



109 SW 9th Street 2A
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1283

MINUTES OF THE STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

1. The State Conservation Commission (SCC) meeting was called to order by Rod Vorhees, Chairman and Area V Commissioner at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, May 14, 2013 at the Kansas Department of Agriculture, 109 SW 9th St., 4th Floor Conference Room, Topeka, Kansas.

2. **ATTENDANCE:**

Elected Commissioners:

Ted Nighswonger, Area I Commissioner
Andy Larson, Area II Commissioner
Brad Shogren, Area III Commissioner
John Wunder, Area IV Commissioner
Rod Vorhees, Area V Commissioner

Ex-Officio & Appointed Members:

Dan Meyerhoff, Acting State Conservationist, USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Dan Devlin, Director, Kansas Center for Agricultural Resources and the Environment (KCARE), K-State Research and Extension
Peter Tomlinson, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Extension Specialist for Environmental Quality Agronomy Department, Kansas State University

Division of Conservation, Kansas Department of Agriculture Staff:

Greg Foley, Executive Director
Scott Carlson, Mined Land Reclamation Program Manager
Don Jones, Water Quality Programs Manager
Dave Jones, Conservation District Program Coordinator
Donna Meader, Public Service Executive
Steve Frost, Water Conservation Programs Manager

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Guests:

Pat Lehman, Kansas Association of Conservation Districts

Herb Gravel, State Association of Kansas Watersheds

Lane Letourneau, Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources

3. ADDITIONS, AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

a. Additions:

- i. 8. f. State Aid to Conservation Districts.**

Motion by Ted Nighswonger to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Andy Larson. Motion carried.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Motion by John Wunder to approve the April 8, 2013 minutes as mailed. Seconded by Ted Nighswonger. Motion carried.

5. COMMENTS FROM GUESTS:

- a. Pat Lehman, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Conservation Districts (KACD). Provided a report on the State Fair Booth and 2013 KACD convention.**
- b. Herb Graves, Executive Director, State Association of Kansas Watersheds (SAKW) – reported on legislative changes that impact watershed districts.**
- c. Lane Letourneau, Environmental Scientist, Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA), Division of Water Resources (DWR) reported on Local Enhancement Management Areas (LEMA's), Multi-Year Flex Accounts (MYFA's), and other regulatory groundwater management tools. Handouts are included in minutes.**

6. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – Greg Foley.**
 - i. Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Facilities; see Attachment A.**
- b. National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) – Greg Foley.**
 - i. Farm Bill marks. Handout provided that details the beginning points and differences in the new farm bill; see Attachment B.**

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7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. Final Legislative report and FY 2014 budget – Greg Foley. Budget remains in limbo at this point. Both chambers are working to narrow the differences.
- b. Review Conservation Technician position accomplishments, review future workload areas, future oversight and training, etc. – Don Jones.
- c. Update on 2013 SCC/KACD Joint Annual meeting – Commissioners and Staff.
- d. Review final direction on KACD Convention SCC Luncheon – Greg Foley.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Overview of Water Management Tools – Lane Letourneau and Steve Frost.
 - i. Local Enhancement Management Area (LEMA); see Attachment C – Lane Letourneau.
 - ii. Multi-Year Flex Account (MYFA); see Attachment D – Lane Letourneau.
 - (a) Emergency Term Permits.
 - (b) 2-year drought term permits.
 - iii. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP); see Attachment E – Steve Frost.
 - iv. Water Rights Transition Assistance Program (WTAP); see Attachment F – Steve Frost.
- b. Water Resources Cost-Share Program (WRCSP) – Don Jones.
 - i. Review and take possible action on FY 2014 (WRCSP) county allocations; see Attachment G.

Motion by Ted Nighswonger to approve the FY 2014 WRCSP county allocations as presented in attached handout. Seconded by John Wunder. Motion carried.

- c. Non-Point Source Pollution Control Program (NPSPCP) – Don Jones.
 - i. Review and take possible action on FY 2014 (NPSPCP) county allocations; see Attachment H.

Motion by John Wunder to approve the FY 2014 NPSPCP allocations as presented in attached handout. Seconded by Brad Shogren. Motion carried.

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- d. Watershed Dam Construction Program (WDCP) – Hakim Saadi, by Greg Foley.
 - i. Review and take possible action on FY 2014 WDCP applications for new dam construction; see Attachment I.

Motion by Brad Shogren to approve the FY 2014 WDCP applications as presented in attached handout. Seconded by Andy Larson. Motion carried.

- e. Water Supply Restoration Program (WSRP) – Hakim Saadi, by Greg Foley.
 - i. Review and take possible action on FY 2014 WSRP contract amendment.

Motion by Brad Shogren to approve the FY 2014 WSRP contract amendment for Osage City Lake in the amount of \$287,060 or the proportionate reduction from the signed FY 2014 appropriations bill. Seconded by Ted Nighswonger. Motion carried.

- f. State Aid to Conservation Districts – Donna Meader.
 - i. Review and take possible action of FY 2014 State Aid to Conservation Districts; see Attachment J.

Motion by Brad Shogren to approve the FY 2014 State Aid to Conservation Districts in the amount of \$2,326,934 or the proportionate reduction from the signed FY 2014 appropriations bill. Seconded by Ted Nighswonger. Motion carried.

- g. Administration – Greg Foley.
 - i. Review and authorize Commissioner and Staff Travel – None.
- h. Kansas Water Quality Buffer Initiative and Buffer Coordinators – Steve Frost.
 - i. Review and take possible action on the Kansas Water Quality Buffer Initiative and contracts for Buffer Coordinators for FY 2014; see Attachment K.

Motion by John Wunder to discontinue Buffer Coordinator funding agreements for FY 2014. Seconded by Andy Larson. Motion carried.

9. REPORTS:

- a. Agency Reports:
 - i. NRCS – Dan Meyerhoff. Reported that Eric Banks is improving daily; see Attachment L.

Reminder: Today is the day for SPCC Facilities, Including Farms, to Create their Plans to Prevent Oil Spills

Today the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) notes that May 10, 2013 is the deadline for the agricultural community and other facilities to have an oil spill prevention plan, called an Oil Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan in place.

SPCC plans are designed to prevent oil spills into waters of the United States and adjoining shorelines that can threaten public health and damage water resources needed for successful farming operations. While the Congressional Continuing Resolution (CR) enacted on March 26, 2013, restricts EPA from enforcing SPCC requirements for the farm sector until September 2013, EPA is providing the agricultural community and other facilities with information and a checklist, below, to help navigate how to create an SPCC plan for oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response to prevent oil discharges to navigable waters and adjoining shorelines.

Who does this apply to?

Under SPCC, a farm is “a facility on a tract of land devoted to the production of crops or raising of animals, including fish, which produced and sold, or normally would have produced and sold, \$1,000 or more of agricultural products during a year.” SPCC applies to a farm which:

- Stores, transfers, uses, or consumes oil or oil products, such as diesel fuel, gasoline, lube oil, hydraulic oil, adjuvant oil, crop oil, vegetable oil, or animal fat; and
- Stores more than 1,320 US gallons in aboveground containers or more than 42,000 US gallons in completely buried containers; and
- Could reasonably be expected to discharge oil to waters of the US or adjoining shorelines, such as interstate waters, intrastate lakes, rivers, and streams.

If I meet this definition, what do I need to do?

If your farm meets the description above, and you have no above ground storage tanks that exceed 5,000 gallons, you can fill out an SPCC plan by downloading the SPCC plan template (see link below) and follow the instructions. By filling out this template, or preparing your own SPCC plan, most farms (around 95%) will be able to self-certify their SPCC plan, meaning no further action from EPA will be required. Using the checklist below to fill out the SPCC plan template, you will:

- Fill out a description of your facility.
- Sign the Self-Certification Declaration Form.
- Provide a complete list of all oil storage containers, including above ground containers and completely buried tanks, with capacity of 55 gallons or more, unless otherwise exempt from the rule.
- Provide information on inspections, testing, recordkeeping and personnel training for handling all above ground bulk storage containers.
- Show what security measures are implemented at your facility to prevent unauthorized access to oil handling, processing, and storage area.

- Give a description of the immediate actions to be taken by facility personnel in the event of a discharge to navigable waters or adjoining shorelines.
- Give a description of what information will be provided to the National Response Center immediately following identification of a discharge to navigable waters or adjoining shorelines.

It is important to complete a review and evaluation of an SPCC Plan at least once every five years. As a result of the review, amend your Plan within six months to include more effective prevention and control measures for the facility, if applicable.

Where can I find more information?

To download the SPCC plan template: <http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/docs/oil/spcc/tier1template.pdf>

In addition to detailed instructions in the Tier I Qualified Facility SPCC plan, EPA also provides examples of correct SPCC plans here: <http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/spcc/tier1temp.htm#ext1>

A Facility Owners/Operators Guide to Oil Pollution Prevention can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/osweroe1/docs/oil/spcc/spccbluebroch.pdf>.

A Fact Sheet, An Oil Spill, Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Program: Information for Farmers can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/osweroe1/docs/oil/spcc/spccfarms.pdf>.

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**Preliminary NASDA Analysis and Comparison of the
Senate and House Agriculture Committees' 2013 Farm Bill Marks**

NASDA Priority	Senate: Chairwoman Stabenow's Mark	House: Chairman Lucas's Mark
<p>Maintain a Robust and Flexible Specialty Crop Block Grant Program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as 2012 Senate-passed bill • Increases funding from \$55 million to \$70 million per year • Instead of basing the grant allocation formula solely on the value of specialty crop production in the state, the new formula would take into account the average of both the value of specialty crop production and the acres of specialty crops planted in a state. • Provides that a portion of the funding be used for multistate projects (\$1 million the first year, increasing a million per year to \$5 million) • Sets 8% cap for state administrative costs • <i>(See Section 10008)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to 2012 Committee-passed bill, but with higher funding levels • Increases funding to \$85 million over 5 years (\$72.5 mil. in first 4 years, \$85 mil. in final year) • Uses same grant allocation formula as Senate draft • Provides that a portion of the funding be used for multistate projects (\$1 million the first year, increasing a million per year to \$5 million) • Sets 8% cap for state administrative costs • <i>(See Section 10007)</i>
<p>Fully Fund & Enhance Coordination of Invasive Species Programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as 2012 Senate-passed bill • Consolidates the plant pest and disease management and disaster prevention program (Section 10201 of the 2008 Farm Bill) and the National Clean Plant Network (Section 10202 of the 2008 Farm Bill) by repealing Section 10202 and folding the National Clean Plant Network into the plant pest and disease management and disaster prevention program. • Increases the funding for the combined programs from \$50 million to \$60 million in fiscal years 2014 through 2017 and to \$65 million in 2018 and thereafter. • <i>(See Section 10007)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to 2012 Committee-passed bill, but with slightly different funding levels • Includes very similar consolidation language as Senate Mark • Increases the funding for the combined programs from \$50 million to \$62.5 million in fiscal years 2014 through 2017 and to \$75 million in FY 2018. • <i>Note: Includes a \$5 million authorization to carry out the National Clean Plant Network for FY2013</i> • <i>(See Section 10011)</i>

Invest in Locally-Driven, Flexible & Efficient Conservation Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRP: Acreage cap gradually reduced to 25 million acres • EQIP: Funded at \$1.5 billion for 2014, \$1.6 billion for 2015, and \$1.65 billion for each of 2016-2018. WHIP is folded into EQIP • CSP: Enrollment is targeted at 10.34 million acres per year • The new consolidated easement program, the Agriculture Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), is very similar to 2012 language • The new Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCP), which consolidates existing regional programs and establishes new locally-driven programs is also similar to 2012 language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRP: Acreage cap gradually reduced to 24 million acres • EQIP: Funded at \$1.75 billion per year (FY14-18). WHIP is folded into EQIP • CSP: Enrollment is capped at 8.695million acres per year • The new consolidated easement program, the Agriculture Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), is very similar to 2012 language • The new Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCP), which consolidates existing regional programs and establishes new locally-driven programs is also similar to 2012 language
Support the Market Access Program & Other Trade Development Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAP reauthorized at current levels (\$200 million/year) • FMD reauthorized at current levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAP reauthorized at current levels (\$200 million/year) • FMD reauthorized at current levels
Cooperative Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>(See SCBG and Invasives programs above)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>(See SCBG and Invasives programs above)</i>
Protect Investments in Critical Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Awaiting scoring details</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Awaiting scoring details</i>
Provide a Viable Safety-Net for Dairy Producers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language similar to last year • Includes Dairy Security Act 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language similar to last year • Includes Dairy Security Act

Other Notable Details

Budget/Spending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cuts spending by \$23 billion over 10 years • SNAP spending reduced by approximately \$4 billion • Conservation spending reduced by \$5 billion • Commodity program spending reduced approximately \$16 billion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cuts spending by \$39.7 billion over 10 years • SNAP spending reduced by \$20.5 billion • Conservation spending reduced by \$6 billion • Commodity program spending reduced approximately \$13 billion
Other Policy Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Livestock Forage Program (LFP), Emergency Assistance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Livestock Forage Program (LFP), Emergency Assistance for

	<p>for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-raised Fish (ELAP), and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP) are authorized.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes a new target price program, Adverse Market Payments (AMP), which establishes target prices for all commodities (and sets them at 2008 Farm Bill levels – with the exception of higher prices for rice and peanuts) • Conservation compliance requirements included • No egg standards language 	<p>Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-raised Fish (ELAP), and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP) are authorized.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation compliance requirements not included • No King Amendment (expected to be offered during markup) • Includes legislative fix for the NPDES permitting issue for pesticide applications (HR 872 from last Congress) • Places limits on revisions to or cancelations of Pesticide Registrations because of Biological Opinions issued under ESA
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Sheridan-Thomas County Local Enhanced Management Area

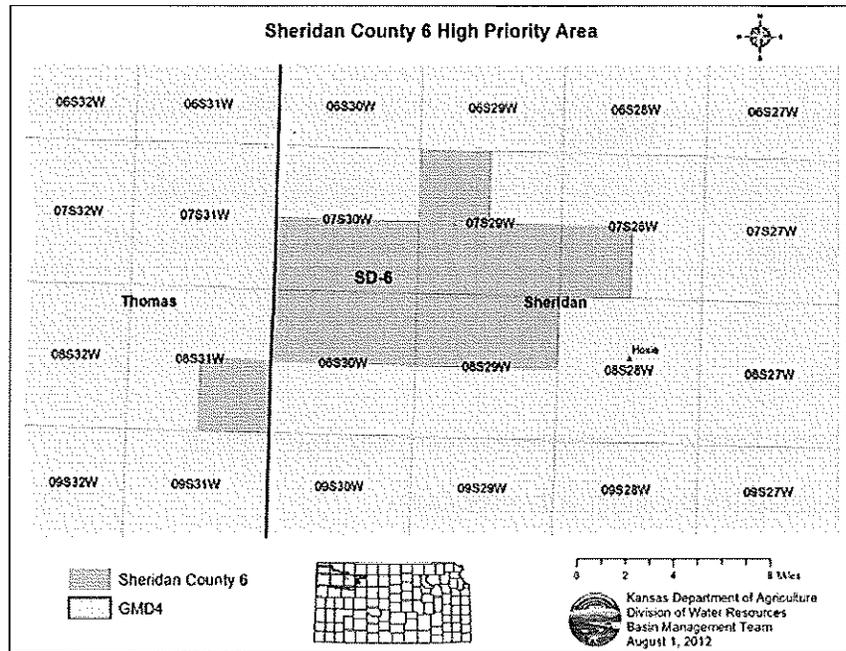
(Sheridan 6 LEMA)

News:

- On Wednesday, April 17, 2013, the chief engineer issued his Order of Designation setting forth the complete terms for the Sheridan 6 LEMA.

Initiated:

- July 12, 2012 Approved by Board of Directors, Northwest Kansas GMD No. 4
- July 16, 2012 Sheridan 6 LEMA Proposal transmitted to DWR. The proposal includes legal descriptions of sections to be included in the LEMA, sets a goal for limiting water use, and specifies proposed management actions to achieve the goal. See link in Documents section below.



Reasons for recommendation:

- To reduce groundwater decline rates and extend the life of the aquifer
- Rate of withdrawal of groundwater in that area appears to exceed the recharge rate

Public Hearings:

- The initial public hearing for the Sheridan 6 LEMA was held on **Thursday, September 13, 2012**, at 10:30 a.m. at the Sheridan County Courthouse, which is located at 925 9th Street, Hoxie, Kansas 67740. See notice and the hearing officer order in Documents section below.
- In the October 4, 2012 order on behalf of the chief engineer, the hearing officer found that the record of evidence submitted for the September 13 initial public hearing warrants continuing the process towards establishing the Sheridan 6 LEMA.
- The second of the two public hearings required to establish a LEMA was held on November 28, 2012 at 10:30 at the Sheridan County Courthouse in Hoxie. It considered whether GMD #4's recommended corrective control provisions for the proposed Sheridan 6 LEMA should be adopted.
- In his December 31, 2012 Order of Decision, the chief engineer accepted the enhanced management plan for the Sheridan 6 LEMA.

Documents:

Description	Document File	File Size	Document Date	Provided by

Initial Proposal	LEMA.SD6.InitProposal.20120615.pdf	740 KB	3/1/2012	GMD4 Board of Directors
Chief Engineer finds plan acceptable for consideration	LEMA.SD6.CE.acceptForConsideration.20120803.pdf	350 KB	8/3/2012	DWR
Notice of initial hearing	LEMA.SD6.NoticeInitHearing.pdf	310 KB	8/3/2012	DWR
Order from initial hearing	SD6.Initial.Order.pdf	830 KB	10/4/2012	DWR
Notice of second hearing	LEMA.SD6.second.public.hearing.notice	1 MB	10/10/2012	DWR
Hearing Management Order No. 1	Hearing Order1- Designation of SD 6 LEMA 12 WATER 8366.pdf	2 MB	11/19/2012	DWR
Order of Decision	LEMA.SD6.OrderOfDecision.20121231.pdf	766 KB	12/31/2012	DWR
Order of Designation	LEMA.SD6.OrderOfDesignation.20130417.pdf	798 KB	4/17/2013	DWR

Links:

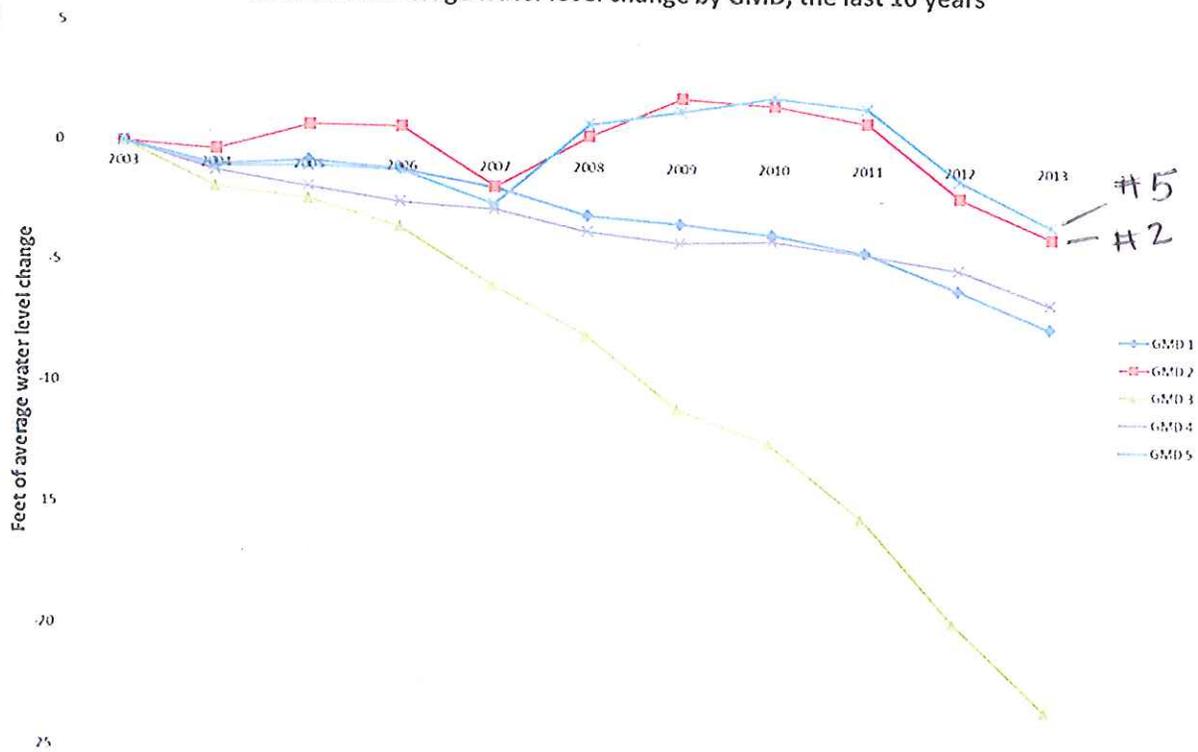
[Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 4](#)

[GMD4 Sheridan 6 High Priority Area Page](#)

[Senate Bill 310 of 2012, authorizing the LEMA process](#)

Contact us

Accumulated average water level change by GMD, the last 10 years



Multi-Year Flex Accounts

The Program

The 2012 Legislature modified the state's Multi-Year Flex Account (MYFA) program as part of a series of changes to Kansas water law to conserve the state's water supply and extend the life of the Ogallala Aquifer. Senate Bill 272 lifted some restrictions from the previous Flex Account law and added greater flexibility to manage water use.

A MYFA allows water right holders to obtain a term permit that replaces their water right for 5 years. This term permit allows the water right holder to exceed their annual authorized quantity but restricts the total amount that can be pumped over the 5-year period.

The program is voluntary and does not permanently change the water right. At the end of the 5-year period, if the water right is not enrolled in a new MYFA, the original water right conditions are restored.

MYFA Allocations - the total water use authorized by the MYFA will generally be the larger of:

- 5 times the average use of the water right from 2000-2009, or
- 5 times the county's net irrigation requirement for corn times the acres irrigated times 110%

Application Deadline

Applications for MYFAs must be received by the chief engineer on or before October 1 of the first year of the MYFA term for which the application is being made, except as noted below. These deadlines are set in statute and cannot be waived. Additionally, separate applications must be received for each point of diversion authorized by the water right before the deadline.

Application Forms

The new Multi-Year Flex Account application form and additional information is available on the Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Water Resources web site, at its field offices and at the offices of the state's five Groundwater Management Districts. Assistance with completing the application will also be available at each of these locations.

Multi-Year Flex Accounts

The MYFA program, as revised by the 2012 Kansas Legislature, allows water right holders to obtain a five-year term permit that temporarily replaces their existing water right. This term permit allows the water right holder to exceed their annual authorized quantity in any year but restricts total pumping over the five-year period.

MYFA quantities - generally, the total amount of the 5-year flex account will be the larger of:

- 5 times the average use of the water right from 2000-2009, or
- 5 times the county's net irrigation requirement for corn times the acres irrigated times 110%

How do I apply for the new multi-year flex account program?

Forms are available online. Water right holders can contact their local KDA/DWR field office or Groundwater Management District office.

How does the MYFA program work?

This program is voluntary and does not change the underlying base water right. It suspends the base water right and provides authorization of 5 times the right's annual average use or a net irrigation requirement calculation. The MYFA allows total flexibility on how the right is exercised with no annual limit on quantity. It has a 5-year quantity limit. At the end of the 5-year period, if not extended by a new MYFA application, the operation of the water right returns back to the original water right conditions.

What is the deadline to apply for a MYFA?

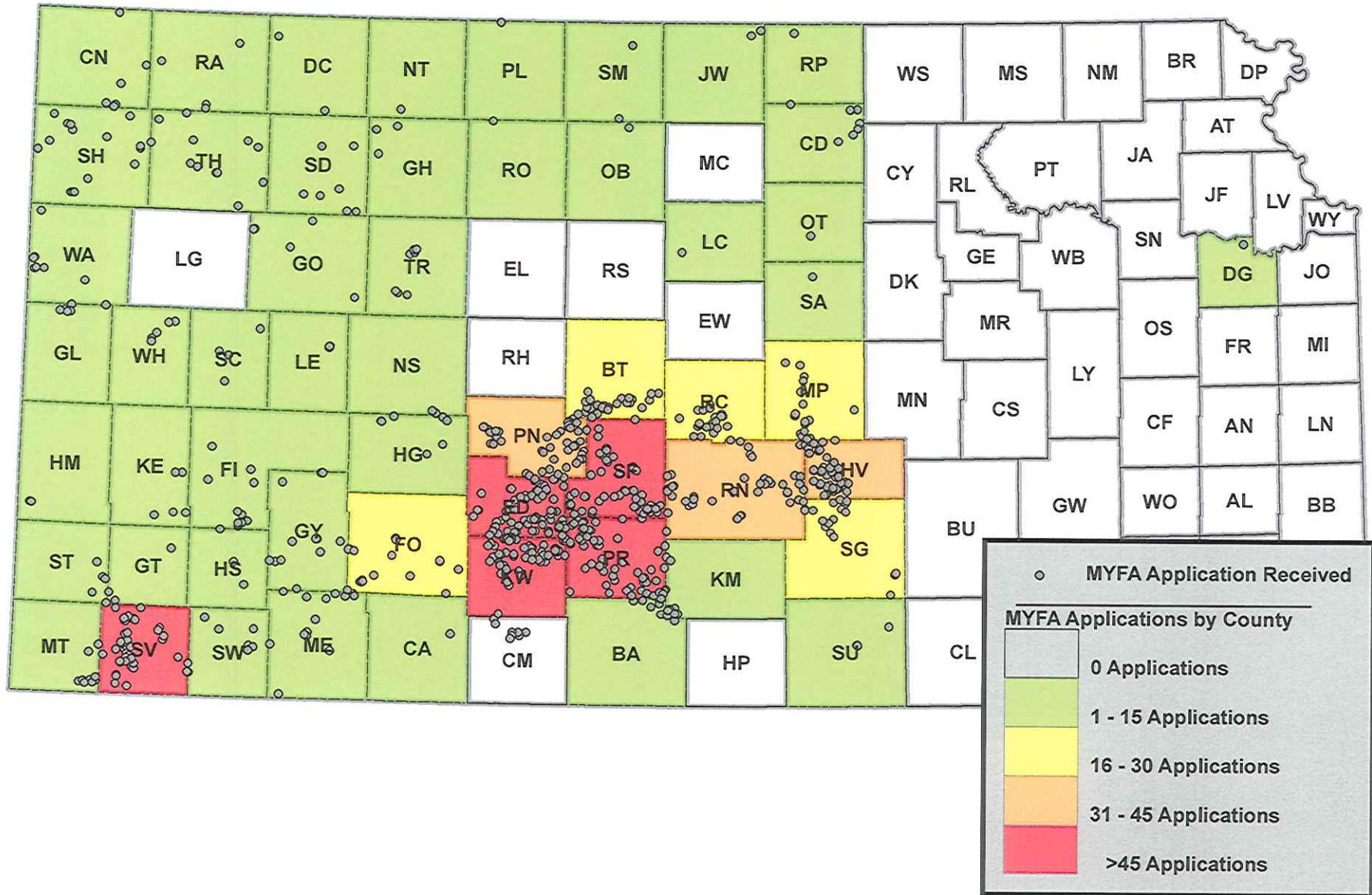
An application for a multi-year flex account shall be filed on or before October 1 of the first year of the multi-year flex account term for which the application is being made.

Other key points:

- Only vested and certified groundwater rights in good standing are eligible for MYFAs.
- A separate MYFA application is required for each point of diversion authorized by the base water right.
- The applicant is required to install and maintain an acceptable water flowmeter that meets all current specifications, to allow the meter to be sealed, to install anti-reverse components directed by DWR, and to maintain monthly records of water used.
- MYFAs are available statewide for uses other than irrigation.
- The entire water right must be placed in the MYFA program. If you wish to include only a portion of the water right, you must file a separate application to divide the water right.
- MYFAs are available in all Intensive Groundwater Use Control Areas (IGUCAs), except the Walnut Creek IGUCA, the Lower Smoky Hill River IGUCA and Arkansas River IGUCA above Garden City.

Multi-Year Flex Accounts - 2012

Multi-Year Flex Account Applications (MYFA) received
between 1/1/2012 & 12/31/2012. 748 Applications



**UPPER ARKANSAS RIVER
CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM
PERFORMANCE REPORT
BY THE
STATE OF KANSAS
October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012**



Landowner Tom White visits with KDA's Gene McFall about drought impacts on his CREP grass stands while Rick Rogers from NRCS and Mark Goudy from FSA share insights regarding strategies for meeting the challenging conditions in SW Kansas.



Executive Summary

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) in Kansas is a federal – state partnership created for enhancing water conservation efforts along the Upper Arkansas River corridor from Hamilton County to Rice County. The Upper Arkansas River (UAR) CREP has been officially approved and operating for five years; this annual report provides a synopsis of the implementation activities and progress to date.

CREP is a specialized version of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) in which the Farm Service Agency (FSA) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the state of Kansas have mutually agreed to address specialized natural resource concerns. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is USDA's provider of technical services to producers who are implementing FSA's CREP contracts in the field. The Kansas Department of Agriculture - Division of Conservation (DOC) is the primary coordinator acting to administer the program in concert with numerous other state, local, and private partners including the Kansas Water Office, Kansas Department of Agriculture - Division of Water Resources, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Geological Survey, Kansas State University, Groundwater Management Districts #3 and #5, and Pheasants Forever.

The Upper Arkansas River CREP is a voluntary, incentive based program allowing producers to enroll irrigated acres in targeted, eligible areas for 14-15 year contracts with FSA, permanently retire the associated state water rights on the enrolled acres, and establish an approved land cover (typically a native grass) on the same acreage. The producer receives an upfront, incentive payment from the DOC and an annual rental payment, plus additional cost share opportunities for specific conservation practices from FSA.

Groundwater is the dominant source of water for all uses in the basin, and aquifer declines are a serious concern. Therefore, water conservation is the main management objective in the Upper Arkansas CREP, but the program also provides other resource benefits including soil conservation, water quality protection, wildlife habitat enhancement, and energy savings. The majority of irrigated acres being enrolled have been on highly erodible, sandhills soils that are unsuitable for dryland farming.

One of the most significant merits of the program to date has been establishing cover on these highly erodible lands. The extremely sandy and fragile, windblown soils of the sandhills will be very difficult to re-vegetate when irrigation is no longer possible after crop production runs out due to groundwater declines. The CREP program has given these area producers a viable option, incentive and financial opportunity for starting native grass stands and other conservation covers while limited irrigation water is still available.

As of September 30, 2012, a total of 91 state CREP contracts on 15,092 acres have been approved by the state of Kansas. These contracts have resulted in the permanent retirement of 30,734 acre-feet of annual water appropriation on 106 water rights from 138 wells. The contracts represent a total of \$910,272 in state sign-up payments to producers over the past four years. These payments are matched by total annual producer payments from FSA totaling about \$1,607,000 per year over the 14 – 15 year life of the CREP contracts. Since December 6, 2007, a total of \$6,773,131 from state, local and private expenditures has been made in support of the CREP project. The state of Kansas has again met its financial commitment to provide at least 20 percent of the total federal costs of the program through a combination of direct payments, technical assistance and in-kind contributions with at least 10 percent coming from direct match.

Especially during 2011 and 2012, a severe and prolonged drought took a serious toll on the ability of participating landowners to both establish new stands of grass, as well as to maintain existing stands of well established grass. DOC, FSA, NRCS and the other CREP partners have been very active this year assisting enrollees with compliance related issues and identifying alternative vegetative and cultural practices which can keep the objectives of the program in a mode of successful transition and completion. After September 30, 2012, all CREP enrollment is suspended until CRP programs are re-authorized by Congress under a new Farm Bill.

Soil Erosion Effects in Southwest Kansas



“Tier 1 Unsuitable for Dryland Farming”

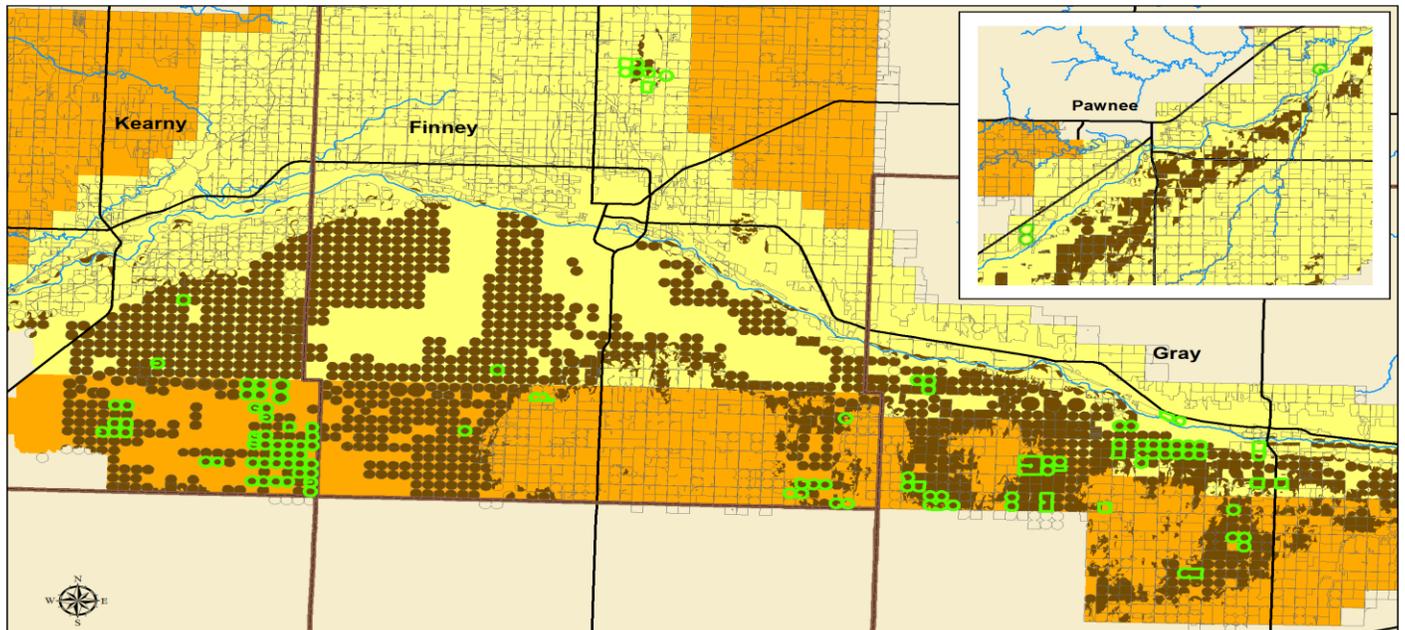
The USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service classifies “Tier 1 Unsuitable” soils as being highly erodible and essentially non-farmable without supplemental irrigation. When the Ogallala Aquifer depletes to the level of no longer being able to sustain high volume irrigation, these sandhills and similar areas along the Arkansas River corridor will no longer be farmable, and ranching is one of the few primary agricultural activities which will be suited to this region.

One outstanding merit of the CREP program to date has been establishing cover on highly erodible lands in the project area. The extremely sandy and fragile, windblown soils of the sandhills will be very difficult to re-vegetate when irrigation is no longer possible due to groundwater declines and crop production runs out. The CREP program has given producers a viable option for starting grass stands while limited irrigation water is still available and provided a financial opportunity and incentive to do so. CREP also provides a 15 year economic cushion to the neighboring retailers and communities. There have been some real success stories on providing CRP covers.

Established CREP Conservation Covers in Southwest Kansas



Upper Arkansas River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Acres Enrolled in CREP Program as of September 30, 2012



CREP Project Areas	CREP Enrollment 2012
Tier 1	County
Tier 1 Soils Unsuitable for Dryland Agriculture	
Tier 2	

2012

Kansas Department of Agriculture

State of Kansas



Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Conservation

Water Right Transition Assistance Pilot Project Program



NRCS Photo

FY 2011 Legislative Report

Executive Summary

January 10, 2012

Executive Summary

The Water Right Transition Assistance Pilot Project Program (WTAP) is nearing the end of its five year “pilot” phase status which expires on June 30, 2012. The results of the program to date have demonstrated that landowners can be reasonably incentivized to voluntarily dismiss water rights in critical areas which are in need of water conservation and water use reductions.

WTAP was authorized by the Kansas Legislature in 2006 as a five year pilot project. The purposes of this unique, innovative program are to 1) reduce the HCWU in targeted, high priority areas of Kansas by issuing financial grants for the voluntary, permanent dismissal of privately held water rights; and 2) evaluate the results of the pilot project and to develop a viable model for the beneficial implementation of a long term water right retirement program which seeks to leverage state dollars with matching funds from other private and public sources.

The project currently has three critical hydrologic targets which have been designated by the Chief Engineer to be in need of stream recovery and / or aquifer restoration – Prairie Dog Creek, Rattlesnake Creek, and six High Priority areas in the Upper Republican Basin. Enrollment sign-ups have been held in the fall seasons of 2007, 2008, 2010 and 2011. It was not possible to conduct an enrollment in 2009 due to budget limitations. The maximum bid price for Historic Consumptive Water Use (HCWU) retirement is currently \$2,000 per acre-foot, an amount which was approved by the WTAP Steering Committee in 2008.

The program experienced a very light sign-up in the first year (2007) - only one application was approved - and the program rules were immediately changed to effectuate a simpler, more streamlined process. In the second year (2008), the program experienced a robust enrollment with 41 applications being submitted. Available funds allowed only 14 of those to be approved for a total cost of \$2,075,172 at an average bid price of \$1,301 per acre-foot of HCWU retired.

In the third enrollment period (2010), four applications representing 348 acre-feet of HCWU were approved for a total cost of \$270,629 on bid rates averaging \$1,200 per acre-foot (due to the mutual utility of compatible federal, state, and local programs). In the fourth and last enrollment period (2011), three applications representing 296 acre-feet of HCWU were approved for a total cost of \$517,253 on bid rates averaging \$1,730 per acre-foot.

Limited WTAP funds are being highly leveraged with other federal and local dollars to provide high quality retirements in critical areas at the lowest possible prices to the State. These cooperative activities enhanced the program’s efficiencies by minimizing costs and extending State investments to more potential applicants.

\$840,986 of federal (\$653,479) and local (\$187,507) dollars have been matched to WTAP applications in the Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 4, and \$28,513 of local dollars have been matched to WTAP applications in the Big Bend Groundwater Management District No. 5 – a total match of \$869,500.

As a result of the 22 enrollments to date, a total of \$2,946,082 of State money has been expended to effectuate the permanent retirement of 6,169 acre-feet of annual water appropriation rights and 2,220 acre-feet of HCWU in these regions at an average cost of \$1753 per acre-foot.



KSU Photo

Program Strategy: The goal of WTAP is to strategically reduce the demand on distressed aquifers and streams, and assist in returning the overall level of water appropriation (demand) back into conformity with water resources (supply). The retirement of some water rights in overdeveloped hydrologic systems, and thereby the cessation of some water diversions, will ultimately provide a measure of recovery to regional water resources and help to re-establish the long-term stabilization of water budgets.

The state's priority for the contractual dismissal of water rights is given to the most senior rights which provide the greatest consumptive use reductions and the greatest direct hydrologic impacts at the lowest reasonable, affordable price via a competitive bid process. The main objective of each contracted water right retirement is to decrease the "historic consumptive water use" which requires a very prescribed analysis of the most recent six years of use.

WTAP targets the retirement of agricultural irrigation water rights because they typically authorize the greatest appropriated quantities and because they are usually the most available (liquid) in the marketplace. Lands to which the dismissed water rights were appurtenant can be used for other purposes, but they can also continue to be dryland farmed or can be re-authorized for irrigation from another water right (subject to additional consumptive use analysis and approval by DWR). Landowners may also propose the dismissal of just partial water rights. These provisions help landowners retain viable options for future financial alternatives and economic decision-making.

WTAP Enrollment Summary: FY2008 – FY2012

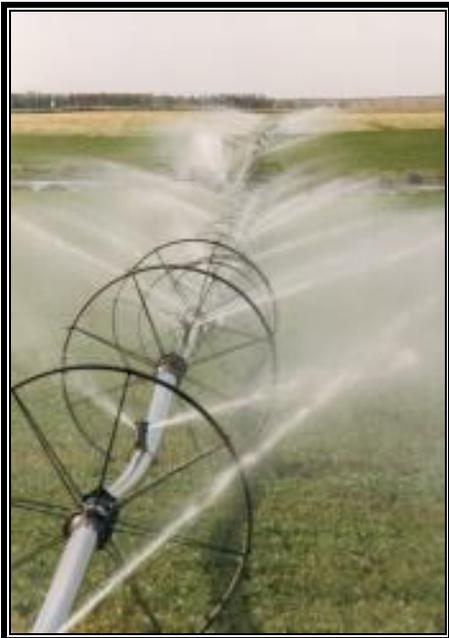
Enrollment Period	WRFNs Dismissed	Authorized AF Retired	HCWU - AF	Target Area	Bid Rate / AF HCWU	Total Cost of Retirement
FY2012	20831	319	93.3000	TH-5	\$1,190.71	\$111,093.24
FY2012	22017, 30528	263	81.8100	SD-6	\$2,000.00	\$163,620.00
FY2012	31673	320	121.2700	CN-3	\$2,000.00	\$242,540.00
Sub-Total		902	296.3800		(\$1730 avg)	\$517,253.24
FY2011	9133	305	124.2700	SH-1	\$515.15	\$64,017.69
FY2011	16630	305	90.3125	SD-6	\$758.67	\$68,517.38
FY2011	11776	293	78.7560	TH-5	\$890.83	\$70,158.20
FY2011	22361	239	55.3560	SH-1	\$1,227.25	\$67,936.09
Sub-Total		1,142	348.6945		(\$847 avg)	\$270,629.36
FY2009	20428	237	64.5600	TH-5	\$792.00	\$51,131.52
FY2009	17173	279	107.7000	SH-2	\$825.00	\$88,852.50
FY2009	20430	260	87.6000	TH-5	\$831.00	\$72,795.60
FY2009	21601	381	194.8000	TH-5	\$925.00	\$180,190.00
FY2009	20429	297	113.4000	TH-5	\$1,072.00	\$121,564.80
FY2009	30423	219	118.6600	TH-5	\$1,114.00	\$132,187.24
FY2009	24733	260	69.9600	TH-5	\$1,200.00	\$83,952.00
FY2009	20218	259	81.6400	TH-5	\$1,200.00	\$97,968.00
FY2009	22814	157	105.6100	TH-5	\$1,200.00	\$126,732.00
FY2009	16739	386	120.0600	SH-1	\$1,420.00	\$170,485.20
FY2009	33817	363	141.2000	SH-1	\$1,750.00	\$247,100.00
FY2009	22938	420	235.7000	Rattlesnake	\$1,895.00	\$446,652.50
FY2009	22007 (partial)	98	35.8600	Rattlesnake	\$1,995.00	\$71,540.70
FY2009	26875	284	92.0100	Rattlesnake	\$2,000.00	\$184,020.00
Sub-Total		3,900	1568.7600		(\$1,301 avg)	\$2,075,172.06
FY2008	22934	225	6.4000	Rattlesnake	*	\$83,028.00
Sub-Total		225	6.4000		*	\$83,028.00
TOTAL		6,169	2,220.2345		(\$1,276 avg)	\$2,946,082.66

*the bidding criteria for the initial WTAP enrollment period was not based on a fixed rate of \$ / AF HCWU



Enrollment Conditions: Not more than 10% of a county's irrigated acres can be eligible for retirement under WTAP. Approval of partial water right retirements is allowed. The approval of "partial" water right retirements also requires additional consumptive use analysis and approval by the Kansas Division of Water Resources. Dryland farming is allowed after the water right is retired, and limited, temporary watering of up to three years is allowed to establish a permanent cover on the land being transitioned from irrigation, if necessary. All wells being retired must be properly capped, plugged, or reconditioned in accordance with KDHE.

Application Evaluation: Each WTAP application is analyzed for its conformity to the statutory and regulatory requirements of the program. The supporting information supplied with each application regarding water use information, cropping history, and owner fiduciary relationships are also analyzed for accuracy and compliance. Several other relevant hydrologic factors are also reviewed to make an overall comparison of an application's suitability and preference for approval and grant funding to protect the state's investment. After initial review by the Division of Conservation, the application is referred to the Chief Engineer for an analysis of the water right eligibility, a determination of the historic consumptive water use available for retirement under the proposed water right, and for a recommendation of the suitability of retiring the water right regarding the hydrologic impacts of its retirement. If the application is located within a groundwater management district, the application is forwarded to that appropriate office for their opportunity to review the application and to provide a recommendation regarding its ranking or favorability for approval.



KGS Photo

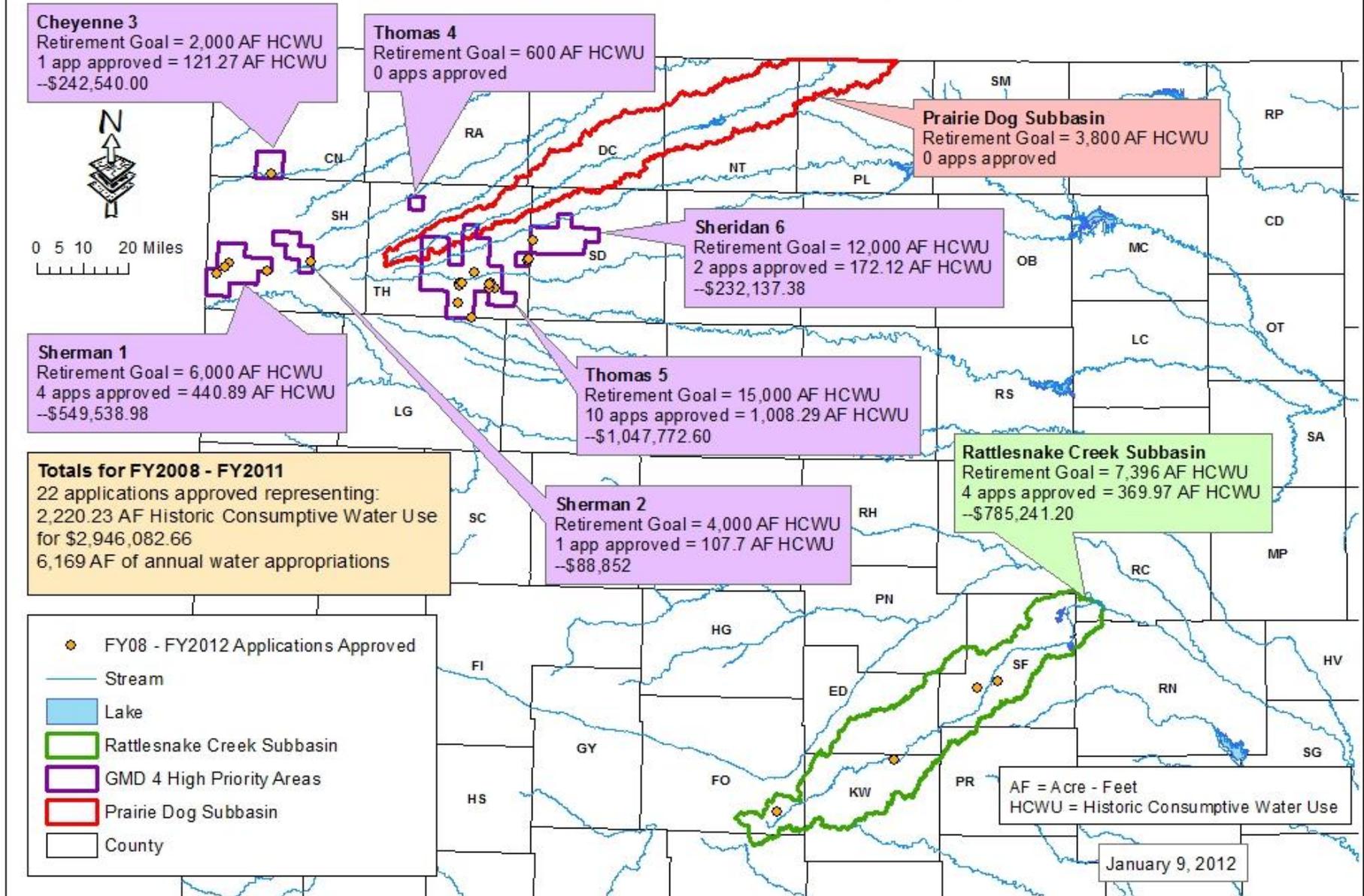
Potential Economic / Resource Impacts: The WTAP program is intended to produce a greater long-term stability to water resources which are currently supporting local economies based on over-allocated, over-developed, and distressed water resources – or which have some other compelling issue which is in the State's overriding interest to address. Local citizens will benefit from the stabilization of these water resources which contribute to community sustainability and the quality of life. These water resources and all water rights associated with them, including public water supplies, industries, municipalities, recreation and other valuable economic uses, will eventually require administration and curtailment of water rights in periods of shortages. The expense of significant regulatory activities can be avoided through continued implementation and refinement of the program. The WTAP program is developed on the absolute assumption that grant recipients are impacted positively if receiving financial assistance for the transition of irrigated crop land to dry crop land or grass land, and therefore, neighboring communities are also effected positively in the long run.

Target Area Summary

Target Area	Target HCWU Reduction (AF)	# Apps Approved	Appropriation Reduced (AF)	HCWU Reduced (AF)	Total Cost
Rattlesnake	7,396	4	1,027	369.9700	\$785,241.20
Prairie Dog	3,800	0	-	-	-
SH-1	6,000	4	1,293	440.8860	\$549,538.98
SH-2	4,000	1	279	107.7000	\$88,852.50
CN-3	2,000	1	320	121.2700	\$242,540.00
TH-4	600	0	-	-	-
TH-5	15,000	10	2,682	1008.2860	\$1,047,772.60
SD-6	12,000	2	568	172.1225	\$232,137.38
Total	50,796	22	6,169	2,220.2345	\$2,946,082.66

Water Transition Assistance Program

FY2008 - FY2012 Applications Approved by Target Area



WRCSP FY 2014 Allocations May 14, 2013 \$2,020,075 - Total Available for Allocation								
FY 2013 Allocations			FY 2014 Allocations					
COUNTY	DNA	TMDL	FY 2013	DNA	TMDL	FY 2014	Inc/Dec	DNA
			Total			Total		INC/DEC
ALLEN	\$12,685	\$500	\$13,185	14,498	\$0	\$14,498	\$1,313	1,813
ANDERSON	\$12,685	\$6,104	\$18,789	14,498	\$0	\$14,498	\$4,291	\$1,813
ATCHISON	\$13,879	\$2,119	\$15,998	15,864	\$0	\$15,864	\$134	\$1,985
BARBER	\$17,461	\$0	\$17,461	19,962	\$0	\$19,962	\$2,501	\$2,501
BARTON	\$15,670	\$7,703	\$23,373	17,913	\$0	\$17,913	\$5,460	\$2,243
BOURBON	\$12,685	\$7,950	\$20,635	14,498	\$0	\$14,498	\$6,137	\$1,813
BROWN	\$14,476	\$4,159	\$18,635	16,547	\$0	\$16,547	\$2,088	\$2,071
BUTLER	\$15,670	\$5,676	\$21,346	17,913	\$0	\$17,913	\$3,433	\$2,243
CHASE	\$13,879	\$0	\$13,879	15,864	\$0	\$15,864	\$1,985	\$1,985
CHAUTAUQUA	\$13,282	\$0	\$13,282	15,181	\$0	\$15,181	\$1,899	\$1,899
CHEROKEE	\$12,088	\$5,854	\$17,942	13,815	\$0	\$13,815	\$4,127	\$1,727
CHEYENNE	\$16,864	\$0	\$16,864	19,279	\$0	\$19,279	\$2,415	\$2,415
CLARK	\$17,461	\$0	\$17,461	19,962	\$0	\$19,962	\$2,501	\$2,501
CLAY	\$15,670	\$1,661	\$17,331	17,913	\$0	\$17,913	\$582	\$2,243
CLOUD	\$15,073	\$0	\$15,073	17,230	\$0	\$17,230	\$2,157	\$2,157
COFFEY	\$13,879	\$500	\$14,379	15,864	\$0	\$15,864	\$1,485	\$1,985
COMANCHE	\$16,864	\$0	\$16,864	19,279	\$0	\$19,279	\$2,415	\$2,415
COWLEY	\$15,670	\$0	\$15,670	17,913	\$0	\$17,913	\$2,243	\$2,243
CRAWFORD	\$12,685	\$0	\$12,685	14,498	\$0	\$14,498	\$1,813	\$1,813
DECATUR	\$16,267	\$0	\$16,267	18,596	\$0	\$18,596	\$2,329	\$2,329
DICKINSON	\$15,670	\$1,328	\$16,998	17,913	\$0	\$17,913	\$915	\$2,243
DONIPHAN	\$14,476	\$0	\$14,476	16,547	\$0	\$16,547	\$2,071	\$2,071
DOUGLAS	\$13,879	\$8,964	\$22,843	15,864	\$0	\$15,864	\$6,979	\$1,985
EDWARDS	\$14,476	\$861	\$15,337	16,547	\$0	\$16,547	\$1,210	\$2,071
ELK	\$13,282	\$0	\$13,282	15,181	\$0	\$15,181	\$1,899	\$1,899
ELLIS	\$16,864	\$0	\$16,864	19,279	\$0	\$19,279	\$2,415	\$2,415
ELLSWORTH	\$15,670	\$7,750	\$23,420	17,913	\$0	\$17,913	\$5,507	\$2,243
FINNEY	\$18,058	\$1,393	\$19,451	20,645	\$0	\$20,645	\$1,194	\$2,587
FORD	\$16,864	\$1,377	\$18,241	19,279	\$0	\$19,279	\$1,038	\$2,415
FRANKLIN	\$13,879	\$2,751	\$16,630	15,864	\$0	\$15,864	\$766	\$1,985
GEARY	\$13,282	\$1,375	\$14,657	15,181	\$0	\$15,181	\$524	\$1,899
GOVE	\$16,864	\$0	\$16,864	19,279	\$0	\$19,279	\$2,415	\$2,415
GRAHAM	\$16,267	\$0	\$16,267	18,596	\$0	\$18,596	\$2,329	\$2,329
GRANT	\$15,073	\$0	\$15,073	17,230	\$0	\$17,230	\$2,157	\$2,157
GRAY	\$15,670	\$1,142	\$16,812	17,913	\$0	\$17,913	\$1,101	\$2,243
GREELEY	\$15,670	\$0	\$15,670	17,913	\$0	\$17,913	\$2,243	\$2,243
GREENWOOD	\$14,476	\$4,672	\$19,148	16,547	\$0	\$16,547	\$2,601	\$2,071
HAMILTON	\$16,267	\$0	\$16,267	18,596	\$0	\$18,596	\$2,329	\$2,329
HARPER	\$16,267	\$6,019	\$22,286	18,596	\$0	\$18,596	\$3,690	\$2,329
HARVEY	\$13,282	\$5,808	\$19,090	15,181	\$0	\$15,181	\$3,909	\$1,899
HASKELL	\$16,267	\$0	\$16,267	18,596	\$0	\$18,596	\$2,329	\$2,329
HODGEMAN	\$15,670	\$4,241	\$19,911	17,913	\$0	\$17,913	\$1,998	\$2,243
JACKSON	\$14,476	\$6,356	\$20,832	16,547	\$0	\$16,547	\$4,285	\$2,071
JEFFERSON	\$13,879	\$0	\$13,879	15,864	\$0	\$15,864	\$1,985	\$1,985
JEWELL	\$16,267	\$1,938	\$18,205	18,596	\$0	\$18,596	\$391	\$2,329
JOHNSON	\$13,282	\$2,146	\$15,428	15,181	\$0	\$15,181	\$247	\$1,899
KEARNY	\$15,670	\$0	\$15,670	17,913	\$0	\$17,913	\$2,243	\$2,243
KINGMAN	\$16,267	\$0	\$16,267	18,596	\$0	\$18,596	\$2,329	\$2,329
KIOWA	\$15,073	\$3,273	\$18,346	17,230	\$0	\$17,230	\$1,116	\$2,157
LABETTE	\$12,685	\$2,717	\$15,402	14,498	\$0	\$14,498	\$904	\$1,813
LANE	\$15,670	\$2,113	\$17,783	17,913	\$0	\$17,913	\$130	\$2,243
LEAVENWORTH	\$13,879	\$916	\$14,795	15,864	\$0	\$15,864	\$1,069	\$1,985
LINCOLN	\$15,670	\$2,776	\$18,446	17,913	\$0	\$17,913	\$533	\$2,243
LINN	\$12,685	\$500	\$13,185	14,498	\$0	\$14,498	\$1,313	\$1,813
LOGAN	\$16,267	\$0	\$16,267	18,596	\$0	\$18,596	\$2,329	\$2,329
LYON	\$14,476	\$4,773	\$19,249	16,547	\$0	\$16,547	\$2,702	\$2,071
MARION	\$15,073	\$7,348	\$22,421	17,230	\$0	\$17,230	\$5,191	\$2,157

FY 2014 NonPoint Source Pollution Control Program Allocations:

May 14, 2013 SCC Meeting

\$1,656,031- Total Available for Allocation

FY 2013 Allocations			FY 2014 Allocations					
County	Base Cost-Share	Total TMDL	FY2013 Total Cost-Share	Base Cost-Share	Total TMDL	FY2014 Total Cost-Share	Inc/Dec	Base Inc/Dec
Allen	\$11,364	\$0	\$11,364	\$14,442	\$0	\$14,442	\$3,078	\$3,078
Anderson	\$11,364	\$3,879	\$15,243	\$14,442	\$0	\$14,442	\$801	\$3,078
Atchison	\$13,984	\$1,535	\$15,519	\$17,772	\$0	\$17,772	\$2,253	\$3,788
Barber	\$11,655	\$500	\$12,155	\$14,812	\$0	\$14,812	\$2,657	\$3,157
Barton	\$11,655	\$7,770	\$19,425	\$14,812	\$0	\$14,812	\$4,613	\$3,157
Bourbon	\$11,364	\$3,743	\$15,107	\$14,442	\$0	\$14,442	\$665	\$3,078
Brown	\$13,111	\$3,963	\$17,074	\$16,662	\$0	\$16,662	\$412	\$3,551
Butler	\$13,984	\$5,238	\$19,222	\$17,772	\$0	\$17,772	\$1,450	\$3,788
Chase	\$15,730	\$500	\$16,230	\$19,992	\$0	\$19,992	\$3,762	\$4,262
Chautauqua	\$12,237	\$0	\$12,237	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$3,315	\$3,315
Cherokee	\$13,984	\$1,687	\$15,671	\$17,772	\$0	\$17,772	\$2,101	\$3,788
Cheyenne	\$7,871	\$0	\$7,871	\$10,002	\$0	\$10,002	\$2,131	\$2,131
Clark	\$11,073	\$0	\$11,073	\$14,072	\$0	\$14,072	\$2,999	\$2,999
Clay	\$12,237	\$1,121	\$13,358	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$2,194	\$3,315
Cloud	\$12,820	\$0	\$12,820	\$16,292	\$0	\$16,292	\$3,472	\$3,472
Coffey	\$13,984	\$0	\$13,984	\$17,772	\$0	\$17,772	\$3,788	\$3,788
Comanche	\$11,655	\$0	\$11,655	\$14,812	\$0	\$14,812	\$3,157	\$3,157
Cowley	\$13,984	\$0	\$13,984	\$17,772	\$0	\$17,772	\$3,788	\$3,788
Crawford	\$12,237	\$0	\$12,237	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$3,315	\$3,315
Decatur	\$9,036	\$0	\$9,036	\$11,482	\$0	\$11,482	\$2,446	\$2,446
Dickinson	\$13,984	\$919	\$14,903	\$17,772	\$0	\$17,772	\$2,869	\$3,788
Doniphan	\$12,237	\$1,368	\$13,605	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$1,947	\$3,315
Douglas	\$13,111	\$5,292	\$18,403	\$16,662	\$0	\$16,662	\$1,741	\$3,551
Edwards	\$10,491	\$1,929	\$12,420	\$13,332	\$0	\$13,332	\$912	\$2,841
Elk	\$14,857	\$0	\$14,857	\$18,882	\$0	\$18,882	\$4,025	\$4,025
Ellis	\$11,655	\$0	\$11,655	\$14,812	\$0	\$14,812	\$3,157	\$3,157
Ellsworth	\$12,237	\$975	\$13,212	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$2,340	\$3,315
Finney	\$8,745	\$7,449	\$16,194	\$11,112	\$0	\$11,112	\$5,082	\$2,367
Ford	\$10,491	\$2,847	\$13,338	\$13,332	\$0	\$13,332	\$6	\$2,841
Franklin	\$13,984	\$7,248	\$21,232	\$17,772	\$0	\$17,772	\$3,460	\$3,788
Geary	\$13,111	\$885	\$13,996	\$16,662	\$0	\$16,662	\$2,666	\$3,551
Gove	\$8,745	\$0	\$8,745	\$11,112	\$0	\$11,112	\$2,367	\$2,367
Graham	\$11,073	\$0	\$11,073	\$14,072	\$0	\$14,072	\$2,999	\$2,999
Grant	\$8,454	\$500	\$8,954	\$10,742	\$0	\$10,742	\$1,788	\$2,288
Gray	\$8,745	\$2,715	\$11,460	\$11,112	\$0	\$11,112	\$348	\$2,367
Greeley	\$8,163	\$500	\$8,663	\$10,372	\$0	\$10,372	\$1,709	\$2,209
Greenwood	\$14,857	\$7,523	\$22,380	\$18,882	\$0	\$18,882	\$3,498	\$4,025
Hamilton	\$8,163	\$0	\$8,163	\$10,372	\$0	\$10,372	\$2,209	\$2,209
Harper	\$12,237	\$4,790	\$17,027	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$1,475	\$3,315
Harvey	\$12,237	\$2,257	\$14,494	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$1,058	\$3,315
Haskell	\$8,163	\$662	\$8,825	\$10,372	\$0	\$10,372	\$1,547	\$2,209
Hodgeman	\$9,909	\$6,058	\$15,967	\$12,592	\$0	\$12,592	\$3,375	\$2,683
Jackson	\$14,857	\$8,440	\$23,297	\$18,882	\$0	\$18,882	\$4,415	\$4,025
Jefferson	\$14,857	\$828	\$15,685	\$18,882	\$0	\$18,882	\$3,197	\$4,025
Jewell	\$12,820	\$0	\$12,820	\$16,292	\$0	\$16,292	\$3,472	\$3,472
Johnson	\$12,237	\$4,775	\$17,012	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$1,460	\$3,315
Kearny	\$8,454	\$0	\$8,454	\$10,742	\$0	\$10,742	\$2,288	\$2,288
Kingman	\$12,820	\$1,632	\$14,452	\$16,292	\$0	\$16,292	\$1,840	\$3,472
Kiowa	\$11,655	\$3,638	\$15,293	\$14,812	\$0	\$14,812	\$481	\$3,157
Labette	\$12,237	\$1,313	\$13,550	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$2,002	\$3,315
Lane	\$8,163	\$1,092	\$9,255	\$10,372	\$0	\$10,372	\$1,117	\$2,209
Leavenworth	\$13,984	\$2,715	\$16,699	\$17,772	\$0	\$17,772	\$1,073	\$3,788
Lincoln	\$11,073	\$631	\$11,704	\$14,072	\$0	\$14,072	\$2,368	\$2,999
Linn	\$12,237	\$0	\$12,237	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$3,315	\$3,315
Logan	\$8,745	\$0	\$8,745	\$11,112	\$0	\$11,112	\$2,367	\$2,367
Lyon	\$15,730	\$4,721	\$20,451	\$19,992	\$0	\$19,992	\$459	\$4,262
Marion	\$13,984	\$2,787	\$16,771	\$17,772	\$0	\$17,772	\$1,001	\$3,788
Marshall	\$12,820	\$5,548	\$18,368	\$16,292	\$0	\$16,292	\$2,076	\$3,472

FY 2014 NonPoint Source Pollution Control Program Allocations:

May 14, 2013 SCC Meeting

\$1,656,031- Total Available for Allocation

FY 2013 Allocations			FY 2014 Allocations					Inc/Dec	Base Inc/Dec
County	Base Cost-Share	Total TMDL	FY2013 Total Cost-Share	Base Cost-Share	Total TMDL	FY2014 Total Cost-Share			
McPherson	\$11,655	\$3,270	\$14,925	\$14,812	\$0	\$14,812	\$113	\$3,157	
Meade	\$8,745	\$0	\$8,745	\$11,112	\$0	\$11,112	\$2,367	\$2,367	
Miami	\$12,237	\$6,227	\$18,464	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$2,912	\$3,315	
Mitchell	\$11,073	\$364	\$11,437	\$14,072	\$0	\$14,072	\$2,635	\$2,999	
Montgomery	\$13,984	\$0	\$13,984	\$17,772	\$0	\$17,772	\$3,788	\$3,788	
Morris	\$13,984	\$2,670	\$16,654	\$17,772	\$0	\$17,772	\$1,118	\$3,788	
Morton	\$8,454	\$0	\$8,454	\$10,742	\$0	\$10,742	\$2,288	\$2,288	
Nemaha	\$14,857	\$9,979	\$24,836	\$18,882	\$0	\$18,882	\$5,954	\$4,025	
Neosho	\$12,237	\$1,065	\$13,302	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$2,250	\$3,315	
Ness	\$9,909	\$3,973	\$13,882	\$12,592	\$0	\$12,592	\$1,290	\$2,683	
Norton	\$11,655	\$1,198	\$12,853	\$14,812	\$0	\$14,812	\$1,959	\$3,157	
Osage	\$14,857	\$9,864	\$24,721	\$18,882	\$0	\$18,882	\$5,839	\$4,025	
Osborne	\$12,237	\$0	\$12,237	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$3,315	\$3,315	
Ottawa	\$11,655	\$0	\$11,655	\$14,812	\$0	\$14,812	\$3,157	\$3,157	
Pawnee	\$11,655	\$1,722	\$13,377	\$14,812	\$0	\$14,812	\$1,435	\$3,157	
Phillips	\$11,655	\$0	\$11,655	\$14,812	\$0	\$14,812	\$3,157	\$3,157	
Pottawatomie	\$14,857	\$1,062	\$15,919	\$18,882	\$0	\$18,882	\$2,963	\$4,025	
Pratt	\$12,237	\$1,842	\$14,079	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$1,473	\$3,315	
Rawlins	\$7,871	\$0	\$7,871	\$10,002	\$0	\$10,002	\$2,131	\$2,131	
Reno	\$13,984	\$7,138	\$21,122	\$17,772	\$0	\$17,772	\$3,350	\$3,788	
Republic	\$12,237	\$3,128	\$15,365	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$187	\$3,315	
Rice	\$11,073	\$2,809	\$13,882	\$14,072	\$0	\$14,072	\$190	\$2,999	
Riley	\$14,857	\$1,889	\$16,746	\$18,882	\$0	\$18,882	\$2,136	\$4,025	
Rooks	\$10,491	\$0	\$10,491	\$13,332	\$0	\$13,332	\$2,841	\$2,841	
Rush	\$10,491	\$500	\$10,991	\$13,332	\$0	\$13,332	\$2,341	\$2,841	
Russell	\$11,655	\$631	\$12,286	\$14,812	\$0	\$14,812	\$2,526	\$3,157	
Saline	\$12,237	\$0	\$12,237	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$3,315	\$3,315	
Scott	\$8,454	\$983	\$9,437	\$10,742	\$0	\$10,742	\$1,305	\$2,288	
Sedgwick	\$12,820	\$12,506	\$25,326	\$16,292	\$0	\$16,292	\$9,034	\$3,472	
Seward	\$9,036	\$0	\$9,036	\$11,482	\$0	\$11,482	\$2,446	\$2,446	
Shawnee	\$14,857	\$2,951	\$17,808	\$18,882	\$0	\$18,882	\$1,074	\$4,025	
Sheridan	\$9,036	\$0	\$9,036	\$11,482	\$0	\$11,482	\$2,446	\$2,446	
Sherman	\$8,454	\$0	\$8,454	\$10,742	\$0	\$10,742	\$2,288	\$2,288	
Smith	\$12,237	\$0	\$12,237	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$3,315	\$3,315	
Stafford	\$12,237	\$2,694	\$14,931	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$621	\$3,315	
Stanton	\$7,871	\$0	\$7,871	\$10,002	\$0	\$10,002	\$2,131	\$2,131	
Stevens	\$8,454	\$0	\$8,454	\$10,742	\$0	\$10,742	\$2,288	\$2,288	
Sumner	\$11,655	\$0	\$11,655	\$14,812	\$0	\$14,812	\$3,157	\$3,157	
Thomas	\$9,036	\$0	\$9,036	\$11,482	\$0	\$11,482	\$2,446	\$2,446	
Trego	\$11,655	\$0	\$11,655	\$14,812	\$0	\$14,812	\$3,157	\$3,157	
Wabaunsee	\$14,857	\$5,035	\$19,892	\$18,882	\$0	\$18,882	\$1,010	\$4,025	
Wallace	\$8,745	\$0	\$8,745	\$11,112	\$0	\$11,112	\$2,367	\$2,367	
Washington	\$12,237	\$8,027	\$20,264	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$4,712	\$3,315	
Wichita	\$8,454	\$0	\$8,454	\$10,742	\$0	\$10,742	\$2,288	\$2,288	
Wilson	\$12,237	\$0	\$12,237	\$15,552	\$0	\$15,552	\$3,315	\$3,315	
Woodson	\$11,364	\$500	\$11,864	\$14,442	\$0	\$14,442	\$2,578	\$3,078	
Wyandotte	\$10,505	\$0	\$10,505	\$12,993	\$0	\$12,993	\$2,488	\$2,488	
TOTAL	\$1,224,691	\$214,000	\$1,438,691	\$1,556,031	\$0	\$1,556,031	\$117,340	\$331,340	

	FY 2014		TMDL Increase/Decrease	\$100,000
NPS Base		\$1,556,031		
TMDL		\$100,000		
Total Allocation		\$1,656,031		\$217,340

WATERSHED DAM CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

New Dams Construction

FY-14 STAFF RECOMMENDATION

NO.	DISTRICT	SITE	COUNTY	BASIN	DETENTION	DRAINAGE	COST-SHARE		B/C Ratio
					(ac-ft)	(acres)	Requested	Recommended	
1	Horseshoe Creek WD No. 110	19	MS	KLR	43	250	\$64,600.00	\$64,600	1.35
2	Nemaha-Brown WJD 7	6-27A	NM	KLR	23	122	\$52,080.00	\$52,080	1.64
3	Marmaton WJD 102 *	B-4	BB	MDC	125	908	\$102,295.00	\$55,435	1.77
4	Marmaton WJD 102 *	Robinson	BB	MDC	76	420	\$107,600.00	\$55,435	1.19
5	Marmaton WJD No. 102 (Sup 2013)	I-1B	BB	MDC	109	530	\$9,130.00	\$9,130	1.07
6	Salt Creek WJD No. 104	121	OS	MDC	115	423	\$88,600.00	\$88,600	1.93

(*) Partial Funding

Flood & Sediment Control (Above Federal Reservoirs): 2 New Sites	\$ 116,680
Flood Control (Statewide): 3 New Sites and 1 Supp	\$ 208,600

Grand Total =	\$ 325,280
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FY 2014 Aid to Conservation Districts- Recording				Subject to Governor's Final Signed Budget			
COUNTY CD	COUNTY TOTAL	STATE OF KS MATCHED	TOTAL	COUNTY CD	COUNTY TOTAL	STATE OF KS MATCHED	TOTAL
ALLEN	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897	LINN	\$28,500	\$24,897	\$53,397
ANDERSON	\$29,000	\$24,897	\$53,897	LOGAN	\$14,500	\$14,440	\$28,940
ATCHISON	\$26,139	\$24,897	\$51,036	LYON	\$27,000	\$24,897	\$51,897
BARBER	\$30,000	\$24,897	\$54,897	MARION	\$28,790	\$24,897	\$53,687
BARTON	\$24,650	\$24,549	\$49,199	MARSHALL	\$33,000	\$24,897	\$57,897
BOURBON	\$40,000	\$24,897	\$64,897	McPHERSON	\$29,772	\$24,897	\$54,669
BROWN	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897	MEADE	\$16,000	\$15,934	\$31,934
BUTLER	\$39,600	\$24,897	\$64,497	MIAMI	\$44,385	\$24,897	\$69,282
CHASE	\$17,000	\$16,930	\$33,930	MITCHELL	\$21,000	\$20,914	\$41,914
CHAUTAUQUA	\$12,000	\$11,951	\$23,951	MONTGOMERY	\$26,205	\$24,897	\$51,102
CHEROKEE	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897	MORRIS	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897
CHEYENNE	\$16,000	\$15,934	\$31,934	MORTON	\$22,400	\$22,308	\$44,708
CLARK	\$18,000	\$17,926	\$35,926	NEMAHA	\$32,400	\$24,897	\$57,297
CLAY	\$33,495	\$24,897	\$58,392	NEOSHO	\$20,000	\$19,918	\$39,918
CLOUD	\$20,000	\$19,918	\$39,918	NESS	\$18,000	\$17,926	\$35,926
COFFEY	\$39,000	\$24,897	\$63,897	NORTON	\$10,000	\$9,965	\$19,965
COMANCHE	\$20,000	\$19,918	\$39,918	OSAGE	\$26,000	\$24,897	\$50,897
COWLEY	\$30,000	\$24,897	\$54,897	OSBORNE	\$16,000	\$15,934	\$31,934
CRAWFORD	\$33,912	\$24,897	\$58,809	OTTAWA	\$15,000	\$14,938	\$29,938
DECATUR	\$19,000	\$18,922	\$37,922	PAWNEE	\$17,000	\$16,930	\$33,930
DICKINSON	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897	PHILLIPS	\$14,000	\$13,942	\$27,942
DONIPHAN	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897	POTTAWATOMIE	\$80,000	\$24,897	\$104,897
DOUGLAS	\$84,150	\$24,897	\$109,047	PRATT	\$19,500	\$19,420	\$38,920
EDWARDS	\$22,955	\$22,861	\$45,816	RAWLINS	\$20,000	\$19,918	\$39,918
ELK	\$12,000	\$11,951	\$23,951	RENO	\$40,500	\$24,897	\$65,397
ELLIS	\$64,375	\$24,897	\$89,272	REPUBLIC	\$35,000	\$24,897	\$59,897
ELLSWORTH	\$30,000	\$24,897	\$54,897	RICE	\$30,000	\$24,897	\$54,897
FINNEY	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897	RILEY	\$52,990	\$24,897	\$77,887
FORD	\$46,000	\$24,897	\$70,897	ROOKS	\$22,000	\$21,909	\$43,909
FRANKLIN	\$43,780	\$24,897	\$68,677	RUSH	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897
GEARY	\$31,000	\$24,897	\$55,897	RUSSELL	\$27,500	\$24,897	\$52,397
GOVE	\$20,000	\$19,918	\$39,918	SALINE	\$24,289	\$24,189	\$48,478
GRAHAM	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897	SCOTT	\$36,000	\$24,897	\$60,897
GRANT	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897	SEDGWICK	\$40,000	\$24,897	\$64,897
GRAY	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897	SEWARD	\$41,704	\$24,897	\$66,601
GREELEY	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897	SHAWNEE	\$45,000	\$24,897	\$69,897
GREENWOOD	\$16,500	\$16,432	\$32,932	SHERIDAN	\$15,000	\$14,938	\$29,938
HAMILTON	\$20,000	\$19,918	\$39,918	SHERMAN	\$23,000	\$22,905	\$45,905
HARPER	\$30,000	\$24,897	\$54,897	SMITH	\$13,290	\$13,235	\$26,525
HARVEY	\$16,065	\$15,999	\$32,064	STAFFORD	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897
HASKELL	\$29,000	\$24,897	\$53,897	STANTON	\$29,000	\$24,897	\$53,897
HODGEMAN	\$22,000	\$21,909	\$43,909	STEVENS	\$32,020	\$24,897	\$56,917
JACKSON	\$54,279	\$24,897	\$79,176	SUMNER	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897
JEFFERSON	\$40,613	\$24,897	\$65,510	THOMAS	\$30,000	\$24,897	\$54,897
JEWELL	\$23,000	\$22,905	\$45,905	TREGO	\$17,500	\$17,428	\$34,928
JOHNSON	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897	WABAUNSEE	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897
KEARNY	\$65,000	\$24,897	\$89,897	WALLACE	\$14,000	\$13,942	\$27,942
KINGMAN	\$99,000	\$24,897	\$123,897	WASHINGTON	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897
KIOWA	\$15,000	\$14,938	\$29,938	WICHITA	\$21,500	\$21,412	\$42,912
LABETTE	\$17,300	\$17,229	\$34,529	WILSON	\$20,000	\$19,918	\$39,918
LANE	\$25,000	\$24,897	\$49,897	WOODSON	\$19,800	\$19,719	\$39,519
LEAVENWORTH	\$55,000	\$24,897	\$79,897	WYANDOTTE	\$42,771	\$24,897	\$67,668
LINCOLN	\$16,300	\$16,233	\$32,533	TOTALS	\$3,023,429	\$2,326,934	\$5,350,363

Buffer Program – New Contracts Written in FY2011 and FY2012 and FY2013*

County	FY2011			FY2012			FY2013		
	1 st Buffer on 1 st CRP	Old CRP or 1 st Buffer on CRP Renewal	Administrative Change of Ownership	1 st Buffer on 1 st CRP	Old CRP or 1 st Buffer on CRP Renewal	Administrative Change of Ownership	1 st Buffer on 1 st CRP	Old CRP or 1 st Buffer on CRP Renewal	Administrative Change of Ownership
Jackson	3		4	1		4		4	
Nemaha	2			3		4	2		2
Brown									3
Clay	2		1	4					1
Dickenson				3		3	1		
Ottawa									
Lyon	5		4	11		1	8		
Morris									
Chase							6		
Coffee				3					
Anderson						2			
Linn									
Marion	2		4	1		3			
Rice									1
McPherson									
Bourbon									
Allen									
Neosho									
TOTAL in Buffer Units	14		13	26		17	17	4	7
Osage				3	14			2	
Riley			1						
Douglas	1								
Jewell	1		1	6		1			4
Marshall				4		2			4
Shawnee	3			1		2			2
Doniphan			2						
Republic	1			1		3			2
Franklin	2		1			2			
Leavenworth						1			
Washington	1		5	5		4		2	3
TOTAL outside Buffer Units	9		10	20	14	15	0	4	15
TOTAL	23		23	46	14	32	17	8	22
SUM all		46			92			47	

Review of Water Quality Buffer Initiative Program – SCC Commission Meeting – May 14, 2013

The Kansas Water Quality Buffer Initiative (KWQBIP), enacted by the 1998 Legislature by amending K.S.A. 2-1915, is an incentive program complementing the federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). State incentives supplement federal rental payments to encourage the establishment of riparian forest buffers and vegetative filter strips. DOC payments match 30-50 percent of the federal payment based on the type of vegetation planted. The state buffer eligible area now includes all high priority TMDL and federal drinking water reservoir watersheds in the state. The KWQBIP also provides statewide property tax incentives for landowners that enroll buffers adjacent to streams. DOC is currently maintaining 13,484 acres under 2,162 contracts totaling \$265,369 in annual payments to program landowners.

The Buffer Program Allocation for FY2013 was \$282,958 – an additional \$5,600 has been committed so far this year, leaving an uncommitted balance in FY2013 of \$13,252 at present.

Allocation = \$282,958.79 Committed = \$264,106.32 Available = \$18,852.47 Selected FY Committed = \$4,904.29 (actually about \$5,600 with pending contracts)

Total CP-21 and CP-22 acres enrolled under the WQBIP, all counties:

FY2011 – 210 acres (46 contracts – 23 new)

FY2012 – 486 acres (92 contracts – 60 new)

FY2013 – 247 acres (47 contracts – 25 new)

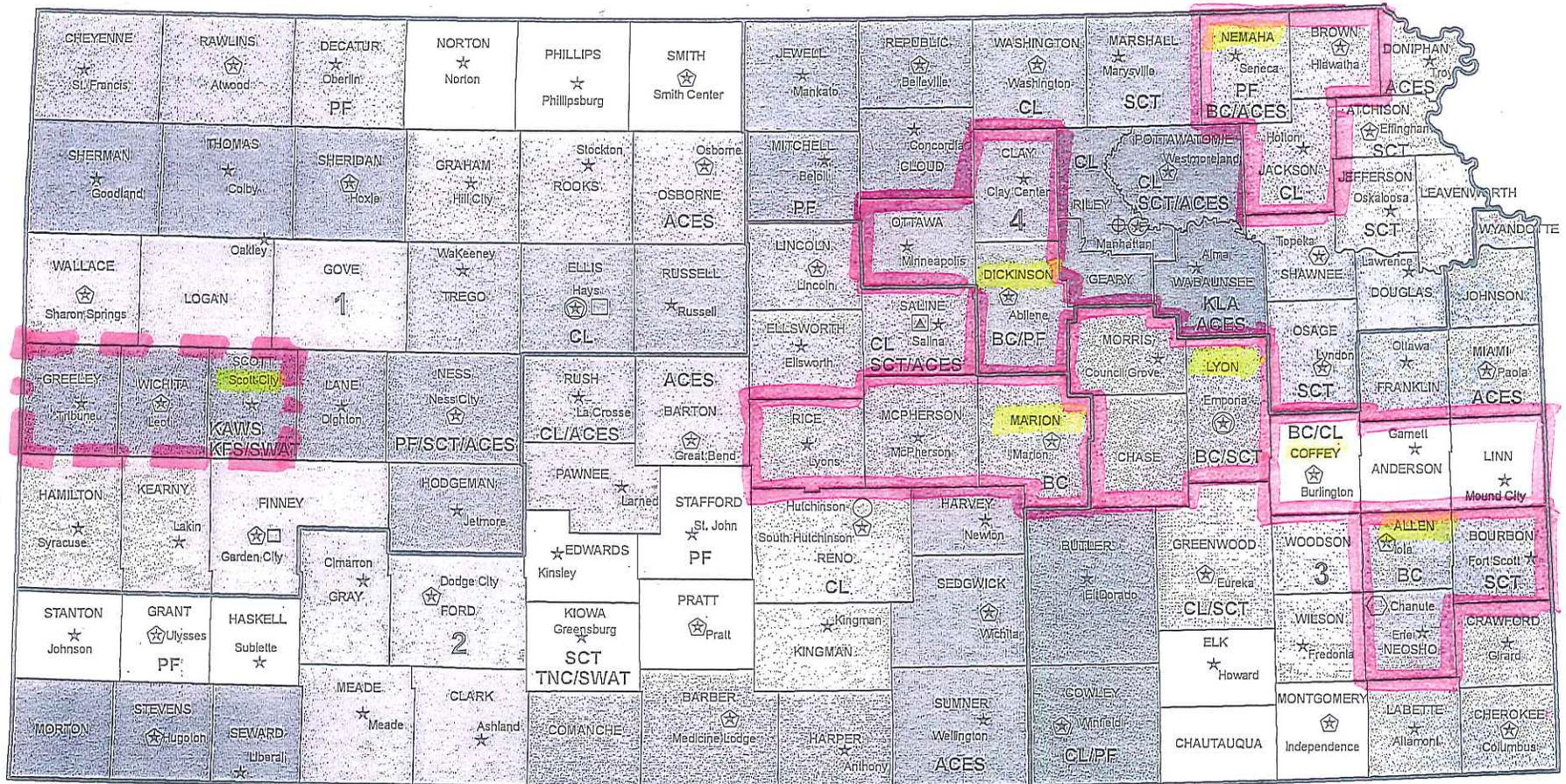
Here are two more interesting buffer “facts” –

1. We have apparently never approved any buffer initiative contracts from Linn or Ottawa counties – both of those are presently in Buffer Coordinator management units.
2. Looking only at the relatively recent 3 year period:
 - a. there are 18 counties in Buffer Coordinator management units which have enrolled 61 new contracts (3.4 contracts per county)
 - b. there are 8 counties outside Buffer Coordinator management units which have enrolled 47 new contracts (5.8 contracts per county)

This is probably because the counties in Buffer Coordinator management units already reached a saturation threshold for new enrollments with promotions from the buffer coordinators and acceptance from willing landowners at current commodity prices etc. during the first 12 years of the program ...

*When evaluating whether a contract was written as a 1st time buffer contract on a 1st time CRP contract or rather as a buffer contract which was essentially “after-the-fact” on a old CRP contract or a new buffer contract written on a renewing CRP contract where the buffer was not an incentive to the renewal, if there wasn’t clear information indicating one way or the other (most didn’t have), I gave the benefit of the doubt and assumed it was just a totally new contract written for true incentive purposes.

Kansas Water Quality Buffer Initiative Program Buffer Coordinator Duty Stations



* Matched colored counties = Management Unit

- ACES - Agricultural Conservation Experienced Services
- BC - Buffer Coordinator
- CL - Clerical Assistance
- GIS SWAT - Geographic Information Systems Strategic Watershed Action Team (located at Playla Lakes Joint Venture office in Lafayette, Colorado)
- KAWS - Kansas Alliance Wetlands and Streams
- KFS SWAT - Kansas Forest Service Strategic Watershed Action Team
- KLA - Kansas Livestock Association
- PF - Pheasants Forever Biologist
- SCT - Soil Conservation Technician/Division of Conservation
- TNC SWAT - The Nature Conservancy Strategic Watershed Action Team

- △ State Office, Salina
- Area Office
- ◇ Supervisory District Conservationist Headquarters
- MLRA Soil Survey Office
- ⬡ Technical Office
- ⊕ Plant Materials Center

- NRCS Administrative Areas
- County Boundaries



Area Offices

- Area 1 - Hays
- Area 2 - Hutchinson
- Area 3 - Emporia
- Area 4 - Manhattan

State Office - Salina



Natural Resources Conservation Service
760 South Broadway
Salina, Kansas 67401-4604

Phone: 785-823-4500
FAX: 785-823-4540
www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov

**NRCS HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES
for the
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
TOPEKA, KANSAS
May 14, 2013**

PERSONNEL

Reassignments

and/or Promotions: Sheila L. Forrester, Visual Information Specialist, to Acting Public Affairs Specialist, Salina State Office
Dean Krehbiel, Resource Conservationist, Salina State Office, to State Resource Conservationist, Salina State Office

Resignations:

Kelly L. Bartholic, Office Assistant, Manhattan Area Office

Retirements:

Jerry D. Longren, Biological Science Technician, Manhattan Plant Materials Center
Deborah (Debbie) M. Kaiden, Human Resources Specialist, Salina State Office
Jeffrey K. Schmidt, District Conservationist, Fredonia
Mary D. Shaffer, Public Affairs Specialist, Salina State Office

OPERATIONS

Effective May 19, 2013, the following personnel actions take effect:

- Jeffrey L. Gross, Acting Assistant State Conservationist (ASTC) for Operations, will return to ASTC for Water Resources.
- Gaye L. Benfer, ASTC for Programs, is reassigned to ASTC for Operations.
- Xiomara Tryban, ASTC for Field Operations (FO), Hutchinson Area Office, is reassigned to ASTC for Programs.
- Arvil G. Bass, State Conservation Engineer, will be Acting ASTC-FO, Hutchinson Area Office.
- Brian D. Lang, Construction Engineer, will be Acting State Conservation Engineer.

Kansas received its budget allocation information May 10. With the overall Federal government budget climate, our budget numbers are respectable. We currently have just over a \$1 million reduction compared to how last fiscal year ended. Since we have held several positions vacant and reduced other costs, we will be able to operate through the remainder of the year with the ability to continue to provide solid conservation assistance to meet the NRCS mission.

NRCS is moving forward with the transformation of administrative activities such as human resources, budget and finance, and property and procurement. Many of the details are yet to be

determined. However, the plan will focus on the formation of national teams to handle specific business area processes. All current employees will maintain a job and will not be forced to relocate. The teams will work virtually from current locations. The transition process will begin immediately with the new structure scheduled to be in place by December 2014. The new structure is expected to standardize the way NRCS handles administrative duties and to stabilize administrative operations.

PROGRAMS

Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP)

- Kansas received a total of 48 AWEP applications. Approximately 21 contracts have been obligated for \$1.9 million on 2,773 acres.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CStP) and Conservation Security Program (CSP)

- Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 payments and new obligations are on hold for CSP contracts until further notice.
- FY 2012 annual payments for CStP contracts were scheduled to be paid out April 5, 2013. Those that are entitled to a payment that have not been paid will have payments processed as soon as possible.
- At this time, NRCS field offices continue to accept CStP applications as part of the continuous enrollment process.

Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWPP)

- Kansas maintains 10 non-exigent EWPP projects on the National EWPP Wait List for funding. The projects affect five counties in southeast Kansas that suffered locally declared disasters between 2010 and 2012.

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

- Kansas received a total of 2,432 EQIP General applications. Approximately 535 contracts have been obligated for \$10.7 million on 101,072 acres.

EQIP—Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI)

- Kansas received a total of 103 CCPI (Forested Riparian Buffers and Shelterbelt Renovation) applications. Approximately 28 contracts have been obligated for \$118,607 on 547 acres.

EQIP—Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG)

- State CIG proposal submissions are upcoming.
- National pre-proposals were accepted and are under review.

EQIP Initiatives

- **National On-Farm Energy initiative**—Kansas received a \$583,578 allocation and has obligated 10 contracts for \$23,116 on 39,718 acres. A second application evaluation cutoff of April 19, 2013, has passed and 7 additional applications will be evaluated.
- **National Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative**—Kansas received a \$300,000 allocation and has obligated 42 contracts for \$262,717 on 243 acres. A second application evaluation cutoff of April 19, 2013, has passed and 23 additional applications will be evaluated. Kansas has requested additional funds.

- **National Organic Initiative**—Kansas received a \$200,000 allocation and received 6 applications during sign-up #1. All applications were cancelled by the participant. One eligible application was received prior to the sign-up #2 application evaluation cutoff date of April 19, 2013.
- **National Water Quality Initiative**—Kansas received a \$764,101 allocation and received 34 applications during sign-up #1 which ended April 19, 2013. The sign-up #2 application evaluation cutoff date is May 17, 2013. The three watersheds in the initiative are Big Creek (Ellis County), Emma Creek (McPherson and Harvey Counties), and Grasshopper Creek (Brown, Atchison, Jackson Counties).
- **Ogallala Aquifer Initiative**—Kansas received a \$1,500,000 allocation and has obligated 9 contracts for \$1,227,172 on 1,906 acres. Ninety-two additional applications remain, but all funds have been obligated. Kansas has requested additional funds.
- **Water Quantity and Drought Pilot and Drought Recovery Initiative**—This pilot includes a new interim practice standard for Conservation Practice 758, Structure Sediment Removal. In addition to the pilot effort, the Drought Recovery Initiative will be provided to assist eligible producers impacted by the ongoing drought. Both the Water Quantity and Drought Pilot and the Drought Recovery Initiative are funded through EQIP and are available statewide in Kansas. Kansas has received \$1,296,740 for the Drought Recovery Initiative and \$2,000,000 for the Water Quantity and Drought Pilot. A sign-up #1 cutoff date of May 17, 2013, has been set as well as a sign-up #2 cutoff date of June 21, 2013.

Farm and Ranchland Protection Program (FRPP)

- Kansas received \$3.1 million for the enrollment of FRPP applications in FY13.
- The deadline for entity applications was March 15, 2013. Kansas received seven applications for the FY13 sign up. The applications cover approximately 7,280 acres in Lyon, Osage, Riley, and Washington Counties.
- Two easements closed during the second quarter of FY13, protecting 1,899 acres of farmland.

Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)

- Field offices have completed initial ranking of FY13 GRP applications. Currently no funds are available to enroll any FY13 applications.
- Four FY12 GRP enrollments are either closed or in the process of closing; protecting 425 acres of grassland. NRCS looks to close on nine additional GRP easements over the spring and summer months.

Watershed Rehabilitation Program Activities

- Kansas submitted planning assistance requests for 6 watershed dams considering Rehabilitation. No FY13 funding has been awarded for planning assistance.
- The Spring Creek Watershed District in Sedgwick County is still working towards rehabilitation of their R-1 Dam southwest of Garden Plain, Kansas. The final design is complete. Land rights have been acquired and permits approved. The project agreement is ready for approval once land rights have been assured. Estimated project cost is \$590,000. Construction is targeted for summer of 2013.

Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)

- Seven FY12 WRP enrollments are either closed or in the process of closing; protecting 421 acres. One additional FY12 WRP enrollment is on hold, pending a boundary survey.
- Twenty-three wetland restoration projects to be completed by September 30, 2013.

Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP)—Working Lands for Wildlife (WLFW) Lesser Prairie-chicken Initiative

- Kansas received a \$3,000,000 allocation and has obligated 19 contracts for \$536,610 on 15,299 acres. A second application evaluation cutoff date of May 17, 2013, has been set

TECHNOLOGY

Soil Health Strategy

Soil Health Initiative gaining momentum across the state:

- Area NRCS soil health teams are meeting and developing local strategies across Kansas.
- NRCS continues to develop, implement, and monitor cover crop studies across the state.

Lesser Prairie-Chicken (LPC) Technical Assistance

NRCS continues to assist producers in LPC country implement sound conservation on the landscape which provides benefits to LPC and its habitat.

Division of Conservation (DOC) Streambank Agreements

- One more streambank protection project has been built.
- Two projects are almost finished with construction.
- One project has just started construction.
- The last project has finally received all of their permits.

Architect and Engineer (A&E) Contracts

- Construction is continuing on three of the 2011 streambank protection projects.
- One 2011 designed project will not be built as its EQIP contract has been cancelled.
- Designs have been completed on one 2011 and two 2012 streambank protection projects.
- Designs are almost completed for two more 2012 projects.

National Resources Inventory (NRI)

- NRI Grazing Land Onsite Training was completed May 1-2, 2013. The onsite study will begin in mid May and end by July 15, 2013. A total of 101 segments will be inventoried.

OUTREACH

News Releases were issued for the following:

- Issued news release for the Water Quantity and Drought Pilot that is available in Kansas and Colorado. This pilot includes a new interim practice standard for Conservation Practice 758, Structure Sediment Removal. The Drought Recovery Initiative is also being provided to assist eligible producers impacted by the ongoing drought. Both the Water Quantity and Drought Pilot and the Drought Recovery Initiative are funded through the EQIP and are available statewide in Kansas.

- As soon as clearance is received from NHQ, a news release will be issued on the Conservation Stewardship Program.

Outreach Support

- NRCS had booth space at the Fort Riley Career Fair, Junction City, Kansas, on April 16, 2013.
- The State Envirothon was Wednesday, May 8 at the Webster Conference Center, Salina, Kansas. NRCS Public Affairs took photos of participants and winners.

Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers (HWFR) Claims Process

The HWFR claims filing date of May 1, 2013, has passed. NRCS offices have been instructed to remove posters in U.S. Department of Agriculture buildings and in communities.

**Conservation District Documents
Not Received by the DOC as of 5/13/13**

2013 Annual Work Plan: (Due 9/1/2012)

Wyandotte County

2013 Annual Meeting Minutes: (Due 10 days after meeting)

Wyandotte County

2011 Audit: (Due 1/1/2013)

Marshall County

Wyandotte County

2011 Notification of CD Audit Review form: (Due 1/1/2013)

Marshall County

Wyandotte County

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes, Treasurer's Reports & Unpaid Bills Reports:
(Due 10 days after each conservation district board meeting)

Chautauqua County – April 2013

Cherokee County – April 2013

Coffey County – April 2013

Edwards County – April 2013

Grant County – April 2013

Greenwood County – April 2013

Haskell County – April 2013

Kingman County – April 2013

Logan County – April 2013

Marion County – April 2013

Mitchell County – April 2013

Republic County – April 2013

Saline County – April 2013

Sumner County – April 2013

Wyandotte County – August 2012, February 2013, March 2013, & April 2013

County has been contacted several times to submit the required document.