Grand River Dam Authority
Water Responsibilities, Goals and Partnerships

Presented to:

Oklahoma Governor's Water Conference

Grant Burget
Director of Business Development and Special Projects

November 4, 2009
GRDA Overview:

- Created in 1935 to be a conservation and reclamation district of the waters of the Grand River.
- Three hydroelectric facilities on Grand River
- Manages approx. 70,000 surface acres of lakes.
GRDA Water Facts:

• Second only to Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) in amount of jurisdiction over state water resources.

• Provide storage/water supply for 50 Oklahoma water districts and municipal systems, including Tulsa.

• All services associated with administering water supply are provided by GRDA at no cost to Oklahoman taxpayers.
Key GRDA Water Issues:

• Water supplies
  – *New metering technology*

• Water quality

• Ecosystems Management
  ▪ *Conservation*
  ▪ *Recreation*

• Hydroelectric production and flood control

[W.R. Holway Reservoir]
Water Supplies:

New metering technology …

– Real-time information on water sales, usage

– Installed at over 60 sites on Grand River system

– Accurate readings

– Accurate revenues from water sales

Ketchum PWA site, Grand Lake
Water Quality:

GRDA Ecosystems Management …

– Increased lake focus
– Water quality testing
– Habitat enhancement
– Public awareness
– Fisheries management

GRDA Water Biologist Sam Ziara
Water Quality:

GRDA Ecosystems and Education Center...

- Enhanced lake presence
- State of the art water quality laboratory
- Partnerships with Oklahoma and Oklahoma State will provide:
  - Proactive solutions
  - Leveraging of resources
  - Enhanced credibility
Recent Ecosystems Initiatives:

- GIS identification and inventory
- Habitat evaluation and enhancement
- Encroachment enforcement
- Water quality monitoring and testing; metals, nutrients, dissolved oxygen
- Revision of permitting procedures
- Dilapidated dock removal
- Numerous plans for vegetation, shoreline management, fishing tournaments
Hydroelectric production:

- **Pensacola Dam** (Grand Lake)
  - 120 Megawatt capacity
  - Constructed 1938-1940

- **Robert S. Kerr Dam** (Lake Hudson)
  - 114 Megawatt capacity
  - Constructed 1962-1964

- **Salina Pumped Storage Project** (W.R. Holway Reservoir)
  - 260 Megawatt Capacity
  - Stage 1 completed 1968
  - Stage 2 completed 1972

- GRDA dams provide an annual hydropower benefit of $13 – $25 million
Flood control:

Under the direction of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, GRDA operates floodgates at Pensacola and Robert S. Kerr dams to minimize and control downstream flooding.
Grand River Dam Authority

Water Responsibilities, Goals and Partnerships