# Kansas Water Plan Implementation Workshops

Summer Local Consult

June 2024





### Building a Future for Today and Tomorrow's Kansans

# Where we are today



### **Average Annual Water Usage in Kansas by** Category 1% 1% 83% 11% 3% 1% Irrigation **Municipal** Industrial **Stock Water Recreational** Miscellaneous Farming

Source: Kansas Department of Ag, 2019

## Water Sources for Our State



# **Kansas Water Plan Vision: 5 Guiding Principles**



 Conserve and Extend the High Plains Aquifer



- Secure, Protect and Restore Our Kansas **Reservoirs**
- 3. Improve the State' s Water Quality



4. Reduce Our Vulnerability to Extreme Events

5. Increased Awareness of Kansas Water Resources

**Embedded within these 3.** 

### We are organizing around the big 3

# Investment Scenario Handouts for each Guiding Principle:

- 1. Aquifer
- 2. Reservoir
- 3. Water Quality





- Estimated usable life varies across aquifer
- Counties reliant on the aquifer account for \$57 billion in economic output annually for Kansas

### Useable life



Years Until the Average 2019-2021 Aquifer Thickness Reaches Minimum Thresholds\*



- Estimated usable life varies across aquifer
- Counties reliant on the aquifer account for \$57 billion in economic output annually for Kansas
- Without decreasing usage, some communities could vanish within a generation or two.

### **Useable life**



Years Until the Average 2019-2021 Aquifer Thickness Reaches Minimum Thresholds\*



# Aquifer: How Example Investment Strategies Connect to Key Challenge

Challenge:	Invest. Strategies to Address:
Need to conserve	Make major water usages (irrigation, feedlots, municipal systems) more efficient through technology upgrades and reuse systems.
water for	Limit water usage by purchasing water rights.
generations	Enhanced <b>monitoring of water conditions</b> lets us track usage better and make effective decisions.

## It's complicated Everyone needs water today, tomorrow and forever Levers: purchase, incentives, regulation Your tax dollars Kansas way of life and livelihoods





### 66% of Kansans rely on Reservoirs for:

- Drinking water
- Water storage for droughts

Flood protection

Year



Years

Years





About a 100
 communities
 vulnerable to
 similar event as
 Caney

Caney Water Crisis: City seeks state of emergency declaration



The water crisis in Caney could lead to an official state of emergency declaration for the small southeastern Kansas town, its city administrator confirmed.



# **Reservoir: How Example Investment Strategies Connect to Key Challenges**

Challenges:	Invest. Strategies to Address:
Need for water storage during	Sediment reduction increasing storage capacity at reservoirs
droughts for increased resiliency	Protecting watersheds prevents sediment from reaching the reservoirs
Need to connect water systems (like Caney) to prevent running out of water	Regional interconnection projects connect communities to multiple water sources

\*More strategies on the handout.



Water Quality Challenge: Reacting to water contaminants is more costly than protecting waters from contamination

### Kansas Lakes & Reservoirs Drinking Water Conditions prior to Treatment





### Water Quality Challenge: Green are impaired streams





# Water Quality: How Example Investment Strategies Connect to Key Challenges

Challenges:	Invest. Strategies to Address:
Need to fix leaky pipes in municipal water systems (like Caney) to stop wasting water	Infrastructure grants to communities to improve water and sewer systems to save water and meet health compliance standards
Protecting our water sources	Protecting watersheds from pollution and stormwater runoff
from contaminants	Addressing nitrates in drinking water

\*More strategies on the handout.

# Seeking Your Input Today in 3 Key Areas



### **Regional Goals**

• Where is there alignment within your region and across the state?

All these are in same room.





### Investment Prioritization

 Why do you value investments in one Guiding Principle over another if forced to choose?

### Performance

 How are we managing water in the state? Where could we improve our programs?

# **Breakout Session: Regional Goals Alignment Input Session**

### **Regional Advisory Committees (RACs) – Local Input to Inform Water Policy**

Upper Republican	Priorities
Upper Smoky Hill	Priorities
Upper Arkansas	Priorities
Cimarron	Priorities
Solomon-Republican	Priorities
Smoky-Hill Saline	Priorities
Great Bend Prairie	Priorities
Red Hills	Priorities
Equus-Walnut	Priorities
Missouri	Priorities
Kansas	Priorities
Marias des Cygnes	Priorities
Verdigris	Priorities
Neosho	Priorities

### Kansas Water Plan 5 Guiding Principles

# Today we're asking you to broaden out



### From 14 RACs to 6 Regions

# Today we're asking you to broaden out



### From 14 RACs to 6 Regions

# Kansas Water Authority Simplified Draft Goals





### High Plains Aquifer

- Halt the decline of the Ogallala
- Restore and maintain natural streamflow
- Maximize the economic output of all water users

### Reservoir

- Adequate storage for all climate conditions
- Promote and incentivize regionalization
- Promote land management practices to reduce sedimentation

✓—/	

- Water Quality
  - All water sources are free of all forms of pollution and contaminants

# **Regional Goals Handout**

### 2. Compare to Statewide Goals

\_\_\_\_\_

Kansas Water Plan Implementation: SOUTH CENTRAL REGION GOALS Group

10 Equus-Walnut Goal 1: Promote sustainable balance of groundwater withdrawals with annual

1A. Goals/

**RAC** in the

for each

region

listed for

comparing

similarities

recharge in the Equus Beds Aquifer. Goal 2: Encourage the development and use of comprehensive water supply plans by major water users in the region.

Goal 3: Implement watershed protection measures to improve reliability and health of surface water resources in the region.

Goal 4: Allocate resources to locate, characterize, prioritize and remediate contamination sites.

Goal 5: Increase efforts to establish sustainable, waterconserving agricultural production practices.

#### 11 Great Bend Prairie

Goal 1: Achieve water use sustainability that includes a reasonable raising or lowering of the water table based on average weather conditions. Evaluate cost-share programs and incentivize conservation.

Goal 2: For municipalities and rural water districts: enhance new technology and increase water efficiency to reduce water loss.

Goal 3: Enhance monitoring of poor water quality to stop contamination of fresh water sources.

Goal 4: Initiate research and development of alternative feed sources and less water-intensive crops. Develop markets for feed wheat and other alternative crops for use feed sources.

Goal 5: Work towards sustainability of watersheds so that flood control capacity is maintained while maintaining streamflow to meet downstream water needs.

#### 12 Red Hills

Goal 1: Reduce water usage throughout the region with voluntary and incentive-based policies and programs.

Goal 2: Increase sources of supply through the use of multipurpose small lakes

Goal 3: Work with Oil & Gas industry to recycle/reuse flow back and production water for regional use.



Red



🖉 Compare/contrast Regional Advisory Committee goals in your region.

- How are they similar and different? (Are there language differences? Are there differences in priorities?)
- On a scale of 1 5 with 1 being very 2 different and 5 being very similar, how aligned do you think these RAC goals are with each other?

5 1

#### KANSAS WATER AUTHORITY (KWA) GOAL SIMPLIFIED STATEWIDE WATER GOALS AREA Halt the decline of the Ogallala Restore and maintain natural streamflow Maximize the economic output of all water users IGH PLAIN AQUIEED Adequate storage for all climate conditions Promote and incentivize regionalization Promote land management practices to reduce sedimentation All water sources are free of all forms of pollution and contaminants $\diamond$ Education and Outreach OVERARCHING

**KANSAS WATER AUTHORITY STATEWIDE GOALS** 

#### How do your priorities compare with the Kansas Water Authority goals?

 Do you see expanding your regional priorities to include those Kansas Water Authority authority goals? If so which ones?

### **1B.** Rate RAC similarities

24

# **Regional Goals Handout – Page 2**



3. Shows how RAC goals compare across regions

# **Investment Scenario Input Session**

# Average Annual State Investment by Guiding Principle



# **Investment Scenario Prioritization Exercise**



Each participant gets one chip for each investment level; each participant will put his/her chip in the respective bucket and guided through a facilitated discussion to explore why he/she invested in the ways that they did.

Scenario Handouts for each Guiding Principle:

- 1. Aquifer
- 2. Reservoir
- 3. Water Quality



Reduction of Water Use

solution is developed. Irrigation System Efficiency

**Municipal Reuse Systems** 

Feedlot and Stockwater System Upgrades

management.

Kansas Water Plan Implementation: 10-Year Aquifer Investment Scenarios

Slowing Groundwater Level Decline Through Direct Incentives: Approximately 25,000 water rights draw

approximately 15% reduction in current usage would be needed. For purposes of stabilizing the water table,

Purchase of Water Rights: Permanent purchase of the water right can reduce the long-term decline of the

aguifer. Purchasing of water rights will be focused on the Ogallala Aguifer in the western third of the state.

Buy Down Usage Through Lease: State buy down of water use through leasing of water rights for a specific

period of time can reduce the decline of the aquifer or associated streams in the Great Bend and Equus Beds aquifers in South Central Kansas. Leasing is primarily an option to achieve reduced use while a permanent

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other users. Reuse allows for reduced pumping and leaves more water in the aquifer. Roughly 100 municipal

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the amount of water that can be withdrawn on an average basis is referred to as QStable.

#### **Aquifer Investment Areas**

systems could be eligible for this type of improvement in Western KS.



\$18.5 M

Reduction of 3,000 acre-feet

through purchase (Ogallala)

feet annually through leasing

(5% of needed for full stream

\$18 M

\$8 M

\$5 M

3.000 systems (15%)

1.500 systems (8%)

20 communities (20%)

Reduction of 4.000 acre-

(Big Bend & Equus Beds)

restorations in SC Kansas)

(1% of QStable)



\$7.5 M

COST SHARE TO ASSIST V ITH TECHNOLOGY, WATER MGMT. AND REUSE SYSTEMS

30 communities (30%)

REDUCTION OF V ATER USE THROUG

COST SHARE ON TE HNOLOGY UPGRA

COST SHARE TO ASSIST IN DESIGN/IMPLEME

**Game Changer** Stabilizes the Ogaliala Aquifer

• 40 communities (40%)

\$12.5 M

\$155.5 Million	\$1.84 Billion	
\$72.5 M	\$1.72B	Each Princip
ATER USE THROUGH PURCH	ASE AND LEASING	•
Reduction of <b>15,000 acre-feet</b> through purchase (Ogallala) (3% of QStable)	Reduction of 480,000     acre-feet through purchase     (Ogallala) (100% of QStable)	has 3
Reduction of <b>10,000 acre-</b> feet annually through leasing (Pig Rend & Equus Reds)	Reduction of 20,000 acre- feet annually through leasing (Big Bend & Equus Reds)	investment
(12% of needed for full stream restorations in SC Kansas)	(25% of needed for full stream restorations in SC Kansas)	level
		sconarios
\$40 M	\$80 M	Scenarios
HNOLOGY UPGRADES FOR I	RRIGATION SYSTEMS	
6,000 systems (30%)	• 10,000 systems (50%)	
<b>RRIGATION SYSTEM AUDITS</b>		Stand Date w/
5,000 systems (25%)	• 15,000 systems (75%)	
\$12 M	\$16 M	con occur wit
DESIGN/IMPLEMENTATION C	F WATER REUSE SYSTEMS	

# nat current funding levels in 10 years

Stockwater use can be reduced and efficiency improved through technology, better management and audits of system operations. Reuse of livestock wastewater can extend the life of the aguifer. Just under 60 stockwater facilities could b

audits of system operations. Reuse of livestock wastewater can extend the life of the aquifer. Just under 60 stockwater facilities could be eligible for this type of improvement in Western KS.	• 20 feedlots/dairles (35%)	30 feedlots/dairles (55%)	• 50 feedlots/dairles (90%)
Monitoring and Modeling	\$2 M	\$7.5 M	\$15 M
	MAINTAIN CURRENT MONI	ORING OF 1,400 ANNUAL WE	LL MEASUREMENTS, PLUS
Determination of necessary actions is dependent on accurate information about usage and the aquifer condition. Organize and expanded monitoring as well as development of analytical tools is critical to making	<ul> <li>Monitoring of 24 Index wells</li> </ul>	Expand to 40 Index wells	• Expand to 750 Index wells
effective decisions that help achieve sustainability.	<ul> <li>Groundwater model updates on a 10-year rotation</li> </ul>	Groundwater model updates on a <b>5-year rotation</b>	<ul> <li>Annual groundwater model updates</li> </ul>
		Limited aerial electromagnetic mapping	Aerial electromagnetic mapping of entire High Plains Aguitar

Both "Stand Pat" and "Move the Needle" will result in continued depletion of the aquifer without additional water use regulation. The "Game Changer" option anticipates no additional regulation for water use reductions. P



#### Kansas Water Plan Implementation: 10-Year Aquifer Investment Scenarios

#### Aquifer Investment Areas







Each Principle has 3 based of QStable of QStable of QStable of OCO acremough leasing puus Beds) d for full stream SC Kansas s (50%) s (75%) s (75%) s YSTEMS

Needle: Increased progress over 10 years with more funding

Reduction of Water Use	\$18.5 M	\$72.5 M	\$1.72B
	REDUCTION OF 1	ATER USE THROUGH PURCHA	E AND LEASING
<b>Slowing Groundwater Level Decline Through Direct Incentives:</b> Approximately 25,000 water rights draw from the High Plains Aquifer, using 3 million acre-feet of water per year. To reach stable water levels, an approximately 15% reduction in current usage would be needed. For purposes of stabilizing the water table, the amount of water that can be withdrawn on an average basis is referred to as QStable.	• Reduction of <b>3,000 acre-feet</b> through purchase (Ogallala) (1% of QStable)	Reduction of <b>15,000 acre-feet</b> through purchase (Ogallala) (3% of QStable)	• Reduction of <b>480,000</b> acre-feet through purchase (Ogallala) (100% of QStable)
<b>Purchase of Water Rights:</b> Permanent purchase of the water right can reduce the long-term decline of the aquifer. Purchasing of water rights will be focused on the Ogallala Aquifer in the western third of the state.	Reduction of <b>4,000 acre- feet</b> annually through leasing (Big Bend & Equus Beds) (5% of needed for full stream restorations in SC Kansas)	<ul> <li>Reduction of 10,000 acre- feet annually through leasing (Big Bend &amp; Equus Beds) (12% of needed for full stream restorations in SC Kansas)</li> </ul>	• Reduction of <b>20,000 acre- feet</b> annually through leasing (Big Bend & Equus Beds) (25% of needed for full stream restorations in SC Kansas)
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Irrigation System Efficiency	\$18 M	\$40 M	\$80 M
	COST SHARE ON TE	HNOLOGY UPGRADES FOR IR	IGATION SYSTEMS
There are roughly 20,000 irrigation center pivots in Kansas. Research has shown that water use can be reduced by 15% or more while maintaining the same level of profitability with improved technology and	• 3,000 systems (15%)	• 6,000 systems (30%)	• 10,000 systems (50%)
management.		IRRIGATION SYSTEM AUDITS	
	• 1,500 systems (8%)	• 5,000 systems (25%)	• 15,000 systems (75%)
Municipal Reuse Systems	\$8 M	\$12 M	\$16 M
	COST SHARE TO ASSIST I	DESIGN/IMPLEMENTATION O	WATER REUSE SYSTEMS
Use of treated municipal wastewater can serve as an additional water source in water-limited areas of the state. Systems can range from irrigation of community areas to partnerships with industries, farmers, and other users. Reuse allows for reduced pumping and leaves more water in the aquifer. Roughly 100 municipal systems could be eligible for this type of improvement in Western KS.	• 20 communities (20%)	• 30 communities (30%)	• 40 communities (40%)
Feedlot and Stockwater System Upgrades	\$5 M	\$7.5 M	\$12.5 M
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#### Kansas Water Plan Implementation: 10-Year Aquifer Investment Scenarios

#### Aquifer Investment Areas



Stand Pat \$52 Million

Move the Needle \$139.5 Million

Game Changer

Stabilizes the Ogaliala Aquifer

\$1.84 Billion

Aerial electromagnetic

Aquifer

mapping of entire High Plains

		<b>b</b>		
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Each Principle has 3 investment level scenarios

Game Changer: Major progress in 10 years with substantially more funding

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Limited aerial electromagnetic

mapping



Kansas Water Plan Implementation: 10-Year Aquifer Investment Scenarios

#### Aquifer Investment Areas



Move the Needle \$139.5 Million

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### <u>10-Year</u> Investment Numbers

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# **For Today**

# Why



How

You made the investment choices you did

Pressing challenges? Best buy? You chose to invest your tickets.

# **Disclaimer:**

These are example investment strategies.

We also want your feedback on how to improve these scenarios too.



# Algal Bloom Lesson: Nimble approach is key

"Honestly, I care more about the good of the lake than my businesses. They've got to figure something out."

- Increased investment allows for us to try out more solutions
- Dynamic input process allows us to adjust our investments as we go based on what we learn.

# **Programs Evaluation Input Session**

#### Provide your feedback on State of Kansas water programs!

Provide comments on implementation of the 2022 Kansas Water Plan and share feedback on any of the State's water programs listed below at: www.surveymonkey.com/r/waterprograms OR scan the QR code.

Quality



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

ones?

Do you have experience with any

of these programs? If so, which

Rate on scale of 1 – 5 with 1

provide that rating?

being not very effective and 5

being very effective. What have

you observed or experienced to

When you think about effective

state programs, what are some

Are there programs you'd like to

Are there new water programs

you think the state should offer?

38

If so, what would that program

of the key attributes to make

understand, flexible to use,

them effective (easy to

incentive program)?

include or focus on?

see changed?

#### Aquifer

#### KS Water Office

- KS Water Authority
- State Water Plan Dev.
- Regional Advisory Committees
- Drought Monitoring and Response
- Assessment and Evaluation
- HB 2302 Grant Programs
- High Plains Aquifer Partnerships
- Conservation Assistance for Water Users

#### KDA: Division of Water Resources

- · Water Rights Permits
- Local Enhancement Management Area
- Multi-Year Flex Accounts
  Interstate Water Issues
- Mater Use Database
- Subbasin Water Resources Management

#### KDA : Conservation

- Streambank Stabilization
- Buffer Incentive Program
- Conservation Districts
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
- Irrigation Technology
   Initiative
- Water Resources Cost Share Program

#### KS Water Office

- Regional Advisory Committees
- Drought Monitoring and Response
- Assessment and Evaluation
- HB 2302 Grant Programs
- Arbuckle Study
- Chloride Plume Remediation
- Water Quality Partnerships
- Stream Gaging
- Conservation Assistance for Water Users
- Reservoir and Water Quality Research

#### KS Dept of Commerce

- Community Development Block Grants
- Water & Wastewater
   Infrastructure

#### **KS Corporation Comm**

- Protection of Usable Water during well operation & plugging
- Oil & Gas Advisory Committee
- Well Spill Database

#### KDWP

Aquatic Invasive Species

- KDA : Conservation
- Conservation Districts
- · Water Resources Cost Share
- Nonpoint Source Pollution Assistance
- Buffer Incentive ProgramWater Supply Restoration
- Riparian and Wetland Protection
   Program
- Soil Health Initiative
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement
- Program
- Streambank stabilization Program
- Crop & Livestock Research

#### KDHE

- Total Maximum Daily Load Initiatives
- Public Water Supply Loans and Program
- Harmful Algae Bloom Monitoring
- Water Quality Standards
- Contamination Remediation
- Drinking Water Protection Program
- Storage Tank Regulation
- Superfund Oversight
- Cleanup Program
- Groundwater Quality Monitoring
   Program
- Orphan Sites Program
- Small Town Infrastructure
- Stream Trash Removal
- Watershed Management
- Livestock Waste Management
- Clean Water Act Certification
- Drinking Water Testing
- Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS)
- Hazardous Waste Management
- Solid Waste Management

#### Reservoir

#### KS Water Office

- Reservoir Protection Initiative
- Drought Monitoring
- Reservoir Operations
  HB 2302 Grant Programs
- Reservoir and Water Quality Research
- · Stream Gaging
- Water Injection Dredging
- Water Quality Partnerships

#### **KDA** : Conservation

- Soil Health Initiative
- Watershed Dam Construction/Rehabilitation
- Nonpoint Source Pollution
   Assistance
- Riparian and Wetland
   Protection Program
   Orith Leithering
- Soil Health Initiative
   Streambank stabilize
- Streambank stabilization Program
- Water Resources Cost Share
   Program

#### KDA: Division of Water Resources

- Watershed Districts
- Dam PermittingFloodplain Zoning
- Dam Safety
- Water Rights Permits
  Local Enhancement

Management Area

Interstate Compacts

Multi-Year Flex Accounts

# **Breakout Group Assignments & Locations**

KANSAS WATER AUTHORITY STATEWIDE GOALS

# Group assignment found on Regional handout here

2 3 4

5

1

#### Kansas Water Plan Implementation: SOUTH CENTRAL REGION GOALS

#### **Equus-Walnut** Goal 1: Promote sustainable balance of

groundwater withdrawals with annual recharge in the Equus Beds Aquifer. Goal 2: Encourage the development and use of comprehensive water supply plans by major water users in the region.

Goal 3: Implement watershed protection measures to improve reliability and health of surface water resources in the region.

Goal 4: Allocate resources to locate, characterize, prioritize and remediate contamination sites.

Goal 5: Increase efforts to establish sustainable, water conserving agricultural production practices.

#### 11 Great Bend Prairie

Goal 1: Achieve water use sustainability that includes a reasonable raising or lowering of the water table based on average weather conditions. Evaluate cost-share programs and incentivize conservation.

Goal 2: For municipalities and rural water districts: enhance new technology and increase water efficiency to reduce water loss.

Goal 3: Enhance monitoring of poor water quality to stop contamination of fresh water sources.

Goal 4: Initiate research and development of alternative feed sources and less water-intensive crops. Develop markets for feed wheat and other alternative crops for use feed sources.

Goal 5: Work towards sustainability of watersheds so that flood control capacity is maintained while maintaining streamflow to meet downstream water needs.

#### 12 Red Hills

Goal 1: Reduce water usage throughout the region with voluntary and incentive-based policies and programs. Goal 2: Increase sources of supply through the use of

multipurpose small lakes. Goal 3: Work with Oil & Gas industry to recycle/reuse flow back and production water for regional use.



Red	
Blue	
Green	
Purple	
Yellow	

# **Facilitator Summary for Each Group**





- Today was the start of the conversation not the end of it
- Stay tuned for Fall Local Consult to build on today's feedback
- Follow our progress here: <u>kwo.ks.gov</u>
- Additional comments can be submitted here:





# "Water is for everyone."

A shared resource AND a shared responsibility

