# KANSAS MARCOS

Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy In association with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment

> Amanda Reed ACWA Mid-Year Meeting March 18, 2020

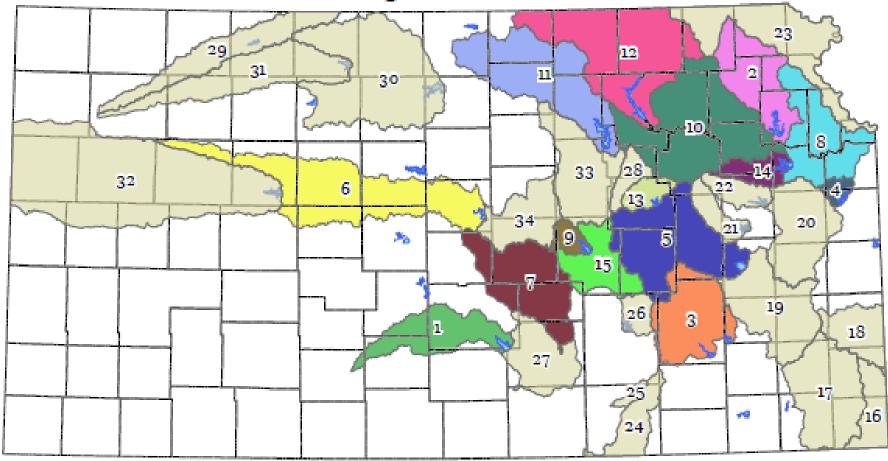




- Vision of WRAPS is to achieve improved water quality for the State of Kansas through collaborative watershed management.
- WRAPS Projects work collectively with many partners including state and federal agencies, local producers, industry, municipalities, and other stakeholders to develop, plan, and implement strategies to address water quality concerns.



August 2019



Stormwater – Optional BMP Program Overview

**City of Wichita Offsite BMP Program** 

- Opportunity for Developers to meet post-construction water quality requirements
- Under the city's current MS-4
- Complies with all regulations, increases water quality, and lowers costs for development and business owners.
- Provides advantages for the watershed, economic profits for the community, and a way forward to address water quality on a regional level.

Stormwater – Optional BMP Program Overview

**Building a Successful Team** 

- Collaborative effort between private developers, the city, and state and federal regulators.
- Spearheaded by the city's Stormwater Advisory Board, the BMP program's technical and regulatory work is coordinated by city staff by contracting with Kansas State University.
- The program works directly with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.
- Guidance, approval and funding were provided by the Wichita City Council.

Stormwater – Optional BMP Program Overview

Watershed Benefits

- Designed to remove at least twice the amount of sediment as would be achieved by onsite BMPs, benefiting water quality in Arkansas River.
- Developers save money by avoiding cost of traditional stormwater BMP implementation; installation and maintenance.
- Choosing to participate in the offsite program pay an annual fee of \$19/acre in lieu of HDS installation.
- Benefits extend to state and local regulators because it establishes voluntary water quality controls on agricultural lands.

Stormwater – Optional BMP Program Overview

#### Little Arkansas River Watershed

- Offsite Program team has been working to establish off-site no-till acreage since 2016.
- Offsite BMP program substitutes the use of on farm solutions, like no-till, a BMP that reduces significantly more sediment upstream for a fraction of the cost.
- City of Wichita reported a total of 127 developments, comprising 509 acres participating in the Offsite BMP program. These acres would produce an estimated 204 tons of sediment. To offset these development acres, 496.7 acres of upstream farmland was converted to no-till.
- As reported in July 2019 by the City of Wichita, offsite sediment load was reduced by an estimated 1589 tons. As a result of this program, developers and businesses in Wichita have been able to save \$2.8 million in upfront costs, and report \$209,000 in ongoing annual savings.

Stormwater – Optional BMP Program Overview

#### **Current Program Status for City of Wichita**

127 developments, comprising 509 acres have enrolled

> 496 offsite, notill acres enrolled on farms

Private development and businesses save more than \$200k annually Enough acres enrolled to ensure over seven years of "cushion"

\$2.85 million in upfront cost savings for private development Offsite sediment load reduced by an estimated 1589 tons Offsite program began generating revenue in 2018



# ECOSYSTEM SERVICES MARKET CONSORTIUM

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# Thank You!