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Little Sioux Co-op Burn Week

We are excited to announce that May 1—7, 2022 (rain/snow date May 8—14) will be the first Little Sioux Cooperative Burn Week! This will be a great opportunity to learn how others do prescribed fire, get experience working with different equipment, and grow our Partnership.

Attendance will be limited to watershed partners and adjacent counties while we work out the bugs this year, but look for expanded capacity and

opportunities as the event matures.

The planning committee is hard at work figuring out the details. Committee members will reach out individually with more details and to determine resources and other needs.

Special thanks to Kody Wohlers—INHF, Scott Moats—TNC, and Ryan Schmidt—INHF for input & guidance from the long running Loess Hills Co-op Burn Week.

“Everyone’s better for being a partner. Everyone gets better once barriers are broken. Everyone can benefit from the collective assets. Developing a collaborative culture is a shift in mindset and motivates us all to do better.”

~ Ryan Schmidt, INHF

Donations now accepted!

Our partnership with [Golden Hills RC&D](#) has given us the capability to receive donations to help defray LSWCP expenses without putting undue strain on any one partner. There is now a [Donate Here](#) button linked to Golden Hills on each page of our [website](#). Entering “LSWCP” in the donation code box ensures the funds will be directed to our account.

Many thanks to our friends at Golden Hills for their continued support and help setting up donations!



The Linn Grove dam was bypassed during a large flood event in March 2019, resulting in a new channel along the south side of the dam. Photo supplied by BVCCB

Big Changes ahead for the Linn Grove Dam Area

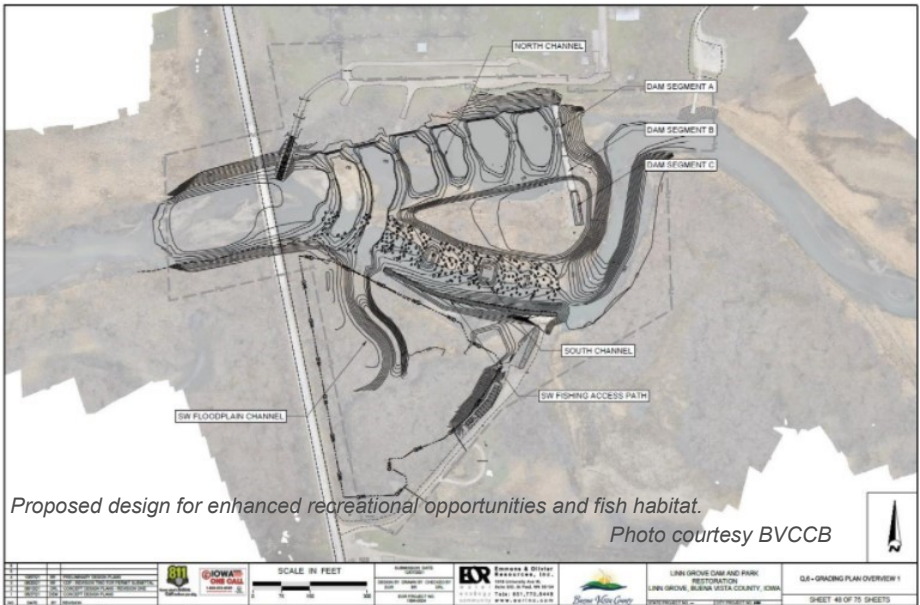
The [Buena Vista County Conservation Board](#) (BVCCB) has been researching ways to restore public use of the Little Sioux River at the Linn Grove Dam Area after floods in 2018 and 2019 moved the river from the previous channel to a new channel that bypasses the dam.

After much deliberation and discussion with citizens, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) to modify and retrofit the currently compromised dam structure with a rock arch rapid design that effectively buries the dam and replaces the hydraulic drops with an ecologically sound engineered rock riffle/step pool structure. The

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new channel south of the dam will be similarly fitted to convert the entire dam and former park area into a wider and more sustainable spillway structure for future flood events. Banks along the new channel south of the dam and the former river channel will be stabilized with sustainable slopes, toe rock, and native vegetation above the bank full elevation. The floodplain island between the two channels will be an auxiliary overflow route for larger



flood events. An existing floodplain slough southwest of the dam site will also be restored. The two channels will be designed to safely accommodate fish passage, fishing access, and passage of paddlecraft during normal flow. The overall design returns the river to a more ecologically sound, sustainable, and safe public amenity.

The Linn Grove Dam Area also includes a newly expanded campground, a bait shop/outfitter, playground, and vault toilets.

Restoration Ecology class virtual meeting

Put on your thinking caps to meet and brainstorm projects with the Dordt University Restoration Ecology class in an upcoming virtual meeting! Dr. Robb DeHaan is currently setting up the class schedule so stay tuned for a date and time. Visit the [University Collaboration](#) section on our website for plans from past years. Please join us even if you don't have a project to meet the next generation of conservation!

Request for photos, stories, and project updates

Our Facebook and Instagram pages get the most traffic when we share photos of animals, landscapes, habitat projects, and people enjoying nature. Please either share these photos and stories via email (little Siouxwcp@gmail.com or acrouch@tnc.org) or upload to our [LSWCP Partners Photos and Stories](#) folder.

