Empowering Farm and Ranch Stakeholders to Implement WIN-WIN Solutions to Water Quality Issues in TMDL, Municipal Source Watersheds. (A08-frees085302-Oral)

Authors:

. L.Frees* - USDA/NRCS, Salina, KS

. L.French - Cheney Lake Watershed Project

Abstract:

The study area is in South Central Kansas. The City of Wichita has a population base of 350000 people. Cheney Reservoir provides 70 percent of the daily water use. The watershed above Cheney Reservoir is 633000 acres with 1200 farms. In 1996 the U.S. Geological Survey began a water quality study of the Cheney watershed. The objectives of the study are to describe differences in concentrations and transport of selected water quality constituents within the Cheney Reservoir watershed. In an effort to understand how land use and land management decisions effect water quality the AnnAGNPS watershed model was selected to simulate long-term sediment and chemical transport. How have farmers and ranchers in the Cheney Watershed been empowered? Agricultural producers in Kansas are concerned about good water quality. The monitoring and modeling will be tools the city of Wichita and watershed farmers will use to develop WIN WIN solutions for source water protection and a sustainable agriculture.

Corresponding Author Information:

Lyle Frees USDA/NRCS, Salina, KS 760 South Broadway Salina, KS 67401 phone: 785 823 4553 fax: 785 823 4540 e-mail: lyle.frees@ks.usda.gov

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