

Chickasaw

National Recreation Area
Oklahoma

National Park Service
U.S. Department of Interior



May 15, 2012

**Hearing on Arbuckle-
Simpson Aquifer
Maximum Annual
Yield Proposal**

**Bruce Noble,
Superintendent &
Oklahoma State
Coordinator,
Chickasaw National
Recreation Area**



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Platt National Park

Established June 29, 1906

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- “the Secretary of the Interior may, under rules prescribed for that purpose, regulate and control the use of the water of said springs and creeks”
- 7th oldest park in a national system that now includes nearly 400 national park areas in 49 states.
- Park created by the purchase of about 900 acres from the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations in 1902 and 1904
- Park pre-dated the establishment of the State of Oklahoma in 1907.

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National Park Service Act

August 25, 1916

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“The service thus established shall promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to ***conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life*** therein and to provide for the ***enjoyment of the same*** in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

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Chickasaw NRA

Public Law 94-235 enacted on March 17, 1976

- Repealed the act of June 29, 1906, but only repealed the Platt name
- Expanded park to present size of nearly 10,000 acres, including the 2,300 acre Lake of the Arbuckles (reservoir)
- Annual visitation of approximately 1,250,000
- In 2010, visitors spent \$17,157,000 in the park and surrounding communities. That spending supported 206 jobs in the local area. (Based on Money Generation Model developed by Michigan State University)

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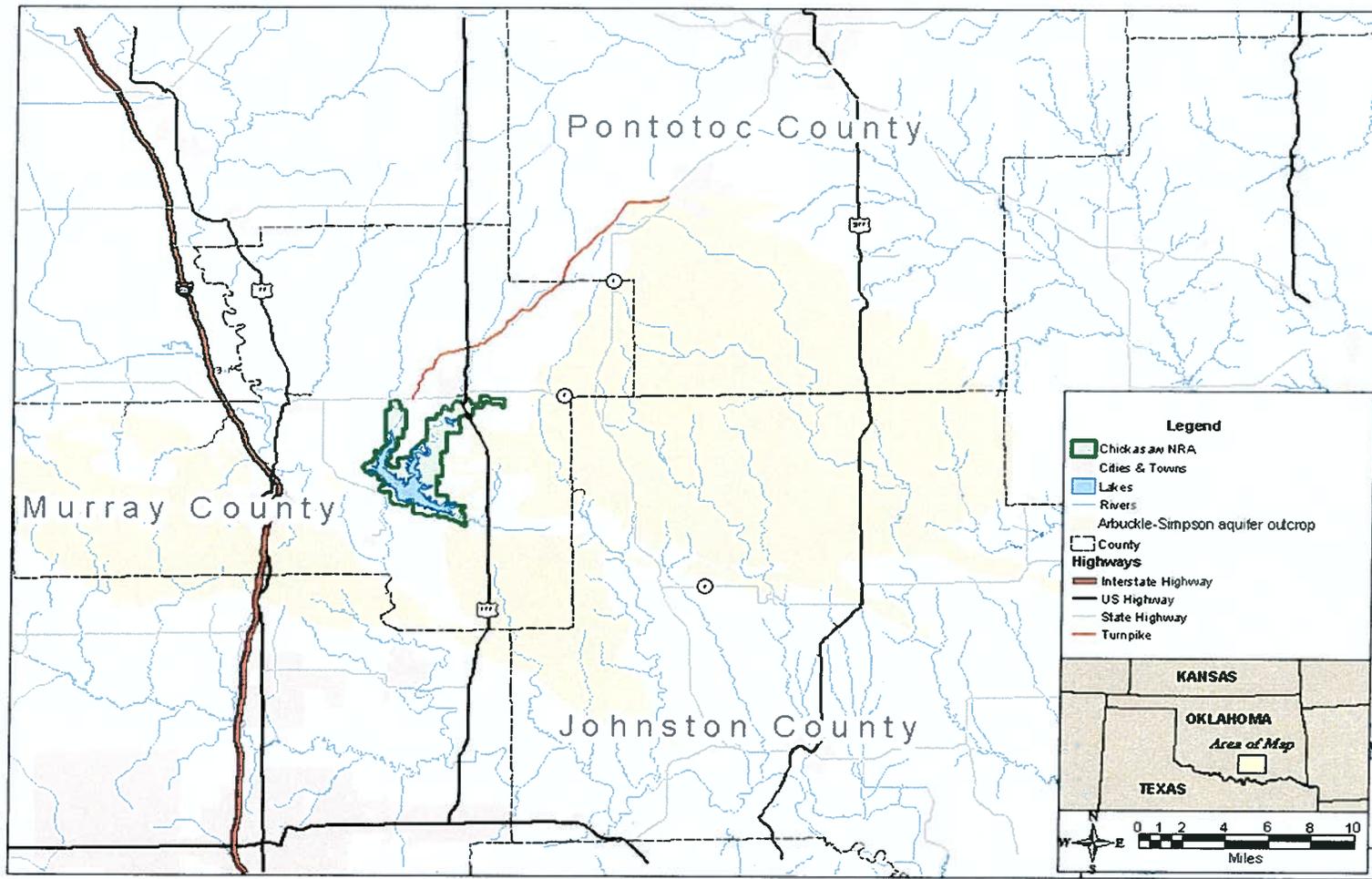
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Projection: UTM Zone 14 North, NAD 1983

Base Modified From 1:100,000 USGS 6-LD

Figure 1. Location of Chickasaw National Recreation Area.

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Springs in 1906 (Charles Gould Survey)

1. Antelope Spring
2. Buffalo Spring
3. Cunningham Spring
4. Buse Spring
5. Big Tom Spring
6. Arsenic Spring
7. Little Tom Spring
8. Swords' Spring
9. Townsley's Spring
10. Dog Spring
11. Unnamed
12. Hillside Spring
13. Beach Springs
14. Beach Springs
15. Beach Springs
16. Sand Spring
17. Bromide Spring
18. Cliff Bromide Spring
19. Unnamed
20. Bromide Sulphur Spring
21. Sulphur Spring
22. Taff's Spring
23. Iron Spring
24. Soda Spring
25. Sulphur Spring
26. Sulphur Spring
27. Wilson Spring
28. Churchill Spring
29. Rucker's Spring
30. Iron Spring
31. Jericho Spring
32. Unnamed
33. Unnamed

Springs in 2012

1. Antelope Spring
2. Buffalo Spring
3. Pavillion Spgs
4. Hillside Springs
5. Black Sulphur Springs

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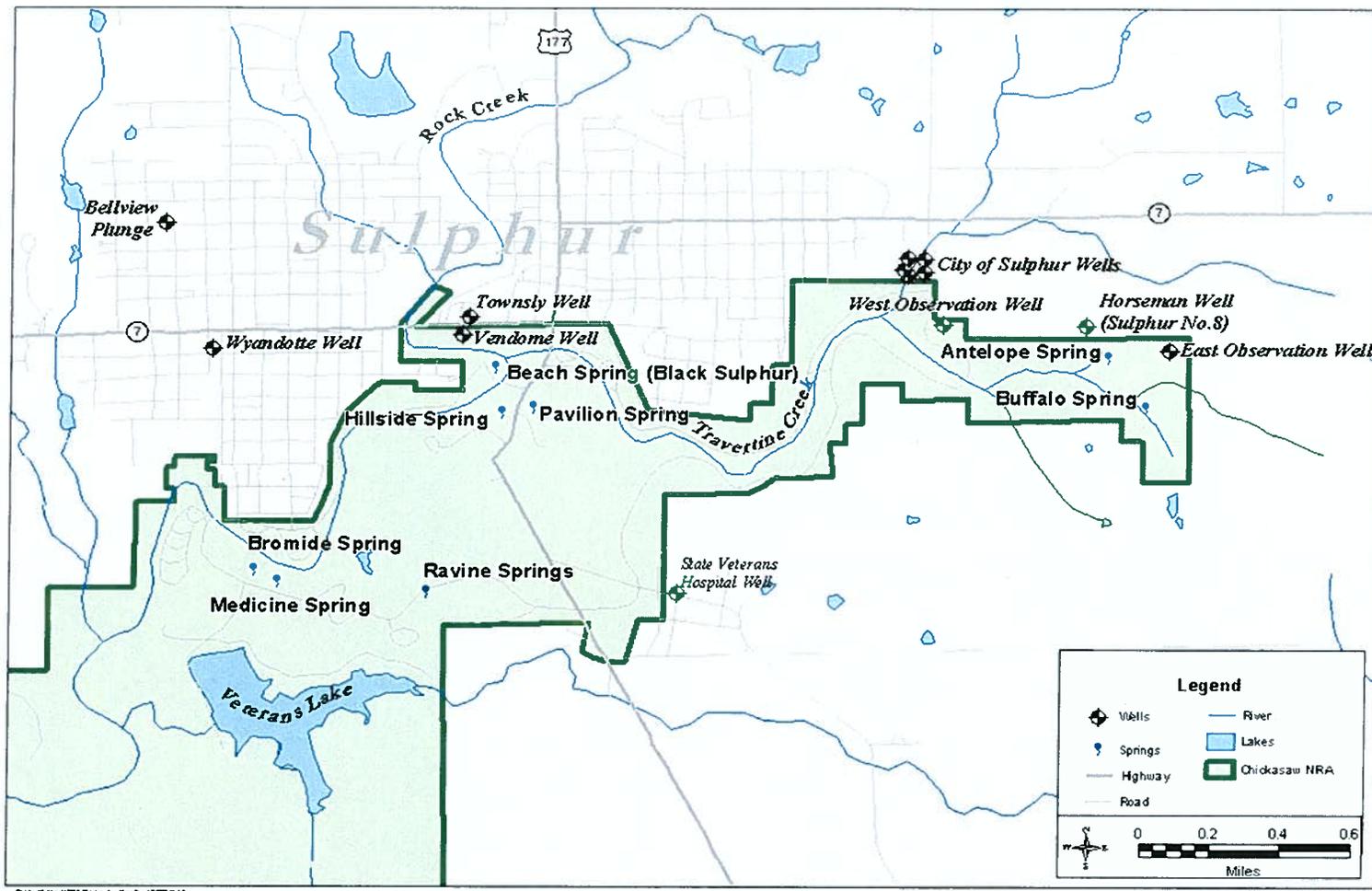


Figure 2: Wells and springs in the vicinity of the Travertine District, Chickasaw National Recreation Area.

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Summary

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Impacts have occurred to the springs and streams of Chickasaw National Recreation Area (Platt National Park) since the park was established in 1906.

Further impacts to water resources at Chickasaw National Recreation Area may compromise the very reasons for which Congress established the park.

OWRB recommendations for water management of the Arbuckle Simpson aquifer are a critical first step toward the protection of park resources.

The National Park Service looks forward to continuing to work with OWRB, the State of Oklahoma, and other public and private partners to develop management tools that will protect the water resources of Chickasaw National Recreation Area.