

Little Blue NRD Blue River Compact Report
Scott Nelson, General Manager
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Crystal Lake Renovation Project

The Crystal Lake renovation project, located near the Village of Ayr, was recently completed that will enhance stream water quality, restore 13 acres of aquatic habitat and provide outdoor recreation opportunities to the public such as fishing and observing wildlife.

32-Mile Creek WFPO Watershed Project

The Little Blue NRD is working with the Lincoln NRCS office on a WFPO watershed project aimed at improving stream water quality, increasing ground water recharge and providing additional flood protection to the communities of Kenesaw and Juniata. The project aims to improve the structural integrity of an existing flood control dike above Kenesaw, provide incentives to landowners to implement best management farming practices, construct in-stream weirs, construct a dry-cell detention basin above Juniata and the construction of a new sediment basin above Prairie Lake.

Sandy Creek Water Quality Initiative Project

The Little Blue NRD and NRCS continue to promote this program by working with landowners in the Bruning, Alexandria and Carleton areas to implement best management practices to improve soil health, improve water quality and prevent soil erosion.

Vadose Zone Project

The Little Blue NRD is working with EA Engineering on a district-wide vadose zone project studying the movement of nitrates within the vadose zone. Soil samples collected at identical site locations in 2015 and 2020 are currently being compared to help with future management decisions involving the application of nitrogen fertilizers.

Wellhead Protection Areas

The Little Blue NRD continues to work with municipal water suppliers towards implementing safety measures to protect ground water quality and quantity.

Bowman Springs Ranch 3-D Watershed Dam Repair

The Little Blue NRD recently completed repairs to the Bowman Springs Ranch 3-D structure located 5 miles north of the Village of Hubbard. This structure is one of 30+ PL-566 structures built within the District. The District will continue to operate, maintain and repair these structures on an as-needed basis.

Alexandria State Lakes Renovation Project

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is in the planning phase to renovate several small lakes at Alexandria State Lakes Recreation Area. Sediment removal, lake deepening and fishery renovation are the key components of the project.

This concludes the Little Blue report.