

OKLAHOMA Water News

Bimonthly Newsletter of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board

In This Issue

Middle East Seeks Peace, Water

FLOOD CURRENT:

Education Efforts Abundant and Fruitful

Spring Floodplain Workshops

'McReady' for Floods

May is Flood Awareness Month in Oklahoma

Flood Safety Tips

Victims Remembered

Water for Sale

OWRB Displays GIS Capabilities at Capitol

Mesonet Celebrates 10th Anniversary

Nominations Sought for Environmental Award

Oklahoma Drought Monitor

From the Director



*Duane A. Smith
OWRB Executive Director*

I recently attended the Interstate Council on Water Policy Annual Washington, D.C., Roundtable in Washington D.C. and Western States Water Council Quarterly meeting in Las Vegas. Oklahoma's participation in these organizations is extremely beneficial to the state as we work to influence critically important water policy decisions at the federal level. Not only does our involvement provide a forum to network with other state governments and share information about common water problems and issues, it allows Oklahoma to promote its water interests before Congress and relevant federal agencies. Like our surface and groundwater resources, our state's water concerns obviously extend well beyond our borders.

While in the nation's capital, I had the fortunate opportunity to meet with several members of Oklahoma's Congressional delegation and staff and brief

See From the Director, Page 2

Middle East Seeks Peace, Water

As state officials grapple with allocating Oklahoma's water resources, as well as preserving and protecting surface and groundwaters for future generations, inherent obstacles and controversies frequently complicate matters. Urban versus rural, east versus west, environment versus development, state versus state, and groundwater versus stream water, are just a few of the conflicting interests about which the use of water has been intensely debated. Drought, an all-too-common event in this region of the country, and related water supply shortages make such problems even more difficult to resolve.

While many of the water issues facing Oklahomans are not so different from those in other areas of the world, conflicts over water use are of an even more delicate nature in arid regions where millions of people must rely on meager supplies. In the Middle East, where oil reserves exist in abundance, water is becoming the region's most valuable commodity.

It is this particular situation that prompted recent

establishment of Middle East Water Working Groups (WWG), sponsored by the University of Oklahoma's Center for Peace Studies. By bringing together the key players in this complicated situation—namely Israel, Palestine, and



Duane Smith (right) in Amman, Jordan, with Dr. Edward J. Perkins (left) and Jordan's Prince Hassan

Jordan, all highly dependent upon surface and groundwater resources in the Jordan River Basin—the WWGs are providing a forum to develop long-term solutions to regional water scarcity.

As a diplomatic community of scholars and advisors,

See Middle East, Page 2

From the Director . . . Continued from page 1

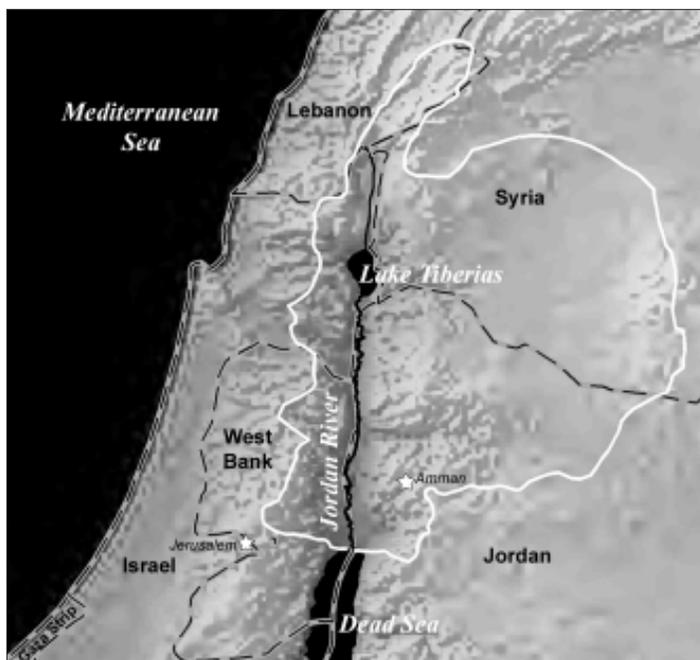
them on water issues facing the state. Specifically, I spoke with Senator Inhofe about funding in the federal Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) bill for monitoring in Oklahoma's scenic rivers, especially in the Illinois River Basin of Oklahoma and Arkansas, where we continue to work with state, municipal, and industrial officials in developing an efficient interstate water quality monitoring plan. I also spoke with Congressman Cole about the Arbuckle-Simpson study and the need to continue this very

Middle East . . . Continued from page 1

the Center for Peace Studies seeks to induce a positive influence on international relations and policy development through encouragement of multidisciplinary discussions of conflicts among societies, cultures, and political entities. The Center is currently concentrating on the Arab-Israeli peace process, in particular the disputes that stand in the way of lasting peace in the Middle East.

A WWG representing southern governments in the area consists primarily of faculty from the University of Oklahoma, Bethlehem University (Palestine), Haifa University (Israel), and the Horizon Center for Studies and Research (Jordan). Water professionals, community leaders and university students from the Middle East are also involved, as are facilitators/observers from the United States. A parallel group, including Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, and Turkey, represents the interests of northern tier countries.

While water supply is the consortium's prominent goal, establishment of trust among participants will likely be the determinant of success, according to former U.S.



The Jordan River watershed is delineated in white (left). Most of the river's flow is contributed upstream of Lake Tiberias. Many residents of the lower Jordan River Basin rely upon large aquifers underlying much of the West Bank region.

important investigation. I am continually impressed with our representatives in Washington and appreciate their willingness to be active for Oklahoma in support of our water resource programs.

We were very saddened to learn of Glenn Sharp's resignation from the Water Board. We greatly appreciate Glenn's service to the agency and its programs and we extend our best wishes to him and his family. Thanks Glenn!

Ambassador Edward J. Perkins.

"We've gone to great lengths to construct an open and non-threatening environment at these meetings," emphasizes Perkins, who is responsible for overall administration of the Center for Peace Studies. "So far, I believe this strategy has been enormously beneficial to the process. We have established an atmosphere of trust and honesty that will foster the conception of realistic solutions to future water crises in the Middle East," he points out, referring to the WWG's initial meeting last June in Cyprus and follow up meeting at the Dead Sea, near Amman, Jordan, in December.

Among the American contingent at the Jordan meeting was Duane Smith, OWRB Executive Director, who was invited by Ambassador Perkins to serve as a working group facilitator. Smith accompanied Perkins and Ed Corr, an O.U. colleague who has served as U.S. Ambassador to three separate countries, to the Dead Sea meeting.

"I feel very honored to have had the opportunity to participate in the Center's effort to resolve water issues in the Middle East," Smith says. "It was certainly an eye-opening experience, both from a personal and professional perspective."

The Jordan River Basin represents one of the world's most critical regions of current and future water scarcity. With one of the lowest per capita water availabilities worldwide and an extremely high population growth, food production is stretched to its limit and demand for water continues to increase at an alarming rate. Agriculture and irrigation consume more than two-thirds of the regional water resources, most of which are located in the river's upper basin, where large amounts of water are exported for use elsewhere. Projections indicate that by 2025 the region's domestic requirements for freshwater will leave no available supplies for agricultural purposes, a dire prognosis for Middle Eastern economies and governments. Aggravating this situation are frequent disputes erupting from the intermingling of Israeli and Palestinian settlements, including intense disagreement over the borders of the two states and status of refugees. Political tension in the region has predictably spilled over into water use and control.

Originating in the anti-Lebanon Mountains, the 200-mile-long Jordan River flows southward through the drained Hula Valley Basin into Lake Tiberias, also

known as the Sea of Galilee. Lake Tiberias, which covers 64 square miles and is the only freshwater lake in the Middle East, derives 75 percent of its inflow from the Jordan River. Only a small percentage of the lake's inflow is released to the lower Jordan River, and much of the discharge from the Yarmouk River, a primary tributary, is diverted for water supply before its confluence with the Jordan River south of the lake. The salinity of the Jordan River greatly increases downstream of Lake Tiberias as it forms the Jordan/Israel (West Bank) border and flows to its terminus at the Dead Sea. Irrigation return flows combined with natural chlorides from saline springs along the lower Jordan severely limit the water's beneficial use.

The median annual flow of the Jordan River is approximately 490 million cubic meters (almost 400,000 acre-feet per year)—the approximate mean annual flow of the Chikaskia River, near Blackwell, Oklahoma. The average annual flow of the Kiamichi River, near Antlers, is approximately three times that of the Jordan River, upon which some 12 million people rely for the most fundamental of daily needs. Surface waters in the basin supply the country of Jordan with 75 percent of its total water needs. Basin waters supply Israel and Palestine with about 30 percent of their needs due to large aquifers that greatly supplement local water requirements.

Efforts by Middle Eastern states to stretch limited supplies have met with varying degrees of success. In particular, Israel has pioneered innovations in irrigation, including implementation of drip irrigation systems, which have reduced agricultural water consumption by 40 percent since the mid-1950s. Jordan and other nations have followed suit. However, key decision-makers—including Jordan's Prince Hassan bin Talal, who participated in the WWG's Dead Sea meeting—realize that regional-scale water management schemes must become a reality to reduce the likelihood of future massive water shortages.

"It was obvious that Prince Hassan places great importance on the cooperative development and sharing of water resources to peace among the Arab and Jewish people. Overall, he was very hopeful about the future of the Middle East," says Duane Smith.

Recently, Middle Eastern governments have been more receptive to arrangements, such as large-scale desalinization projects and trans-boundary water transfers, which largely disregard political boundaries. The Water Working Groups have targeted infrastructure development as an absolute necessity due to the absence of adequate water supply facilities, especially in Palestinian-controlled areas. Regional education and water conservation—such as micro-scale conservation at the individual/community level, water pricing, metering, water recycling and reuse, and agricultural conservation—have all been identified by the WWGs as crucial to alleviating future water shortages. And it has become evident that groundwater supplies—primarily residing in aquifers beneath the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in Israel, which account for 40 percent of Israel's water supply—must also be utilized

and protected. Recognizing that strategies for sustainable management of the region's water resources must not only be based on collaboration between the various regional stakeholders, but on sound scientific knowledge, the WWGs have also emphasized the importance of accurate data concerning water use, supply, and quality.

"During the Dead Sea meeting, it struck me that these are many of

the same water issues that Oklahomans have struggled with over the years, and many of the issues we still face today," Smith points out. "Development of water and wastewater infrastructure certainly stands out as an area of need in Oklahoma and water transfer projects have been utilized in the past while others have been proposed to move water to areas in need. We've studied chloride control and related methods to remove natural pollutants from potential water supplies. And institution of various conservation methods, especially in the agricultural sector, have had a profound effect on preservation of Oklahoma's water supplies and furtherance of our economy."

In addition to the betterment of the Middle East's social and economic welfare, water and fair access to it may well be the major determinant in negotiation of a fair and equitable peace settlement. "Much work lies ahead, but I witnessed a tremendous amount of optimism among the working group members. While political barriers have largely prevented ratification of a regional water management plan to date, the open dialogue established through the WWG project could prove invaluable to eventual resolution of the situation," Smith says, "and I really believe that if the Arab and Israeli states can come to terms with water shortages and equitable access to supplies in the region, they may also be able to resolve age-old political and social differences."



Tremendous agricultural development is evident around and immediately downstream of Lake Tiberias (above). The flow of the Jordan River is barely discernible in this NASA satellite image.

FLOOD CURRENT



Education Efforts Abundant and Fruitful



Mike Mathis
State Floodplain Coordinator, OWRB

Last January, the OWRB hosted an extremely successful week-long workshop for state floodplain officials entitled "Managing Floodplain Development Through the NFIP." Held in Norman under the tutelage of instructors Ken Morris, of the OWRB, and Lonnie Ward, with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the classes culminated in a two-hour examination for 31 local officials seeking to become Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs). The CFM program, established by the Association of State Floodplain Managers, recognizes continuing education and professional development that enhance the knowledge and performance of local, state, federal, and private-sector floodplain managers. I'm happy to report that all 31 individuals who took the test passed, attesting to their advanced knowledge of NFIP standards and procedures and the Oklahoma Floodplain Management Act. I'd like to thank the members of the Oklahoma Floodplain Management Association, our partners in this effort, for making this workshop our most successful ever, as well as the OWRB's Rhonda Bowers, who reviewed the CFM applications and class enrollment procedures.

The OWRB's annual Floodplain 101 Workshops represent extremely beneficial training exercises. This year's sessions, held throughout the state in May, featured a Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) representative who presented a short-course on the agency's Wetlands Restoration Program. Wetlands are just one of the many important benefits provided through Oklahoma's vital floodplain areas.

Through a proclamation signed recently by Gov. Henry, Oklahomans once again observed Flood Awareness Month in May, and Flood Insurance Month was celebrated in March. Each year, these proclamations provide critical assistance to the OWRB and our floodplain management partners in "getting the word out" about wise development and the persistent dangers posed by floodwaters.

Through a grant from Oklahoma Emergency

Management, the OWRB is compiling a database of repetitive loss structures in Oklahoma. Among associated tasks, staff will verify addresses, take digital photos, and obtain longitudes and latitudes of these structures. This information will prove vital in mitigating future flooding disasters, especially in securing funds to remove these structures from harm's way. On a related note, OWRB staff are revising the Guidebook for Local Floodplain Ordinance Administrators and working to develop Oklahoma's Floodplain Management 101 Textbook. These educational materials can be used as a home study course, CFM study guide, and textbook for the OWRB's Floodplain Management 101 workshops.

In April, the Governor signed legislation establishing accreditation standards for Oklahoma's floodplain administrators. The OWRB will administer the training accreditation provisions of the new law, House Bill 2284, which was introduced this session by Representative Thad Balkman and Senator Bruce Price. The bill will play a vital role in floodplain management



Severe flooding from more than five inches of rainfall on March 4 damaged some 278 residences, businesses, and other structures in the Town of Kingfisher. Water rose to nearly five feet in some areas of the community.

Spring Floodplain Workshops

The OWRB's floodplain administrator workshops, held each spring, are key aspects of the Board's continuing education and public information effort through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and are a primary focus of Oklahoma's annual statewide flood awareness campaign.

The five workshops held throughout Oklahoma (in McAlester, Lawton, Woodward, Bartlesville, and Midwest City) in May 2004 not only serve to provide community officials with the latest information concerning the operation and benefits of the NFIP, they point out the extreme importance of annual training to the local floodplain manager. Such training heightens confidence in the enforcement and administration of local flood ordinance and are key ingredients in the OWRB's goal of establishing ownership at the local level.

'McReady' for Floods

The McDonald's Corporation, Governor Brad Henry, and state emergency management officials and organizations are teaming up to increase awareness of severe weather preparedness in the state. To prepare Oklahomans for future weather emergencies, "McReady Oklahoma" will feature displays, brochures, and related educational materials at more than 140 McDonald's restaurants throughout the state. The brochures will convey information on floods, tornadoes, lightning, and other emergencies as well as measures to protect citizens and their families from those dangers. April was declared McReady Oklahoma Family Preparedness Month by Governor Henry.

"Over the years, we've seen more than our share of destruction caused by tornados and severe weather," said Governor Henry. "But many of us have also learned that being prepared and knowing what to do before the storm hits— saves lives. That's what this campaign is all about."

"We are honored to be part of this groundbreaking program," said Albert Ashwood, Director of Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management (ODEM), another McReady Oklahoma partner. "We've known for years that preparedness is the key to saving lives when it comes to severe weather. The McReady program allows us to drive the message home and better prepare families and entire communities." Other McReady partners include the American Red Cross, National Weather Service, Oklahoma Citizen Corps, Oklahoma Emergency Management Association, Oklahoma Floodplain Management Association, OG&E Electric Services, R.D. Flanagan & Associates, The Salvation Army, and Tulsa Mayor's Citizen Corps/Tulsa Partners, Inc.

May is Flood Awareness Month in Oklahoma

Flood Safety Tips

- Avoid walking through floodwater. Water only six inches deep can sweep you off your feet if it is moving swiftly.
- Do not drive into a flooded street. Cars can be swept away by two feet of moving water. If you come to a flooded area, turn around and go another way. Most flood-related deaths are caused by people driving through high water.
- Watch out for fire hazards. Be aware of broken or leaking gas lines, flooded electrical circuits, electrical appliances, and flammable materials coming from upstream.

After the Flood:

- Take care of yourself first. Protect yourself and your family from stress, fatigue, and health hazards that follow a flood.
- Dry out your home. Floodwaters damage materials, leave mud, silt and unknown contaminants, and promote the growth of mildew.
- Restore the utilities. Cleaning up after the flood will be much easier if you have heat, electricity, clean water, and sewage disposal.
- Clean up. The walls, floors, closets, shelves, contents and other flooded areas of your home should be thoroughly washed and disinfected.
- Rebuild and flood proof. Take time to rebuild correctly and make improvements that will protect your building from future floods.
- Prepare for the next flood. Protect yourself with flood insurance, a flood response plan, and community flood protection programs.



Victims Remembered



Mary Nell Brueggen places a memorial ribbon on one of the two ash trees planted by OWRB staff in memory of Trudy Rigney and Bob Chipman, who were killed during the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995. OWRB staff members gather for a brief memorial service on April 19 each year in their honor.

Water for Sale

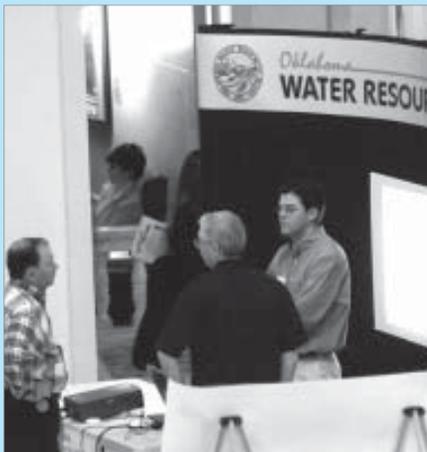
In answer to the ongoing drought impacting much of the western U.S., the Water Strategist Community—a Web site that reports on key legislation and other events shaping water resources in the west—has established an online marketplace for the buyers and sellers of water, water rights and land.

“While the western drought is easing in some areas, many areas remain dry and we wish to facilitate the exchange of information between those irrigation districts, municipalities, and individuals who have adequate supplies and those who may be seeking to purchase or lease water and water rights,” says Lisa Hahn, publisher of the Web site’s newsletter.

The service, entitled “e-water classifieds,” is available at www.waterstrategist.com/ewater.htm. Interested parties may also contact Lisa Hahn at lisahahn@waterstrategist.com or (909) 981-7808.

OWRB Displays GIS Capabilities at Capitol

GIS Specialist Mike Sughru represented the OWRB during GIS Day, held March 3, 2004, at the State Capitol. This annual event allows various state and federal agencies, as well as vendors, to showcase their Geographic Information System products and capabilities.



Mesonet Celebrates 10th Anniversary

Oklahoma’s cutting-edge weather monitoring system celebrated its 10th anniversary with a special ceremony at the State Capitol on March 11. The Oklahoma Mesonet, the first and only environmental monitoring network of its scope and size in the world, is composed of 116 monitoring stations that observe about 20 environmental variables above and below the ground.

The event’s keynote speaker, Chancellor of Higher Education Dr. Paul Risser, provided a synopsis of the network’s evolution over the past decade, including Mesonet’s many climate monitoring and research endeavors, and outreach programs in agriculture, K-12 education, and emergency management. Gov. Henry Bellmon provided the funding to initiate the Mesonet in 1991.

Each county in Oklahoma hosts at least one Mesonet station that provides measurements of precipitation, air temperature, wind speed and direction, barometric pressure, relative humidity, and other variables every five minutes. About half of the Mesonet stations are located on private lands. Other stations are located on university, city, or federal lands. All landowners—including several who traveled to Oklahoma City to participate in the 10th Anniversary celebration—provide a 10-meter by 10-meter plot of land for the station at no cost to the Mesonet.

The Mesonet is a joint project of Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma. It is funded by the Oklahoma State Legislature through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. Since 1994, Mesonet has recorded approximately three billion pieces of environmental information.

Nominations Sought for Environmental Award

For the 14th consecutive year, Keep Oklahoma Beautiful (KOB) will select the best of the best among voluntary efforts to beautify and improve Oklahoma’s environment. The prestigious Environmental Excellence competition has just opened with a statewide call for nominations.

Award categories are open to businesses, individuals, schools, nonprofit organizations, the media, communities, youth, and government entities. Projects dealing with environmental improvement, education and promotion or beautification and landscaping are eligible for nomination. Nominations for KOB special awards are also being sought. One Lifetime Achievement Award and one First Lady’s award will be presented later this year.

Entry guidelines, award criteria and entry forms are available online at the KOB website at www.keepoklahomabeautiful.com, or by calling 405-844-6543. The deadline for nominations is August 2. Keep Oklahoma Beautiful is a nonprofit, statewide organization dedicated to fighting litter, beautifying communities and preserving Oklahoma’s environment.

Oklahoma Drought Monitor

Reservoir Storage

Lake storage in Oklahoma remains generally good, although lakes in the southwest continue to experience low levels. As of April 20, the combined normal conservation pools of 31 selected major federal reservoirs across Oklahoma (see below) are approximately 97.3 percent full, a 1.5 percent decrease from that recorded on March 22, according to information from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Tulsa District). Twenty-two reservoirs have experienced lake level decreases since that time. Only 12 reservoirs are currently operating at less than full capacity (compared to seven four weeks ago). Two reservoirs—Lugert-Altus, only 43.5 percent full; and Tom Steed, 56.3 percent—remain below 80 percent capacity.

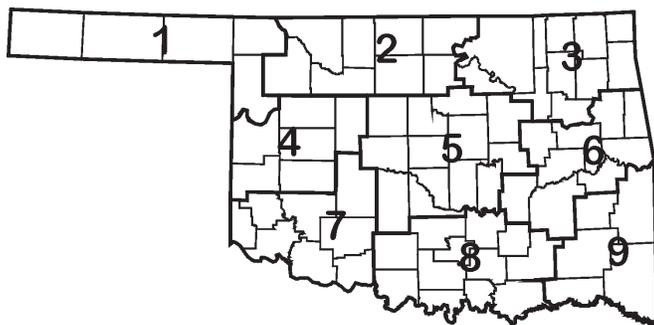
Storage in Selected Oklahoma Lakes & Reservoirs

As of April 20, 2004

Climate Division	Conservation Storage (acre-feet)	Present Storage (acre-feet)	Percent of Conservation Storage
North Central	451,860	451,860	100.0
Northeast	3,710,194	3,577,834	96.4
West Central	276,790	269,279	97.3
Central	154,225	147,355	95.5
East Central	2,968,683	2,968,683	100.0
Southwest	301,810	187,813	62.2
South Central	2,795,156	2,726,747	97.6
Southeast	1,533,824	1,532,020	99.9
State Totals	12,192,542	11,861,591	97.3

Drought Indices

According to the latest Palmer Drought Severity Index (April 17, below), only one region in Oklahoma (South Central, “mild drought”) is currently experiencing drought conditions. However, eight of Oklahoma’s nine climate divisions have undergone PDSI moisture decreases since March 20. The greatest decrease occurred in the Southeast climate division.



The latest monthly Standardized Precipitation Index (through March, below) continues to indicate some long-term dryness in southern and eastern Oklahoma. Among the *selected* time periods (3-, 6-, 9- and 12-month SPIs), “moderately dry” conditions are indicated in the Southeast over the past 9 months and in the Southeast, South Central and East Central climate divisions throughout the last 12-month period. Considering longer periods (through six years), southern and eastern Oklahoma regions indicate moderate dryness at various periods over the past 30 months.

Palmer Drought Severity Index

Climate Division (#)	Current Status 4/17/2004	Value		Change In Value
		4/17	3/20	
NORTHWEST (1)	MOIST SPELL	1.02	1.47	-0.45
NORTH CENTRAL (2)	MOIST SPELL	1.95	2.27	-0.32
NORTHEAST (3)	MOIST SPELL	1.70	1.93	-0.23
WEST CENTRAL (4)	MOIST SPELL	1.96	1.93	0.03
CENTRAL (5)	NEAR NORMAL	0.07	1.09	-1.02
EAST CENTRAL (6)	INCIPIENT DROUGHT	-0.67	0.55	-1.22
SOUTHWEST (7)	MOIST SPELL	1.00	1.77	-0.77
SOUTH CENTRAL (8)	MILD DROUGHT	-1.03	0.26	-1.29
SOUTHEAST (9)	INCIPIENT DROUGHT	-0.97	0.45	-1.42

Standardized Precipitation Index

Through March 2004

	3-Month	6-Month	9-Month	12-Month
NORTHWEST (1)	MODERATELY WET	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL
NORTH CENTRAL (2)	VERY WET	MODERATELY WET	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL
NORTHEAST (3)	VERY WET	MODERATELY WET	MODERATELY WET	NEAR NORMAL
WEST CENTRAL (4)	VERY WET	MODERATELY WET	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL
CENTRAL (5)	MODERATELY WET	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL
EAST CENTRAL (6)	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	MODERATELY DRY
SOUTHWEST (7)	VERY WET	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL
SOUTH CENTRAL (8)	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	MODERATELY DRY
SOUTHEAST (9)	NEAR NORMAL	NEAR NORMAL	MODERATELY DRY	MODERATELY DRY

Financial Assistance Program Update

Loans/Grants Approved as of April 13, 2004

FAP Loans—301 totaling \$523,865,000

The OWRB's Financial Assistance Program (FAP), created by the State Legislature in 1979, provides loans for water and wastewater system improvements in Oklahoma. The tremendous popularity of the bond loan program is due, in part, to extended payoff periods of up to 30 years at extremely competitive low-interest rates, averaging approximately 4.762 percent since 1986.

CWSRF Loans—155 totaling \$516,657,040

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan program was created in 1988 to provide a renewable financing source for communities to draw upon for their wastewater infrastructure needs. The CWSRF program is Oklahoma's largest self-supporting wastewater financing effort, providing low-interest loans to communities in need.

DWSRF Loans—39 totaling \$160,869,795

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan program is an initiative of the OWRB and Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality to assist municipalities and rural water districts in the construction and improvement of drinking water systems. These projects are often mandated for communities to obtain compliance with increasingly stringent federal standards related to the treatment of drinking water.

REAP Grants—392 totaling \$34,003,762

The Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP) Program was created by the State Legislature in 1996. REAP grants, used for water/wastewater system improvements, target primarily rural communities with populations of 7,000 or less, but priority is afforded to those with fewer than 1,750 inhabitants.

Emergency Grants—506 totaling \$29,713,702

OWRB emergency grants, limited to \$100,000, are awarded to correct situations constituting a threat to life, health, and/or property and are an indispensable component of the agency's financial assistance strategy.

Total Loans/Grants—1,393 totaling \$1,265,108,299

Applicants eligible for water/wastewater project financial assistance vary according to the specific program's purpose and requirements, but include towns and other municipalities with proper legal authority, various districts established under Title 82 of Oklahoma Statutes (rural water, master/water conservancy, rural sewage, and irrigation districts), counties, public works authorities, and/or school districts. Applications for agency financial assistance programs are evaluated individually by agency staff. Those meeting specific program requirements are recommended by staff for approval at monthly meetings of the nine-member Water Board.

More information about the OWRB's Financial Assistance Program can be obtained by calling the OWRB at (405) 530-8800.

Grady Grandstaff, *Chairman*; Glenn A. Sharp, *Vice Chairman*; Ervin Mitchell, *Secretary*

Harry Currie, Lonnie L. Farmer, Jack W. Keeley, Jess Mark Nichols, Bill Secrest, Richard C. Sevenoaks

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