## Wichita County LEMA Annual review for 2022

Presented at GMD 1's 2023 Annual meeting

## Background

- The Wichita County LEMA was implemented for the years 2021-25.
- The LEMA Plan requires annual reviews to evaluate how the LEMA is performing.
- The 2022 annual review was completed, evaluating 2021 water use.
- The Wichita County Water Conservation Area (WCA), a voluntary program began in 2017, was also evaluated as it contributed to the County's overall reduction in wateruse.


## Wichita County WCA performance

- There are 25 active WCA consent agreements covering 11,391 acres.
- The consent agreements commit participants to a $29 \%$ reduction in wateruse.
- For 2017-2021, the average wateruse for participants was $65.5 \%$ of their WCA allocations.
- The WCA anticipated savings by participants of 2665 acre-feet/year. Actual savings has averaged 4773 acre-feet/year.

Wichita County Use vs. Four County Use


2009201020112012201320142015201620172018201920202021

- Wichita County’s 2021 wateruse was 69\% of the average allowed under the LEMA
- As compared to the wateruse in the Four Counties (orange), Wichita County's use (blue) since 2017, shows a significant reduction.

- The KGS found that wateruse during 20182021, under the WCA and LEMA, was substantially lower than previously within similar ranges of precipitation, evidencing changing irrigation management.
- The reduced wateruse has led to reductions in water level declines, from an average of -0.54 ft per year from 2010 to 2017, to an average of -0.09 ft per year from 2018 to 2021."
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