

From: Tyler Weishahn, LBBNRD Assistant Manager

Date: March 20, 2023

RE: 2022 Water Sustainability Fund Annual Report – Little Indian Creek Watershed Flood Prevention and Operations WFPO #10013

A brief timeline of LBBNRD Board action regarding the project in relation to the Water Sustainability Fund:

- July 21, 2022 – LBBNRD Board approval to submit WSF application
- September 20, 2022 – LBBNRD Board approval of FY2023 budget and levy
- December 8, 2022 – LBBNRD Board authorization to enter into WSF agreement

This report is for the period between notice of award and March 31, 2023.

- 1) Project progress to date for the first report, then progress since the last annual report for future projects, including where you are relative to completing the project.
 - a. The Little Indian Creek WFPO Plan-EA is over 90% complete.
 - b. Final cultural resources field work has been coordinated and is being completed along with reporting.
 - c. Minor schedule adjustments have been made, but final completion of Plan-EA is still ahead of August 2023 deadline referenced in WSF application.
- 2) List project-related activities planned for the coming year.
 - a. Finish 90% review revisions to all plan chapters and appendices, revise environmental/wetland maps and summaries, finish cultural resources field work/reporting, and prepare for submittal to National Watershed Management Center (NWMC).
 - b. Potentially acquire NRCS extension due to Federal review timeline.
 - c. Begin working on permitting and compliance requirements.
- 3) Forecast or projected cash flow for remainder of the project. This should be high level, not a detailed list, to give the Commission a projection of the fund's cash flow.
 - a. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will pay for all engineering design and construction costs, pending approval of the final Plan-EA, Water Sustainability Funding will provide cost-share funding for only land acquisition and permitting and compliance, and the LBBNRD will pay for operation and maintenance costs.
 - b. 2023 - \$500,000 in permitting and compliance costs
 - c. 2024 - \$584,271 in permitting and compliance costs and \$474,062 toward land acquisition
 - d. 2025 - \$474,062 toward land acquisition
 - e. 2026 and beyond - \$948,124 toward land acquisition

- f. Total WSF-specific project costs of \$2,980,519 (WSF - \$1,788,300 + LBBNRD - \$1,192,219)
- 4) Reassessment of the likelihood that benefits projected in the application will be realized and, for the "Final Report," a description of benefits realized or reasonably expected to be realized as compared to those stated in their application.
 - a. The Plan-EA remains on schedule to be completed ahead of August 2023 deadline.
 - b. Upon approval by the NRCS NWMC, funding for design and construction will be released, at which time final land rights negotiations will commence, along with the final permitting and design phases.
 - c. Land acquisition and easements, as well as permits and compliance are critical components for implementation of the overall project objective of providing flood risk reduction to the watershed.

List of public outreach and WSF acknowledgement efforts:

- Beatrice Sertoma Club Meeting on July 18, 2022
- Crete Rotary Club Meeting on October 12, 2022
- Beatrice Kiwanis Club Meeting on January 11, 2023
- Roehr's Machinery Growers Meeting on March 2, 2023