



News Release



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Contact: Jeff Buettner
Gov't. & Public Relations
Manager
Office: (308) 995-8601
E-mail: jbuettner@cnppid.com

(HOLDREGE, Neb.) - Dave Zorn, senior biologist for The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District, was named as one of several appointees to Nebraska's Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force. Members of the task force were announced on Tuesday by Gov. Pete Ricketts.

Zorn has been with Central since 2016. His duties include administration of Central's habitat management, biological monitoring and research programs. He is based in Central's Gothenburg office.

The task force was re-created in statute in 2016 to bring multiple partners and stakeholders together to address the concern of invasive plants obstructing Nebraska's river basins. The task force grew out of legislation signed into law in 2007, part of comprehensive water legislation that included riparian vegetation management activities originally included in a bill introduced by then Senator Tom Carlson of Holdrege.

The task force's objective is to improve the conveyance of water throughout Nebraska's rivers and streams. The original legislation created a grant program for management of riparian vegetation and stated the Legislature's intent to appropriate \$2 million annually for this purpose. The law had a sunset date of June 30, 2009, but members of the Nebraska Weed Control Association and Weed Management Areas continued to work on Nebraska's riparian areas with limited funding until 2016 when legislation was passed to allow the task force to continue its efforts to help Nebraska meet its water needs.

Task Force appointees are unpaid and are not subject to Legislative confirmation.

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