilizes a third-party independent contractor to assist with identifying potential peer review candidates and helping the EDO manage the peer review process, and also to assist with identifying potential new ISAC candidates to replace ISAC members rotating off each year. Atkins (formerly PBS&J) has been under contract with the Program to provide these services for the past three years, but that contract is up at the end of 2013 so a new contractor will be selected through the Program's competitive selection process to provide these Independent Science Review (ISR) services.

Peer review services under this contract will include:

- Recommend candidates for each panel according to appropriate areas of expertise
- Provide background information for all potential candidates
- Recommend panelists and provide conflict of interest statements for all panelists
- Communicate with panelists (Program provides scope of work and handles contracting for payment)
- Summarize comments from each panel
- Deliver final report to EDO for each panel

Funding is also included for one GoTo meeting per peer review panel, to be facilitated by the EDO and the ISR contractor. This is a new step in the peer review process recommended by the ISAC in late 2013 to help improve the effectiveness and final products of the Program's peer review process.

Cost estimates are based on prior years' experience with peer review panels and with Atkins as the ISR contractor. Estimated costs for the ISR contractor to assist with peer review are \$10,050/review and \$15,000 to identify two new ISAC candidates. Peer review panel members are expected to be of the same caliber and stature as ISAC members. Thus, we used the ISAC rate of \$1,400/day for roughly a five day period to estimate the stipend for serving as a Program peer review member – three days to review document(s) in question and two days to compile comments and submit those comments to the Program's ISR contractor.

**PROGRAM TASK & ID: PD-11. AMP Reporting****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

May 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; TAC

**Task Location**

ED Office (Kearney, NE and Lincoln, NE); Omaha, NE

**Task Description**

AMP Reporting Session in Denver, CO

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Evaluation of AMP experimental design, data analysis, and discussion of likely outcomes of management actions will help to keep monitoring, research, and data analysis on target for evaluation of priority hypotheses and AMP management activities. Group discussion of all Big Questions and 2014 “State of the Platte” Report with ISAC, TAC, Program contractors, Program special advisors, and EDO.

**Products**

AMP Reporting Session in Omaha, NE and 2014 State of the Platte Report

**Notes on Cost**

Evaluation of AMP experimental design, data analysis, and discussion of likely outcomes of management actions will help to keep monitoring, research, and data analysis on target for evaluation of priority hypotheses and AMP management activities. Group discussion of all Big Questions and 2014 “State of the Platte” Report with ISAC, TAC, Program contractors, Program special advisors, and EDO. AMP-related contractors will be required to attend the AMP Reporting Session (tentatively October 2014 in Omaha) so travel and associated meeting expenses will generally be covered if not already covered under existing contracts/agreements. Cost estimate based on previous years’ costs.

PD-11		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
2009	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
2010	\$ 70,000.00	\$ -
2011	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -
2012	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -
2013	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 25,000.00



**PROGRAM TASK & ID: PD-21. PRRIP Publications****Program First Increment Timeline**

Annual

**FY 2014 Start Date**

January 1, 2014

**FY 2014 End Date**

May 31, 2014

**Task Completed by**

ED Office; TAC

**Task Location**

ED Office (Kearney, NE and Lincoln, NE)

**Task Description**

Development of PRRIP-related manuscripts for publication in refereed journals.

**Linkage to AMP and Big Questions**

Publication is an integral part of ensuring important Program documents and data sets receive peer review beyond the PRRIP peer review process and can be utilized in the decision-making process.

**Products**

Published journal manuscripts.

**Notes on Cost**

Per manuscript costs based on professional publication experience of EDO staff. Estimate \$2,500 per manuscript; costs could be higher or lower depending on the journal. For 2014, the EDO expects to draft and seek publication of at least seven manuscripts including:

1. Estimating tern and plover breeding pairs on the central Platte River
2. Tern and plover habitat suitability criteria and habitat availability results
3. Whooping crane habitat suitability criteria and habitat availability results
4. Tern and plover off-channel habitat selection
5. Whooping crane habitat selection
6. 2012 forage fish analysis report
7. Gary Lingle 2004 nest data compilation

PD-21		
Year	Approved	Estimated
2007	\$ -	\$ -
2008	\$ -	\$ -
2009	\$ -	\$ -
2010	\$ -	\$ -
2011	\$ -	\$ -
2012	\$ -	\$ -
2013	\$ -	\$ -
2014	\$ -	\$ 20,000.00



## APPENDIX A

### PRRIP FY2014 Annual Land Work Plan

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