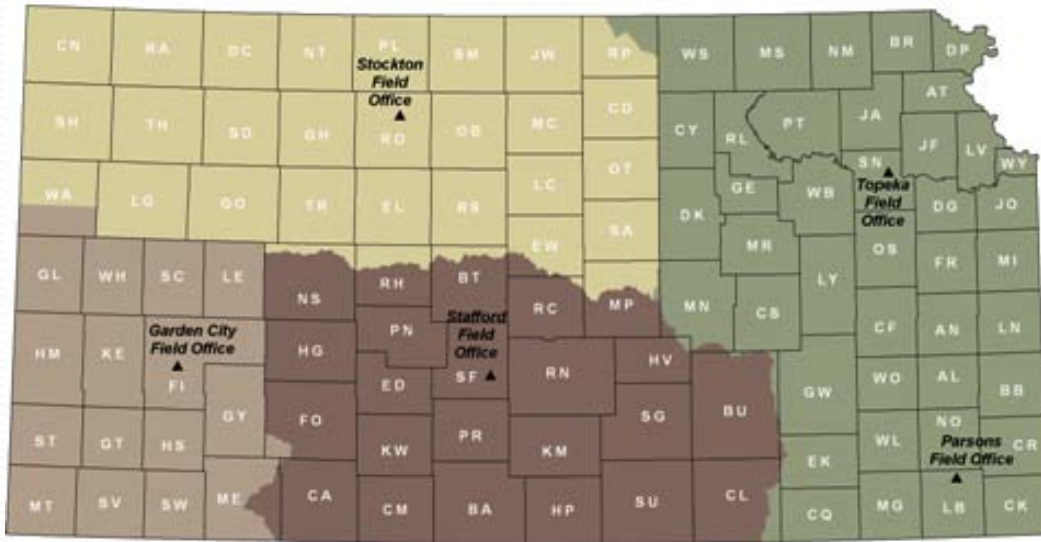


AWSE 2010

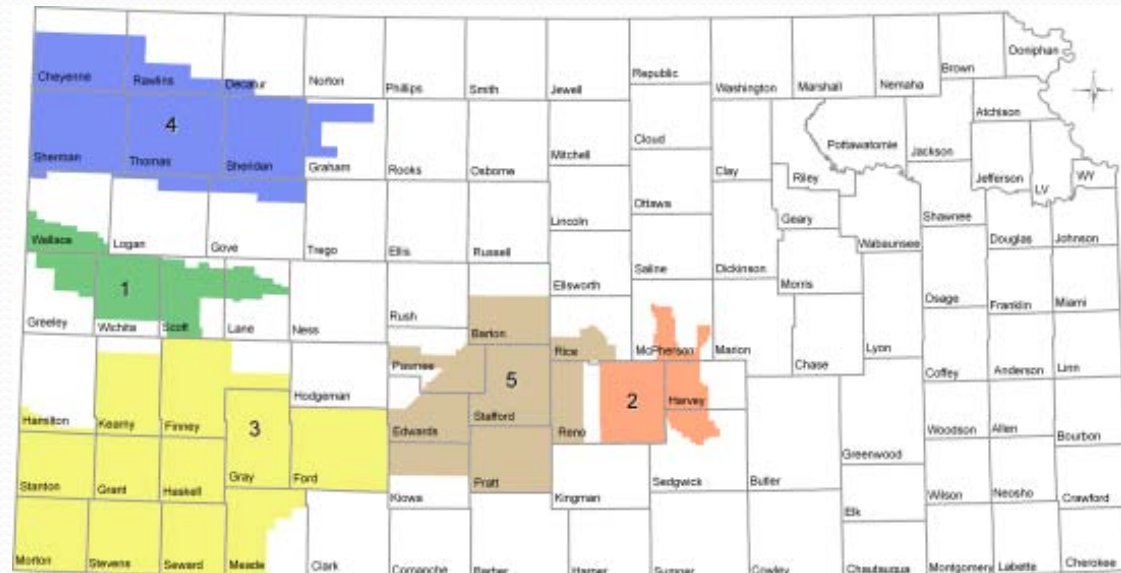
Kansas Roundtable

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Kansas Department of Agriculture
Division of Water Resources

Field Office Locations



Groundwater Management Districts



Western Kansas GMD #1 Equus Beds GMD #2 Southwest Kansas GMD #3 Northwest Kansas GMD #4 Big Bend GMD #5

DWR Programs

- Water Structures
 - Dam permitting and Dam safety, Levee and Stream obstruction permitted, floodplain regulation
- Interstate Water Issues
 - Compacts: Republican River, Arkansas River, Big Blue
 - Missouri River
- Water Appropriation

Kansas Water Appropriation Act (1945)

- All water dedicated to use by Kansans
- Right to use water is based on Prior Appropriation or “First in time, First in Right”
- Limits rights to reasonable needs
- Allocated for beneficial use and to protect minimum desirable streamflows
- Protects investments, property rights and the resource

Water Appropriation Act (con't)

- Chief Engineer is charged with administering the act.
- Single priority system for groundwater and surface water.
- A “water right” is not to the ownership of water, but it is a real property right to divert and use water for beneficial purposes with certain limitations.
- Domestic use allowed without a permit.

Enforcement

- Culture change that is effective
- Civil Penalty Authority
- Fines and water suspension
- Based on what we heard from this conference 2 years ago
- Approximately 100 files
- Willing to pay the fine, fight for the water
- Fine only after warning

Budget Reductions

- A series of budget reductions has lead to > 29% vacancy rate in DWR positions, affecting every field office and program.
- We have cut in-state and out-of-state travel, eliminated equipment and vehicle purchases, eliminated or reduced contracts, etc.
- Additional significant cuts are expected.

DWR Programs Eliminated

- Online Water Use Reporting
- Water Rights Conservation Program
- Meter Listings
- Basin Management Team



Questions?