

[Summary of Lower Platte River Ice Report 1/27/2012 through 2/3/2012:](#)

Summary (2/3/2012)

The observations from the Platte River, the Confluence of the Platte and Elkhorn Rivers and the Elkhorn River are summarized as having an average temperature of 34 °F.

The Platte River has 30% to 50% of the channels open with flowing water with little ice in it. The rest of the channels consist of intact ice on some of the sand bars and ice breaking up in other areas. The ice that is displaced appears to be approximately 3-4" thick.

****Two Rivers is experiencing minor flooding with small ice jams due to the Platte river rising and falling in the past week effecting a few campsites along the river.****

The Confluence of the Platte and Elkhorn Rivers channel remains 100% open with 10% of the open channel surface occupied by moving ice (Frazil Slush). It appears the channel is wide open with some ice on the sand bars up and down the river.

The Elkhorn River channels are 60% to 100% open with very little ice if any occupying the open channels.

Platte River:

LeShara - Douglas County on the Platte River at Highway 64

Latitude: 41:19:12 Longitude: 96:24:14 (February 1, 2012 @ 1100 CDT)

Temperature was 52 °F; the average wind speed was 5 mph (W). 50% of the Channel remains open with 10% of the channel surface occupied by moving ice. It was noted: "Basically the left channel remains full of ice and the right channel is basically open water where the main flow is directed."

LN-1 - Saunders and Dodge County, on the Platte River at Highway 77 at BN Rail Road

Latitude: 41:27:7 Longitude: 96:46:30 (February 2, 2012 @ 0730 CDT)

Temperature was 21 °F the average wind speed was 3 mph (W). It was estimated that it was four (4) feet less than bankfull at this location. The intact ice cover had evidence of decay (Melting Ice) and the surface roughness is less than 1.5 feet. It was noted: "The conditions on the Platte at the Hwy 77 Platte River Bridge are a cross between intact ice cover and breakup. About 30% of the channel is flowing water with little ice in it. The rest of the channel consists of intact ice on some of the sand bars and ice breaking up in other areas. The ice that is displaced appears to be approximately 3-4" thick. Record highs this week have obviously contributed to this partial "thaw". The storm system moving in this weekend will drop temperatures and give us the chance for a significant amount of snow."

PM-4 - Douglas County, at Highway 92

Latitude: 41:14:2 Longitude: 96:21:55 (February 3, 2012 @ 0900 CDT)

Temperature was 43 °F and the average wind speed was 9 mph (E). It was noted: "We have had very minor flooding at Two Rivers with small ice jams. The Platte has been rising and falling the past week and slightly effecting a few campsites along the river"

Confluence of the Platte and Elkhorn Rivers:

E-1 - Sarpy County the Confluence of the Platte and the Elkhorn Rivers

Latitude: 41:8:0 Longitude: 96:19:0 (February 2, 2012 @ 0755 CDT)

Temperature was 25 °F. It was estimated that it was twelve (12) feet less than bankfull at this location. The channel remains 100% open with 10% of the open channel surface occupied by moving ice (Frazil Slush). It was noted: The channel is wide open, some ice on the sand bars up and down the river.

Elkhorn River:

E-4 - Dodge County on the Elkhorn River at Highway 91

Latitude: 41:32:19 Longitude: 96:27:17 (February 1, 2012 @ 1030 CDT)

Temperature was 44 °F and the average wind speed was 5 mph (SW). The channel remains 70% open, it was noted: "Upstream of the bridge the river is nearly 100% open, downstream about half open half ice." Photographs were provided.

E-5 - Dodge County on the Elkhorn River at Highway 77

Latitude: 41:37:13 Longitude: 96:30:8 (February 1, 2012 @ 1100 CDT)

Temperature was 49 °F. The channel remains 60% open and it was noted: "Where the deeper channel exists it is all open water, shallower areas the ice remains intact."

PM-2 - Douglas County on the Elkhorn River at Highway 36

Latitude: 41:22:45 Longitude: 96:18:9 (February 2, 2012 @ 0900 CDT)

Temperature was 25°F. It was estimated that it was fifteen (15) feet less than bankfull at this location. The channel remains 100% open with 10% of the open channel surface occupied by moving ice (Frazil Pans).

PM-3 - Douglas and Saunders Counties, on the Elkhorn River at Highway 92

Latitude: 41:13:51 Longitude: 96:16:41 (February 2, 2012 @ 0940 CDT)

Temperature was 25 °F. It was estimated that it was ten (10) feet less than bankfull at this location. The channel remains 100% open with 10% of the open channel surface occupied by moving ice.

PM-5 - Douglas and Washington Counties, on the Elkhorn River at Highway 30 at Arlington

Latitude: 41:27:4 Longitude: 96:22:8 (February 1, 2012 @ 1000 CDT)

Temperature was 41 °F and the average wind speed was 5 mph (SW). Freeze up growth from the shore is one (1) foot, 80% of the channel remains open with 2% of the open channel surface occupied by moving ice. Photographs were provided.

PM-6 - Douglas County on the Elkhorn River at Highway 64

Latitude: 41:17:30 Longitude: 96:17:0 (February 2, 2012 @ 0845 CDT)

Temperature was 25 °F. It was estimated that it was twelve (12) feet less than bankfull at this location. The channel remains 100% open yet occupied 10% by moving ice (Frazil Pans).
