

## *Summary of Lower Platte River Ice Report December 21-27, 2008*

---

### **Confluence of the Elkhorn/Platte River**

Character of intact ice of less than 1.0 ft was reported at Capehart Rd, 4 miles upstream (north) of Hwy 6. There was no evidence of decay, cracks or fracturing. In the Elkhorn there is an open channel along the west bank; border ice growth along the east bank is about 50 ft. In the Platte there is also an open channel closer to the west bank.

### **Confluence of the Platte/Missouri**

100% of the channel is remaining open, there is frazil slush reported with 0% of the channel occupied by moving ice. River main and sub channel is moving freely; some frazil ice on surface.

### **Elkhorn River**

There is minimal frazil slush in river at the Biel Dike location, 100% of the channel remains open with 0% of open channel occupied by moving ice. Growth from shore is reported to be 12 ft.

Highway 30 reported the character of intact ice cover showed a surface roughness of less than .5 ft with no evidence of decay, cracks or fracturing. Also noted there is an open channel downstream of the bridge by the east bank.

Highway 64 has reported 40% of the channel remaining open. 0% of the open channel surface is occupied by moving ice. Growth from shore is 20ft. It was also noted that there is an open channel along the west bank.

At Highway 92 the character of intact ice cover showed a surface roughness of less than .5 ft with no evidence of decay, cracks or fracturing.

At Highway 36 the character of intact ice cover showed a roughness of less than .5 ft. with no evidence of decay, cracking or fracturing.

### **Platte River**

3.1 Miles north of Highway 64 bridge, shows an intact ice cover with a surface roughness of less than .5ft and no evidence of decay, cracks or fracturing. Most of the river is snow covered, about 60%, otherwise just ice, no cracking. A few small areas upstream of sta 25 that had open water.

Highway 92 reported surface roughness of less than 1 ft, there is no evidence of decay, cracking or fracturing. Observer noted that the temperatures were near 0 degrees with wind chills of -17 degrees, along with ice-snow mix of 2 ½ in". Additional snow has fallen on the river ice, west channel has 3% open ice free flowing water near west bank. The East channel has 40% open ice free flowing water near both east and west banks.

At Highway 6 near Ashland the character of intact ice cover is smooth with no evidence of decay, cracking or fracturing. The River channel is open on the Saunders County side of River. 100% ice cover on the Sarpy County side of River.

Conditions ¼ mile north of Fairview Rd; 3 ½ miles upstream of NE Hwy 6 were reported to have freeze up with 10ft of growth from shore. 60% of the channel remains open.

At Schram Park/Highway 31 the channel has frazil ice. There is an ice growth from shore of 6 ft with 100% of the channel remaining open on the Sarpy side of river.