"Kansas Runs on Water"

Kansas Water Vision

&

Kansas' Water Needs

The Vision Begins

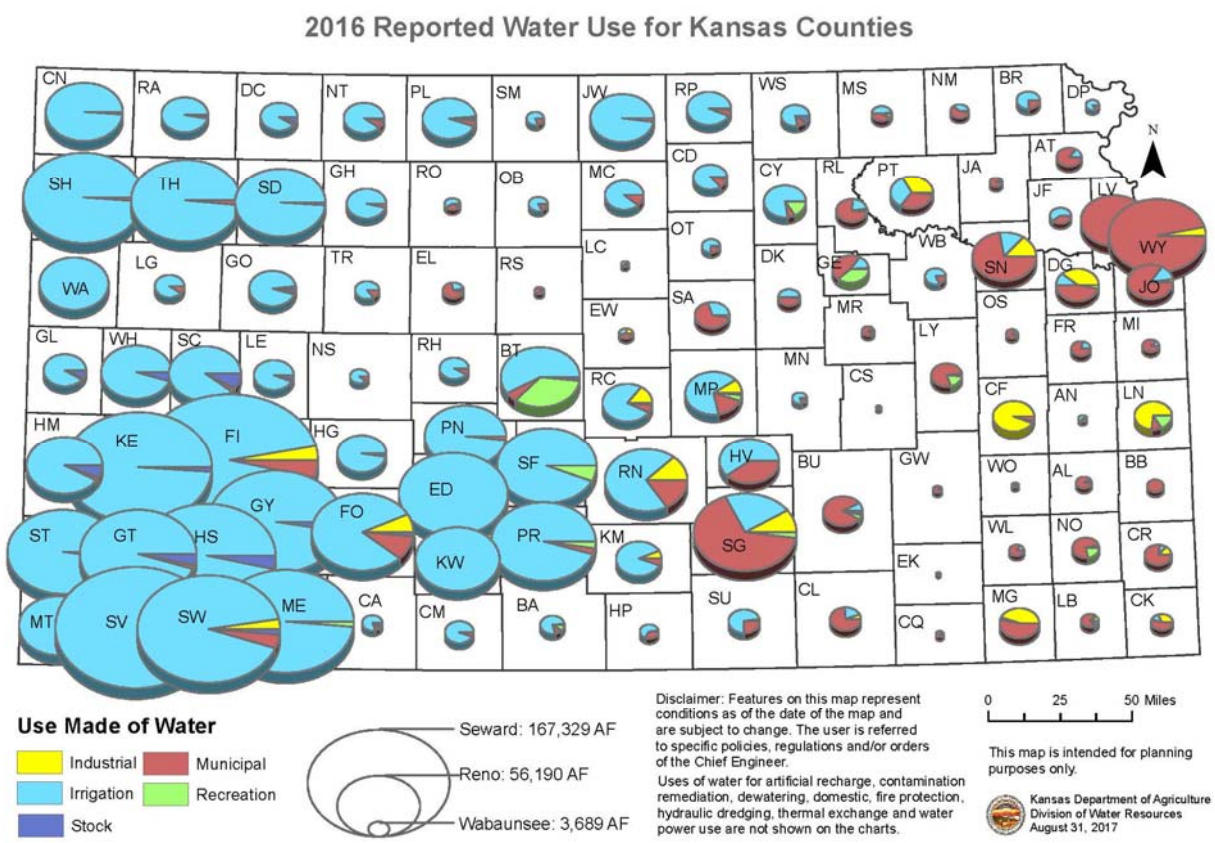
"Call to Action" from Sam Brownback in Oct. 2013

- Governor Brownback called upon the Water Office to develop the Water Vision
- *"Water and the Kansas economy are directly linked. Water is a finite resource and without further planning and action, we will no longer be able to meet our state's currents needs, let alone growth."* *-Former Kansas Governor Sam Brownback*

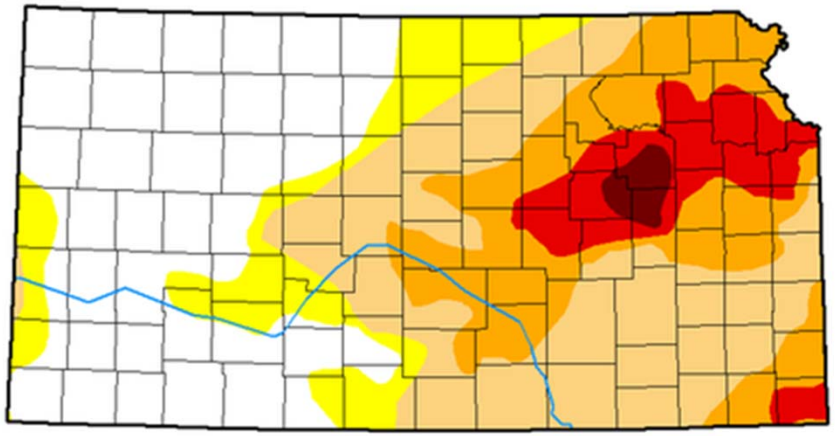
The Vision

- Goal:
  - Create a 50 year plan
  - Establish a reliable, sustainable water supply while balancing conservation with economic growth
- Development:
  - 2013-2015 – Input from Stakeholders and Citizens
  - Kansas Water Office and other state agencies developed the Vision based on public input
  - January, 2015 - Vision delivered to Governor

How Do Kansans Use Water?

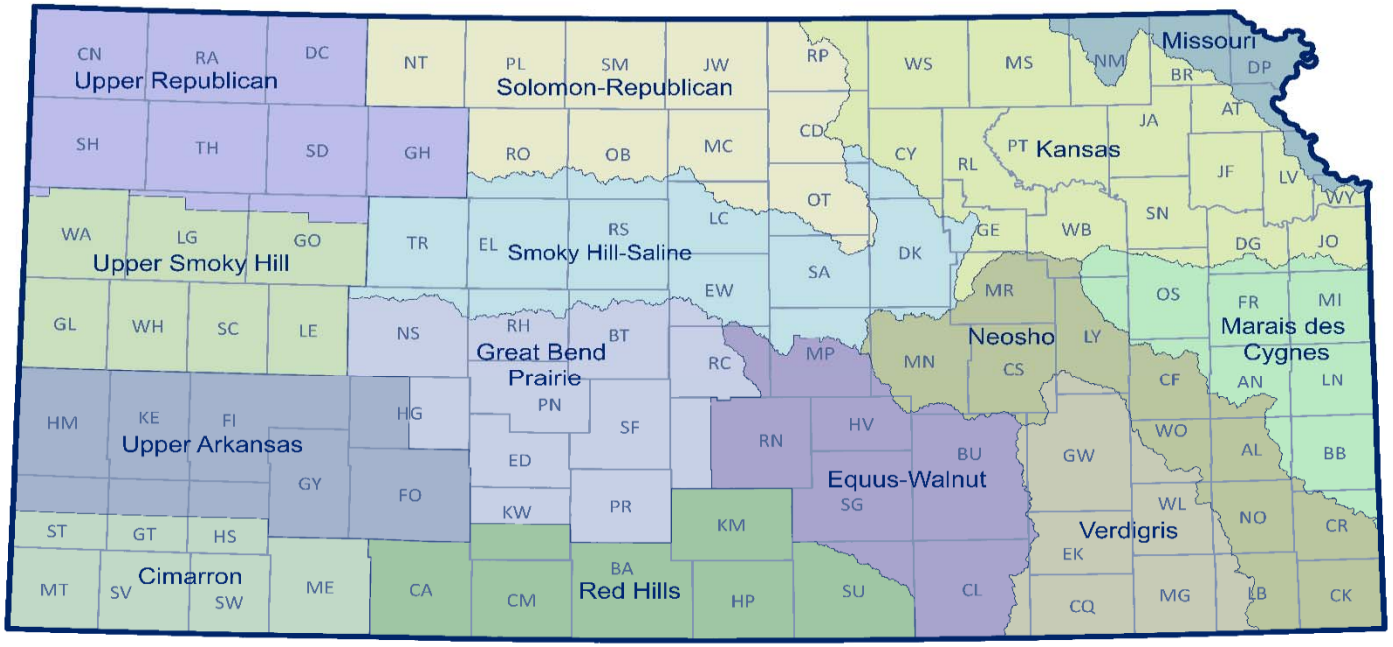


Current Drought Conditions

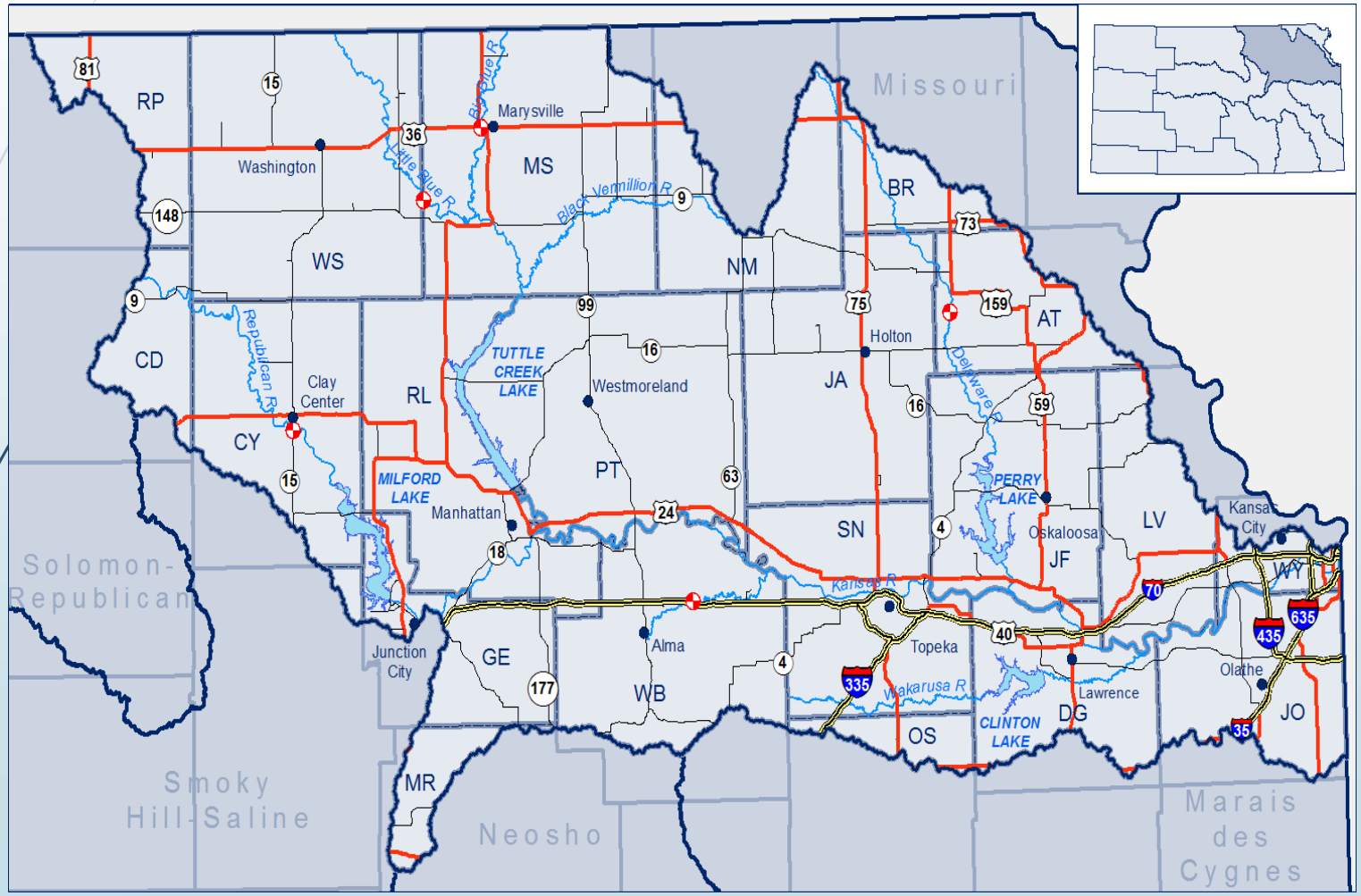


- None: No Drought (white)
- D0: Abnormally Dry (yellow)
- D1: Moderate Drought (tan)
- D2: Severe Drought (orange)
- D3: Extreme Drought (red)
- D4: Exceptional Drought (brown)

Regional Advisory Committees (RACs)



Kansas RAC


RP
Washington
Marysville
MS
Little Blue R
Big Blue R
Black Vermillion R
BR
Missouri
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CD
Republican R
Clay Center
RL
TUTTLE CREEK LAKE
Westmoreland
Holton
JA
AT
Delaware R
CY
MILFORD LAKE
Manhattan
PT
PERRY LAKE
Oskaloosa
JF
SN
LV
Kansas City
WY
Kansas R
Solomon-Republican
Junction City
GE
Alma
WB
Topeka
Wakarusa R
Lawrence
DG
CLINTON LAKE
OS
Olathe
JO
Smoky Hill-Saline
MR
Neosho
Marais des Cygnes

Kansas RAC Goals

- Increase Water Storage Capacity in Federal Reservoirs
- Reduce Sedimentation in Reservoirs
- Reduce Per-Capita Water Consumption By 10%
- Reduce Duration and Frequency of Harmful Algal Blooms

SHN2

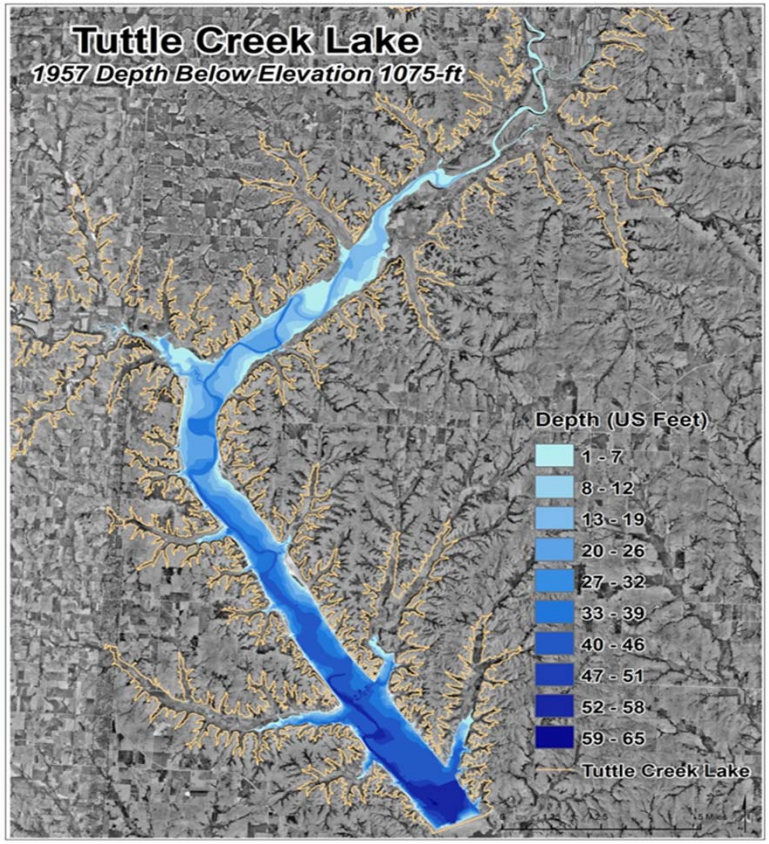
Kansas Basin Reservoirs

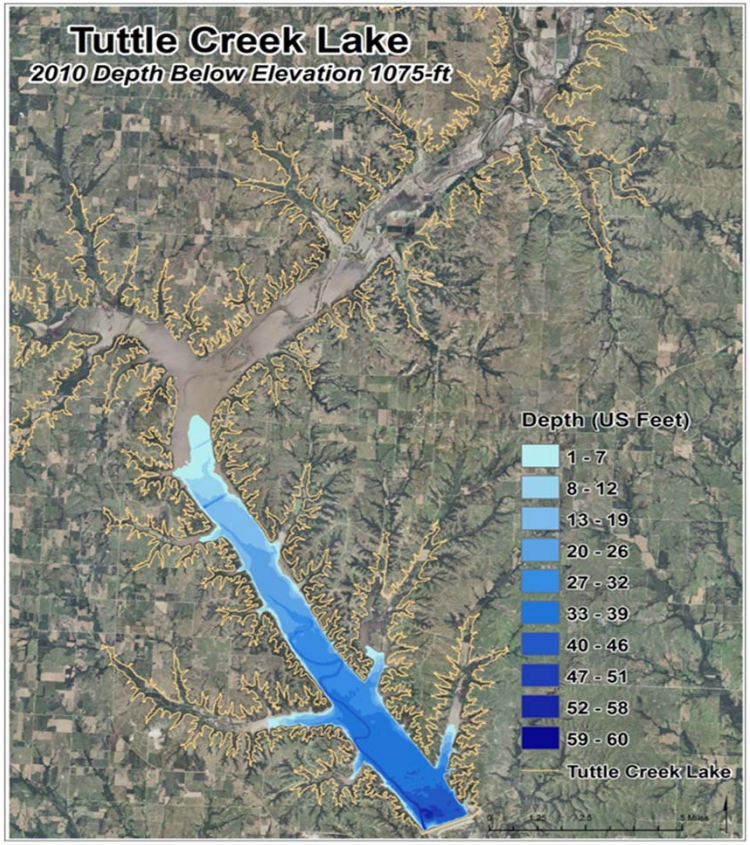
- **Milford**, **Perry**, **Tuttle Creek** and **Clinton** are the primary reservoirs within the Kansas RAC
- 60% of energy produced in Kansas relies on reservoir water storage
- 2/3 of all Kansans rely on reservoirs for water supply
- Principal Challenges
  - Loss of storage capacity
  - Toxic Algal Blooms

Slide 9

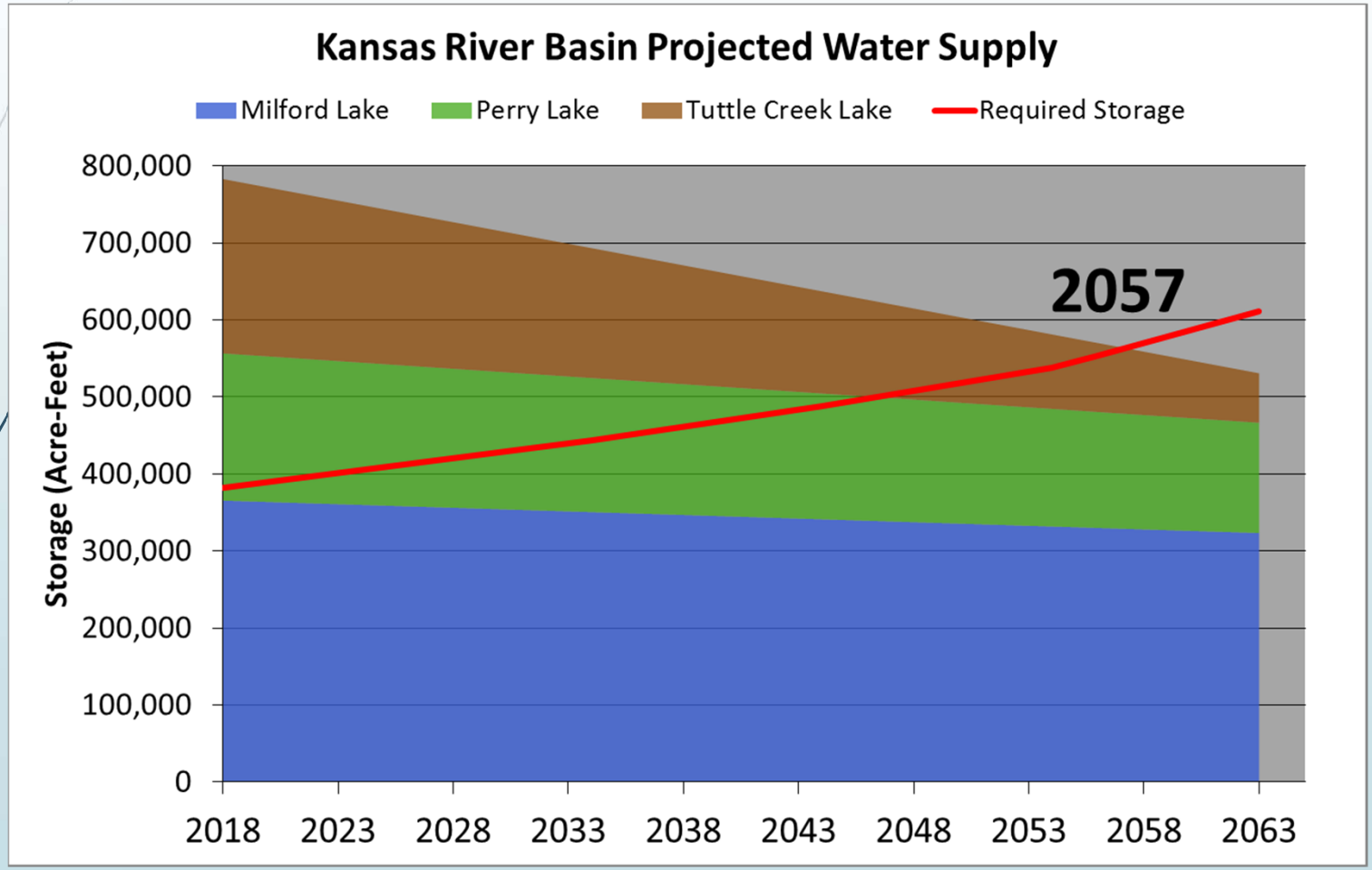
SHN2 I think we have better data that shows the reservoirs have already lost much of their capacity and that some of the mare already projected to silt in within 25 years. I think we could make the comment more forceful.
SHN, 3/29/2018

Tuttle Creek Bathymetry

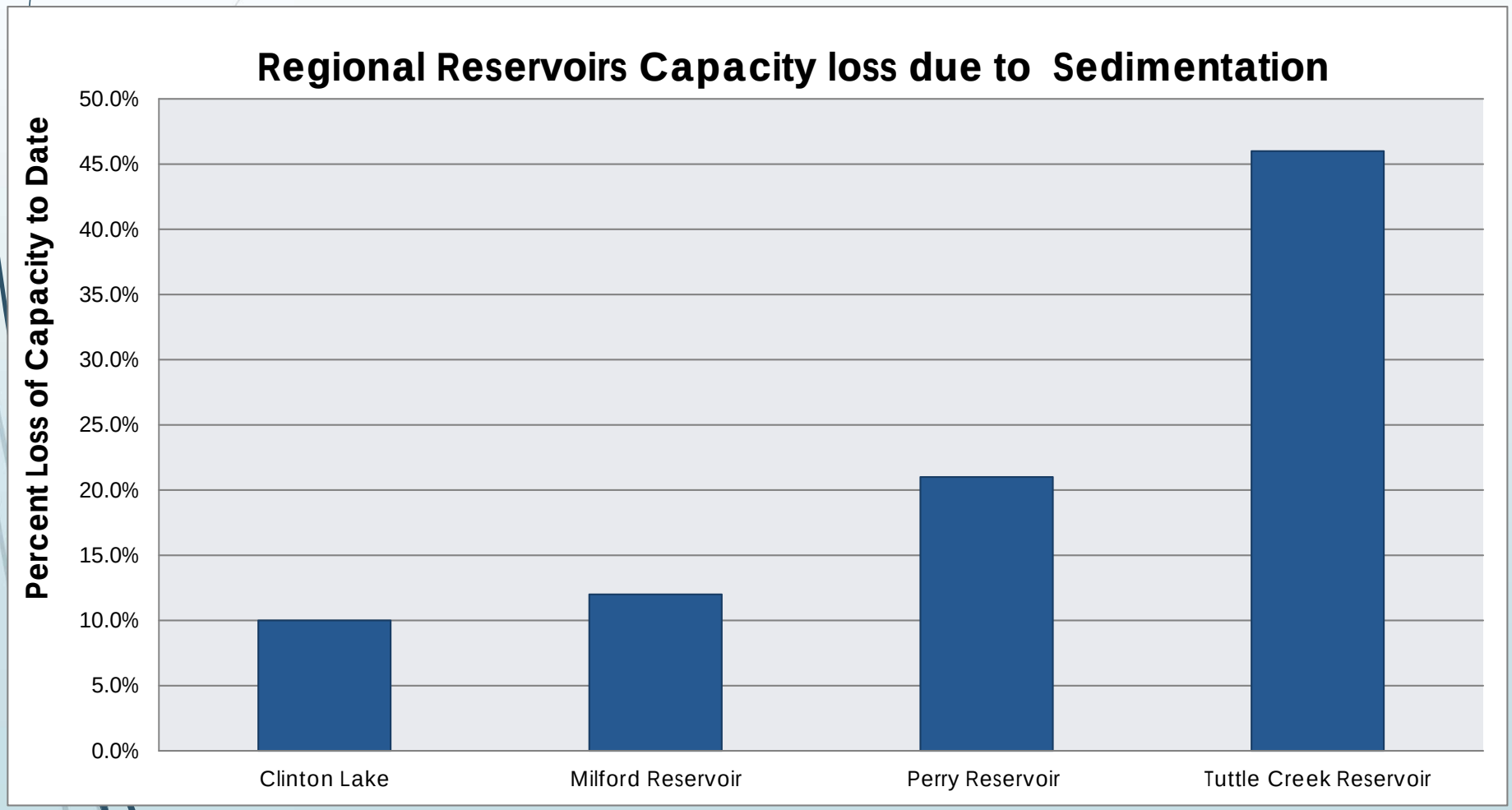




Loss of Storage Capacity



Kansas RAC Reservoir Capacity



Siltation from Tributaries

Before Streambank Project

After streambank Project

Harmful Algal Blooms

Milford Reservoir

2017 HAB Lakes in Kansas RAC

Why is Algae a Problem?

- Bad for people
- Bad for animals
- Bad for the economy
- Blooms are more frequent with higher temperatures and nutrient loading

Finding a Solution

- Education
- Best Management Land Practices
  - Ex: Streambank Stabilization, Buffer Strips, Cover Crops, No-Till Farming & Improved Storm water Management in Urban Areas all require funding
- Testing/Monitoring
- Pilot Hydraulic Dredging
  - Requires technical expertise and funding

Blue Ribbon Task Force

- Former Governor Brownback put together a Blue Ribbon Funding Task Force:
  - Kansas Association of Counties
  - Westar Energy
  - Kansas Municipal Utilities
  - Kansas Water Authority
  - Kansas Farm Bureau
  - Kansas Chamber of Commerce
  - League of Kansas Municipalities
  - Kansas Rural Water Association
  - Kansas Livestock Association
  - Kansas Grain and Feed Association

Funding

- Kansas Water Plan Fund (between $14 - $20 million annually)
  - Consists of fees, General Fund Transfer and Economic Development Initiative Funds
  - The General Fund Transfer and EDIF Transfer ($8 million annually) have not occurred consistently
  - Kansas water funding has totaled $76 Million less than intended over the past 18 years
- Blue Ribbon Task Force Recommendations:
  - Identified $55 Million in projects to carry out the Govenor's Water Vision
  - Proposed to raise funding with a 1/10th of a cent sales tax carve off
    - Pursuant to a vote of citizens
    - The bill did not move forward as proposed

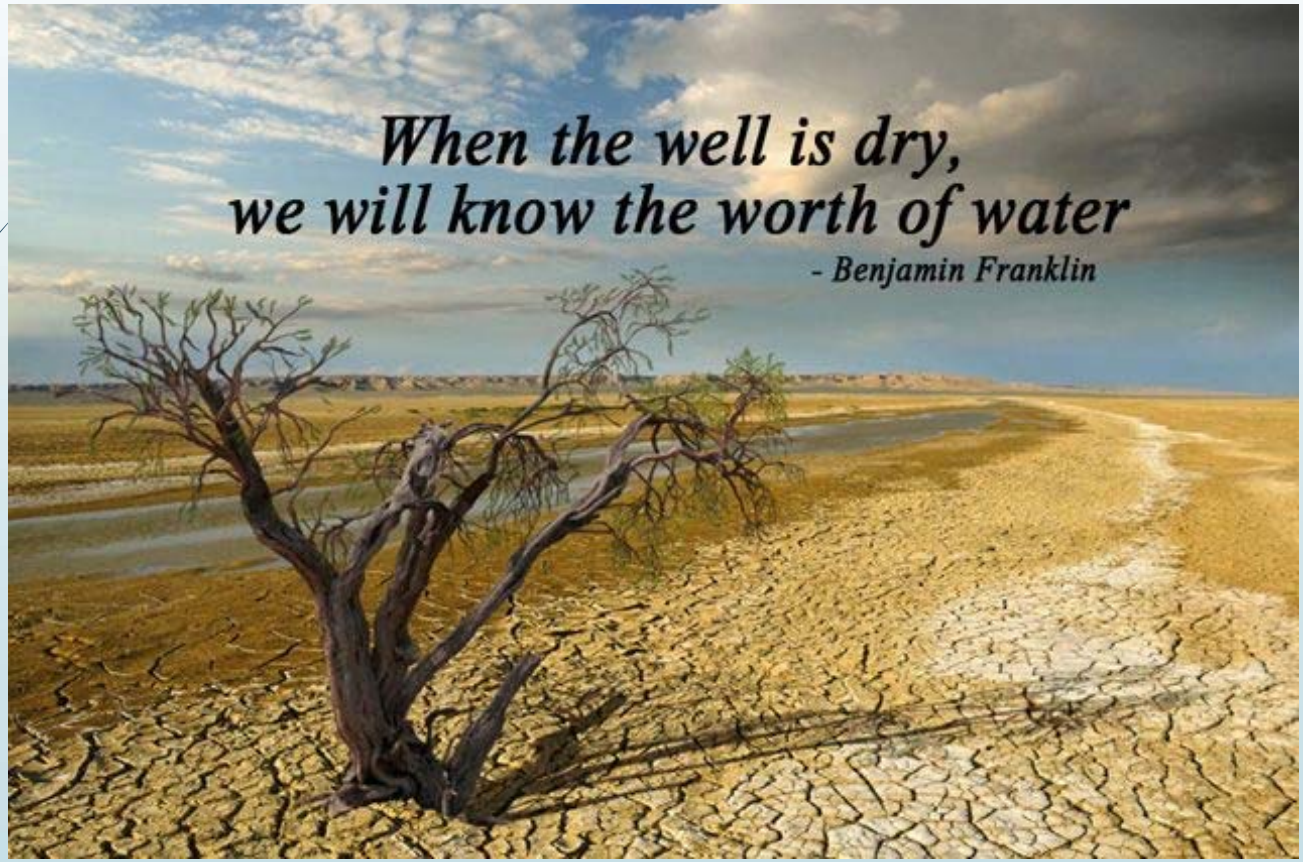
How Can You Help?

- Talk to your legislators and community peers about the issue
- Awareness of the problem is key to the solution
- Support water funding proposals with your legislators

The Water Vision – It's for Our Kids

Keep our water clean in the stream!

Questions?


When the well is dry,
we will know the worth of water
- Benjamin Franklin