

MEMO



DATE: June 3, 2020
TO: Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Members
FROM: Josh Olson
RE: June 12, 2020 GoTo Meeting and Conference Call

900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 404
Topeka, KS 66612
Phone: (785) 296-3185
Fax: (785) 296-0878
www.kwo.ks.gov

The Kansas Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) will be having a GoTo Meeting and conference call on **Friday, June 12 at 9:00 am**. Call-in details are below.

Join the meeting from your computer, table, or smartphone:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/432377525>

Join by phone:

Dial: +1 (646) 749-3122

Access Code: 432-377-525

The meeting will be a discussion of existing and proposed Kansas RAC Goals and Action Plans, as well as some regional budget information from the KWO.

Enclosed are the materials for the June 12nd Meeting:

- Agenda
- Meeting Notes from the April 30th Meeting
- Regional Budget Summary
- Draft RAC Goals and Action Plans
- Press Release

If you cannot participate, or have any questions or concerns regarding the meeting, please contact me by telephone at (715) 607-0724 or by e-mail at josh.olson@kwo.ks.gov.



MEETING AGENDA

DATE: Friday, June 12, 2020

TIME: 9 am

Join the meeting:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/432377525>

Join by phone:

Dial: +1 (646) 749-3122

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AGENDA DETAILS

- I. Welcome/Introductions**
- II. Review of April 30th Meeting Notes**
- III. RAC Business**

LOCATION:

- a. Update on message to the KWA – Dawn Buehler
- b. KWO regional budget summary feedback – Josh Olson
- c. Review and revision of Goals and Action Plans – Dawn Buehler

IV. Agency or Public Comments

V. Upcoming Meetings

- a. **Next KWA meeting (June – Conference Call)**
- b. **Next Kansas RAC meeting (July – Doodle Poll)**

VI. Adjourn

*Public Comments are limited to 3-5 minutes and limited to issues related to regional goals, action plans or other water resource issues or concerns.

Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

11 am Thursday, April 30, 2020
GoTo Meeting and Conference Call

Members Attendance:

<i>Name</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Term</i>	<i>Present</i>
Dawn Buehler, Chair	Eudora, KS	Recreation	2023	Yes
Heath Horyna, V-Chair	Topeka, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2021	No
Adam Bauer	Milford, KS	WRAPs	2023	Yes
Rick Bean	Topeka, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2023	No
Marlene Bosworth	Sabetha, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2023	Yes
Brad Bradley	Overland Park, KS	Fish and Wildlife	2021	Yes
Glenn Brunkow	Westmoreland, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2021	No
Sarah Hill-Nelson	Lawrence, KS	Industry/Commerce	2023	Yes
Leslie Holthaus	Beattie, KS	Conservation/Environment	2023	Yes
Daniel Howell	Frankfort, KS	Agriculture	2021	Yes
Darci Meese	Lenexa, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2023	Yes
William Ramsey	Leawood, KS	Planning, Restoration and Protection	2021	No
Greg Wilson	Olathe, KS	Water Assurance District	2021	Yes

Others in attendance:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>
Josh Olson	KWO	Katie Tietzort	KDA-DWR
Kirk (Tj) Tjelmeland	KWO	Andy Lyon	KDHE
Bobbi Luttjohann	KWO	Amanda Reed	KDHE
Scott Carlson	KDA-DOC	Sam Zipper	KGS
Steve Frost	KDA-DOC	Tracy Streeter	Burns & McDonnell
Dave Jones	KDA-DOC	Allyn Lockner	Public

- I) **Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by Chair, Dawn Buehler. Self-introductions were given with RAC roll call completed on the conference call line.
- II) **Review of February 21st meeting notes:** The meeting notes were reviewed and approved as written.
- III) **RAC Business:**
 - a. **Review of the proposed Kansas RAC message to the KWA regarding funding and the Blue Ribbon Task Force:** Dawn opened the discussion, asking for any comments regarding the memo. There were some questions about the format and process of submitting RAC messages. Bobbi explained that RACs are only responsible for the message portion, and the RAC Operations Committee actually submits the full memo to the KWA. The KWA approves the resolution if they agree. Sarah suggested including a request for action on the Blue Ribbon Task Force. Greg mentioned that the KWA had already established a position on the Task Force, and that they need to reaffirm support again or give an alternative funding option. He also expressed a need for guidance on how to approach outreach related to funding. A request for action on the Task Force and clarification on funding approach was added to the message. Dawn moved to approve the message as written, and Leslie seconded. All RAC members present voted in favor.

- b. **Review of the KWO RAC Informational Budget Webinar** (available [here](#)): Josh asked if there were any questions regarding the information presented at the webinar or additional information regarding the budget that the RAC would be interested in. Greg commented that the RAC may want to prioritize funding goals better based on potential funding issues for FY21. Greg recommended the RAC come up with a priority list. Greg suggested the RAC look at the RAC's FY21 recommendations from the previous year as a template for FY22 recommendations.
- c. **Review of Goal 2 and Action Plan:** Dawn opened the discussion and mentioned that the RAC could still make additional goals. Goal 2, regarding exploring additional storage possibilities for construction of multipurpose lakes, was discussed. Brad mentioned that it seemed like a one-time goal, not really an ongoing task. Dawn questioned the timeline of accomplishing the goal. Sarah suggested giving some specific criteria for evaluating sites. Tj said the Water Office had a map related to regional water demand. Bobbi suggested the RAC focus on determining if there are already sites that have been identified as a source of water supply, as well as what the alternative options are. Specifically, what is the issue that needs to be solved? Marlene mentioned multipurpose small lakes in Holton and Sabetha that have alleviated water supply issues in the northern part of the Kansas region that are not as heavily populated. Dawn pointed out the need to ensure water supply for rural areas, and stated that it was an informational question, "What areas have water supply issues?" Marlene stated that large land areas without readily available sources of good water, surface or groundwater, are sometimes forgotten about. Josh suggested Goal 2 focus first on identifying areas with water supply shortages. Dawn recommended a review of regional water needs, with Sarah supporting the emphasis of focusing on water supply for the whole Kansas region. Leslie mentioned the effort involved with mitigation projects. Marlene discussed the difference between smaller watershed dams and larger multipurpose lakes, which have significant costs and mitigation expectations, pointing out that costs and mitigation scale based on the size of the lake. Marlene brought up that the Kickapoo Reservation currently has water supply issues, particularly during drought, as well as water quality issues. Tj mentioned lawsuits related to the Kickapoo Reservation, and Katie Tietzort (KDA-DWR) clarified that the lawsuits have ended/been finalized with the State recognizing a formalized tribal right. Dawn stated that there is a need for additional information regarding the KWO's involvement with tribal water supplies. Bobbi mentioned that all watershed districts have a plan with sites identified, and the goal would be to review those plans. Dawn asked how many watershed districts there were in the Kansas region, and Dave Jones (DOC) stated that the DOC has that information. Josh updated the draft Goal #2 and Action Plan as revisions were suggested.

Review of Goal 4 and Action Plan: Dawn and Sarah suggested that Goal 4, related to water consumption reductions, be removed. Dawn pointed to difficulties in the RAC's ability to directly make progress on the goal, and questioned if it should be a high priority for the RAC. Dawn suggested the RAC review and comment on Goal 4 and submit all new ideas (potentially to replace Goal 4) to Josh by the next RAC meeting.

IV) Agency or Public Comments

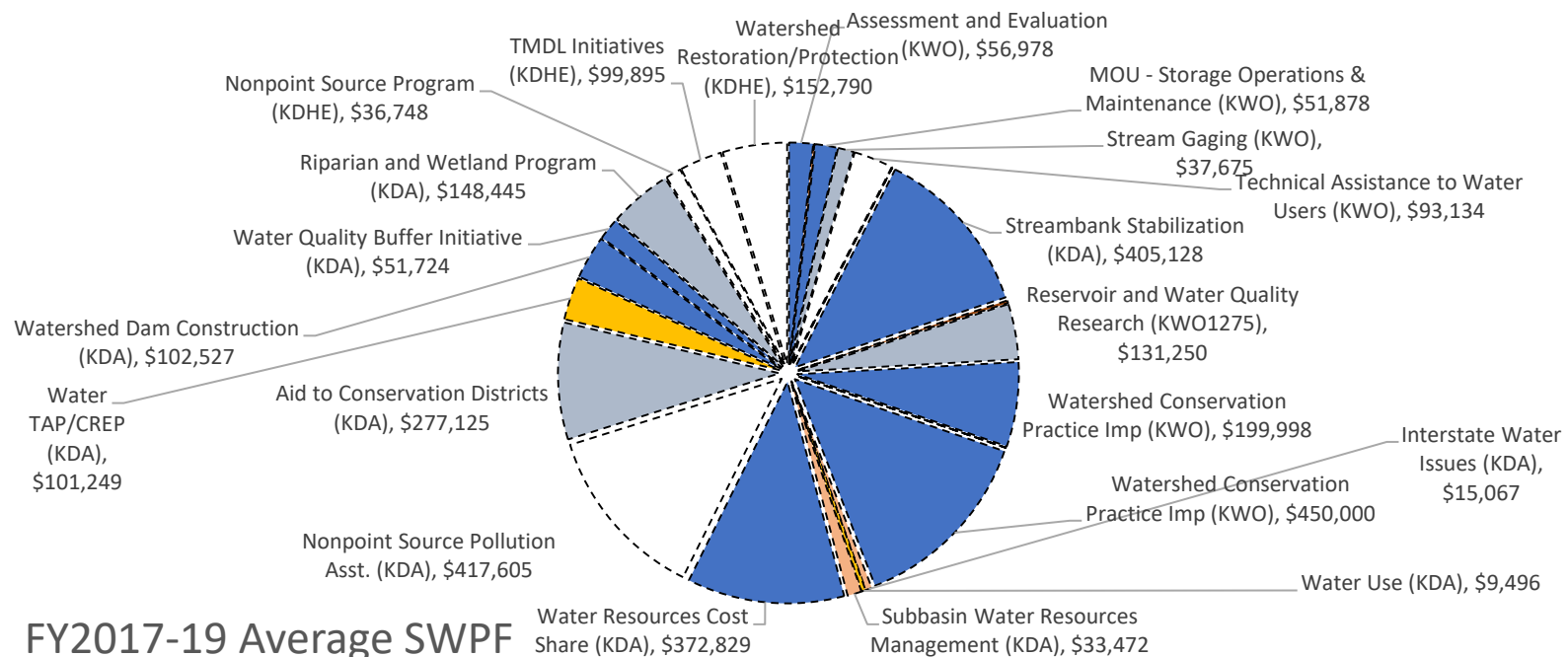
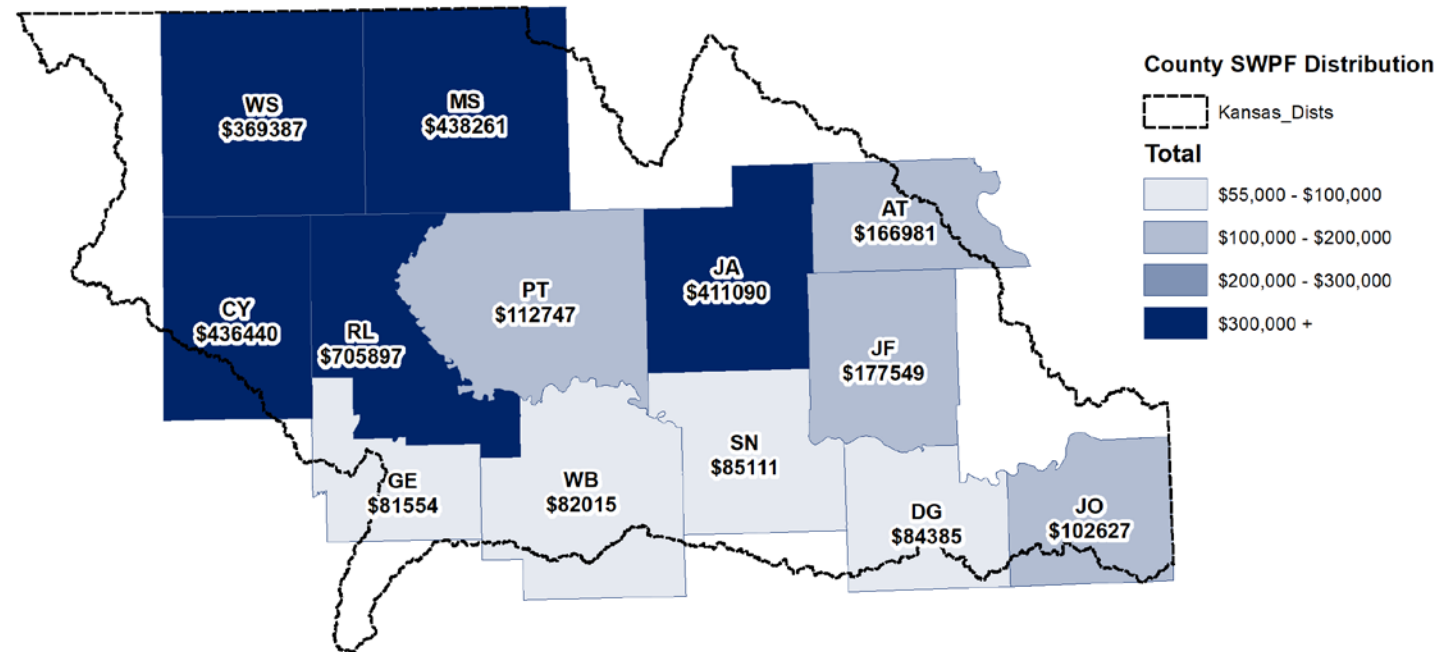
- a. Katie Tietzort (KDA-DWR) shared that the DWR Topeka Field Office had been moved to 1131 SW Winding Road behind Academy Sports. Katie also said that the office is currently closed due to COVID-19. However, technically, everything is still operating as usual with staff working remotely.

- b. Tracy Streeter (Burns & McDonnell) mentioned that the NRCS has resources available to assist with some of the multipurpose small lake needs discussed related to the Kansas RAC Goal 2 and Action Plan.
- c. Allyn Lockner asked if there was a plan to contact stakeholders from Nebraska and Missouri regarding BMP issues. Tj said there had been discussion, but no actions yet. Dawn pointed out that it was written into the Action Plans for sedimentation.
- d. Dan discussed the significant soil erosion and runoff in 2019 and mentioned the role of the farm program in supporting crop growth on areas that aren't suited for it. Dan stated he would like information on how the farm bill will quit paying for more production and focus on other things to promote that address issues for the long-term. He stated that he would like the topic discussed at the 2020 Governor's Water Conference. Dan also suggested David Montgomery, author of Dirt: The Erosion of Civilizations, as a potential speaker for the Governor's Water Conference. Related to the Governor's Water Conference, Sarah suggested Ben Goldfarb, author of Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter, as a speaker covering natural solutions to water-related issues.

V) Upcoming Meetings:

- a. Next KWA meeting, May 20th, GoTo Meeting
- b. Next Kansas RAC meeting (end of May or first part of June, Josh will send Doodle Poll)
- c. Meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm

Kansas RAC State Water Plan Expenditures FY 2017 - 2019



Sources:
Kansas Dept. of Agriculture
Kansas Dept. of Health & Environment
Kansas Water Office
Kansas Dept. of Revenue

Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Reservoir Water Supply & Sedimentation - State Water Plan Fund Budget

Issue:	Increasing of water supply liabilities. Reservoirs are filling with sediment, leading to increased water quality issues and reduction in water supply for Kansans.
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	Program	Description	RAC Avg. Expenditure FY17-19	KWA FY 2021 Requested	FY 2021 Appropriated	FY 19/20 metric	FY 2022 Goal	Cost Share Funding	Full Funding Need	RAC Goals Supported
<div>Prevention</div> <div></div> <div>Response</div> <div></div> <div>Removal & Rehabilitation</div>	Water Resources Cost Share (KDA)	To increase implementation of best management conservation practices that reduce sediment, phosphorus and other specified pollutants in high priority HUC 12 watersheds. Also increasing the implementation of practices that aid in the conservation of surface and ground water through the adoption of irrigation technology such as soil moisture probes.	\$ 372,829	\$ 2,448,289	\$ 2,698,289					Supports RAC Priority Goal 3,5
	Riparian and Wetland Program (KDA)	Enrollment of additional acres in new sediment & nutrient reduction program.	\$ 148,445	\$ 154,024	\$ 154,024					Supports RAC Priority Goal 3,5
	Aid to Conservation Districts (KDA)	To maintain and enhance conservation district operations by addressing annual inflationary costs. This enhancement provides opportunities for matching by county governments as per K.S.A. 2-1907b.	\$ 277,125	\$ 2,192,637	\$ 2,342,637			Yes		Supports RAC Priority Goal 3
	Nonpoint Source Pollution Asst. (KDA)	To implement additional soil health education activities in 105 county conservation districts as well as increasing landowner/operator scholarships to soil health educational seminars such as the annual No-Till on the Plains conference. Additional technical assistance in high priority areas through the use of contribution agreement conservation technician positions in partnership with NRCS.	\$ 417,605	\$ 1,857,836	\$ 1,857,836			Yes		Supports RAC Priority Goal 3,5
	Streambank Stabilization (KDA)	Efforts continue to be concentrated in the following priority Kansas watersheds above Federal reservoirs: Big Blue/Little Blue Rivers above Tuttle Creek Reservoir, Delaware River above Perry Lake, and Neosho/Cottonwood Rivers above John Redmond Reservoir.	\$ 405,128	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 750,000					Supports RAC Priority Goal 3
	Watershed Restoration/Protection (KDHE)	WRAPS contributes to the Kansas NPS Management Plan through the implementation of a voluntary targeted watershed-based program funded by CWA 319 and State Water Plan Funds. This program is unique because it works to seek citizen and stakeholder input and participation on watershed management and protection issues.	\$ 152,790	\$ 730,884	\$ 730,844			Yes		Supports RAC Priority Goal 3,5
	Assessment and Evaluation (KWO)	Used to contract for a variety of data collection and studies. The overall objective of the program is to provide the water planning and vision process with the background information necessary to make decisions and improve implementation.	\$ 56,978	\$ 700,000	\$ 829,900					Supports RAC Priority Goal 1,2,4
	Technical Assistance to Water Users (KWO)	Per K.S.A. 82a-2101, not less than 15% of the Clean Drinking Water Fee shall be used for technical assistance to water users to aid such systems in conforming to responsible management practices and complying with regulations of the U.S. EPA rules and regulations of the department of health and environment.	\$ 93,134	\$ 423,000	\$ 325,000					Supports RAC Priority Goal 4
	Watershed Dam Construction (KDA)	To meet unmet needs in unfunded dam construction (over a 1,000 new sites) and rehabilitation of existing flood control dams (there are approximately 1,500 existing dams).	\$ 102,527	\$ 950,000	\$ 750,000					Supports RAC Priority Goal 2
	Reservoir and Water Quality Research (KWO)	Supports study of suspended sediment monitoring gages, current and proposed streambank stabilization impacts, bathymetric capacity surveys, sediment coring for nutrients and HABs.	\$ 131,250	\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000					Supports RAC Priority Goal 3

End Goal or Policy Intent:	Increased water security. Extend the usable lifetimes of public water supply and flood control reservoirs, to protect future water supply for Kansans.
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Reservoir Water Supply & Sedimentation



Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Priority Goal #1 Action Plan

Priority Goal #1: Increase water storage capacity and availability in federal reservoirs to secure an adequate water supply to maintain water quality in the region.

Action Steps

- ❖ Increase water storage capacity and availability in federal reservoirs. Immediately initiate payment on all available storage in federal reservoirs to secure an adequate water supply for the region.
 - ◇ Complete necessary background work to support a request to reallocate storage from water supply to water quality in Milford and Perry reservoirs. Move remaining storage from water supply to water quality. (have Nate review)
 - ◇ Determine amount of additional annual costs for calling into service the remaining water supply storage not needed to meet instream purposes and request full funding. When funding is secured, call into service storage not to be included within reallocation request.
- ❖ By 2025, evaluate the ability to raise the conservation pool in each federal reservoir.
- ❖ The Kansas RAC recommends the Kansas Water Office pursue Forecast Informed Reservoir Operation and improve coordination with the USACE on reservoir releases, management plans, and future actions to address water quality and quantity issues.
- ❖ The Kansas Water Office shall gather data to determine steps to maintain consistent storage levels at specific reservoirs. As a long-term goal, KWO should incorporate existing studies and information to study the possibility of future dredging and other measures by the State of Kansas on a more consistent basis to maintain storage.
- ❖ As articulated in the “*Basin Restoration Approach: Kansas Lower Republican*,” the Kansas RAC directs the KWO to improve coordination with the USACE on reservoir releases, management plans, and future actions to address water quality and quantity issues.

Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Priority Goal #2 Action Plan

Priority Goal #2: In order to ensure water supply needs are met throughout the entire region, review regional demands for water and evaluate water supply options for areas of need.

Action Steps

- ❖ The KWO will compile existing information and complete additional evaluation necessary to determine areas of water supply need.
- ❖ Explore additional storage possibilities for construction of multipurpose small lakes so that new water sources can be brought online to alleviate specific regional issues.
- ❖ Working with KDA-DOC, NRCS and local watershed districts, identify existing watershed structures that are in need of restoration and have potential to be made larger and provide supplemental water supply.
- ❖ Working with KDA-DOC, NRCS and local watershed districts, identify watershed dam and multipurpose small lake sites that were not constructed, but could be built to provide supplemental water supply.
- ❖ KWO shall develop criteria to determine whether these sites should be expanded or built based on a broad range of issues including demonstrated need, return on investment, suitability of site for long-term use, taking into account potential for HABs and sedimentation, and other legal and logistical issues.
- ❖ Seek partnership and funding opportunities for proposed projects that meet the established criteria.

Priority Goal #3: – REDUCE THE CUMULATIVE SEDIMENT RATE OF FEDERAL RESERVOIRS AND OTHER WATER SUPPLY LAKES IN THE KANSAS REGION TO ENSURE ADEQUATE WATER SUPPLY FOR THE REGION FOR THE NEXT 40 YEARS.

ACHIEVE INDIVIDUAL REDUCTION GOALS SET BY THE KANSAS WATER OFFICE FOR EACH LAKE AS SET FORTH BY THE NINE-ELEMENT WATERSHED PLAN FOR EACH WITHIN 40 YEARS.

All goal and action plans in the Kansas Regional Planning Area will follow the FIVE WATERSHED PRINCIPLES.

Action Steps

- ❖ Establish a complete list of major reservoirs and water supply lakes in the Kansas RAC Region. This List is referred to as Appendix A and will be attached to Priority Goal #3.
- ❖ The Kansas Water Office shall set individual sediment reduction goals for each major reservoir and water supply lake. These goals will be included in Appendix A and updated as new information becomes available.
- ❖ The sediment reduction goals for reservoirs and lakes will be achieved using Best Management Practices (BMPs) implemented in the watersheds of these reservoirs and lakes in the Region. It is estimated that BMP implementation funding of a minimum of \$5M annually will be required to achieve the targeted watershed goals within 40 years.
- ❖ By 2024, all state and federal lands surrounding each federal reservoir and water supply lake in the Kansas RAC Region must implement BMPs such as no-till, soil health practices, or buffers at levels to support achievement of sediment reduction at each reservoir or lake.
- ❖ The Kansas Water Office, in coordination with other state agencies, shall ensure individual WRAPS plans and Conservation Districts' goals for the Kansas RAC Region include the concept of reservoir sustainability with the goal of maintaining storage capacity in Kansas Region reservoirs.
- ❖ Pursue innovative sediment management alternatives, such as water injection dredging technology.
- ❖ The Kansas RAC will have representation on the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) Kansas Technical Committee to help ensure that reservoir sustainability and Kansas water supply issues are addressed in NRCS goal setting and programs.
- ❖ Establish programs with local universities to leverage relevant expertise and student resources that will address the sedimentation reduction goal.
- ❖ Obtain technical assistance and advisors (TA) at a level sufficient to meet the BMP implementation goals in the Region. It is estimated that additional TA funding of at least \$350,000 annually would be necessary.
- ❖ The Kansas Water Office, in coordination with other state agencies, shall encourage the NRCS to complete a voluntary Comprehensive Conservation Plan for all land without sufficiently updated plans in the Kansas RAC Region. **These Plans should address resource concerns on cropland, in riparian areas, pastureland, livestock areas and other land. This information will aid in identifying BMP needs and prioritization of sub-watersheds in the basin, as well as assist with funding and implementation decisions. (Marlene, are you okay with this?)**
- ❖ The KWO shall take the lead to create a partnership list of all BMP implementation programs available to the public from Federal and State agencies, natural resource organizations and other groups. This list will be created and shared via a website hosted by KWO as well as in a 1-page flyer (or multiple page booklet as needed) that will be made available to the public. This information will be updated in real time on the KWO website and quarterly on the flyer by KWO staff and distributed widely to all agencies and partners for use and distribution. This document will be a key means to inform the public about all available cost share and technical assistance available for BMP implementation.

Priority Goal #4: By 2035, reduce per capita water consumption by 10 percent by 2035 through conservation, education and pricing mechanisms.

Action Plan

The Kansas Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) recognizes the need for water conservation in our region varies widely from year to year, season to season, and even throughout the region during any one time period. Regardless of the season or the current availability of water, the Kansas RAC is committed to promoting and supporting wise water use throughout the region.

Action Plan Section 1: Unaccounted For Water

Whether or not water is in short supply, we should always use it wisely. One of the most significant issues that can and should be addressed with regard to water use is unaccounted for water (UFW). This is water that public water suppliers have paid to pump, convey and/or treat, and which is unaccounted for due to leakage in the distribution system, failures within the water utility infrastructure, accounting system errors and/or unmetered water distribution. This UFW calculation currently includes a range of unmetered uses, which includes hydrant flushing, tower flushing for maintenance, etc.

- ❖ The Kansas Municipal Water Conservation Plan Guidelines approved by the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) in 2007 currently recommend that a utility implement a water management review when UFW exceeds 20% for a 4-month period. The average UFW for all utilities in the region in 2014 was 16.6%. The guidelines for the Kansas Region should raise the bar higher by encouraging utilities to undertake the review at 15% for a 4-month period, monitored monthly. The Kansas Water Office (KWO) should ensure technical assistance to conduct those management reviews when necessary, and technical assistance to address acute UFW.
 - ◇ Historically, UFW has been difficult to track, as water usage was not metered consistently. By 2017, however, this will change. The Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources required the installation of a flowmeter or other suitable water measuring device on all non-temporary, non-domestic water uses in 2014, with meter installation required for all water users by the end of 2016 and compliance required by the end of 2017. All public water suppliers currently meter their source of supply; a small number, however, remain that do not meter individual customer water usage. The RAC recommends that all public water suppliers implement customer water metering at the earliest opportunity.
 - ◇ The water metering requirement and customer metering will allow for all types of water usage to be tracked and analyzed by 2018. The most important short term benefit of the installation of water flow meters is that it will allow for appropriate accounting of water usage. This accounting not only allows for the identification of the location and nature of leaks in the system, but the information gathered is also critical to determining the nature of water usage and where conservation measures can be wisely implemented. This information will allow communities and individual users to strategize appropriate water usage and save themselves and/or the community water and money over time.
- ❖ Over time, large users should be encouraged to sub-meter which will improve their understanding of the nature of their water consumption and allow for more effective implementation of wise water use measures.
- ❖ The KWO should educate communities about the availability of funding for utilities to conduct assessments of distribution and transmission systems and develop a proactive replacement and repair schedule to minimize water loss within the system. Utilities should, where feasible, collaborate with larger utility partners in the area for assistance with assessments. The KWO should also actively educate communities about the availability of funding for investments in infrastructure improvements to minimize water loss for all water utilities in the Kansas Region.

Action Plan Section 2 - Water Conservation Plans

- ❖ The KWO should evaluate current conservation plan guidelines adopted by the KWA in 2007, to ensure they adequately address the Vision and Kansas Region goals, and provide assistance in updating plans as necessary.
- ❖ The KWO should work with public water suppliers in the region to ensure that all have an approved water conservation plan consistent with the updated Guidelines approved by the KWA that reflect the Vision and Kansas Region goals.
- ❖ The KWO should work with public water suppliers that have experienced drought vulnerability in the last 10 years to ensure they have robust drought response plans, with meaningful and implementable triggers and responses.
- ❖ The KWO should develop a Best Management Practices (BMP) Conservation Guide for communities, highlighting available resources and success stories. This BMP Conservation Guide shall be updated bi-annually.
- ❖ The Kansas RAC recommends that communities throughout the Kansas Region adopt wise water use in public buildings and on public grounds as identified in the BMP guide.

Action Plan Section 3 - Education

- ❖ The KWO should make use of existing educational resources from federal, state and non-governmental organizations such as the EPA's WaterSense program and WaterSense partners, and materials produced by the American Water Works Association and the Alliance for Water Efficiency.
- ❖ The Kansas RAC supports the mission of the Kansas Water Vision Educational Task Force. Any education efforts should be carried out in collaboration with the Kansas Water Vision Education Program.
 - ◇ The Kansas RAC will submit the following recommendations to the Kansas Water Vision Educational Task Force.
 - Develop a strategic, unified messaging campaign tailored to the needs of each region that is executed across the state and through all relevant agencies through coordinated messaging methods.
 - Develop a robust and comprehensive website that will serve as a cornerstone of the education campaign.
 - Establish a shared resource center for water suppliers and major users to connect regionally and share best management practices.
 -

Action Plan Section 4 – Incentive-based conservation practices

The Kansas RAC will continue to work with stakeholders to research and explore other opportunities to encourage wise use of water in the Kansas Region. The following items are examples of the type of opportunities the RAC will investigate.

- ❖ Consider incentive based conservation practices. Electric utilities use “throughput disincentives” authorized by the Kansas Energy Efficiency Investment Act (KEEIA) to recover revenue lost by conservation measures; something similar might be appropriate for water utilities.
- ❖ Establish criteria that encourage Low Impact Development (LID) that focuses on lowering water use in new developments.
 - ◇ Direct the KWO to work with cities to adopt LID design criteria with the goal that city ordinances and any other requirements would encourage less water-intensive fixtures, structures and landscape in new developments.
 - ◇ Direct the KWO to award and recognize cities and developers who utilize LID that focuses on water conservation



Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Priority Goal #4 Action Plan

- ◇ Direct the KWO to proactively promote LID concepts to land developers.
- ❖ Work with utilities to incentivize water efficiency via lower connection rates (or other upfront cost saving incentives) for developers, property and business owners using efficient fixtures, xeriscaping, rain catchment/reuse systems, and other conservation measures.
- ❖ Offer tax credits for practices that reduce consumption without reducing production.
 - ◇ With respect to agricultural water use, provide property tax credits proportionate to water use reduction on irrigated agricultural lands.
- ❖ Consider incentives for recycling of water within an entity or community.
- ❖ Develop a rewards and recognition program for successful Kansas conservation activities to highlight communities, individuals, businesses and industry that implement local conservation best management practices successfully.
- ❖ Create a private “water audit” certification program such as Leadership Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) to identify individuals achieving highly efficient water use and conservation.
- ❖ Promote smart water use in public buildings and on public grounds such as lower volume toilets and reduced lawn watering.
- ❖ Fund K-State Extension programming on low or no water use landscaping



Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Priority Goal #5 Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan

Priority Goal #5: CONTINUE TO REDUCE THE DURATION AND FREQUENCY OF HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS (HABS) IN THE WATERSHED.

The reduction of HABS in the Milford Lake watershed is a top priority for the Kansas Regional Planning Area.

Action Steps

- ❖ The Kansas RAC shall recommend to the Kansas Water Authority that a minimum of \$3 million per year shall be allocated towards HAB mitigation in the Kansas Regional Planning Area with a minimum of \$1.5 million to be directed to BMP implementation in the Milford Lake Watershed.
- ❖ By 2024, all state and federal lands surrounding each federal reservoir and water supply lake in the Kansas RAC Region must implement BMPs such as no-till, soil health practices, or buffers at levels to support achievement of harmful algal bloom (HAB) reduction at each reservoir or lake.
- ❖ The Kansas Water Office, in coordination with other state agencies, shall ensure individual WRAPS plans and Conservation Districts' goals for the Kansas RAC Region include the concept of minimizing nutrient inflow to lakes to reduce the potential for HABS with a focus on best management practices such as no-till, soil health and nutrient management practices, or buffer.
- ❖ Encourage stakeholders to engage in collaborative efforts that result in the reduction of nutrient loading in federal reservoirs (example, Milford RCPP).
- ❖ The Kansas RAC recommends that the Kansas Water Office include management for HABS as part of the lake level management plan to mitigate HABS in reservoirs, as well as downstream impacts.
- ❖ Support ongoing research for identification and remediation of the causes, prevention and treatment of HABS, including potential in-lake technologies.
- ❖ Establish programs with local universities to leverage relevant expertise and student resources that will address the HAB reduction goal.
- ❖ The Kansas Water Office, in coordination with other state agencies, shall encourage the NRCS to complete a voluntary Comprehensive Conservation Plan for all land without sufficiently updated plans in the Kansas RAC Region. These Plans should address resource concerns on cropland, in riparian areas, pastureland, livestock areas and other land. This information will aid in identifying BMP needs and prioritization of sub-watersheds in the basin, as well as assist with funding and implementation decisions. (Marlene, are you okay with this?)
- ❖ Encourage KDHE to continue providing funding to support roughfish removal.



Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Proposed Priority Goal #1 Action Plan

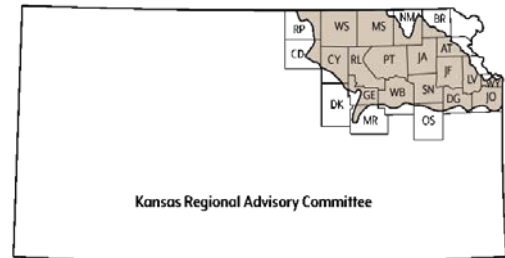
Proposed Priority Goal #1: Maintain and improve water quality, and maintain and restore natural disturbance processes, to sustainably meet the needs of nature and human communities in the watershed.

Action Steps

- ❖ Maintain and restore stream flows for aquatic and riparian communities.
- ❖ Maintain water quality for healthy aquatic communities.
- ❖ Protect receiving waters from pollution to comply with current and future water quality regulations.
- ❖ Maintain water quality for healthy aquatic systems.
- ❖ Protect the quality of drinking water supplies.
- ❖ Maintain water supplies to meet human needs within the watershed.
- ❖ Reduce flood risk to human communities and encourage natural flood processes.
- ❖ Encourage activities to adapt to climate change.

Meeting Notice:
June 2, 2020

For More Information:
Katie Patterson-Ingels
(785) 296-3185, katie.ingels@kwo.ks.gov



Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Virtual Meeting

June 12, 9 a.m., by Webinar

The Kansas Water Office's (KWO) Kansas Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) will have a meeting to discuss current water issues affecting the region as well as the state.

The virtual meeting will be Friday, June 12 at 9 a.m. The meeting will focus on existing and proposed Kansas RAC Goals and Action Plans, as well as cover some regional budget information from the KWO.

The agenda, webinar information and meeting materials can be found when available at www.kwo.ks.gov or you may request copies by calling (785) 296-3185 or toll-free at (888) KAN-WATER (526-9283).

If accommodations are needed for a person with disabilities, please notify the Kansas Water Office at 900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 404, Topeka, KS 66611-1249 or call (785) 296-3185 at least five working days prior to the meeting.

Note to Editor: The Americans with Disabilities Act, (42 U.S.C. 12101) requires the Kansas Water Office to print the reasonable accommodations messages.

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As the state's water office, KWO conducts water planning, policy coordination and water marketing as well as facilitates public input throughout the state.

The agency prepares the KANSAS WATER PLAN, a plan for water resources development, management and conservation.