

## RESULTS OF SURVEY AND COMMENTS

1. Are you aware of the Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan and the recommendations to the Oklahoma Water Resources Board?

Yes	70%
No	15%
No response	15%

2. The OCWP created 82 geographical Water Basins. Do you know the Basin number that contains your water resources?

Yes	37.5%
No	47.5%
No response	6%

3. If you know the Water Basin number, do you know how to find the “Gap” between water supply and demand?

Yes	32.5%
No	45%
No response	22.5%

4. Each Basin contains communities who, in the future will be collaborating with or competing with each other for water in the Basin. Do you know which communities are in your Basin?

Yes	61.3%
No	38.7%

5. Recently, the Chickasaw Nation has been running television ads that make it clear that the Chickasaw Nation never gave up its rights to water in the Nation. Do you agree with this position?

Yes	47.5%
No	42.5%
No response	20%

6. “Instream flow” or “Base flow” is the minimum amount of water that must remain in a stream or river to maintain the ecosystem of that stream or river. Should the instream flow be established by the State, Region or left alone?

State	35%
Region	32.5%
Left alone	20%

7. Dealing with questions of Native American water rights and instream flow have been identified as the two most difficult issues facing policy makers. Do you agree?

Agree	70.5%
Don't agree	11%

Some responses:

- “The state Indian population is part to the overall population of Oklahoma, thus it is best for all to be considered, not just a few or an independent nation on any waters that are in the state.”
- “Not sure that stream flow would be as difficult as determining water rights of the tribes. Tribal rights should be addressed before any other substantive issues can be tackled.”
- “Only a negotiator appointed by the Governor who is non-political can work with the tribes if they could come to an agreement. This does have to be done.”
- “State and Regions must work together to establish the amount of base stream flow.”
- “How can we continue to cheat our fellow citizens of their birthrights? Treat the tribes well.”
- “Water rights should be for the good of the whole. The Native Americans should not hold precedence over other Oklahomans.”
- “Assertion of tribal claims to water in Oklahoma is different than anywhere else in the United States. In the arid southwest, tribal claims to water are managed from the standpoint of scarcity. In Oklahoma, tribal claims will be managed from the standpoint of abundant water resources.”

8. Do you think the cost of infrastructure for drinking water (\$37 billion - \$87 or \$87 billion) in the next fifty years is realistic?

Yes 60%

No 15%

Other and comments

- “I think the figures are yet to be determined and that the figures in the newspapers are guesstimates.”
- “U S or Oklahoma?”
- “Currently the public is purchasing bottled water at prices that are over \$200 per 42 gallon barrel that crude oil is measured and complaining about \$100 barrel oil – go figure!”
- “It is what it should cost but I don’t believe the money will be there when it is needed. We have yet to acknowledge or determine the true value of water.”

9. Which do you believe can better implement the OCWP. The State or the Regions?

State 36.3%

Regions 63.7%

10. Surface water law and ground water law are disjunctive and incompatible in application. Should these laws be left alone or should there be legislation to make to make to laws compatible

Change the laws to make them compatible 50%

Leave the laws alone 27.5%

No response 22.5%

11. Do you think a long term drought is beginning?

Yes 50%  
No 27.5%  
No response 22.5%

12. Do you know the numbers of the 12 basins in Southwest and Northwest Oklahoma that will have no permittable surface water by 2020?

Yes 27.5%  
No 52.5%  
No response 20

13. Do you know how to find out if you live in one of those basins?

Yes 57.4  
No 27.5  
No response 15

14. What is the cause of the blue-green algae in the Eastern Oklahoma Lakes?

Non-point pollution and septic tanks 11%  
Poultry litter run-off 32.5%  
Natural causes from heavy rains, early warm weather  
and calm winds that allowed the blue green algae to  
eat more nutrients than the green algae 55.5%

15. Do you think water will be “The defining resource of the 21<sup>st</sup> century” or just an undervalued commodity?

The defining resource 70%  
Undervalued commodity 15%  
No response

16. Is our water safe from terrorists?

Yes 22%  
No 60%  
No response 17.5%

17. Did you attend any of the Regional Water Planning meetings held by OWRB to Discuss Regional Water Planning Reports?

Yes 61.7  
No 26.4  
Did not know there was one 11%

18. Do you think Regional Committees of Boards should be advisory or should they have governing powers within each region to implement recommendations of the OCWP?

Advisory only 50%

Full governing powers within 25%  
state laws

Other - see response 5%

No response 20%

- “A combination of the two would be ideal. Guidance and funding should come from the state level with implementation of programs and development of infrastructure left to the regions.”