

**GENERAL OFFICE**

2404 15th Street

P.O. Box 988

Columbus, NE 68602-0988

Phone:

402/564-3171

Fax:

402/564-0970

From: Michael Wallace, PE VP Engineering

Subject: WSF Final Report Application #10082

Project Progress April 2025 to April 2026:

This is the final report. The Loup Public Power District (LPPD) contracted JEO to conduct an enhancement evaluation to identify a cost-effective method of addressing the severe sedimentation of Lake Babcock. This evaluation included a capacity assessment supported by bathymetric survey of portions of Lake Babcock, sediment testing, hydrogeologic evaluation and an alternative analysis which considered multiple dredging methods and extents in an effort to determine the most cost-effective and feasible alternative. The evaluation determined a preferred alternative which dredges approximately 1M CY of sediment and establishes a berm to protect this newly dredged area from Lake Babcock's high sedimentation rate. The preferred alternative was taken to a conceptual design along with development of a possible implementation strategy as part of the evaluation.

Anticipated activities:

No activities are anticipated for the next year.

Anticipated cash flow for remainder of the project:

To date, Loup has paid the consultant \$125,000 for the study which has been completed. No further costs are expected. Submittal for reimbursement from the State for the grant funds will be forthcoming.

Likelihood that benefits projected in application 10082 will be realized:

From the 10082 WSF application: The Evaluation benefits include:

- Providing a detailed summary of cost vs. benefit to determine the most cost-effective method to address severe sedimentation of Lake Babcock which has decreased its holding capacity significantly.

- Place LPD in a favorable position by using the Evaluation as a catalyst to leverage local and state funding with Federal funding applications, specifically the Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART and other sources to fund final design and construction.
- Creating a vision for improvements to critical state aging hydropower production infrastructure.

These projected benefits were realized by the Lake Babcock Evaluation which resulted in the selection of a preferred alternative following a rigorous benefit cost analysis and feasibility analysis which has provided LPPD with a vision for improvements to their infrastructure and additional funding opportunities for more detailed design through the Nebraska Water Resources Cash Fund and the potential for additional funding as it becomes available again.