

Summary of Lower Platte & Elkhorn Rivers

Initial Ice Report 12/21/2016 through 12/30/2016:

Summary (12/30/2016)

So far this season has seen earlier freezing on the Rivers than last year. Several places have had ice grow and build across the channels but thankfully not fully impede the flow down the Elkhorn & Platte. Monday the 26th saw a minor break up from the Elkhorn that the Papio Missouri NRD staff followed downstream to the Missouri confluence. All of the ice has dissipated with the warm temperatures this past week. Next week will likely produce more ice formation with the temperatures expected to fall Tuesday through Saturday with highs in the teens to low 20's and single digit daily lows throughout the eastern end of the state. With the rainfalls over Christmas weekend there is more water available for freezing so the New Year might just prove to be interesting! Happy Ice hunting everyone!

NO ICE JAMMING AT THIS TIME on the East end of the State.

Platte River:

PM4 - Douglas County, on the Platte Hwy 92

Latitude: 41:14:2 Longitude: 96:21:55 (Tuesday, December 20, 2016 @ 8:00AM CDT)

Temperature was 23°F. The average wind speed was 5 mph (SW). It was estimated that it was less than 2 feet bank full at this location. The channel remains NA%. It was noted: "Ice is very rough at Two Rivers. Many high patches, almost like someone shoveled the ice into piles"

Latitude: 41:14:2 Longitude: 96:21:55 (Monday, December 26, 2016 @ 3:30PM CDT)

Temperature was 27°F. The average wind speed was mph (W). It was estimated that it was less than 1 ft. feet bank full at this location. The channel remains NA%. It was noted: "Channel side (east) of the river appeared to be completely covered by ice. West side had about 60% ice cover. Rain from weekend smoothed out some of the roughness of ice. "

P7 - Sarpy County, on the Platte Hwy 31 at 204 St.

Latitude: 41:1:27 Longitude: 96:15:29 (Thursday, December 22, 2016 @ 3:46AM CDT)

Temperature was 44°F. The average wind speed was 3 mph (SE). It was estimated that it was less than feet bank full at this location. The channel remains 10%. It was noted: "12/22/2016 1544hrs Platte River, Schram Park Hwy 31 Channel depth – 3.81ft Channel flow – 7.08kcfs Flood Stage - 9ft. Water temp ° Not Available- The channel is 10% open and flowing freely. Some melting of the intact ice. "

Latitude: 41:1:27 Longitude: 96:15:29 (Thursday, December 29, 2016 @ 2:40AM CDT)

Temperature was 45°F. The average wind speed was 30 mph (NW). It was estimated that it was less than feet bank full at this location. The channel remains 90%. It was noted: "Plate River is clear and flowing with little to no ice chunks. The Elkhorn River broke up Monday and flushed out leaving some ice chunks on the sandbars and banks of the Platte. Average ice thickness was estimated to be 8-12". Current stage and flow 4.18ft 8.92kcfs"

PM7 - Douglas County, on the Platte Union Dike, 1/4 mile west of Hwy 275 & 3.1 miles upstream of Hwy 64

P9 - Sarpy County, on the Platte Hwy 6 & Platte River Bridge (Linoma)

Latitude: 41:3:42 Longitude: 96:19:31 (Thursday, December 22, 2016 @ 3:24PM CDT)

Temperature was 45°F. The average wind speed was 3 mph (S). It was estimated that it was less than feet bank full at this location. The channel remains NA%. It was noted: "12/23/2016 1524 hrs Platte River, Ashland Hwy 6 Channel depth – 15.9ft Channel flow – Not Available 6.61kcfs Flood Stage - 20ft. Water temp ° Not Available -The channel is 50% open and flowing freely. Some melting of the intact ice. "

Latitude: 41:3:42 Longitude: 96:19:31 (Thursday, December 29, 2016 @ 2:15PM CDT)

Temperature was 48°F. The average wind speed was 30 mph (NW). It was estimated that it was less than 2.99 feet bank full at this location. The channel remains 80%. It was noted: "Plate River is clear and flowing with little to no ice chunks. The Elkhorn River broke up Monday and flushed out leaving some ice chunks on the sandbars and banks of the Platte. Average ice thickness was estimated to be 8-12". Current stage and flow 17.01ft 13.5kcfs"

P10 - Sarpy County, on the Platte Hwy 50 & Platte River Bridge**Latitude: 41:0:53 Longitude: 96:9:28 (Thursday, December 22, 2016 @ 3:57PM CDT)**

Temperature was 44°F. The average wind speed was mph (0). It was estimated that it was less than feet bank full at this location. The channel remains 40%. It was noted: "12/22/2016 1557hrs Platte River, Hwy 50 Channel depth – 3.81ft Channel flow – 7.08kcfs Flood Stage - 9ft. Water temp ° Not Available The channel is 40% open and flowing freely. Some melting of the intact ice."

Latitude: 41:0:53 Longitude: 96:9:28 (Thursday, December 29, 2016 @ 2:55PM CDT)

Temperature was 46°F. The average wind speed was 30 mph (NW). It was estimated that it was less than feet bank full at this location. The channel remains 100%. It was noted: "Platte River is clear and flowing with little to no ice chunks. The Elkhorn River broke up Monday and flushed out leaving some ice chunks on the sandbars and banks of the Platte. Average ice thickness was estimated to be 8-12". Current stage and flow 4.18ft 8.92kcfs"

After the break-up earlier this week in Sarpy County. (Lynn Marshall)

**LS1 - Saunders County, on the Platte Hwy 6 near Ashland****Latitude: 41:3:41 Longitude: 96:19:35 (Thursday, December 22, 2016 @ 08:23AM CDT)**

Temperature was 22°F. The average wind speed was mph (0). It was estimated that it was less than 4 ft. feet bank full at this location. The channel remains NA%. It was noted: "40% of channel open. Very rough ice"

Latitude: 41:3:41 Longitude: 96:19:35 (Wednesday, December 28, 2016 @ 9:28AM CDT)

Temperature was °F. The average wind speed was mph (0). It was estimated that it was less than feet bank full at this location. The channel remains NA%. It was noted: "A lot of large ice chunks piled up in channel from breakup. Channel 50% open. Open channel has some frazil slush. "

LS2 - Cass County, on the Platte Hwy 50 at Louisville**Latitude: 41:0:47 Longitude: 96:9:27 (Wednesday, December 28, 2016 @ 8:42AM CDT)**

Temperature was 35°F. The average wind speed was mph (W). It was estimated that it was less than feet bank full at this location. The channel remains NA%. It was noted: "Channel is open. Frazil Slush occupies 50% of channel. Ice chunks remain on sandbars and banks from break up. "

LN1 – Saunders/Dodge CO on Platte Hwy 77 at Fremont**Latitude: 41:21:14 Longitude: 96:30:9 (Thursday, December 22, 2016 @ 2:25PM CDT)**

Temperature was 41°F. The average wind speed was 5 mph (S). It was estimated that it was less than 8 feet bank full at this location. The channel remains NA%. It was noted: "Hwy 77 at Fremont, 90% ice covered, relatively smooth, gray in color with some standing water on the ice. Open channel along north side approximately 100' wide up and downstream of Hwy Bridge. "

LN2 – Saunders/Dodge CO on Platte Hwy 79 at North Bend**Latitude: 41:27:7 Longitude: 96:46:30 (Thursday, December 22, 2016 @ 2:55PM CDT)**

Temperature was 43°F. The average wind speed was 5 mph (S). It was estimated that it was less than 8 feet bank full at this location. The channel remains NA%. It was noted: "North Bend Hwy 79 Bridge - ice cover is mostly smooth and gray in color. Very little open water on north bank, there is not a continuous channel. Very little ponding on ice. If it stays warm and we get some warm rain, beware. "

Confluence of the Platte and Elkhorn Rivers:**E1 - Sarpy County, on the Platte/Elkhorn Confluence of Platte and Elkhorn Rivers****Elkhorn River:****PM2 - Douglas County, on the Elkhorn Hwy 36****PM3 - Douglas/Saunders County, on the Elkhorn Hwy 92****PM6 - Douglas County, on the Elkhorn Hwy 64****Loup River:****NR1 - Loup County, on the Loup Hwy 281 at St. Paul****12/26/2016 Elkhorn River following warm weather break up**