

**Project Name:** Holmes Lake Watershed Pollutant Reduction Project

**Project Sponsor:** City of Lincoln

**Project Period:** January 2006 to January 2008

**Federal Section 319 Funds Requested:**

**Non-Federal Match Funds Committed:**

**Executive Summary:**

The City of Lincoln and Lower Platte South Natural Resources District in cooperation with local homeowner/neighborhood associations is seeking 319 federal grant funding to primarily reduce pollutant loading of phosphorus, sediment, and associated pollutants to Holmes Lake. The sources of these pollutants are typically from the Holmes Lake Watershed in the form of sheet and rill erosion, gully and stream bank erosion, urban runoff, construction site runoff, fertilizer, and animal waste.

The Holmes Lake watershed has a drainage area of approximately 5.4 square miles consisting mainly of residential, rural residential and commercial property land use. Holmes Lake lies on Antelope Creek and is fed by two drainages which enter the lake from the south/southeast. The drainages are well defined and consist of about 20 stream miles of open channel including their tributaries. Due to urbanization some of the original tributaries no longer exist. Holmes Lake is formed by a high hazard dam constructed for flood control, and the lake provides multiple benefits other than flood reduction including aesthetics and recreation.

Holmes Lake is on the 303(d) list of impaired waters due to impairment of the aesthetic and aquatic life beneficial uses due to excess sedimentation and nutrients. A Total Maximum Daily Loads (TDML) was developed for Holmes Lake by Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) in June 2003 with the primary pollutant concerns being sedimentation and phosphorus.

Major products resulting from this project include a stream/buffer/wetland assessment for 20 stream miles of open channels draining to Holmes Lake, stream bank stabilization construction project for a channel reach with observed bank erosion, a no/low phosphorus fertilizer program for the watershed and other program projects. Objectives for this project are correlated with the Holmes Lake Community Based Watershed Management Plan.