

Water and RDOs: Opportunities and Obstacles



October 16, 2012

*National Association of Development Organizations
Annual Training Conference
Mirage Hotel - Las Vegas, NV*



Presented by:

Tye Parsons, Executive Director
Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments
Maryville, Missouri

About NWMORCOG

MISSOURI'S 19 REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSIONS

NORTHWEST MISSOURI REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



- 19 Regional Planning Commissions

- Our Commission Serves:

- Five Counties
- 40 Cities
- 42, 876 People

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION /
REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

RPC Office

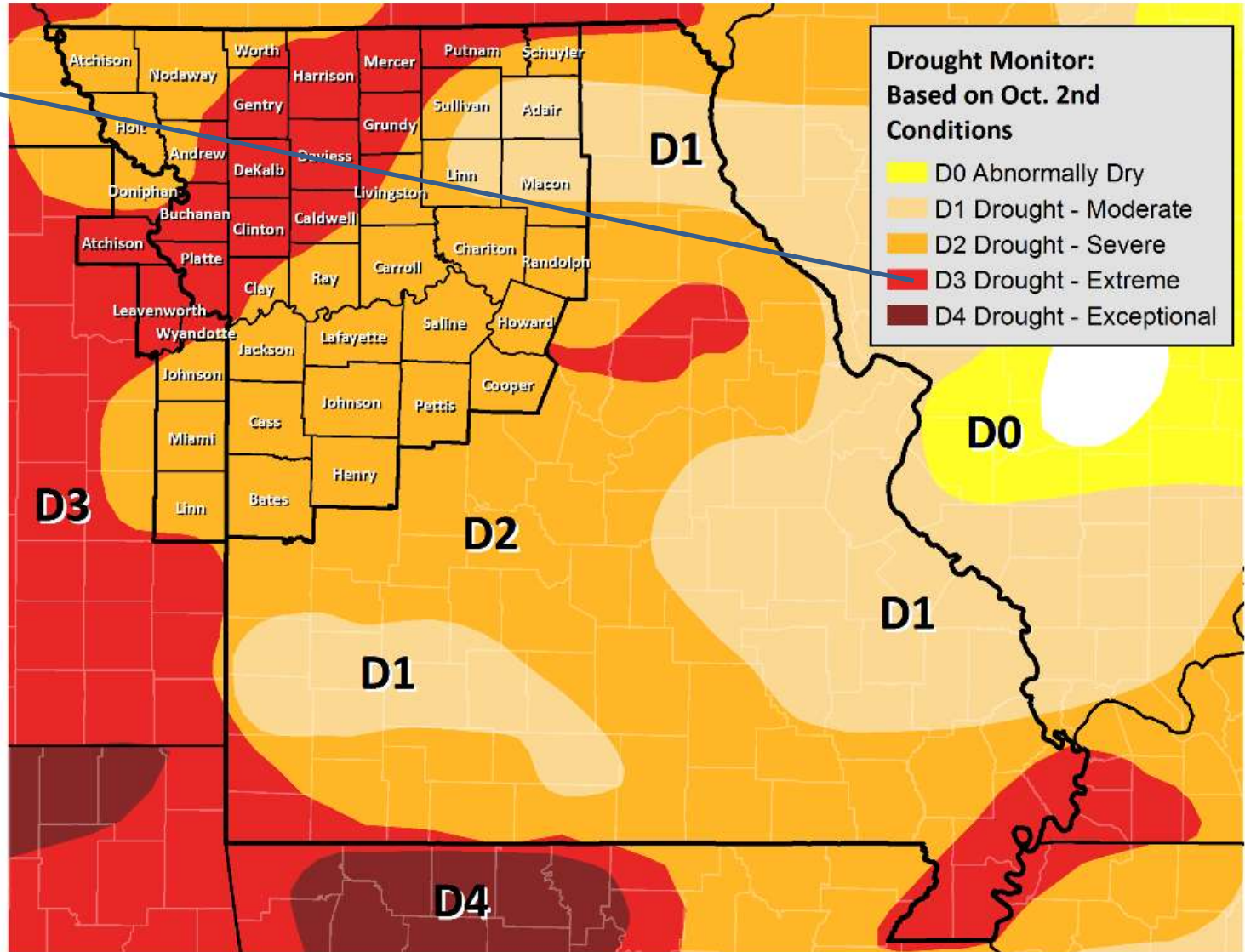
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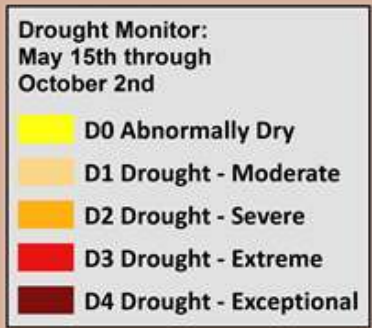
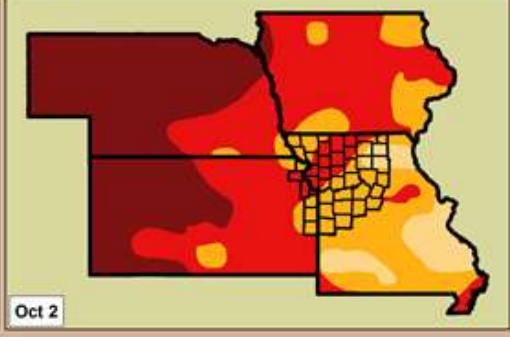
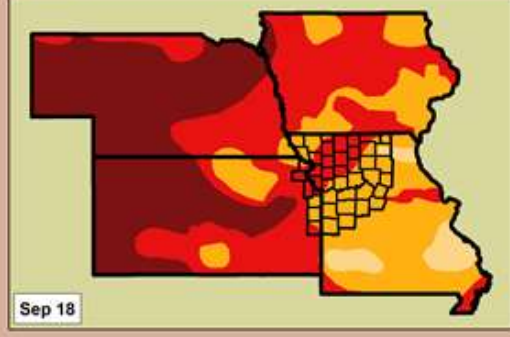
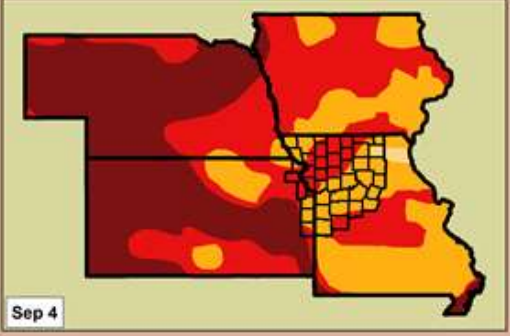
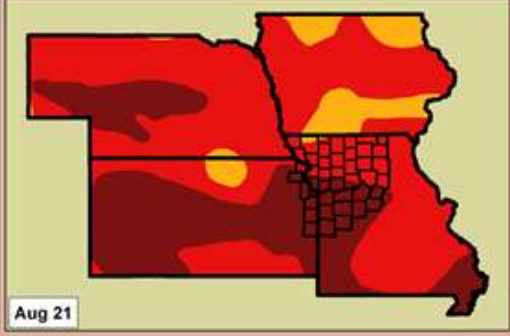
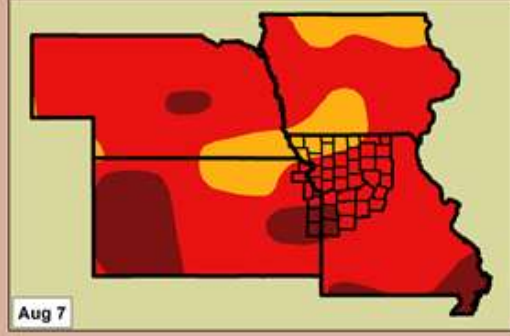
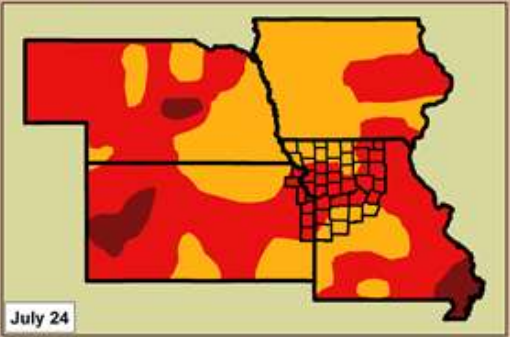
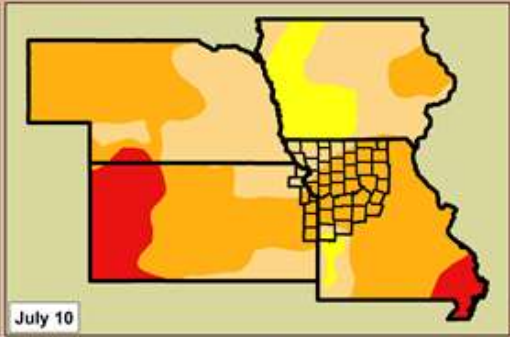
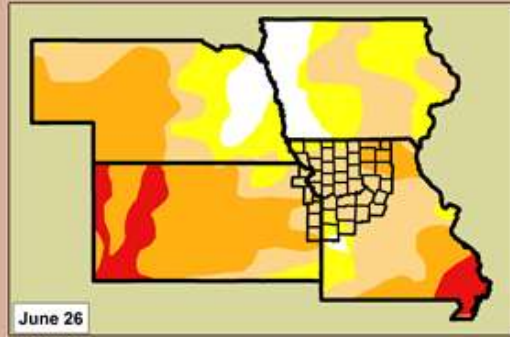
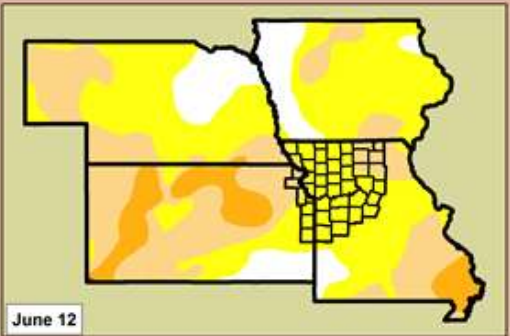
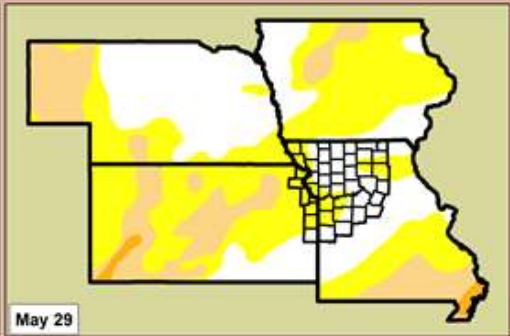
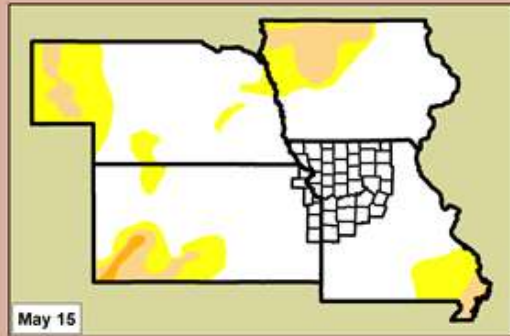


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2012 Drought

Extreme Drought (D3) - Major crop/pasture losses; extreme fire danger; widespread water shortages or restrictions.





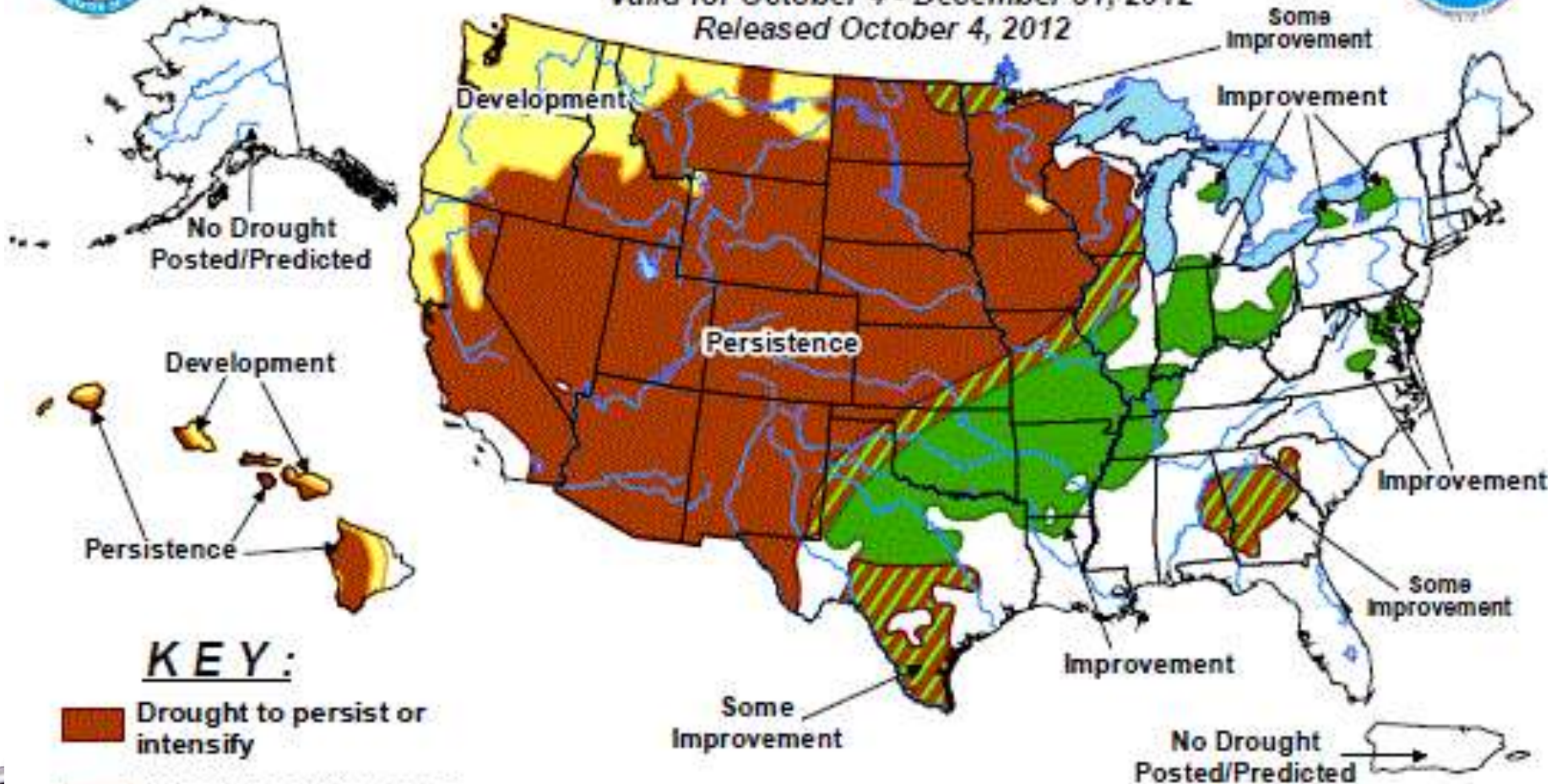


U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for October 4 - December 31, 2012

Released October 4, 2012



KEY:

-  Drought to persist or intensify
-  Drought ongoing, some improvement
-  Drought likely to improve, impacts ease
-  Drought development likely

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events – such as individual storms – cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications – such as crops – that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity). For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought elimination.

Impacts

- **Agricultural**

- Significant Crop Damage
- Inflated Cost of Inputs (energy, feedstock)
- Decreased Herd Sizes

- **Drinking Water**

- Drought is one factor (also aging infrastructure, shrinking tax base, increasing regulations)



Impacts

- Starting to see stress on small public water systems
- Some municipalities that rely on shallow groundwater wells are reporting critical well-depths
- Increasing number of assistance requests



Strategy – Short Term

- **Interconnections with nearby water systems**
 - Primarily Public Water Supply Districts
 - Well digging can be unreliable; new catchment reservoirs are time-intensive
- **Seek public funding assistance**
 - Community Development Block Grant
 - USDA-Rural Development
 - State Revolving Loan Fund



Strategy – Long Term

- **Regionalization is KEY**
 - Small communities (especially in rural areas) can benefit from Economy of Scale
- **Many funding agencies encouraging some form of regionalization if possible**
 - Shrinking federal dollars warrant will require creative solutions to water issues



Great Northwest Wholesale Water Commission

- In 2005, regional leaders named water supply as one of the top economic development and sustainability concerns for Northwest Missouri
- This led to the formation of:



Great Northwest Wholesale Water Commission

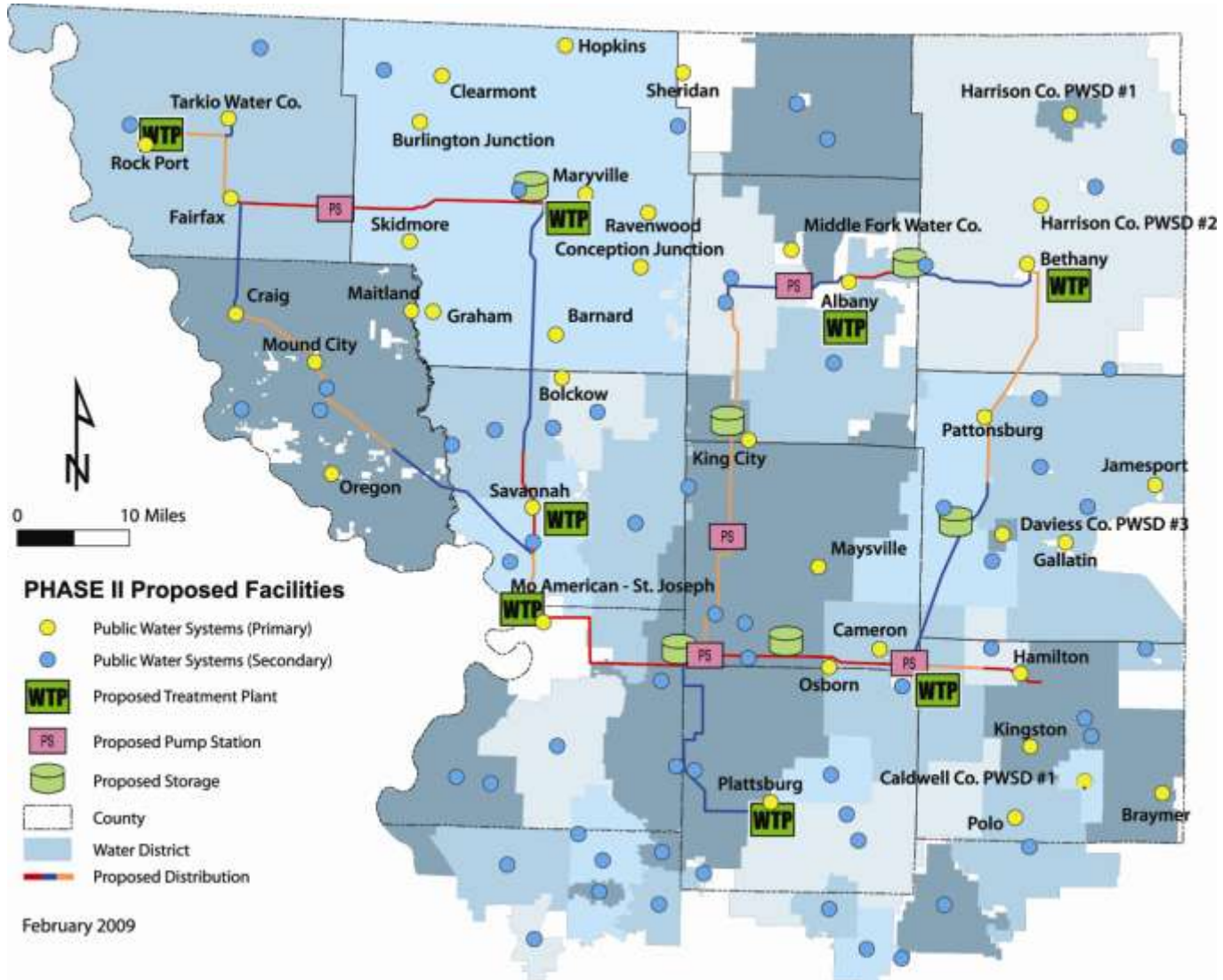
- Grassroots effort of many partners to plan for the water future of northwest Missouri
 - 12 Counties
 - MDNR
 - Three Missouri RPCs
 - EPA
 - USDA
 - Engineering Firms
 - NWMSU
 - University Extension
 - U.S. Corps of Engineers
 - MRWA
 - Private Water Systems

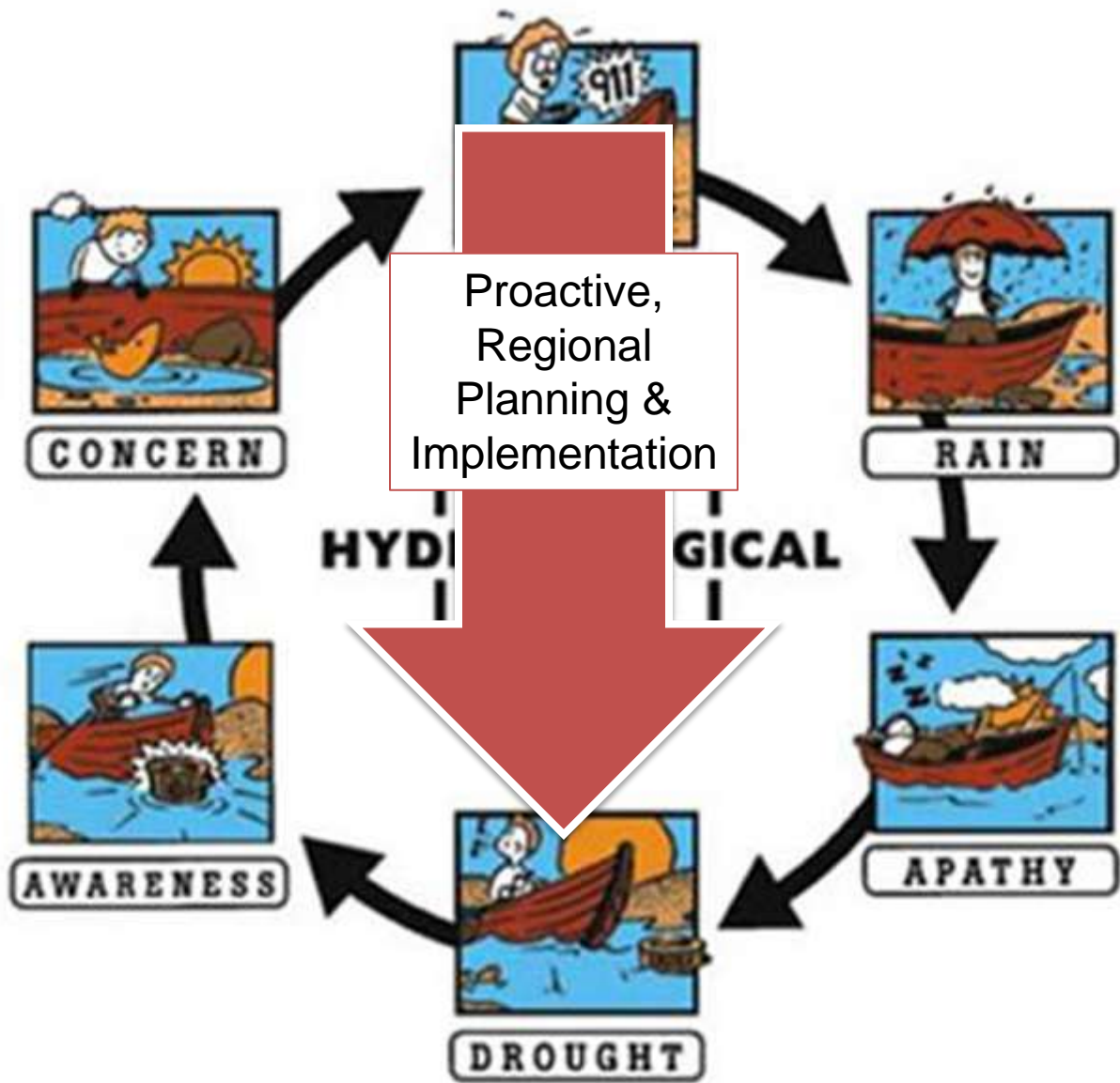


GREAT NORTHWEST WHOLESALE WATER COMMISSION

The great grid to the future.

The ultimate mission of the GNWWC is to safeguard the ability of every water producer in northwest Missouri to provide abundant drinking water to its citizens





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