



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

3125 Portia Street | P.O. Box 83581 • Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-3581
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Memorandum

Date: June 13, 2024
To: Board of Directors
From: David Potter, Assistant General Manager DP
RE: Platte River Subcommittee – June 11, 2024, Meeting Minutes.

The Platte River Subcommittee met at the NRD office on Tuesday, June 11, 2024. Subcommittee members in attendance included Ken Vogel, Seth Hawkins, Gary Hellerich, Don Jacobson, Gary Aldridge, and Susan Seacrest. Directors absent included Luke Peterson and Christine Lamberty. Others in attendance included David Potter. The meeting was called to order by Chair Vogel at 6:00 p.m. and the agenda was reviewed.

The first action item on the agenda for consideration was the **Cooperative Assistance Agreement with the Nebraska Land Trust**. The Nebraska Land Trust (NLT) is a 501 C (3) nonprofit organization actively engaged in land conservation in Nebraska since 2001. The NLT holds full accreditation as a land trust in Nebraska from the National Land Trust Alliance. With only four employees, the organization has successfully completed over 50 individual easements, protecting nearly 48,000 acres under permanent conservation easements across 23 counties. Eighteen of those easements (32%) are in the Lower Platte Valley in Douglas, Sarpy, and Saunders Counties.

LPSNRD is a member of the NLT and through a cooperative agreement, has been providing an annual financial contribution of \$30,000. This 3-year agreement has been extended most recently in 2021 to continue the original Agreement for an additional three-year period. The current three-year agreement with NLT ends June 30, 2024, and the NLT is requesting that this partnership continue for an additional three-year period beginning in Fiscal Year 2025.

Staff is proposing that LPSNRD continue to assist the work of the NLT in developing land protection and easement acquisition strategies, fundraising plans, conservation easement templates, organizing public meetings, providing easement education, and other conservation easement activities for specific areas in the Platte and Missouri River corridors, the Haines Branch Prairie Corridor, and other locations within the District for an additional three-year period starting in FY25. A copy of the proposed agreement (attached) along with the 2024 NLT Report to LPSNRD and a conservation easement article was provided to the subcommittee.

It was moved by Seacrest, seconded by Hawkins, and unanimously approved to recommend the Board of Directors approve the Cooperative Assistance Agreement between the Lower Platte South NRD and the Nebraska Land Trust that allows for an additional three-year District commitment in the amount of \$30,000/year, commencing in fiscal year 2025.

The next item was consideration of a **Joint Funding Agreement with USGS for the Trend Analysis on Continuous Water Quality in the Lower Platte River and LPSNRD on behalf of the LPRCA**. The Platte River Subcommittee and the Board have discussed a possible USGS trend analysis of one or more of

the Platte River streamgages for over a year. The District discussed sponsoring the project ourselves even if other members of the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance (LPRCA) were not interested. An action item and funds were placed in the FY24 Long Range Implementation Plan (LRIP) and Budget.

Since the adoption FY 24 Budget, more discussion has been had with the LPRCA members and several agencies have now decided to participate in the proposed detailed trend analysis on all the continuous water quality monitoring gages. Information from USGS on the proposed trend analysis of the streamgages is attached. The proposed USGS trend analysis is estimated at \$148,100 and would take two years to complete. The cost would be split between USGS and LPRCA members and other agencies electing to participate in the trend analysis. Of the total cost, the USGS will be contributing \$53,260 and the LPRCA partners will contribute \$94,840. Members and agencies committed to funding the project include NDEE through a Section 319 Small Grants Project for \$15,000 and NeDNR, MUD, Lincoln Water, Nebraska Game & Parks, LPSNRD, PMRNRD, LPNNRD, and UNL at a cost of \$9,980 each. The overall project will be administered through Joint Funding Agreements and a Section 319 Inter-governmental Agreement with LPSNRD on behalf of the LPRCA and with USGS, NDEE and the participating agencies. LPSNRD is serving as the authorizing member/agency on behalf of the LPRCA as per the current LPRCA Interlocal Cooperation Act Agreement.

The first of these agreements for consideration is the USGS Joint Funding Agreement for Water Resource Investigations (Trend Analysis) with Lower Platte South NRD on behalf of the LPRCA. A letter from USGS and the agreement (attached) were provided.

It was moved by Jacobson, seconded by Hawkins, and approved (with Aldridge voting no and others voting yes) to recommend the Board of Directors approve the USGS Joint Funding Agreement for Water Resource Investigations (Trend Analysis) with LPSNRD on behalf of the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance.

The third action item was consideration of the **Inter-governmental Agreement for a Section 319 Grant with NDEE for the Trend Analysis of Continuous Water Quality in the Lower Platte River and LPSNRD on behalf of the LPRCA.**

As stated above, NDEE has secured a Section 319 Grant with EPA for \$15,000 to help fund the proposed Trend Analysis. The attached Inter-governmental Agreement is between the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy and the LPSNRD on behalf of the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance regarding the implementation of the project titled Trend Analysis of Continuous Water Quality in the Lower Platte River. The two-year grant is consistent with the USGS Trend Analysis Project timeline, and the required 40% nonfederal match (up to \$10,000) will come from the committed funding contributions of the three NRDs (LPSNRD, LPNNRD, and PMRNRD) as per the agreements.

It was moved by Jacobson, seconded by Hellerich, and unanimously approved to recommend the Board of Directors approve the Inter-governmental Agreement between the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy and the LPSNRD on behalf of the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance regarding the implementation of the project titled Trend Analysis of Continuous Water Quality in the Lower Platte River.

The next action item was consideration of a **Joint Funding Agreement for the USGS Streamgage Trend Analysis between LPSNRD on behalf of the LPRCA and LPNNRD, PMRNRD, NeDNR, NGP, UNL, MUD, and Lincoln Water.**

A Joint funding agreement has been drafted between each participating agency and LPSNRD on behalf of the LPRCA. The proposed agreement (attached) is for two years and provides for a payment by each participating agency or partner of \$5,843 in FY25 and \$4,137 in FY26 for a total of \$9,980 for the entire project.

It was moved by Seacrest, seconded by Jacobson, and approved (with Aldridge voting present and others voting yes) to recommend the Board of Directors approve the Joint Funding Agreement for the USGS Streamgage Trend Analysis between LPSNRD on behalf of the LPRCA and LPNNRD, PMRNRD, NeDNR, NGP, UNL, MUD, and Lincoln Water.

Potter then provided updates on the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance, the Platte River Sandbar Removal Project, and the Tern and Plover Conservation Partnership. The last meeting of the Corridor Alliance was held on May 29th at the National Guard Camp Ashland. PMRNRD was successful in getting a grant through the Department of Economic Development Infrastructure Match Program. PMRNRD is being awarded \$7.15 million to restore the Platte River water flow to near pre-disaster conditions by removing sand, rock, and silt from the river at Highway 75 near La Platte. The removal of the sandbar will reduce the stress placed upon the bridge pilings and provide increased flood resiliency for future disasters. LPSNRD has committed funds to the project and will be considering a funding agreement for our share of the local match in July or August. Potter has also requested and scheduled a report from the Tern and Plover Conservation Partnership at the next subcommittee meeting. LPSNRD has contributed \$5,000 annually to support the efforts of the Partnership.

With no further business or discussion, Vogel declared the meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Attachment: 1

Pc: file

AGREEMENT BETWEEN
LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
AND
NEBRASKA LAND TRUST
FOR
COOPERATIVE ASSISTANCE

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into by and between the LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT (hereinafter referred to as the “NRD”) and the NEBRASKA LAND TRUST (hereinafter referred to as “the TRUST”).

WHEREAS, The TRUST is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization that has adopted Standards and Practices promulgated by the Land Trust Alliance and actively acquires or stewards conservation lands and conservation easements, with the goal of land conservation in Nebraska; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the TRUST is to accept conservation easements or gifts of land to preserve lands that remain essentially in their natural state; are ecologically, historically, or archeologically significant; serve as wildlife habitat, and/or are used for low impact agriculture; and,

WHEREAS, the authorities of the NRD include prevention of damages from floodwater and sediment, development and management of fish and wildlife habitat and recreational and park facilities, and forestry and range management; and

WHEREAS, the NRD desires to utilize the expertise and experience of the TRUST to explore the opportunities for acquisition of conservation easements District-wide, with particular focus on the Platte and Missouri River corridors and on the Haines Branch Prairie Corridor.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing recitals and their mutual covenants hereinafter expressed, the parties agree as follows:

1. The TRUST agrees that it shall:
 - a. Conduct educational programs with landowners, public officials, and others within the NRD for the purpose of explaining conservation easements and the multiple advantages thereof; and
 - b. Provide technical assistance to the District with the development of baseline surveys on proposed conservation easement properties, and in the monitoring and evaluation of held conservation easements; and
 - c. Assist the NRD in the development of a land protection strategy and easement templates for the acquisition of conservation easements in the District; and,

- d. Consult with the NRD on funding and grant proposals and assist in compliance with the requirements of the fund sources; and,
 - e. Assist the NRD in negotiations and acquisition of conservation easements over priority properties.
2. The NRD agrees that it will assist the TRUST to develop land protection and easement acquisition strategies for the Corridor; will pay the sum of \$30,000, annually, to the TRUST for the purpose of partially funding the activities of the TRUST undertaken pursuant hereto; and, will work with the TRUST to identify prospective donors of conservation easements, additional funding sources and partnership opportunities.
 3. The term of this Agreement shall commence upon execution thereof by both parties; and this Agreement shall terminate on June 30, 2027, unless sooner terminated as provided below.
 4. The following personnel shall represent the parties in carrying out the terms of this Agreement and are designated to receive notices hereunder:

For the NRD:	For the TRUST:
Mike Sousek, General Manager	David Sands, Executive Director
	Joe Francis, Chairman

5. This Agreement may be terminated by either party with or without cause on 60 days written notice delivered to the other party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this agreement on the dates hereinafter indicated.

Executed by THE NEBRASKA LAND TRUST, on this _____ day of _____, 2024.

NEBRASKA LAND TRUST

By _____
David Sands
Executive Director

Executed by the LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT on
this _____ day of _____, 2024.

LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL
RESOURCES DISTRICT

By _____
Mike Sousek
General Manager

USGS Trend Analysis on Continuous Water Quality in the Lower Platte River

USGS Nebraska Water Science Center
Matt Moser, Brenda Densmore, and Dave Rus
2024-05-24

In partnership with members of the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance

Introduction:

With continuous water quality data being collected in cooperation with the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance (LPRCA) over the past 15 years, datasets are now sufficient to begin looking for potential water quality trends that are occurring in the lower Platte River. These data sets can be examined using modeling techniques to account for wet and dry years or missing data and detect water quality trends or facilitate comparisons between sites to better understand how the water quality in the Lower Platte River has changed over the monitoring. This short proposal describes the type of modeling that the USGS could complete in cooperation with the LPRCA to gain more information about the water quality of the Lower Platte River as represented by this monitoring data.

The Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance has cooperated with the USGS Nebraska Water Science Center since 2007 to collect continuous water quality data at four stream locations strategically placed in the lower Platte River basin to target specific watersheds. These include:

- Platte River at Louisville has had seasonal collection of water temperature, specific conductance, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity since the fall of 2007. Beginning in 2012, continuous nitrate data were also collected seasonally.
- Elkhorn River at Waterloo has had seasonal collection of water temperature, specific conductance, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity since the fall of 2007. Beginning in 2016, continuous nitrate data were also collected seasonally.
- Platte River at Leshara has had seasonal collection of water temperature, specific conductance, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and nitrate since 2016.
- Salt Creek near Ashland has had seasonal collection of water temperature, specific conductance, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity since the fall of 2007.

The USGS has provided the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance and the Natural Resources Districts (NRD with bi-yearly updates on the collected data with graphs, data summaries, and observations on how these continuous water quality variables were changing from year to year. These continuous data sets have also supported other water management operations and studies in these streams by documenting current water quality conditions.

The continuous water quality monitors can provide data for trend analysis over several years, river conditions, and multiple parameters. Continuous water quality monitors provide the ability to look at short term fluctuations in the river that traditional sampling can miss, as well as data that can be collected and analyzed over a variety of flow conditions. Continuous data such as this, provide the ability to look at a more complete picture of river conditions.

To date (2023), statistical analysis of the continuous water quality data being collected has not been completed to better understand how water temperature, specific conductance, dissolved

oxygen, turbidity, and nitrate are changed seasonally, during wet and dry years, and year to year over the period of data collection. Therefore, the full value of this continuous data record is not well understood.

Objectives:

The LPRCA and the USGS NEWSC are interested in completing statistical trend analysis on the continuous water quality data from the beginning of each record up to and including the 2023 monitoring season to better understand how these monitored parameters are changing over time. This project will also include an analysis of discharge trends during the same time period.

Conceptual approach:

The high-frequency data from continuous water quality monitoring provides many benefits but also provide challenges to the statistical analysis of trends because of the serial correlation (dependence upon previous data values) inherent in the measurements. Since many wide-spread, readily available continuous water quality data sets are just recently reaching length thresholds that make trend analysis practical (generally around 10 years), trend analysis using these types of data are an active research topic.

Using order statistics of daily values from continuous water quality data in Virginia streams, Porter and others (2020) were able to perform a trend analysis on high frequency data. The USGS Nebraska WSC would follow a similar method to analyze data and look for trends on data collected in Nebraska. Daily values would be utilized for data to run linear regressions on continuous water quality data in the lower Platte. This approach would look at overall trends occurring throughout the time frame and not analyze every single point.

The linear regressions would only focus on the extremes and averages observed within each selected time frame, and then compare those extremes and averages against similar time frames throughout the 15-year period where data have been collected. The USGS NEWSC would utilize previous R packages already established by the USGS and available in R to analyze the data.

Temporal changes in daily discharge statistics will be explored using methods available in the EGRET software (Hirsch and De Cicco, 2015). Daily discharge records can be used to perform Mann-Kendall trend tests, and the associated Thiel-Sen slope estimates, to create Quantile-Kendall plots (Hirsch, 2018) to evaluate discharge trends across the range of discharge values at each of the sites for a specified timeframe. These statistics will be explored as a possible method for trend analysis at the four sites in the lower Platte River. In addition to these trend analyses at each site, sites will be compared to better understand how the full system is changing over the years contributions to the system from the tributaries vs from the Central Platte.

The USGS also previously produced concentration predictions using surrogate relations in the Lower Platte River. These relations were published through a USGS Scientific Investigations Report (Schaepe et al, 2014) and were funded in part by a NET grant. These surrogate equations were developed using continuous water quality data collected from 2007 to 2011 and comparing those data to a USGS sample dataset. When these two data sets are combined, their relations were able to compute additional concentrations of analytes of concern that were

occurring in the stream throughout that period. The USGS is proposing to add in data collected from 2011 to 2023 to these equations to update the data to better reflect stream concentrations over the entire monitoring period. This will help represent the concentrations of additional constituents more accurately in the rivers. By updating these equations, better calculations would be made of real time concentrations of concern such as atrazine, *E.coli*, phosphorus, suspended sediment, and ammonia.

Potential outcome of the study:

The Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance and member NRDs have water quality management plans in place on the Platte River and its tributaries. Part of these water quality management plans are to look at impaired watersheds and water flowing into the river. The trend analysis being proposed can look at the collected continuous water quality data to help determine if long term management changes are impacting the water quality of the lower Platte River. The trends analysis will be able to account for wet vs dry years and see a clearer picture of how the water quality of the system is changing independent of discharge. Often during dry years, the amount of runoff into the channel is diminished which also decreases the quantity of contaminants and likewise during very wet years extremes in water quality are observed.

Long term changes can also possibly identify changes occurring in regard to climatic effects. The temperature in the lower Platte River can be analyzed throughout the previous 15+ years to see if any changes have occurred or are occurring.

The outcomes of this study will also provide a better understanding of how continuous water quality parameters in the Lower Platte River watersheds are changing over time since data collection started. The R scripts used to complete the data analysis will be created in a way that future years of collected data can be further analyzed through these same scripts. The statistical methods used will be described in a USGS scientific investigations report and the R script and resulting trends data will be published as a USGS data release in ScienceBase.

Study duration:

Data analysis will primarily occur during Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, with report writing beginning at that same time. The final USGS Scientific Investigations Report and necessary data releases will be published in late FY 2026. The dates of the study will be from July 1, 2024, to October 31, 2026. An estimated timeline is as follows:

Activity	FY24	Federal Year 2025				Federal Year 2026			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1. Data gathering	X	X							
2. Statistical trend analysis		X	X	X	X	X			
3. Surrogate equation analysis and updates		X	X	X	X	X			
4. Report writing and production			X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Cost estimate:

The anticipated cost for the data analysis and report production are expected to be \$148,100. This cost will be split between the USGS and Lower Platte Corridor Alliance members electing to participate in the trend analysis. Of the total cost, the USGS will be contributing \$53,260 and the LPRCA members contributing \$94,840. Below is an approximate funding breakdown of study.

Item	Section 319 *	Other LPRCA partners*	USGS**	Total
Personnel	13,970	74,358	49,603	137,931
Project Management	1,161	6,182	4,124	11,466
Data interpretation: Model Development	2,438	12,975	8,656	24,069
Data interpretation: Modeling	1,801	9,584	6,393	17,778
Report writing and preparation	5,142	27,370	18,258	50,771
Review Publication	3,428	18,247	12,172	33,848
Travel	0	0	0	0
Domestic Travel	0	0	0	0
Equipment	0	0	0	0
Weather Station	0	0	0	0
Supplies/Materials	0	0	0	0
Supplies/Mailing	0	0	0	0
Contractual	0	0	0	0
Outside Contracts	0	0	0	0
Other	1,030	5,482	3,657	10,169
Publication services USGS PSC	1,030	5,482	3,657	10,169
	0	0	0	0
Total	\$15,000	\$79,840	\$53,260	\$148,100

* Nonfederal Funds

** Federal funds not eligible for 319 match

Quality Assurance:

In order to ensure good quality data are collected and the data being analyzed are done so properly and meet the study objectives, the study will follow standards set by the USGS. These steps are done so that data that is collected and steps done during the analysis are documented and archived in a way that the general public could find any information on the products produced.

All data that will be analyzed in this study were collected by the USGS. In order to assure high quality continuous water data were collected, the USGS follows all protocols that are observed

in the USGS National Field Manual (USGS, 2018) and the USGS TM1D3 (Wagner and others, 2006). These documents are followed by all USGS offices to ensure consistent, high quality, reproducible data collection is collected across the United States. Equipment used in the collection of the data were frequently assessed to ensure high accuracy and precision of measurements was ongoing throughout the 17 years of data collection. Streams were assessed several times per year while data were collected in order to observe any horizontal or vertical mixing may have been occurring. This was done to ensure that the data being collected was representative of the stream and if any bias was present, it was documented.

Quality assurance done on the analysis will be done by following methods used by other trend analysis done across the USGS, as well as archiving these methods and analysis used to run the test on the data. Data analysis will be done in R utilizing WRTDS methods and standard regression equations. The steps that are done to analyze the data will be documented in the final report. All data code used to analyze the report will be saved and archived in USGS model archives wherever necessary.

References:

Helsel, D.R., Hirsch, R.M., Ryberg, K.R., Archfield, S.A., and Gilroy, E.J., 2020, Statistical methods in water resources: U.S. Geological Survey Techniques and Methods, book 4, chap. A3, 458 p., <https://doi.org/10.3133/tm4a3>. [Supersedes USGS Techniques of Water-Resources Investigations, book 4, chap. A3, version 1.1.]

Hirsch, R.M., and De Cicco, L.A., 2015, User guide to Exploration and Graphics for RivEr Trends (EGRET) and dataRetrieval: R packages for hydrologic data (version 2.0, February 2015): U.S. Geological Survey Techniques and Methods book 4, chap. A10, 93 p., <https://dx.doi.org/10.3133/tm4A10>.

Hirsch, R.M., 2018, Daily Streamflow Trend Analysis, U.S. Geological Survey Office of Water Information Blog, <https://owi.usgs.gov/blog/Quantile-Kendall/>

Kendall, M.G., 1975, Rank correlation methods (4th ed.): London, Charles Griffin.

Porter, A.J., Webber, J.S., Witt, J.W., and Jastram, J.D., 2020, Spatial and temporal patterns in streamflow, water chemistry, and aquatic macroinvertebrates of selected streams in Fairfax County, Virginia, 2007–18: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2020–5061, 106 p., <https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20205061>.

Schaepe, N.J., Soenksen, P.J., and Rus, D.L., 2014, Relations of water-quality constituent concentrations to surrogate measurements in the lower Platte River corridor, Nebraska, 2007 through 2011

Sen, P.K., 1968, Estimates of the regression coefficient based on Kendall's tau: Journal of the American Statistical Association, v. 63 p. 1379–1389

U.S. Geological Survey [USGS], 2018, National field manual for the collection of water-quality data: U.S. Geological Survey Techniques of Water-Resources Investigations, book 9, chaps. A1–A10, accessed March 2023 at <https://pubs.water.usgs.gov/twri9A>.

Wagner, R.J., Boulger, R.W., Jr., Oblinger, C.J., and Smith, B.A., 2006, Guidelines and standard procedures for continuous water-quality monitors—Station operation, record computation, and data reporting: U.S. Geological Survey Techniques and Methods, book 1, chap. D3, 51 p. plus 8 attachments, accessed May 17, 2023, at <https://pubs.usgs.gov/tm/2006/tm1D3/pdf/TM1D3.pdf>.

Yang, G., and Moyer, D.L., 2020, Estimation of nonlinear water-quality trends in high-frequency monitoring data: The Science of the Total Environment, v. 715, p. 136686, accessed February 2020 at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.136686>.

For any additional questions or comments, please reach out to:

Matt Moser
Physical Scientist
USGS Nebraska Water Science Center
402-328-4184
mmoser@usgs.gov



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Water Resources Discipline
Nebraska Water Science Center
5231 South 19th Street
Lincoln, NE 68512-1271

May 15, 2024

Mike Sousek
Lower Platte South Natural Resources District
PO Box 83581
Lincoln, NE 68501-3581

Dear Mr. Sousek:

Enclosed is Joint Funding Agreement 24NRJFA00330 between the U.S. Geological Survey and the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (on behalf of the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance). This agreement analyzes trends in continuous water quality constituents and discharge at multiple monitoring sites on the Lower Platte River. The work will also include updating existing statistical equations for estimation of certain water quality constituents based on continuous monitoring data. The total amount of the agreement is \$148,100, or \$94,840 for the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District and \$53,260 for the U.S. Geological Survey. The agreement end date is October 31, 2026. Please sign one copy of the agreement and return it to me by email. Please retain a copy for your records. Work cannot be started until we receive the signed agreement.

Work performed with funds from this agreement will be conducted under the authority of Statute 43 USC 50 on a fixed-price basis. Billings will be rendered quarterly. The results of all work under this agreement will be available for publication by the U.S. Geological Survey.

Please contact Matt Moser at 402-429-1672 if you have any questions concerning this agreement.

Sincerely,

Jason M. Lambrecht, Acting Director
USGS Nebraska Water Science Center

1 Enclosure

USGS UEI No. NJQMLNG5LA5

Fixed Cost Agreement YES[X] NO[]

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into as of July 1, 2024, by the U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, Nebraska Water Science Center, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, party of the first part, and the LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT, party of the second part.

1. The parties hereto agree that subject to the availability of appropriations and in accordance with their respective authorities there shall be maintained in cooperation to analyze trends in continuous water quality constituents and discharge at multiple monitoring sites on the Lower Platte River, herein called the program. The USGS legal authority is 43 USC 36C; 43 USC 50, and 43 USC 50b.

2. The following amounts shall be contributed to cover all of the cost of the necessary field and analytical work directly related to this program. 2(b) include In-Kind-Services in the amount of \$0.00

- (a) \$53,260 by the party of the first part during the period July 1, 2024 to October 31, 2026
- (b) \$94,840 by the party of the second part during the period July 1, 2024 to October 31, 2026
- (c) Contributions are provided by the party of the first part through other USGS regional or national programs, in the amount of: \$0

Description of the USGS regional/national program:

- (d) Additional or reduced amounts by each party during the above period or succeeding periods as may be determined by mutual agreement and set forth in an exchange of letters between the parties.
- (e) The performance period may be changed by mutual agreement and set forth in an exchange of letters between the parties.

3. The costs of this program may be paid by either party in conformity with the laws and regulations respectively governing each party.

4. The field and analytical work pertaining to this program shall be under the direction of or subject to periodic review by an authorized representative of the party of the first part.

5. The areas to be included in the program shall be determined by mutual agreement between the parties hereto or their authorized representatives. The methods employed in the field and office shall be those adopted by the party of the first part to insure the required standards of accuracy subject to modification by mutual agreement.

6. During the course of this program, all field and analytical work of either party pertaining to this program shall be open to the inspection of the other party, and if the work is not being carried on in a mutually satisfactory manner, either party may terminate this agreement upon 60 days written notice to the other party.

7. The original records resulting from this program will be deposited in the office of origin of those records. Upon request, copies of the original records will be provided to the office of the other party.

8. The maps, records or reports resulting from this program shall be made available to the public as promptly as possible. The maps, records or reports normally will be published by the party of the first part. However, the party of the second part reserves the right to publish the results of this program, and if already published by the party of the first part shall, upon request, be furnished by the party of the first part, at cost, impressions suitable for purposes of reproduction similar to that for which the original copy was prepared. The maps, records or reports published by either party shall contain a statement of the cooperative relations between the parties. The Parties acknowledge that scientific information and data developed as a result of the Scope of Work (SOW) are subject to applicable USGS review, approval, and release requirements, which are available on the USGS Fundamental Science Practices website <https://www.usgs.gov/about/organization/science-support/science-quality-and-integrity/fundamental-science-practices>

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Joint Funding Agreement
FOR
Water Resource Investigations

Customer #: 6000000121
Agreement #: 24NRJFA00330
Project #: NR00V84
TIN #: 47-0542969

9. Billing for this agreement will be rendered quarterly. Invoices not paid within 60 days from the billing date will bear Interest, Penalties, and Administrative cost at the annual rate pursuant the Debt Collection Act of 1982, (codified at 31 U.S.C. § 3717) established by the U.S. Treasury.

USGS Technical Point of Contact

Name: Matt Moser
Physical Scientist
Address: 5231 South 19th
Lincoln, NE 68512
Telephone: (402) 328-4184
Fax: (402) 328-4101
Email: mmoser@usgs.gov

Customer Technical Point of Contact

Name: David Potter
Address: PO Box 83581
Lincoln, NE 68501
Telephone: (402) 476-2729
Fax:
Email: dpotter@lpsnrd.org

USGS Billing Point of Contact

Name: Amanda Flynn
Budget Analyst
Address: 5231 South 19th
Lincoln, NE 68512
Telephone: (402) 328-4144
Fax: (402) 328-4101
Email: aflynn@usgs.gov

Customer Billing Point of Contact

Name: David Potter
Address: PO Box 83581
Lincoln, NE 68501
Telephone: (402) 476-2729
Fax:
Email: dpotter@lpsnrd.org

U.S. Geological Survey
United States
Department of Interior

Lower Platte South Natural Resources District

Signature

Signatures

By _____
Name: Jason Lambrecht
Title: Acting Director

By _____ Date: _____
Name:
Title:

By _____ Date: _____
Name:
Title:

By _____ Date: _____
Name:
Title:

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
Between the
Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy
and
the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District
on the behalf of
the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance
regarding the implementation of the project titled

**Trend Analysis of Continuous Water Quality in the Lower Platte
River**

NDEE Reference Number: 2024-140740590

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into by and between the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) and the Lower Platte River South Natural Resources District on behalf of the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance (Sponsor) in accordance with Nebr. Rev. Stat. Sec. 81-1504 Nebraska Environmental Protection Act;

WHEREAS, the Sponsor made a request to the NDEE for Section 319 grant funds (CFDA #66.460), pursuant to the Federal Clean Water Act and the Nebraska Nonpoint Source (NPS) Management Program, which have been made available to NDEE through the Region VII Office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA); and

WHEREAS, the Sponsor agrees to comply with all provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987, 33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq. and intends to use the funds as set out in this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties do hereby agree to the terms and requirements of this Agreement as follows:

I. TERM OF THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement will begin on July 1st, 2024 or when both parties have signed, whichever occurs later, and will remain in effect until all identified tasks are completed for this Section 319 Project unless terminated under §IV-C-12 of this agreement, but will not remain in effect past October 31st, 2026.

II. WORK DESCRIPTION AND SCHEDULE

This project shall complete objectives and work items as described in the state approved workplan. The state approved workplan is hereby incorporated into this document in its entirety (Attachment A).

III. FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Grant funds in the amount up to \$15,000.00 are to be used to implement this Section 319 NPS project.
- B. Sponsor agrees to contribute 40% of total funds spent up to \$10,000.00 in nonfederal match as cash and/or services in-kind for implementation of project activities.

C. Statement of Costs

The Sponsor will submit, no more often than monthly, a properly documented statement of costs for which reimbursement is sought AND properly documented nonfederal match as claimed pursuant to the terms of this Agreement and the state approved workplan. The statement of costs shall be signed by the Sponsor's authorized representative. For purposes of this agreement, reimbursable costs and nonfederal match claims shall be related to budget items as described in the state approved workplan. Documentation of costs and match shall consist of paid receipts, signed time records, and/or similar verification of expenditures. A description of the activities performed, list of personnel and documentation of time worked, in relation to reported match dollars, shall be included.

D. Disbursements

- 1. All requests for reimbursement of costs incurred by the Sponsor shall be reviewed pursuant to the provisions of the Nebraska Prompt Payment Act.
- 2. Reimbursements will be contingent on receipt of required reports.
- 3. NDEE shall withhold 10% of the total award but not less than \$1,500.00, of grant funds pending receipt and approval of the final project report.
- 4. The total amount of payments under this Agreement shall not exceed \$15,000.00.
- 5. The Sponsor agrees to contribute 40% of total funds spent or up to \$10,000 in nonfederal match as cash and/or services in-kind for implementation of project activities.

IV. GRANT REQUIREMENTS

A. Program Requirements

- 1. The Sponsor agrees to follow the state approved workplan outlining the project schedule, budget categories and amounts, and specific work items to be undertaken during the course of the project.
- 2. A Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) must be approved by NDEE prior to any collection of environmental data and subsequent reimbursement request from Section 319 grant funds for monitoring activities. All environmental data collected under this agreement shall be provided to NDEE.

3. The Sponsor agrees to submit progress reports to the NDEE by March 20 and September 20 each year for the duration of the project agreement. These reports shall contain the following components:
 - a. Progress to date;
 - b. Significant findings or events;
 - c. Corrective actions taken to resolve any problems that are encountered;
 - d. Activities planned for the next reporting period.
4. The Sponsor agrees to MBE/WBE reports to the NDEE by September 20 each year for the duration of the project agreement and a final MBE/WBE report by July 1st, 2026.
5. A final project report must be submitted to NDEE within 60 days after completion of project tasks, but no later than December 30th, 2026. This report shall contain the following components in addition to those outlined in the 319 Project Final Report Guidelines to be provided by NDEE:
 - a. Significant findings or events;
 - b. Corrective actions taken to resolve any problems that were encountered;
 - c. Final budget with actual amounts of expenditures and matching listed as well as the source(s) of matching identified.
6. The Sponsor agrees that if indirect costs are authorized, as specified in the approved state workplan, they will be charged at the approved indirect rate.
7. The Sponsor agrees that any contract, inter-governmental agreement, sub-agreement and/or procurement of equipment under this grant must receive NDEE approval prior to expenditure of funds associated with those transactions. Copies of all sub-agreements and inter-governmental agreements will be provided to the NDEE.
8. All equipment purchased with Section 319 grant funds must be approved by the NDEE. Any such purchased equipment shall be retained by the NDEE upon completion of the project unless otherwise authorized in writing by the NDEE.
9. The Sponsor agrees that all water quality data collected under this grant shall be provided to the NDEE.
10. The Sponsor agrees that all code created to analyze water quality data under this grant shall be provided to the NDEE.
11. The Sponsor agrees to recognize the contributions and/or involvement of the Federal Nonpoint Source Management Program (authorized by Section 319 of the Clean Water Act and administered by USEPA and NDEE) in project publicity, reports, newsletters, and other materials. The Sponsor shall work with the NDEE to ensure that all necessary peer review requirements are met prior to publication. A minimum of three (3) copies of outreach material (printed or other media) produced under this grant shall be provided to the

NDEE unless otherwise specified.

B. Federal Requirements

1. General Terms and Conditions

The recipient agrees to comply with the current EPA general terms and conditions. These terms and conditions are in addition to the assurances and certifications made as part of the award and the terms, conditions or restrictions cited throughout the award. The EPA repository for the general terms and conditions by year (Grant Conditions) can be found at:

<https://www.epa.gov/grants/grant-terms-and-conditions>

2. Federal Tax Liability

With signature on this Agreement, the sponsor certifies that they: (1) are not subject to any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, and (2) have not been convicted (or had an officer or agent acting on its behalf convicted) of a felony criminal conviction under any Federal law within 24 months preceding the award, unless EPA has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation, or such officer or agent, based on these tax liabilities or convictions and determined that such action is not necessary to protect the Government's interests.

3. Subaward Policy

If there will be contractual services provided in association with this agreement for \$3,000 or more, the Sponsor is required to get three written bids. If there will be contractual services provided in association with this agreement exceeding \$150,000, the Sponsor is required to conduct a sealed bid Request for Proposals.

4. Civil Rights Statutes and EPA Regulations

This term and condition incorporates by reference the signed assurance provided by the recipient's authorized representative on: 1) EPA Form 4700-4, "Preaward Compliance Review Report for All Applicants and Recipients Requesting EPA Financial Assistance"; and 2) Standard Form 424B or Standard Form 424D, as applicable. The assurances and this term and condition obligate the recipient to comply fully with applicable civil rights statutes and implementing EPA regulations.

C. State Requirements

1. Amendments

This agreement may be amended in writing at any time by mutual agreement of the parties, except insofar as any proposed amendments are in any way contrary to applicable law or requirements of the USEPA or NDEE.

2. Forfeiture, Repayment, and Delays in Disbursement of Funds

Violation of any of the requirements of this Agreement by the Sponsor or failure of the Sponsor to complete and maintain the project in the manner described in the project implementation plan, including any amendments thereto which have been properly approved, shall result in the forfeiture of any funds not disbursed. In addition, if for any reason the project is not completed as described in the state approved workplan, including any amendments thereto that have been or are hereafter approved by the NDEE, the NDEE may recover from the Sponsor any or all funds disbursed.

3. Remedies Not Exclusive

The use by either the Sponsor or the NDEE of any remedy specified herein for the enforcement of this Agreement is not exclusive and shall not deprive the party from using such remedy, or limit the application of any other remedy provided by law.

4. Assignment

No assignment or transfer of this agreement or any part hereof, rights hereunder, or interest herein by the Sponsor shall be valid unless and until it is approved by the NDEE and made subject to such reasonable terms and conditions as the NDEE may impose.

5. Waiver of Rights

The Sponsor or NDEE may from time to time waive any of their rights under this Agreement; however, any waiver of rights with respect to a default of any condition of this Agreement shall not be deemed to be a waiver with respect to any other default.

6. Applicable Rules and Regulations

Both parties shall abide by all applicable rules and regulations of the NDEE including any that may be adopted subsequent to the effective date of this Agreement except those that would invalidate or be inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement.

7. Inspection of Books, Records, and Reports

The duly authorized representative of either party shall have the right to inspect and make copies of any books, records, or reports of the other party pertaining to this Agreement or related matters during regular office hours. Each party shall maintain and make available for such inspection accurate records of all its costs, disbursements, and receipts with respect to its activities under this Agreement. A single audit is required if \$750,000 or more is provided by the federal funding in any one-year period. Verification of completion of the single audit report shall be sent to NDEE.

8. Independent Contractor

The Sponsor is and shall perform this Agreement as an independent contractor and as such shall have and maintain exclusive control over all of its employees, agents, and operations. Neither the Sponsor nor any person employed by the Sponsor shall act, propose to act, or be deemed the NDEE's agent, representative, or employee. The Sponsor assumes full and exclusive responsibility for the payment of all premiums, contributions, payroll taxes and other taxes now or hereafter required by any law or regulation and agrees to comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and orders relating to social security, unemployment compensation, OSHA, affirmative action, equal employment opportunity, and other laws, regulations, and orders of like nature. For any work hereunder subject to the Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, or the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the parties hereto shall comply with all provisions thereof, together with all applicable rules, regulations and orders of the Department of Labor, and the notices required pursuant to 41 CFR 60-1.4, 60-250.4 and 60-741.4, which are hereby incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

9. Nondiscrimination

The Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act prohibits contractors to the State of Nebraska and their subcontractors from discriminating against any employee, or applicant for employment in the performance of such contracts, with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of employment because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, marital status, or national origin. The Sponsor's signature is a guarantee of compliance with the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act, and breach of this provision shall be regarded as a material breach of this Agreement. The Sponsor shall insert a similar provision in all subcontracts for services to be covered by any contract resulting from this Agreement.

10. Drug Free Workplace

The Sponsor by executing this Agreement certifies and assures that it operates a drug free workplace as addressed in the State of Nebraska Drug Free Workplace

Policy of July 7, 1989.

11. Publication

All parties shall have publication and reproduction rights for all reports and materials, which are produced as a result of this Agreement.

12. Termination

This agreement may be terminated in whole or in part in writing by either party in the event of substantial failure by the other party to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement through no fault of the terminating party provided that no termination may be effected unless the other party is given:

- a. Not less than thirty (30) calendar days' written notice (delivered by certified mail, return receipt requested) of intent to terminate, and
- b. An opportunity for consultation with the terminating party prior to termination.
- c. If an emergency situation occurs, the effective date of termination will be negotiated.

13. New Employee Work Eligibility

The Sponsor is required and hereby agrees to use, and require sub-contractors to use, a federal immigration verification system to determine the work eligibility status of new employees physically performing services within the State of Nebraska. A federal immigration verification system means the electronic verification of the work authorization program authorized by the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, 8 U.S.C. 1324a, known as the E-Verify Program, or an equivalent federal program designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security or other federal agency authorized to verify the work eligibility status of a newly hired employee.

If the Sponsor or Contractor is an individual or sole proprietorship, the following applies:

The Contractor must complete the United States Citizenship Attestation Form, available on the Department of Administrative Services website at:

<https://sos.nebraska.gov/business-services/explanation-us-citizen-attestation-form>

If the Contractor indicates on such attestation form that he or she is a qualified alien, the Contractor agrees to provide the US Citizenship and Immigration Services documentation required to verify the Contractor's lawful presence in the United States using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program.

The Contractor understands and agrees that lawful presence in the United States

is required and the Contractor may be disqualified or the contract terminated if such lawful presence cannot be verified as required by Neb. Rev. Stat. §4-108.

V. PROJECT MANAGERS

The Project Manager for each party to this agreement shall be as follows. The Project Manager may be changed by any agency upon written notification.

**Nebraska Department of
Environment and Energy (NDEE)**

**Lower Platte South NRD
on behalf of the
Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance**

Katie Hickle
Environmental Specialist
Water Planning Section
P.O. Box 98922
Lincoln, NE 68521
Phone: (402) 471-4249
katie.hickle@nebraska.gov

Mike Sousek
General Manager

3125 Portia St
Lincoln, NE 68501-3581
[Phone: 402-476-2729
msousek@lpsnrd.org

VI. SIGNATORIES TO THIS INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

BY: Kevin Stoner

TITLE: Deputy Director

DATE: _____

Lower Platte South NRD on behalf of the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance

BY: Mike Sousek

TITLE: General Manager

(Please Print)

DATE:

(Signature)

UEI #:



Attachment A: Workplan for the Trend Analysis of Continuous Water Quality in the Lower Platte River

Project and Scope of Work

Real-time continuous water quality monitoring data has been collected by USGS personnel and equipment in cooperation with the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance (LPRCA) in the Platte Lower River over the past 17 years. Monitoring devices include streamgages on the Platte River at Louisville, Elkhorn River at Waterloo, Platte River at Leshara, and Salt Creek near Ashland. Water quality data collected include temperature, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, specific conductance, nitrate/nitrite and others as available. Data has been displayed in real-time over the internet and collected generally March through October each year. Datasets are now sufficient to begin looking for potential water quality trends that are occurring. These data will be examined by USGS using modeling techniques to account for wet and dry years or missing data and detect water quality trends or facilitate comparisons between sites to better understand how the water quality in the Lower Platte River has changed over the monitoring period.

Objectives

The LPRCA and the USGS Nebraska Water Science Center are interested in completing statistical trend analysis of the continuous water quality data from the beginning of each record up to and including the 2023 monitoring season to better understand how these monitored parameters are changing over time. This project will also include an analysis of discharge trends during the same time period.

Quality Assurance

To ensure good quality data is collected and the data being analyzed is done properly and meets the study objectives, the study will follow standards set by the USGS. These steps are done so that data that is collected and steps done during the analysis are documented and archived in a way that the general public could find any information on the products produced.

All data that will be analyzed in this study were collected by the USGS. To ensure high quality continuous water data were collected, the USGS follows all protocols that are observed in the USGS National Field Manual (USGS, 2018) and the USGS TM1D3 (Wagner and others, 2006). These documents are followed by all USGS offices to ensure consistent, high quality, reproducible data collection is collected across the United States. Equipment used in the collection of the data was frequently assessed to ensure high accuracy and precision of measurements was ongoing throughout the 17 years of data collection. Streams were assessed

several times per year while data were collected to observe any horizontal or vertical mixing that may have been occurring. This was done to ensure that the data being collected was representative of the stream and if any bias was present, it was documented.

Quality assurance done on the analysis will be done by following methods used by other trend analysis done across the USGS, as well as archiving these methods and analysis used to run the test on the data. Data analysis will be done in R utilizing WRTDS methods and standard regression equations. The steps that are taken to analyze the data will be documented in the final report. All data code used to analyze the report will be saved and archived in USGS model archives wherever necessary.

Project Parameters

On behalf of the LPRCA, Lower Platte South Natural Resources District will work with USGS under a joint funding agreement to complete the trend analysis project. The total cost of the Trend Analysis Project is \$148,100 with USGS contributing \$53,260. The local match of \$94,840 will be funded by a \$15,000 Section 319 Small Grant through NDEE and the eight partners will fund the remaining balance of \$79,840. The dollars provided by Lower Platte South, Lower Platte North, and Papio-Missouri River NRDs (\$29,940) will serve as contribution of 40% of total Section 319 grant funds spent up to \$10,000 in nonfederal match for implementation of the project. The start time for the trend analysis project is July 1, 2024, and is anticipated to be completed in two years.

I. 319 Project Tasks and Timeline

Data analysis will primarily occur during Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, with report writing beginning at that same time. The final USGS Scientific Investigations Report and necessary data releases will be published in late FY 2026. The dates of the study will be from July 1, 2024, to October 31, 2026. An estimated timeline is as follows:

Activity	FY24	Federal Year 2025				Federal Year 2026			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1. Data gathering	X	X							
2. Statistical trend analysis		X	X	X	X	X			
3. Surrogate equation analysis and updates		X	X	X	X	X			
4. Report writing and production			X	X	X	X	X	X	X

II. Budget

Item	Section 319 *	Other LPR CA partners*	USGS**	Total
Personnel	13,970	74,358	49,603	137,931
Project Management	1,161	6,182	4,124	11,466
Data interpretation: Model Development	2,438	12,975	8,656	24,069
Data interpretation: Modeling	1,801	9,584	6,393	17,778
Report writing and preparation	5,142	27,370	18,258	50,771
Review Publication	3,428	18,247	12,172	33,848
Travel	0	0	0	0
Domestic Travel	0	0	0	0
Equipment	0	0	0	0
Weather Station	0	0	0	0
Supplies/Materials	0	0	0	0
Supplies/Mailing	0	0	0	0
Contractual	0	0	0	0
Outside Contracts	0	0	0	0
Other	1,030	5,482	3,657	10,169
Publication services USGS PSC	1,030	5,482	3,657	10,169
	0	0	0	0
Total	\$15,000	\$79,840	\$53,260	\$148,100

* Nonfederal Funds

** Federal funds not eligible for 319
match

JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT

For

USGS STREAMGAGE TREND ANALYSIS

in the LOWER PLATTE RIVER

The “JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT for the USGS STREAMGAGE TREND ANALYSIS” (hereinafter referred to as “the Agreement”) to be executed by and among the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, on behalf of the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance and the following agencies (herein after referred to as “the Partners”).

Lower Platte North Natural Resources District;

Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District;

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources;

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission;

University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources;

Metropolitan Utility District; and

City of Lincoln - Water

The Partners agree as follows.

Scope of work

Real-time continuous water quality monitoring data has been collected by USGS personnel and equipment in cooperation with the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance in the Platte River over the past 17 years. Monitoring devices include streamgages on the Platte River at Louisville, Elkhorn River at Waterloo, Platte River at Leshara, and Salt Creek near Ashland. Water quality data collected include temperature, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, specific conductance, nitrate/nitrite and others as available. Data has been displayed in real-time over the internet and collected generally March through October each year. Datasets are now sufficient to begin looking for potential water quality trends that are occurring. These data will be examined using modeling techniques to account for wet and dry years or missing data and detect water quality trends or facilitate comparisons between sites to better understand how the water quality in the Lower Platte River has changed over the monitoring period. The start time

for the trend analysis project is July 1, 2024, and is anticipated to be completed in two years.

Funding

The Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, on behalf of the Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance, will hold and disburse funds from all Partners as needed for this study. Each partner will provide \$5,843 in December 2024 (FY25) and \$4,137 in December 2025 (FY26) for a total of \$9,980 for the three-year agreement. The total cost of the Trend Analysis Project is \$148,100 with USGS contributing \$53,260. The local match of \$94,840 will be funded by a \$15,000 Section 319 Small Grant through NDEE and the eight partners will fund the remaining balance of \$79,840.

Effective date

The agreement shall become effective upon execution by all parties.

Duration of agreement

The agreement shall run through October 31, 2026, when all required funds have been received, data collection completed, and final report of the trend analysis is written.

This Agreement is hereby approved and executed by the following parties on the dates shown below.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT for the USGS STREAMGAGE TREND ANALYSIS for the LOWER PLATTE RIVER CORRIDOR ALLIANCE is executed by the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District on this ____ day of _____, 2024, pursuant to approved action by its Board of Directors.

LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

By:

Mike Sousek, General Manager

This JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT for the USGS STREAMGAGE TREND ANALYSIS for the LOWER PLATTE RIVER CORRIDOR ALLIANCE is executed by the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District on this ____ day of _____, 2024, pursuant to approved action by its Board of Directors.

LOWER PLATTE NORTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

By:

Eric Gottschalk, General Manager

This JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT for the USGS STREAMGAGE TREND ANALYSIS for the LOWER PLATTE RIVER CORRIDOR ALLIANCE is executed by the Papiio-Missouri River Natural Resources District on this ____ day of _____, 2024, pursuant to approved action by its Board of Directors.

PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

By:

John Winkler, General Manager

This JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT for the USGS STREAMGAGE TREND ANALYSIS for the LOWER PLATTE RIVER CORRIDOR ALLIANCE is executed by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources on this ____ day of _____, 2024,

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

By:

Thomas Riley, Director

This JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT for the USGS STREAMGAGE TREND ANALYSIS for the LOWER PLATTE RIVER CORRIDOR ALLIANCE is executed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission on this ____ day of _____, 2024,

NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION

By:

Tim McCoy, Director

This JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT for the USGS STREAMGAGE TREND ANALYSIS for the LOWER PLATTE RIVER CORRIDOR ALLIANCE is executed by the University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources on this ____ day of _____, 2024,

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

By:

Michael Boehm, Vice Chancellor

This JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT for the USGS STREAMGAGE TREND ANALYSIS for the LOWER PLATTE RIVER CORRIDOR ALLIANCE is executed by the Metropolitan Utilities District on this ____ day of _____, 2024,

METROPOLITAN UTILITIES DISTRICT

By:

Kendall Minor, Sr. VP Chief Operations Officer

This JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT for the USGS STREAMGAGE TREND ANALYSIS for the LOWER PLATTE RIVER CORRIDOR ALLIANCE is executed by the City of Lincoln on this ____ day of _____, 2024,

CITY OF LINCOLN

By:

Leirion Gaylor Baird, Mayor