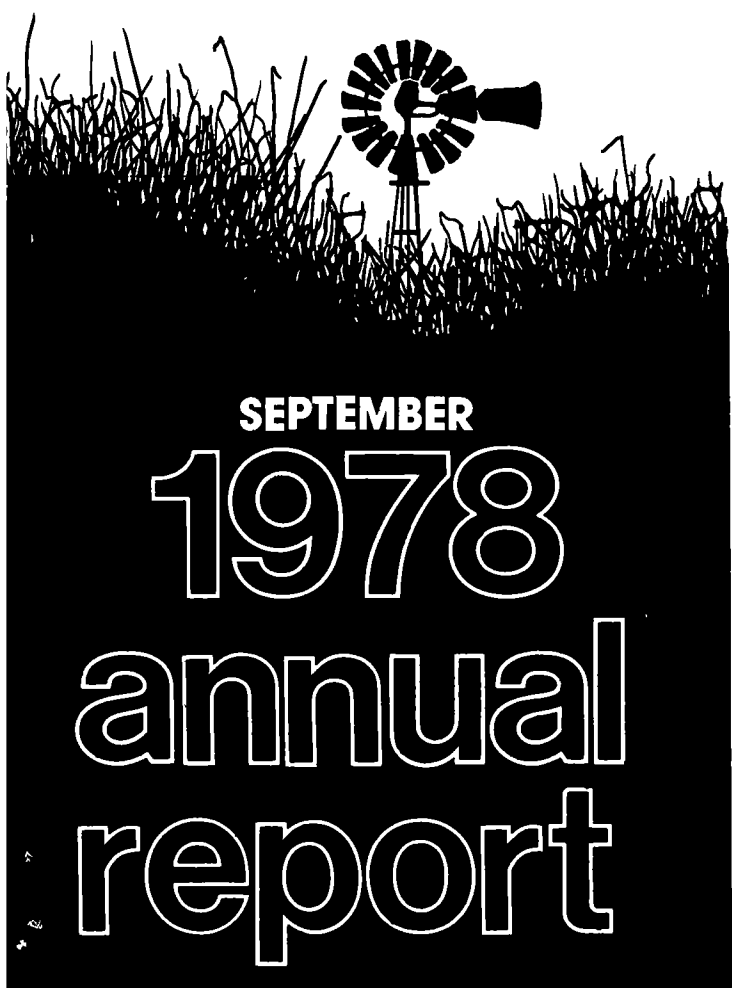


NEBRASKA
RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
FUND



to the

GOVERNOR and LEGISLATURE

AK-0908/1978-
RDF-N

PREPARED BY THE NEBRASKA NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

NEBRASKA RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FUND

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE

September, 1978

Creation of the Nebraska Resources Development Fund in 1974, has contributed to renewed interest in the presentation, maintenance, and conservation of the state's two most valuable resources - land and water. Future improvement in the present quality of life depends in part in stabilization and expansion of the economy, preservation and improvement of the environmental amenities provided by the state's natural resources.

The costs of conserving and developing the state's water and related land resources will continue to rise as long as economic inflation persists. The costs associated with conquering some of these problems that have plagued Nebraskans for generations are indicative of that spiraling rise. Presently, and more so in the near future, the federal share of project costs on which the state has depended so heavily has and will decrease. Federal policy tends to favor those projects in which the state and local interests are willing to participate most actively.

For the Nebraska Resources Development Fund to keep pace with developing Nebraska, it must be in a position to act as a guiding force in that development. The funds spent on developing Nebraska are investments in the resources; investments that provide widespread returns in economic, social and environmental benefits.

The Nebraska Resources Development Fund is becoming of age. The experience of other states, as well as that being gained by this state, indicates the opportunity to build a better future through water resource conservation and land management can best be implemented by prudent investments from a fund of this nature. As of this writing, the Nebraska Resources Development Fund is entertaining requests for financial assistance of about twenty-three (23) million dollars. It is well to remember that that number is only 75% of the local cost of those projects; further, that 23 million dollars of requests does not reflect federal dollars associated with the Nebraska resources projects.

The time has arrived when Nebraska must put more than token assistance and moral support into the proper development of her most valuable resources. The annual appropriations by the Legislature has, to date, been sufficient to develop the process and begin cohesive resource development. Now, the short-term actions taken toward resource development will determine the long-term benefit generation for the state.

A breakdown of proposed and completed accomplishments through the Development Fund is presented herein:

The following is a project status report on projects that have been received and (1) have been funded; (2) have not yet been funded; (3) have been advised that funding is not available or funding other than requested is available.

PROJECTS PRESENTLY ALLOCATED FUNDS

Buffalo Creek Watershed
Flood Control Project

The project is sponsored by the Central Platte NRD. It is designed as a flood control project and will control runoff from about 75,000 acres in the Central Platte River Basin north by northwest of Lexington. The project consists of a series of thirteen (13) flood control structures (dams) that will control flood waters and reduce flood damages. The project was authorized funds on September 15, 1977; that allocation was for 75% of the local cost, or more specifically, One million, five hundred nine thousand, two hundred seventy dollars (\$1,509,270) for project construction. Total cost of the project is \$2,012,360 and requires that the local agency share (25%) is \$503,090. Four structures have been completed.

Clatonia Creek Public Use Area

Sponsored by the Lower Big Blue NRD, the Clatonia Creek Project (Structure 3-A) is a flood control and recreation structure in the P.L. 566 Watershed Program. It is one of eight flood water retarding structures and will control 2,596 acres of land. The structure will be built on 155 acres of which 44 acres will be in permanent water for recreation. The project was authorized funds on August 10, 1978, in the amount of One hundred fifty-two thousand, five hundred sixty-one dollars and twenty-five cents for project construction. Total project cost is \$391,750 of which the federal assistance is \$188,335 through the SCS and the remaining local share is \$50,953.75.

Crystal Lake
Recreation Project

The Crystal Lake Project, which is sponsored by the Adams County Board of Supervisors, is almost completed. Remaining work includes final grading and seeding. The project was allocated funds in May of 1977 and consisted of re-development of a recreation lake and construction of a protective levee. The sponsors requested, and were granted, \$80,625 for construction of the project. Project total cost was set at \$215,000; \$107,500 of these funds are to be contributed by federal agency programs and the remaining \$26,875 from Adams County, the Little Blue NRD, Ayr Bicentennial Committee and local contributions.

Cub Creek Road Structure and
Recreation Project

The Middle Niobrara NRD, as sponsor of the project, requested \$67,575 for construction of the road structure and recreation structure. Project work will be completed this fall, as all that remains to be done is the final grading and seeding. The project was built in conjunction with the

re-location and construction of Highway 12 (8 miles west of Springview). It consists of a road structure dam and associated recreation area. Funds were allocated in May, 1977, to complement \$147,000 from the State Department of Roads and \$22,525 from the NRD for a project total of \$236,600.

Maskenthine Flood Control and Recreation Project

Project completed with \$269,978.97 of NRDF funds. Project report forthcoming.

McCook Flood Control Project

The project is sponsored by the Middle Republican NRD. This flood control project consists of two dry dams, constructed on the drainage areas north and northwest of the City of McCook. The project was allocated funds in May of 1977 with construction to begin the fall of 1978. Total project cost was originally estimated at \$685,730, with the NRDF furnishing \$512,000 as a grant and local interests (NRD, City of McCook, and Red Willow County) supplying \$173,730. Any possible change in project cost will be adjusted by local interests

Oliver Reservoir Project

The sponsor of the project is the South Platte NRD, who has requested and was granted (September 15, 1977) \$808,500 for re-construction of the structure on the Oliver Reservoir. Flood Control, for the area below the structure, will be supplied by the project as will an outdoor recreation area. The project sponsors may have to request more funds due to strict standards of the Corps of Engineers for granting a 404 permit. The local people have held raffles, kidnapped people, sponsored Bar-B-Ques, and many other such activities to raise \$117,800 dollars. Federal input will be (at present) \$300,000 from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and \$206,356 from an RC&D project application, making a total project cost of \$1,598,156. That cost is without the added expense that the 404 permit may require.

Rawhide Creek Flood Control and Management Project

This flood control project is sponsored by the Lower Platte North NRD with assistance of the City of Fremont and Dodge County. Through the use of a flood control structure and channel re-alignment, the sponsors intend to protect the City of Fremont from periodic flooding by Rawhide Creek. Project sponsors have requested \$1,115,275 for the project. The Natural Resources Commission has allocated that amount but has only made \$355,254 immediately available as of June 8, 1978; this amount will pay 75% of the cost of installing Trouble Creek Reservoir. The local agencies will pay \$371,755, making a total project cost of \$1,487,030.

School Creek Flood Control, Irrigation, and Groundwater Recharge Project

The request for state assistance to support this flood control, irrigation, and groundwater recharge project was sponsored by the

Upper Big Blue NRD. The initial structure will be monitored to determine feasibility of constructing the remaining portions of the project. A loan (the first through the Development Fund) of \$154,482 and a grant of \$187,143 have been assigned to the project from the Development Fund. Total cost of structure number three is \$406,500 of which the immediate local cost is \$118,878 - repayment of the loan will be set up over a 50-year time span or shorter period if agreed upon by both the sponsor and the state.

Summit Lake Flood Control
and Recreation Project

Summit Lake, otherwise known as structure 5-A of the Tekamah-Mud Creek Watershed, is located about three miles west of the Town of Tekamah. The project is the recreation structure associated with the P.L. 566 Watershed Program and is sponsored by the Middle Missouri NRD. This structure is one of fifteen in the watershed and will provide flood control on 10,112 acres. The project was allocated funds for construction on April 13, 1978, in the form of a grant for \$410,325. These funds are added to \$136,775 from local interest and \$873,800 of federal funds making a project total of \$1,420,900.

Walnut Creek Flood Control
and Recreation Project

Five flood control structures are to be constructed to provide control for the area east, northeast of Crete and within Crete, Nebraska. Sponsored by the Lower Big Blue NRD, this project will provide flood retarding runoff control on 6,700 acres. The project was allocated \$286,945.50 for construction. One structure will be used for primitive recreation. The sponsor, the City of Crete and Saline County, will split the remaining twenty-five per cent, making a total project cost of \$385,622. The project is now under construction.

Wauneta Flood Control Project

The project is sponsored by the Upper Republican NRD and is located west of the Town of Wauneta in Chase County. The project consists of three flood control structures (dams) and a short levee system that will serve to protect the Town of Wauneta from flood waters. The sponsors were allocated \$405,666 on August 10, 1978, for construction of the project over a two-year time period. Cost of the total project is \$541,000.

PROJECTS SUBMITTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT FUND
FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (NOT YET FUNDED)

Aowa Creek Flood Control and
Recreation Project Application

This project, also called structure number 6-7A of the Aowa Creek Watershed, is sponsored by the Lewis & Clark NRD. It is one of 65 structures in the P.L. 566 project which is designed for flood control and grade stabilization. This site was planned as a multi-purpose structure and includes provisions for fish and wildlife. Location of the structure is about 9 miles west of Ponca State Park and about 2½ miles southwest of Newcastle. The

project has been approved by the Advisory Board and will be presented to the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission at the September meeting. Funding is broken down as follows: Federal (SCS) - \$330,620; Old West Commission - \$101,400; State NRDF - \$144,650; Local - \$48,220; for a total of \$624,890.

Big Sandy Surface
Water Project Proposal

The project is sponsored by the Little Blue NRD and envisions the total surface water development of the 408,000 acre Big Sandy Watershed. The project will look at the needs for water supply for supplemental irrigation, groundwater recharge, flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife habitat development. Big Sandy Creek begins just east of Hastings and flows to the Little Blue River below Alexandria. Sponsors anticipate a total cost of about \$10,700,000 with a request from the NRDF of \$6,487,500 as a grant and \$1,537,500 as a loan and local costs of \$2,675,000. This project is still in the proposal stage although the sponsor was notified to proceed with application and feasibility report on September 13, 1977.

Buffalo Creek Watershed
(Number 2) Project Proposal

Sponsored by the Papio NRD, the Buffalo Creek Watershed consists of 16,400 acres in Sarpy County. Watershed problems are flooding, erosion of streams and crop land, and sedimentation. The project was a portion of the Southern Sarpy P.L. 566 Project. The sponsors anticipate a cost of \$400,000 with the Nebraska Resources Development Fund supporting 75%. Sponsors were notified on September 5, 1978, to proceed with application and feasibility report.

Central Butler Water
Management Project Application

The project is sponsored by the Lower Platte North NRD, the Upper Big Blue NRD, Butler County, and David City with the Lower Platte North NRD as principal sponsor. Project purposes are to divert storm water away from and out of David City; eliminate standing water from ditches; and better utilize the runoff water. Application request is for \$565,620 from the NRDF. The remaining \$188,540 would be divided by the local interests as project purposes effect their entities. The project is still undergoing discussion by the Advisory Board committees.

Clear Creek Watershed
Project Application

This partial watershed project is sponsored by the Central Platte NRD, who has requested a grant of \$274,575 to help finance the development and construction of the flood control project. The five planned structures are to be built in the lower parts of the breaks along the Platte Valley. These structures, by reducing volume and velocity, are to provide protection to roads, bridges, and crop land in the upper reaches of Clear Creek Watershed. Total cost is \$366,100. The project is presently being discussed by the three committees of the Advisory Board.

Minnechaduza Creek Watershed
Sediment & Erosion Project Proposal

The Middle Niobrara NRD has sponsored this project as an erosion control project. The project, located north and west of Valentine in Cherry County, is to be designed to control urban and rural storm water runoff, provide protection for a portion of Minnechaduza Creek stream bank and rehabilitate Minnechaduza Lake. Project sponsors estimate that the total cost will be about \$1,880,000. Requests from the Nebraska Resources Development Fund are \$699,000.

Ogallala Watershed
Project Proposal

The Twin Platte NRD has requested \$33,825 for construction of a flood water structure just north of the City of Ogallala. The project may change scope and be expanded to include two more neighboring storm water contributing areas. Project sponsors are not rapidly developing the plan. Total early estimate of total project cost is \$64,050 - this is expected to be somewhat higher if final plans are developed. Remaining local cost is \$30,225.

Prairie Creek
Project Application

Sponsored by the Central Platte NRD, the project combines snagging and clearing operations on Prairie Creek to decrease the flood potential of that creek. The application was received on April 3, 1978, and was passed by the Advisory Board, as feasible, on June 27, 1978. It was presented to the Commission on August 10, 1978; and action will be taken on September 20, 1978. Sponsors have requested \$243,975 which is 75% of the total cost (\$325,300).

Silver Creek Watershed Flood Control
Project Application

The Central Platte NRD, as sponsors of the project, are asking for a grant of \$2,500,548. The project is to provide adequate dispersal of rainwater from the flat valley lands in the Silver Creek drainage area. The project consists of a method of restructuring the Silver Creek system to allow for proper removal of storm water by construction of a low flow channel. The Advisory Board has required more information on the project and has not taken action since receiving further update data on August 10, 1978. Total project cost is \$3,334,064.

South Fork Flood Control and
Recreation Project Application

The Nemaha NRD has requested \$168,525 to assist in construction of structure 2-A of the South Fork Watershed (Nemaha River) P.L. 566 Plan. This structure is the one designated as the recreation structure in the watershed. Construction of the dam will be located about 2½ miles west of the Town of DuBois in Pawnee County. The primary purpose is for flood control with the recreation aspects that the structure will afford. Total cost is \$665,000 of which \$440,300 will be cost-share funds from the Soil Conservation Service, with the local share being \$56,175.

Water Supply Project Proposal
(Douglas & Washington Co.)

Sponsored by the Papio Natural Resources District. The proposal was received on February 18, 1975, and requested \$647,350 in the form of a loan and/or a grant. The project is to provide a drinking water supply system to areas just north of Omaha and possibly to the Village of Fort Calhoun. The Advisory Board has recommended that the sponsors obtain full F.H.A. funding prior to submitting a final application. The Board has also determined that the project is eligible for a loan, but not a grant. There has been no further action by the sponsor since May 16, 1975.

Willow Creek Recreation
Project Application

Sponsored by the Lower Elkhorn NRD, the application was sent to the Advisory Board Committees on June 30, 1978. Requested funds are for land acquisition and for construction and development of major recreation structures in northeast Nebraska. The structure would provide a recreation lake of 615 acres along with 1,115 acres of associated recreation lands. The sponsor has requested a grant of \$4,000,000 as 75% of the local cost for the project.

Wood River Flood Control
Project Application

Sponsored by the Central Platte NRD, the project combines snagging and clearing operations on Wood River to decrease the flood potential of that river. The Application was received on April 4, 1978, and is still under consideration by the Advisory Board. Project sponsors have requested a grant of \$87,150 to perform the snagging and clearing operations. Total cost of the project is \$116,200.

PROJECTS WHICH HAVE NOT
MET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

The following projects have either been advised that funding of the specific project is not available or that funding other than requested is available. They have all been withdrawn from the Development Fund and details are listed in the 1977 Annual Report.

Central Platte Groundwater/Nitrate Project
Hansen's Lake Inquiry
R-616 Levee Project
Sargent Irrigation Project
Water Supply Project (Thayer & Jefferson Co.)
Whitney Water Irrigation Supply Line Project
Winter's Creek Project


STATUS OF
FUNDING EXPENDITURES ALLOCATED


<u>Approved Projects</u>	<u>Amount Allocated</u>	<u>Amount Spent To Date</u>	<u>Amount Obligated And/Or Remaining Through '78-'79</u>	<u>Amount Required And/Or Remaining Through '79-'80</u>
Buffalo Creek	1,509,270.00	-----	718,500.00	350,000 +
Clatonia Creek	152,561.25	-----	123,000.00	29,561
Crystal Lake	80,625.00	55,624.92	25,000.08	-----
Cub Creek	67,575.00	49,218.75	18,356.25	-----
Maskenthine	269,978.99	269,978.98	-----	-----
McCook	512,000.00	92,337.83	429,662.17	-----
Oliver	808,500.00	-----	808,500.00	-----
Rawhide	1,115,275.00	-----	355,254.00	760,021.00
School Creek	341,625.00	-----	341,625.00	-----
Summit Lake	410,325.00	-----	410,325.00	-----
Walnut Creek	286,945.50	6,532.57	280,412.93	-----
Wauneta	405,666.00	-----	260,625.00	145,041.00
	5,960,346.74	473,695.06	3,771,260.43	1,284,623.00

In addition to the above charted information, it is anticipated that \$8,285,041 will be allocated for nine more projects during this fiscal year. Of that amount \$2,758,864 could be obligated; however, if all of it were obligated, the Fund would be overdrawn by about two million dollars. At this point \$755,044.51 remains to be obligated for FY '78-'79. Some projects may face construction delays until more funds are allocated by the Legislature.

The funded projects under the Development Fund will contribute to controlling about 1,038,000 acres for the purposes of flood control, conservation, and recreation. Total acres of recreation are about 2,550 acres with 655 of those as water and the remainder as habitat and outdoor recreation lands. Upcoming projects will add about 1.5 million acres to the list of those controlled.

Thus far, the Development Fund project allocation of 5.96 million dollars is about 60% of the funds spent on these associated projects. The local share makes up 20% and the federal portion contributes the remaining 20% of total project cost.


 Gerald Chaffin
 Chairman
 Nebraska Resources Development Fund
 Advisory Board


 Dayle F. Williamson
 Executive Secretary
 Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

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