

The Nebraska Environmental Trust

preserving NATURAL NEBRASKA™ for future generations

2021 Annual Report

Mission Statement

The Nebraska Environmental Trust is established to conserve, enhance and restore the natural environments of Nebraska. A prosperous future requires a sound natural environment. We must act dynamically, progressively and systematically to ensure bountiful and thriving natural resources.

The Trust is to complement existing activities, stimulate private investment and emphasize long-term gain. The Trust is to lead in the development of a vision of Nebraska's future environment. The Trust is to collaborate with public and private efforts to achieve that vision.

Financials

Fiscal Year 20-21

Income

Interest Income	\$700,250.91
Lotter Proceeds	\$21,217,127

Expenses

Operations	\$525,646.42
Grant Awards	\$18,350,515

Average operation expenses to income percentage from 1994-2021 = 2.22%

2021 Grant Awards

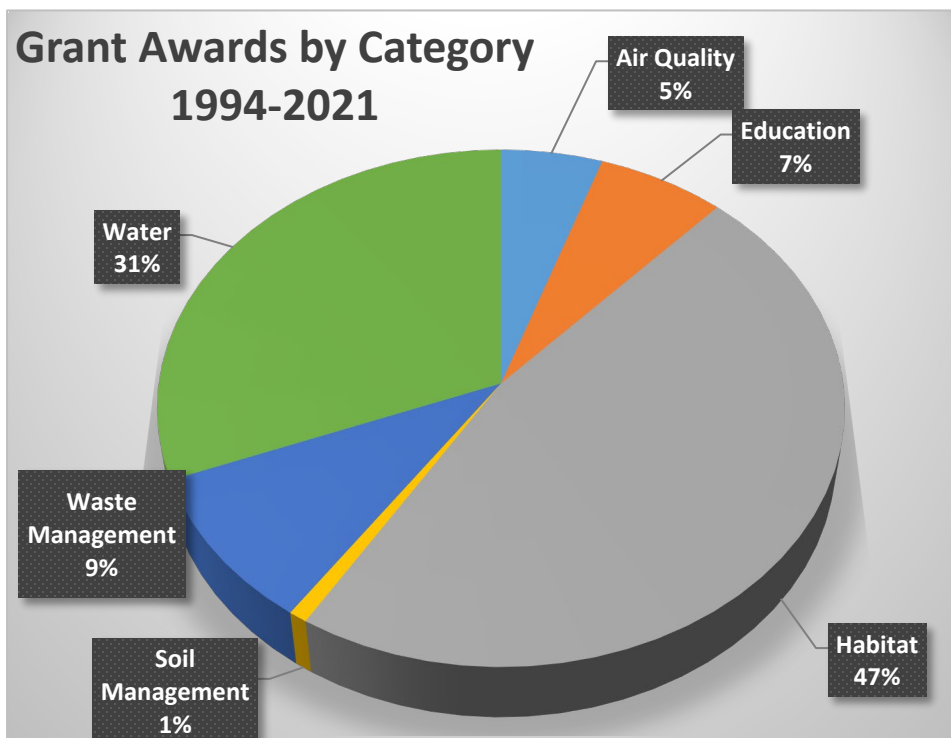
In Fiscal Year 20-21, the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board awarded 113 projects, \$18,350,515. Out of these, 42 were newly funded grants and 71 were carryover projects. This was the 28th year of grants from the Trust, which has provided over \$346 million dollars in lottery revenue to conserve and protect the air, water and land of our State.

The Nebraska Legislature created the Nebraska Environmental Trust in 1992. Using the revenue from the Nebraska Lottery, the Trust has provided grants to over 2,400 projects across the state.

Trust Funding Categories

Any project or portion of a project funded by the Nebraska Environmental Trust must achieve one or more of the following Trust categories.

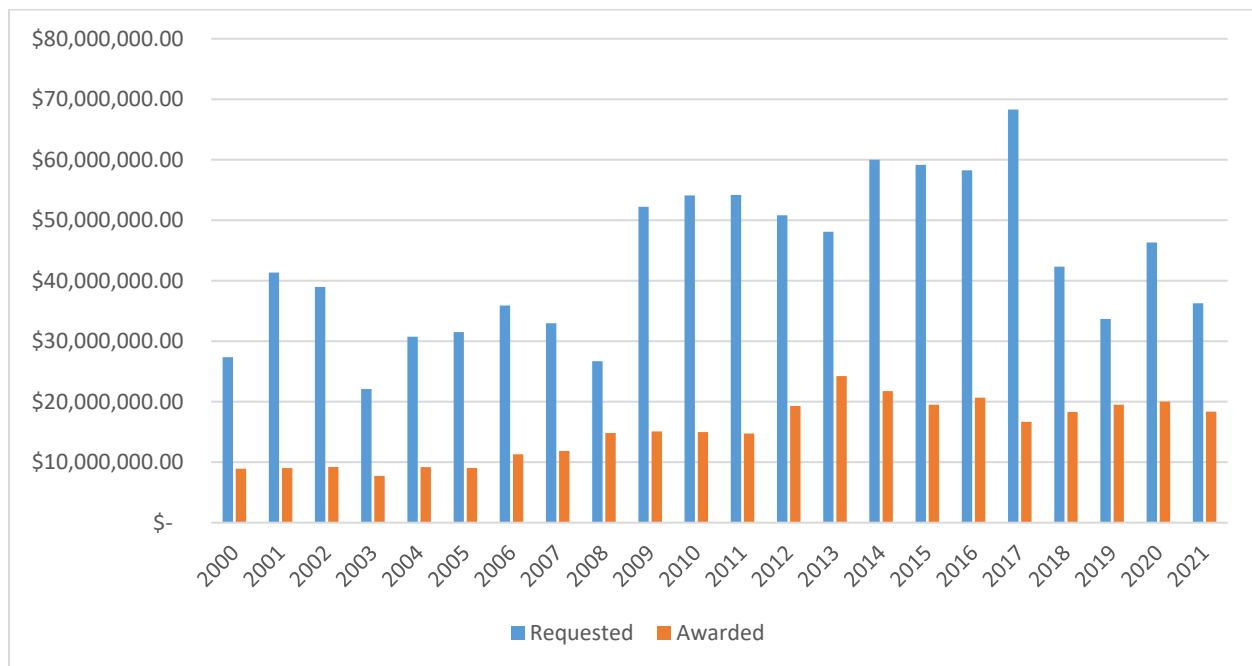
- **Habitat:** actions to preserve or restore native habitats and areas critical to at-risk, rare or endangered species; other preservation actions for at-risk, rare or endangered species including actions to understand ecosystem relationships which inform sound



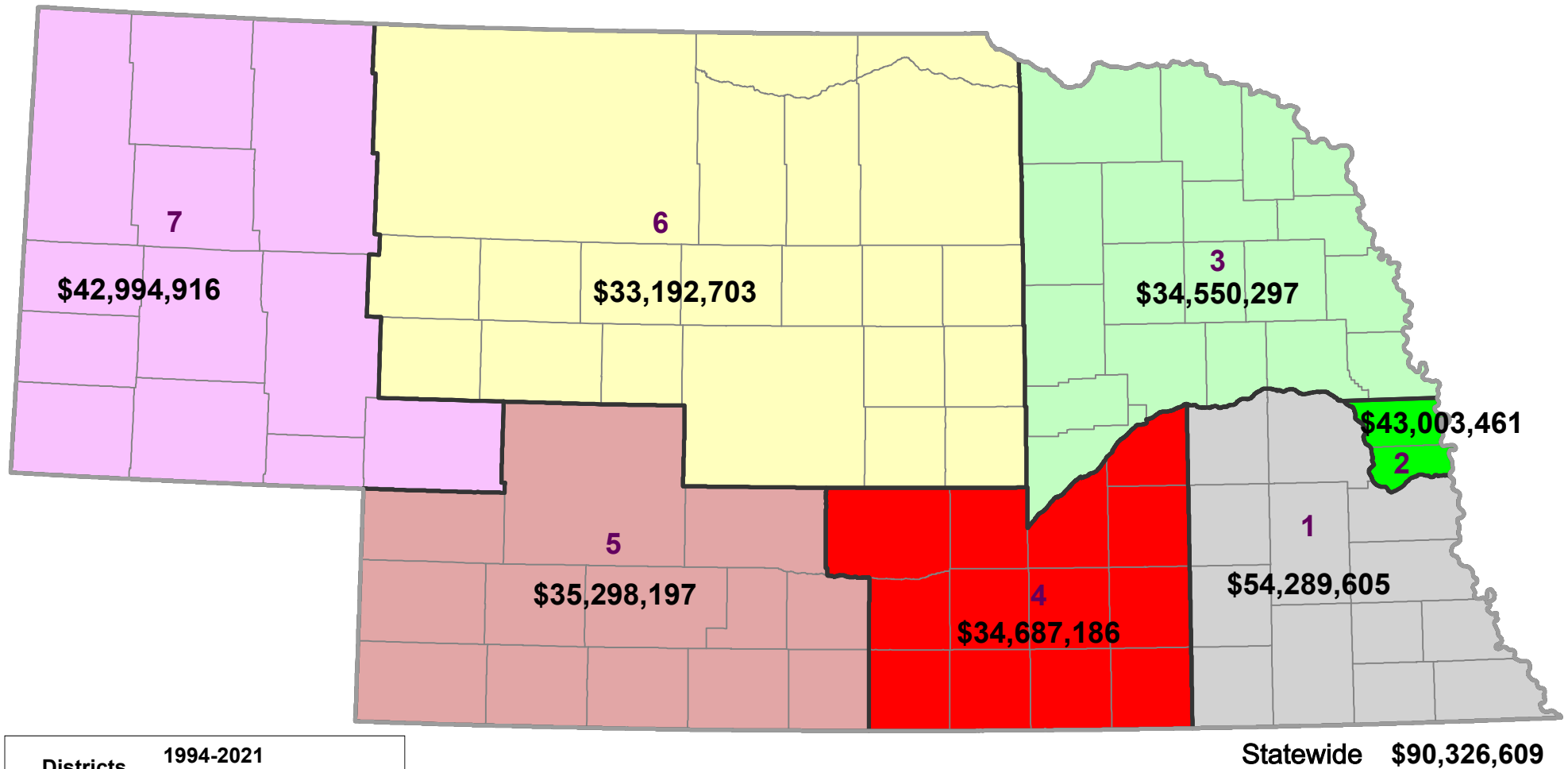
management; community habitat enhancement emphasizing native and ecologically appropriate plantings which provide food and shelter for wildlife; actions to inform and educate which contribute to the attainment of this category.

- **Surface and Ground Water:** actions to preserve or restore lakes, waterways and ground water from degradation or depletion; actions to research, design or foster best management practices; actions to conserve water and/or efficiently and effectively manage water use; actions to inform and educate which contribute to the attainment of this category.
- **Waste Management:** actions promoting and implementing source reduction, waste management or toxicity reduction; actions promoting and implementing the development of recycling markets; actions promoting and implementing reuse and other disposal diversion actions; actions to inform and educate which contribute to the attainment of this category.
- **Air Quality:** actions promoting and implementing clean air strategies; including greenhouse gas *reductions*; actions to research, design or foster best management strategies; actions to inform and educate which contribute to the attainment of this category.
- **Soil Management:** actions and strategies to preserve, conserve and restore soil health; actions to research, design or foster the implementation and management of these strategies; actions to inform and educate which contribute to the attainment of this category.

Amounts Requested vs. Awarded from 2000 to 2021



Geographic Distribution of Awards (1994 - 2021) Nebraska Environmental Trust



Districts 1994-2021 Awards

1	\$54,289,605
2	\$43,003,461
3	\$34,550,297
4	\$34,687,186
5	\$35,298,197
6	\$33,192,703
7	\$42,994,916

Statewide \$90,326,609

Total: \$368,342,972



Awarded 2021 Grants List

Alliance for the Future of Agriculture in Nebraska (AFAN)

Leopold Conservation Award Video Project - \$15,000

Bazile Groundwater Management Area

Development of Research and Demonstration Sites in the BGMA for Groundwater Nitrate Reduction - \$209,500

Beyond School Bells, a program of Nebraska Children and Families Foundation

Nebraska Youth Conservation Initiative - \$33,330

Bluestem Energy Solutions, LLC

Burt County Solar Energy Generation and Battery Storage Project - \$500,000

Board of Regents – University of Nebraska – Lincoln

- NE Master Naturalist - Engaging Nebraska's Youth as Naturalists - \$71,000
- Transforming Manure and Cedar Mulch from "Waste" to "Worth" – Part II - \$81,949
- Assessment of Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Resources in Districts 5, 6 and 7 to Improve Carbon Management Opportunities in Nebraska - \$78,029
- Improving Water Quality and Surveying Fish Populations using eDNA in Nebraska - \$75,000
- Improving Soil Health Using Heat-Treated Manure - \$90,314
- Improving Statewide Performance of Conservation Investments on Eastern Redcedar Invasions - \$79,310
- Detecting Atrazine Dissipation and Evaluating Herbicide Programs without Atrazine for Weed Control in Corn and their Environmental Impact Quotient: Research and Extension - \$49,041
- Direct removal of Groundwater Nitrate Coupling Water Treatment and Algae Growth - \$216,775
- Eastern Redcedar Design-Build Microdwelling - \$6,500
- StreamNet: Building Capacity to Improve Water Quality - \$172,794
- Developing a Statewide Community Tree Canopy Map in Nebraska - \$44,218

- Nebraska Farmers and Farmland Owners Attitudes of Targeted Conservation - \$109,999
- Delivery of Watershed Science Education to Decision Makers - A Multi-Agency Collaboration - \$78,601
- Developing a Decision-Support Tool for the Successful Incorporation of Cover Crops into Nebraska Cropping Systems - \$41,180
- Milkweed in the Classroom - \$19,259
- Protecting the terns and plovers of Nebraska and mentoring the next generation - \$21,884
- Student Integrated Forest & Prairie Management at Cedar Point Biological Station – \$14,794
- Water Use and Soil-Water Storage Effect of Individual & Mixed Cover Species and Impacts on Soil Quality Variables – \$87,884
- Surface Water Nutrient Removal in Eutrophic Ponds Using Floating Treatment Wetlands in Nebraska - \$111,797
- Adaptive Management of Sandhills Grasslands - \$134,192
- Flaming Alfalfa to Preserve Soil Health and Prevent Surface and Ground Water Degradation – \$141,143
- Niobrara River Ecology and Education - \$27,427
- Effects of Redcedar on the Diversity and Ecosystem Services of Nebraska's Forests - \$28,163

Chadron State College

Math Science Building Initiative - \$483,500

City of Lincoln - Parks & Recreation Department

Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch - Phase III - \$100,000

City of Omaha

Thomas Creek Improvements - Phase I - \$280,000

City of Tekamah

Municipal Well Seal Augmentation for Groundwater Protection - \$95,615

Conservation Blueprint

Pollinator and Wildlife Habitat Education - \$9,800

Conservation Nebraska

Common Ground Education Program - \$65,000

Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Restoring Western Alkali and Riparian Wetlands - \$179,046

Four Corners Health Department

Household Hazardous Waste Events - \$29,250

Friends of Heron Haven, Inc.

Nature Education and Capital Improvements at Heron Haven - \$7,800

Girl Scouts Spirit of Nebraska

Spirit of Nebraska Camp Woodland Restoration - \$51,100

Grand Island Area Clean Community System

Regional Household Hazardous Waste Facility - \$172,035

Green Recycling Enterprises, LLC DBA Second Nature

Recycling on the Go! - \$140,000

Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln ReStore

Scrub Day: Spring Cleaning Donation Drive - \$6,450

Habitat for Humanity of Omaha

- Habitat Omaha ReStore Deconstruction Project - \$250,000
- Deconstruction Project - \$231,000

High Plains Weed Management Association

North Platte River Invasive Species Control Project Phase 5 - \$189,000

Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary

Embarking on Another 50 Years of Conservation at Rowe Sanctuary - \$82,975

Keep Alliance Beautiful

2021-2022 Recycling Center Operations and Education Program - \$84,965

Keep Keith County Beautiful, Inc

Western Nebraska Regional Education program - \$68,415

Lewis and Clark Natural Resources District

Bow Creek Watershed Project - \$85,195

Lied Lodge & Conference Center - Arbor Day Farm

Prairie, Restoration & Conservation Trail - \$35,000

Loess Canyon Rangeland Alliance

Loess Canyon Grassland Stewardship - \$250,000

Lower Big Blue Natural Resources District

Turkey Creek Watershed and Source Water Protection Project - \$75,000

- Improving Nitrogen and Irrigation Best Management Practices in the Beatrice and Dewitt Wellhead Protection Areas - \$93,900
- Improving Irrigation Best Management Practices in the Odell and Diller Wellhead Protection Areas - \$88,900

Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District

LENRD Establishment of Baseline Vadose Zone Sampling in Pierce County - \$8,750

Lower Loup Natural Resources District

- Cover Crop Utilization and Nutrient Management Program - \$45,000
- Integrated Management Data Acquisition Program - \$25,000

Lower Niobrara Natural Resources District

Lower Niobrara Observation Well Network - \$50,500

Middle Niobrara Natural Resource District

- Sandhills Interactive Natural Resources Education Complex (SINREC) - \$154,000
- No-Till Drill - \$47,500
- Forest and Grassland Utilization: Green Diamond - \$290,000
- LPCW Restoration Phase 4 - \$810,000

National Wild Turkey Federation

Forest Stand Restoration on Pine Ridge Wildlife Management Areas - \$75,643

Nebraska Academy of Sciences, Inc.

Nebraska Environmental Public Information and Education Minigrant Program - \$60,580

Nebraska Community Energy Alliance

Connecting Nebraska Communities Driving America's Fuel, Phase VI - \$868,181

Nebraska Community Foundation - Rainwater Basin Joint Venture

- Enhancing Groundwater Recharge and Habitat through Rainwater Basin Wetland Conservation - \$172,500
- Partnering for Wetlands - Helping address flooding, water quality, water quantity, and habitat in the Rainwater Basin Landscape - \$333,332
- Happy Cows; Happy Wetlands - \$25,620

Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project

NCORPE Re-seeding Project - \$9,783

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

Integrated Water Management Action Initiative - \$3,300,000

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

- Rainwater Basin Wetland Management - \$75,000
- Treehouse Classroom and Interactive Stream: Engaging Nebraskans in Conservation Education - \$1,325,000
- Nebraska's Natural Legacy Project: New Approaches to Biodiversity Conservation - \$200,000
- Connecting Students to their Water Resources in Nebraska - \$17,650
- Wagon Train Reservoir Wetland and Water Quality Enhancement Project - \$100,000

Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition

Conservation of Nebraska Grazing Resource through Control of Eastern Red Cedar and Other Invasive Species - \$109,000

Nebraska Pharmacists Association

Preventing Poisoning, Pollution and Prescription Drug Overdose for a Healthier Nebraska! - \$100,000

Nebraska Recycling Council

- Recycling Equipment Grants and Consultation - \$290,016
- Grain Bag Recycling Project - \$127,129

Nebraska State Irrigation Association

Water Leaders Academy in Nebraska - \$94,459

Northeast Nebraska RC&D

- Early Detection and Integrated Management of Invasive Plants - \$38,740
- Household Hazardous Waste Collections - \$14,142

Northern Prairies Land Trust

- Enhancing Nebraska's Oak Woodlands - \$225,000
- Extending the Tallgrass Prairie Partnership - \$170,000

Omaha Public Power District

OPPD BRIGHT (Battery Research Innovation Guided by High-Potential Technologies) - \$75,000

Pheasants Forever, Inc.

- Pathway for Wildlife, Ranchers, Farmers, and Communities - \$236,700
- Habitat Share - \$96,000
- Corners for Wildlife - \$293,800
- Grassland Improvement Program - \$130,000

Platte River Whooping Crane Maintenance Trust, Inc.

Big Bend of the Platte River Partnership for Habitat Preservation - \$1,675

Platte Valley Weed Management Area

Platte River Management and Enhancement - \$174,500

Quail Forever

Mobile Prescribed Burn Unit and Education Outreach - \$103,400

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory dba Bird Conservancy of the Rockies

Connecting Youth and Families to the Natural World in the Nebraska Panhandle - \$42,526

Sandhills Task Force

- Sandhills Conservation Partnerships on Grasslands and Wetlands - \$66,000
- Sandhills Working Ranch Conservation Partnership - \$348,000

Snake River Preservation Group

Foot Bridge Reach Riparian Project - Snake River - \$36,706

Southwest Weed Management

Western Republican River Basin Riparian Habitat Project - \$97,000

Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center

- Launching Spring Creek Prairie as a Demonstration Site for Tallgrass Prairie Conservation across the Denton Hills Landscape - \$117,421
- Working Lands Strategy and Tallgrass Prairie Conservation - \$91,893

The Groundwater Foundation

GREAT: Groundwater Education and Training - \$43,500

The Nature Conservancy

- Increasing Fire Capacity and Rangeland Impact in the Sandhills - \$60,388
- Upper Big Blue Soil Health Project - \$137,064
- Fire Training Exchange in Nebraska - \$41,000
- Connecting Nebraskans to Nature: Trails Development and Enhancements - \$187,653

The Xerces Society

Nebraska Bumble Bee Atlas - \$34,581

Trailblazer RC&D

- Electronics Recycling Events - \$40,750
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Recycling Events - \$38,050

Transit Authority of the City of Omaha, dba Metro

Metro Zero Emission Sustainability Project - \$506,000

Twin Platte Natural Resources District

TPNRD Educational Video Documentary – Leveraging Innovation - \$68,000

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Healing Local Landscapes: Turf Conversion Utilizing Native Prairie Plantings - \$7,000

Upper Loup Natural Resources District

- No-Till Drill - \$49,200
- Assessing the Drought Resilience of the South Loup River - \$42,000

Village of Bennet

Bennet Refuse and Recycling Center - \$10,654

Village of Stapleton

Recycling Building 100 X 60 - \$293,500

Webster County Pheasants Forever

No-Till Drill Webster County Pheasants Forever - \$25,000