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RESOURCE

A Monthly Publication of the Nebraska Environmental Trust

February 2019

Executive Director Corner

On February 9th the Nebraska Environmental Trust was acknowledged by Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever at the State Habitat Meeting in Kearney. The Trust was awarded the Outstanding Wildlife Conservationist of the Year Award (Bringing off a Brood Award). Interestingly, both Marilyn Tabor and I have received this award in past years when we were both employed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. (Award pictured below).

The Grants Committee provided their 2019 Recommendations for Funding Placed in Rank Order to the full board on February 5, 2019, and the board accepted the recommendations. The final approvals will take place at the April 4th board meeting. The full list of recommendations can be seen on our website. The recommendation is to award \$19.5M this year.

The Unicameral is one third of the way through the session. Today was the 30th day of the 90 day session. The Trust will continue to monitor a number of bills including one of the Governor's budget bills (LB 298) that has the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources



Pete Ricketts, Governor Board of Trustees

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applying for an additional three year grant to begin in fiscal year 2020-2021 seeking \$3.3M each year from the Trust for the Water Resources Cash Fund. The same bill includes language appropriating General Funds to both the Water Resources Cash Fund and Water Sustainability Fund.

The Husker basketball teams continue to struggle with the Lady Huskers having a little more success. Both the baseball and softball teams are having early success, let's hope that continues. The Spring Football Game to be held April 13th sold out in a few days for the second year in a row. As predicted, former Husker Zac Taylor was named Cincinnati's head football coach. Taylor played for the Huskers in 2005 and 2006.

We have a blizzard warning for most of Nebraska this weekend. Lincoln is on track to have one of the highest snow totals ever this winter. Right now we are about double the average snow fall.

Stay warm and safe travels.

Mark A. Brohman
Executive Director



Sherry Vinton - Whitman

Rodney Christen - Steinauer

Quentin Bowen - Humboldt

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Jeff Fassett, P.E., Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

[Vacant], Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

Trust Staff

Mark A. Brohman
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Marilyn Tabor
Grants Administrator

Sheila Johnson
Public Information Officer

Grantee Seminars Coming Up in April

For grantees that are successful in their applications, dates for Lincoln and Grand Island grantee seminars have been set. Please block your calendars, if you have received a grant. Invitation letters for these seminars have already been sent out.

Grantee Seminar dates in Lincoln are April 8th and 10th at the Ferguson House, Lincoln NE whereas the date for the Grand Island Grantee Seminar is April 12th at the Central Platte NRD office.

You may email Allison La Duke at allison.laduke@nebraska.gov for any further information.

Nebraska Shades of Green Library

A dynamic reference library for sustainable community development has been established by the Joslyn Institute for Sustainable Communities, with the support of the Nebraska Environmental Trust. The library and its funding are part of a larger project concluded recently that focused on sustainable communication, Nebraska's resources, and more.

[The Nebraska Shades of Green Library](#) is intended to be a resource for community leaders and citizens throughout Nebraska and elsewhere, searching for experience-based information to aid in sustainable community development.

Videos, white papers, newspaper and magazine articles, presentations, case-studies, and more are included in the library. One section of the library, Global Shades of Red, provides a counterpoint, with entries of a cautionary nature

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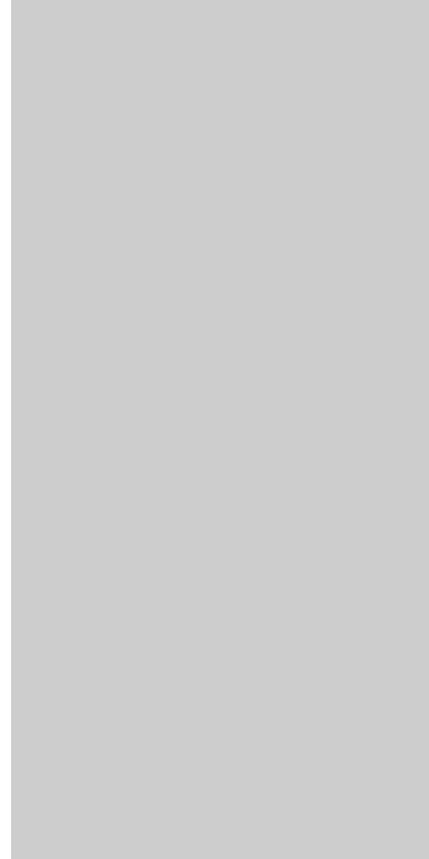
Lincoln, NE 68509-4913

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environmentaltrust.org

on global impacts of climate change, population growth and migration, and overuse of resources. The library is intended to provide public access to best practices, long-term studies, case studies, goals and objectives of conservation and sustainability programming in the future development of both communities and regions. The Joslyn Institute intends to continuously add projects and strategic information to the library.

Also included in the Shades of Green Library are three other Environmental Trust-funded projects and how they fit into the Joslyn Institute's paradigm of [Five Domains of Sustainability](#). This section has a link to a [special page](#) featuring 16 other Trust-funded projects evaluated by the Joslyn Institute to determine how they fit within the Five Domains framework (see below).





The Nebraska Environmental Trust

A Selected Library of NET-Funded Projects within the Five Domains Framework

Over the past 25 years, the **Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET)** has underwritten hundreds of projects that have enhanced life in Nebraska, helped to conserve our resources, and helped to spur sustainable innovation and resourcefulness. As part of our **Nebraska Shades of Green Library** project, the Joslyn Institute explored NET-funded projects with an eye toward seeing how

they might fit within our **Five Domains of Sustainability** framework. Below are some projects we have selected to highlight, along with a PDF mapping where these projects took place, categorizing the projects according to type, and showing which of the Five Domains are most applicable to each project. Click on the image to view the project.

SELECT ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST PROJECTS



Project Map, Categories and Domains - A three-page PDF including a map of where the selected projects took place in Nebraska, what categories the projects comprise, and which of the Five Domains each project fits within



Project 06-114 - Water Quality and Quantity in the Republican River Drainage



Project 05-131 - The Pintail Initiative: A Race Against Time



Project 10-163 - Nebraska Statewide Arboretum Waterwise Project



Project 08-136 - WasteCap Nebraska Electronics Recycling



Project 07-120 - Groundwater Guardians Green Sites



The Nebraska Shades of Green Library is an edited compendium of essential reading and viewing incorporating a wide range of subjects, with an array of origins. With the support of the **Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET)**, we have gathered here videos, white papers, articles, as well as some select NET-sponsored projects that demonstrate how our concept of **The Five Domains of Sustainability**

and our trademarked **Sustainometrics®** can be applied to projects of all sizes and types, in terms of design, planning, and measurement of effects/outcomes. You will also find here a section called **Global Shades of Red**, which includes articles and reports which indicate potential warnings of unsustainable conditions for communities. Please check back often for additions and updates.

SELECT VIDEOS



Nebraska Nexus: Resources, Conservation, Development and Change - JSC's award-winning video addresses a sustainable path forward in the face of climate change.



EcoSpheres - A documentary featuring highlights from JSC's pathbreaking EcoSpheres conference with world experts on population migration, climate change, urban challenges.



Communities on the Prairie: Exploring Sustainability - A series of short videos examines the growing need for sustainable development and systems needed for it in Nebraska cities and towns.



Dry Spotted Tail Creek

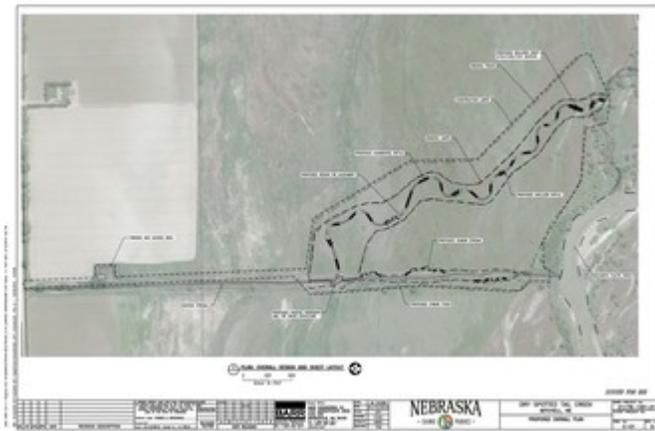
Dry Spotted Tail Creek runs into the North Platte River just west of Mitchell in the Nebraska panhandle. Highly channelized, it holds trout but not many can fight the strong current at the downstream end. In April 2018, the NET awarded Nebraska Trout Unlimited (NETU) \$275,000 towards a project to increase stream sinuosity and add structure, creating healthy trout habitat, raising the water table, and recharging wetlands. The finished project will create about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of publicly accessible trout habitat, as well as habitat for waterfowl and migratory birds.

With cooperative funding from partners at Nebraska Game and Parks (NGPC), Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, Platte River Basin Environments (PRBE) the Chasing Rainbows chapter of TU, and NETU chapter funds, over \$900,000 will be spent to complete project goals.

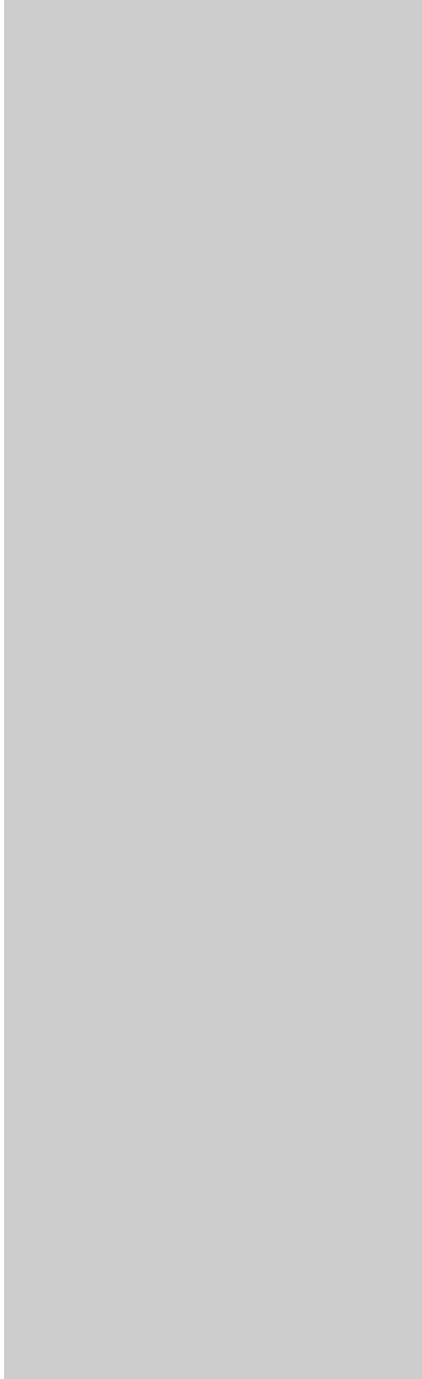
The stream flows through land previously purchased with

NET funds for PRBE's conservation complex along the North Platte. Engineers from Barr Engineering and Five Smooth Stones Restoration have worked with the partners to prepare a 100% plan and with NGPC to prepare for bidding on the major work in March.

Ground breaking will happen very soon thereafter, using heavy equipment to move materials and create a diversion structure to turn the water into a new sinuous channel. The existing channel below that point will become a series of ponds to support native wildlife, and surrounding wetlands will provide habitat for native and migratory birds. Partner volunteers including the Boy Scouts will help plant streamside and in-stream vegetation once major earth work is completed and place rocks to create in-stream structure.



Overall Site Plan





Existing stream from East Bank looking North

Upcoming Events

- March 21-24, 2019 - Audubon's Nebraska Crane Festival
 - April 4, 2019 (Thursday) - 2nd Quarter Board Meeting, 1:30 pm, Ferguson House.
 - Grantee Seminars April 8 & 10, 2019 - Lincoln, 10:30 - 1:00 pm
 - Grantee Seminar April 12th, 2019 - Grand Island, 10:30 - 1:00pm
 - April 13, 2019 - Omaha Earth Day, Elmwood Park, 11am - 6 pm, Omaha NE.
 - April 27, 2019 - Lincoln Earth Day, Union Plaza, 10am - 3pm, Lincoln NE.
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