

Priority Goal #1: Increase available water supply, water supply storage, and interconnectivity among public water supplies within the Smoky Hill – Saline Planning Region. Methods of attaining goal can include: temporary or permanent conservation pool rise at Cedar Bluff Reservoir; utilize Wilson Reservoir as a water supply source for the region; permanent conservation pool rise at Kanopolis Reservoir; evaluate Kanopolis Reservoir to determine the feasibility of dredging and initiate project if deemed viable; construction of new water supply reservoirs within region; and phreatophyte control within riparian areas. Timeframe of implementation: Complete by 2060. Result of efforts: Ensure water supply available from reservoir storage exceeds demand by at least 10% through the year 2060.

Action Steps

- ❖ Evaluate recommendations included within the Smoky Hill-Saline section of the KWO Reservoir Roadmap when completed.
- ❖ Continue to pursue conservation pool rise efforts at Kanopolis Reservoir.
- ❖ Pursue alternative options to V-notch at Kanopolis Reservoir to allow for better control of operations and releases.
- ❖ Develop a lake level management plan at Cedar Bluff Reservoir to facilitate temporary pool rises on as needed basis when inflow conditions warrant.
- ❖ Evaluate the feasibility of and develop where determined to be most effective low-head dams along the Smoky Hill River above Kanopolis Reservoir to help increase recharge of alluvial aquifer.
- ❖ Evaluate the potential to dredge pools within river channel to create pools or basins which help promote recharge of alluvial aquifer.
- ❖ Evaluate the potential for utilization of the NRCS PL-566 watershed structure program for structure rehab for water supply purposes.
- ❖ Utilize watershed districts within the Smoky Hill-Saline Regional Planning Area and the Kansas Watershed District Act for new construction, operation and maintenance of watershed structures needed to improve for watershed management and water supply purposes.
- ❖ Determine the viability of treatment of produced and lower quality water for water supply purposes.
- ❖ Utilize additional aquifers (i.e. Dakota, Arbuckle, Cedar Hills) for water supply purposes
- ❖ Finish reallocation study of Wilson Reservoir before proceeding forward with any exploration of Wilson as a water supply reservoir.
- ❖ Conduct a needs assessment and/or feasibility study for water suppliers within the Smoky Hill-Saline Regional Planning Area to evaluate potential for interconnectivity among systems. This could include an evaluation of systems which have already conducted studies on their own evaluating their individual system's needs and potential for interconnectivity.
- ❖ Utilize the Kansas Electronic Watershed Library (KEWL) or a similar program as a data clearinghouse for water supply-related studies completed within the Smoky Hill-Saline Regional Planning Area. This data clearinghouse could be developed for statewide purposes as well.
- ❖ Identify GIS, remote sensing, and/or on the ground assessments areas of phreatophyte growth in riparian corridors. Once identified, develop strategy for removal of phreatophytes in riparian areas to help maintain or restore streamflow in targeted regions.

Responsible and Other Assisting Agencies/Organizations

- ❖ Kansas Water Office, Kansas Department of Agriculture – Division of Water Resources, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, NRCS, SAKW, local watershed districts, regional public water suppliers (including municipal and rural water districts), Kansas Forest Service, county noxious weed programs.



Smoky Hill-Saline Regional Advisory Committee Priority Goal #1 Action Plan

Resources Needed:

- ❖ Funding for needs assessments, feasibility studies, or other assessments associated with action steps noted above. Total funding needed TBD.

Timeframe of Completion:

- ❖ During 2017, the Smoky Hill-Saline RAC will evaluate the action steps and develop a prioritized timeline to meet the end goal of ensuring water supply available from reservoir storage exceeds demand by at least 10% through the year 2060.

Geographic Scope:

- ❖ The entire Smoky Hill-Saline Planning Region.

Regulation/Policy Changes:

- ❖ TBD