MANAGEMENT PLAN

For the Designation of a Water Conservation Area (WCA) McCarty-Rexford WCA; Thomas County, KS January 2018 through December 2022

In order to conserve and extend the productive life of the aquifer in our region and increase the value and viability of our water rights and water resources for future generations we, the undersigned water right owners propose the following management plan, pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-745 (WCA Law), to form the basis of a Consent Agreement and Order Designating a Water Conservation Area (WCA).

Expression of Conservation Goals

We, the water right owners desire to conserve and extend the productive life of the Ogallala Aquifer within Thomas and Sheridan Counties. The purpose of the McCarty-Rexford WCA is to maximize high quality milk production while reducing water use over the term of the WCA from long term averages. We will facilitate the execution of the goals through more flexible and efficient use of the water resources, continued adoption of economically viable water conservation and efficiency technologies, and continued analysis of crop/feed selection to reduce water use while increasing or maintaining the nutritional value of the dairy cattle feed.

We recognize the need to conserve the Ogallala Aquifer within Thomas and Sheridan Counties as water table declines continue at an unsustainable rate. We are committed to a reduction in water use from a long term average of 16.10 inches per acre to 15.00 inches per acre on the current irrigated 1161 acres while maintaining the stock water right at 250 acre-feet per year. We propose a WCA term of 5-years commencing on January 1st, 2018 and ending on December 31st, 2022. The proposed reduction in water use equates to maximum 8510 acre-feet over the term of the WCA.

Based on the currently authorized Local Enhanced Management Area (LEMA) Plan all of the irrigation water rights are located in townships with 0.5-2% decline and would receive 18 inches per irrigated acre on 919 acres and 15.4 inches per irrigated acre on 242 acres. The LEMA plan would allocate a total of 7701 acre-feet on the irrigation rights. We recognize that this quantity is not sustainable long term and desire to reduce water below long term averages and below the current LEMA allocation. We also recognize the proposed WCA plan is the first step in reducing water usage and additional reductions may be necessary in future WCA plans to extend the productive life on the Ogallala Aquifer within Thomas and Sheridan Counties.

Water Rights Enrolled and Geographic Boundaries

This WCA shall include the water rights listed in the attached document. This list includes details of all points of diversion associated with those water rights; as well as legal descriptions of the locations of the points of diversion and/or identification numbers.

The current total appropriations authorized for all water rights included in this WCA are 2558 acre-feet (AF) per year, with an average annual irrigation use during the period 2003-2016 of 1560AF. With an

approximate 7% reduction from the historical annual average use, the 5-year WCA irrigation allocation is 7260 AF and the 5-year WCA stock allocation is 1250 AF. The total WCA allocation is 8510 AF.

The geographic boundary for this WCA is shown on the attached map(s) and attached table defined by legal locations. This table includes total acres and legal definitions by section, township, and range of the WCA boundary.

Findings Regarding Groundwater Conditions

We understand that the WCA Law requires a finding that one of the following circumstances be present within the area geographic boundaries of this WCA; specified in K.S.A. 82a-1036 (a) through (d):

- a) Groundwater levels in the area in question are declining or have declined excessively;
- b) The rate of withdrawal of groundwater in the area equals or exceeds the rate of recharge within such area;
- c) Preventable waste of water is occurring or may occur within the area in questions; or
- d) Unreasonable deterioration of the quality of water is occurring or may occur within the area in question

and amendments thereto, exist, or include a finding or findings that the area within the geographic boundaries described in paragraph (1) has been closed to new appropriations by rule, regulation or order of the Chief Engineer.

We have been informed that the following conditions exist:

- a) Groundwater levels in the area in question are declining or have declined excessively;
- b) The rate of withdrawal of groundwater in the area equals or exceeds the rate of recharge within such area; and
- c) The area has been closed to new appropriations by rule, regulation or order of the Chief Engineer.

These conditions suggest the advisability of implementing this WCA.

See the attached maps and figures supporting these findings and observations. Such attached documents may include:

- Detailed table with description of WCA geographic boundaries and legal descriptions of water rights Attachment A
- Maps with WCA geographic boundaries defined- Attachment B
- Estimated useable life maps (if available) Attachment C
- Changes in water levels (if available) Attachment D & E
- Summary of water use history Attachment F
- KGS Observation well(s) data (if applicable) Attachment G
- KDA-DWR Theis analysis report(s) (if applicable) Attachment H

Per the Corrective Controls Provisions and Plan for Conservation Section under this WCA management plan it has been determined that the proposed provisions listed will not significantly affect nearby points of diversion. This has been determined by a Theis analysis conducted by the Kansas Department of Agriculture. The Theis report(s) for the water rights in question are included in the attached documents.

Due Consideration for Past Conservation

We acknowledge that as described in the law, a water conservation area (WCA) management plan shall give due consideration to water users who have previously implemented reductions in water use resulting from voluntary conservation measures. We, the water right owners, we request the Chief Engineers consideration of the following conservation measures be considered and enumerated under this plan. The measures include the following:

- a) Installation of an evaporative condensing milk processing plant in April of 2012. The installation allows us to reclaim 45,000 gallons of water per day or approximately 50 AF per year. We also included waterless urinals in this facility to further reduce our water consumption.
- b) Installation of Smart Cow Cooling Systems.
 - a. These systems are regulated to increase or decrease sprinkling frequency based on ambient temperature. The system allows us to optimize cow comfort while reducing water use.
 - b. The systems also included timer interrupters to shut of sprinkler systems when cows are away from the pen. We estimate water savings to be 50,000 to 100,000 gallons per year depending on climatic conditions.
- c) On top of the Smart Cow Cooling systems, we have installed additional cooling measures to decrease water use within the dairy barns including;
 - a. Temperature regulated fans allow for increased start time for water sprinklers by three degrees Fahrenheit;
 - b. Installation of tunnel ventilation in the milk parlor allows for reduced sprinkler usage by reducing ambient temperature by as much as 15 degrees Fahrenheit compared to external temperature.
- d) Modification of the water trough cleaning schedule from 3 days per week to 2 days has not impacted cow herd health, productivity, or audit scores while saving an estimated 435,000 gallons per year.
- e) Installation of soil moisture probes on all McCarty Family owned property.
- f) Increase in load sizes of milk trailers to reduce the frequency of on farm tank washes and washes of trailers used to haul milk.
- g) Installed a tank to reclaim water from our calf milk pasteurizer to be reused as drinking water for our calves.
- h) From 2008-2017, we have averaged the reapplication of 222 AF of effluent to irrigated and non-irrigated agricultural fields.

Although our water conservation measures have allowed us to increase our head count at the Dairy to current operating capacity of 4800 head, we believe the measures we have taken have allowed us to conserve considerable amounts of water when considering the dairy and farming operation as a whole. Additionally, we are committed to continually assessing our operation in terms of water use to find water conservation measures that make economic sense for our operation while benefiting the Ogallala Aquifer in Thomas County.

Corrective Control Provisions and Plan for Conservation

We acknowledge that the following corrective controls will be in effect within this WCA during the term of the WCA period listed:

- 1. Water rights, at the discretion of the owners, may be pumped as directed by the owner, provided that:
 - a. All points of diversion are limited to their annual authorized quantity unless explicitly authorized under this plan.
 - b. All points of diversions are limited to their current authorized pumping rates.
 - c. The combined of water use under all water rights combined shall be limited to no more than 8510 acre-feet for the 5-year duration of this plan.
- 2. The corrective control provisions of this WCA cannot conflict with the rules and regulations of the local GMD that result in greater overall conservation of water resources. If a Local Enhanced Management Area (LEMA) plan or an Intensive Groundwater Use Control Area (IGUCA) is formed after the initiation of this WCA, and the WCA is partially or wholly within the LEMA or IGUCA, the corrective control provisions that result in the greater overall conservation of water resources based on inches per acre and not based on percent reduction of average historical use shall prevail. However, any LEMA or IGUCA must give due consideration to the conservation achieved by WCA participants pursuant to 82a-745(a)(6). The Chief Engineer is authorized to amend the provision of the WCA to conform to any rules, regulations, or requirements that result in greater conservation of the water resource subject to the foregoing due consideration for past and current conservation.

We, the water right owners enrolling in this WCA understand we may gain the following additional incentive(s) in consideration for our WCA participation.

- 3. Water Right # 19489-IRR (PDIV# 40566) maybe over-pumped by up to an additional 67 AF/YR for a total of 180 AF/YR.
- 4. Water Right #19489-STK (PDIV# 64553/79958) may be over-pumped by up to an additional 50 AF/YR for a total of 300 AF/YR
- 5. Additional dry acres as identified in the grey highlighted portion of Attachment A WCA Authorized Place of Use may be irrigated.
- 6. : Up to the annual WCA allocation (1702 AF) may be carried over if unused during the duration of this WCA period. In order to for the carryover quantity to be included, all owners must enter into agreement to participate into a subsequent WCA by December 31st of the last year of this WCA period.

Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement

We, the owners, understand that the following compliance monitoring and enforcement provisions are proposed. This section also includes any specific provisions regarding measuring or reporting water usage.

There is one recognized observation well(s) within one (1) mile of this WCA boundary that has for many years been measured annually by the Kansas Geological Survey (KGS). See attached maps for locations. The well(s) will continue to be measured annually and the data collected will help in evaluating the effectiveness of the WCA. An onsite observation well may be necessary to monitor the local water level more accurately.

We will submit an annual report no later than March 1st and maintain a spreadsheet detailing the following information for each well and all wells combined: beginning and ending meter readings, quantity of water diverted, acres irrigated, the inches per acre, and the quantity of water remaining for the WCA period listed. These records will be available to KDA-DWR upon request.

We will ensure backup measurements will be supported or an alternate measurement device will be available to be put into service in case the water flowmeter record for any given well is questionable or not reliable.

We acknowledge that water flowmeters within the WCA may be sealed to the measurement chamber by KDA-DWR during the duration of this management plan to ensure an accurate water use record.

We, water right owners within this WCA shall be responsible for ensuring the water flowmeters comply with state and local law(s). Any water right owner or authorized designee who finds a flow meter that is inoperable or inaccurate shall within 48 hours contact the KDA-DWR concerning the matter. Whenever an inoperable or inaccurate meter is repaired or replaced, the owner or authorized designee shall notify the KDA-DWR within seven (7) days on a form prescribed by the Chief Engineer of the water flowmeter installation and any water flowmeter repair or replacement event.

We acknowledge that failure to abide by the terms of this agreement may result in the termination of the WCA. Failure to abide by the terms, conditions, and limitations of the individual water rights will be subject to the civil penalties outlined in K.A.R. 5-14-10 and K.A.R. 5-14-12.

Review of Effectiveness

We acknowledge that a review of this WCA shall be completed prior to November 1st of the final year of the WCA period listed to ensure the above terms remain appropriate and are achieving the stated goals of this WCA. Should the Chief Engineer find that the terms are no longer appropriate or that no progress has been made towards the stated goal, the Chief Engineer may refuse to renew a WCA and may suggest new terms and goals. We understand that upon review, and a finding by the Chief Engineer that the WCA has achieved or made progress towards its goals and that the same terms me be included in a subsequent WCA for another designated period. The terms of the WCA may be continued as long as this WCA is in good standing with its most recent WCA period and upon formal approval by the Chief Engineer. The Chief Engineer shall issue findings addressing the terms and goals of the existing management plan prior to any renewal of a subsequent WCA.

We acknowledge that unless terminated under the provisions below (e.g. due to the development of a LEMA), the WCA will be in effect for the listed period with an evaluation at the end of every WCA

period. We understand that KDA-DWR will conduct this evaluation to ensure compliance and conservation. The evaluation will determine total water use during the WCA period.

We acknowledge that should an order of designation for a LEMA be implemented prior to end of this WCA period, an evaluation of this WCA will be conducted the year prior to the start of a LEMA. This evaluation may be used to determine an additional allocation amount of water to be carried over into a LEMA; should this be the case.

Member addition, withdrawal, and removal

We acknowledge that the water right owners and their associated water right(s) and geographic boundaries may be added to the WCA upon written notification to the Chief Engineer by the owners of each enrolling water right with legal descriptions of the areas to be added. A member may withdrawal from the WCA through written notification to the Chief Engineer signed by the owners of the participating water right or rights to be withdrawn from the WCA.

If the addition or withdrawal of water rights requires modification to the water allocation quantities, geographic boundaries, places of use, terms, or conditions of the original WCA, the management plan shall be revised to incorporate such changes and the associated consent agreement shall be reaffirmed by all parties, after opportunity for comment on the proposed revisions by the applicable GMD.

Termination

We acknowledge this WCA agreement may be terminated by written notification, signed by all thenexisting members of the WCA, to the Chief Engineer of the intent to terminate.

We also acknowledge that the Chief Engineer may terminate this WCA upon findings that it is not being upheld to its terms. Such termination shall give notice and require a full evaluation of the WCA and water rights associated to ensure follow up actions.

State Law

We acknowledge that this WCA is subject to compliance with all other applicable state laws.

Notification to Nearby Owners

We acknowledge that, by statue, the Chief Engineer is required to provide written notification to all water right owners with a point of diversion within ½ of a mile, or farther if deemed necessary, by a rule and regulation of the Chief Engineer, of the geographic boundaries of this WCA.

Assurances

We acknowledge this WCA will not alter the terms, conditions, and limitations of the base water rights.

Review of Other Applicable Requirements

We acknowledge that upon review, this WCA management plan was found to effect equal or greater overall conservation than applicable GMD regulations, LEMA, and IGUCA requirements.

Participant's Agreement

By signing below, we, the water right owners, agree that this management plan is fair and equitable. This management plan, provided to the Chief Engineer and water right owners, is the expressed written intent of the parties and the whole agreement between the parties. We, the water right owners agree to be bound by all the terms contained in this management plan and understand that the provisions of this agreement shall be construed to give effect to the provisions listed. We, the water right owners also agree that this management plan is the basis for a consent agreement among the Chief Engineer and the undersigned water right owners, and therefore any order and consent agreement issued by the Chief Engineer, designating this WCA, shall be binding upon all parties as the necessary formal implementation of this management plan.

FOR THE PARTICIPANTS: All participating water right owner(s) signing below, affirm their
approval of this WCA management plan and if approved by the Chief Engineer allow consent to the Chief
Engineer to formally approve the designation of this Water Conservation Area, described herein, by
means of a Consent Agreement and Order.
Ken McCarty - McCarty Bros Partnership- Partner (Signature)
Water Right No(s). 22087, 18838, 18839
Mich C. Mate Date: 6/19/18
Mike McCarty - McCarty Bros Partnership Partner (Signature)
Water Right No(s). 6178, 41788, 6572, 14882, 19489, 47297, 19546
Date: 6/19/18
David McCarty - McCarty Bros Partnership - Partner (Signature)
Water Right No(s). 22087, 18838, 18839
Date: 6/19/16
Clay McCarty McCarty Bros Partnership - Partner (Signature)
Water Right No(s). 22087 18838, 18839
455 N. Franklin, Colby, KS 67701
Full Mailing Address
Ownership@mccartyfamilyfarms.com (785) 460-0596
Email Address Phone Number
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NOTARY
State of Kansas
,
) SS
County of THOMAS)
Acknowledged before me on June 12,2018
by Lennis R Tubbs
Signature:
Notary Public
DENNIS R. TUBBS NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF KANSAS My Appl. Exp. 1-19-2022
My commission expires:
(Notary Seal)

FOR THE PARTICIPANTS: All participating water right owner(s) signing below, affirm th	eir
approval of this WCA management plan and if approved by the Chief Engineer allow consent to the Ch	ief
Engineer to formally approve the designation of this Water Conservation Area, described herein,	bv
means of a Consent Agreement and Order.	-,
Ken McCarty - McCarty Dairy LC - Owner (Signature)	
Water Right No(s). 6178, 41788, 6572, 14882, 19489, 47297, 19546	
Mile McCarte MC Date: 0/19/18	
Mike McCarty - McCarty Dairy LLC - Owner (Signature)	
Water Right No(s). 6178, 41788, 6572, 14882, 19489, 47297, 19546	
Date: 6/19/18	
David McCarty - McCarty Dairy LLC - Owner (Signature)	
Water Right No(s). 6178, 41788, 6572, 14882, 19489, 47297, 19546	
Date: 6/19/18	
Clay McCarty Dairy LLC - Owner (Signature)	
Water Right No(s). 6178, 41788, 6572, 14882, 19489, 47297, 19546	
455 N. Franklin, Colby, KS 67701	
Full Mailing Address	
Ownership@mccartyfamilyfarms.com (785) 460-0596	
Email Address Phone Number	
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NOTARY	
State of Kansas)	
) SS	
County of THOMAS)	
Acknowledged before me on June 22, 2018	
by Dennis R Tubbs	
Signature: War Zul	
Notary Public	
DENNIS R. TUBBS NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF KANSAS My Appt. Exp./~/9-2022	
My commission expires:	
(Notary Seal)	
▼ ** ****	

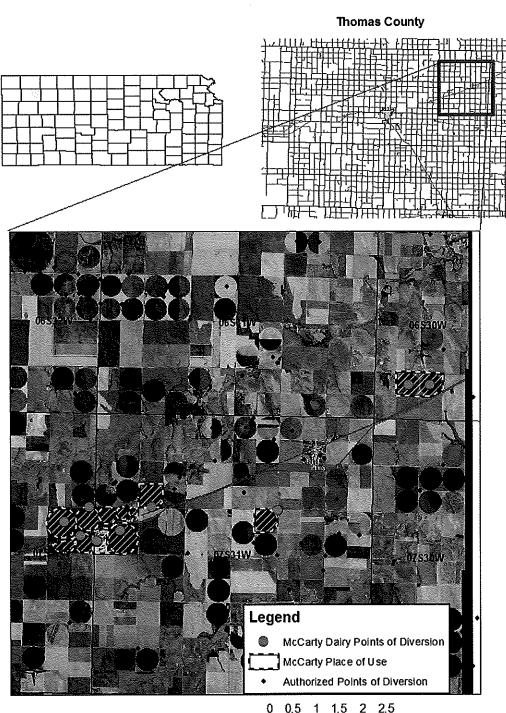
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
I hereby certify that on this day of	, copies of the foregoing were sent
first class, U.S. mail, to the following:	
McCarty Dairy LLC/McCarty Bros Partnership	
455 N. Franklin	
Colby, KS 67701	
Groundwater Management District No. 4	
DWR-KDA Water Commissioner. Stockton Field Office	
	Kansas Department of Agriculture
	Staff Person

Attachment A Water Right #'s and Points of Diversion WCA Place of Use

Water Right #	Owner	PDIV#	Sect-TWP-Range	Authorized Annual Quantity (AF)	Historical Ave. Use (03-15) AF	Historical Ave. Use (03-15) (IN/AC)
6178 41788		9053	18 - 07S - 31W	342	314.6	17.65
65 72		6829	13 - 07S - 32W	260	193.3	18.56
14882		53340	13 - 07S - 32W	313	277.2	16.63
19489-IRR		40566	13 - 07S - 32W	113	149.9	12.65
19489-STK 47297		64553	18 - 07S - 31W	250	209.6	
19489-STK 47297		79958	18 - 07S - 31W	na		
19546	}	9453	08 - 07S - 31W	320	143.1	14.12
22087		17306	15 - 07S - 31W	320	152.9	15.03
18838		35278	32 - 06S - 30W	320	161.1	16,52
18839		54273	31 - 06S - 30W	320	166.5	16.65

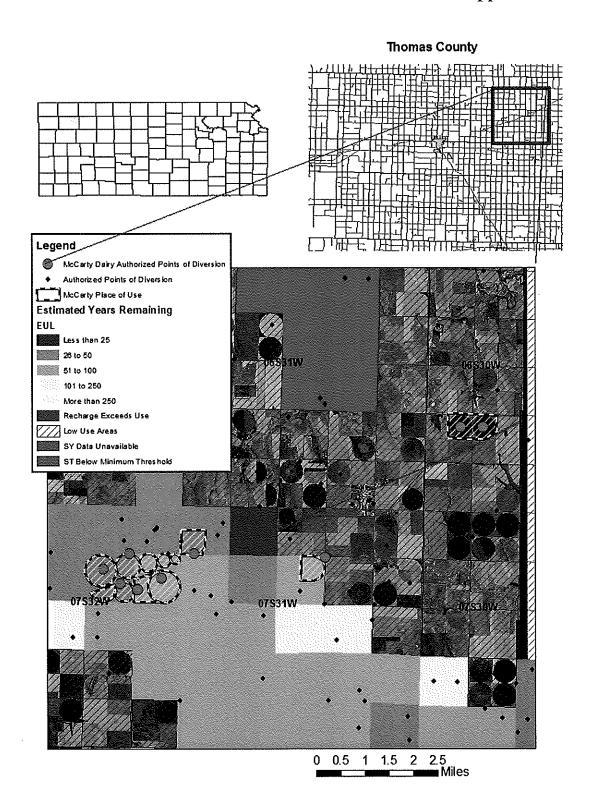
	WCA Authorized Place of Use - Irrigation																		
s	т	R		N	E¼			N	W1/4			SW1/4 SE1/4			31/4		TOTAL		
L			NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	sw	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	IOIAL
18	078	31W			25	13		12	12	5	25			13	39	40	38	26	248
13	07S	31W	39	14	14	39													96
13	078	31W		5	20		28	19	39	40	31	16	11	37	16	18	31	30	341
8	07S	31W									40	40	40	34					154
15	07S	31W	33	40	40	33													146
32	06S	30W					40	40	40	30									150
31	06S	30W	40	40	40	40													160
18	078	31W	21	32	2		32	16	6	13									122
	Total Authorized Acres								1417										

Attachment B Water Right Area Location Map Water Rights & Authorized Place of Use

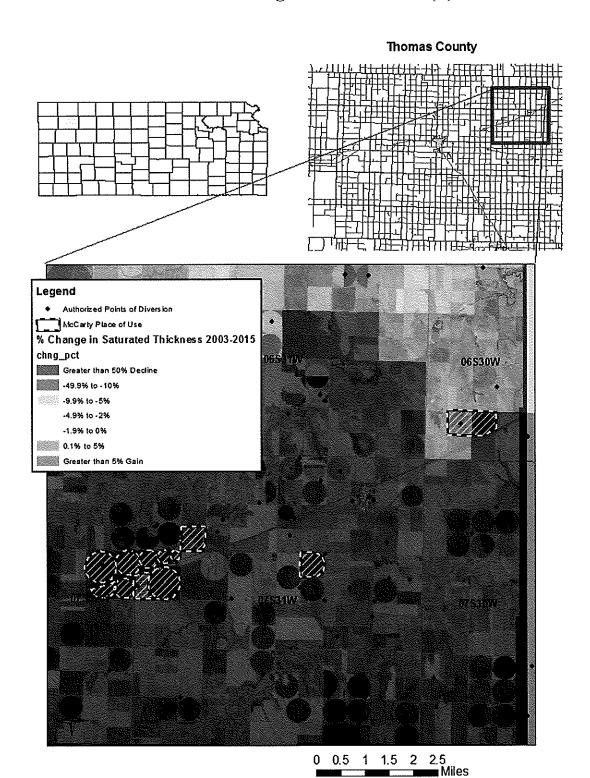


0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 Miles

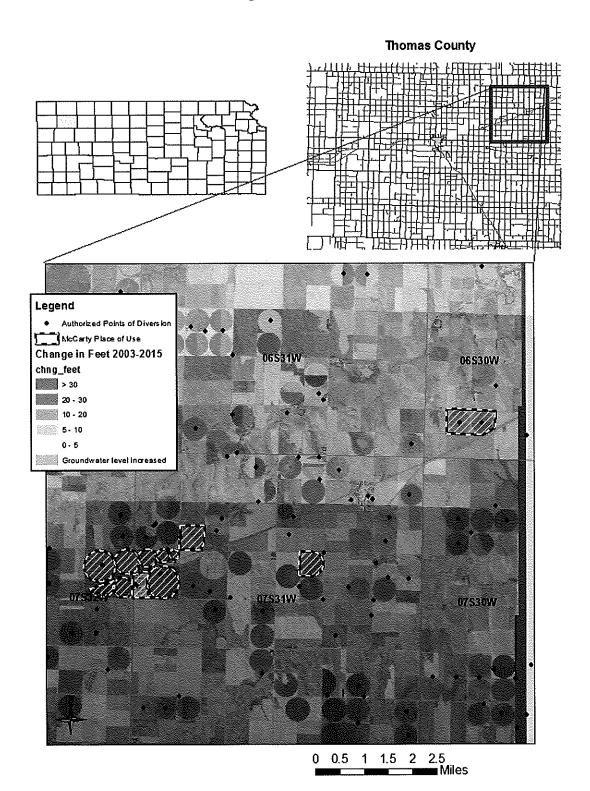
Attachment C Estimated Usable Life to Support 400 GPM



Attachment D Changes in Water Level (ft) from 2003 to 2015



Attachment E Percent Change in Saturated Thickness from 2003 to 2015

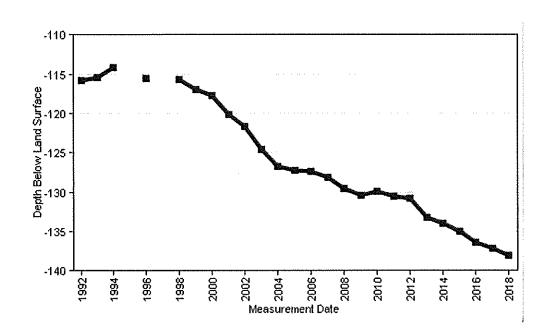


Attachment F
Summary of Water Use History

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Avg. % Appr. Quanity used	Quantity (total combined, if overlapping PD)	Average Gallons/Head /Day ***	Average inches/Acre	Average AF/Acre	AVERAGE:	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	YEAR	FILE#								
92%	342 AF	חם	17.65	1.47	314.58			313		351	О		343		342		265		272	ΑF	6178 & Overlap pd/pu 41788								
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	AF (M)		Si .	0,		145	143	142	142	142	0	害	142	142	142	142	142	142	B	Acres	iRR/ O-MF								
84%	163 mgy	SS	na	na	209.66	137	164	160	1119	0	235	얺	250	250	250	206	226	243.14	235.4	AF V	9489-STK III & Overlap 47297								
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					16.10	19.73	19.66 88.01	16.16	17.47	£.€	13.62	8 8	14.16	15.70	19.27	14.62	13.96	12.38	12.58	N/AC									

Attachment G KGS Observation Well Data

KGS Local Well 392631100501201 07S 32W 13DBD 01 **USGS ID:** County: Thomas PLSS Description: **7S 32W 13 SENWSE HUC 8 Code:** 10260011 **GMD**: Northwest Kansas GMD #4 Longitude: -100.838228 Lat/Long Source: GPS (within 50 feet) 39.442954 Lat/Long Accuracy: 5 seconds Latitude: 223 Surface Elevation (ft): 3028 Depth of Well (ft): Geological Unit Codes: GEM NE TO USGS Map Name: Use of Site: Withdrawal of Water Use of Water: Irrigation **WWC5 Links:** None WIMAS Link: 40566



Attachment H Theis Analysis

Theis analysis of proposed McCarty WCA

A Theis analysis was performed to evaluate the effects of the proposed McCarty WCA flexibilities. Under the proposal Water Right File 19,489, which authorizes both irrigation and stockwater use, would be allowed to exceed its authorized quantity. The annual quantity would be limited to 180 acre-feet for irrigation and 300 acre-feet for stockwater. The impacts were evaluated at a nearby well authorized by Water Right File 32,765.

The drawdown under the proposed conditions was compared to a baseline condition. Average water use from 2006-2015, excluding 2009, was used for the baseline scenario. Transmissivity is estimated from nearby well logs (Figures 1 and 2, Tables 2 and 3). Saturated thickness is interpolated from 2015-2017 monitoring well measurements. Storage coefficients were assumed to be the saturated thickness multiplied by 10^{-5} . The irrigation well was assumed to pump at its authorized rate. The stockwater well was assumed to pump continuously at a constant rate. The net change in drawdown at nearby File 32,765 is an increase of 2.16 feet or 3.08% of the current saturated thickness (Table 1).

Table 1: Theis analysis of drawdown at File 32,765. T = 50,000 gpd/ft; S = 0.0007

WCA	Rate	(gpm)	Volume Pum	ped (AF)	Distance	Drawdo	wn (ft)		inge in wdown
Well	Baseline	Proposed	Base.	Prop.	(ft)	Base.	Prop.	Feet	% of ST
STK	125.6	185.9	202.83	300.00	5,062	2.81	4.15	1.34	1.91 %
1RR	650.0	650.0	127.44	180.00	4,794	6.35	7.17	0.82	1.17 %
					Net:	9.16	11.32	2.16	3.08 %

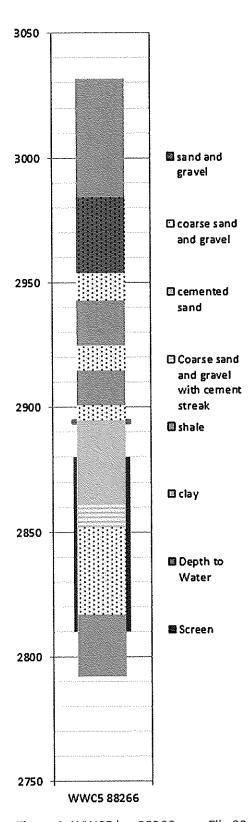


Figure 1: WWC5 log 88266 near File 32,765

Table 2: Lithological log and transmissivity estimate for log 88266

Depth		Кх			
(feet)	Description	(ft/day)	T (ft ² /d)		
0 - 48	Clay				
48 - 78	Sand and gravel				
78 - 89	Coarse sand and gravel				
89 - 107	Clay	Above es	stimated		
107 - 117	Coarse sand and gravel	water level			
117 - 131	Clay				
131 - 137	Coarse sand and gravel				
137 - 138	Cemented sand and caliche				
138 - 171	Cemented sand and caliche	15	495		
	Coarse sand and gravel with				
171 - 180	cement streak	150	1,350		
180 - 215	Coarse sand and gravel	160	5,600		
215 - 240	Ochre and shale	0	0		
	7,445				
	55,689				

F

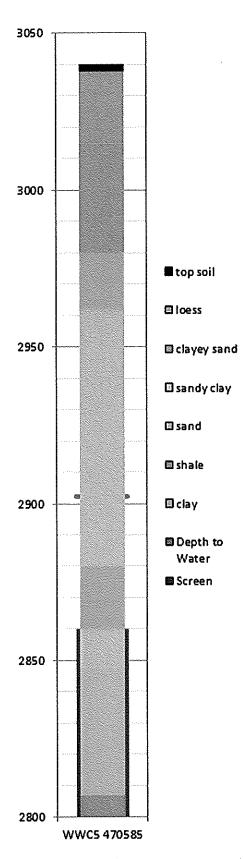


Figure 2: WWC5 log 470585 near stockwater well

Table 3: Lithological log and transmissivity estimate for log 470585

Depth		Кх						
(feet)	Description	(ft/day)	T (ft ² /d)					
0 - 2	surface		• •					
2 - 25	loess							
25 - 60	clay with caliche streaks	A hove or	timated					
60 - 78	fine and med sand with clay and caliche streaks	Above es water						
78 - 138	clay and caliche with sand streaks							
	clay and caliche with sand							
138 - 160	streaks	10	220					
	fine and med sand with clay							
160 - 180	and caliche streaks	45	900					
	clay and caliche with sand							
180 - 192	streaks	15	180					
	fine and med sand and							
192 - 233	small gravel with clay lenses	130	5,330					
233 - 240	yellow ochre	0	0					
	Transmissivity (ft²/day)							
	Transmissivity (ft²/day) Transmissivity (gpd/ft)							