

Approved: 2-22-1994
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Corbin at 10:12 a.m. on February 18, 1994 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Frahm and Senator Wisdom are were excused.

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes
Lila McClaflin, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Ken Kerns, State Conservation Commission
Robert R. Best, Kansas Water Authority

Others attending: See attached list

Chairperson Corbin called for action on the minutes of February 16 and 17. A motion was made by Senator Sallee to adopted the minutes. The motion was seconded by Senator Steffes. The motion carried.

Chairperson Corbin called on Ken Kerns to present information regarding SB 600 - regarding property taxation; concerning the terms of exemption of certain property contiguous to dams and reservoirs. Mr. Ken Kerns, State Conservation Commission, was called on to present information.

Mr. Kerns reported on what their responsibilities are at the State Conservation Commission. He reported on the number of watershed districts and acres in watershed projects, and the number of dams in the approved general plans and reported on the acres in the flood pool in several counties. He further stated the amount of tax revenue lost was mild compare to the benefits received by reduced damages during the 1994 floods. Information from James N. Habiger, State Conservationist, was distributed. His handout details information from all of the Watershed Districts in the state reporting the damages without the projects versus the damage with the projects. The savings were substantial. He also distributed a map of watershed projects and RC&D areas in Kansas as of January 1994 (Attachment 1).

Mr. Kerns and Mr. Best responded to questions regarding how a tax exemption status is arrived at. They said it was not automatically given, the owners of the easement must apply for it. Responding to a question regarding public access to the land, they replied permission need to be granted by the land owner. Other questions centered around if the watershed enhances the property value; if the water is used to irrigate with or used for watering stock; if it is built strictly for recreation and the monetary value is beyond the normal benefits. How could legislation be drafted to allow the tax exemption to be extended, but prevent a landowner from building a facility strictly for recreation with a tax exemption status.

Chairperson Corbin requested that staff compile a list of the Committee concerns, and that it be available at the time this issue was discussed again.

A letter from James N. Habiger, State Conservationist was distributed (Attachment 2), and a packet of information from Don Guthals, Hope Kansas, in which he addressing some of the questions raised by the Committee at the February 8, 1994 meeting (Attachment 3).

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 21, 1994.

GUEST LIST

COMMITTEE: Senate Agriculture

DATE: 2/18/94

[illegible]



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Conservation
Service

760 South Broadway
Salina, Kansas
67401

RECEIVED
FEB 16 1994

February 14, 1994

Lu

Mr. Kenneth Kern
Executive Director
State Conservation Commission
109 S.W. Ninth Street, Suite 500
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1299

Dear Ken:

The enclosed information identifies monetary benefits from watershed projects during the 1993 flood.

The monetary benefits are the difference between the "damages without project" and the "damages with project." Non-monetary benefits to water quality and other project purposes were not identified.

A state-wide news release will be made in the near future that utilizes this information in relating the effects of watershed projects.

Sincerely,

James N. Habiger
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc:
William Hamm, President, SAKW, Walton, KS
Lowell Abeltdt, SAKW Representative on KWA, Abilene, KS
Kim Goodnight, President, KACD, Dodge City, KS
Sheila Leiker-Page, KACD Representative on KWA, Victoria, KS
Ronald Burton, Chairman, Water Resources Committee, KACD,
Summerfield, KS
Richard Jones, Executive Director, KACD, Salina, KS
Stephen Hurst, Director, KWO, Topeka, KS



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Senate Ag. Co.
2-18-94

Attachment 1

FLOOD DAMAGE 1993

KANSAS

Watershed No.	Watershed	Flood Plain (acres)	Damages Without Project (dollars)	Damages With Project (dollars)
A	Lost Creek	1,200	76,800	46,080
C	Little Delaware-Mission	3,106	198,784	99,392
E	Aiken Creek	570	26,220	10,488
a	Delaware	2,500	142,500	135,375
c	Cherry-Plum Creeks	1,800	45,000	42,750
i	Jacob-Phenis	2,350	162,200	115,200
j	Labette-Hackberry Creeks	12,100	181,500	172,425
m	Tri-Creek	1,800	27,000	24,300
1	Walnut Creek (Brown)	6,741	377,500	154,775
4	Cimarron	450	4,500	2,250
5	Thompsonville	1,390	95,900	57,540
6	Andale	4,181	125,430	100,344
7	Frog Creek	2,036	130,300	44,302
8	Snipe Creek	1,680	146,160	112,543
9	Spring Creek	962	28,860	23,088
13	Bee Creek	4,430	203,780	85,588
14	Little Walnut-Hickory	13,800	634,800	330,096
15	Upper Verdigris River	19,600	968,700	187,000
16	Upper Fall River	16,015	736,690	184,173
17	Grant-Shanghai	1,333	61,318	30,659
18	Nebo Creek	673	3,900	975
19	Silver Creek	1,159	53,300	21,320
20	Big Caney	13,750	632,500	221,375
22	Big Creek	6,438	321,900	263,958
24	White Clay-Brewery-Whiskey	1,254	50,160	16,051
25	Twin Caney	9,730	447,580	125,322
26	Middle Caney	5,530	254,380	38,157
28	Grasshopper-Coal Creek	3,360	148,200	130,416
29	Muddy Creek	1,362	62,652	12,530
30	Rock Creek	6,222	261,300	235,200
31	Turkey Creek	8,014	1,027,900	189,800
32	Irish Creek	1,460	224,200	72,100
33	U & N Black Vermillion	12,136	3,494,600	2,681,300
36	Upper Wakarusa	8,443	734,500	587,600
37	Lower Wakarusa	5,461	472,500	406,350
39	Little Delaware-Mission	3,106	198,800	75,544
42	Timber Creek	8,282	256,700	66,700
43	Elk Creek	8,291	569,000	540,550
44	Lyons Creek	11,952	1,081,000	838,500
45	Lakin	2251	56,300	11,260
48	Spillman	10,100	1,278,500	824,700
49	Elk River	19,608	686,300	411,780

Watershed No.	Watershed	Flood Plain (acres)	Damages Without Project (dollars)	Damages With Project (dollars)
51	Cross Creek	10,415	1,474,000	532,600
52	Salt Creek	14,080	4,195,200	2,772,100
54	N Sector U Walnut	9,980	399,200	239,500
55	S Sector U Walnut	660	23,100	19,600
56	Rock Creek (Pottawatomie)	7,560	529,200	423,360
57	E Sector Whitewater	5,650	259,900	220,915
58	W Sector Whitewater	6,998	321,908	241,431
59	Middle Creek (Linn)	4,500	351,000	312,390
62	Hargis Creek	551	25,300	5,060
64	Dry Creek	1,620	405,000	299,700
66	Switzler Creek	1,200	68,000	37,000
67	Wet Walnut 1, 2, 3, 5	38,507	4,177,600	3,004,300
72	Diamond Creek	6,525	98,700	92,778
73	Middle Creek (Chase)	5,668	55,600	44,758
74	Middle Walnut	8,636	215,900	108,000
75	Deer Creek	3,600	180,000	171,000
76	Duck Creek	3,000	150,000	90,000
77	Sand Creek	4,620	814,000	527,900
78	Wolf River	10,330	154,900	147,100
82	Peyton Creek	2,877	121,500	72,900
83	Walnut West	9,800	480,200	456,190
86	Roys Creek	1,560	23,400	21,060
87	South Fork	8,445	584,700	399,700
88	Pony Creek	3,100	176,700	176,700
91	Spring-Straight Creek	4,600	262,200	249,090
92	Pawnee	89,100	768,900	626,700
99	Cedar Creek	3,500	199,500	189,525
100	Eagle Creek	4,598	317,300	290,300
101	Tauy Creek	2,600	202,800	192,660
102	Rock Creek	5,100	209,100	198,645
103	Mill Creek	4,700	197,400	164,800
105	Otter Creek	4,500	157,500	149,625
107	Doyle Creek	5,690	392,610	372,980
108	Allen Creek	3,900	269,100	242,190
109	Grouse-Silver	12,500	312,500	281,200
110	Pottawatomie Creek	13,700	1,068,600	854,880
112	Upper Delaware & Tribs	12,000	552,000	524,400
113	Long-Scott Creeks	2,500	172,500	163,875
116	Marmaton	12,500	312,500	296,875
117	Upper Little Ark	8,800	607,200	546,480

INFORMATION FOR SB 600
SENATE AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE
KENNETH F. KERN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 18, 1994

1. Thank you for the opportunity to provide information and answer questions on SB 600.
2. The State Conservation Commission (SCC) has several responsibilities concerning organized watershed districts in Kansas.
 - a. Watershed districts submit minutes of special, regular, and annual meetings to the SCC.
 - b. Districts submit a 5-year construction program for state agency use.
 - c. The SCC provides administrative assistance, such as, answering questions, budget advise, etc., to the districts. A Watershed and Contracting Officer handbook was prepared and is updated annually.
 - d. The SCC administers the State Assistance for Watershed Dam Construction Program. The program provides cost-share assistance for the construction of flood control projects in high flood prone areas.
 - (1) SCC holds an annual Contracting Officer Seminar to update the districts handbook and to provide other agencies an opportunity to discuss their programs and concerns relating to the construction program.
 - (2) Annual maintenance reports on constructed projects are submitted by the districts.
 - (3) The SCC provides many hours of administrative assistance to the districts in implementing the state assistance for watershed dam construction program.
3. The following is information from the SCC's FY 1995 budget document:
 - a. Number of organized watershed districts..... 86
 - b. Districts with approved general plans..... 73
 - c. Total acres in watershed districts..... 11,518,085
 - d. Total acres in Kansas..... 52,657,500
 - e. Number of dams in approved general plans..... 3,594

f. Dams completed or under construction since 1954 by:

USDA, Soil Conservation Service P.L. 566.....	727
State Conservation Commission Cost-Share.....	351
Local entities payment by local funds.....	73
TOTAL CONSTRUCTED.....	1,151
REMAINING DAMS TO BE CONSTRUCTED.....	2,443

4. Illustration of acres in flood pool (top of dam elevation) in several counties:

a. USDA, Soil Conservation Service P.L. 566 projects:

- (1) Turkey Creek Watershed Joint District No. 32 in Dickinson County
 - (a) Number of sites..... 15
 - (b) Average acres per site..... 140
 - (c) Total acres..... 2,100
 - (d) Acres in Dickinson County..... 547,200
- (2) Fall River Watershed Joint District No. 21 in Greenwood County
 - (a) Number of sites..... 29
 - (b) Average acres per site..... 140
 - (c) Total acres..... 4,060
 - (d) Acres in Greenwood County..... 736,000
- (3) Grasshopper Coal Subwatershed of Delaware Watershed Joint District No. 10 in Atchison County
 - (a) Number of sites..... 39
 - (b) Average acres per site..... 40
 - (c) Total acres..... 1,560
 - (d) Acres in Atchison County..... 275,200

b. State Assistance for Watershed Dam Construction example:

(1) Delaware Watershed Joint District No. 10 in Jackson County

- (a) Number of sites..... 40
- (b) Average acres per site..... 13.3
- (c) Total acres..... 532
- (d) Acres in Jackson County..... 419,840

- 5. The Soil Conservation Service (SCS) estimates the completed dams provided benefits of more than \$970,000 in Turkey Creek Watershed District. Without the dams, SCS estimates that flood damages would have been over \$1.2 million based on 1992 values.
- 6. SCS estimates that damages without the 15 federally-funded and six state-funded dams in Cross Creek Watershed Joint District No. 42 in Jackson, Pottawatomie, and Shawnee counties would have been nearly \$1.5 million. Rossville, which traditionally floods, did not flood in 1993.
- 7. The floods of 1993 showed the benefits of flood control structures. The amount of tax revenue "lost" in each county was easily overshadowed by the reduced damages.
- 8. The tax benefits for a donated easement is a small incentive that is paying back many fold.

LEGEND

- APPLICATION APPROVED
PRIORITY FOR PLANNING
PLANNING STAGE
- OPERATIONS STAGE
CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED
TERMINATED, NOT FEASIBLE, OR DEAUTHORIZED
- RIVER BASIN BOUNDARY
SUB-RIVER BASIN BOUNDARY
RC&D BOUNDARY

PILOT WATERSHEDS

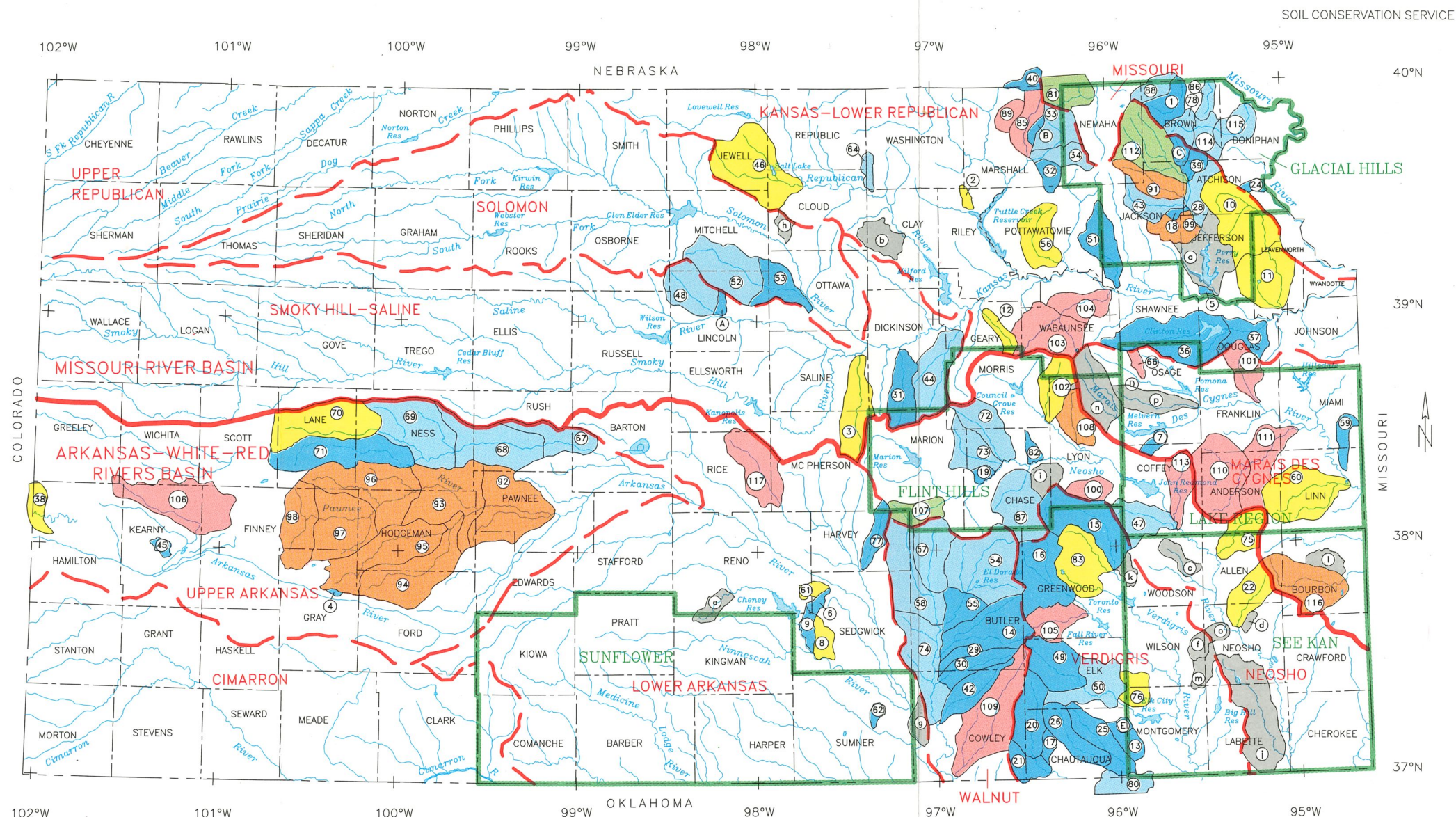
LETTER	NAME	ACRES
A.	LOST CREEK	12,326
B.	SNIPPE CREEK	16,420
C.	LITTLE DELAWARE—MISSION CREEKS	27,971
D.	SWITZLER CREEK	19,910
E.	AIKEN CREEK	6,726

P.L. 566 WATERSHEDS

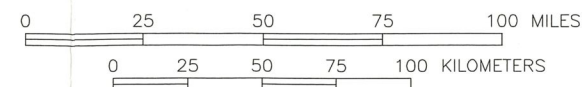
NO.	NAME	ACRES	NO.	NAME	ACRES
1.	WALNUT CREEK	80,594	58.	WHITEWATER WEST	174,960
2.	NORTH OTTER CREEK	13,500	59.	MIDDLE CREEK	44,691
3.	GYPSUM CREEK	167,680	60.	BIG SUGAR CREEK	203,350
4.	CIMARRON	6,440	61.	MT. HOPE	23,078
5.	THOMPSONVILLE	4,062	62.	HARGIS CREEK	6,300
6.	ANDALE	16,421	63.	DRY CREEK	15,232
7.	FROG CREEK	22,496	64.	SWITZLER CREEK	20,200
8.	CLEAR CREEK	38,800	65.	WET WALNUT NO. 1	145,292
9.	SPRING CREEK	27,840	66.	WET WALNUT NO. 2	232,219
10.	UPPER BIG STRANGER CREEK	190,923	67.	WET WALNUT NO. 3	228,568
11.	LOWER BIG STRANGER CREEK	156,671	68.	WET WALNUT NO. 4	216,221
12.	HUMBOLDT	30,485	69.	WET WALNUT NO. 5	198,220
13.	BEE CREEK	45,360	70.	DIAMOND CREEK	104,070
14.	LITTLE WALNUT—HICKORY	171,510	71.	MIDDLE CREEK	72,211
15.	UPPER VERDIGRIS RIVER	210,860	72.	MIDDLE WALNUT	188,947
16.	UPPER FALL RIVER	200,001	73.	DEER CREEK	71,900
17.	GRANT—SHANGHAI	25,200	74.	DUCK CREEK	42,320
18.	NEBO CREEK	9,360	75.	SAND CREEK	64,134
19.	SILVER CREEK	18,418	76.	NORTH—MIDDLE FORKS WOLF	45,890
20.	UPPER BIG CANEY	142,500	77.	COTTON—COON—MISSION (OKLAHOMA)	2,528
21.	LOWER BIG CANEY	85,500	78.	TURKEY CREEK (NEBRASKA)	59,940
22.	BIG CREEK	70,972	79.	PEYTON CREEK	24,288
23.	WHITE CLAY—BREWERY—WHISKEY	12,540	80.	WALNUT—WEST	179,490
24.	TWIN CANEY	98,370	81.	VERMILION (ROBIDOUX)	62,294
25.	MIDDLE CANEY	100,210	82.	ROY'S CREEK	28,518
26.	GRASSHOPPER—COAL CREEK	61,440	83.	SOUTH FORK	184,550
27.	MUDDY CREEK	29,960	84.	PONY CREEK	38,915
28.	ROCK CREEK	85,850	85.	SPRING CREEK	37,000
29.	TURKEY CREEK	107,226	86.	SPRING—STRAIGHT CREEK	91,840
30.	IRISH CREEK	30,586	87.	PAWNEE NO. 1	242,360
31.	NORTH BLACK VERMILION	104,416	88.	PAWNEE NO. 2	244,000
32.	UPPER BLACK VERMILION	54,886	89.	PAWNEE NO. 3	231,717
33.	UPPER WAKARUSA	234,944	90.	PAWNEE NO. 4	241,040
34.	LOWER WAKARUSA	94,977	91.	PAWNEE NO. 5	235,720
35.	CHEYENNE CREEK (COLORADO)	8,970	92.	PAWNEE NO. 6	200,000
36.	LITTLE DELAWARE—MISSION	61,120	93.	PAWNEE NO. 7	188,400
37.	MISSION CREEK (NEBRASKA)	12,820	94.	CEDAR CREEK	70,295
38.	TIMBER CREEK	101,700	95.	EAGLE CREEK	48,904
39.	ELK CREEK	89,036	96.	TAU CREEK	52,780
40.	LYONS CREEK	179,776	97.	ROCK CREEK	93,000
41.	LAKIN	10,806	98.	UPPER MILL CREEK	172,360
42.	BUFFALO CREEK	246,918	99.	LOWER MILL CREEK	97,440
43.	BIG CREEK	84,100	100.	OTTER CREEK	89,938
44.	SPILLMAN CREEK	119,360	101.	JAMES DRAW	248,800
45.	UPPER ELK RIVER	138,800	102.	DOYLE CREEK	89,410
46.	LOWER ELK RIVER	130,440	103.	ALLEN CREEK	87,000
47.	CROSS CREEK	113,786	104.	GROUSE—SILVER CREEK	249,750
48.	UPPER SALT CREEK	210,990	105.	UPPER POTTAWATOMIE CREEK	206,440
49.	LOWER SALT CREEK	91,955	106.	LOWER POTTAWATOMIE CREEK	135,830
50.	UPPER WALNUT NORTH	218,506	107.	UPPER DELAWARE AND TRIBUTARIES	177,184
51.	UPPER WALNUT SOUTH	63,494	108.	LONG—SCOTT CREEKS	50,200
52.	ROCK CREEK NO. 45	126,000	109.	SOUTH FORK WOLF	41,590
53.	WHITEWATER EAST	153,000	110.	SQUAW CREEK LOWER WOLF	73,040
			111.	MARMATON	208,400
			112.	UPPER LITTLE ARKANSAS RIVER	201,773

WATERSHED DISTRICTS WITHOUT P.L. 566 APPLICATIONS

LETTER	NAME	ACRES	LETTER	NAME	ACRES
a.	DELAWARE	125,760	i.	JACOB—PHENIS CREEKS	35,521
b.	FIVE CREEKS	73,000	j.	LABETTE—HACKBERRY CREEKS	243,216
c.	CHERRY—PLUM CREEK	36,677	k.	CEDAR CREEK NO. 97	37,000
d.	PECAN CREEK	13,524	l.	MILL CREEK	39,110
e.	GOOSE CREEK	33,300	m.	TRI—CREEK	56,400
f.	CEDAR CREEK NO. 56	32,740	n.	UPPER MARAIS DES CYGNES	133,440
g.	ARKANSAS—RIVER TRIBUTARIES	34,962	o.	TURKEY CREEK	20,459
h.	FISHER AND CRIS CREEKS	25,189	p.	SALT CREEK	80,640



WATERSHED PROJECTS AND RC&D AREAS KANSAS JANUARY 1994



SOURCE: Data compiled by SCS Field Personnel.
Map prepared using Automated Map Construction, Albers Equal Area Projection.
National Cartography and Geographic Information Systems Center, Ft. Worth, Texas.

REVISED JANUARY 1994 1000099

SUMMARY OF APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING AUTHORIZATIONS
WATERSHED PROTECTION AND FLOOD PREVENTION ACT
KANSAS

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

	No.	Acres
Approved, State Agency	102	11,603,854

APPLICATIONS AUTHORIZED FOR PLANNING

Construction Authorized	60	5,774,549
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Planning Completed

107. Doyle Creek	1	89,410
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Planning in Progress

112. Upper Delaware and Tributaries	1	177,184
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(Pre--authorization planning in progress on No's. 91, 92--98, 99, 108, and 116 below)

Planning Terminated

2. North Otter Creek	13,500
3. Gypsum Creek	167,680
8. Clear Creek	38,800
10. Upper Big Stranger Creek	190,923
11. Lower Big Stranger Creek	156,671
12. Humboldt Creek	30,485
22. Big Creek (Allen and Neosho Co.)	70,972
46. Buffalo Creek	246,918
56. Rock Creek WSH No. 45	126,000
60. Big Sugar Creek	203,350
70. Wet Walnut No. 4	216,221
75. Deer Creek	71,900
76. Duck Creek	42,320
83. Walnut--West Creeks	179,490
102. Rock Creek (Lyon County)	93,000

Subtotal	15	1,848,230
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TOTAL -- Authorized for planning to date	77	7,889,373
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APPLICATIONS -- PRIORITY FOR PLANNING
RECOMMENDED

66. Switzler Creek (Inactive)	20,200
91. Spring--Straight Creek	91,840
92. Pawnee No. 1	242,360
93. Pawnee No. 2	244,000
94. Pawnee No. 3	231,717
95. Pawnee No. 4	241,040
96. Pawnee No. 5	235,720
97. Pawnee No. 6	200,000
98. Pawnee No. 7	188,400
99. Cedar Creek	70,295
108. Allen Creek	87,000
116. Marmaton	208,400

TOTAL	12	2,060,972
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APPLICATIONS -- AWAITING PRIORITY FOR PLANNING

	No.	Acres
85.	Vermillion (Robidoux) Creek	62,294
89.	Spring Creek	37,000
100.	Eagle Creek	48,904
101.	Tauy Creek	52,780
103.	Upper Mill Creek	172,360
104.	Lower Mill Creek	97,440
105.	Otter Creek	89,938
106.	James Draw	248,800
109.	Grouse--Silver Creek	249,750
110.	Upper Pottawatomie Creek	206,440
111.	Lower Pottawatomie Creek	135,830
113.	Long--Scott Creeks	50,200
117.	Upper Little Arkansas River	201,773

TOTAL	13	1,653,509
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WATERSHED DISTRICTS WITHOUT
P.L. 566 APPLICATIONS

	16	1,020,938
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PROJECTS AUTHORIZED FOR CONSTRUCTION

Land Treatment Plan (implementation in progress)

86. Roy's Creek Watershed	1	28,518
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Construction in Progress (see following table)

Active	21	2,692,692
Inactive	3	249,742
Subtotal		2,942,434

Construction Completed (see following table)	35	2,780,519
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Construction Deauthorized		
61. Mt. Hope	1	23,078

TOTAL	61	5,774,549
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AUTHORIZED FOR CONSTRUCTION

Watershed	Acres	Reservoir Structures			
		Total Planned	Number Completed	Under Construction	Remaining to Build
33. North Black Vermillion 1/	104,416	63	27	0	36
34. Upper Black Vermillion 1/	54,886	35	27	0	8
48. Spillman Creek	119,360	21	16	0	5
50. Lower Elk River 4/	130,440	20	16	0	4
52. Upper Salt Creek	201,990	37	35	0	2
44. Lyons Creek	179,776	22	13	0	9
57. Whitewater River East Sector	153,000	8	6	0	2
58. Whitewater River West Sector	174,960	9	7	0	2
54. Upper Walnut North Sector	218,506	23	20	0	3
47. Big Creek	84,100	9	6	0	3
74. Middle Walnut	188,947	8	7	0	1
67. Wet Walnut No. 1	145,292	9	8	0	1
68. Wet Walnut No. 2	232,219	24	14	4	6
69. Wet Walnut No. 3	228,568	12	9	0	3
64. Dry Creek 4/	15,232	3	2	0	1
28. Grasshopper--Coal Creek	61,440	37	13	4	20
72. Diamond Creek 4/	104,070	11	2	0	9
73. Middle Creek	72,211	11	7	0	4
43. Elk Creek	89,036	61	7	1	53
87. South Fork	184,550	11	3	1	7
78. North--Middle Forks Wolf	45,890	23	0	0	23
114. South Fork Wolf	41,590	15	0	0	15
115. Squaw Creek Lower Wolf	73,040	16	0	0	16
88. Pony Creek	38,915	6	0	0	6
TOTAL	2,942,434	494	245	10	239

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED

Watershed	Date Completed	Acres	No. Reservoir Structures
4. Cimarron	6/30/61	6,440	4
5. Thompsonville	6/30/61	4,062	3
18. Nebo	6/30/66	9,360	3
19. Silver Creek	6/30/66	18,418	6
24. White Clay--Brewery--Whiskey Creeks	6/30/66	12,540	25
29. Muddy Creek	12/31/67	29,960	2
1. Walnut Creek	6/30/69	80,594	44
13. Bee Creek	12/31/70	45,360	7
39. Little Delaware--Mission Creeks	6/30/70	61,120	16
45. Lakin	6/30/70	10,806	4
26. Middle Caney	12/31/70	100,210	15
16. Fall River	6/30/72	200,001	27
7. Frog Creek	6/30/72	22,496	8
14. Little Walnut--Hickory Creeks	6/30/72	171,510	40
9. Spring Creek	6/30/73	27,840	4
62. Hargis Creek	6/30/74	6,300	1
30. Rock Creek	12/31/75	85,850	22
20. 21. Big Caney 2/	6/30/77	228,000	31
6. Andale	1/4/78	16,421	1
15. Upper Verdigris	4/30/78	210,860	38
25. Twin Caney	2/28/79	98,370	15
32. Irish Creek 1/	3/31/81	30,586	15
49. Upper Elk River	3/31/81	138,800	27
37. Lower Wakarusa	6/30/82	94,977	6
40. Mission Creek (Nebraska)	9/30/82	12,820 3/	4
17. Grant--Shanghai	5/10/83	25,200	7
71. Wet Walnut No. 5	8/14/86	198,220	3
77. Sand Creek	5/12/89	64,134	3
82. Peyton Creek	6/30/90	24,288	3
53. Lower Salt Creek	8/22/91	91,955	5
42. Timber Creek	8/31/91	101,700	33
36. Upper Wakarusa	8/31/91	234,944	17
51. Cross Creek	12/4/91	113,786	15
59. Middle Creek	4/21/92	44,691	1
55. Upper Walnut South Sector	7/1/92	63,494	2
31. Turkey Creek	9/1/92	107,226	15
TOTAL		2,780,519	472

LAND TREATMENT WATERSHEDS

Watershed	Long--Term Contracts			
	Needed	Completed	Active	Remaining to Sign
33. North Black Vermillion	185	94	77	14
34. Upper Black Vermillion	70	31	30	9
86. Roy's Creek	82	2	42	38
78. North--Middle Forks Wolf	31	--	10	21
114. South Fork Wolf	32	--	26	6
115. Squaw Creek Lower Wolf	62	--	24	38
88. Pony Creek	35	--	5	30
TOTAL	497	127	214	156

1/ One application, authorized as three projects
2/ Big Caney covered by two applications, planned and authorized
for construction as one project on a reduced basis
3/ Not included in total acreage figure
4/ Inactive
REVISED JANUARY 1994 1000099



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Soil
Conservation
Service

760 South Broadway
Salina, Kansas
67401

February 16, 1994

The Honorable David R. Corbin
Kansas Senate
State Capitol, Room 143N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Corbin:

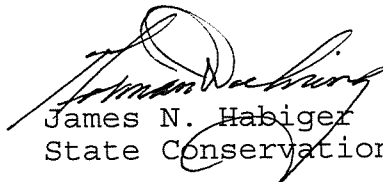
The proposed amendment to KSA 79-201G is for the purpose of extending the property tax exemption on land used for watershed structures.

Watershed structures provide significant broad-based economic and environmental benefits to the public in general.

The proposed amendment to KSA 79-201G will strengthen the incentives to private landowners for granting donated easements. Donated easements have been the key to the watershed success story in Kansas.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this issue.

Sincerely,


James N. Habiger
State Conservationist

ACTING FOR



The Soil Conservation Service
is an agency of the
Department of Agriculture

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Senate Ag. Co.
2-18-94

attachment 2

Christine,

Enclose is a packet of information regarding Senate Bill 600 and amending K.S.A. 79-201g.

I hope you find it helpful. Copy if you need to.

I was please by your helpness last Tuesday.

You seemed completely on top of things. Keep up the good work. Thank you for all your help.

Don Guthals

Don Guthals

RR2 Box 67

Hope, Kansas 67451

Senate Ag. Co.

2-18-94

attachment 3

BENEFITS OF WATERSHED STRUCTURES, TAX VALUATION,
AND OTHER INFORMATION

Information provided by:

Harold Leckron, Contracting Officer Turkey Creek Watershed	913-263-3211
David Anderson, Dickinson County Appraiser	913-263-4418
James Kreuger, U. S. SCS Engineer	913-263-2787
Larry Miles, U. S. SCS Engineer	913-823-4578

1. Total acreage eligible for easement (top of dam in the 15 structures in South Dickinson County and North Marion County) 3279.39
 2. Approximate assessed value per acre \$50.00
 3. Total assessed value of land available for easement \$163,969.50
 4. The following information is calculated from the 1993 property tax statement of one of the petitioners, Don Guthals, Dickinson County, Banner Township:
Total tax levy in mills 96.067
(As these 15 watershed structures are spread over four townships in South Dickinson County and North Marion County, there will be a variance in mill levies.)
 5. Tax revenue from easement acres $\$163,969.50 \times .096067 =$
\$15,752.05
- If all easements were donated and unexpired, this would be the amount of tax revenue exempt.

Distribution of revenue exempted:

State of Kansas	1.60%	\$ 252.03
Dickinson County	37.16	5,855.04
Banner Township	18.25	2,877.90
School District	38.50	6,064.54
Watershed	1.55	247.30
Cemetery	1.97	299.29
Library	.97	155.95
Totals	100.00%	\$15,752.05

One can conclude that local governmental units are affected much more than those of the state.

Attachment 3

EFITS OF WATERSHED STRUCTURES, TAX VALUATION, AND OTHER
INFORMATION

p. 2

6. Crop and grazing land losses in 1993 due to record flooding:

Sites	Crop	Acres	Expected Yield	Total Bushels	Unit Cost	Total
#12	Wheat	7	32 bu.	224	\$3.50	\$ 784.
	Corn	8	45	360	3.00	1080.
	Grassland	10			20.00	200.
#13	Wheat	8	42	336	3.50	1176.
	Grassland	20			20.00	400.
#4	Wheat	15	42	630	3.50	2205.
	Milo	15	90	1350	2.50	3375.
	Alfalfa	16	6 ton	96	45.00	4320.
	Reseed alfalfa	16			60.00	960.
#5	Milo	5	90	450	2.50	1125.
	Alfalfa	5	6 ton	30	45.00	1350.
#8	Wheat	25	42	1050	3.50	3675.
	Milo	10	110	1100	2.50	2750.
#1	Wheat	7	39	273	3.50	956.
	Grass	10			20.00	200.
	Milo	13	80	1040	2.50	2600.
	Alfalfa	10	6 ton	60	45.00	2700.

#6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14, and 2 had mostly native grass surrounding the pool area

#15 All easements were purchases with the exception of one small easement

Estimated total loss due to flooding: \$29,856.

BENEFITS OF WATERSHED STRUCTURES, TAX VALUATION, AND OTHER
 INFORMATION

p. 3

7. Study model using Turkey Creek Watershed District damage reduction. Information source:
 Larry Miles, U. S. SCS Supervisor Engineer, Salina, KS 913-823-4578
 1965 annual flood damage reduction benefit \$119,300
 To translate 1965 figures to 1994, multiply by 4.5 \$536,850

 Estimated damage without watershed protection \$900,000 to \$1,000,000
 Estimated damage with completed watershed protection \$200,000

8. Watershed system in the State of Kansas:
 (Source, Mr. Miles)
 There are between 85 and 90 watershed districts in the state
 730 watershed structures have been built; 400 are being planned
 Fewer than 10 of the existing structures used the emergency spillway during 1993
 Twelve federally-funded structures are under construction
 Twelve state-funded structures are under construction
 In the past the watershed districts depended about 90% on donated easements
 Presently this figure has been reduced to 80% dependency on donated easements

9. Mr. Miles stated that federal funding will remain constant. He feels that the adoption of this amendment would be highly beneficial to securing donated easements.

This packet of information has been compiled by two South Dickinson County farmers who have watershed dams on their property.

Don Guthals, Rt. 2, Hope KS 67451 913-949-2456

Maurice Lorson, Rt. 2, Hope KS 67451 913-949-2840

From Work Plan Turkey Creek Watershed 1965

TABLE 5 - ESTIMATED AVERAGE ANNUAL FLOOD
DAMAGE REDUCTION BENEFITS

Turkey Creek Watershed, Kansas

(Dollars)^{1/}

Item	Estimated Average Annual Damage		Damage Reduction Benefits
	Without Project	With Project	
Floodwater			
Crop and Pasture	128,800	49,200	79,600
Other Agricultural	17,600	6,000	11,600
Road and Bridge	23,600	8,700	14,900
Subtotal	170,000	63,900	106,100
Erosion			
Flood Plain Scour	4,300	2,500	1,800
Indirect	18,100	6,700	11,400
Total - On Project	192,400	73,100	119,300

^{1/} Price base - long term projected prices

March 1965

the Salina Journal

Serving Kansas since 1871

Salina, Kansas

Monday, July 12, 1993

Watershed district dams help

Floods would be worse without system of dams

By LILLIAN ZIER
The Salina Journal

Curtis Rose remembers the days when he had to rise in the middle of the night to check Turkey Creek and move livestock from the path of floodwaters.

Now the rural Abilene farmer can get a good night's sleep. After hard rains, the dam system of the Turkey Creek Watershed District in southern Dickinson County controls the floodwater, moving it gradually downstream, preventing a gush of water that bursts over creek banks.

"This summer, without the watershed, I'm sure we'd have had a lot more crop damage along Turkey Creek and a lot more road damage," Rose said.

Before the watershed district started, the creek often rose into Rose's livestock pens. But that rarely happens now.

"We see high water, but we don't see the fast-moving water we used to see," he said.

"Before the watershed, we always called south and asked how much rain they had, to get an idea what would happen."

Watershed districts began to form in Kansas in the 1950s to address rural flood control problems, said Larry Miles, natural resource project leader for the Soil Conservation Service in Salina.

Flood control became a national issue in the '40s and '50s. The federal government made the Corps of Engineers responsible for major areas, and assigned the conservation service to handle smaller watershed areas.

Since then, more than 100 watershed districts have formed in the state, the majority in the eastern half. Most districts started years ago and have completed many of their flood-control dams, but every two to three years a new group will come into the SCS to start a district, Miles said.

Landowners can form a district by passing a petition to request an election. If voters approve the district, a board is chosen that has the power to assess up to 4 mills in property taxes to acquire land easements for

Flooding worsens in Iowa

Water plant knocked out in Des Moines

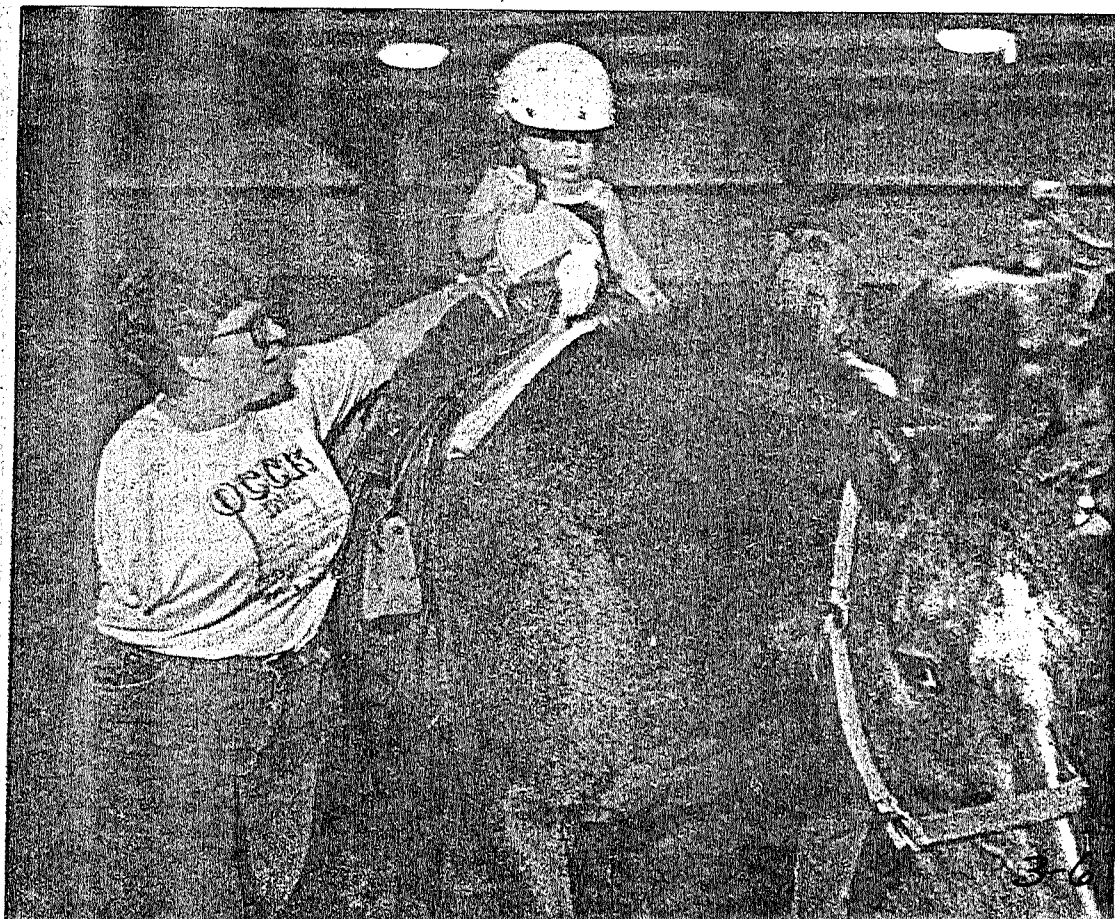
By The Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Flooding worsened by thunderstorms shut down a water system serving 250,000 Iowa residents Sunday, while the Mississippi and other rivers rolled over more Midwest farmland and homes.

Flooding on the Raccoon River in the Des Moines area left 45,000 people without power, in addition to inundating the water plant, and a dike on the Mississippi failed in Burlington.

The Mississippi also threatened to cut a new channel to join the Missouri River near St. Louis.

The rivers "are going to claim



Journal

INSIDE

Paradise lost

Repairs at the Garden of Eden in Lucas seem unending, Page 3.

Monday, July 12, 1993

50 cents

dams help reduce flooding

Flood control became a national issue in the '40s and '50s. The federal government made the Corps of Engineers responsible for major areas, and assigned the conservation service to handle smaller watershed areas.

Since then, more than 100 watershed districts have formed in the state, the majority in the eastern half. Most districts started years ago and have completed many of their flood-control dams, but every two to three years a new group will come into the SCS to start a district, Miles said.

Landowners can form a district by passing a petition to request an election. If voters approve the district, a board is chosen that has the power to assess up to 4 mills in property taxes to acquire land easements for

flood-control dams. A mill raises \$1 for each \$1,000 of assessed property value.

The SCS pays for the construction of the dams, but the watershed districts pay for maintenance and subsidiary construction costs, such as moving utilities.

Cost can be great

The Turkey Creek Watershed District has three dams in Marion County and 12 in Dickinson County. Construction of the dams started in the 1970s, but the last dam was finished just last summer, said Jim Krueger, district conservationist for the SCS in Abilene.

More than \$1.6 million in federal funds were used to build the dams, Krueger said.

Some farmers balk at giving up land for the dams and ponds. But landowners can donate the easements and not pay property taxes on the area for 20 years, Krueger said.

Another option is to sell the easement to the watershed district, which might be worth more than the tax savings from donating the easement, Krueger said.

Before the dams can be put in, a cost analysis is done to make sure the benefits outweigh the expenses, Krueger said.

The costs of not having flood protection can be great. According to a Corps of Engineers study dated in 1965, crop damage in the Turkey Creek area averaged \$130,000 a year

► See WATERSHED, Page 7

Rain keeps piling up in Salina

City has received nine inches in July

By CAROL LICHTI
The Salina Journal

So you think it's been raining a lot. Well, compared to what?

Last year by this time, Salina had almost 17 inches of rain. This year, the city has been soaked with about 35½ inches. That's about six inches above the annual average rainfall.

During the first 12 days of July last year, Salina was having a pretty wet month with 1.22 inches. The monthly average is 3.31.

So far this month, about 9 inches have fallen.

But think back (or use your imagination if you're not old enough), to 1951, when the Salina area was flooded with 12 inches of rain during four days in July. That was a

3-7

For farmers, the extent of flooding is simply beyond belief," said Mark Bogner, agricultural meteorologist at WeatherData Services Inc. in Wichita.

Rain and floods this spring and summer have devastated crops in much of Kansas, most of northern Missouri, all of Iowa, and a great deal of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois.

This may be the biggest natural calamity farmers in those states have faced since the droughts of 1983 and 1988, Bogner said.

However, federal food price forecasters are sticking by earlier predictions that food prices

"Of course, we pay for it the following year, when meat production drops and prices rise," Parlett said.

Analysts outside government see little reason to dispute the official view.

"Production will be down a bit more than expected and prices will be higher, but you won't see them run up the way they did early in the 1980s," said Sid Love, senior grains analyst with Bill Helming Consulting Services in Lenexa.

"Too many other things are going on in the world."

For one thing, the meat, milk, eggs, livestock

Also, the world has changed since the last time widespread meteorological mayhem hit the Midwest.

Economies overseas are shakier, competing farm production is greater, and "the world just does not need as large a U.S. crop as it did 10 or 15 years ago," Barkema said.

So, even though some authorities fear that rain and flooding may be a more than \$1 billion blow to the national food chain, the price increases consumers will pay because of the flood "will be a few tenths of a percent at most," Barkema estimated.

FROM PAGE 1

Watershed district dams reduce flooding

from floods. Damage of \$85,000 to \$100,000 a year was done to railroads, farmsteads, roads and bridges.

The costs would be far greater now, Krueger said.

One disadvantage to the dam systems is that floodwaters drain more slowly and the creeks run full for a longer time, he said.

Lowell Vonada, Lincoln County civil defense director, agreed.

"There can be a small problem. After a flood it continues to be a flood longer, but it never gets as high," he said.

"We'd rather have a long flood and not such a high one."

Farmer impressed

Lincoln County has two watershed districts, the Spillman and the Salt Creek.

The Spillman in the western part of the county has 15 structures.

Duane Vonada, president of the Spillman district, said the dams hold a certain amount of water, and when the reservoirs fill up, the dams begin to release water at a controlled rate.

"We're hoping the rains will be spaced out and not come one after another," Duane Vonada said. "It

has become worrisome, because they haven't had time to release water. But there is still room in them."

The Spillman district was started in 1966 as a flood-control measure, he said. Spillman Creek had contributed to flooding in Lincoln, Tescott and Beverly.

Area residents believed a series of smaller dams would be better than taking thousands of acres of good farmland out of production by constructing a large dam and reservoir, such as Wilson or Glen Elder, Vonada said.

He has no doubt the district reduced recent flooding in Lincoln County.

"There would've been a big flood without these watershed districts," he said. "Just think what it would've been like if all that water had come down."

Merrill Nielsen, a Denmark farmer who has lived all of his life along the creek, sees the benefit of the watershed district firsthand.

"In the flood June 24, it probably saved all the wheat we had on the creek bottom from going under water," Nielsen said. "The creek was full. Any more water, and we would've had water everywhere."

When he was growing up, the family often had water in their house. But that hasn't occurred since 1982.

"We lost about half of our wheat in '82," he said. "Probably two-thirds of

the (watershed) structures were in place. We had a lot more rain then — we had two huge rains above us, and we had the biggest flood ever.

"We haven't had that water again because the watershed structures slow it down."

Towns protected

The Salt Creek Watershed District in northeast Lincoln County and Ot-tawa County has 42 structures.

Planning for the district started soon after 1951, a year long-remembered for its widespread, devastating floods. The first structures were built in the early '70s, and the district is planning two more, said Jack Shafer, contracting officer for the district.

Salt Creek feeds into the Solomon River.

"A lot of people along the Solomon call me to see how the Salt Creek is doing, because in the past it's flooded them," Shafer said.

"Even in Solomon (the town) they watch Salt Creek."

Shafer said he checked 12 of the ponds Wednesday and they "all had a lot of water in them, so they're doing their job."

Flooding along Salt Creek west of Minneapolis would have been much worse without the watershed district, he said. One home that was surrounded by water last week had

much worse problems in 1951, when water came into the first floor of the home and the family then living there was forced to move out.

"Without it (the watershed district) we'd have been in a lot bigger trouble than we were," said Darrell Adams, who now lives in the house.

The district helps protect the towns of Minneapolis and Barnard. Barnard sits in middle of the 300,000-plus acres of the watershed area and might have flooded this year without the structures.

Nowadays, Barnard residents tend to take it for granted that the town won't flood.

"If they'd go up in the hills, they'd see where their water was," Shafer said, referring to the detention ponds.

Minneapolis had severe flooding this week, but it was Pipe Creek causing the problems, Shafer said.

Saline County has no watershed districts. They would have little effect on Salina, which is protected by Wilson and Kanopolis dams. The large dams were intended to protect urban areas.

Rural Saline County residents along Mulberry and Gypsum creeks have investigated forming districts but have not pursued it, he said.

"They've definitely got some problems," Miles said. "It might be something they might want to look into."