

CAPITAL MAINTENANCE FUND REPORT

2023 - 2024



Fort Robinson State Park Mare Barn Campground was expanded using Capital Maintenance Funds. Twenty-four new sites, three of which are Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant, and new horse pens were added to the west end of the park's main complex, doubling the campground's previous capacity.

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.



Mormon Island State Recreation Area received a new vault toilet using Capital Maintenance Fund dollars.

JEFF KURRUS, NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION

BUDGET

Fund Source	FY 2023-2024 Expenditures	FY 2024-2025 Estimated
Capital Maintenance Fund	\$2,622,671	\$9,732,306*
Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$998,291	\$1,438,587
Nebraska Outdoor Recreational Development Act	\$592,766	\$1,300,000
Park Cash and Other Sources	\$880,756	\$1,000,000
TOTAL	\$5,094,482	\$13,470,893

*Includes \$4,412,706 million encumbered funds from fiscal year 2023-2024.

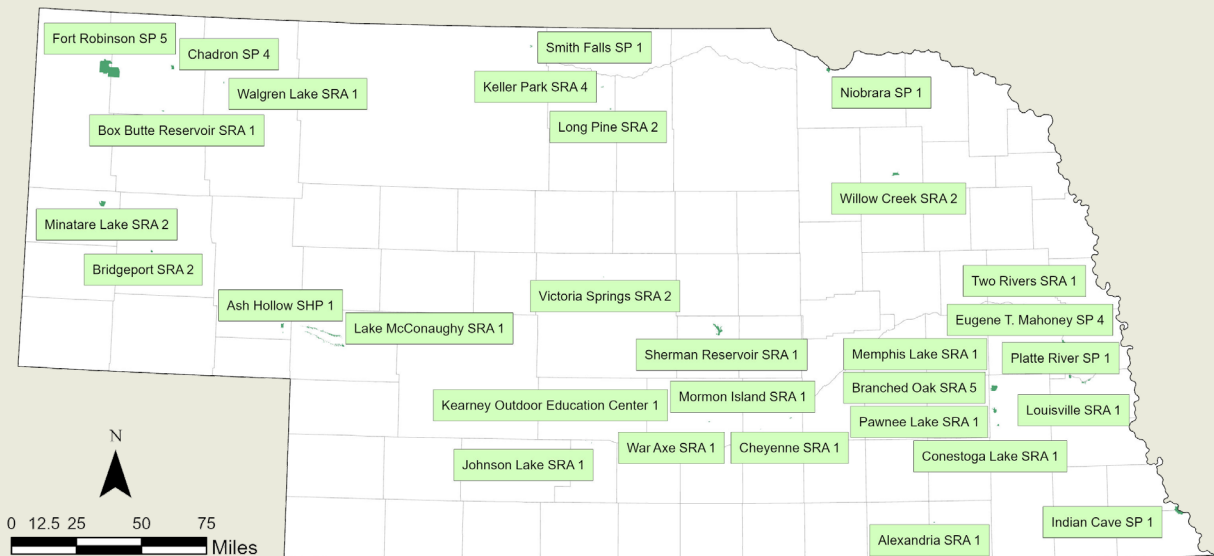
PROJECT REPORT

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

More than \$5 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 2023-24. 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 2023-2024



COMPLETED PROJECTS – FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

Alexandria State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement	Chadron State Park vault toilet replacement (2)
Ash Hollow State Historical Park building and restroom improvements compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act	Cheyenne State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement
Box Butte Reservoir State Recreation Area campground expansion	Eugene T. Mahoney State Park communications fiber upgrade
Branched Oak State Recreation Area erosion repair and riprap installation at Area 2	Eugene T. Mahoney State Park lakeside water and wastewater improvements
Branched Oak State Recreation Area campground expansion investigation at Area 11	Eugene T. Mahoney State Park recreational vehicle dump utilities upgrade
Branched Oak State Recreation Area fish-cleaning station upgrade	Eugene T. Mahoney State Park waterway design concept
Branched Oak State Recreation Area vault toilet replacements (2)	Fort Robinson State Park Mare Barn Campground expansion
Bridgeport State Recreation Area vault toilet replacements (2)	Fort Robinson State Park recreational vehicle electrical pedestal upgrades
Conestoga State Recreation Area fish-cleaning station upgrade	Fort Robinson State Park cabin 309 and 310 foundation replacement
Chadron State Park campground electrical upgrade and expansion compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act	Fort Robinson State Park bakery reconstruction design concept
Chadron State Park miniature-golf course design	Fort Robinson State Park cabin floor upgrades design concept
	Kearney Outdoor Education Complex vault toilet replacement



The campground at Sherman Reservoir State Recreation Area was expanded in fiscal year 2023-24 using Capital Maintenance Fund and park cash dollars.

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COMPLETED PROJECTS – FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 *(Continued)*

Indian Cave State Park ADA-compliant boardwalk for cave viewing	Niobrara State Park Niobrara River boat ramp sediment removal
Johnson Lake State Recreation Area dump station upgrade	Pawnee State Recreation Area marina building upgrade
Keller Park State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement (2)	Platte River State Park bank stabilization design
Keller Park State Recreation Area ADA-compliant camping pads upgrade (2)	Sherman Reservoir State Recreation Area recreational vehicle campground expansion
Lake McConaughy State Recreation Area wayfinding signage design	Smith Falls State Park ADA-compliant boardwalk
Lake Minatare State Recreation Area fish-cleaning station upgrade	Two Rivers State Recreation Area electrical and ADA-camping upgrade
Long Pine State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement (2)	Victoria Springs State Recreation Area ADA-compliant camping pads upgrade (2)
Louisville State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement	Walgren Lake State Recreation Area campground upgrade design
Memphis Lake State Recreation Area sewer system design concept	War Axe State Recreation Area vault toilet replacements (1)
Mormon Island State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement	Willow Creek State Recreation Area fish-cleaning station design concept
	Willow Creek State Recreation Area RV electrical pedestal upgrades design concept

IN-PROGRESS PROJECTS – STARTED IN FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

Bluestem State Recreation Area campground electrical upgrades	Cozad Wildlife Management Area campground design concept
Bluestem State Recreation Area ADA-compliant showerhouse upgrades	Eugene T. Mahoney State Park Kountze Theater fire protection upgrades
Cheyenne State Recreation Area campground expansion	Eugene T. Mahoney State Park Peter Kiewit Lodge guest room HVAC upgrade
Cowboy Trail erosion-control at Neligh, Highway 275	Eugene T. Mahoney State Park Conservancy window replacement and structure repair design concept
Cowboy Trail erosion-control work at the Norfolk, Bridge 147	Fort Robinson State Park cabin electrical upgrades
Cowboy Trail flood repair at Long Pine State Recreation Area	Fort Robinson State Park 1887 Enlisted Mens' Barracks reconstruction design concept

IN-PROGRESS PROJECTS – STARTED IN FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area shower facility replacement	Louisville State Recreation Area angler access project
Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area dump station replacement	Maloney Reservoir State Recreation Area campground expansion and renovation design concept
Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area electrical upgrades at Pathfinder and Victory Lake campgrounds	Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area Cedar Bay Campground expansion
Indian Cave State Park Horse Camp water line replacement	Rock Creek State Recreation Area vault toilet replacement
Lewis and Clark State Recreation Area wastewater treatment construction	Rock Creek Station State Recreation Area campground electrical upgrade
	Sandy Channel State Recreation Area well system installation

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 intension 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.

FISCAL YEAR 2024-25

More than \$13.5 million in capital maintenance spending is planned on more than 40 projects at locations managed by Game and Parks for the fiscal year 2024-25. In addition to an estimated \$9.7 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 continues to strive for progress.

PROJECTS TO BEGIN FISCAL YEAR 2024-25

Conestoga State Recreation Area electrical upgrades and ADA-compliant campsites	Fort Robinson State Park campus tuck-pointing and masonry repairs
Conestoga State Recreation Area ADA-compliant shower house installation	Indian Cave State Park motorboat access improvement
Cowboy Trail culvert design at Valentine	Niobrara State Park road seepage and pond work
Cowboy Trail flood repair at Oakdale, Bridge 211 design concept	Niobrara State Park playground design concept
Fort Atkinson State Historical Park northeast barracks log replacement	Platte River State Park Falls Trail upgrades in compliance with ADA
Fort Robinson State Park bakery reconstruction	Ponca State Park mini-lodge bedroom and great room expansion
Fort Robinson State Park cabin floor upgrades	Ponca State Park Eric Wiebe Shooting Complex electrical service installation
Fort Robinson State Park Officers Quarters upgrades	Rock Creek Station State Recreation Area lagoon repairs design concept
Fort Robinson State Park 1887 Adobe Kitchen upgrades	Windmill State Recreation Area new playground
Fort Robinson State Park lodge updates and repairs	



(Left) A new vault toilet was installed at Long Pine State Recreation Area. (Right) Culverts are installed where flood damage occurred along the Cowboy Trail, west of Long Pine.

ERIC FOWLER, NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS

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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