



OKLAHOMA'S ECONOMIC FUTURE AND QUALITY OF LIFE DEPEND ON ITS WATER.

The mission of the OWRB is to manage, protect and improve Oklahoma's water resources to meet long-term water supply, water quality, flood mitigation, and infrastructure needs. Since 1957, the OWRB has focused on fair water appropriation, water infrastructure financing, long-range water planning, and robust technical data collection to inform state and local policy and planning.

WATER  **MEANS BUSINESS**

Agriculture Production

3.1 billion gallons per day are permitted to support the production of nearly **\$8.5 billion** worth of crops per year.

Municipal Development

2.1 billion gallons of water per day are permitted to fuel and sustain local population and economic growth, providing water supply for nearly **4 million** citizens as well as manufacturing and industry.

Tourism and Recreation

1,400 square miles of surface water provide the foundation for Oklahoma's **\$11.8 billion** per year tourism and recreation industry.

Oil and Gas Production

334,989 acre-feet of water per year supports the production of an estimated **\$15.4 billion** in products each year, employing nearly 150,000 Oklahomans.

Navigation

10 million tons of products valuing over **\$3.65 billion** per year are shipped on the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System.

Hydropower

584 megawatts of hydropower produced by Oklahoma dams provides electricity for more than **2 million** end users in Oklahoma and surrounding states.



RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Water Infrastructure Financing

Approved \$450.8 million in low-interest loans and grants for drinking water, wastewater, and dam rehabilitation projects to 133 entities in FY 2025. Surpassed \$8.2 billion in total financing since program inception in 1986, with an estimated savings of \$2.8 billion to Oklahomans. Maintained AAA bond ratings, translating into below-market interest rates.

Water Rights Administration

Reduced water right approval times by an average of 60 days by initiating a voluntary technical assistance consultation for permit applicants. Improved outreach and enforcement with permit holders, strengthening communication and resulting in a 50% reduction in addresses requiring correction during the water use reporting mailout. Completed tentative Maximum Annual Yield determinations to establish science-based water allocation levels for the North Canadian Reach I and II.

Well Driller & Pump Installer Licensing

Launched the Intent to Drill Online System for submission of water well drilling plans for approval. This system includes a workflow that allows the OWRB to integrate the driller's information directly into a mapping system to expedite approval of well locations and verify that water use permits are matched to their customers. The system significantly reduces staff time as well as the regulatory burden on drillers.

Dam Safety & Floodplain Management

Improved dam safety compliance and expanded rehabilitation grant availability for deficient dams classified as "high hazard." Supported communities in meeting state requirements and reducing long-term flood risks. Enhanced floodplain assistance by advancing the statewide flood plan and securing partial Phase 2 funding to develop flood hazard mitigation projects and alternatives for selected communities.

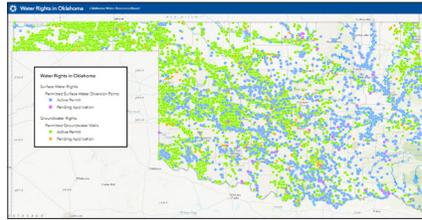
Water Resources Data & Online Information Products

Launched a public-facing online water data platform featuring stream, lake, and groundwater information collected over the last 24 years. The platform is used by businesses, government agencies, academia, and the general public. Information can easily be searched, downloaded, and analyzed to support water management and planning.

OWRB Programs

WATER RIGHTS ADMINISTRATION

Appropriation of Oklahoma's fresh water resources is administered by the OWRB as directed by Oklahoma



statutes. Currently, there are more than 13,000 active permits for over 6 billion gallons per day. Approximately 600 provisional

temporary permits are issued each year, primarily for oil and gas activity, but also for public water supply, irrigation, agriculture, and other uses. To support water rights administration, the agency conducts surface water allocation modeling and availability analyses, coordinates statewide water use reporting, and responds to public complaints.

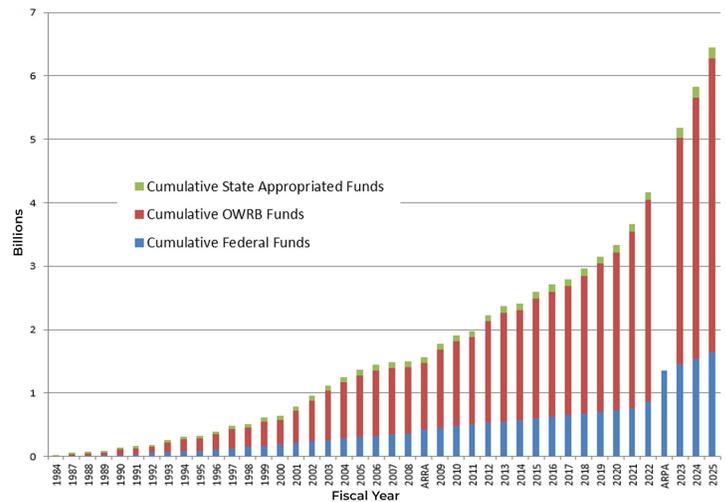
WATER & WASTEWATER SYSTEM FINANCING

As the State's primary water and wastewater infrastructure financing agency, the OWRB has provided over \$8.35 billion in financing to Oklahoma communities, rural water districts,



schools, and other authorities at an estimated savings of approximately \$2.58 billion over conventional bond financing. This is due, in part, to AAA bond ratings, a strong loss coverage score, expert management and oversight, and a long history of borrower repayment.

Cumulative Investments in OWRB Infrastructure Financing



Cumulative investments in OWRB infrastructure financing exceed \$5.7 billion. Since 1984 the OWRB has leveraged approximately \$1.5 billion in federal funding and \$168 million in state funding to issue approximately \$3.9 billion in bonds in order to expand available financing for infrastructure projects in Oklahoma communities.

OWRB Programs

HYDROLOGIC INVESTIGATIONS

Oklahoma statutes direct the OWRB to conduct hydrologic investigations to determine the amount of fresh groundwater available for appropriation.



Staff hydrogeologists, modelers, engineering consultants, and federal agencies assist in characterizing hydrologic properties of aquifers such as recharge, effects of pumping, and water demand. The OWRB is statutorily required to conduct

surface water investigations to determine if water supply within a stream system can adequately meet beneficial use needs within the area of origin.

DAM SAFETY

The Oklahoma Dam Safety Act directs the OWRB to ensure the safety of more than 4,700 dams across the state.



OWRB staff maintain Oklahoma's portion of the National Inventory of Dams, oversee approval for construction or modification of structures, coordinate breach inundation mapping, inspect low hazard-potential dams, and provide public outreach and training.

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT



Through the Oklahoma Floodplain Management Act, the OWRB is directed to act as the National Flood Insurance Program coordinating agency. The agency assists communities in reducing costly flooding risks to life and property by updating flood maps through FEMA programs and

providing opportunities for training and accreditation of local floodplain administrators.

WELL DRILLER & PUMP INSTALLER LICENSING



Oklahoma statutes direct the OWRB to protect Oklahoma's groundwater by ensuring the integrity of water well construction through the licensing of well drillers and pump installers. The OWRB also assists drillers with required well log reporting.

INTERSTATE STREAM COMPACT COMMISSIONS

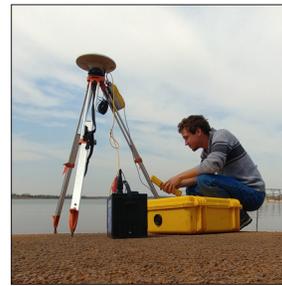
The OWRB represents Oklahoma's interests on four interstate stream compact commissions regarding surface waters that flow into or out of Oklahoma. The compacts



are written agreements with neighboring states that have been approved by the US Congress, enacted in Federal statutes, and enacted in the statutes of each state.

WATER RESOURCES MONITORING PROGRAM

The OWRB collects water quality and quantity data to determine trends and support water planning and management activities. Currently monitored sites include



81 lakes, 67 stream segments, and more than 1,000 groundwater wells across the state. Data collections are available online and utilized by businesses, academia, public entities, federal programs, and other state agencies.

COOPERATIVE STREAM GAGING PROGRAM



The OWRB partners with the US Geological Survey to manage Oklahoma's Cooperative Stream Gaging program, which provides data to meet compliance for interstate stream compact agreements and critical information for public water systems, flood and drought

planning, early warnings, and emergency operations.

LAKE STORAGE CAPACITY MAPPING

The OWRB cooperates with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality and water systems across the state to determine lake storage capacity through bathymetric

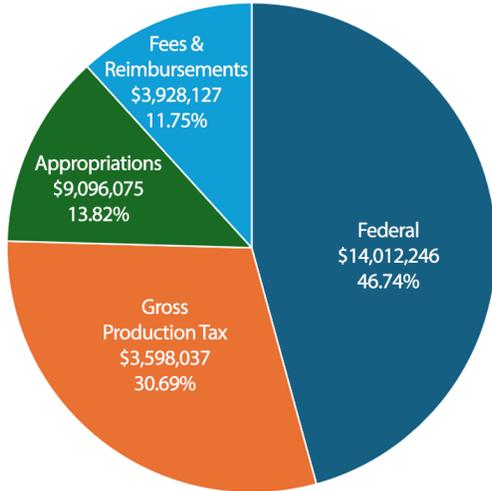


surveys. The surveys are utilized by state and federal agencies to determine TMDLs and for dam breach analyses. Surveys include lake yield, which is necessary for administering water rights. Researchers and fisheries managers rely on the maps as well.

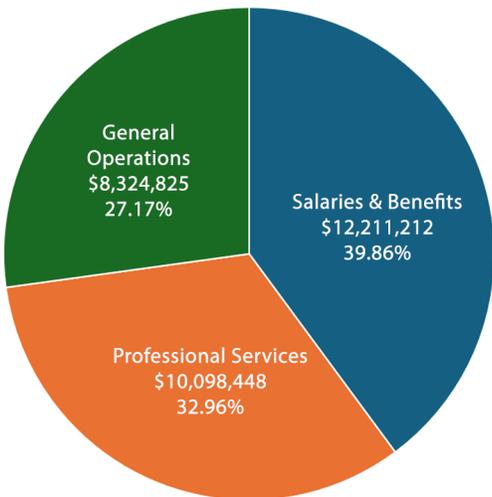
Fiscal Year 2026 Funding

The OWRB obtains funding from a variety of sources to meet statutory requirements and accomplish its mission of managing and monitoring the state's water resources and planning for water infrastructure needs for long-term water resiliency. Federal and local funding partnerships for state programs are leveraged to continue implementation of Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan recommendations.

FY2026 OWRB Operational Sources



FY2026 OWRB Budgeted Uses



OKLAHOMA COMPREHENSIVE WATER PLAN

Planning for Future Water Needs

Water is Oklahoma's most critical natural resource. It nourishes communities, fuels agriculture and industry, generates power, and sustains the natural systems that define the state's beautiful and diverse landscape. Reliable water supply is essential for the economic growth of the state and the safety of its citizens.

For decades, state leaders have recognized the opportunities offered by Oklahoma's valuable water resources, pairing sensible management and forward-looking investment with comprehensive planning, dam and levee construction, development of the state's navigation system, water system financing, and monitoring of rivers, lakes, and groundwater. These actions ensure sustained certainty for investment, economic growth, and environmental stability.

The Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan (OCWP) outlines the state's strategy for maintaining reliable water supplies. It identifies long-term needs by region, assesses potential challenges, highlights opportunities, and proposes strategies and sustained funding to develop key water resources that support Oklahoma's competitiveness in the national market.

The 2025 OCWP update has been created through extensive data collection, technical evaluations, stakeholder engagement, and policy development. This comprehensive approach ensures the plan is grounded in science, informed by real-world needs, and responsive to emerging water challenges.

Meeting future water needs will require collaboration, innovation, and shared commitment. By strengthening partnerships among state and local governments, community leaders, tribes, industries, and citizens, we can protect our investments from droughts, floods, and other water-related risks. Coordinated efforts will also support economic development, attract outside investment, increase Oklahoma's competitiveness, ensure reliable services for residents, and maintain healthy ecosystems across the state. With sustained commitment and proactive planning, we can secure a water future that ensures Oklahoma has the resources it needs to grow and thrive.



OKLAHOMA
Water Resources Board

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With passage of the Water for 2060 Act in 2012, Oklahoma established a statewide goal of consuming no more fresh water in 2060 than was consumed in 2010. Recommendations by the resulting Water for 2060 Advisory Council are being implemented around the state, including the annual Water for 2060 Excellence Awards, now in their eighth year.

