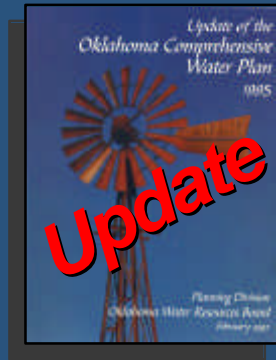


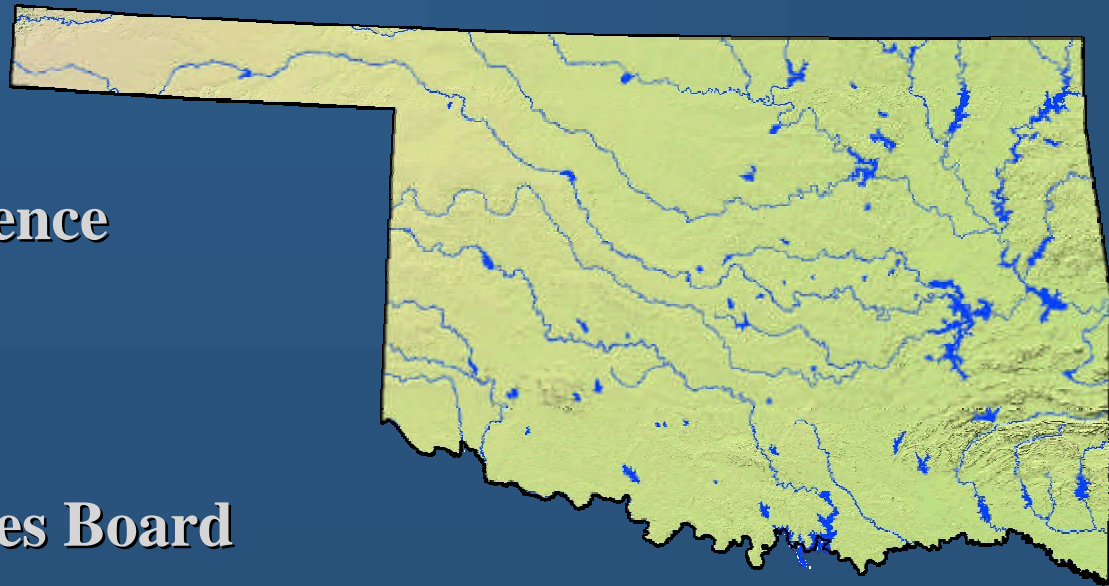
2005 Update of the Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan



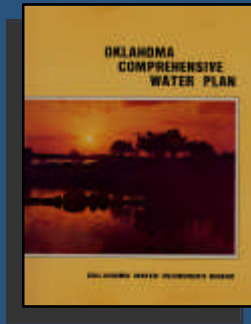
The State of the State's Water

Governor's Water Conference
October 9, 2002

Duane A. Smith
Executive Director
Oklahoma Water Resources Board



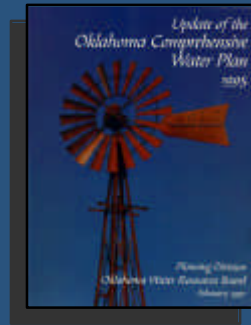
Water Planning in Oklahoma



Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan (1980):

- Focus on water development:
 - ◆ project-oriented;
 - ◆ major east/west water transfer contemplated but unfunded;
 - ◆ identified a need for small system development:
 - acting upon a Water Plan recommendation, the Oklahoma Legislature created the State Financial Assistance Program in 1980;
 - ◆ determined that all regions had sufficient water supply for the foreseeable future.

Water Planning in Oklahoma



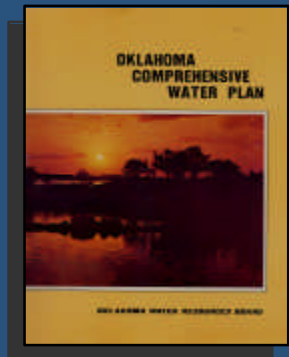
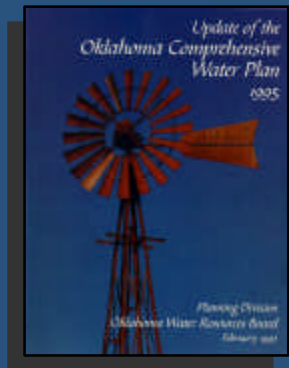
Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan (1995 Update):

- OWRB directed to update OCWP every 10 years (HB 2036).
- OWRB formed advisory committees (agencies, organizations, citizens).
- Funded through cost-shared technical assistance programs and appropriations.
- Policy-oriented:
 - ◆ substantial success in achieving OCWP water policy recommendations at the state level.

Water Planning in Oklahoma

OCWP Policy Initiatives (1980/1995):

- Water/Wastewater System Financing
- Regional Water Supply & Wastewater Treatment Systems
- Drought Preparedness
- Groundwater Recharge
- Floodplain Management
- Water Resources Dispute Resolution
- Instream Flow Protection
- Water Supply/Reservoir Development



Water Planning in Oklahoma



2005 OCWP Update:

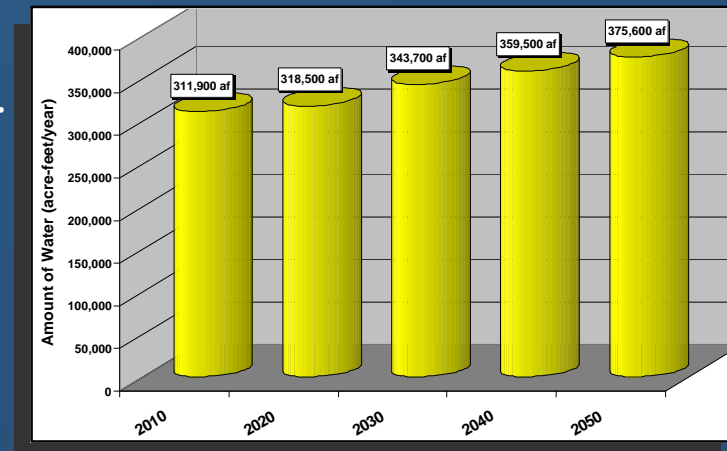
- Increase local involvement in the planning process:
 - ◆ Consider a regional planning approach driven by local water supply issues/concerns.
- Return to a project development-oriented plan to identify water systems and areas who are ill-equipped to provide future supply.
- Identify sufficient funding to implement local water supply projects.

Water Planning in Oklahoma



Recent/Current Activities:

- Senate Bill 1410:
 - ◆ directs creation of a 19-member legislative Joint Committee on Water Planning to study Oklahoma planning issues:
 - members appointed after the first day of the 2003 legislative session;
 - complete by January 15, 2005.
- Development/update of 50-year water use projections through 2060:
 - ◆ (OWRB/Corps of Engineers).



Water Planning in Oklahoma



Primary Goals of the 2005 OCWP Update:

- Identify opportunities for regionalization of Oklahoma's water supply systems.
- Investigate acquisition and/or reassignment of available storage in federal reservoirs.
- Promote water-related economic development while protecting Oklahoma's environment.
- **Institute a regional planning approach:**
 - ◆ create regional planning groups empowered with decision-making authority.

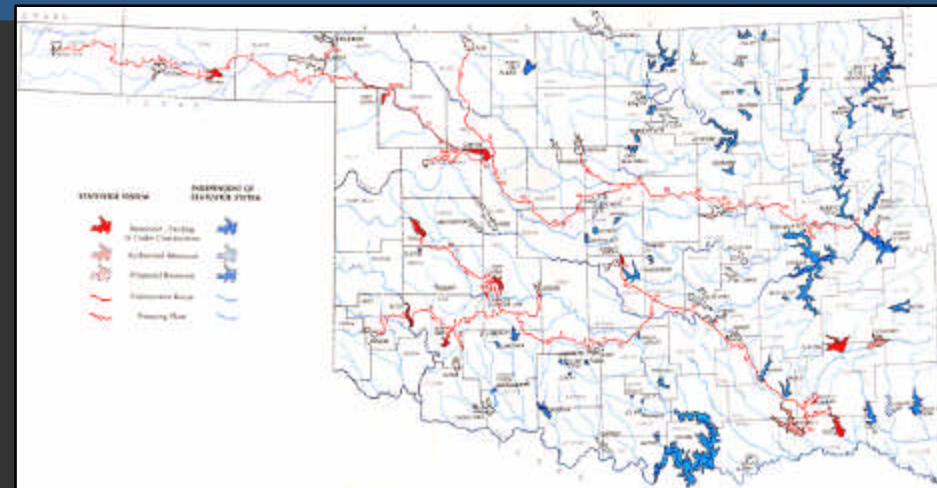
Major Water Planning Issues (2005 Update)

- ➔ **Water Transfer/Marketing**
- ➔ **Groundwater/Surface Water Interaction**
- ➔ **Instream Flow Protection**
- ➔ **Water Quality Standards**
- ➔ **Native American Water Rights Claims**
- ➔ **Water/Wastewater Infrastructure (Financing)**

Major Planning Issues:

Water Transfer/Marketing

- Facilitate the use of water where it is most needed and/or has greatest economic value.
 - * **Water for Oklahomans first and foremost.**
- Prioritize in-basin needs.



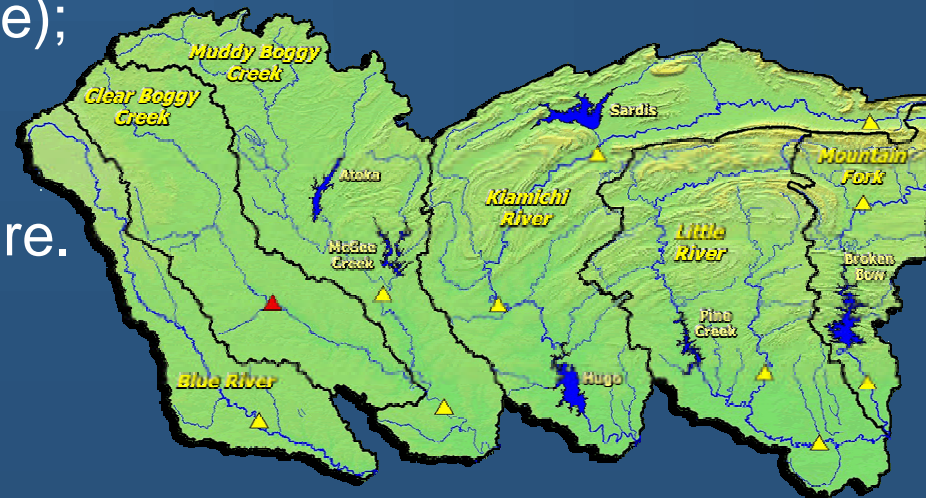
Major Planning Issues:

Water Transfer/Marketing

Current/Recent Actions:

■ *Southeast Oklahoma Water Resources Development Plan:*

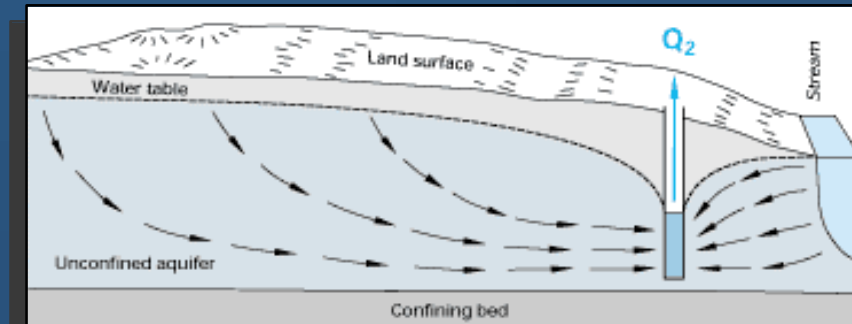
- ◆ investigation of regional water/economic development opportunities utilizing available surface waters in southeast Oklahoma (Texas water sale);
- ◆ moratorium on potential interstate water sales instituted by State Legislature.



Major Planning Issues:

Groundwater/Stream Water Interaction

- Balance the beneficial uses of both stream and groundwaters in systems where they are hydrologically connected.
- Current state water law does not recognize the connection.



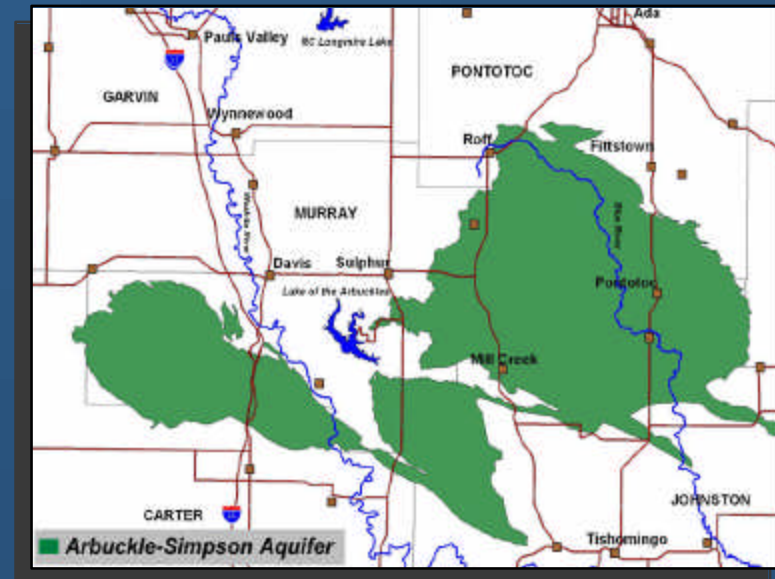
Major Planning Issues:

Groundwater/Stream Water Interaction

Current/Recent Actions:

■ *Arbuckle-Simpson Aquifer Study:*

- ◆ a proposed cooperative investigation (OWRB/BuRec) of the aquifer's complex hydrogeology;
- ◆ gather information critical to future management of the aquifer;
- ◆ determine volume in storage;
- ◆ determine effects of pumping on stream flow and springs.



Major Planning Issues:

Instream Flow Protection

- Maximize both the environmental and water supply benefits of preserving streamflows.
- Balance consumptive and non-consumptive uses.



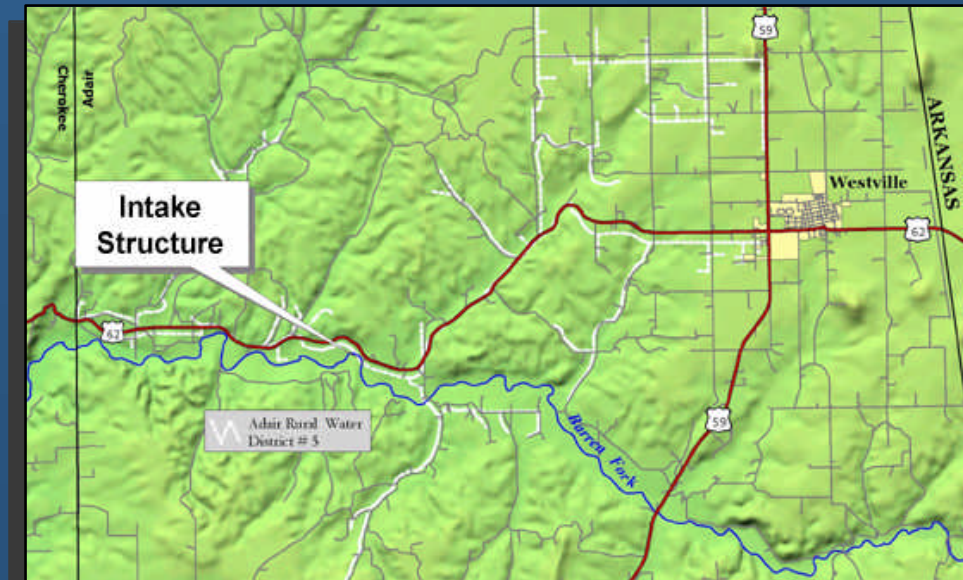
Major Planning Issues:

Instream Flow Protection

Current/Recent Actions:

■ *Barren Fork River:*

- ◆ balance environmental benefits with needs of Adair Rural Water District #5 customers;
- ◆ Instream Flow Assessment completed (OWRB/OSU); implementation plan in development;
- ◆ OWRB and Corps of Engineers researching alternative water supply(s).



Major Planning Issues:

Water Quality Standards

- The “targets” for all state water quality management activities.
- Balance environmental protection, sound science and rational public policy (a very public process).
- WQS Issues on the Horizon:
 - ◆ Biocriteria Development (ecoregions)
 - ◆ Groundwater Quality Standards
 - ◆ Nutrient Criteria Development
 - ◆ Sediment Criteria Development
 - ◆ WQS Implementation Plans



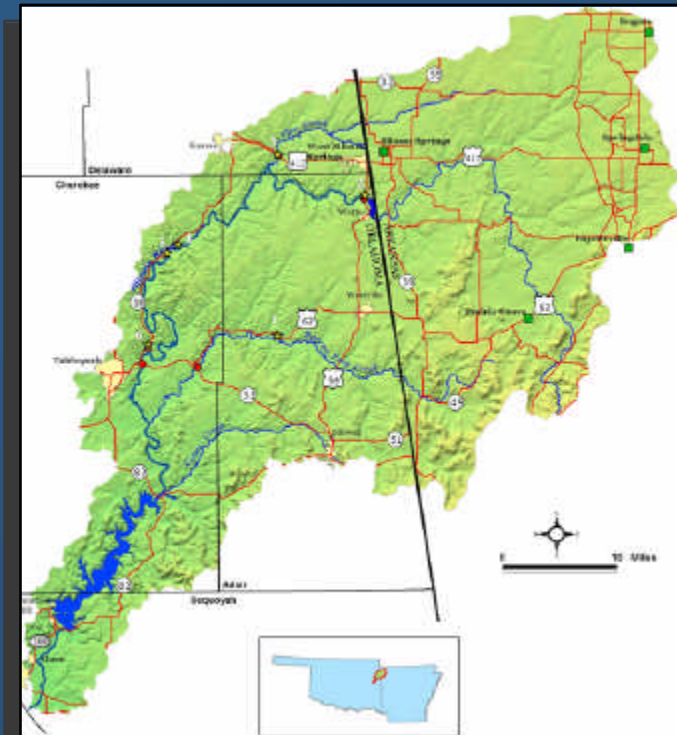
Major Planning Issues:

Water Quality Standards

Current/Recent Actions:

■ *Phosphorus Standard for Oklahoma's Scenic Rivers:*

- ◆ first-ever numeric WQS for phosphorus (0.037 mg/L);
- ◆ reduce nutrient impacts to designated Scenic Rivers;
- ◆ Oklahoma and Arkansas currently discussing implementation and monitoring strategies.

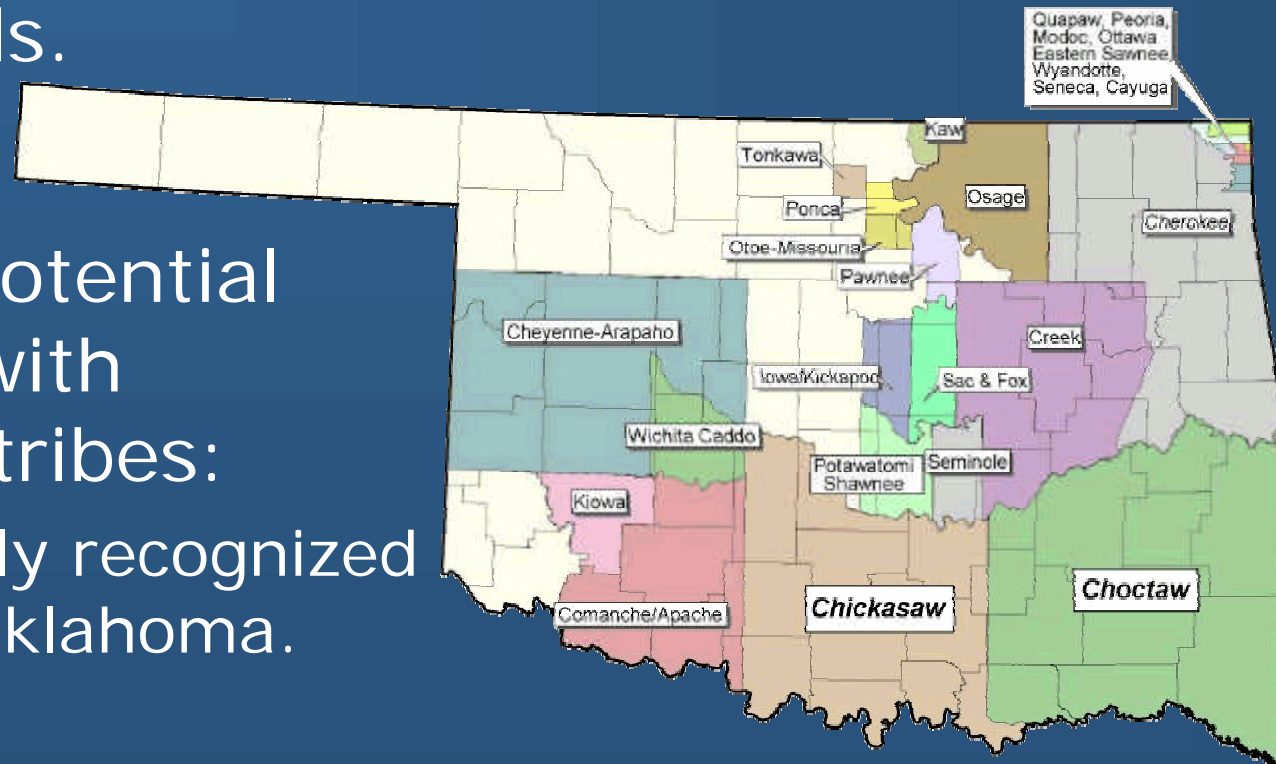


Major Planning Issues:

Native American Water Rights Claims

- Resolve conflicting claims to water rights and water quality administration on Indian lands.

- Research potential compacts with Oklahoma tribes:
 - ◆ 38 federally recognized tribes in Oklahoma.



Major Planning Issues:

Native American Water Rights Claims

Current/Recent Actions:

■ Draft Choctaw/Chickasaw Tribal Water Compact:

- ◆ final Compact on hold (vital aspect of Southeast Oklahoma Water Resources Development Plan);
- ◆ avoid potential litigation by facilitating administration of water rights and water quality standards within Choctaw/Chickasaw Tribal territories:
 - avoid “checker-boarding” of regulations.
- ◆ facilitate economic development opportunities in southeast Oklahoma;
- ◆ establish joint environmental programs that place State and Tribes in a stronger position to secure federal funds.

Major Planning Issues:

Water/Wastewater Infrastructure

State Financial Assistance Program:

- Financial Assistance Bond Loan Program
- Emergency Grant Program
- Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP) Grant Program
- Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan Program
- Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Loan Program
- ◆ ***prepare for the substantial financial impact of new/pending mandatory water treatment regulations***

****On October 8, the OWRB's Financial Assistance Program surpassed \$1 billion in loans and grants approved for state water/wastewater projects.***



Major Planning Issues:

Water/Wastewater Infrastructure

Current/Recent Actions:

■ Drinking Water SRF Loan Program:

- ◆ anticipated shortfall of \$103.8 million;
- ◆ new arsenic rule (2006);
- ◆ estimated cost of \$12 million to keep pace with anticipated drinking water infrastructure demand;
- ◆ fund 2 years of matching funds to capitalize DWSRF and provide reserve for leveraged bond issue of ~\$67 million.

Potential Funding Sources:

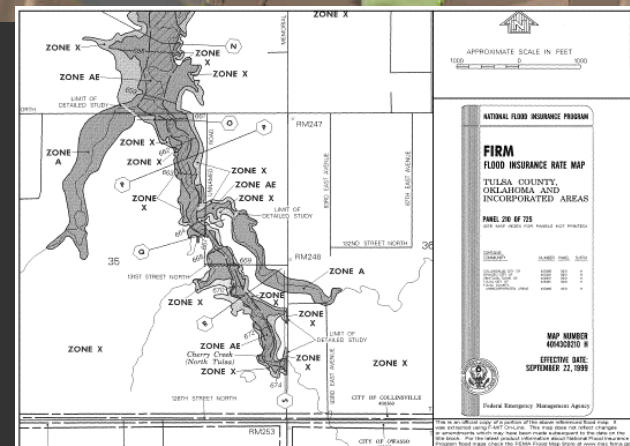
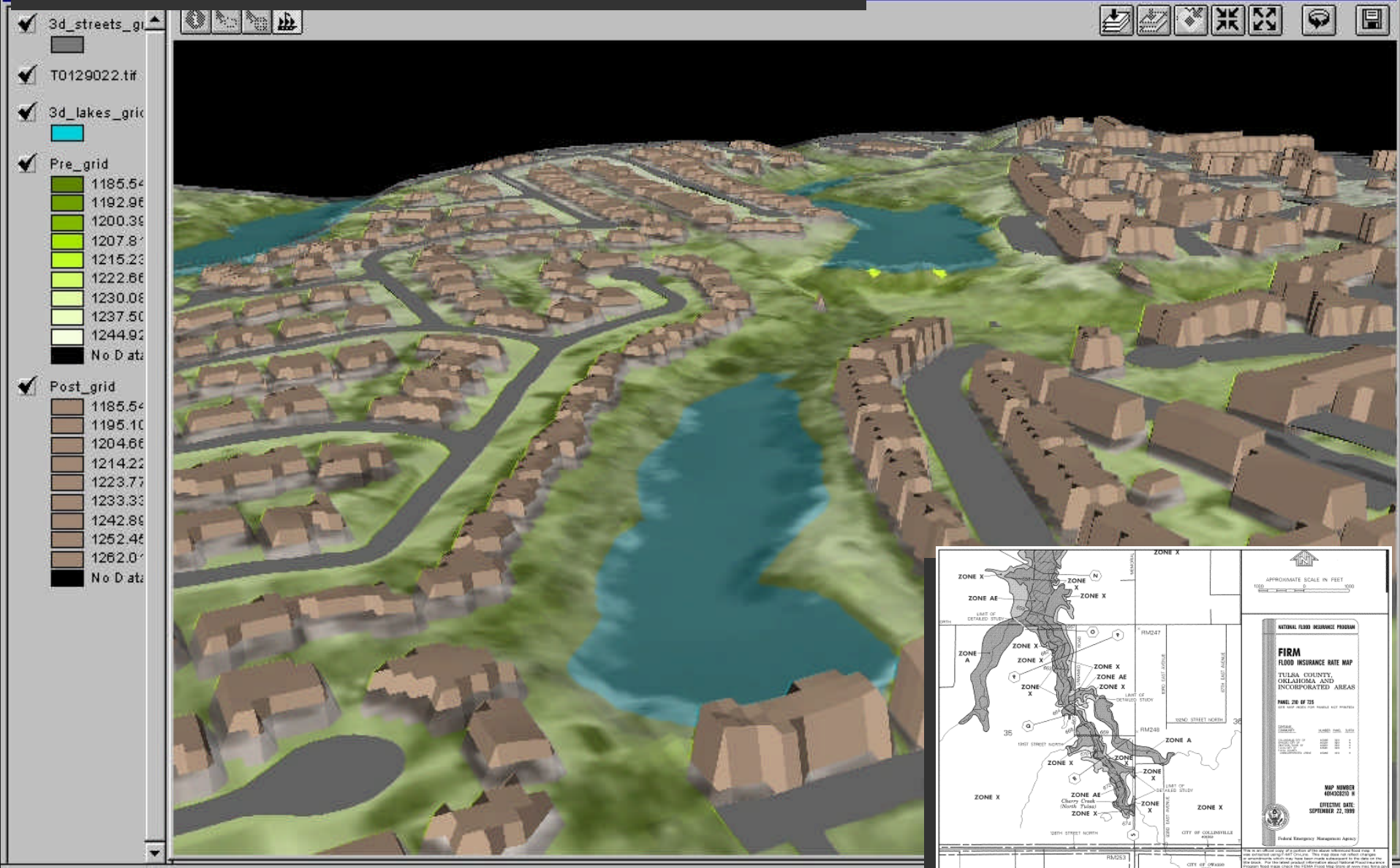
- General Appropriations
- Constitutional Reserve (Rainy Day) Fund
- State Windfall--High Natural Gas Prices
- Gross Production Tax (REAP) Funding
- Water User Fee
- Tap Fee on Public Water Systems

Other Important Water Issues: Drought Preparedness

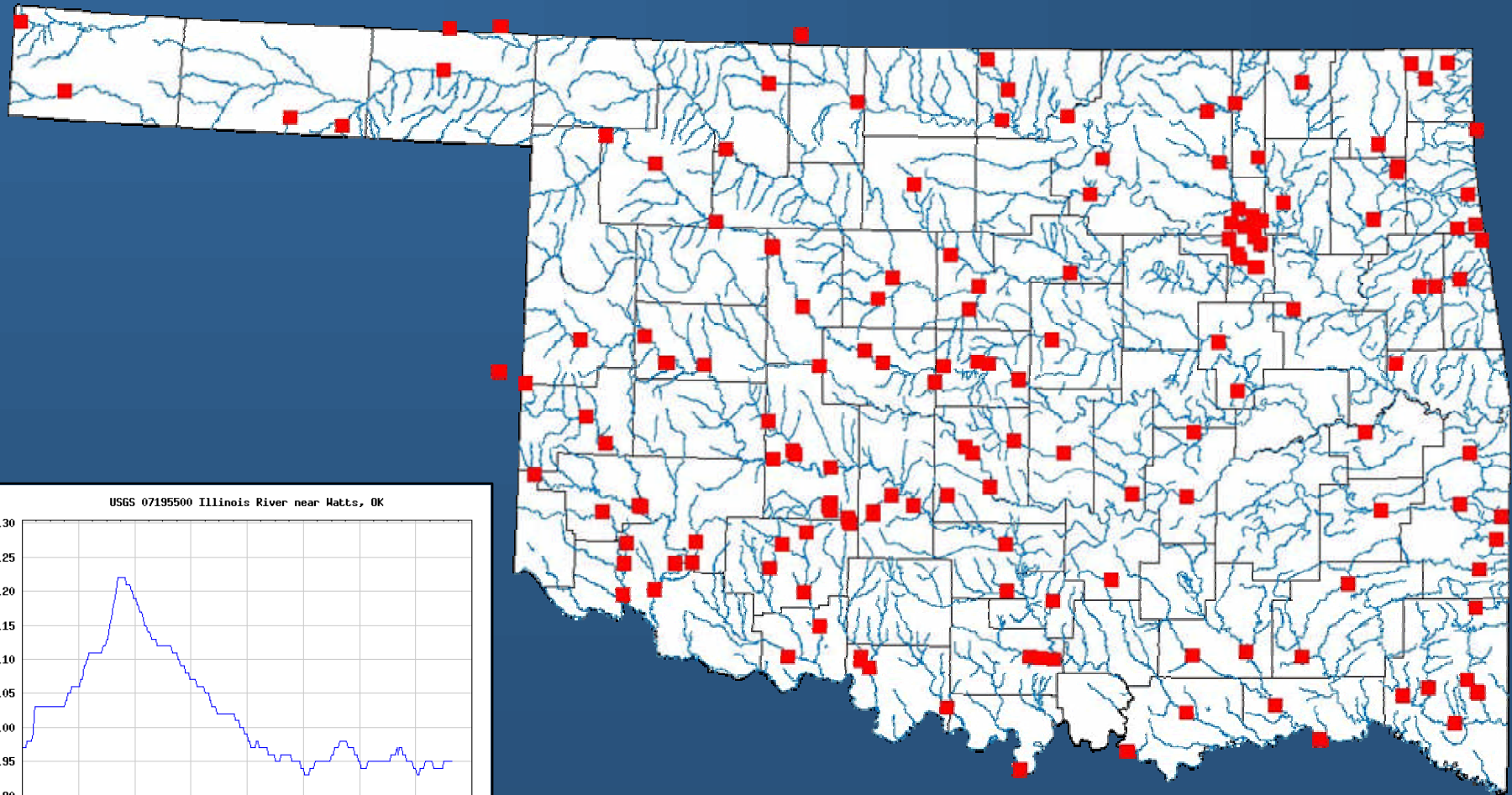


Hulah Lake
April 2002

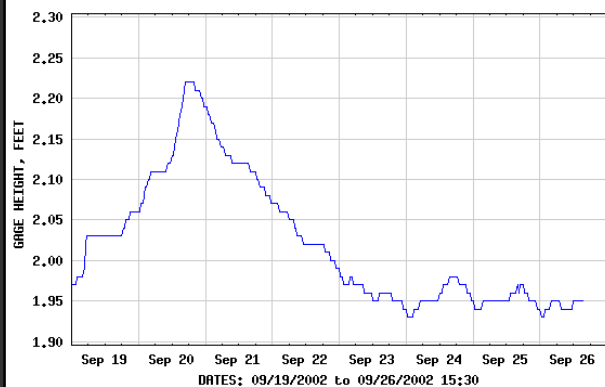
Other Important Water Issues: Hazard Mitigation



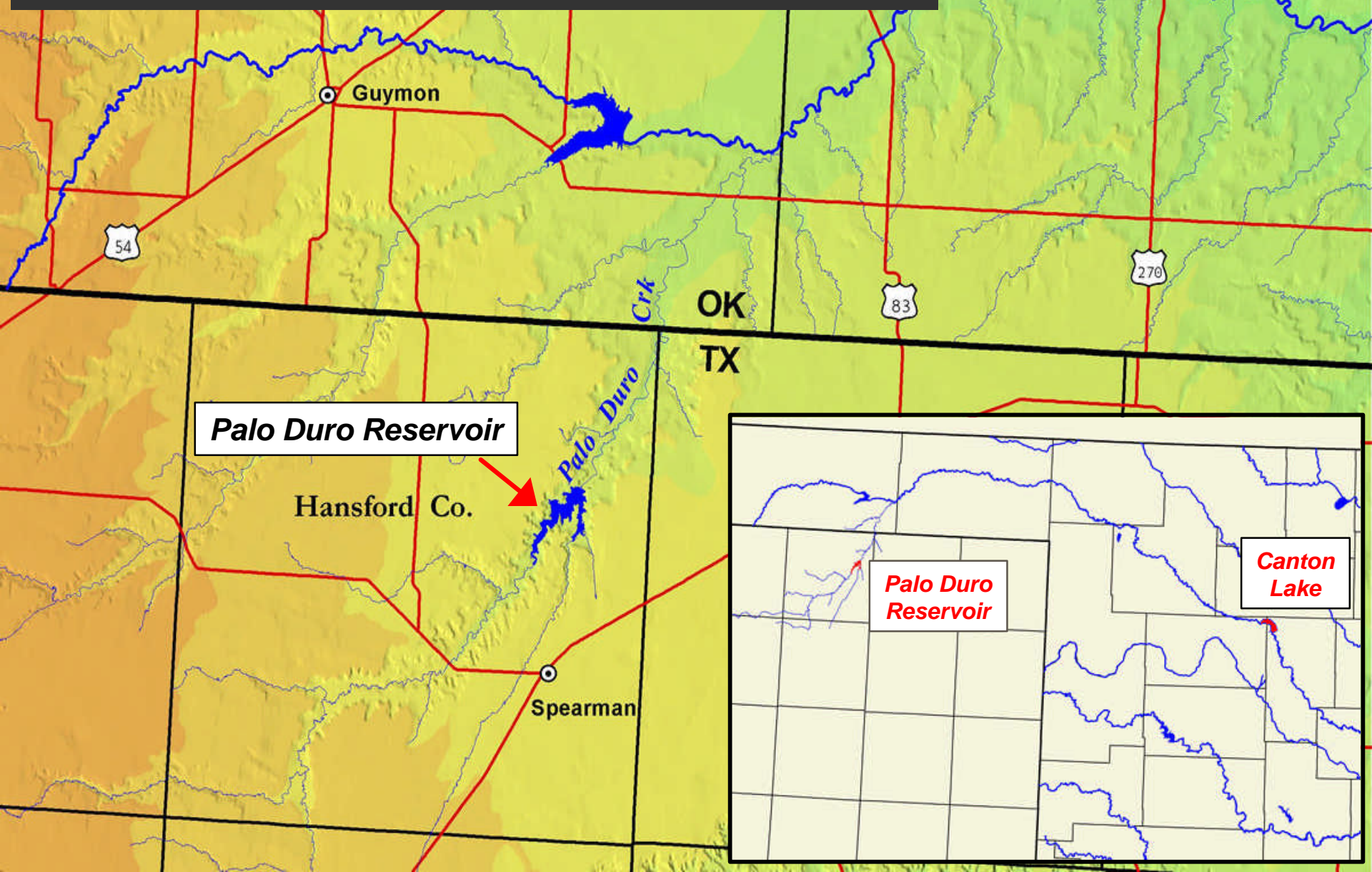
Other Important Water Issues: Water Quantity/Quality Data Collection



USGS 07195500 Illinois River near Hatts, OK



Other Important Water Issues: Interstate Water Disputes





Oklahoma Water Resources Board
"Oklahoma's Water Agency"

3800 North Classen Blvd.
Oklahoma City
405-530-8800

Branch Office Locations:

Tulsa, McAlester, Woodward, & Lawton