

Earl Lewis and the News



Earl Lewis

I think we can all agree this has been a long, strange year so far. Everything seems out of balance and out of touch. Our normal way of doing business continues to be interrupted. But maybe we are being given an opportunity to look at new ways of doing business.

Being in the water planning business, I have spent more time on virtual calls and meetings than I ever thought possible. We are learning, however, how much can be accomplished with technology and which things we really need to be in person for. There still is no substitute for being face to face.

For many of you, harvest is just beginning or underway providing some level of routine and normalcy. I hope

you have a safe, smooth, and productive harvest. As you look to next year, are there things you and your neighbors could be doing differently or new technology which could be implemented? Whether it's irrigation technology or putting in cover crops, trying a new approach can help both you and the resource out.

While the problems we face at times seem insurmountable, each of us can improve the situation some. I continue to be reminded the Vision is that "Kansans act on a shared commitment to have the water resources necessary." As we work our way through this pandemic, and new reality, the same basic principle applies. Do what you can to help, look toward a positive future, and we both get through this and solve our water problems together.

FY2022 Kansas Water Authority SWPF Budget Recommendations

During the August 24, 2020, Kansas Water Authority (KWA) meeting, action was taken to approve State Water Plan Fund (SWPF) FY2022 budget recommendations by the full Authority.

The annual development of these budget recommendations included a review of agency recommendations from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Department of Agriculture, Kansas Water Office and Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism. Input and feedback from all of the 14 Regional Advisory Committees was also considered in the development of these budget recommendations, with a focus on programs and projects aimed at addressing regional water issues identified in their formalized regional goals and action plans.

The table on page 2 shows the KWA SWPF FY2022

budget recommendations for two budget scenarios: base funding (level from FY2020), and a request for enhancements that would require the full SGF/EDIF restoration for FY2022.

The KWA recognizes that during these challenging times, the demands for funds across government exceeds the available resources. The recommendations provided by the KWA reflect the continued importance and urgency for funding to address the state's critical water resource needs.



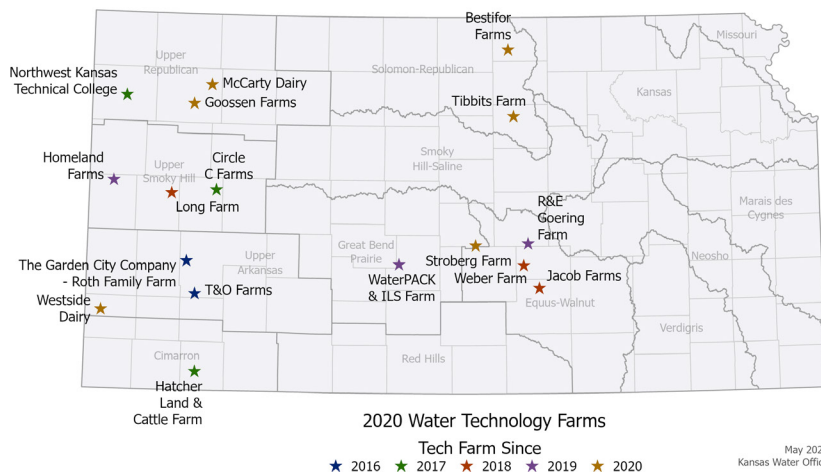
KWA Budget Recommendations Continued

State Water Plan Fund: FY2020 & FY2021 Appropriations & FY2022 Kansas Water Authority Budget Recommendations

EXPENDITURES	FY2020 Appropriated	FY2021 Appropriation*	FY2022 KWA Base Recs	FY2022 KWA Enhanc. Recs	FY2022 KWA Recs w/ Enhanc.
Department of Health and Environment					
Contamination Remediation	\$ 1,093,131	\$ 1,088,301	\$ 1,088,301	\$ -	\$ 1,088,301
Nonpoint Source Program	\$ 307,059	\$ 303,208	\$ 303,208	\$ -	\$ 303,208
TMDL Initiatives	\$ 280,738	\$ 280,738	\$ 280,738	\$ -	\$ 280,738
Harmful Algae Bloom Pilot	\$ 450,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ 150,000
Watershed Restoration/Protection (WRAPS)	\$ 730,884	\$ 730,884	\$ 730,884	\$ 269,116	\$ 1,000,000
Drinking Water Protection Program	\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 650,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 800,000
SUBTOTAL--KDHE	\$ 3,211,812	\$ 3,203,131	\$ 3,203,131	\$ 419,116	\$ 3,622,247
Department of Agriculture					
Interstate Water Issues	\$ 499,281	\$ 490,007	\$ 490,007	\$ -	\$ 490,007
Subbasin Water Resources Management	\$ 621,651	\$ 608,949	\$ 608,949	\$ -	\$ 608,949
Water Use	\$ 72,600	\$ 72,600	\$ 72,600	\$ -	\$ 72,600
Water Resources Cost Share	\$ 2,448,289	\$ 2,698,289	\$ 2,248,289	\$ -	\$ 2,248,289
Nonpoint Source Pollution Asst.	\$ 1,860,104	\$ 1,857,836	\$ 1,857,836	\$ -	\$ 1,857,836
Aid to Conservation Districts	\$ 2,192,637	\$ 2,342,637	\$ 1,973,373	\$ -	\$ 1,973,373
Watershed Dam Construction	\$ 550,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 550,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 1,000,000
Water Quality Buffer Initiative	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Riparian and Wetland Program	\$ 154,024	\$ 154,024	\$ 54,024	\$ -	\$ 54,024
Water Transition Assistance Program/CREP	\$ 302,046	\$ 699,745	\$ 402,046	\$ 225,000	\$ 627,046
Irrigation Technology	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 200,000
Crop and Livestock Research	\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000
Streambank Stabilization	\$ 500,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 794,264	\$ 250,000	\$ 1,044,264
SUBTOTAL--KDA	\$ 9,850,632	\$ 11,074,087	\$ 9,601,388	\$ 925,000	\$ 10,526,388
Kansas Water Office					
Assessment and Evaluation	\$ 600,000	\$ 829,900	\$ 658,919	\$ 200,000	\$ 858,919
MOU - Storage Operations & Maintenance	\$ 410,000	\$ 480,100	\$ 526,081	\$ -	\$ 526,081
Stream Gaging	\$ 423,130	\$ 423,130	\$ 423,130	\$ -	\$ 423,130
Technical Assistance to Water Users	\$ 325,000	\$ 325,000	\$ 325,000	\$ -	\$ 325,000
Vision Education Strategy	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 125,000	\$ -	\$ 125,000
Reservoir and Water Quality Research	\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000	\$ -	\$ 350,000
Water Technology Farms	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 200,000
Watershed Conservation Practice Imp (KRPI)	\$ 700,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 1,000,000
Equus Beds Chloride Plume Project	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Milford Lake Watershed RCPP	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 200,000
Water Injection Dredging (WID)	\$ -	\$ 660,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 1,375,000	\$ 1,500,000
Arbuckle Study	\$ 68,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
Flood Response Study	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
SUBTOTAL--KWO	\$ 3,401,130	\$ 4,493,130	\$ 3,333,130	\$ 2,325,000	\$ 5,658,130
Kansas Dept. of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism					
Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 50,000
University of Kansas--Geological Survey	\$ 26,841	\$ 26,841	\$ 26,841	\$ -	\$ 26,841
Total State Water Plan Expenditures	\$ 16,490,415	\$ 18,797,189	\$ 16,214,490	\$ 3,669,116	\$ 19,883,606
Demand Transfers					
State General Fund Transfer	\$ 4,005,632	\$ 6,000,000			\$ 6,000,000
Economic Development Fund Transfer	\$ 500,000	\$ 913,325			\$ 2,000,000
	\$ 4,505,632	\$ 6,913,325			\$ 8,000,000

*FY2021 appropriations indicated above do not reflect the July 2020 Governor's allotments in the amount of \$1,247,699 for the Kansas Department of Agriculture and \$1,160,000 for the Kansas Water Office.

Water Technology Farms Report Now Available



as they know their products and what they are capable of,” said Pat Janssen, WATERPACK/ILS Water Technology Farm producer in Stafford County. “We have found since implementing these tools it’s not only decreased water use while maintaining the same yields but also decreasing overall input costs. The truth is the overall mindset has to change – we need to work to farm for the economic yield, not production yield.”

Technology and management tools keep evolving to help crop producers make every drop of water count on their fields. Water Technology Farms were developed five years ago as part of the Long-Term Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas. They began as three-year pilot public-private partnerships to demonstrate the latest in crop irrigation technology and water conservation research on the field scale.

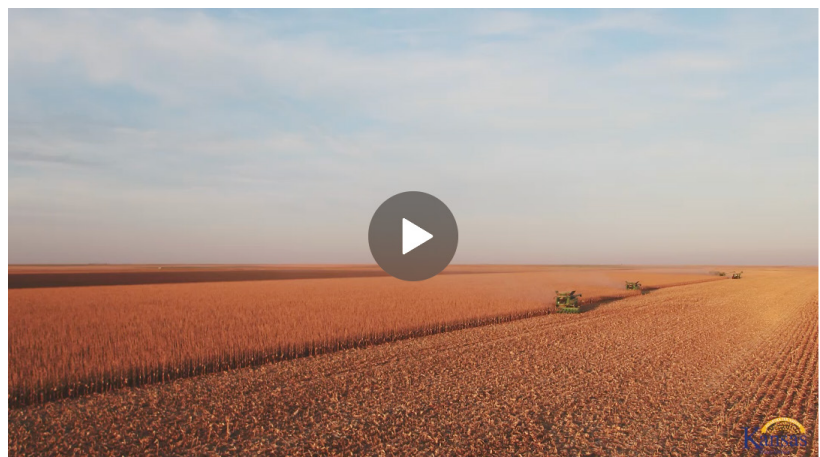
“I’m pleased to see the continued interest in Water Technology Farms across the state,” said Kansas Water Office Director Earl Lewis. “It is promising to see outcomes from these farms show that water use reductions, coupled with irrigation technology adoption and water management improvements are leading to positive effects on the aquifer as well as the producer’s bottom line.”

Water Technology Farms have proven valuable in helping to expand the conversation and education of producers as well as decision makers on equipment and technology utilized in agricultural water conservation efforts.

“Our vision with our farm is to help other farmers see what tools are best to adopt in this area as well as which could be applied to most all of their existing equipment. Technology is good but my best advice is to use the expertise that comes with the tools

The 2019 Growing Season Report shares information about each of the Kansas Water Office Water Technology Farms operational in 2019 including the crop or crops grown, technology utilized to manage water application, as well as harvest data and sponsors of each location. To hear personal testimonies from many more producers you can click on the individual farm pages listed below the map of all the farms found on the [Water Tech Farm Project Page](#). Click [here](#) to see the complete 2019 Growing Season Report.

Water Technology Farms would not be possible without the support of key public-private partnerships. More than 100 companies and organizations support this effort and sponsors for each farm are on the Water Technology Farm pages on the KWO website. There is a total of 17 participating Water Technology Farms for the 2020 growing season.





THE WATERFRONT CALENDAR

For comments or questions on
The WaterFront please contact
Katie Patterson-Ingels at
Katie.Ingels@kwo.ks.gov

Kansas Water Office
900 SW Jackson, Suite 404
Topeka, KS 66612
Phone: 785-296-3185
www.kwo.ks.gov



October

- 13 - Upper Ark Regional Advisory Committee Meeting, Virtual
- 20 - Solomon Republican Regional Advisory Committee Meeting, Virtual
- 21 - Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee Meeting, Virtual
- 26 - Kansas Water Authority Meeting, Virtual
- 29 - Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting, Virtual

November

- 9 & 10 - Governor's Conference on the Future of Water in Kansas, Virtual

December

- 3 - Missouri Regional Advisory Committee Meeting, Virtual

Get Involved with the Governor's Conference

Submit Student Posters [HERE](#)

Submit Photos to Contest [HERE](#)

SAVE — THE — DATE

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF WATER IN KANSAS | 2020



HELD VIRTUALLY THIS YEAR DUE TO COVID-19



NOVEMBER 9 & 10, 2020