

4-State Water Forum Oklahoma Water Issues

M. D. Smolen
Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering
Oklahoma State University

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What we mean by water issues

www.zdsoft.com

Water to spare

The Tarrant Regional Water District
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intro presentation contact

Tarrant County Texas wants to buy Oklahoma's excess water. This video explains that Oklahoma has lots of wasted water.

Water issues

- Safe water for you and your family
- Protection and utilization of water resources
- Water supply – enough water to allow development and growth
- Water for agriculture
- Water for energy
- Water for industry

Water issues

- Water quality – standards, implementation, enforcement
- Water rights – who owns the water
- Water distribution
- Surface water-ground water interaction
- Drought response (planning)
- Weather impact, response

Water Issues

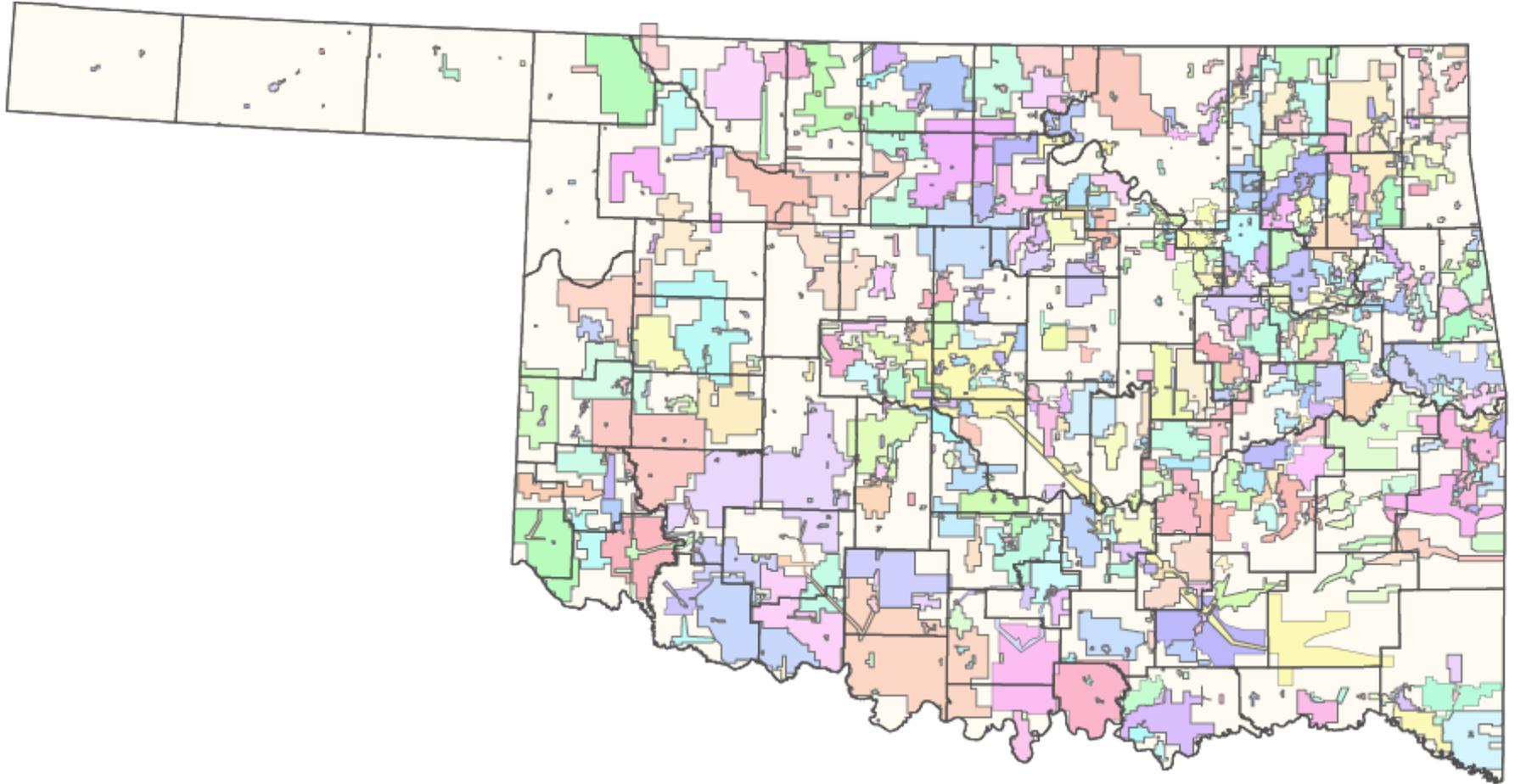
- Water Conservation
- The cost of water
- Irrigation water management
- Sale of water/water rights
- Sale of water out of state
- Indian water claims – riparian rights

Water Concerns

- Not enough water in urban areas
- Drought (future impact)
- Floods
- Floodplain management (rules)
- Sales of water



750 Rural Water Systems



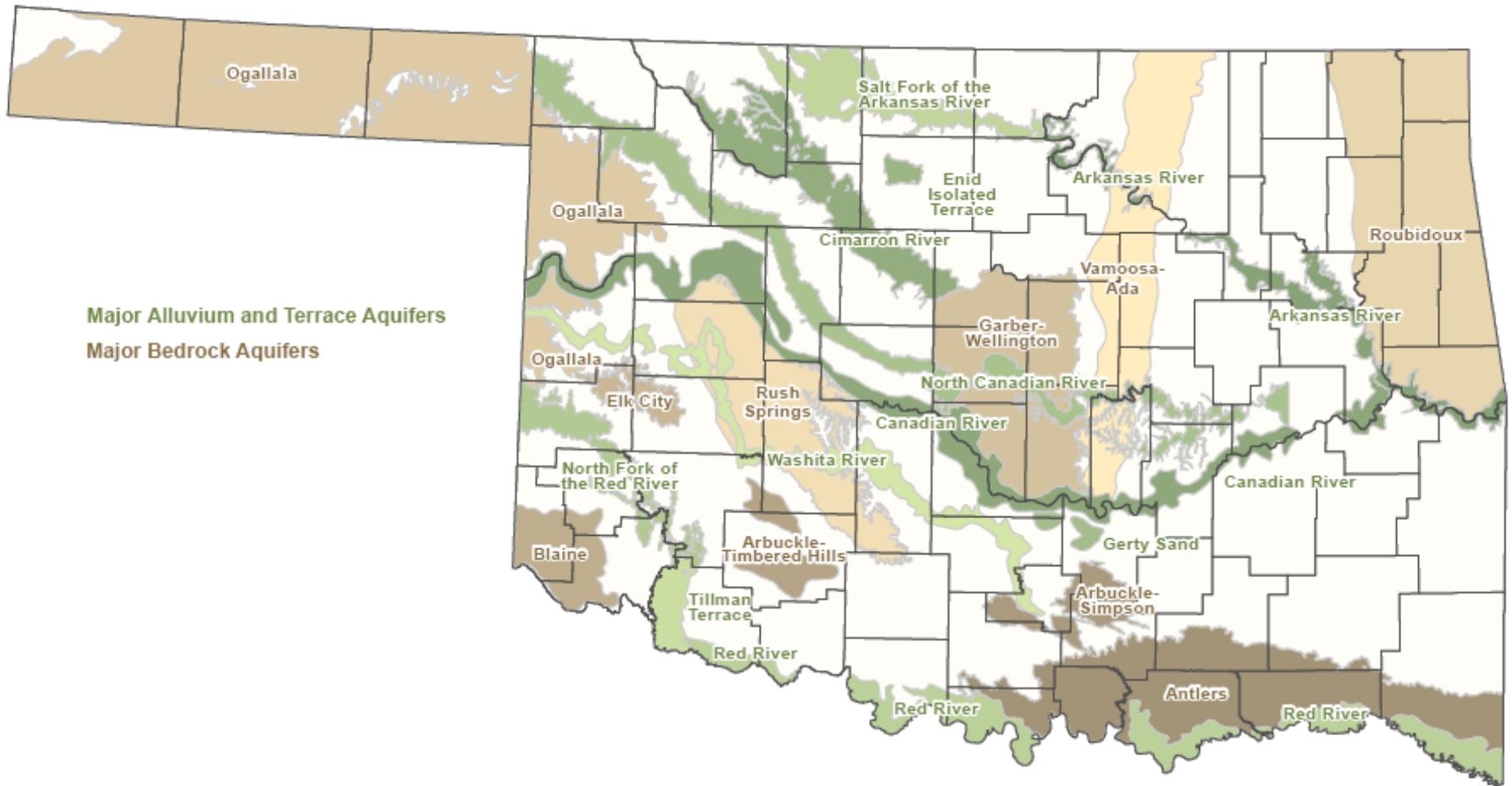
Rural Water Systems of the state

- More than 750 water systems
- Can they support the safety rules imposed by the *Safe Drinking Water Act*?
- Do they serve all who need their service?
- Are they safe?
- Is the cost too high?
- Are there alternatives?

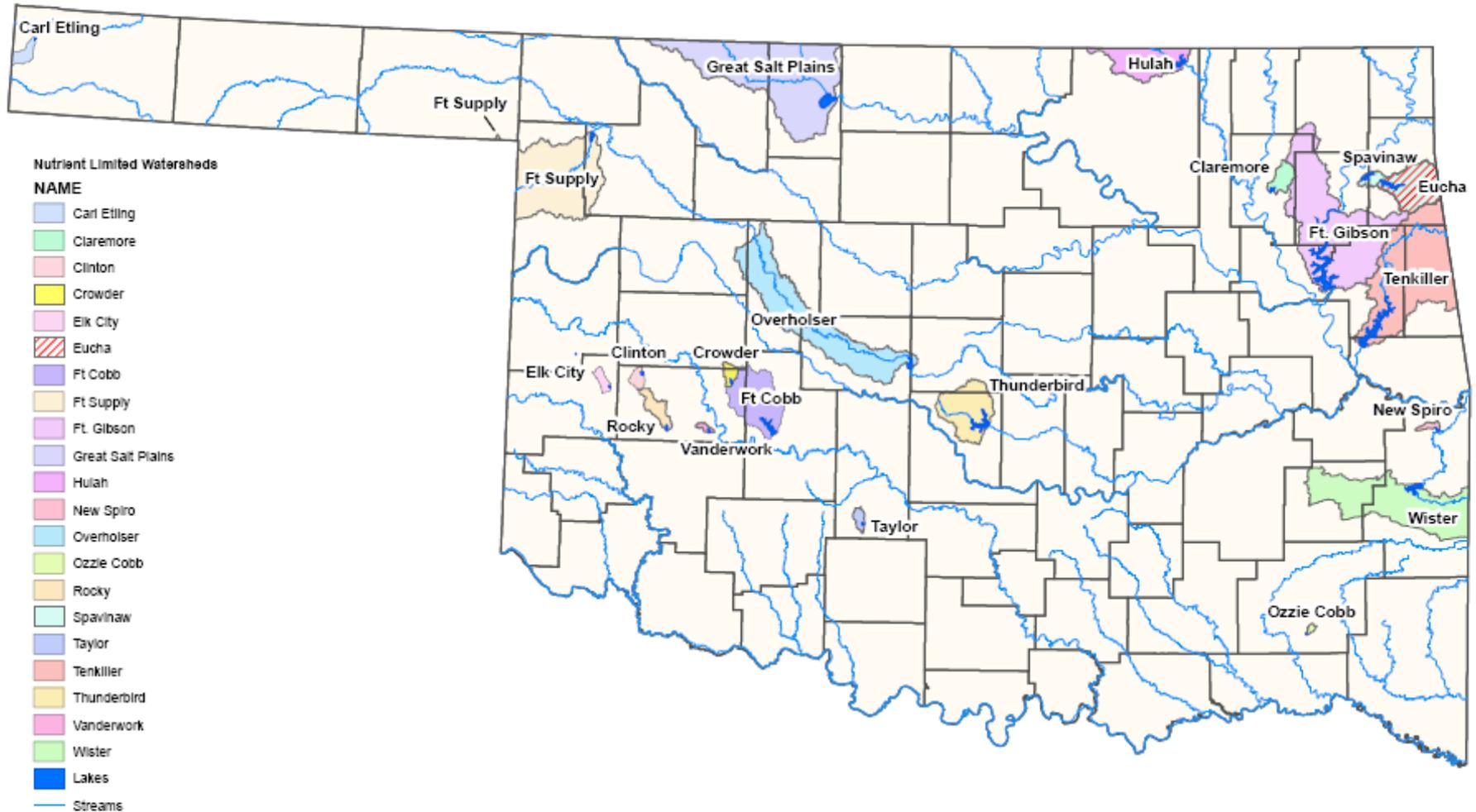
Other Concerns

- Financing for Water Development
- What is the “safe yield” from the state’s aquifers?
- Water for ethanol production
- Nutrient Limited Watersheds

Major Groundwater Aquifers of Oklahoma



Nutrient Limited Watershed



This map is provided as a convenience to illustrate the Nutrient Limited Watersheds as described by state law effective July 1st, 2006. The authoritative designations are codified in the OWRB's rules maintained by the Oklahoma Secretary of State in Oklahoma Administrative Code Title 785, Chapter 45, Appendix A.

Effective: 07/2006



Policy Issues

- Conjunctive use (ground water withdrawal can reduce streamflow) – high plains example
- Sustainable water yield vs. Water mining
- Private ownership vs. Public ownership