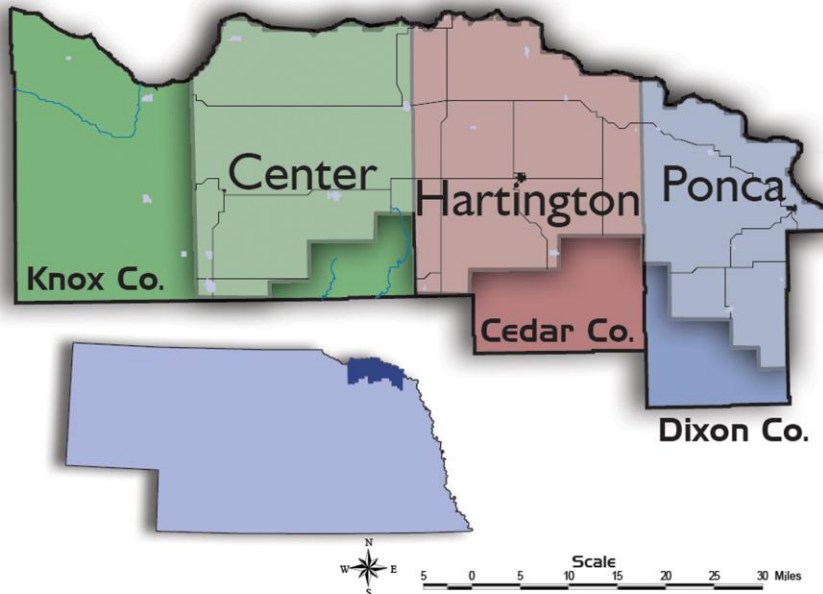


KNOW YOUR NRD



Summer/Fall 2009

Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts
Making the Good Life Better Since 1972



LEWIS & CLARK NRD

LCNRD QUICK FACTS:

The Lewis & Clark NRD manages natural resources for part of 3 counties along the Missouri River in Northeast Nebraska

Surface Water

Missouri River - 68 miles

Lewis & Clark Lake - 31,400 acres

Ground Water

Domestic/Commercial Wells - 412

Livestock Wells - 201

Irrigation Wells - 939

To ensure the safety and quantity of ground water 200 wells are monitored annually

Protecting Lives

Secure Water Source

Lewis & Clark NRD provides safe drinking water for Northeast NE through the **Cedar-Knox Rural Water Project** to over 760 rural customers and the communities of Crofton, Fordyce, St. Helena and Obert; the Nebraska Game and Parks and Corps of Engineers Recreation Areas and two Sanitary Improvement Districts.

CKRWP is one of five surface water treatment plants in Nebraska with a current production capacity of one million gallons per day. As a special improvement project it is not subsidized with tax dollars but operates by assessment to the users. The project serves approximately 20% of the district with 378 miles of pipeline.

Protecting Property

Operating and Maintaining Flood and Erosion Control Structures

Aowa Creek Project, a flood and erosion control project is designed to protect 55,350 acres and the community of Ponca in Dixon County. This project consists of 50 dams with two of the dams being multi-purpose recreational structures; **Buckskin Hills** and **Powder Creek** *(continued on back)*



Powder Creek

Protecting the Future

Aquifer Study to Protect Groundwater

To protect the future of the districts groundwater the Lewis & Clark NRD has approved a contract with Olsson Associates to create maps of the groundwater aquifers located within the district.

District Manager, Tom Moser, stated; "The district needs to be proactive in protecting our groundwater resources. We need to protect property owners against potential conflict of use issues and identify areas of limited supply to better manage the future." The district has not been declared "Fully Appropriated" but the Directors acknowledge the district needs to be prepared to act should this designation be forthcoming.

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Flood and Erosion Control Projects *(continued)*

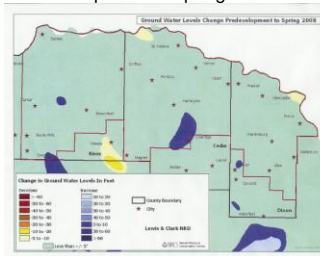


Each area offers hunting, fishing and boating. The entire project cost included over \$5 million from NRCS, over \$2 million local funding, and controls 85% of the drainage on Aowa Creek. Each year the flood control benefit along for these structures is 1.2 time the cost. **Antelope Creek Project** a flood control project designed to protect 2,180 acres, county roads and agriculture land located in north central Cedar County. This structure was possible because all easement and right-of-way were donated free-of-charge by the five principal land owners. **Chalkrock Lake** created by the project is a multi-purpose structure which provides a 44-acre lake with 130 acres for hunting, fishing, boating and irrigation. **Buffalo Creek Project** is a flood control project designed to protect Aten, Highway 121 and county roads in northeast Cedar County.

Aquifer Study to Protect Groundwater *(continued)*

The Aquifer Study itself will better define the bedrock geology and depth, geologic cross-section, as well as aquifer thickness, transmissivity, and location. State funding from the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources will be used to help finance the study. The maps, when completed, will be available to the public and used to guide policy decision for the NRD Board of Directors to protect the districts groundwater resources.

Groundwater Level Change
Predevelopment to Spring 2008



Missouri National Recreational River



The Lewis & Clark NRD supported the designation of the 59-mile reach of the Missouri River from Yankton, SD to Ponca, NE as a National Recreational River in 1978. This allows the river to retain its natural free-flowing character with islands, sandbars and snags providing wildlife habitat and allows a glimpse to the time of the Corps of Discovery.

The District offers programs to promote conservation improvements for Nebraska landowners along the river which include conservation easements, tree management, and wildlife habitat set-aside acre payments.

The Lewis & Clark NRD has long maintained the need for local input into federal management activity on the Missouri River. District officials attend meetings to offer opinions on proposals. Our efforts are intended to be advisory and our focus has been to gain management concurrence prior to decisions which may adversely affect local landowners. The Missouri River Futures Group was formed and is made up of federal, state and local officials with the goal of coordinating agency and landowner interests into river and land conservation programs. This approach accomplishes the goal of an Adaptive Management Plan which meets the landowners' needs.

LCNRD is also involved in the planning group for the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee and has a representative on the stakeholder committee. This group will work with the Corps of Engineers on future management of the Missouri River concerning endangered species.

More LCNRD Facts

- 52 Flood Control and Grade Stabilization Structures
- In 2009 alone 30,525 trees sold and 22 miles of weed barrier installed
- \$90,000 in cost-share distributed to landowners and communities in fiscal year 2008-2009
- Only 14% of NRD's total budget is provided by property taxes

Education

The LCNRD is dedicated to protecting the future of our natural resources by providing natural resource information to adults and youth. We sponsor or partner with the following events:

- Aquafest
- Wonderful World of Water
- Land and Range Judging Contest
- Nitrogen Management Training

Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts are local government entities with broad responsibilities to protect our natural resources.

NRDs help Nebraskans respond to natural resources challenges with local control and local solutions. Major Nebraska river basins form the boundaries of the 23 NRDs which are governed by locally elected boards of directors.

Lewis & Clark NRD is governed by an 11-member board of directors who are elected by voters within the district. The board sets policy for the district and then works with the staff to carry out the District's goals. Lewis & Clark staff works cooperatively with other local, state and federal groups to promote good stewardship of natural resources in the district.

Find out more about
Nebraska's NRDs at
www.nrdnet.org or
www.lcnrd.org