

Marais des Cygnes Goals and Action Plans:

Priority Goal #1: Reduce cumulative sediment loads entering Melvern Lake, Pomona Lake, and Hillsdale Lake by 10 percent every 10 years to extend the life of existing infrastructure.

Action Steps:

- A collaboration between the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC), local producers, local WRAPS groups, local conservation districts, regional public Water Suppliers (PWS), the Kansas Water Office (KWO), the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDH&E), and the Kansas Department of Agriculture-Division of Conservation (KDA-DOC) will secure funding and work to treat priority cropland, with no-till practices, cover crops, and other sedimentation and nutrient reduction farming practices by 2030 in the Marais des Cygnes Region above Melvern Lake, Pomona Lake, and Hillsdale Lake.
- This collaboration will provide education and share information concerning water and soil conservation and nutrient and sedimentation reduction, and demonstration farms will be established in the region above these three reservoirs.
- Encourage state and federal entities to participate in best management practices above federal reservoirs on state and federal lands and create a demonstration farm.
- The KWO will create a baseline sedimentation rate and review the sedimentation rate changes of these three reservoirs by conducting bathymetric surveys every 5 years to monitor the sedimentation rate and the progress and benefit of sedimentation reduction practices. The KWO will work to secure funding for this program.
- The KWO will evaluate possible technologies that may be feasible to remove sediment from the reservoirs.

Priority Goal #2: Ensure water supply storage in the Marais des Cygnes Region is able to supply for 110% of the projected demands through the year 2050.

Action Steps

- The KWO will refine population and demand growth projections to ensure accurate projections are being utilized.
- The KWO will evaluate the need and feasibility of creating an interconnection with municipalities within an adjacent region to be a backup water supply source.
- The RAC and the KWO will work with the Kansas Rural Water Association (KRWA) through their technical assistance contract to identify PWS that may not be sufficient to meet projected demands.
- The collaboration referenced in the Action Steps for Goal 1 will provide education and share information concerning water and soil conservation and water consumption reduction for the Marais des Cygnes Region.
- The KWO will evaluate possible technologies that may be feasible to remove sediment from the reservoirs if there becomes a need to in order to maintain and protect water supply.

Priority Goal #3: Continually work to prevent the spread of Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS), including Zebra and Quagga mussels, into Kansas Lakes that are not currently infested, by working with the agencies focused on ANS.

Action Steps:

- The KWO and the RAC will work to prevent the spread of ANS into Kansas Lakes that are not currently infested, by working with the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism (KDWP&T) and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to install three Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination stations near the federal reservoirs within the Marais des Cygnes Region.
- The RAC will work with the KDWP&T and USACE on an ongoing basis to provide education for lake users concerning the spread of ANS and how to prevent it.
- The RAC will encourage funding for the ANS Program through the State Water Plan Fund (SWPF).