

CAPITAL MAINTENANCE FUND REPORT

2022 – 2023



An improved boardwalk and deck give visitors a look at Nebraska's tallest waterfall at Smith Falls State Park near Valentine. Visitors can reach the deck by the waterfall via a stair tower or a ramp that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The structure was completed in 2023 with Capital Maintenance Funds.

JUSTIN HAAG, NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION

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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 vibrant statewide park system, a network of more than 75 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 an additional 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 and much-needed capital maintenance plan for state parks and facilities, ensuring 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 Nebraskans and visitors alike. \$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.



Participants gather at the new Pinecone Shelter for a Wildflower Week event at Chadron State Park. The shelter was made Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant in fiscal year 2022-23 using Capital Maintenance Fund dollars and park cash that included a donation by the Nebraska Game and Parks Foundation.

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BUDGET

Fund Source	FY 2022-2023 Expenditures	FY 2023-2024 Estimated
Capital Maintenance Fund	\$7,566,751	\$6,523,000*
Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$0	\$2,436,878
Nebraska Outdoor Recreational Development Act	\$183,482	\$1,300,000
Park Cash and Other Sources	\$1,456,337	\$1,500,000
TOTAL	\$9,206,570	\$11,759,878

*Includes \$2.325 million encumbered funds from fiscal year 2022-23.

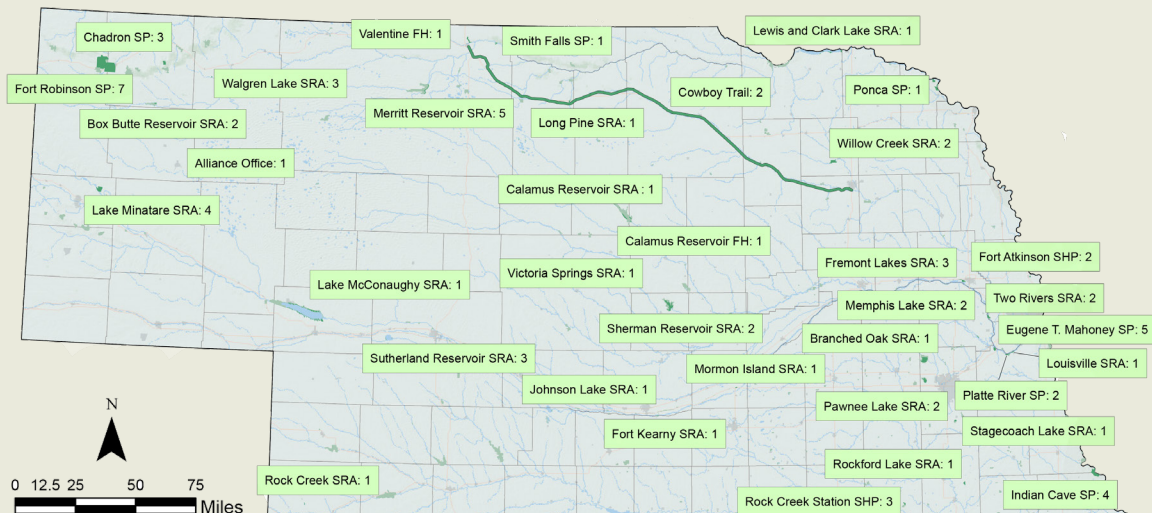
PROJECT REPORT

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

More than \$9.2 million in Capital Maintenance Funds was spent or contracted for park and facility improvements at Game and Parks managed locations statewide for the fiscal year 2022-23. The following tables highlight those projects that received Capital Maintenance Funds for improvements. Other funding sources used for these projects included the agency's Park Cash Fund, Land and Water Conservation Fund, Title 28 (Bureau of Reclamation), Federal Emergency Management Agency funding, and donated funds.

Projects were selected based on need, with priority assigned by mandates to meet state and federal safety and/or Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility requirements. Significant progress has been made in improving facilities and access for all.

Completed Capital Maintenance Fund Projects for FY 2022-2023



COMPLETED PROJECTS – FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

Alliance District Office sewer investigation

Box Butte Reservoir State Recreation Area
ADA-compliant vault toilet upgrades (2)

Branched Oak State Recreation Area erosion repair at
Area 2

Calamus Hatchery gates construction and reservoir
water line repair

Calamus Reservoir State Recreation Area Buckshot
Bay ADA-compliant vault toilet replacement

Chadron State Park cabin upgrades and ADA-access

Chadron State Park Pinecone Shelter ADA-upgrade

Chadron State Park ADA-compliant mini-golf course
design concept

Cowboy Trail erosion-control design concept at
Norfolk Bridge 147

Cowboy Trail flood-repair design concept at Oakdale
Bridge 211 and Valentine

Fort Atkinson State Historical Park fort wall log
replacement

Fort Atkinson State Historical Park relocated entrance
road to improve access

Fort Kearny State Recreation Area ADA-compliant
bathroom and shower addition

Fort Robinson State Park Aquatic Habitat
Rehabilitation Phase 1 with ADA-access

Fort Robinson State Park water tower painting

Fort Robinson State Park Horse Barn foundation
repairs

Fort Robinson State Park cabin upgrades



Soldier Creek Campground sites were upgraded to 50-amp service at Fort Robinson State Park in Dawes and Sioux counties. The electrical upgrade was completed in fiscal year 2022-23.

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COMPLETED PROJECTS – FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 *(Continued)*

Fort Robinson State Park Mare Barn ADA-compliant showerhouse replacement	Lake McConaughy State Recreation Area motorboat access improvements
Fort Robinson State Park cabin electrical upgrade	Lake Minatare State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacement (4)
Fort Robinson State Park Soldier Creek Campground electrical upgrade	Lewis and Clark State Recreation Area Burbach Campground campsites electrical upgrade
Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area Victory Lake shoreline erosion repair design concept	Long Pine State Recreation Area campground expansion design concept
Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area Pathfinder and Victory Lake campgrounds electrical upgrade design concept	Louisville State Recreation Area Eagleview Campground campsites electrical upgrade
Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area public docks system and concession area design concept	Mahoney State Park Peter Kiewit Lodge air-conditioning system replacement
Indian Cave State Park ADA-compliant cave-viewing walkway	Mahoney State Park Little Creek electrical upgrades
Indian Cave State Park, ADA-compliant vault toilet replacements (2)	Mahoney State Park telecommunications fiber upgrade
Indian Cave State Park St. Deroin Bridge replacement	Mahoney State Park cabins 2 and 16 remodel
Johnson Lake State Recreation Area recreational vehicle campsites electrical upgrade	Mahoney State Park interpretive waterway trail design concept



An improved boat ramp, parking lot and Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant ramp in Martin Bay are part of a Motorized Water Trails project at Lake McConaughy State Recreation Area in Keith County. This phase of the project, completed in May 2022, was funded partially by the Capital Maintenance Fund.

ERIC FOWLER, NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION



Replacing the logs in Fort Atkinson State Historical Park's historical structures has been a multi-year project funded in part by Capital Maintenance Funds. The park is near Fort Calhoun in Washington County.

JEFF FIELDS, NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION

COMPLETED PROJECTS – FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 *(Continued)*

Memphis Lake State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacement

Memphis Lake State Recreation Area sewer system design concept

Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area Cedar Bay campground electrical upgrade

Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacement (2)

Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area breakwater improvements

Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area ADA-compliant fish-cleaning stations upgrade

Mormon Island State Recreation Area campground expansion design concept

Pawnee State Recreation Area marina building upgrade

Pawnee State Recreation Area campground areas 3 and 4 electrical upgrade

Platte River State Park Owen's Cabins heating, ventilation and air conditioning replacement

Platte River State Park bank stabilization design concept

Ponca State Park mini-lodge bedroom/Great Room expansion design concept

Rock Creek State Recreation Area public drinking water well assessment

Rock Creek Station State Historical Park bridge repair and bank stabilization

Rock Creek Station State Historical Park electrical upgrade design concept

Rock Creek Station State Historical Park sewer system investigation

COMPLETED PROJECTS – FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 *(Continued)*

Rockford Lake State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacement	Two Rivers State Recreation Area ADA-compliant updates to caboose lodging
Sherman Reservoir State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacement (2)	Two Rivers State Recreation Area ADA-compliant office improvements
Smith Falls State Park ADA-compliant boardwalk replacement	Valentine Fish Hatchery shop roof replacement
Stagecoach Lake State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacement	Victoria Springs State Recreation Area electrical upgrade
Statewide ADA-compliant fish-cleaning stations upgrades	Walgren Lake State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacement
Sutherland Reservoir State Recreation Area electrical upgrade	Walgren Lake State Recreation Area ADA-compliant angler access repair
Sutherland Reservoir State Recreation Area ADA-compliant new vault toilet	Walgren Lake State Recreation Area campground upgrade design concept
Sutherland Reservoir State Recreation Area boat ramp repair	Willow Creek State Recreation Area RV campsites electrical upgrade design concept
	Willow Creek State Recreation Area ADA-compliant fish-cleaning station design concept



To improve boater access, improvements to the boat ramp and breakwater area were completed at the Main Area of Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area in Cherry County using Capital Maintenance Funds.

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Box Butte State Recreation Area campground in Dawes County is getting access and traffic flow improvements at its most popular entrance. Campground improvements, including Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant sites, showerhouse and dump station, will better serve campers and anglers visiting western Nebraska's popular Box Butte State Recreation Area.

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IN-PROGRESS PROJECTS – STARTED IN FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

Ash Hollow State Historical Park ADA-compliant improvements to visitor center

Box Butte Reservoir State Recreation Area campground expansion including ADA-compliant upgrades

Branched Oak State Recreation Area ADA-compliant fish-cleaning stations upgrade

Branched Oak State Recreation Area area 11 campground expansion with ADA-improvements design concept

Bluestem State Recreation Area electrical campground, ADA and showerhouse design concept

Chadron State Park campground upgrade

Cheyenne State Recreation Area campground expansion with ADA upgrades design concept

Conestoga Lake State Recreation Area ADA-compliant fish-cleaning stations upgrade

Conestoga Lake State Recreation Area electrical campsites, ADA upgrades and showerhouse design concept

Cozad Wildlife Management Area campground design concept

Cowboy Trail erosion-control design concept at Neligh Highway 275

Cowboy Trail flood-repair design concept at Long Pine

Cowboy Trail surfacing repairs plans for Madison, Antelope, Holt, Rock, Brown and Cherry counties

Fort Robinson State Park cabin foundation replacement

Fort Robinson State Park Mare Barn Campground expansion, with ADA-compliant sites

Fort Robinson State Park aquatic facility design concept



Fort Robinson State Park's Mare Barn Campground is being expanded to include 24 full-service sites, including American with Disabilities Act-compliant sites.

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IN-PROGRESS PROJECTS – STARTED IN FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 *(Continued)*

Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area ADA-compliant showerhouse design concept

Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area dump station design concept

Johnson Lake State Recreation Area dump station upgrade

Indian Cave State Park motorboat access improvement

Indian Cave State Park Horse Camp waterline replacement design concept

Keller Park State Recreation Area campsites electrical and ADA-compliant upgrades

Lake McConaughy State Recreation Area wayfinding signage design concept (Highway 92 and 61)

Lake Minatare State Recreation Area ADA-compliant fish-cleaning station upgrades

Lewis and Clark State Recreation Area wastewater treatment construction

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

Mahoney State Park recreational vehicle dump utilities upgrade

Mahoney State Park James Family Conservatory sewer and drainage improvements

Mahoney State Park Peter Kiewit Lodge Guest Room improvements design concept

Maloney Reservoir State Recreation Area campground expansion and renovation design concept

Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area Cedar Bay Campground expansion with ADA upgrades

Niobrara State Park river boat ramp sedimentation removal plan

Niobrara State Park pond seepage and road work design concept

Sandy Channel State Recreation Area well system design concept

Sherman Reservoir State Recreation Area Thunder Bay Campground ADA-compliant camping pads upgrades

Two Rivers State Recreation Area electrical upgrade

FISCAL YEAR 2023-24

More than \$11.7 million in capital maintenance spending is planned on more than 50 projects at locations managed by Game and Parks for the fiscal year 2023-24. In addition to an estimated \$6.5 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 2023-24

Bridgeport State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacement design concept

Chadron State Park ADA-compliant vault toilet replacement design concept (2)

Chadron State Park camping pads electrical upgrade

Cheyenne State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacement design concept

Fort Robinson State Park 24 new full-service campsites, including ADA, at Mare Barn Campground

Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area pathfinder dump station and showerhouse construction

Indian Cave State Park waterline and hydrant additions to horse camp

Keller Park State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacements design concept (2)

Keller Park State Recreation Area ADA-compliant camping pads (2)

Long Pine State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacements design concept (2)

Louisville State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet design concept

Merritt State Recreation Area Cedar Bay Campground 20 new 50-amp camping pads

Merritt State Recreation Area Cedar Bay Campground showerhouse

Mormon Island ADA-compliant vault toilet replacements design concept (2)

Platte River State Park ADA-accessible trail to High Stone Creek Falls waterfall

Rock Creek State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacement design concept

Sandy Channel State Recreation Area water well system upgrade

Two Rivers State Recreation Area Lakeside Campground electrical upgrades to 50 amps at 17 campsites

Victoria Springs State Recreation Area ADA-compliant camping pads (2)

War Axe State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacement design concept

Windmill State Recreation Area ADA-compliant vault toilet replacements design concept (2)

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 and help the Department of Economic Development recruit new business into the state.
- State parks have an annual economic impact of more than \$455 million, supporting \$313 million in retail sales and more than 4,600 jobs.
- The Commission has paid more than \$7.8 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 \$1.1 billion, according to the National Marine Manufacturers' 2023 Boating Economic Impact Study. At the same time, 405,900 anglers spent \$270 million while fishing in Nebraska, creating an economic output of \$423 million, according to a 2021 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.



A new boardwalk and deck replaced a failing structure, giving visitors an up-close look at the iconic cave at Indian Cave State Park in Richardson County, while also protecting the historic petroglyph etchings. Visitors can reach the deck at the base of the cave via a stair tower or a ramp that is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

ERIC FOWLER, NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION

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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