

CAPITAL MAINTENANCE FUND REPORT

2021 - 2022



A new boardwalk and deck give visitors a look at the iconic cave at Indian Cave State Park in Richardson County. Visitors can reach the deck at the base of the cave via a stair tower or a ramp that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The 420-foot-long structure was completed in 2022 with Nebraska Game and Parks Commission's Capital Maintenance Funds. It replaces the deck that was damaged by mudslides in 2019.

ERIC FOWLER, NEBRASKALAND

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CAPITAL MAINTENANCE FUND

AN OVERVIEW

In 2014, the Nebraska Legislature established the Capital Maintenance Fund to preserve Nebraska's public outdoor recreation facilities and statewide park system. This is a network of 78 park venues and trails managed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for the people of the state and beyond.

In 2021, the CMF legislation was modified, adding five years of funding, with the requirement that Nebraska Game and Parks report electronically a list of each project that received funding from the Capital Maintenance Fund for the most recently completed fiscal year, as well as a list of projects that will receive such funding during the current fiscal year. The report is due on or before Dec. 1 each year through 2027 to the Clerk of the Legislature and the Revenue Committee of the Legislature.

The investment from the Legislature has enabled Game and Parks to launch an aggressive, much-needed capital maintenance plan for state parks and facilities. This will ensure these spaces are maintained into the future, improving safety and functionality of core infrastructure (such as water systems, utilities and sanitation systems), and meeting the growing demand for new experiences by all. \$76 million will be spent on parks, fisheries, roads, trails, facilities and access improvements during the span of this legislation; aging infrastructure will be brought up-to-date — and up to code — and increasing accessibility to meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards will be a priority.

Capital Maintenance Fund dollars are spent on improvements at agency facilities statewide, and accomplishments to date have produced numerous positive comments.



The cabins at Victoria Springs State Recreation Area were renovated to make them wheelchair accessible, increase living space and add new outdoor decks. Work was completed in 2021. ERIC FOWLER, NEBRASKALAND

BUDGET

Fund Source	FY 2021-2022 Expenditures	FY 2022-2023 Estimated
Capital Maintenance Fund	\$6,309,421	\$4.5M
Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$0	\$0
Nebraska Outdoor Recreational Development Act	\$2,194,989	\$1.3M
Park Cash	\$903,483	\$1M
TOTAL	\$9,407,893	\$6.8M

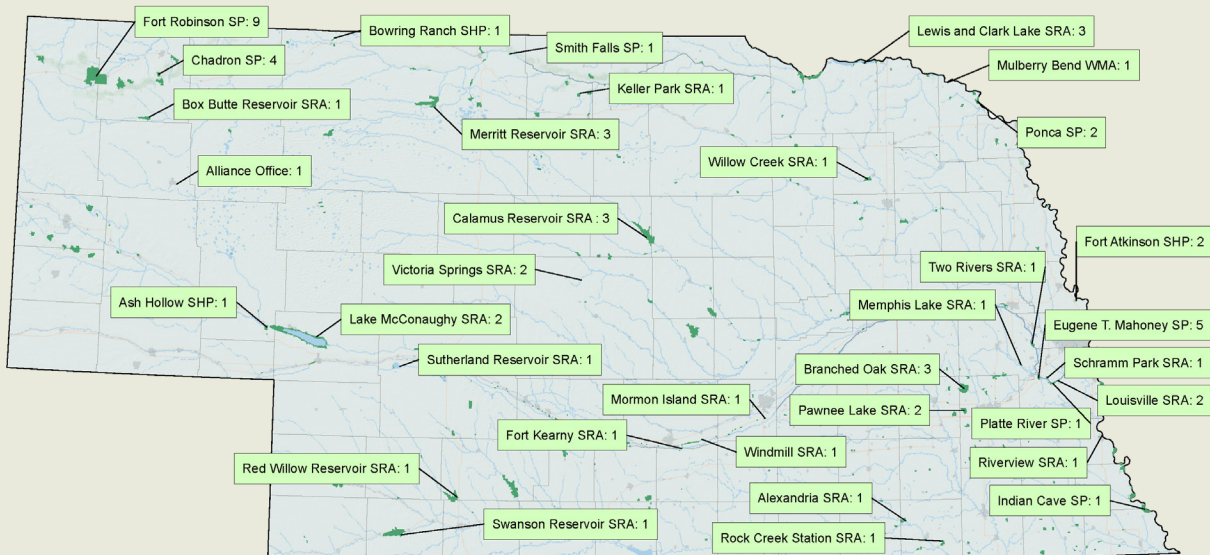
PROJECT REPORT

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

More than \$9.4 million in Capital Maintenance and matching funds was spent for park and facility improvements at Game and Parks managed locations statewide for the fiscal year 2021-22. The tables on pages 4-9 highlight those projects that received Capital Maintenance Funds for improvements. Other funding sources used for these projects included the agency’s Park Cash Fund and state and federal funding sources.

Projects were selected based on need, including mandates to meet state and federal safety and/or ADA-accessibility requirements, as well as project viability. Significant progress has been made in improving facilities and access for all. This is a noteworthy accomplishment considering the challenges of limited contractor availability, delivery and supply chain delays, as well as inflation.

Completed Capital Maintenance Fund Projects for FY 2021-2022



COMPLETED PROJECTS – FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

Alexandria State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement	Chadron State Park Chadron Campground electrical and ADA upgrade
Alliance District Office walk-up office window installation	Chadron State Park Chadron Campground upgrade design concept
Ash Hollow State Historical Park design concepts for ADA-improvements	Chadron State Park entrance sign replacement
Bowring Ranch State Historical Park window replacement	Fort Atkinson State Historical Park new entrance design concept
Box Butte Reservoir State Recreation Area campground upgrade	Fort Atkinson State Historical Park log replacement
Branched Oak State Recreation Area new concrete vault toilet installation (4)	Fort Kearney State Recreation Area concrete toilet installation
Branched Oak State Recreation Area electrical upgrade at Area 1 and 4	Fort Robinson State Park concrete toilet installation
Branched Oak State Recreation Area water storage repair and painting	Fort Robinson State Park cabin foundation replacement design concept
Calamus Reservoir State Recreation Area hot water heater replacement	Fort Robinson State Park Horse Barn foundation repair design concept
Calamus Reservoir State Recreation Area fish grinder replacement	Fort Robinson State Park Mare Barn Campground expansion design concept
Calamus Reservoir State Recreation Area office expansion viability study for ADA-upgrade	Fort Robinson State Park playground equipment installation
Chadron State Park Trading Post HVAC upgrade	Fort Robinson State Park Red Cloud Campground expansion
	Fort Robinson State Park maintenance shop upgrade



A new entrance to Martin Bay at Lake McConaughy State Recreation Area in Keith County was completed in May of 2022. The project will improve access and traffic flow at the park's most popular entrance. The project was partially funded by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission's Capital Maintenance Fund. ERIC FOWLER, NEBRASKALAND

COMPLETED PROJECTS – FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 *(Continued)*

Fort Robinson water tower painting	Mormon Island State Recreation Area campground expansion viability study
Fort Robinson State Park steel shed door replacement	Mulberry Bend Wildlife Management Area boat launch facilities installed
Indian Cave State Park Horse Camp water line replacement design concept	Pawnee State Recreation Area campgrounds 3 and 4 electrical upgrade
Keller Park State Recreation Area campground electrical upgrade plan	Pawnee State Recreation Area vault toilet installation
Lake McConaughy State Recreation Area Cedar View Campground shower replacement	Platte River State Park erosion repairs at Evergreen Cabin site
Lake McConaughy State Recreation Area Arthur Bay Campground shower replacement	Ponca State Park water and electrical line relocation at the north addition primitive area (2)
Lewis and Clark Lake State Recreation Area marina expansion design concept	Ponca State Park education center expansion concept design
Lewis and Clark Lake State Recreation Area rural water installation at Miller Creek	Red Willow Reservoir State Recreation Area fish cleaning station upgrade
Lewis and Clark Lake State Recreation Area water line break repair near Bloomfield Area	Riverview Marina State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement installation
Louisville State Recreation Area campground electrical upgrade	Rock Creek Station State Recreation Area campground electrical upgrade design concept
Louisville State Recreation Area small-craft boat dock installation	Schramm Park State Recreation Area 4-H Camp building removal
Mahoney State Park cabins 3, 8, 11 and 28 remodel and energy efficiency improvements	Smith Fall State Park additional campground design concept
Mahoney State Park dump utilities improvement design concept	Sutherland State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement installation
Mahoney State Park concrete restroom installation	Swanson Reservoir State Recreation Area fish cleaning station upgrade
Mahoney State Park drainage improvements	Two Rivers State Recreation Area Lakeside Campground electrical and ADA upgrade design concept
Mahoney State Park Peter Kiewit Lodge erosion mitigation	Victoria Springs State Recreation Area cabin upgrades and ADA access
Memphis Lake State Recreation Area sewer system design concept	Victoria Springs State Recreation Area concrete toilet replacements
Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area Cedar Bay Campground showerhouse upgrade	Willow Creek State Recreation Area campground electrical upgrade design concept
Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area additional campground design concept	Windmill State Recreation Area archery range installation
Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area fish cleaning stations upgraded	

IN-PROGRESS PROJECTS – STARTED IN FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

Alliance District Office sewer investigation	Cowboy Trail flood repair design at Long Pine, Oakdale Bridge 211 and Valentine
Bluestem State Recreation Area electrical campground and showerhouse design concept	Cowboy Trail surfacing repairs plans for Madison, Antelope, Holt, Rock, Brown and Cherry counties
Box Butte Reservoir State Recreation Area vault toilet replacements (2)	Cozad Wildlife Management Area campground concept design
Box Butte Reservoir State Recreation Area campground expansion design concept	Fort Kearny State Recreation Area showerhouse addition
Branched Oak State Recreation Area Area 11 campground expansion design concept	Fort Robinson State Park cabin upgrades
Calamus Hatchery gates construction	Fort Robinson State Park cabin foundation replacement
Calamus Reservoir State Recreation Area Buckshot Bay Campground vault toilet replacement	Fort Robinson State Park Mare Barn showerhouse replacement
Chadron State Park cabin upgrades and ADA-access	Fort Robinson State Park cabin upgrades, including electrical
Cheyenne State Recreation Area Campground Expansion design concept	Fort Robinson State Park Aquatic Habitat Rehabilitation phase 1: Carter P. Johnson dam
Conestoga Lake State Recreation Area electrical campsites and showerhouse design	Fort Robinson State Park Mare Barn Campground expansion design concept
Cowboy Trail erosion control design at Norfolk Bridge 147 and Neligh Highway 275	Fort Robinson State Park Soldier Creek Campground electrical upgrade



Ten cabooses that once served Union Pacific Railroad are furnished as cabins at Two Rivers State Recreation Area in Douglas County. Improvements completed in 2022 through the Capital Maintenance Fund include making one of the cabooses American with Disabilities Act compliant; it now has a wheelchair ramp, a wider door and renovated bathroom (see photo next page). All cabooses also got a fresh coat of paint. ERIC FOWLER, NEBRASKALAND

IN-PROGRESS PROJECTS – STARTED IN FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 *(Continued)*

Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area Victory Lake shoreline erosion repair

Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area design for Pathfinder and Victory Lake campgrounds electrical upgrade

Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area public dock system and concession area design concept

Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area showerhouse and dump station replacement design concept

Indian Cave State Park boardwalk replacement

Indian Cave State Park vault toilet replacements (2)

Indian Cave State Park St. Derooin bridge replacement

Johnson Lake State Recreation Area campground electrical upgrade

Johnson Lake State Recreation Area dump station upgrade design concept

Keller Park State Recreation Area vault toilet replacements (2)

Lake McConaughy State Recreation Area motor boat access improvements

Lake McConaughy State Recreation Area way-finding signage design



The bathroom of one of 10 caboose cabins at Two Rivers State Recreation Area in Douglas County has been made wheelchair accessible. ERIC FOWLER, NEBRASKALAND



The 101-year-old Chadron State Park in the Pine Ridge of Dawes County got a new entrance sign in 2022 as part of park improvement plans. JUSTIN HAAG, NEBRASKALAND



Robert Osbon of North Platte connects new electric lines to a pedestal to upgrade service in the Cedar Bay Campground at Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area in Cherry County. ERIC FOWLER, NEBRASKALAND



A new bathroom and sidewalk compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act are finished at Buckshot Bay boat ramp at Calamus Reservoir State Recreation Area. JOHN IRONS, NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION



Mark Crosby of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission cuts siding for the Pawnee Marina concession and University of Nebraska-Lincoln Rowing Club building, a partnership project. The renovation was paid for with the Capital Maintenance Fund. The renovated building will be home to Game and Parks offices, a classroom for hunter and boater education, and be the UNL Rowing Club practice facility. ERIC FOWLER, NEBRASKALAND

IN-PROGRESS PROJECTS – STARTED IN FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 *(Continued)*

Lake Minatare State Recreation Area vault toilet replacements (4)

Lewis and Clark Lake State Recreation Area wastewater treatment construction

Lewis and Clark Lake State Recreation Area Burbach Campground electrical upgrades

Long Pine State Recreation Area campground expansion design concept

Louisville State Recreation Area Eagle View Campground electrical upgrade

Mahoney State Park Little Creek Campground electrical upgrades

Mahoney State Park Lakeside Campground water and wastewater improvements, and electrical and ADA upgrades

Mahoney State Park cabins 2 and 16 remodel and energy efficiency improvements

Mahoney State Park telecommunications fiber upgrade

Mahoney State Park waterway design

Mahoney State Park Peter Kiewit Lodge guest room HVAC design

Maloney Reservoir State Recreation Area campground expansion and renovation design

Memphis Lake State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement

Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area vault toilet replacements (2)

Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area Cedar Bay Campground electrical upgrade

Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area breakwater improvements

Niobrara State Park pond improvement design

IN-PROGRESS PROJECTS – STARTED IN FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 *(Continued)*

Pawnee State Recreation Area marina building upgrade	Smith Falls State Park boardwalk replacement design
Pawnee State Recreation Area Area 4 Campground electrical upgrade	Stagecoach Lake State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement
Platte River State Park bank stabilization design	Statewide fish cleaning stations upgrades
Platte River State Park cabin HVAC replacement plan	Sutherland Reservoir State Recreation Area vault toilet installation
Ponca State Park mini-lodge bedroom expansion design concept and structural assessment	Sutherland Reservoir State Recreation Area boat ramp repair plan
Rock Creek State Recreation Area public drinking water well plan	Two Rivers State Recreation Area caboose updates, including paint and ADA improvements
Rock Creek Station State Historical Park bridge repair and bank stabilization	Valentine Fish Hatchery shop roof replacement
Rock Creek Station State Recreation Area sewer system investigation	Walgren Lake State Recreation Area angler access repair
Rockford Lake State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement	Walgren Lake State Recreation Area campground upgrade design concept
Sandy Channel State Recreation Area well system design	Walgren Lake State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement
Sherman Reservoir State Recreation Area vault toilet replacements (2)	Willow Creek State Recreation Area fish cleaning station design
Sherman Reservoir State Recreation Area Thunder Bay Campground electrical upgrade	



A new themed playground that highlights Nebraska’s pioneering history and other activities to do at Fort Robinson State Park, such as stagecoach rides, was installed at the park in Sioux and Dawes counties. JUSTIN HAAG, NEBRASKALAND

FISCAL YEAR 2022-23

More than \$6.8 million in capital maintenance spending is planned on new or continuing improvement projects at locations managed by Game and Parks for the fiscal year 2022-23. In addition to an estimated \$4.5 million in Capital Maintenance Funds, other agency and federal funding sources have been or will be used for these projects.

While ongoing challenges and potential delays remain associated with delivery, supply chain and limited contractor or work force availability, Game and Parks will continue to strive for progress on planned projects.

PROJECTS TO BEGIN FISCAL YEAR 2022-23

Box Butte State Recreation Area ADA-compliant camping pad development

Chadron State Park shelter foundation

Johnson Lake State Recreation Area campground electrical and ADA-compliant pad upgrades

Keller State Recreation Area campground electrical upgrade

Mahoney State Park James Family Conservatory sewer and drainage improvements

Mahoney State Park Lakeside Campground electrical upgrades and expansion

Pawnee State Recreation Area Area 3 Campground electrical upgrades

Sherman Reservoir State Recreation Area West Ridge Campground expansion

Smith Falls State Park boardwalk upgrade construction



A proposed project will accommodate upgrades to 50-amp service at Solider Creek Campground at Fort Robinson State Park in Dawes and Sioux counties. JUSTIN HAAG, NEBRASKALAND

THE BENEFITS OF VIBRANT PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Nebraska's state parks, considered among the best in the nation, are a pillar of our state's tourism industry.
- State parks have an annual economic impact of more than \$749 million, supporting \$448 million in retail sales and more than 8,100 jobs.
- The Commission has paid more than \$7.7 million in sales and lodging taxes in the past five years. Lodging tax proceeds support community-based recreation and activities with the intention to boost tourism, the third largest industry in Nebraska. Our parks and fisheries are key to this industry acting as travel destinations for domestic and international travelers.
- State parks and recreation areas provide important access and opportunity for boaters and anglers. Nebraska's nearly 80,000 recreational boaters have an annual economic impact of \$1.5 billion, according to the National Marine Manufacturers' 2018 Boating Economic Impact Study. At the same time, 368,965 anglers spent \$271 million while fishing in Nebraska, creating an economic output of \$425 million, according to a 2018 report by the American Sport Fishing Association and Southwick and Associates research. Each year, the Commission stocks millions of fish in Nebraska waters from one end of the state to the other.



The newly painted water towers gleam in front of the lodging facilities — 1909 Officers Quarters known as “The Bricks” and 1891 Officers Quarters — at Fort Robinson State Park in Dawes and Sioux counties.

JUSTIN HAAG, NEBRASKALAND

The mission of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is stewardship of the state's fish, wildlife, park, and outdoor recreation resources in the best long-term interests of the people and those resources.



Park guests may be familiar with the sign above, which is posted on or near projects completed with Capital Maintenance Fund investments.

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