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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,  
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#### OWRB Coordinates New Study at Grand Lake

A new study coordinated by the Lakes and Special Studies section of the OWRB's Water Quality Division, in cooperation with the Grand River Dam Authority and Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, will focus on improving and increasing wildlife habitat at Grand Lake by introducing native aquatic plants. The additional plants will not only benefit wildlife habitat at the lake, but should also improve the lake's water quality.

Beginning this month with a three-year feasibility study to determine the best plants, caging methods, and water levels for planting, the project will entail planting submergent and emergent plants at the shoreline in zero to three feet of water. Initially, plant types will include arrowhead ("Duck Potato"), American water willow ("Bass Grass"), water stargrass, bulrush, coontail, water celery, and various water lillies.

By planting "founder colonies" and through natural reproduction by the colonies, 1000 acres of new fish and wildlife habitat can be created over the next 20 years. In the initial stages, the young and vulnerable plants will be surrounded by plastic coated wire mesh to protect them from being eaten by fish and water fowl. Visitors to Grand Lake are asked to be mindful of these cages and not disturb them.

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