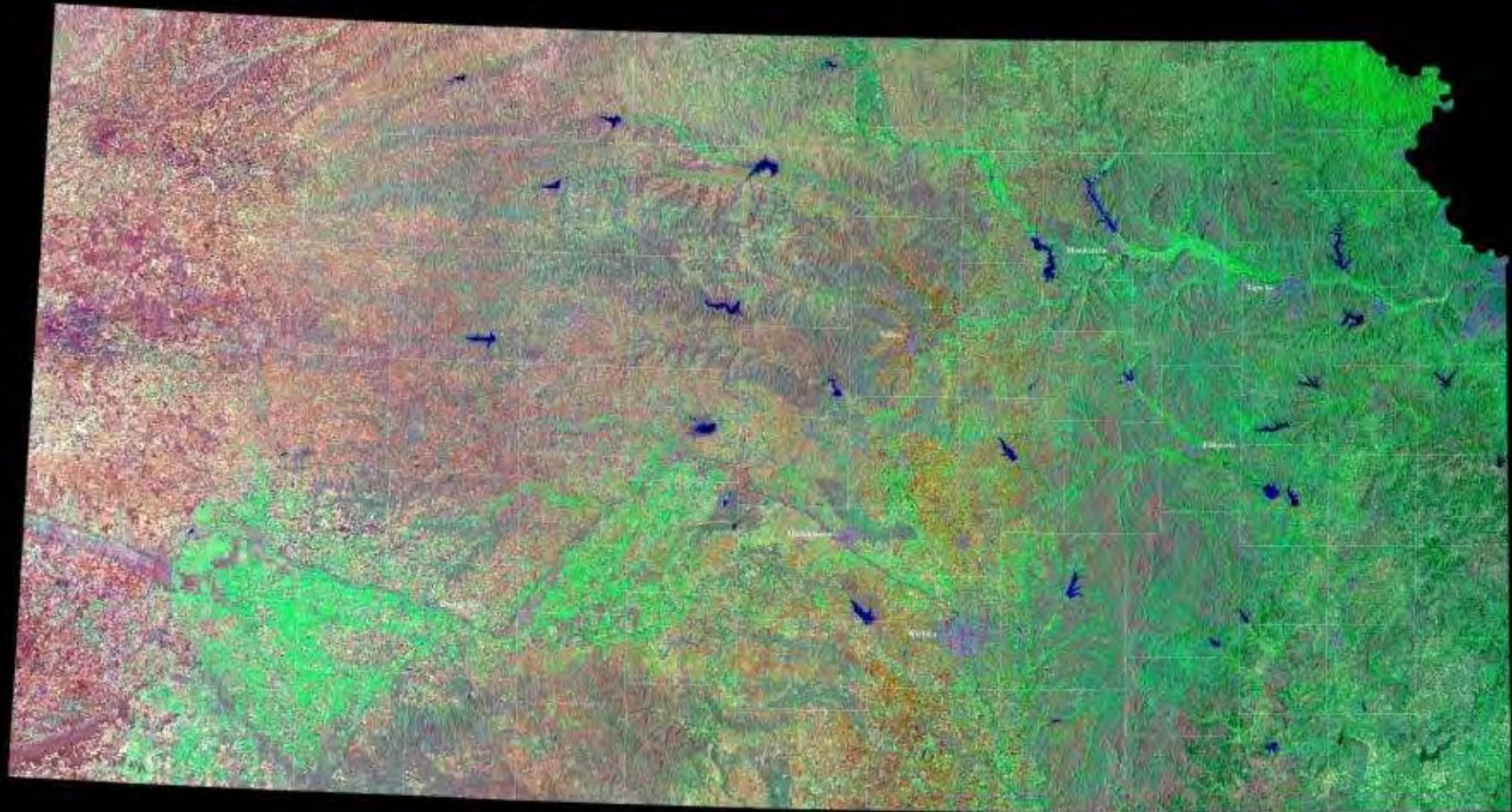


# Collaboration for a Water West Project



**Mark Rude, Executive Director**  
**Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3**  
**CRWUA Annual Conference**  
**Las Vegas, NV, December 15, 2022**

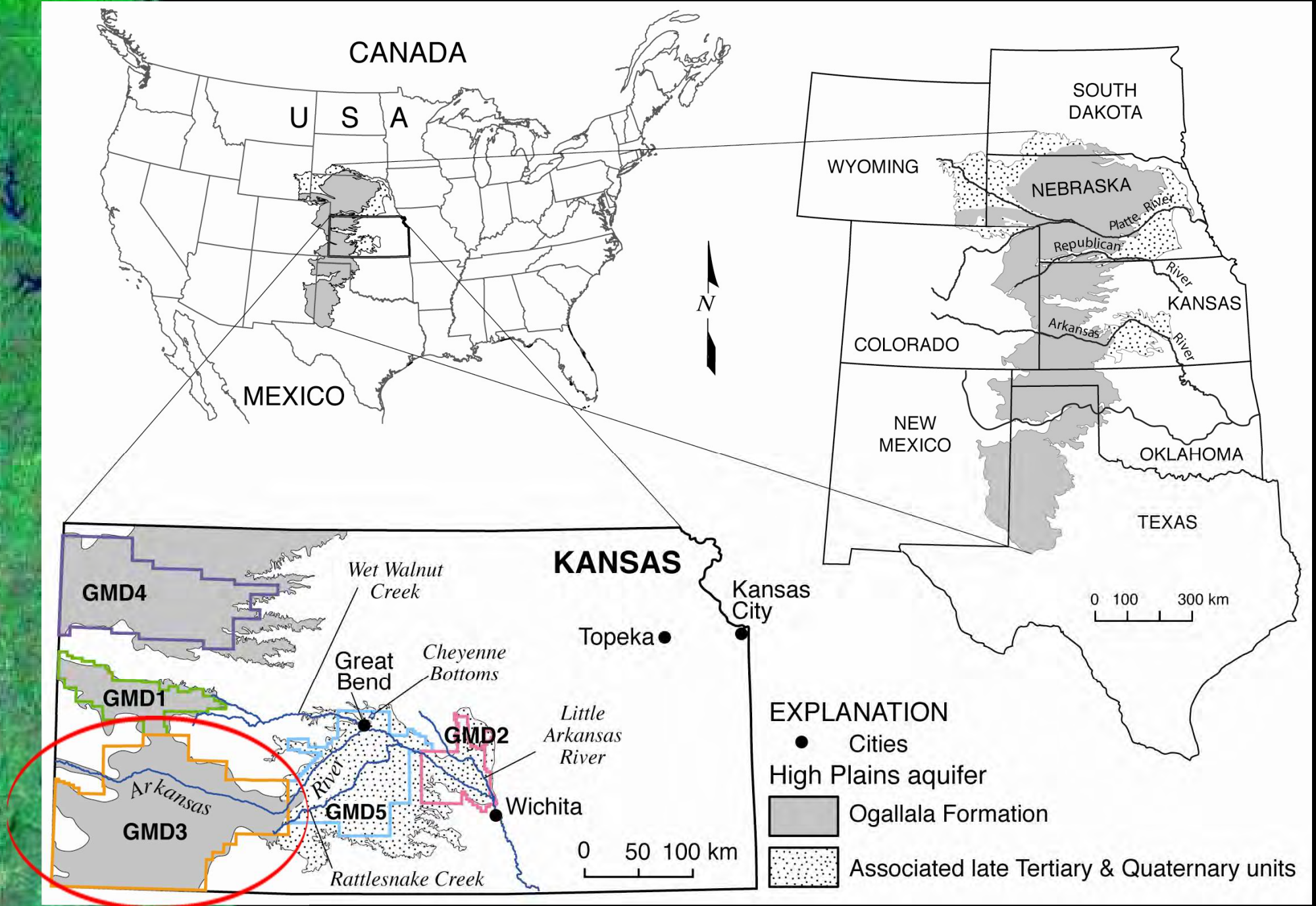


# Outline of my comments

- Intro - SW Kansas water setting
- The Water Collaborative
- Imports to the Colorado River Basin
- Kansas Aqueduct concept update
- A Water West Project



# Intro -The High Plains Aquifer



2011 and  
this year,  
  
~1/2 of  
Kansas  
GW use  
is in the  
southwest

3.6 MAF  
appropriated in  
SW Kansas  
resulting in  
Significant  
Groundwater  
Declines

## 2011 Kansas

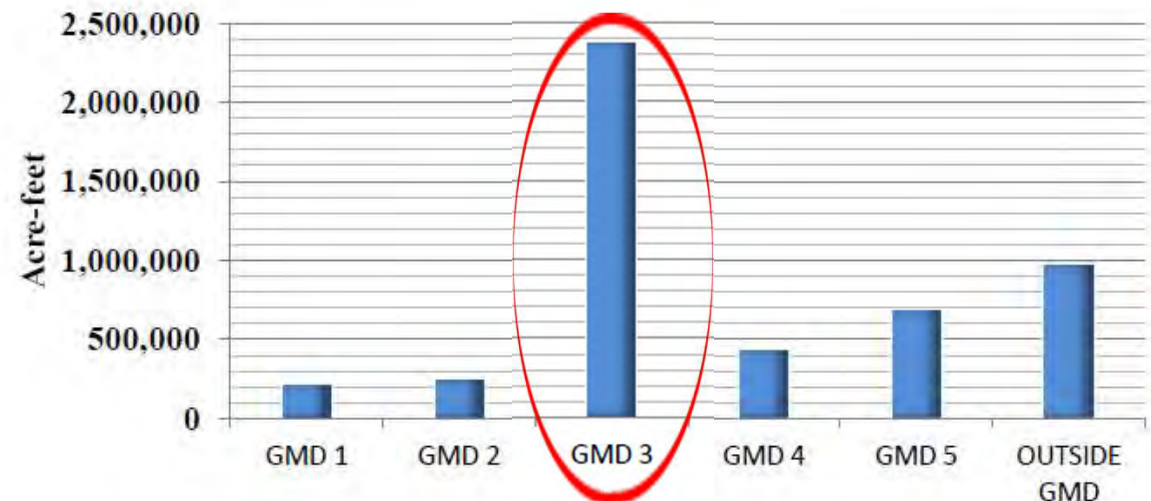
### Total Water Diverted

by Groundwater Management District  
and outside GMD  
All uses; all quantities in acre-feet



2011 Water Use by Groundwater Management District		
GMD 1	216,456	4.38%
GMD 2	246,978	5.00%
GMD 3	2,376,591	48.13%
GMD 4	434,545	8.80%
GMD 5	687,511	13.92%
OUTSIDE GMD	975,902	19.76%
Total	4,937,983	100.00%

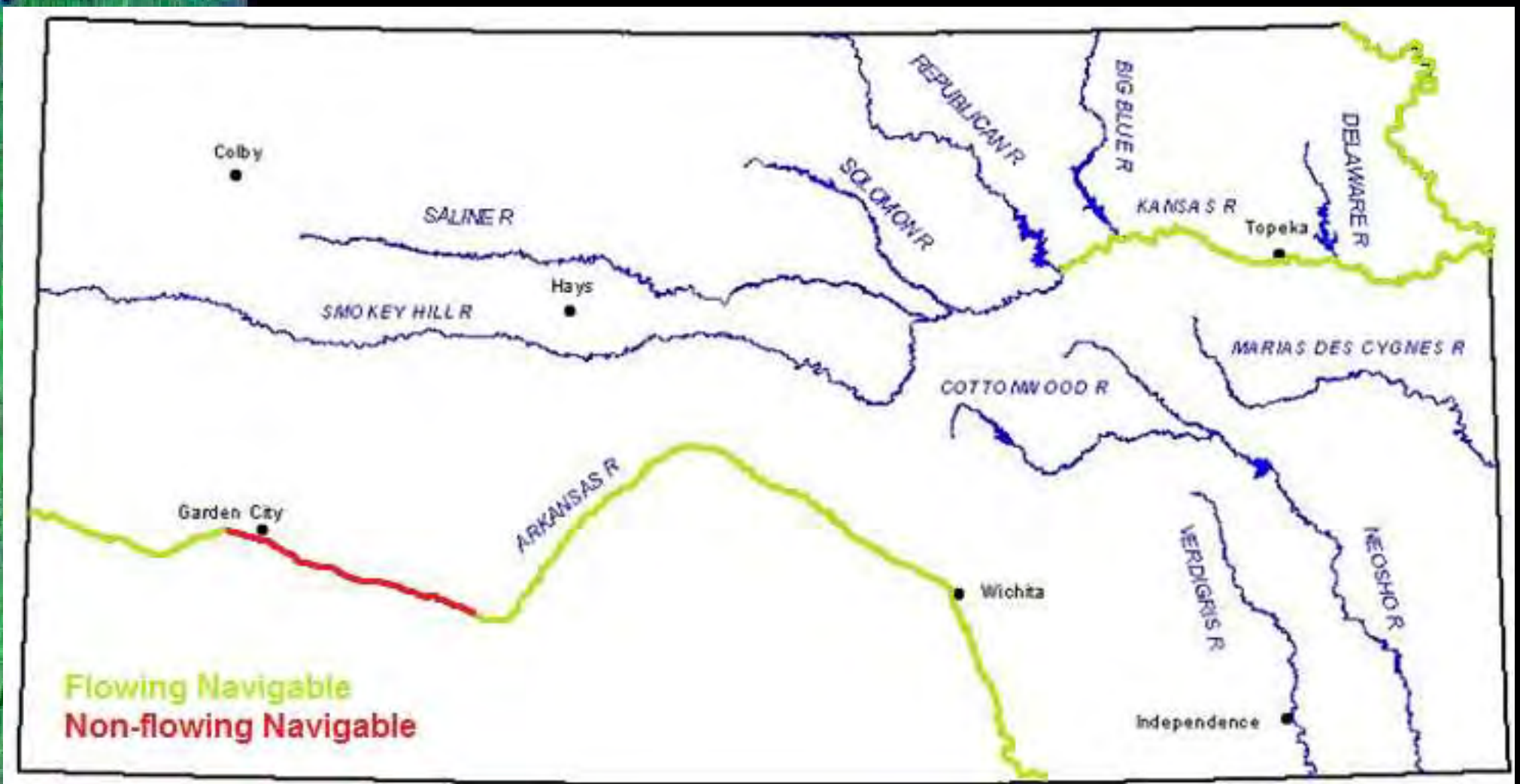
2011 Total Water Diverted by  
Groundwater Management District





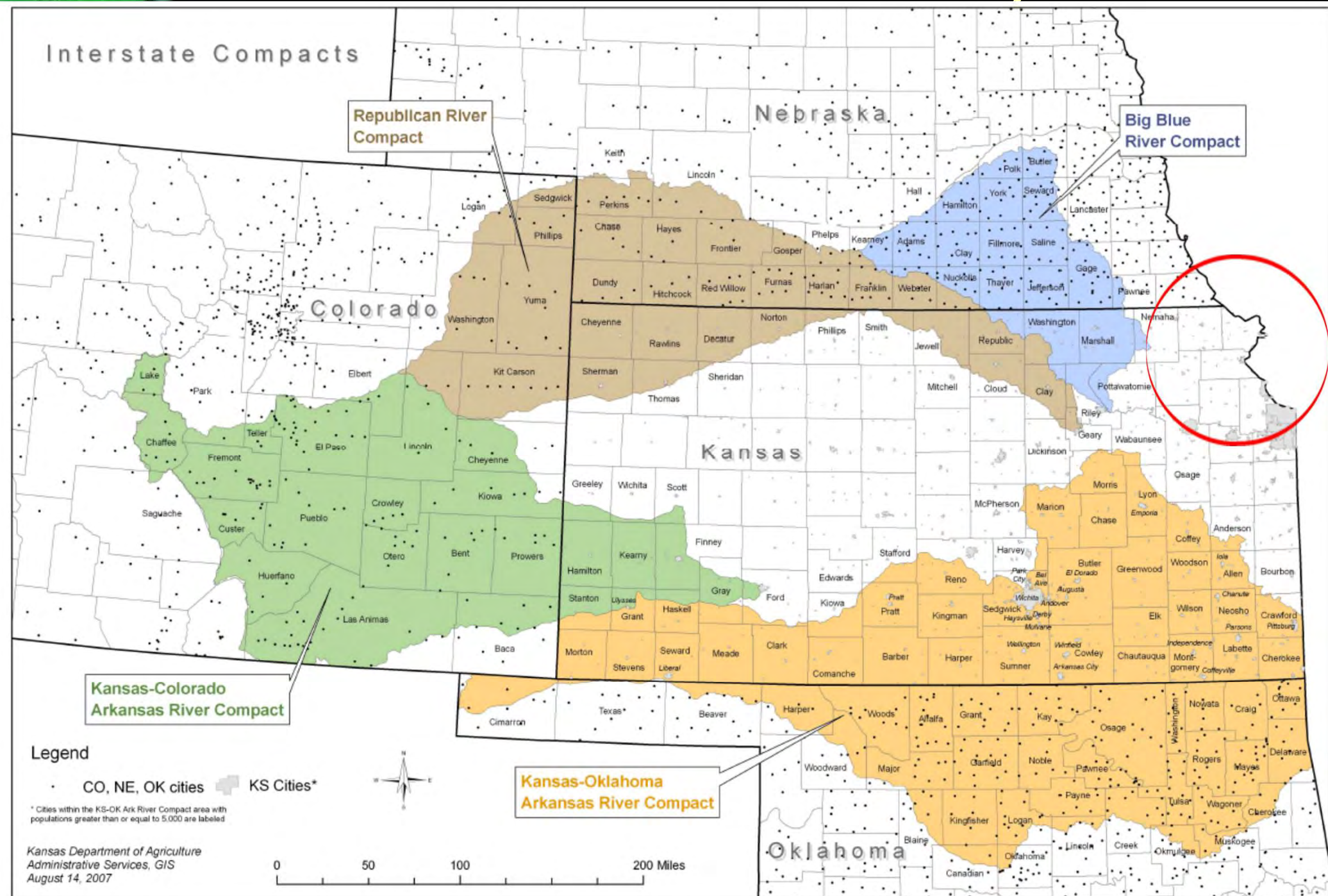


# Kansas Surface Water





# Interstate River Compacts



# Feast and Famine: Securing Kansas Water Needs

Kansas water users and officials discuss the dire need to collaborate now on water transportation projects before it's too late.



## Documentary: General Education and Discovery.

- Garden City Co-op
- Skyland Grain
- GMD3

See: [Kansasaqueductcoalition.com](http://Kansasaqueductcoalition.com)



Folks pooh-poohed this kind of stuff back in the 1960s.  
Now they are taking another look – its no longer unrealistic.





# The Water Collaborative

- (Aspire to) reach mutually acceptable solutions to mutually adopted problems.
  - Interest based bargaining
- Working for win-win-win outcomes.
- Collaboration can circumvent silos and allow people to join forces to tackle the same project.

# Sources of “New” Water in the West

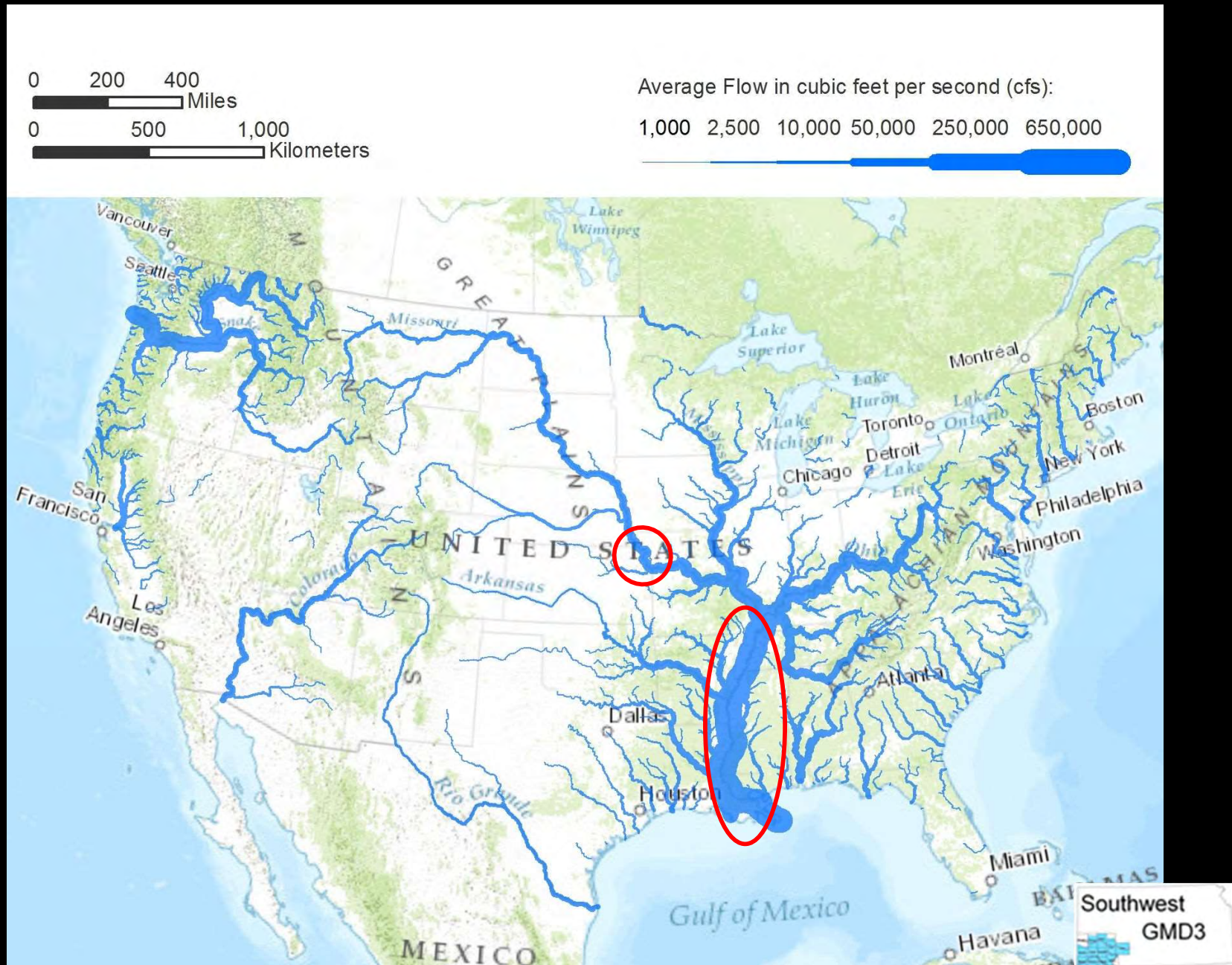


Upstream Face, Hoover Dam, USBR

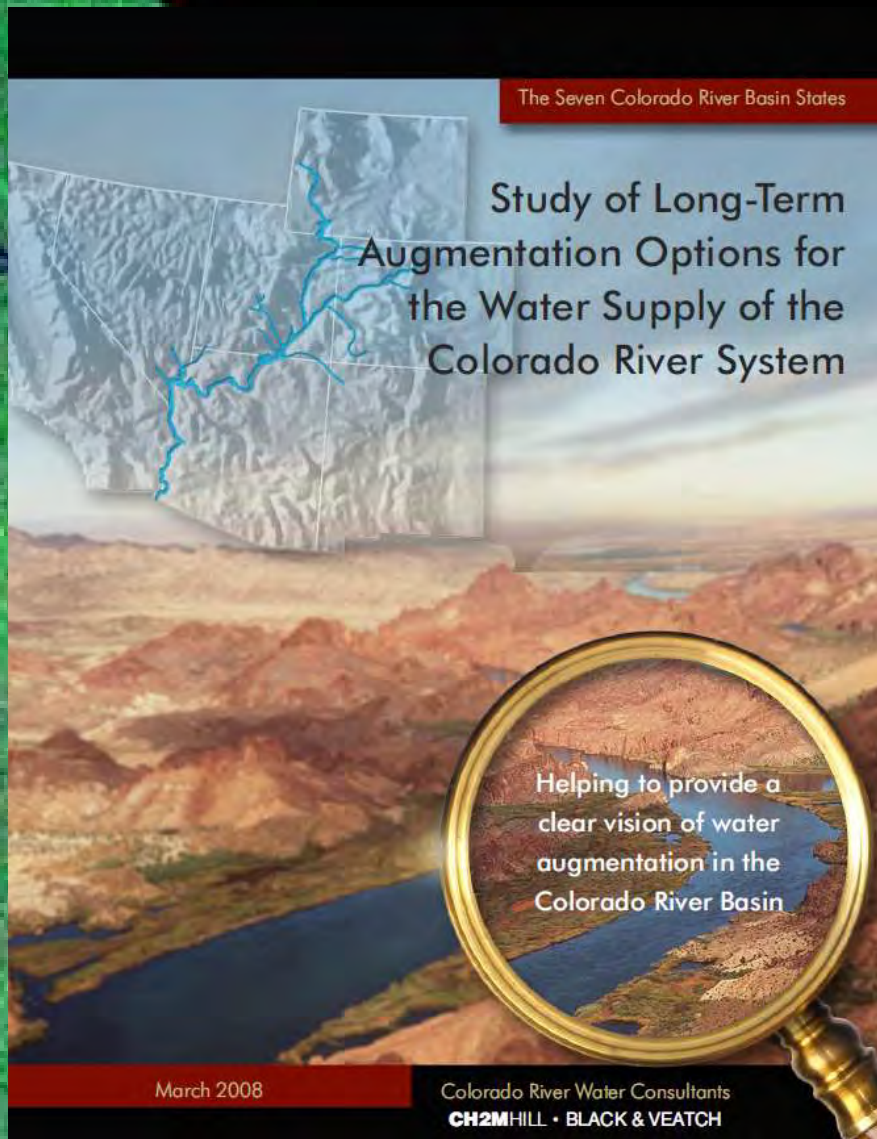
- Desalination
- Conservation & Reuse
- Agriculture Dry-Up
- Importation



# Available water above navigation targets?



# Building on prior work



## TECHNICAL EVALUATION OF OPTIONS FOR LONG-TERM AUGMENTATION OF THE COLORADO RIVER SYSTEM

### COLORADO RIVER BASIN IMPORTS AND EXPORTS TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

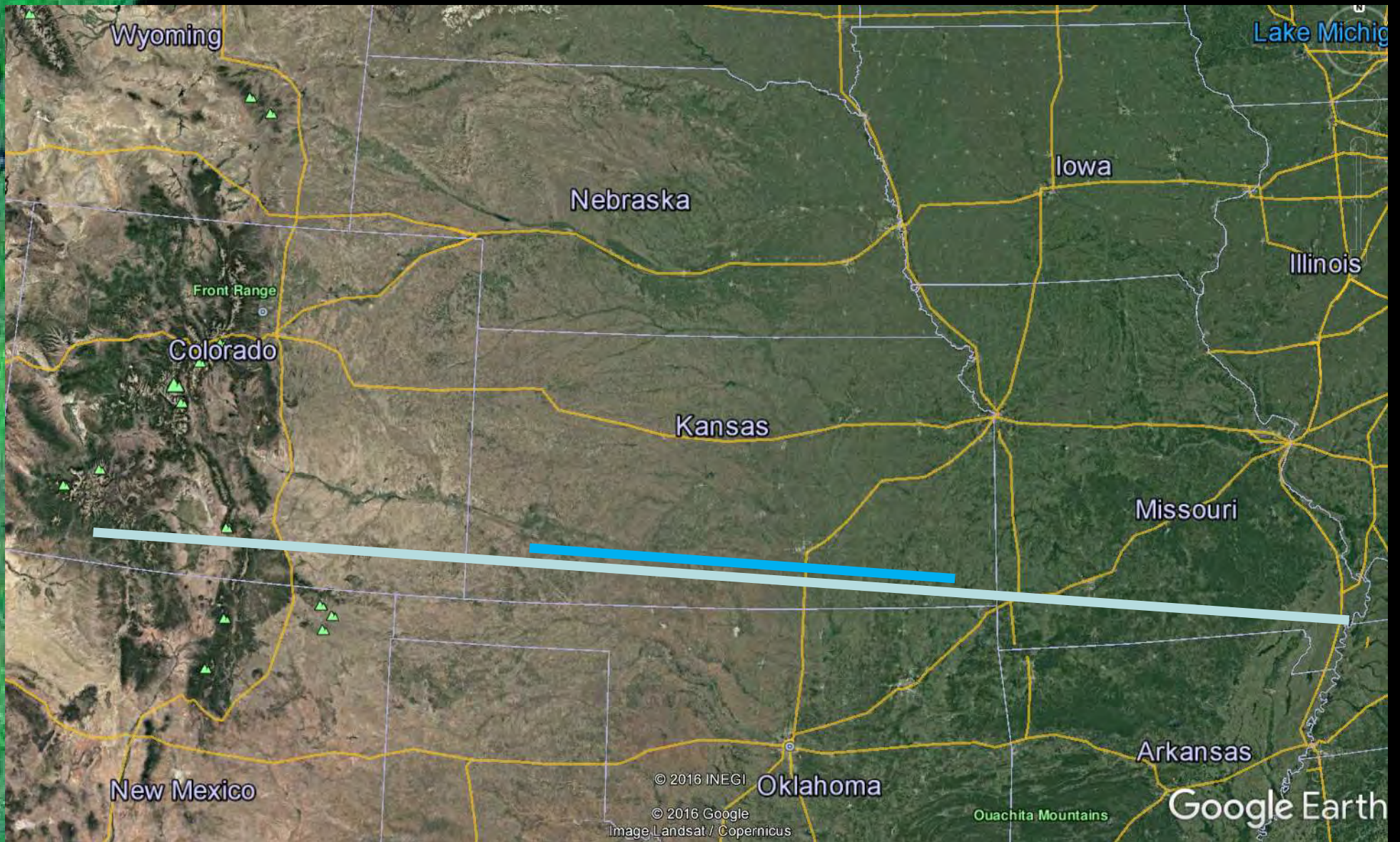
BY:  
KLINT REEDY, P. E.  
BLACK & VEATCH

Q/C:  
TED WAY, P. E.  
CH2M HILL

Final: August 2007  
Released: March 2008

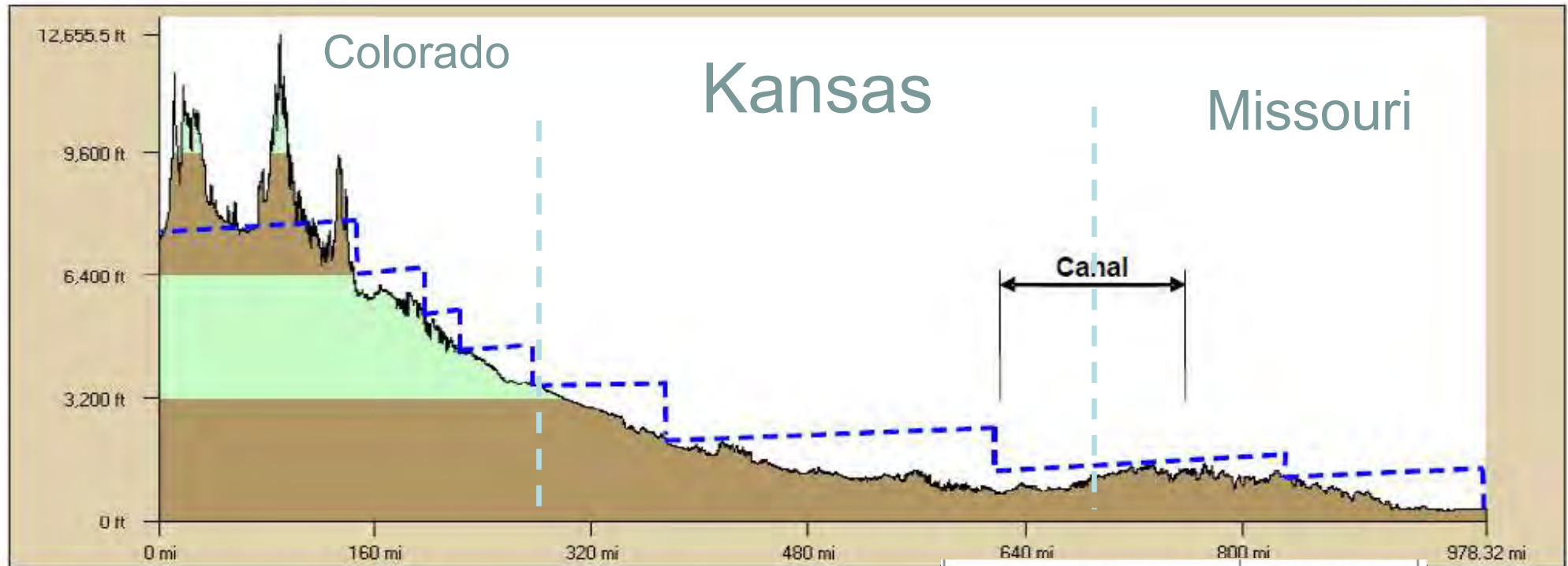


# Mississippi River to Navajo Res.





# From Augmentation Technical Memo



## Alignment Features

- 7 pump stations
- 110 miles of canal
- 85 miles of tunnel
- 775 miles of 144 -inch diameter pipe

Parameter	Mississippi River
Yield (AFY)	675,000
Capital Cost (\$ Millions)	\$11,367
O&M (\$ Millions/yr)	\$41.50
Electricity (\$ Millions/yr)	\$483.00
Unit Cost (\$/AF)	\$1,870

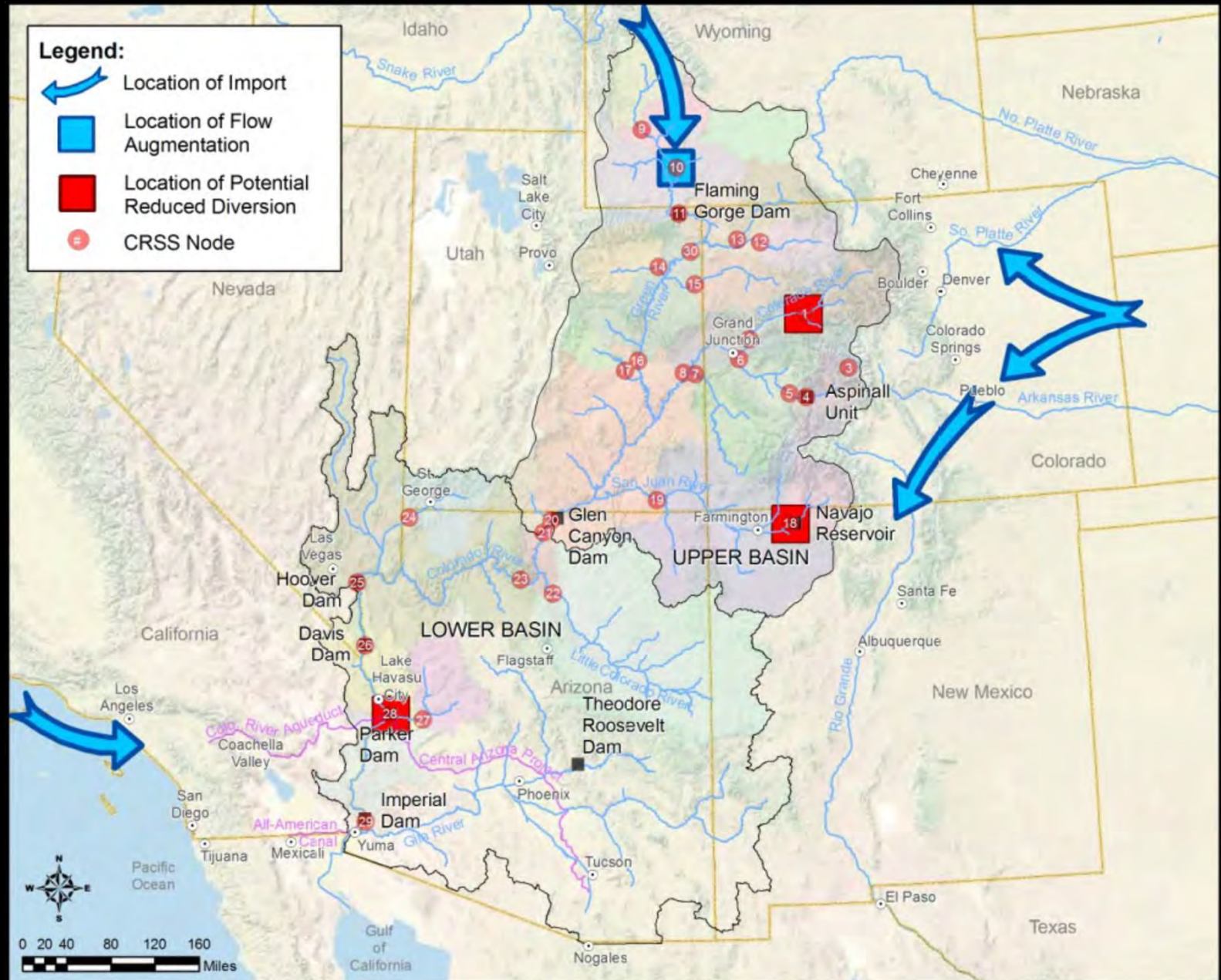
**Mississippi River to Navajo River Profile**

**The Seven Colorado River Basin States**

**Figure  
2-11**  
Modified

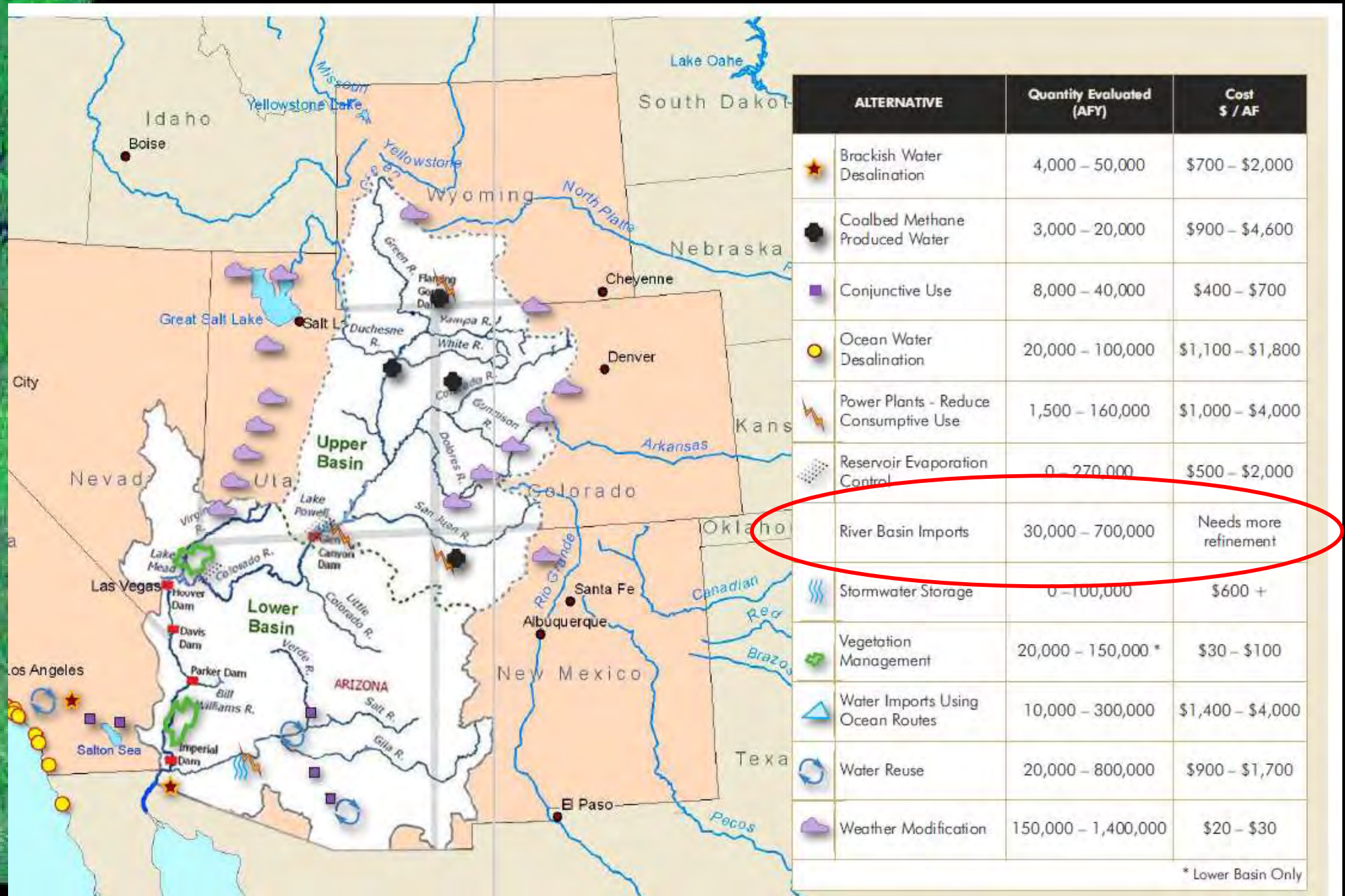


# Colorado Basin Imports





# Imports – “Needs more refinement”





# Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study

**TABLE F4-1**  
Summary Characterization Ratings for Importation Options





## 17 criteria and associated ratings low scoring - pink or red (grades D or E):

- Missouri River
  - Timing
  - Operational flexibility
  - Permitting
  - Energy needs
  - Policy
  - Legal
- Mississippi River
  - Timing
  - Cost
  - Operational flexibility
  - Permitting
  - Energy needs
  - Policy
  - Legal

Areas for collaboration



# Recent collaboration

## 1982 High Plains Study 2015 Update

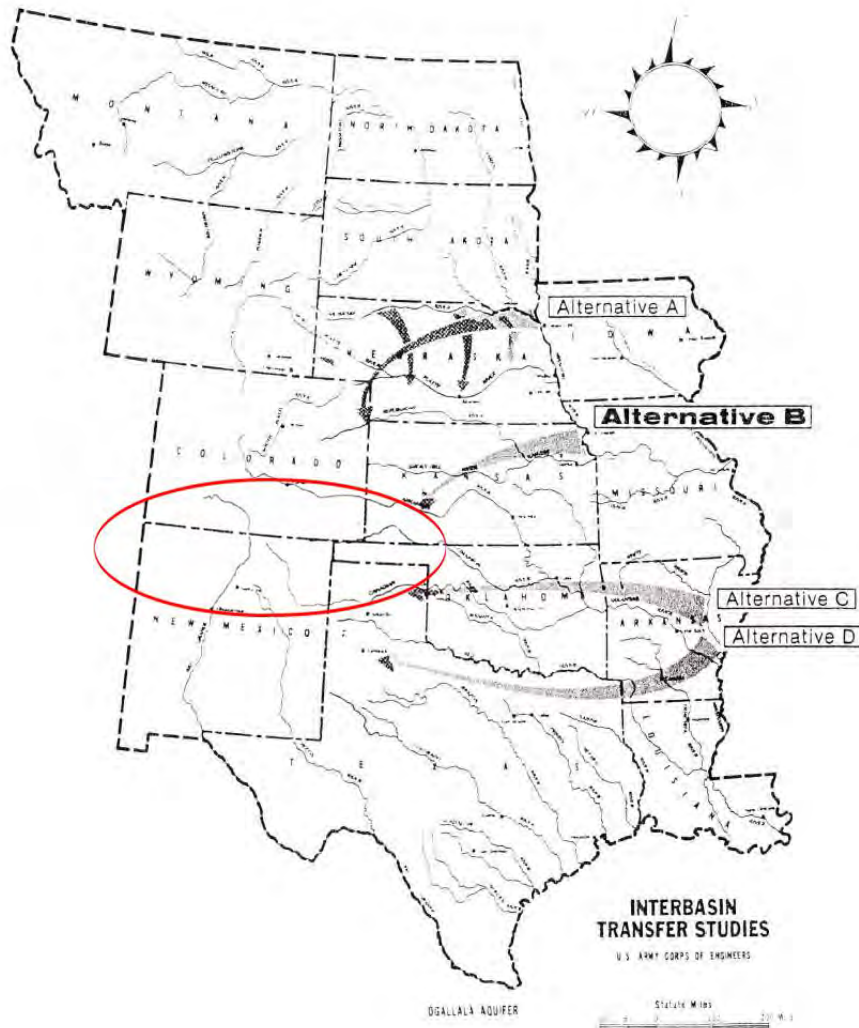


Figure 1 VICINITY MAP

Update of 1982 Six State High Plains Aquifer Study

January 2015

Kansas Water Office and the  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,  
Kansas City District

### Update of 1982 Six State High Plains Aquifer Study Alternate Route B

Funded through Federal Planning Assistance to States Agreement (PAS) by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers,  
the Kansas Water Office and Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3




# Kansas Aqueduct 2015 Update

## Table of Contents

- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Chapter 1: Water Demand
- Chapter 2: Water Availability
- Chapter 3: Water Transfer System
- Chapter 4: Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs
- Chapter 5: Review of Legal and Legislative Issues
- Chapter 6: Environmental Considerations
- Chapter 7: Preliminary Political Assessment





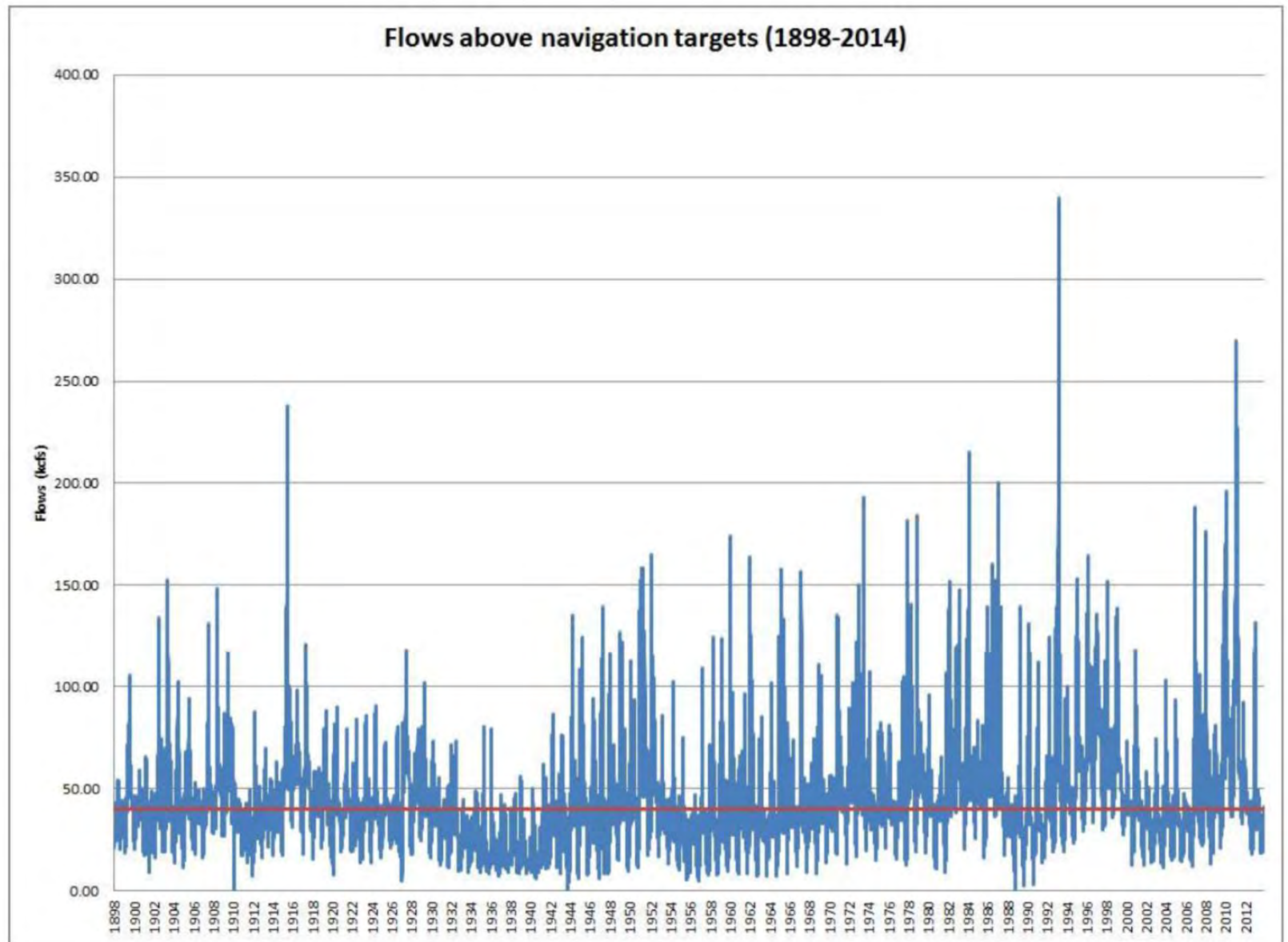
# Kansas Legal and Legislative Review (Pope and Rolfs, 2014)

Evaluation was a part of the *Update of 1982 High Plains Ogallala Study by USACE, KWO and GMD3*

*The Evaluation included:*

- ▶ Legal Issues in obtaining water at the source
- ▶ Legal Issues in Transporting and Using water along the way
- ▶ Legal Issues at the Destination
- ▶ Institutional Issues
- ▶ Political Assessment

# Missouri River source passing KS





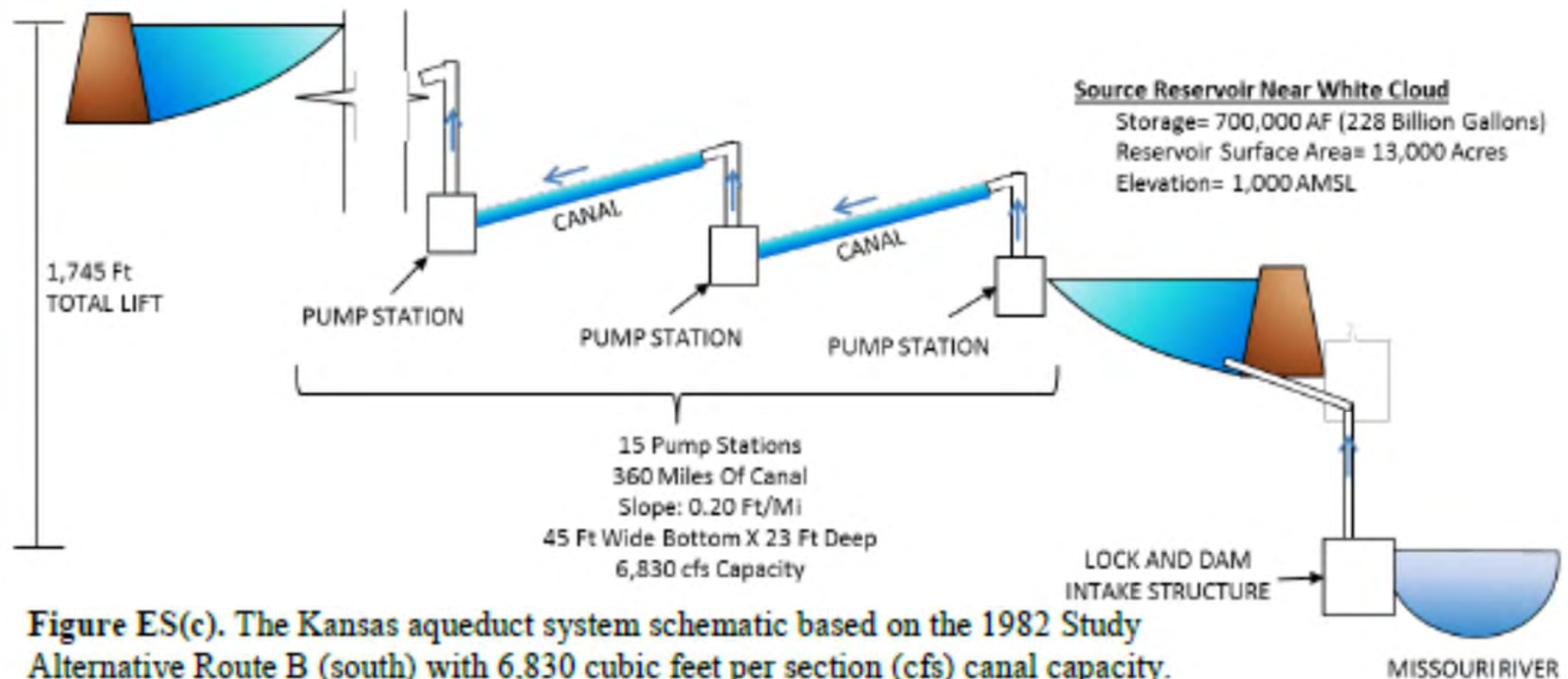
# Water lifted west concept

## Terminal Reservoir Near Utica

Storage= 1,586,000 AF (517 Billion Gallons)  
Reservoir Surface Area= 25,000 Acres  
Elevation= 2,610 AMSL  
Delivery= 3.4 Million Acre Feet per Year

## Source Reservoir Near White Cloud

Storage= 700,000 AF (228 Billion Gallons)  
Reservoir Surface Area= 13,000 Acres  
Elevation= 1,000 AMSL



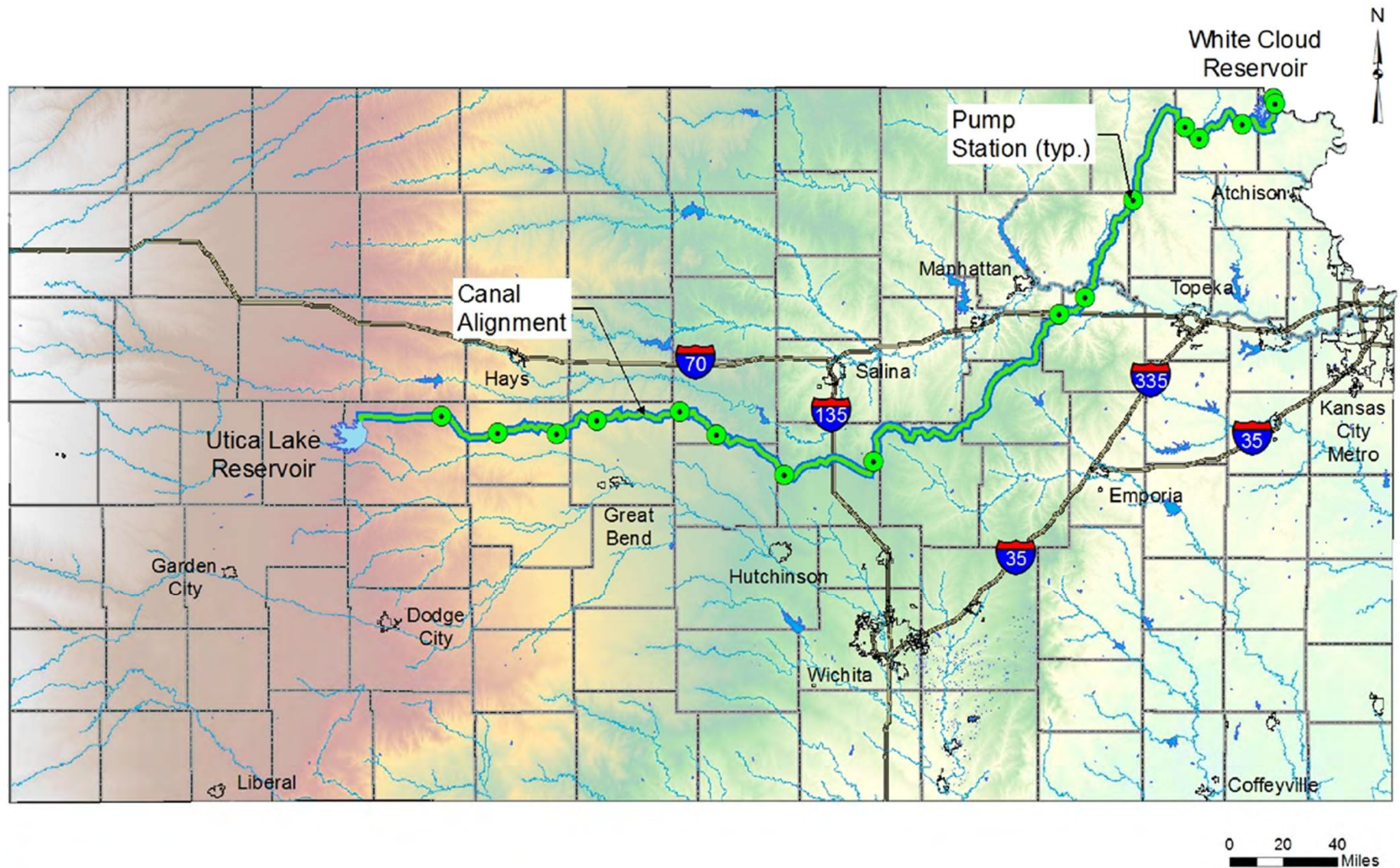
**Figure ES(c). The Kansas aqueduct system schematic based on the 1982 Study Alternative Route B (south) with 6,830 cubic feet per section (cfs) canal capacity.**

# Canal System





# Concept canal alignment with 16 pump stations





# Preliminary Water Supply Findings

## 1982 Study Canal Sizing

Transfer Canal Capacity <sup>(3)</sup>	Missouri River Diversion	Average Annual Volume of Water Available <sup>(1)</sup>	Average Annual Volume of Water Available Including Storage and Canal Limits <sup>(2)</sup>	Average Annual Volume to Farm Headgate <sup>(4)</sup>	Annual Volume to Farm Headgate 3 out 4 years
cfs	cfs	MAF	MAF	MAF	MAF
2,000	10,000	3.7	1.4	1.0	1.0
6,000	20,000	5.8	3.4	2.4	1.8
10,000	30,000	6.9	4.5	3.2	3.1

- 1) Assumes no limitation on canal transfer or storage and Missouri River flow data from 1898-2013 (POR).
- 2) Includes source reservoir storage limits (700,000 ac-ft), Missouri River diversion limits and transfer canal limits.
- 3) Includes 15% down time for maintenance and weather impacts.
- 4) Includes 10% seepage and evaporation transmission loss from the source reservoir to the terminal storage, 5% evaporation at the source and terminal reservoir and 10% seepage and evaporation from the terminal storage the farm headgate.
- 5) Current study assumes future depletions upstream of St. Joseph will be the same as 2010 levels. Current study includes Missouri River supply limitations.
- 6) 1982 Study assumed between 1.3 to 1.9 MAF of future depletions upstream of St. Joseph.



# KS Aqueduct 2015 update

Assuming the 6,000 cfs diversion rate, the annual costs including operation and maintenance, interest and amortization and energy costs were determined to be \$1,084,161,000. The annual energy costs were estimated to be \$395,000,000, which assumes a total of 8.78 million megawatt hours needed to operate the system annually. No attempt is made to determine where that energy would come from.

The very preliminary estimate of the 2014 delivered water costs is approximately \$450 per acre foot.

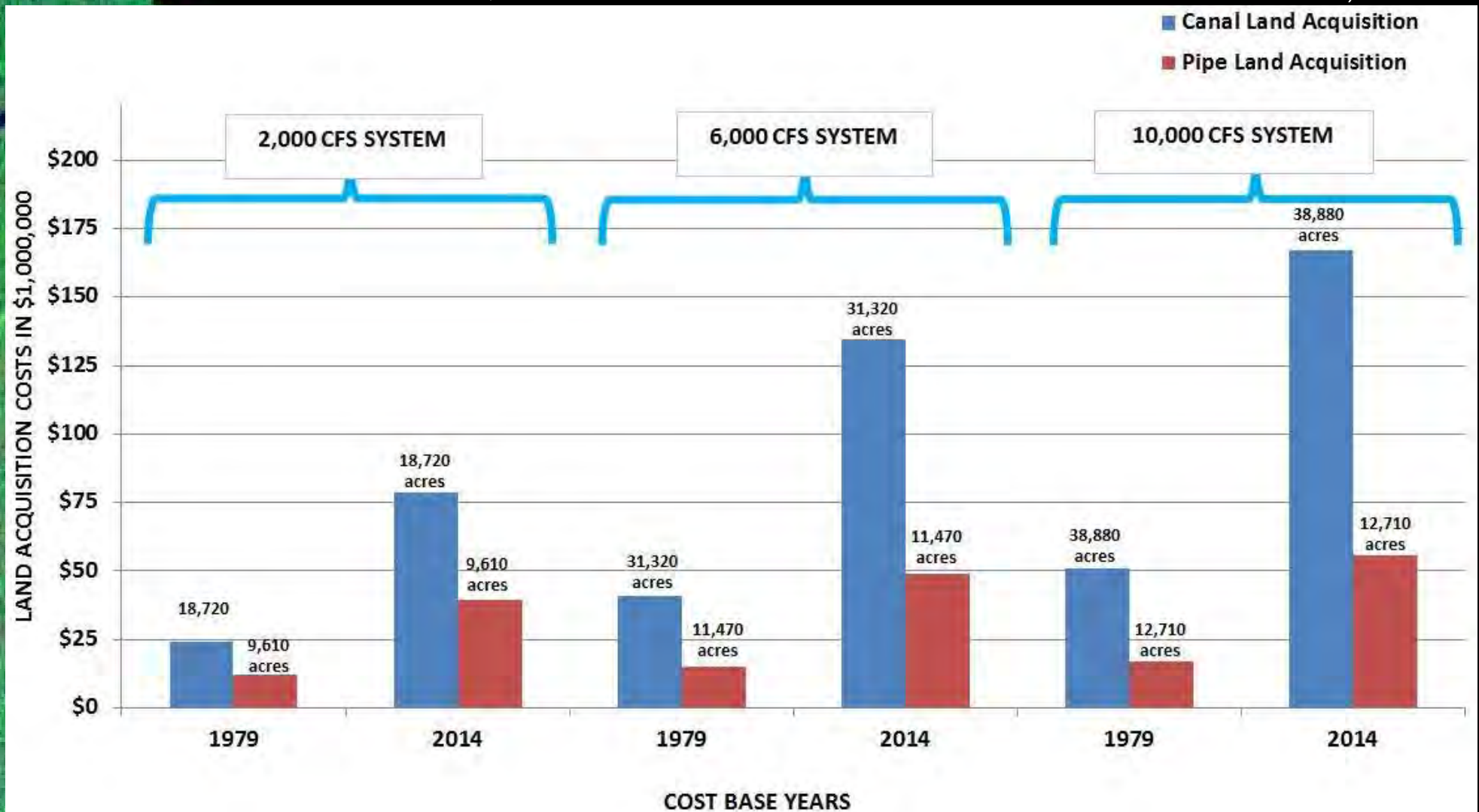


Figure ES(e). Annual Operation and Maintenance Costs.

# Time Adds Land Costs

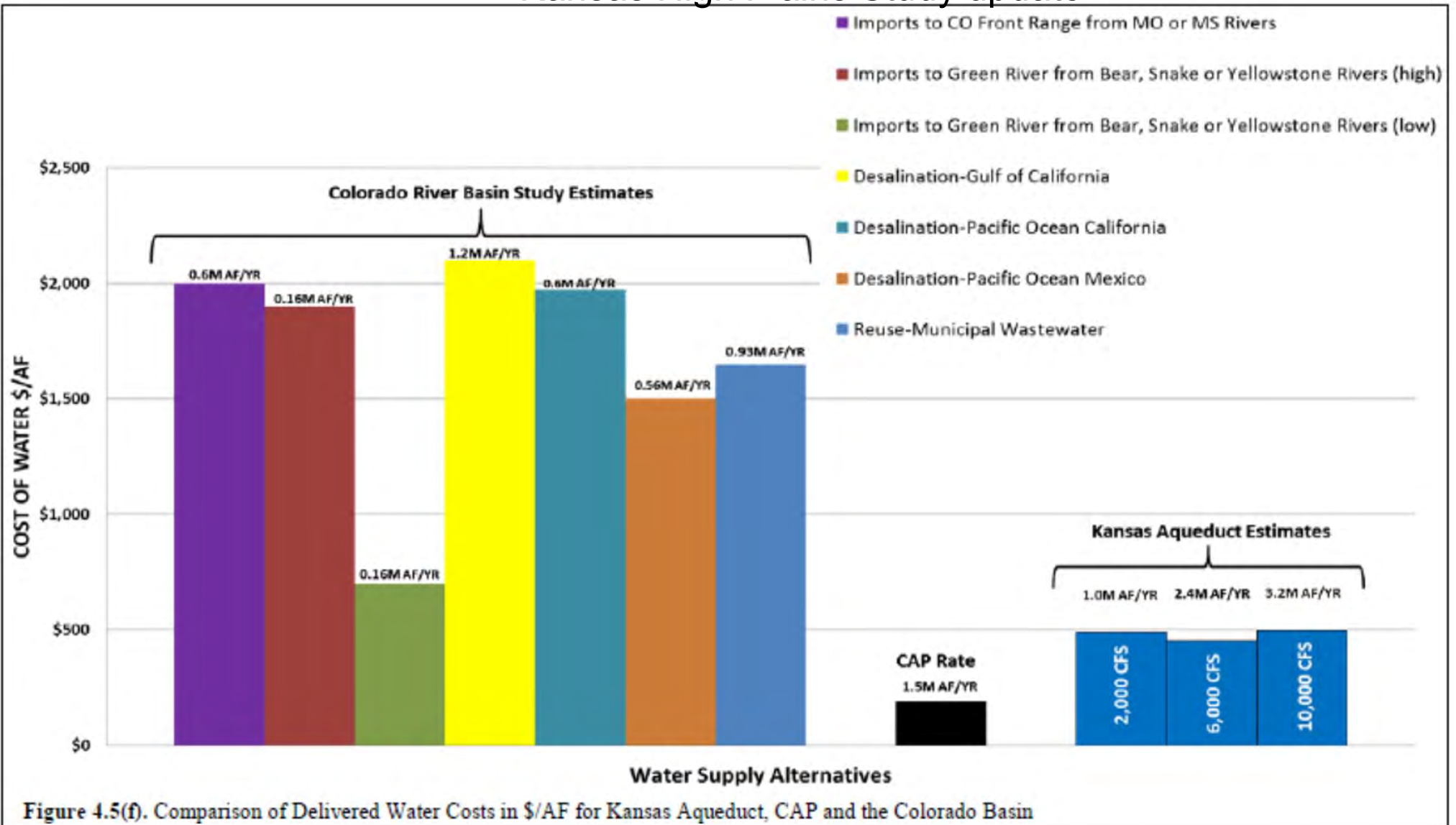
Pipeline vs. Canal Conveyance System over time

FROM 1982 STUDY, INDEXED TO OTHER YEARS USING ENR *Historical Construction Cost Index*)





# Kansas High Plains Study update



Note: Refer to report text for assumptions and limitations regarding cost data.



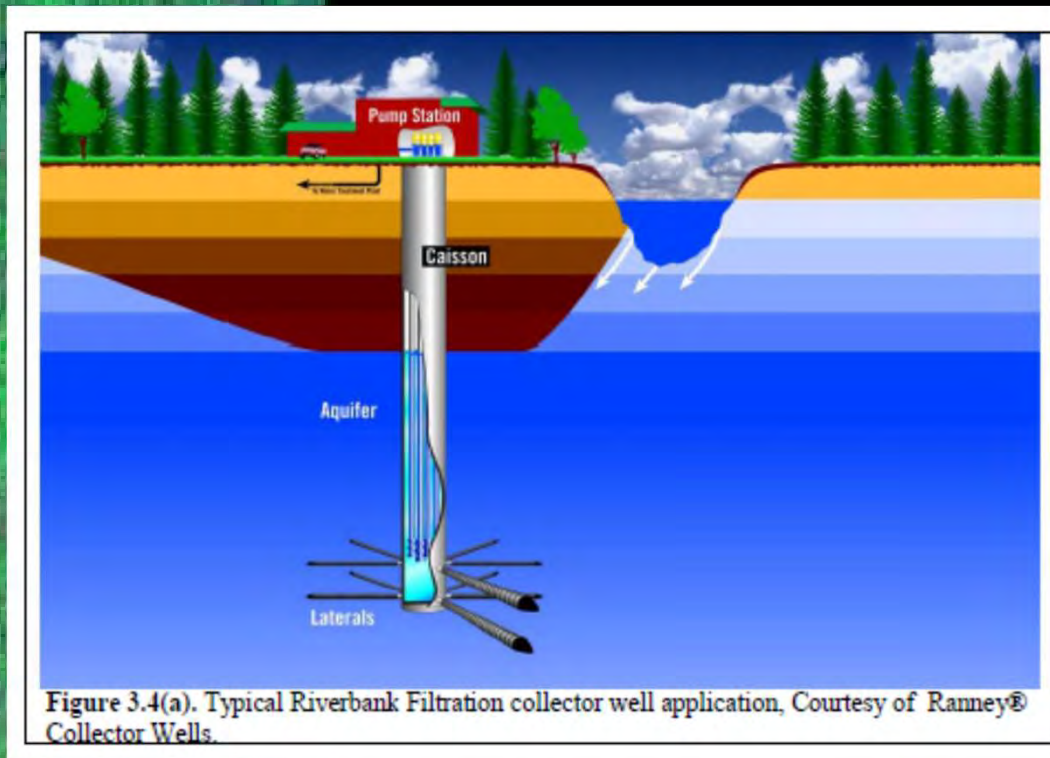
# General Political Assessment:

- Potential Interstate opposition
- Potential source area opposition
- Potential opposition for land taken
- May be concerns regarding costs & financing
- May be support for multiple uses in a broad area
- Public education and coordination important

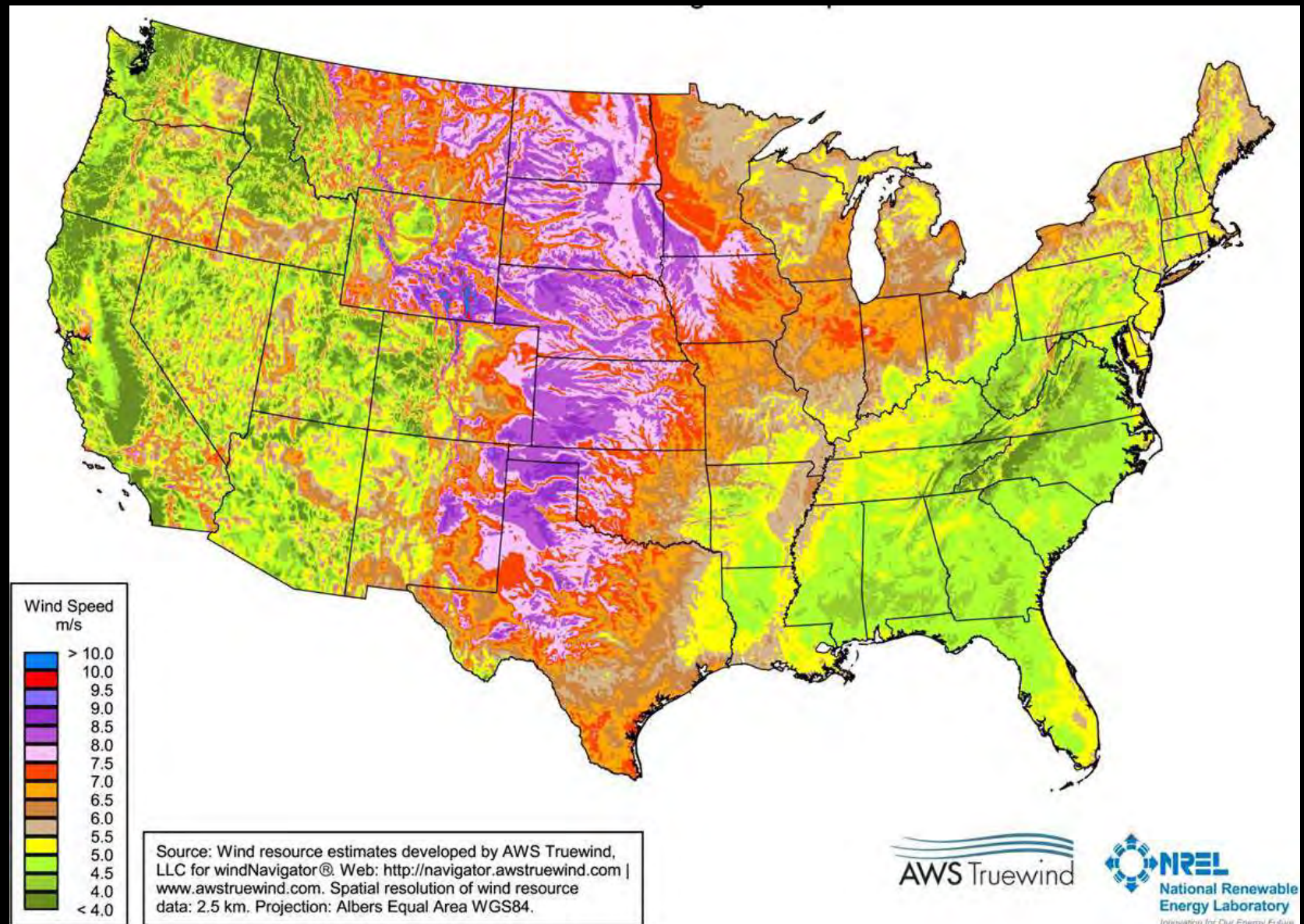


# Collector wells considered

- Compared to direct Surface Water intake:
  - Better quality water
  - Constant diversion possible
  - Distributed stream depletion
  - No river channel modification
  - Less habitat impact
  - No ANS or frazil ice



# Ridgeline aqueduct - green energy transmission and rural Wi-Fi corridor?







# Collaboration beyond Kansas

- An original part of the High Plains Study.
- Other states have significant demands and may be able to subsidize agriculture use, like the pricing structure for CAP.
- May also find leveraging from other sources outside of Kansas.

# Water West Project

- Build a large water transfer system that sustainably addresses declining water supply, over appropriation and drought in southwest Kansas and areas outside the state.





# Questions? Collaboration?

Mark Rude, Executive Director

Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3

620-272-3001

[mrude@gmd3.org](mailto:mrude@gmd3.org)

