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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,
PLEASE CONTACT:

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***Old Trees Sought for
Arbuckle Tree Ring Study***

As part of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board's ongoing study of the Arbuckle-Simpson aquifer, researchers are seeking old trees that could be used to gather information on the region's climatic and hydrologic history.

Widely used since the 1930s, the analysis of tree rings not only provides a glimpse of a particular tree's life and growth history, it can be used to reconstruct streamflow and precipitation records for the surrounding area. According to Dr. Andover Tarhule, assistant professor of hydrology at the University of Oklahoma, who is directing this portion of the Arbuckle study, researchers are particularly looking for old Post Oaks or Burr Oaks.

"We are asking citizens to provide us with information on the locations of either of these tree species in or around the Arbuckle-Simpson aquifer region. The information we receive will remain confidential," Tarhule says.

He also emphasizes that the procedure utilized to collect cores will do absolutely no harm to the trees. All samples will be less than 0.2 inches in diameter.

The following criteria will be used to determine the best candidates for the tree ring study:

- Trees should be at least 100 years old.
- Trees should be located away from water, preferably on hilly or rocky terrain.
- There should be a reasonable chance of obtaining about 5 similar trees within one square mile.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of old Post Oak and/or Burr Oak trees in the Arbuckle region is asked to contact Rachel Turney, OU graduate research assistant, at turney@ou.edu or 405-325-5325, or the OWRB's Technical Studies section at 405-530-8800.