

Project 08-129 Eastern Saline Wetlands Project

Project Legend:

The Eastern Saline Wetlands Project 2008 will conserve the most imperiled natural community in Nebraska. The targeted eastern saline wetlands ecosystem is located primarily in the Salt Creek watershed in northern Lancaster and southern Saunders counties. Conserving the eastern saline wetlands also protects the endangered Salt Creek tiger beetle and saltwort plant as well as other fauna and flora which survive in the saline wetlands unique to this limited area of the state.

Proposal Context: Local/Single Community

Duration: July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2012

Cost: NET provided \$1,200,000. This was matched by \$1,109,340.70 for land acquisition.

NET Funding Objective: Habitat

Process:

The City of Lincoln has accomplish their goal by purchasing permanent conservation easements from willing sellers on the wetlands and adjoining buffer and connective tracts, and by continuing to retain a full-time Saline Wetlands Coordinator with a portion of the matching fund contributions. Protection of the saline wetlands has taken place in four ways:

- By acquiring wetlands, adjoining buffer tracts and adjoining connective tracts from willing sellers.
- By purchasing permanent conservation easements on the wetlands, the adjoining buffer tracts and adjoining connective tracts.
- By continuing to retain a full time saline wetlands coordinator with a portion of the matching fund contributions.
- By restoration and management work on the wetlands.

Domains: The restorative work that has been accomplished throughout this project has placed it within the Environmental domain. The Socio-Cultural domain is also represented because the protection of the Salt Creek Tiger beetle now has the support of many communities around the state.

Transferability: This type of project would be transferable to a similar wetland ecosystem. Transferable qualities include the process of acquiring the wetlands, restoration, and maintenance.

