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SAB Science Integration for Decision Making Fact Finding Interviews
EPA Region 7
December 16, 2009

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Region 7 and the Science Advisory Board
Science Integration for Decision Making Interviews

Wednesday December 16, 2009

8:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

DRAFT 12/11/09

U.S. EPA Region 7

901 N. 5th St. Kansas City, KS

Conference Call in Number: 913-551-8600, code 100200

Dr. Anthony Maciorowski, Deputy Director, SAB Staff Office
Dr. Angela Nugent, Special Assistant/Designated Federal Officer, SAB Staff Office

Dr. Catherine Kling, Professor, Iowa State University
Dr. Gary Saylor, Professor, University of Tennessee
Dr. Terry Daniel, University of Arizona

AGENDA

8:15-8:30	Arrive to the Regional Office / Security screening	
8:30	Room 2210B	Welcome – Brenda Groskinsky, Science Policy Advisor and Office of Research and Development's Science Liaison for Region 7
8:45-10:00	Room 2210B	Management Interview (see page 2)
10:00-10:15	BREAK	
10:15-11:30	Room 2210B	Science Staff Interviews (see page 3)
11:30-12:30	LUNCH – Order in	
12:45-1:30	RA's Office	Interview - Acting Regional Administrator – Bill Rice Brenda Groskinsky also participating
1:30 – 3:00	Room 2210B	Agriculture Team Interviews (see page 4)
3:00		Follow-up and preparation for departure

For more information contact Brenda Groskinsky at (913) 551-7188

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U.S. EPA Region 7
901 N. 5th St. Kansas City, KS

Management Interview

8:45-10:00 a.m. Room 2210B

Participants:

Cecilia Tapia, Director, Superfund Division
Ron Hammerschmidt, Director, Environmental Services Division
Gene Gunn, Chief, Special Emphasis and Remedial Branch, Superfund Division
Luetta Flournoy (tentative), Deputy Director, Policy and Man
Jamie Green (tentative), Chief, Toxics and Pesticides Branch, Water, Wetlands and Pesticides Division
Mark Smith (tentative). Chief, Air Permitting and Compliance Branch, Air and Waste Management Division

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For more information contact Brenda Groskinsky at (913) 551-7188

Region 7 and the Science Advisory Board
Science Integration for Decision Making Interviews

Wednesday December 16, 2009

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DRAFT 12/11/09

U.S. EPA Region 7
901 N. 5th St. Kansas City, KS

Scientist Interview

10:15-11:30 a.m. Room 2210B

Participants:

Walt Foster, Ecologist, Assessment & Monitoring Branch, Environmental Services Division
Debbie Bishop, Superfund Lead Region Coordinator, Superfund Division
Wilfredo Rosado-Chaparro, Storage Tanks & Oil Pollution Branch, Air and Waste Management Division
Stanley Holder, Program Operations & Integration Staff, Office of Policy and Management Division
Rober Field, Special Emphasis and Remedial Branch, Superfund Division
Dave Drake, Special Emphasis and Remedial Branch, Superfund Division
Kelly Schumacher, Assessment and Monitoring Branch, Environmental Services Division
Richard Sumpter (tentative), Program Operation & Integration Staff, Office of Policy and Management Division

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Science Integration for Decision Making Interviews

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DRAFT 12/11/09

U.S. EPA Region 7
901 N. 5th St. Kansas City, KS

Region 7Agriculture Team Interview

1:30-3:00 p.m. Room 2210B

Participants:

Karen Flournoy, Deputy Director, Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division
Damon Frizell, Environmental Scientist / R7 Associate Ag Advisor
Donna Porter, Environmental Scientist / CAFO Coordinator, Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division
Jason Daniels, Environmental Scientist / IA Wetlands Coordinator, Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division
Dan Breedlove, Ag Counselor, Office of Regional Councel
Heather Duncan, Environmental Scientist, Water Wetlands and Pesticides Division
Todd Phillips, Life Scientist / Kansas Pesticide Program Officer, Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division
Amy Scheilds (tentative), Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division

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Logistics

Visitors

All visitors to the Regional Office and Science and Technology Center must report to the guard's desk at the front of the buildings, prior to entering the facilities. Visitors should not be brought in through the parking level entrances. To obtain a visitor badge, all visitors must show a photo ID. Visitors will not be allowed entry without valid photo ID.

Visitors will receive a visitor badge, valid for that day only, from the security guard, which must be displayed in plain site at all times. By accepting this badge, visitors agree to follow visitors procedures while in the facility. These are posted at the guard's desk.

Visitors at the Science and Technology Center must complete the sign in log and obtain a visitors= badge from the security guard, which must be displayed in plain site at all times. By completing the sign in log, visitors agree to follow visitors procedures while in the facility. These are posted at the guard's desk.

All visitors must be processed through the magnetometer and their carry-in items (packages, bags, laptops, etc.) will be x-rayed. All visitors must be escorted, throughout the duration of their stay, by an EPA employee. The R7 EPA employee hosting the visitor is responsible for the visitor while they are in the building. The EPA R7 host employee should accompany the visitor at all times.

Visitors should not be taken into any workspace, i.e., RA's Suite, offices, or conference rooms, unless there is a business purpose for those individuals to be in a specific room. While we like to show our visitors the architectural beauty of the building, this can be done from the atrium area.
Upon their departure, it is essential that all visitors be escorted to the guard's desk to properly sign out and return their badge. It is the responsibility of the employee hosting the visitor to ensure that this process is thoroughly completed.

EPA Headquarters or other EPA Regional Office employees are not required to be escorted while in our facilities. However, their EPA ID must be displayed at all times.
Visitor parking is available by contacting Janet Schwarz, x-7192. If you have a visitor who will require handicapped parking, please contact security at x-7901. Notify security (RO - x7901 and STC - x5300) if you see someone you don't recognize. All employees should do their part to assist with security in the building.

Parking

Regional Office - There are approximately 400 parking spaces available for EPA Federal employees on-site. Disabled employees and car pools receive priority, after which seniority is used to allocate the remaining parking spaces. Seniority is defined as service with the federal government as determined by an employee's service computation date. On-site parking is free.

All employees must display a numbered hang tag in all vehicles at all times while parking at the RO, STC or COOP/Warehouse. Travelers using government vehicles can park their personal car on the P1 parking level, in the GOV gated area. An access card for these areas is included in the notebook for the GOV. The employee parking levels are secured by high security vehicle barricade systems.

Biosketches for Region 7 Interviewees

Dan Breedlove

Dan is currently a Senior Attorney with the United States Environmental Protection Agency serving as Region 7's Agriculture Counselor. He is responsible for advising and counseling regional management and programs on agricultural legal issues. He is also responsible for bringing enforcement actions and counseling under the Clean Water Act (CWA), particularly as the statute relates to Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs). In this capacity he has been involved in the issuance of scores administrative compliance orders, a dozen or so penalty actions, and took a case to administrative hearing last fall. He has been with Region 7's Office of Regional Counsel since 1999. Prior to coming to EPA, Dan was a hydrologist with the US Geological Survey, Water Resource Division for six years. He is a three-time graduate of the University of Kansas with a bachelor's degree in environmental studies, master's degree in physical geography, and law degree.

Jason Daniels
Environmental Scientist
EPA, Region VII

I am a graduate of the University of Kansas where I received a B.S. degree in Environmental Science, and currently finishing a M.S. in Environmental Science. Prior to starting work with EPA I worked for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Alaska Maritime NWR, Aleutians Island Unit. I also worked for Pace Analytical, an Environmental Chemistry Lab, and taught a year of high school science for the Kansas City Missouri School District. I have worked in the Environmental Protection Agency's Region 7 Wetland Program since September 2001. I am the Regional Wetlands Coordinator, Regional Mitigation Coordinator, and Iowa Coordinator for the 404/Wetlands Program. The program works closely with the Corps of Engineers and other agencies (States, FWS, NRCS) during the 404 permitting process. We also have a non-regulatory component that involves outreach, technical assistance, and grant management. I am a technical project officer for Wetland Program Development Grants and a Targeted Watershed Grant.

Heather Duncan, Environmental Scientist

Bio facts

- raised on an Iowa family farm (corn, soybeans, alfalfa, cattle)
- Interned and volunteered with a county NRCS office in Iowa during college

- B.S. in Public Service and Administration in Agriculture (area of specialization: agricultural meteorology) - Iowa State University
- Currently pursuing Masters of Science in Agronomy - Iowa State University

Been with EPA R7 for 3 years (pesticides program)

Karen Flournoy, x7782
Deputy Director WWPD and Regional Agriculture Advisor

Karen was appointed to the position of Deputy Director of the Water, Wetlands and Pesticides Division in May 2008. She served as the Associate Regional Administrator for Agriculture and Environmental Priorities from October 2002 until May 2008. In this position she served as an advisor to the Regional Administrator on agriculture issues and worked with EPA program staff on environmental program requirements impacting agriculture. Karen began her career at EPA Region 7 in 1978 and has 14 years experience in the hazardous waste and Superfund programs. She also has served as Deputy Director of the air and waste programs and Director of the public affairs office. Karen received a degree in civil engineering from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

The Associate Agricultural Advisor position is located in WWPD and is held by Damon Frizzell. Damon works with Karen, the Region 7 Ag Team, programs in Region 7, and ag stakeholders on environmental issues impacting ag.

Luetta Flournoy, x7653
Deputy Director PLMG and Deputy Assistant Regional Administrator

Luetta has been with Region 7 for over 30 years in a variety of program areas, including Water, RCRA, Superfund, and Pesticides. Prior to her recent selection as the Deputy Assistant Regional Administrator in PLMG, she was the Program Operations and Integrations Branch Chief and the Senior Indian Program Manager for approximately three years.

Before joining EPA, Luetta received her B.S. in Civil Engineering from Kansas State University. While with EPA Region 7, she obtained her M.S. in Civil Engineering from Kansas University and her professional engineer license.

Jamie Green, x7139
Toxics and Pesticides Branch (TOPE) - WWPD
Branch Chief

Jamie Green is Chief of the Toxics and Pesticides Branch in the Water, Wetlands and Pesticides Division. The Branch's responsibilities include lead-based paint, asbestos and pesticides programs. Prior to coming to EPA Jamie worked for the Nebraska Department

of Agriculture's Pesticide Program. Jamie has been with EPA for 11 years. He has a Bachelor of Science in Fisheries and Wildlife Biology and a Masters of Science in Water Resources, both from Iowa State University.

Toxics and Pesticides Branch is responsible for:

- All programs and activities under FIFRA, the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), amendments under the FQPA, asbestos (TSCA and Clean Air Act NESHAPS), and the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Action of 1992
- Maintaining field offices in Des Moines, Iowa; Jefferson City, Missouri; and Lincoln, Nebraska
- Through Performance Partnership Agreements, implementing vital FIFRA functions (i.e., protecting water quality from pesticides, certification and training of pesticide applicators, protections of agricultural workers, endangered species protection, enforcement)
- Responsible for Regional implementation of the TSCA Asbestos-In-Schools regulations, and the Asbestos School Hazardous Abatement Act of 1984

Damon P. Frizzell
Senior Environmental Scientist & Associate Agricultural Advisor
EPA, Region VII

I am a graduate of Oklahoma State University where I received a B.S. & M.S. degree in Agronomy. Prior to working with EPA I experienced great learning opportunities working for both Farm Service Incorporated in Arkansas as an Agriculture Crop Consultant and the Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, as a County Agriculture Agent delivering crop production technical assistance, and educational assistance in livestock and row crop production. Since that time I have worked 19 years in Region 7, Environmental Protection Agency agriculture related programs. In my current position with EPA, I advise the R7Administrator & Program Directors on agricultural issues and serve as a liaison with agricultural organizations and agencies. I have also recently returned from Afghanistan, following a one year tour of duty with the US Army which enabled me to experience Afghan agriculture production.

Brenda Groskinsky, x7188
Regional Science Policy Advisor and ORD Science Liaison for Region 7

Brenda started her federal career with the U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Division in 1983 and has worked for the U.S. EPA, Region 7 since 1990 in several capacities, including serving as an Operations Research Analyst integrating environmental data, models and computing environments. In 2003, she served in a temporary position as a senior program advisor in the Regional Administrator's Office.

Since 2004, she has served as Region 7's Science Policy Advisor and Science Liaison for the Office of Research and Development.

Brenda has a B.S. in Applied Mathematics and Statistics, B.S. equivalents in Geology and Computer Science from Montana State University - Billings, a MS in Applied Mathematics from Portland State University, a second MS in Computer Networking from the University of Missouri – Kansas City, and is pursuing an interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Mathematics and Economics from the University of Missouri – Kansas City

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Gene Gunn, x7776
Special Emphasis and Remedial Branch (SPEB) - SUPR
Branch Chief

Gene has over 20 years of experience in EPA Region 7, including: Missouri State Coordinator, Dioxin Coordinator, Remedial Project Manager at various sites, and Branch Chief in the Superfund Program with primary responsibility for Federal Facilities and Mine Waste Cleanup Actions; and Section Chief and Branch Chief in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Wetlands, and Indian Lands Environmental Program Development in the Policy and Management and Water Divisions.

Prior to EPA, Gene was an Operations Research Analyst for the Army at Ft. Leavenworth working on the development of the Army's Battlefield Command and Control Computer Architecture. In addition, he has many years experience as a high school Physics Teacher and Basketball Coach and Adjunct College Instructor in Physics. Mr. Gunn obtained a Master's Degree in Physics from Emporia State University.

Special Emphasis and Remedial Branch is responsible for:

- Superfund actions at remedial sites (long-term cleanup activities) with special emphasis within the four states (i.e., lead contamination)
- Coordinating activities associated with special emphasis sites with the four state environmental agencies

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Ron Hammerschmidt, x7566
Director ENSV

Ron was selected as ENSV Director in February 2008. Ron was the Director, Division of Environment for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment from January 1995 until joining EPA. He began his service with KDHE in March 1980. He received his graduate degree in Chemistry from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in August 1978. Ron served as the President of the Environmental Council of States (ECOS) in 2001 and 2002. He also served as the President of the Board of Directors for the Environmental Research Institute of States which provides research and education support for ECOS

including the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council.

Todd Phillips, Life Scientist / Kansas Pesticide Program Officer

I am currently the Kansas Pesticide Project Officer and Water Quality Coordinator in the Toxics and Pesticides Branch at the U.S. EPA, Region 7 in Kansas City, KS. Prior to joining Region 7, I was an Ecological Risk Assessor in the Environmental Fate and Effects Division in the Office of Pesticide Programs at EPA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. I received my M.S. and Ph.D. from Iowa State University in Toxicology and Fisheries Biology.

Donna Porter
Environmental Scientist & CAFO Permit Coordinator
EPA, Region VII

I received a B.S. in Geology from the College of Charleston, an M.S. in Geology from the University of Arkansas, and a Ph.D. in Soil Science from Kansas State University. Prior to coming to the EPA, I worked 4 years in the Livestock Waste Management Section at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment as a geologist and nutrient management specialist. Since coming to EPA a little over two years ago as the CAFO Permit Coordinator, I have reviewed approximately 20% of the CAFO permits and conducted two program reviews (Iowa and Nebraska). I also participated in the CAFO Rule Workgroup and have performed other activities associated with CAFOs. Recently, I worked with a team of academics and state regulators from Region 7 to provide EPA Headquarters a draft guidance/example as to what is a narrative term as required under the 2008 CAFO Rule. I am also the Iowa NPDES state coordinator.

William Rice, x7306
Acting Regional Administrator

Bill serves as the Deputy Regional Administrator for Region 7. In this position, he shares responsibility with the Regional Administrator to manage EPA programs in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. He has served as Acting Regional Administrator on six occasions.

Bill's other EPA positions have included Director of the Region 7's Environmental Services Division, and Chief of the Planning and Management Staff of an EPA laboratory in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. Prior to joining EPA, Bill worked as an Industrial Engineer with a private firm in California. Bill has a B.S. in Industrial Engineering from Oregon State University and an M.B.A. from Duke University.

The DRAs represent the Regions on numerous committees and councils. Bill currently serves on the Environmental Justice Steering Committee, Indian Program Policy Committee, Innovation Action Council, Performance Management Council, Business

Operations Council, Agency Awards Board and SES Performance Review Board. He recently completed thirteen years as Co-Chair of
the National Human Resources Council.

Mark Smith, x7876
Air Permitting and Compliance Branch (APCO) - AWMD
Branch Chief

Mark A. Smith has worked for EPA Region 7 for seventeen years. During his career with EPA, Mark has worked as the Lead Region Coordinator for the Office of Air & Radiation, as Chief of the Underground Storage Tanks Branch, and as Chief of the Chemical Risk Information Branch. Also, Mark has also worked in EPA Headquarters and as Acting Deputy Director for the Air, RCRA, and Toxics Division in EPA Region 7. Most recently, Mark is the Branch Chief for Air Permitting and Compliance in EPA Region 7. Mark has an Environmental Science degree from the University of Kansas.

The Air Permitting and Compliance Branch is responsible for:

- CAA permitting (including greenhouse gases)
- Compliance and enforcement under the CAA,
- Reviewing inspection reports and other information to identify significant violations,
- Oversight of the state operating permit programs
- Compliance and technical assistance
- Chlorofluorocarbons enforcement
- Executing acid rain provisions of the 1990 CAA amendments

Cecilia Tapia, x7733
Director, SUPR

Cecilia was appointed as the Director of the Superfund Division in October 2003. Prior to this, Cecilia served as the Director of Region 7's Enforcement Coordination Office, and as a manager in the Air, RCRA and Toxics Division, RCRA Enforcement and State Programs Branch.

Cecilia joined EPA in May 1987 in the Superfund Program as a Remedial Project Manager. In this position she conducted or oversaw the investigation and cleanup of abandoned hazardous waste sites. Cecilia earned her B.S. in Chemical Engineering in 1987 from the University of Kansas.

REGION 7 OVERVIEW

EPA Region 7 has three facilities located in Kansas City metro area: the Regional Office, the Training and Logistics Center, and the Region 7 Science and Technology Center. Most Region 7 staff are located in the Regional Office building located at North 5th Street and Minnesota Avenue. Built on a Brownfields site, this facility was completed and occupied in June 1999. Throughout the procurement, design and construction process, numerous "green" building features were incorporated into the building. The Regional Office won a GSA "Build Green" award in 1999 and an EPA Gold Medal for Sustainable Development in 2000. The following provides examples of some of these features:

Numerous passive solar design features including sun screens that reflect light into the building and shade intense summer sun; small windows that minimize heat gain on hot summer afternoons; extensive day lighting; high efficiency indirect lighting; and light motion sensors to improve energy efficiency.

The concrete auger pile foundation system is primarily made up of coal fly ash and the building insulation, structural steel and glazing are made up of 60 percent recycled materials. Above-average recycled materials were used for the tenant finish materials which include vinyl composition tile, acoustical ceiling tiles, carpet, and ceramic tiles.

Low flow faucets and toilets reduce the amount of water used throughout the building.

Science and Technology Center

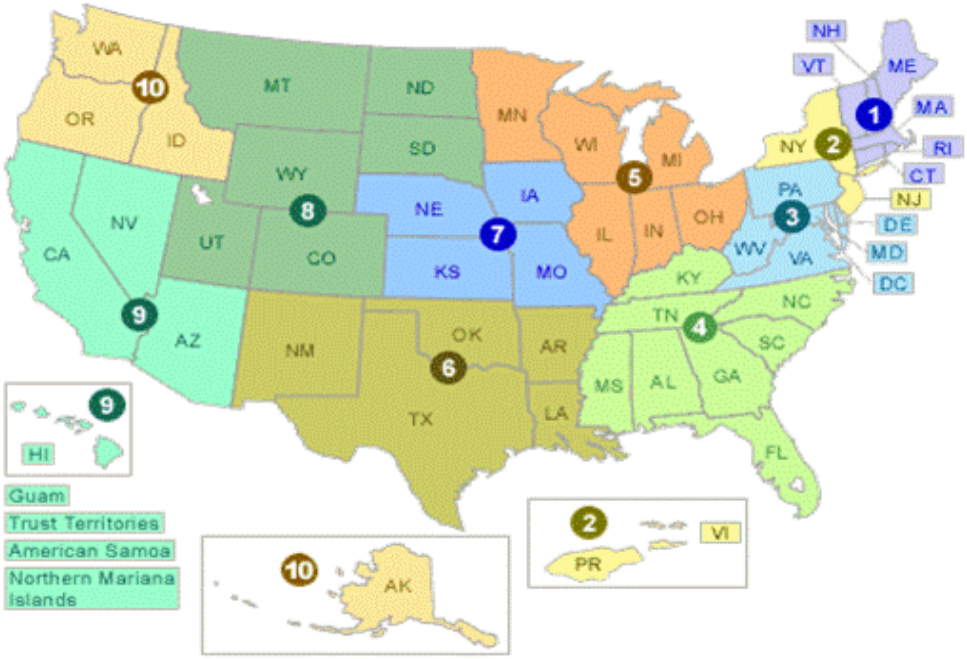
The Region 7 Science and Technology Center (STC), located at 3rd and Minnesota Avenue, houses the laboratory, the Agricultural Center and the Environmental Finance Center. The STC provides a broad range of analytical services to meet the requirements of the Region's environmental programs. The STC generates environmental information for use in support of Regional programs, in compliance and enforcement activities, in national research, and in partnership with tribal governments. In addition to providing analytical services, EPA provides technical support to state, tribal, and local governmental agencies; regulated community; private sector; and the general public. This support includes such issues as analytical methodology and instrumentation, sample collection and handling procedures, quality assurance and control, records management, laboratory health and safety, and environmental compliance.

Like the Regional Office, the STC was built on a Brownfields site. The specifications for the building incorporated "green" features into its design and construction, even though laboratories are typically high energy users. However, the building, which was completed in April 2003, achieved a U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold rating – a significant accomplishment for this type of facility, and the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Saving Showcase Facility Award. The state-of-the-art design allows the Region to integrate scientific operations in support of the Agency's mission and goals, as well as advance the application of science to meet current and emerging needs. In addition to the "Green" features included in the Regional Office, the STC building includes:

A rainwater collection system to reduce site runoff

A landscaped courtyard using native plants to reduce water usage

Daylighting with overhangs to control sun



Additional Region 7 Field Offices and Facilities

Federal Building
1103 Southwest Boulevard
Jefferson City, MO
Walter Roachell--Pesticide Program

Federal Building
210 Walnut Street
Des Moines, IA
Jack Kelly and Lynn Luepke--Drinking Water Management Branch
Gary Witkovski and Jim Lynch--RCRA program

922 Walnut Street
Iowa City, IA
Dave Whiting—ENSV Field Compliance Branch

Robert Denny Federal Building
100 Centennial Mall North
Lincoln, NE
Dick Wiechman--Pesticide Program

212 Little Bussen
Fenton, MO
Jeff Weatherford, Heath Smith and Jim Silver Superfund St. Louis Warehouse

Ray Building Parking Lot
1222 Spruce
St. Louis, MO
Ken Jamison, Vic Muschler and Christopher Clark—Criminal Investigation Division

Robert Dole Court House
500 State Avenue
Kansas City, KS
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) employees supported by EPA

Training and Logistics Center

Hunt Midwest Subtropolis – According to the Federal Continuity Directive -1, all federal agencies, regardless of size or level are to have a Continuity program, which includes various elements including a Continuity site. In 2007, Region 7 opened a new continuity site at the Hunt Midwest Subtropolis after a tornado/microburst destroyed the previous continuity site.

The facility at the Hunt Midwest Subtropolis, located in Kansas City, Missouri, is the Region 7 Training and Logistics Center (TLC). The TLC, in addition to being the continuity site or COOP site, houses all the Superfund equipment and vehicles for field operations. The TLC is staffed by one warehouse manager. Region 7 also hosts two staff and a contractor supporting ASPECT, an aircraft platform system that analyzes chemical components of releases to the air, water or land. ASPECT is part of the National Decontamination Team of the National Response Team in Edison, New Jersey.

EPA STRATEGIC PLAN

EPA's Strategic Plan establishes the framework EPA uses to plan our programs, set priorities, and allocate resources. It describes the five year environmental results EPA expects to achieve and the strategies for achieving them. The Strategic Plan also provides a basis from which EPA's managers can focus on the highest priority environmental issues. Interested stakeholders include federal, state, tribal, and local government agencies; Office of Management and Budget; Congress; the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS); and state and tribal media associations.

The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993 requires federal departments and agencies to update their strategic plans every three years. The Agency has developed four Strategic Plans under GPRA. Work is underway on the fifth, which is due to Congress and OMB by September 30, 2009. EPA was one of the first agencies to link the budget to the objectives established in the Strategic Plan, and the Agency develops annual performance measures to capture annual progress toward our long-term goals.

Current 2006-2011 EPA Strategic Plan

The mission statement of EPA's current Strategic Plan is "to protect human health and the environment". There are 5 goals in EPA's Strategic Plan. They are:

Clean Air and Global Climate Change
Clean and Safe Water
Land Preservation and Restoration
Healthy Communities and Ecosystems
Compliance and Environmental Stewardship

ADMINISTRATOR'S PRIORITIES

In a memo to all EPA employees on January 23, 2009, Administrator Jackson identified her top five priorities as:

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions

The President has pledged that responding to the threat of climate change is a high priority of his administration. He is confident that we can transition to a low-carbon economy while creating jobs and making the investment we need to emerge from the current recession and create a strong foundation for future growth. EPA will stand ready to help Congress craft strong, science-based climate legislation that fulfills the vision of the President. As Congress does its work, we will move ahead to comply with the Supreme Court's decision recognizing EPA's obligation to address climate change under the Clean Air Act.

Improving air quality

The nation continues to face serious air pollution challenges, with large areas of the country out of attainment with air-quality standards and many communities facing the threat of toxic air pollution. Science shows that people's health is at

stake. EPA will plug the gaps in our regulatory system as science and the law demand.

Managing chemical risks

More than 30 years after Congress enacted the Toxic Substances Control Act, it is clear that we are not doing an adequate job of assessing and managing the risks of chemicals in consumer products, the workplace and the environment. It is now time to revise and strengthen EPA's chemicals management and risk assessment programs.

Cleaning up hazardous-waste sites

EPA will strive to accelerate the pace of cleanup at the hundreds of contaminated sites across the country. Turning these blighted properties into productive parcels and reducing threats to human health and the environment means jobs and an investment in our land, our communities and our people.

Protecting America's water

EPA will intensify our work to restore and protect the quality of the nation's streams, rivers, lakes, bays, oceans and aquifers. The Agency will make robust use of our authority to restore threatened treasures such as the Great Lakes and the Chesapeake Bay, to address our neglected urban rivers, to strengthen drinking-water safety programs, and to reduce pollution from non-point and industrial dischargers.

Administrator Jackson also identified three values for EPA to uphold:

Science must be the backbone for EPA programs

The public health and environmental laws that Congress has enacted depend on rigorous adherence to the best available science. The President believes that when EPA addresses scientific issues, it should rely on the expert judgment of the Agency's career scientists and independent advisors. When scientific judgments are suppressed, misrepresented or distorted by political agendas, Americans can lose faith in their government to provide strong public health and environmental protection.

2) EPA must follow the rule of law

The President recognizes that respect for Congressional mandates and judicial decisions are the hallmark of a principled regulatory agency. Under our environmental laws, EPA has room to exercise discretion and Congress has often looked to EPA to fill in the details of general policies. However, EPA needs to exercise policy discretion in good faith and in keeping with the directives of Congress and the courts. When Congress has been explicit, EPA cannot misinterpret or ignore the language Congress has used. When a court has determined EPA's responsibilities under our governing statutes, EPA cannot turn a blind eye to the court's decision or procrastinate in complying.

3) EPA's actions must be transparent

Public trust in the Agency demands that we reach out to all stakeholders fairly and impartially, that EPA considers the views and data presented carefully and objectively, and that we fully disclose the information that forms the bases for our decisions. The Administrator pledges that we will carry out the work of the Agency in public view so

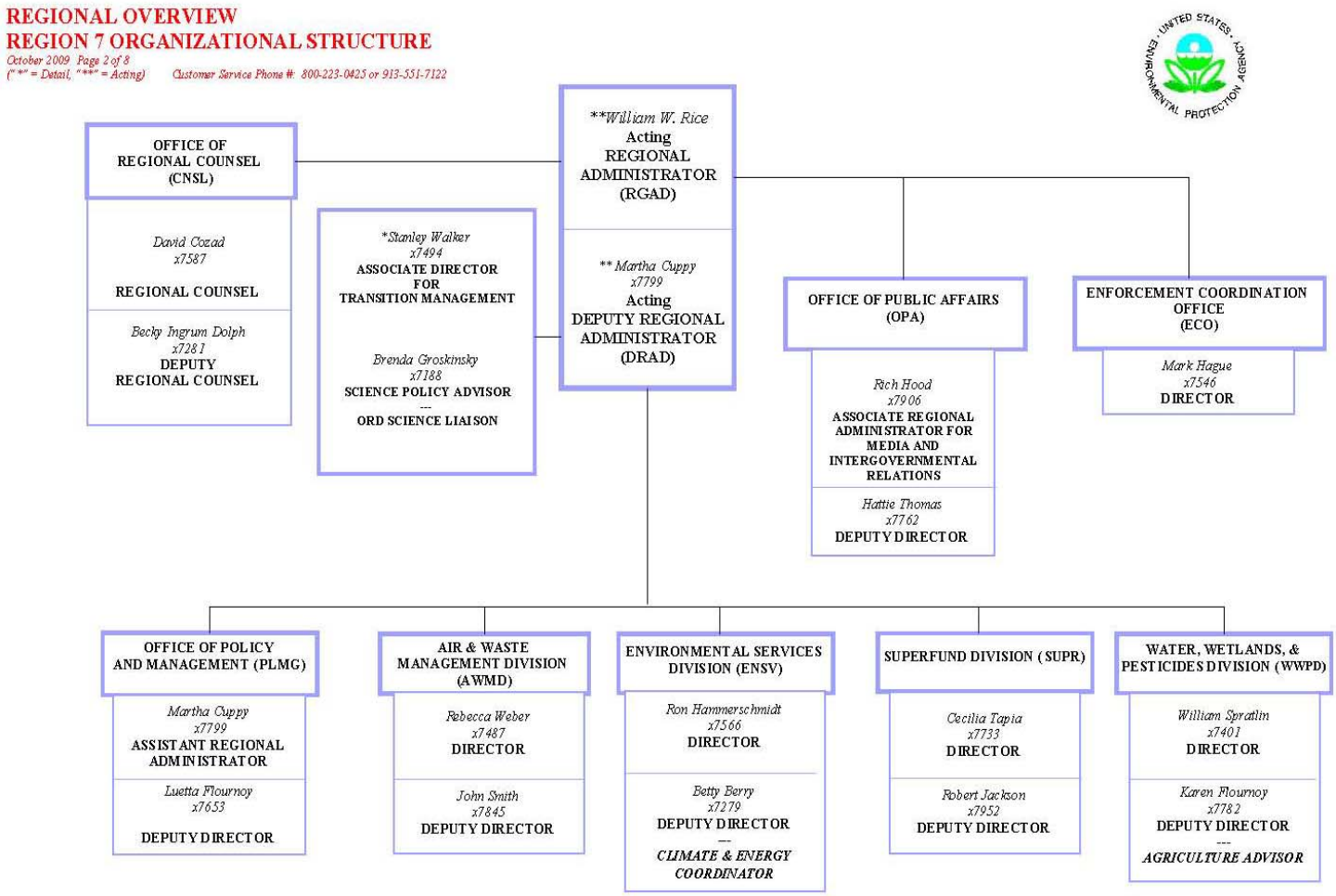
that the door is open to all interested parties and that there is no doubt why we are acting and how we arrived at our decisions.

REGION 7 - WHO WE ARE

Region 7's mission statement is congruent with EPA's overall mission to protect human health and the environment. Region 7 encompasses the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and 9 Tribal Nations. Region 7 is one of the smaller Regional Offices—both in workforce size and level of budgeted resources. However, it has delegated authorities and program responsibilities equal to all other regions.

Region 7's organization is structured by Divisions, which carry out major environmental legislation, and Offices, performing multiple staff and support functions. Each Division and Office interacts with one or more Headquarters' Assistant Administrators for policy and/or program guidance and funding. A copy of Headquarters' organization chart is included in Section I.

The Regional Administrator serves as the Administrator's representative in the Region and cooperates closely with Federal, tribal, state, interstate, and local agencies, industry, academic institutions and other public and private groups to make sure Regional needs are considered and Federal laws are implemented.



OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Regional Administrator and Deputy Regional Administrator have the following roles:

- Responsible to the EPA Administrator, within the boundaries of the Region, for the execution of Agency programs and other responsibilities as assigned.
- Serve as the Administrator's principal representative in the Region for contacts and relationships with Federal, state, tribal, interstate and local agencies; industry, academic institutions; and other public and private groups.
- Responsible for accomplishing national program objectives within the Region as established by the Administrator, Deputy Administrator, Assistant Administrators, and managers of Headquarters' staff offices.
- Develop, propose, and implement an approved Regional program for comprehensive and integrated environmental protection activities.
- Responsible for total resource management in the Region within the guidelines provided by Headquarters.
- Responsible for implementing technical program direction and evaluation, provided by the various Assistant Administrators and heads of Headquarters' staff offices, into effective and efficient operating programs at the Regional level.
- Exercise approval authority for proposed state standards and implementation plans; provide for agency and state activities.
- Responsible for Regional liaison and coordination with Federal, state, regional, and local organizations and Congressional, state, tribal and local executive offices in areas of general environmental concern.
- Participate in activities of the Federal Regional Council and Federal Executive Board to develop strategies and mechanisms for program delivery; review program plans jointly with governors and mayors, and resolve regional interagency issues expeditiously.
- Provide oversight of high priority scientific issues by working directly with Region 7's Science Policy Advisor and liaison to the Office of Research and Development (ORD).

TRIBAL PARTNERS

Region 7 includes nine tribal nations (see list on following page). Region 7 relies on the EPA 1984 Indian Policy for directing tribal matters. This policy recognizes tribal governments as sovereign entities with primary authority and responsibility for the reservation populace. It states that the Agency will encourage and assist tribes in assuming regulatory and program management responsibilities for reservation lands and work with tribes in a government-to-government relationship. The relationship between the Region and the tribes is a developing one.

The Regional Administrator is the Administrator's representative in the government-to-government discussions with tribes and at Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) meetings. The RTOC is the regional companion to the National Tribal Operations Committee (NTOC), an organization whose mission is to advance the protection and improve the conditions of tribal health and the environment in Indian Country.

EPA provides grant funds, technical assistance, guidance, educational outreach, and program management to the tribes. This assists the tribes in building capacity for environmental program management.

The Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (GAP), since 1992, has allowed EPA to work with tribes in building their environmental capacity through planning, developing, and establishing environmental protection programs, as well as for developing and implementing solid and hazardous waste programs in accordance with individual tribal needs and applicable federal laws and regulations. All of Region 7's tribes are eligible to receive GAP funding regardless of their TAS status (described below). Further, all tribes except the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and Iowa and the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska currently operate GAP programs.

Tribes who have adequate capacity to manage an environmental program can apply for "Treatment in a Manner Similar to a State" or TAS. There are two types of TAS, eligibility and primacy. With TAS eligibility, if granted, the tribe is eligible to receive federal funding to operate their own environmental programs in accordance with existing federal standards. TAS primacy, if approved, allows the tribe to set their own environmental standards, providing the standards are no less stringent than current federal law. Each program requires a separate TAS application and approval process. TAS does not expire; however, having TAS does not imply the tribe has a current award or program in place. Only 5 percent of tribes nation-wide have TAS primacy, none of which are in Region 7.

Tribal land within Region 7 is described on the following page; however, it should be noted that the area within the exterior boundaries of the reservation may be what is commonly referred to as "checkerboard." "Checkerboard" refers to the land within the reservation boundary that is owned by non-natives and under the jurisdiction of non-Indians. Reservation population information is based upon most recent information available to EPA.

STATE PROFILES

IOWA

Iowa Department of Natural Resources http://www.iowadnr.gov/

Delegated Programs:

Performance Partnership Grant (PPG) currently includes Air Pollution Control (CAA 105), Water Pollution Control (CWA 106), and Public Water System Supervision (PWSS). Other continuing programs include: Water Quality Management Planning (CWA 604(b)), Nonpoint Source Implementation (CWA 319),Wetland Program Development, Clean Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRF), Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (DWSRF), Underground Storage Tanks Program (UST), Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program (LUST), and Pollution Prevention Grants Program (P2).

***State Director of Natural Resources*: Richard Leopold**

Richard Leopold became Director of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources in January 2007. Prior to the DNR, Richard was the Executive Director of the Iowa Environmental Council since 2003. He has held a variety of biologist, naturalist, and administrative positions within the U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Minnesota and Iowa Department of Natural Resources and served as the coordinator for IOWATER, Iowa's statewide volunteer water-quality monitoring program.

Richard holds an M.S. in Animal Ecology from Iowa State University. He obtained undergraduate degrees in biology from Minnesota State University and natural resources technology from Central Lakes College in Brainerd, Minnesota. Richard has been the past chairperson of the Iowa Conservation Education Council, a recipient of the Izaak Walton League of America's "National Honor Roll Award" in 2001, and more recently has been recognized as a Henry Toll Fellow by the Council of State Governments.

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KANSAS

Kansas Department of Health and Environment http://www.kdheks.gov/

Delegated Programs:

PPG includes Water Pollution Control (Water 106), Public Water System Supervision (PWSS), and Underground Water Source Protection (UIC). Other programs include: Air Pollution Control (Air 105), Water Quality Management Planning (CWA 604(b)), Non-point Source Implementation Grants (CWA 319), Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), Hazardous Waste Management Program Support (RCRA), Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF), Indoor Radon Grants, Underground Storage Tanks Program (UST), Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program (LUST), Pollution Prevention Grants Program (P2), and Lead Grants Certification of Lead-Based Paint Professionals (TSCA Title IV).

State Secretary of the Department of Health and Environment: **Roderick L. Brenby**

Roderick L. Bremby serves as Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. His background includes extensive work on community health issues and 17 years in municipal management.

Prior to his January 2003 appointment by Governor Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary Bremby served as a research assistant professor at the University of Kansas and as associate director of the Work Group on Health Promotion and Community Development. His work involved providing technical assistance, evaluation support and community research for community health initiatives. Secretary Bremby has been a consultant for a variety of organizations including, community coalitions, advocacy organizations, local government agencies, and the U.S. Agency for International Development (Strengthening Democracy in Uganda).

Secretary Bremby served 10 years as the assistant city manager in Lawrence, Kan. Secretary Bremby holds a master's degree in public administration from KU, where he completed an undergraduate degree in psychology and communication studies. He also completed postgraduate study at the Brookings Institution, The Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, and an executive development course at The Center for Creative Leadership. Secretary Bremby is a Kansas Health Foundation Fellow and a graduate of Leadership Forth Worth, Leadership Lawrence, and Leadership Kansas.

Secretary Bremby has received the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce Buford Watson Public Service Award, has been listed among the Outstanding Young Men of America, Who's Who Among Black Americans, and Who's Who in America. As a past recipient of the University of Kansas' Rusty Leffel Concerned Student Award, the R. Scott Brooks Memorial Award, Secretary
Bremby was inducted into Pi Alpha Alpha and Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Societies. Having served on numerous local, state and national boards and commissions, Secretary Bremby continues his involvement with the Lawrence Partnership for Children and Youth, a group working to promote community collaboration on behalf of the well being of children and youth by promoting America's Promise.

MISSOURI

Missouri Department of Natural Resources http://www.dnr.mo.gov/

Delegated Programs:

Performance Partnership Grant includes: Air Pollution Control (CAA 105), Water Pollution Control (CWA 106), Non-point Source Implementation (CWA 319), Public Water System Supervision (PWSS), Hazardous Waste Management Program Support (RCRA). Other programs include: Water Quality Management Planning (CWA 604(b)), Non-point Source Implementation (CWA 319), Wetland Program Development Grants, Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF), Underground Water Source Protection (UIC), Water Pollution Control (CWA 106), Underground Storage Tanks Program (UST), and Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program (LUST).

State Director of Department of Natural Resources: **Mark Templeton**

Mark N. Templeton is the Director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. With a background that incorporates environmental stewardship, alternative energy, and sound business practices that transcend the public, private, and non-profit sectors, he brings a unique skill-set and perspective to the Department. From 2001 to 2005, Templeton developed environmental and sustainability strategies for clients while with McKinsey & Company, a global management consultancy headquartered in New York. While there, he worked with clients to explore new "green" markets for products and services and to develop next-generation jobs in the environmental and energy sectors.

While at McKinsey, Templeton advised major organizations including the United Nations Development Programme's Commission on the Private Sector and Development. In 2005, Templeton left McKinsey to become associate dean and chief operating officer of Yale Law School, his alma mater.

Prior to joining McKinsey, Templeton was special assistant and senior advisor to the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor and an advisor to the U.S. Delegation to U.N. Commission on Human Rights. He worked as office director of the Human Rights Documentation Center in Bangkok, Thailand from 1999 to 2000 and as a research associate with the South Asia Human Rights Documentation Center in New Delhi, India in 1997.

Hailing from Olivette, Missouri, Templeton earned his bachelor's degree, magna cum laude, from Harvard College in 1994 and his juris doctorate from Yale Law School in 1999. He graduated from Horton Watkins High School in Ladue

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Vacant— Deputy Director

Vacant— Director
Division of Environmental Quality

Vacant— Director
Field Services Division

NEBRASKA

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality http://www.deq.state.ne.us/

Delegated Programs:

Performance Partnership Grant includes: Air Pollution Control (CAA 105), Water Pollution Control (CWA 106), Non-point Source Implementation (CWA 319), Underground Water Source Protection (UIC), Hazardous Waste Management Program Support (RCRA). Other programs include: Water Quality Management Planning (CWA 604(b)), Non-point Source Implementation (CWA 319), Water Quality Cooperative Agreements, Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF), Water Pollution Control (CWA 106), Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program (LUST), and Pollution Prevention Grants (P2).

State Director of the Department of Environmental Quality: **Michael J. Linder**

Mr. Linder was appointed Director of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality by Gov. Mike Johanns on March 9, 1999.

Linder joined the DEQ in 1986 as a staff attorney working primarily on water quality issues. In 1989, Mr. Linder became Legal Counsel to the agency where he supervised a group of five agency attorneys. As Legal Counsel, Mr. Linder handled general legal duties for the agency and served as Legislative Liaison with the Nebraska Unicameral.

Prior to joining the department, Mr. Linder was an attorney in the Nebraska State Fire Marshal's office and was a legislative aide in the Legislature.

Born in York, Linder was raised in Brookings, S.D. He received his B.S. degree from the University of South Dakota in 1980 and his J.D. degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Law in 1983. Mr. Linder is the current ECOS president.

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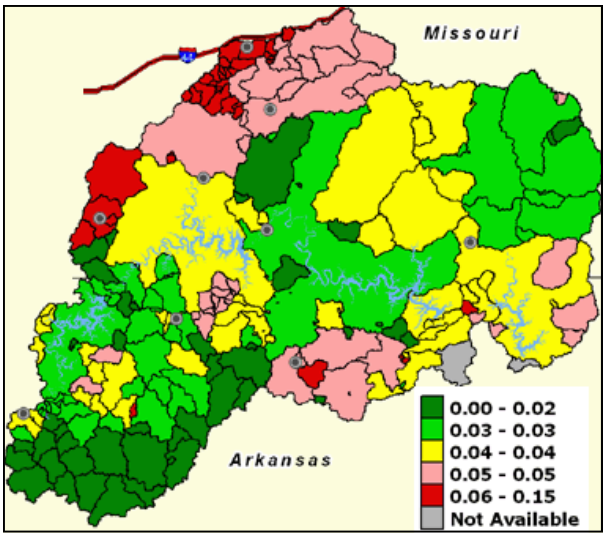
Upper White River Watershed

Water Quality Vulnerability in the Ozarks: An Assessment of the Upper White River Watershed

The **Regional Applied Research Efforts (RARE) Program** promotes collaboration between EPA regions and the Office of Research and Development (ORD). ORD provides $200,000 per year to each region to further develop a current ORD near-term research topic that can be enhanced to fit the region's top priorities. These funds are directed by each region's science liaison and science program to projects at ORD labs or through existing partnerships.

The White River Watershed, encompasses much of Southern Missouri and Northern Arkansas, provides hydroelectric power, water resources and vast economic and potential to the region. The watershed is currently going through many changes as development continues to expand into the region. Tourist centers such as Branson and urban centers such as Fayetteville and Springfield have a very large, but thus far unquantified, effect upon the overall water quality of the Upper White River Watershed.

The **Water Quality Vulnerability in the Ozarks Study** is a collaborative effort undertaken by U.S. EPA Region 7 and the Office of Research and Development's National Exposure Research Laboratory and funded using Region 7 RARE funds. Results from the effort provided the first ever landscape scale (i.e., broad-scale) predictive mapping of water-quality conditions, based upon multiple potential drivers (land-cover types, land-cover configurations, human activities, etc).
In order to formulate these models, several methods of evaluating the water-quality vulnerability of the region were used. The area of study covered four of the U.S. Geological Survey's 8-digit hydrological units, and integrated water sample analysis from 244 sub-watersheds within the region, which allowed for extremely precise and accurate modeling.



Total Ammonia Prediction mg/L[1]

Partial Least Squares analysis was also utilized, along with existing field water quality monitoring data, satellite and other remote sensing data, and a priori information about landscape conditions and water quality. In order to compile a landscape-scale model for the region, rather than just several small-scale analyses, Geographical Information System modeling was also integrated. All of this was combined to create the first-ever geospatial model of water quality vulnerability for the Ozark Mountains as a whole.

Results from the Water Quality Vulnerability in the Ozarks Study are already being utilized in several arenas. Outputs from the project are being used to isolate regions of the watershed that require restoration and attention, based on three criteria: *E. coli* cell counts, phosphorus concentrations and ammonium concentrations. Each watershed is then designated as either "least, moderately, highly or most" vulnerable. This allows environmental practitioners in Arkansas and Missouri to prioritize subwatersheds that require immediate restoration action and implementation of best management practices.

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[1]Water Quality Vulnerability in the Ozarks using Landscape Ecology Metrics: Upper White River Browser

U.S. EPA Region 7 Regional Applied Research Efforts Program

Flint Hills Agricultural Burning

A Multi-Model Ecosystem Simulator for Predicting the Effects of Multiple Stressors on Great Plains Ecosystems

The **Regional Applied Research Efforts (RARE) Program** promotes collaboration between EPA regions and the Office of Research and Development. ORD provides $200,000 per year to each region to further develop a current near-term research topic that can be enhanced to fit the region's top priorities. These funds are directed by each region's science liaison and science program to projects at ORD labs or through existing ORD partnerships.

Stretching all the way from Northern Oklahoma through Northern Kansas, the Flint Hills ecosystem is considered by ecologists to be its own unique ecosystem, separate from that of the Great Plains. Due to the abundance of grass plains that cover the Flint Hills, biomass burning is used to manage the growth and reach of prairie and grassland. Burning is important to prairie ecosystems because it controls species, recycles nutrients, and clears off dead growth. Unfortunately, grassland burning also releases harmful pollutants into the atmosphere, which can cause air quality problems under certain conditions.

The Flint Hills project will examine the effects of various stressors on agricultural and prairie ecosystems, including the effects of rangeland burning. The project is a collaborative effort between Region 7, the National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory's Western Ecology Division, and Kansas State University.

The goal of the study is to develop regional-scale geographic information system (GIS) databases and process-based models for spatially and temporally extrapolating the effects of multiple stressors on agricultural and prairie ecosystems. Stressors will include fire, grazing, invasion of woody species, climate change, and contaminants, as well as others.

Because no single model can address all stressors and effects of interest, several models will be integrated together, each one serving a unique purpose. A biogeochemistry model will be linked with the a hydrology model to predict the effects of land use and climate on the Flint Hills ecosystem. Plant biomass predictions from these two models will be used as input for a meteorologically-based fire management model that simulates smoke transport and consequent impacts on regional air quality, including distant urban areas such as Kansas City to predict the effect of burning on urban air quality.

The completed modeling framework will establish a foundation for comprehensive risk assessments that consider both the ecological and air quality impacts of biomass burning. It will track conditions of concern over timeframes (days to centuries) that are relevant to understanding impacts on ecosystems and human health. The ultimate purpose of this research is to provide a tool and information that policymakers and land managers can use to asses how alternative decisions will affect multiple endpoints of concern. For example, can burning strategies be identified that sustain rangeland productivity while minimizing impacts on air quality and human health?

Area covered by Flint Hills

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