

OKLAHOMA Water News

3rd Quarter 2010

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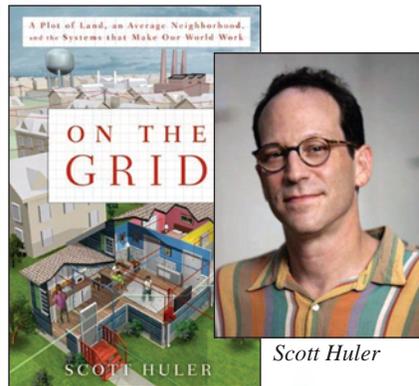
Drought Update

NOAA Administrator and Noted Author Highlight Water Conference and Symposium

Dr. Jane Lubchenco, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere & NOAA Administrator, will join Congressman Tom Cole for a federal update during the luncheon on October 26 at the 2010 Oklahoma Governor's Water Conference and Research Symposium.

This year's event will be held October 26-27 at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in Norman. The theme is "A Shared Resource, A Shared Responsibility." Lt. Governor Jari Askins, along with Norman Mayor Cindy Rosenthal and OWRB Chairman Rudy Herrmann, will welcome attendees on Tuesday morning during a general session.

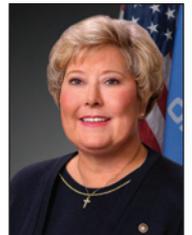
Scott Huler, award-winning radio personality and author of *On the Grid: A Plot of Land, an Average Neighborhood, and the Systems that Make our World Work*, will then deliver the keynote address. Huler's book explores the average person's viewpoint of infrastructure, focusing on how infrastructure systems are often taken for granted, shrouded in mystery, and woefully out of date.



Scott Huler



Dr. Jane Lubchenco, NOAA
Administrator



Lt. Gov. Jari Askins



Congresswoman
Mary Fallin

Following the general session will be concurrent sessions on a variety of water-related topics, including Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan (OCWP) panels on public water supply, agriculture, and tribal issues. All panels will be moderated by state and tribal officials.

Wednesday's opening session will include a welcome from Congresswoman Mary Fallin and a federal update from Col. Michael

(continued on page 2)

From the Director

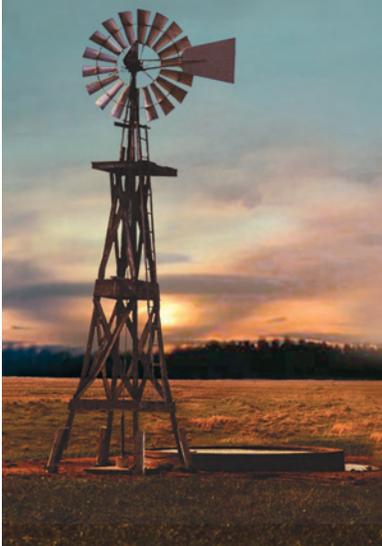
Even before it was officially launched in late 2006, the OWRB committed to facilitating an open and, above all, inclusive Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan (OCWP) process—one that is above reproach. It is my opinion that we have been extremely successful in that mission. This will become quite evident when the Plan is submitted to the State Legislature and Governor in early 2012, and as policies and projects resulting from the plan are implemented in the following years.

This OCWP is truly by the people and for the people. Through development of a close working relationship with more than 300 citizen

(continued on page 2)



J. D. Strong, Interim Executive Director
Oklahoma Water Resources Board



Conference (continued)

Teague, USACE Tulsa District Engineer. OCWP panels on Wednesday will include the topics of environment, commerce and industry, and energy.

Wednesday's luncheon will feature a discussion of Inca water engineering by Kenneth and Ruth Wright. OWRRI poster contest winners will be announced, and presentations will be made by 4H speech contest winners.

This year, the traditional OWRRI Water Research Symposium will be held simultaneously with the Water Conference during the concurrent sessions.

To access online registration for the event, go to <http://environ.okstate.edu/OKWATER/>. An early registration discount rate will be available through October 5. ♦

From the Director (continued)

participants, who have graciously volunteered both their time and unique perspectives on Oklahoma's future water issues, we have established trust and fostered a beneficial spirit of cooperation.

To ensure a fair and nonpartisan OCWP, the OWRB empowered the Oklahoma Water Resources Research Institute (OWRRI), an independent organization with unique policy development expertise, to develop and execute the OCWP's public participation process. Every individual who has been directly involved in this singular opportunity to contribute to Oklahoma's water future was chosen and vetted by the OWRRI and approved by the OCWP Planning Advisory Board, a separate body consisting of select OWRB members and cabinet officials. No person willing to volunteer significant time to the effort was excluded.

To date, the OWRRI has hosted 86 local, regional, and statewide water planning meetings and engaged thousands of Oklahomans in the public input process. Participants have invested almost 30,000 hours collectively. Discussion has been heated at times, which not only exemplifies the passion that Oklahomans have about their water resources, but also verifies to us that they are engaged in our process. On the technical side, ten separate workgroups, including about 100 experts, have provided invaluable input into technical methodologies and decisions.

Providing an additional opportunity for independent vetting of draft water policy recommendations, the Water Town Hall, hosted by The Oklahoma Academy, was successfully completed last May. During the spring of 2011, the OWRRI will host thirteen additional regional public meetings to obtain feedback on draft water policy recommendations, all of which will receive final consideration by the nine-member Water Board late in 2011 prior to formal submittal to the Legislature and Governor in early 2012.



Along with Secretary of Environment J.D. Strong, three additional cabinet members will assist with this year's conference. Sec. of Agriculture Terry Peach (left) will moderate the OCWP Agriculture panel, Sec. of Commerce and Tourism Natalie Shirley (middle) will moderate the Commerce & Industry panel, and Sec. of Energy Robert Wegener (right) will moderate the Energy panel. Other moderators and panels include ODEQ Executive Director Steve Thompson (Public Water Supply), Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby (Tribal), and Dept. of Wildlife Conservation Director Richard Hatcher (Environment).

Implementable policy must be backed by broad public support, and that is what we seek through this unprecedented level of openness, collaboration, and public involvement in development of water policy for Oklahoma's next century. Arbitrary decisions concerning the management and protection of Oklahoma's water resources are destined to fail. The OCWP is not the OWRB's plan, it belongs to *all* Oklahomans. Just as we all share in the bounty of our plentiful water supplies, we all share the blame if we neglect our water resources or fail to plan for future water problems.

Implementable policy must be backed by broad public support, and that is what we seek through this unprecedented level of openness, collaboration, and public involvement.

On a related note, the OWRB's management team convened our annual strategic planning retreat at Lake Arcadia near Edmond last month. It was my first such experience with that group, and I enjoyed participating in a very productive and quite lively discussion concerning the future direction of the agency in serving the water-related needs of Oklahoma citizens.

A major outcome was our new, refashioned OWRB Mission Statement, which I think captures well the agency's renewed objective for FY-2012 and beyond:

To enhance the quality of life for Oklahomans by managing, protecting and improving the state's water resources to ensure clean, safe, and reliable water supplies, a strong economy, and a healthy environment. ♦

2010 Oklahoma Governor's Water Conference & Water Research Symposium

A Shared Resource, A Shared Responsibility

Tuesday, October 26

8:00 Welcome

Rudy Herrmann, OWRB Chairman
Cindy Rosenthal, Mayor of Norman
Lt. Governor Jari Askins

Keynote

Scott Huler, Author, *On the Grid*

State of the State's Water

J.D. Strong, OK Secretary of Environment

9:30 Break**10:00 Concurrent Sessions****OCWP Public Supply Panel**

Moderator: Steve Thompson, Director, ODEQ

Water Research Symposium (OWRRI)**Dam Safety Workshop: Legal Liability (OWRB)****Oklahoma Municipal League****11:30 Luncheon****Oklahoma Water Pioneer Awards****Water Outlook from Washington DC**

Congressman Tom Cole

Dr. Jane Lubchenco, Under Sec. of Commerce for
Oceans and Atmosphere & NOAA Administrator

1:30 Concurrent Sessions**OCWP Agriculture Panel**

Moderator: Terry Peach, OK Secretary of Agriculture

Water Research Symposium (OWRRI)**Dam Safety Workshop: Engineering (OWRB)****Water Rights Workshop (OWRB)****Waterways Advisory Board****3:00 Break****3:30 Concurrent Sessions****OCWP Tribal Panel**

Moderator: Bill Anoatubby, Gov., Chickasaw Nation

Water Research Symposium (OWRRI)**Floodplain Management Workshop (OFMA)****OK Association of Reclamation Projects****Water Well Drillers Demonstration (OGWA)****5:00 Reception**

Wednesday, October 27

8:00 Welcome

Rudy Herrmann
Congresswoman Mary Fallin

Federal Update

Col. Michael Teague, Tulsa District Engineer, USACE

Water Plan Update

Kyle Arthur, OWRB

John Rehring, CDM

Ken Senour, Guernsey

Will Focht, OWRRRI

10:00 Concurrent Sessions**OCWP Environment Panel**

Moderator: Richard Hatcher, Director, ODWC

Water Research Symposium (OWRRI)**FACT Session (OWRB/DEQ)****Energy/Natural Resources Law Session (OBA)****11:30 Luncheon****Inca Water Engineering—Machu Picchu, Tipon, & Moray**

Kenneth R. Wright & Ruth Wright

Poster Contest Winners**4H Speech Contest Winners****1:30 Concurrent Sessions****OCWP Commerce & Industry Panel**

Moderator: Natalie Shirley, OK Secretary of
Commerce & Tourism

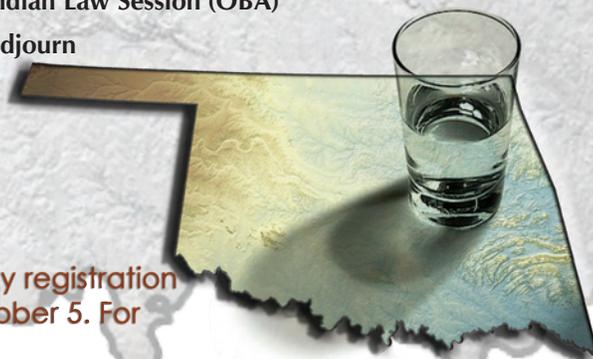
Water Research Symposium (OWRRI)**FACT Session (OWRB/DEQ)****Environmental Law Session (OBA)****3:00 Break****3:30 Concurrent Sessions****OCWP Energy Panel**

Moderator: Robert Wegener, OK Secretary of Energy

Water Research Symposium (OWRRI)**FACT Session (OWRB/ODEQ)****Indian Law Session (OBA)****5:00 Adjourn**

Embassy Suites Conference Center
Norman, Oklahoma

Register online at <http://environ.okstate.edu/OKWATER/>. Early registration discount rate and special room rates available through October 5. For more information, call 405-530-8800.



Garber-Wellington Water Management Study Update

The Garber-Wellington Water Management Study is on track to be completed by September 30, 2011. Over the last year, U.S. Geological Survey staff have made considerable progress in developing a three-dimensional representation of the lithologic properties of the aquifer.

The focus for the final year of the study will be constructing a digital groundwater-flow model that will be used to evaluate the maximum annual yield and to predict the impacts of long-term groundwater withdrawals on the aquifer.

To update OWRB members on the progress of the study, the regular October 12 Board meeting will be held at the new Arcadia Conservation Education Center on the south side of Lake Arcadia, followed by a field trip to nearby areas of interest associated with the aquifer.

Tentative plans are to have a short presentation on the Garber-Wellington study near the end of the morning Board meeting, followed by an excursion to nearby sites where the Garber Sandstone is exposed. There, Dr. Stan Paxton (USGS) will discuss the geology of the aquifer and how information from outcrops is applied to the groundwater flow model.

Additional stops are planned at Edmond's state-of-the-art water treatment plant and at one of the City's water supply wells, where Edmond Water Superintendent Fred Rice will discuss how Edmond meets its water demands and water quality standards.

On Wednesday, October 27, during the joint Governor's Water Conference and OWRRI Water Research Symposium, OWRB hydrogeologist Noel Osborn will moderate a special session exploring various aspects of the Garber-Wellington study and associated research. For more information, go to <http://environ.okstate.edu/okwater/index.asp>.



Dr. Stan Paxton examining the Garber Sandstone

Trends Analysis an Important Component of OCWP

The OWRB's water quality monitoring staff are providing support for the OCWP through an evaluation of water quality data that has been collected on Oklahoma's surface waters.

Analysis of 17,000 data sets on 65 lakes and 60 streams will be used for a report detailing trends in water quality. Ultimately, the report will help planners determine if waters are getting "better" or "worse" over time at each site. The Water Quality section in each of 13 OCWP Regional Reports will contain tables indicating trends for waterbodies in that region. (Trend tables for the Beaver-Cache Region are displayed below.)

Most of the data being analyzed was collected routinely through the Beneficial Use Monitoring Program (BUMP) during the last twelve years, but any additional data collected prior to the existence of the BUMP is also being considered, some dating back to the early 1970s.

The final report on "Trends in Lake and Stream Water Quality in Oklahoma" is expected to be released in the fall of 2010.

Stream Water Quality Trends

Beaver-Cache Region

Parameter	Red River near Terral, OK		East Cache Creek near Walters, OK	
	All Data Trend	Recent Trend (1998-2009)	All Data Trend	Recent Trend (1998-2009)
Conductivity (us/cm)	↑ (1965-93, 1998-2009)	NT	↑↑↑ (1975-93, 1998-2009)	↑↑↑
Turbidity (NTU)	↑↑↑ (1975-93, 1998-2009)	↓↓	↑↑↑ (1979-93, 1998-2009)	↓↓↓
Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	↓↓↓ (1975-93, 1998-2009)	NT	↓↓↓ (1976-93, 1998-2009)	↑↑↑

↑↑↑ or ↓↓↓ = Highly significant upward or downward trend (alpha <= 0.05)
 ↑↑ or ↓↓ = Moderately significant upward or downward trend (alpha <= 0.10)
 ↑ or ↓ = Slightly significant upward or downward trend (alpha <= 0.20)
 NT = No significant trend detected
 N/A = Data not available

Red River near Terral has shown an historic, highly significant, upward trend in turbidity, although it has shown a moderately significant, downward recent trend. East Cache Creek near Walters has shown both a recent and historic, significantly upward trend in conductivity, while turbidity has an historic significantly upward trend with a recent significantly downward trend. This waterbody has also exhibited a significantly downward historic trend in turbidity, although the recent trend has been significantly upward.

Reservoir Water Quality Trends

Beaver-Cache Region

Parameter	Site	Lake Ellsworth	Lake Lawtonka	Walters Lake	Waurika Lake
		(1994-2009)	(1998-2009)	(1995-2008)	(1996-2008)
Chlorophyll-a (mg/m3)		NT ¹	↑↑↑	↑	NT
Conductivity (us/cm)		NT	↑↑↑	↑↑	NT
Total Phosphorus (mg/L)		NT	NT	↓	NT
Turbidity (NTU)		NT ²	NT ³	NT	↑↑

- (1) Site 1 demonstrates a highly significant upward trend for chlorophyll-a.
- (2) Site 1 demonstrates a moderately significant upward trend for turbidity.
- (3) Sites 1 and 3 demonstrate a slightly significant downward trend for turbidity.

↑↑↑ or ↓↓↓ = Highly significant upward or downward trend (alpha <= 0.05)
 ↑↑ or ↓↓ = Moderately significant upward or downward trend (alpha <= 0.10)
 ↑ or ↓ = Slightly significant upward or downward trend (alpha <= 0.20)
 NT = No significant trend detected

Lake Lawtonka has shown a highly significant upward trend in both chlorophyll-a and conductivity. Walters Lake has shown a slightly significant upward trend in chlorophyll-a, a moderately significant upward trend in conductivity, and a slightly significant downward trend in total phosphorus. Waurika Lake has shown a moderately significant upward trend in turbidity.

Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan

OCWP

Recent Developments

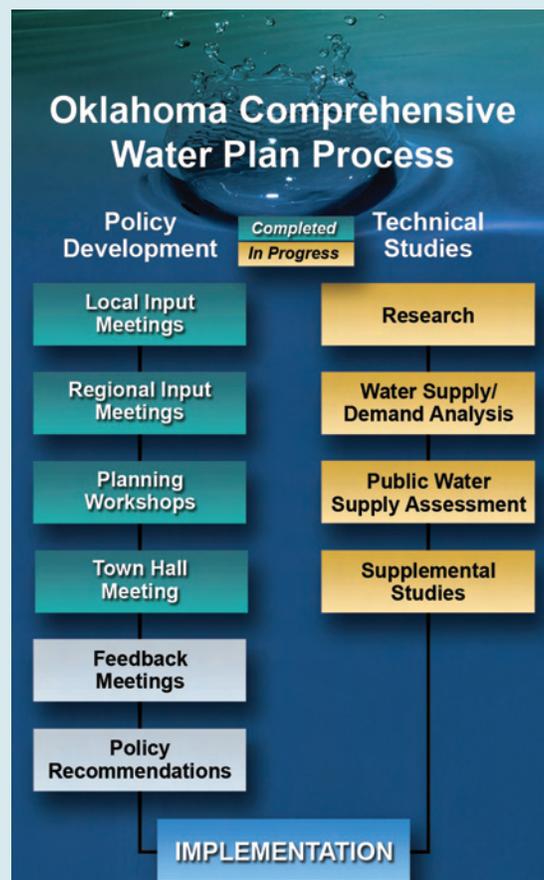
- To ensure that all water policy issues are sufficiently addressed, the OWRRI is currently working to synthesize OCWP public input recommendations with those developed during May's Water Town Hall, hosted by the Oklahoma Academy. The Institute is also preparing to host 13 regional meetings to seek input on implementation ideas for final recommendations. The Water Town Hall Final Report is now available on the Academy's website at www.okacademy.org.
- The Recharge Workgroup final report is now available on the OWRB website, and the Marginal Quality Water Workgroup final report will be available soon.
- The OWRB continues to meet with state water management agencies to solicit their invaluable input and contributions concerning Oklahoma's future water priorities and challenges.
- The OWRB and CDM have begun development of 13 OCWP Water Planning Region Reports, which will contain detailed information on Oklahoma's water supply and demand as well as current and future water use scenarios. Planners are focusing on development of practical solutions that water managers and other stakeholders can use to address anticipated shortages and other issues.
- CDM is developing a water planning "primer" that water systems can use to address future local water needs and growth. The document should be especially valuable to small communities and rural water districts with limited available resources.
- The OWRB has received a grant from the Bureau of Reclamation to incorporate climate change into the recently developed OCWP Reservoir Yield model. The project seeks to enhance water management to reduce the risk of potential climate change impacts upon water systems.

Upcoming

- The Governor's Water Conference and Research Symposium will be held October 26-27 at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in Norman. The program will feature six sessions highlighting various policy and technical aspects of the OCWP.
- Thirteen regional feedback meetings will be held in early 2011 to obtain final input on proposed water policy recommendations; dates and locations have yet to be determined.

Water Plan Objectives

1. Characterize demands by water use sector.
2. Identify reliable supplies to meet forecasted demands.
3. Perform technical studies in support of the evaluation of emerging water management issues.
4. Engage comprehensive stakeholder involvement to make recommendations regarding the management of Oklahoma's water resources.
5. Make "implementable" recommendations regarding the future of water management in Oklahoma based upon technical evaluations and stakeholder input.



Goals of the OCWP Update

- To provide safe and dependable water supply for all Oklahomans while improving the economy and protecting the environment.
- To provide information so that water providers, policy-makers, and water users can make informed decisions concerning the use and management of Oklahoma's water resources.

For more information on the OCWP, visit the OWRB's website at www.owrb.ok.gov. For questions and comments concerning policy development and public meetings, contact the OWRRI at 405-744-9994, by e-mail at waterplan@okstate.edu, or go to <http://okwaterplan.info>.

Water Use Reports Provide Valuable Information

In Oklahoma, water use permits from the OWRB are required for purposes other than household and related minor uses. Once a permit has been obtained, the permit holder (or “water right” holder) is responsible for submitting an annual water use report to the OWRB. This information is essential to the OWRB for determining the amount of water being used across the state and planning for current and future uses. Data from more than 14,000 stream and groundwater permits is relied upon by agency hydrologists for conducting studies of state surface and groundwaters and providing general protection of landowner water right interests. Too often, however, water users fail to submit complete and accurate water use reports.

Groundwater wells that are temporarily out of service must be capped and abandoned wells plugged in accordance with Oklahoma law.

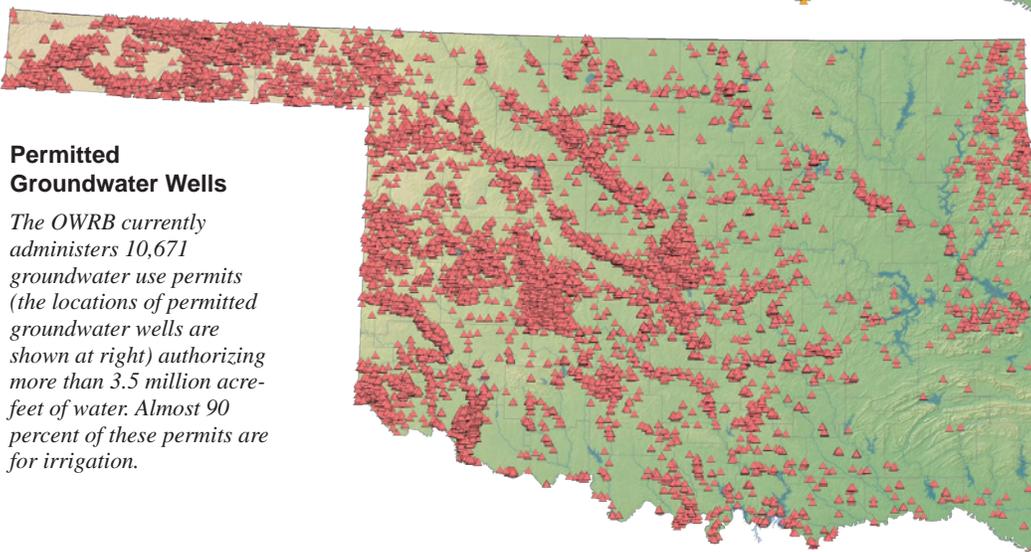
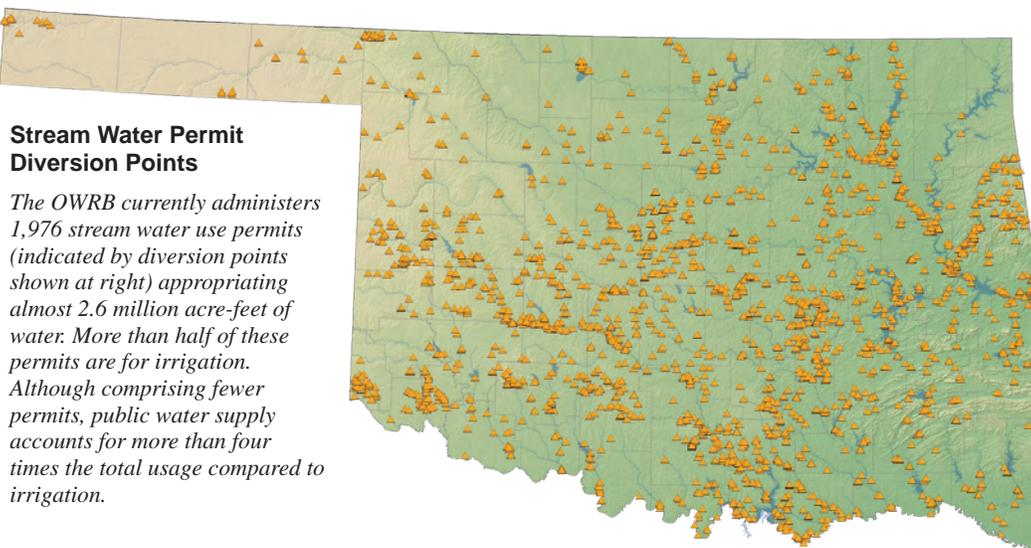
In addition to reporting the amount of water used, it is also the responsibility of all water right holders to review the legal locations of wells (for groundwater) or diversion points (for surface water) and verify that they are correct on the report. If wells or diversion points are not indicated in the authorized location, the permit holder is required to file an amended or new water right application with the OWRB. Use of unauthorized wells or diversion points before amending a water right or obtaining a new permit is a violation of Oklahoma State law.

If water usage is not metered, the best way to keep track is to determine the well or diversion pumping rate and the amount of time the pump runs. The OWRB recommends that users maintain a daily journal of pumping dates, times and rates in gallons per minute.

Enclosed with all water use reports, both for groundwater and stream water, is an invoice for a fee of \$50 per water right, up to \$500 per entity. This annual fee protects the

interests of all water right holders by offsetting a portion of the agency’s cost to maintain its water rights database, permit imaging system, online datasets, enforcement activities for unauthorized water use, and other actions critical to the overall protection of water rights. In addition, the groundwater fee helps fund hydrologic studies to accurately determine amounts of water available for allocation to landowners and other users.

Annual water use report forms are mailed to all water right holders during the last week of December and are due back no later than March 15 with the appropriate fees. Please contact the Permitting Section of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to amend water rights, obtain new permits, or get information on tracking annual water usage. 💧



Drought Update

Reservoir Storage

As of September 8, twenty-six reservoirs (of thirty-one selected major federal reservoirs across Oklahoma, listed at right) are operating at less than full capacity, according to information from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Tulsa District); twenty-nine reservoirs have experienced lake level decreases since August 9.

Palmer Drought Severity Index

According to the latest Palmer Drought Severity Index (see table below), three climate divisions in Oklahoma are currently experiencing drought conditions.

Standardized Precipitation Index

The latest monthly Standardized Precipitation Index (see table below) indicates near long-term dryness in two of Oklahoma's nine climate divisions. The South Central region is "very dry" over the past six months.



LAKE	Change in Elevation (feet) 8/9-9/8/10	Current Flood Control Storage (acre-feet)
North Central (2)		
Fort Supply	-0.63	-307
Great Salt Plains	0.10	2,685
Kaw	-0.40	-2,510
Northeast (3)		
Birch	-1.13	-1,560
Copan	-0.24	-1,014
Fort Gibson	-3.10	-5,237
Grand	-1.98	18,059
Hudson	-1.48	2,210
Hulah	0.73	3,010
Keystone	-2.27	15,955
Oologah	-4.43	-7,551
Skiatook	-1.25	-15,572
West Central (4)		
Canton	-0.64	-3,710
Foss	-0.61	-4,809
Central (5)		
Arcadia	-0.76	-1,691
Heyburn	-0.92	-803
Thunderbird	-0.85	-7,276
East Central (6)		
Eufaula	-2.01	-157,432
Tenkiller	-3.17	-17,897
Southwest (7)		
Fort Cobb	-0.82	-2,604
Lugert-Altus	-9.19	-87,257
Tom Steed	-0.48	-8,928
South Central (8)		
Arbuckle	-0.57	-510
McGee Creek	-0.39	-2,910
Texoma	-0.68	-12,348
Waurika	-0.46	-4,734
Southeast (9)		
Broken Bow	-2.65	-125,241
Hugo	-1.38	-65,846
Pine Creek	-1.05	-3,524
Sardis	-0.49	-15,073
Wister	-0.82	-6,458

CLIMATE DIVISION	Standardized Precipitation Index (through August 2010)				Palmer Drought Severity Index
	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month	September 4, 2010
Northwest (1)	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal
North Central (2)	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal	Unusual Moist Spell
Northeast (3)	Moderately Wet	Near Normal	Near Normal	Moderately Wet	Near Normal
West Central (4)	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal	Incipient Drought
Central (5)	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal
East Central (6)	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal	Mild Drought
Southwest (7)	Moderately Wet	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal
South Central (8)	Moderately Dry	Very Dry	Moderately Dry	Near Normal	Mild Drought
Southeast (9)	Near Normal	Moderately Dry	Moderately Dry	Near Normal	Moderate Drought

For more drought information, and to obtain updated information on Oklahoma's drought and moisture conditions, go to www.owrb.ok.gov/supply/drought/drought_index.php.

*Rudy Herrmann, Chairman • Mark Nichols, Vice Chairman • Linda Lambert, Secretary
Ford Drummond • Ed Fite • Marilyn Feaver • Kenneth K. Knowles • Richard Sevenoaks • Joe Taron*

Enhancing the quality of life for Oklahomans by managing, protecting and improving the state's water resources to ensure clean, safe, and reliable water supplies, a strong economy, and a healthy environment.



3rd Quarter 2010

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*E-mail comments, questions,
or article submissions to
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The Oklahoma Water News is published by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board as authorized by J.D. Strong, Interim Executive Director. Eighty-eight hundred copies have been printed by University Printing Services at an approximate cost of 38 cents each. Copies have been deposited at the Publications Clearinghouse of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM UPDATE

Loans & Grants Approved as of August 16, 2010

FAP Loans—326 for \$692,610,000

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 very competitive interest rates, averaging approximately 4.762 percent since 1986.

CWSRF Loans—229 for \$891,792,441

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—120 for \$598,704,882

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—546 for \$48,207,601

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—557 for \$33,047,065

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

Drought Response Program Grants—2 totaling \$200,000

Through the OWRB's Drought Response Program, funding is available for communities in most dire need during state drought emergencies declared by the Governor. A maximum of \$300,000 is diverted from existing OWRB Emergency Grant funds to establish the Program.

American Recovery & Reinvestment Act Funding—\$60,617,376

Through the OWRB's conventional CWSRF and DWSRF loan programs, ARRA funds are utilized to provide additional subsidization to Oklahoma communities for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements as well as to provide benefits to the state's environment and create jobs for Oklahoma workers.

**Total Loans/Grants: 1,780 for \$2,325,179,366
Estimated Savings: \$820,187,421**

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.

**For more information, call 405-530-8800
or go to www.owrb.ok.gov/financing.**