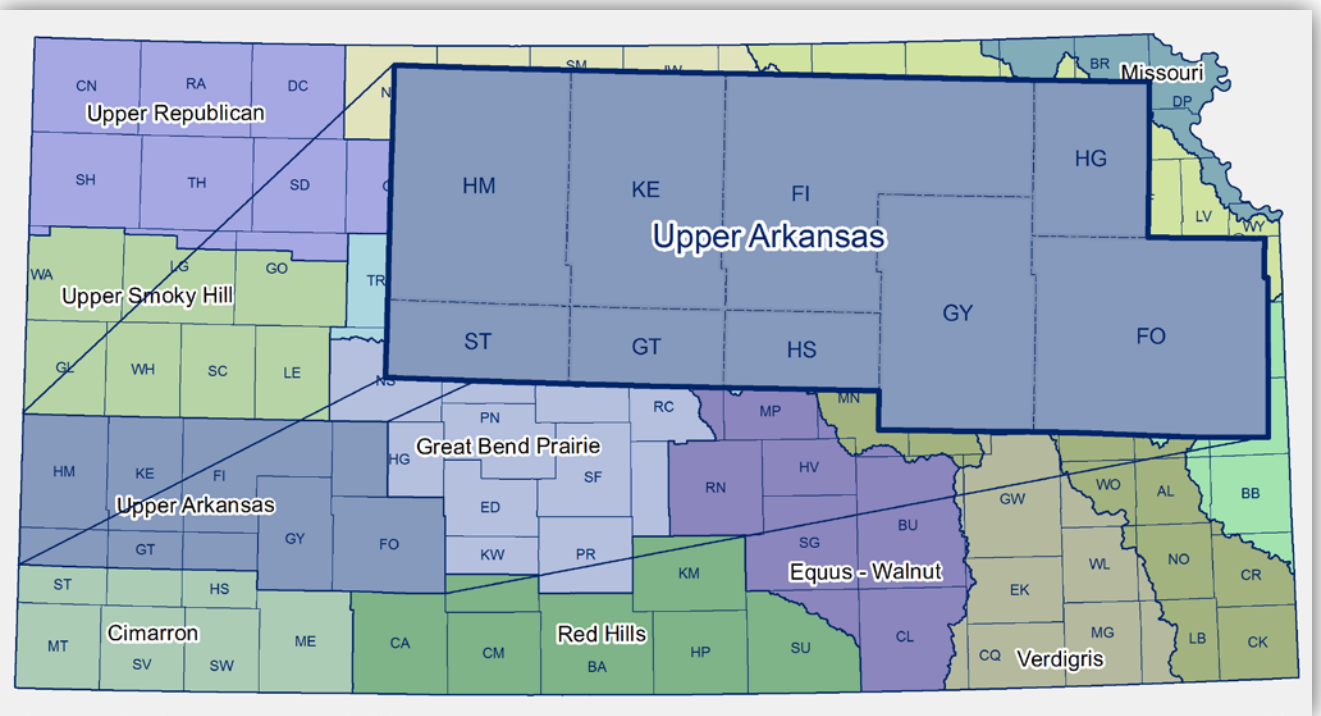
Upper Arkansas Regional Planning Area

Guiding Principles

- *Respect private property rights – first in time, first in right*
- *Voluntary, incentive-based solutions should be highest priority. Conservation activities should result in the availability of added flexibility*
- *Economics will serve as the best driver for future conditions*
- *Locally developed solutions, not government-defined goals, are the best alternative*
- *Recognize diversity of resource conditions across planning region*
- *Cooperation with neighboring states necessary to ensure river flows and extending the life of the Ogallala*
- *Rivers flowing into Kansas must be highly valued. Compacts need to be enforced*



1. **Extend the usable lifetime of the Ogallala Aquifer for at least 25 years in the planning region through the promotion of multiple Local Enhanced Management Areas (LEMAs), Water Conservation Areas (WCAs) and other incentive-based programs. Slow the depletion of the Ogallala Aquifer by 25% in 10 years in the planning region maximizing the opportunity to make use of emerging technologies. Encourage conservation through added flexibility. Find additional sources of water and a place to store water for irrigation and recharge. Increase the opportunity to use wastewater for other beneficial uses. Increase education of aquifer conditions.**

2. By 2020, continue to re-establish and maintain flows along the Upper Arkansas River in the amount of one cubic feet per second at the USGS gage located at Dodge City for 100% of Kansas' share of compact water and a quantified share of high flows that is currently stored in Colorado that is over and above the compact amount through management of river flows and maintenance of open channel conveyance through 100% of tamarisk control. Ensure we maintain compact compliance and enforce the compact when necessary.
3. Maximize available water and promote conservation of municipal use through incentives, education and outreach, reduced water loss, and increased data availability to reduce gallons per capita per day usage.
4. Maximize available water and promote conservation of industrial use through incentives, education and outreach, benchmarking efforts, and increased data availability to reduce gallons per production unit usage.