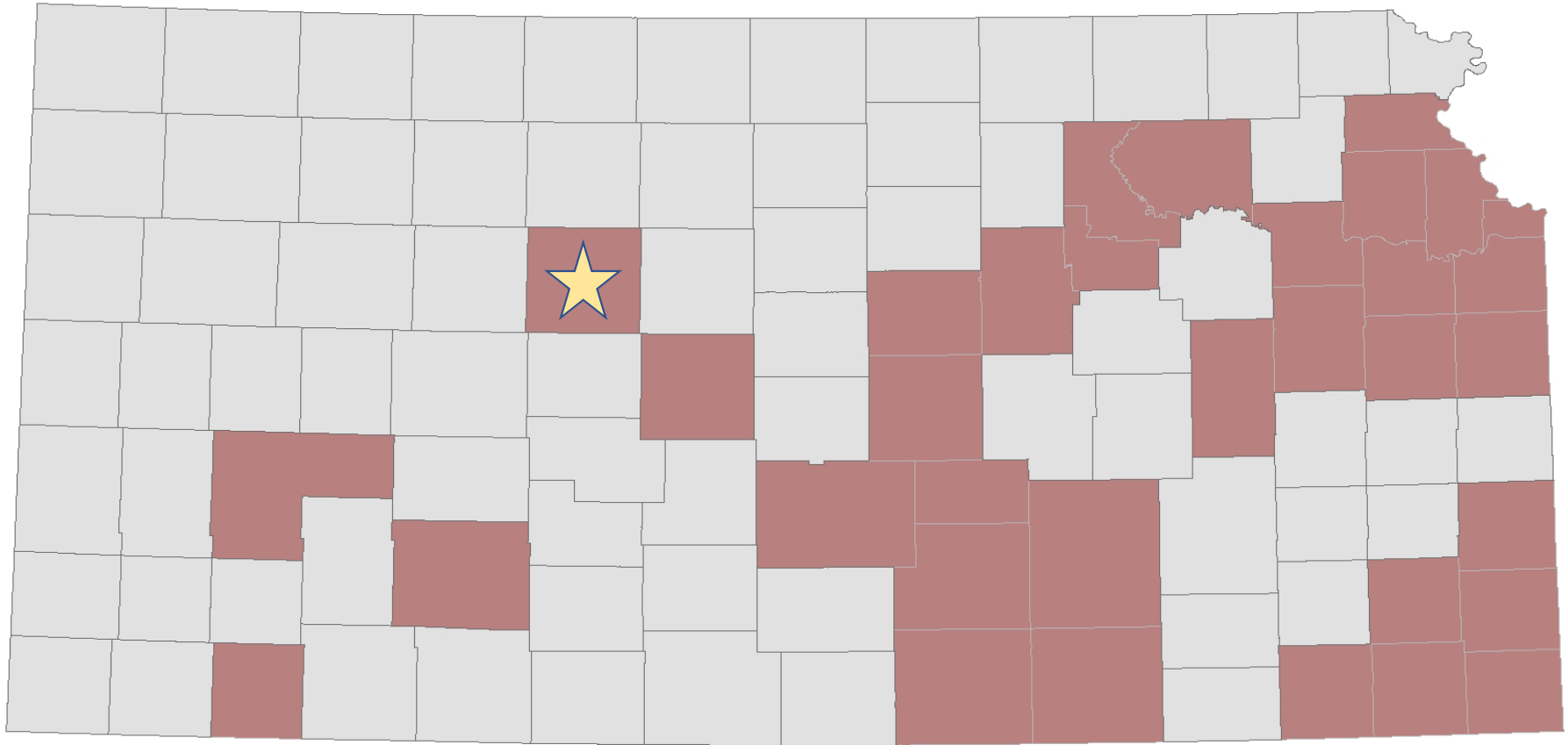
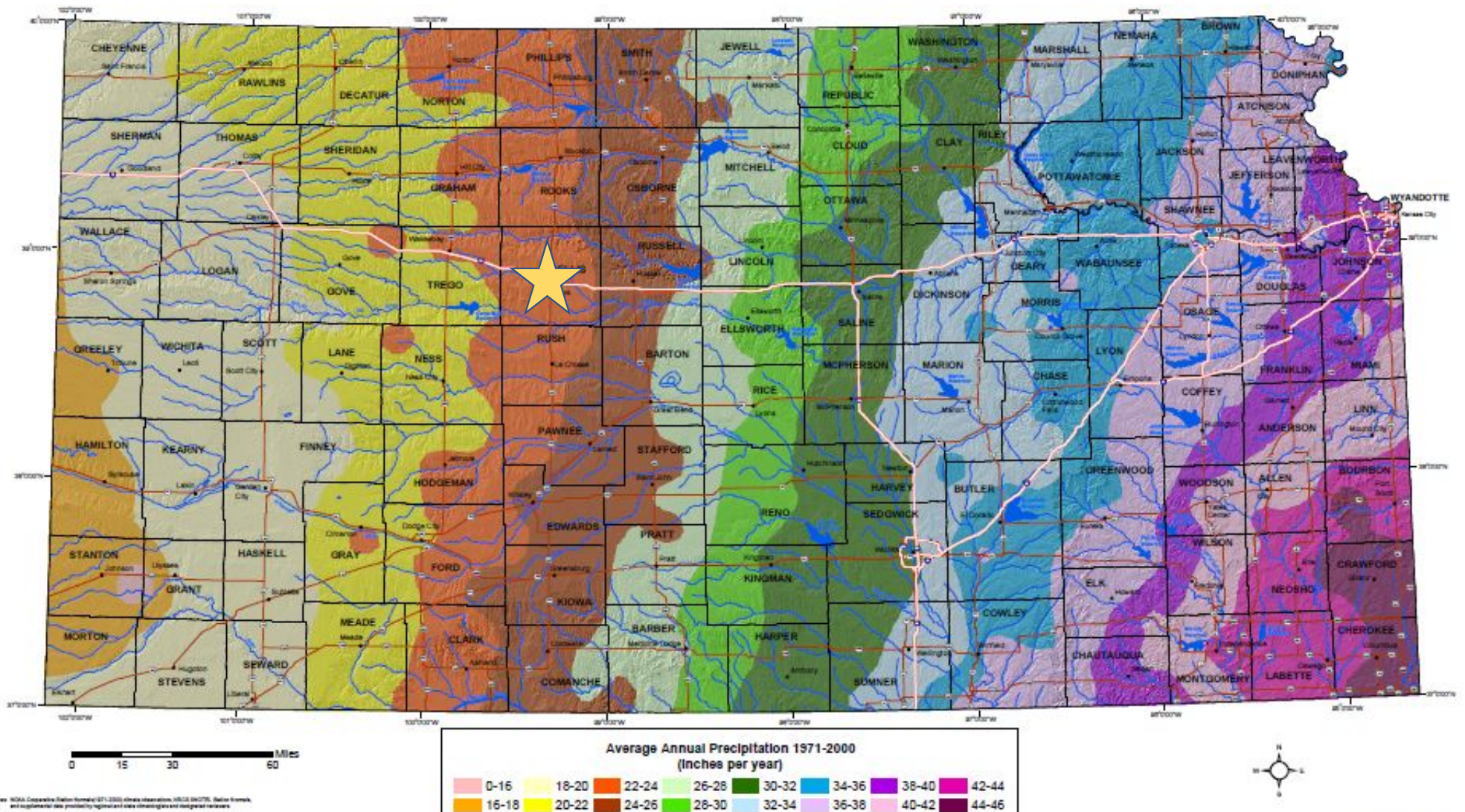
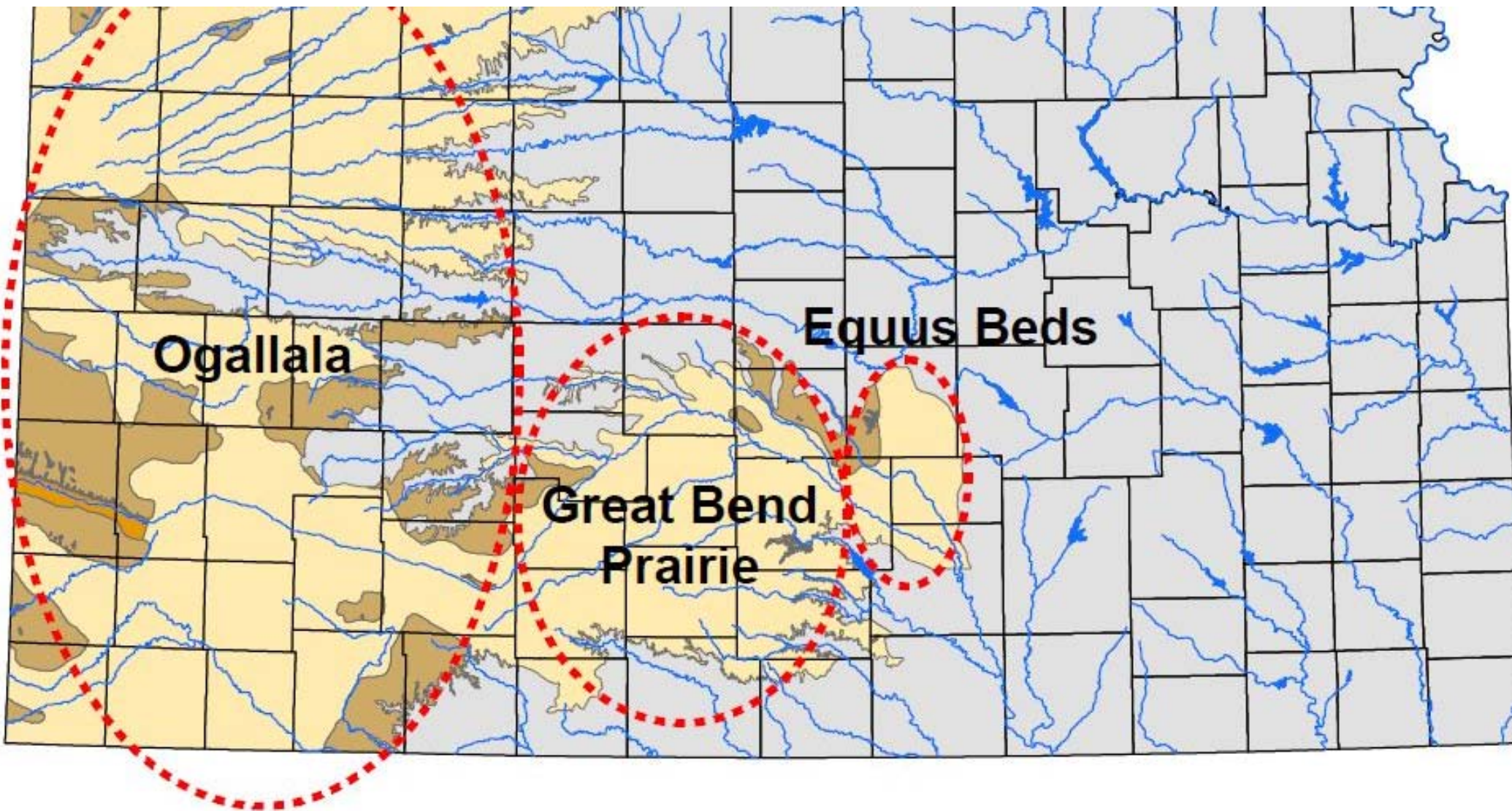


Why is Hays Unique?



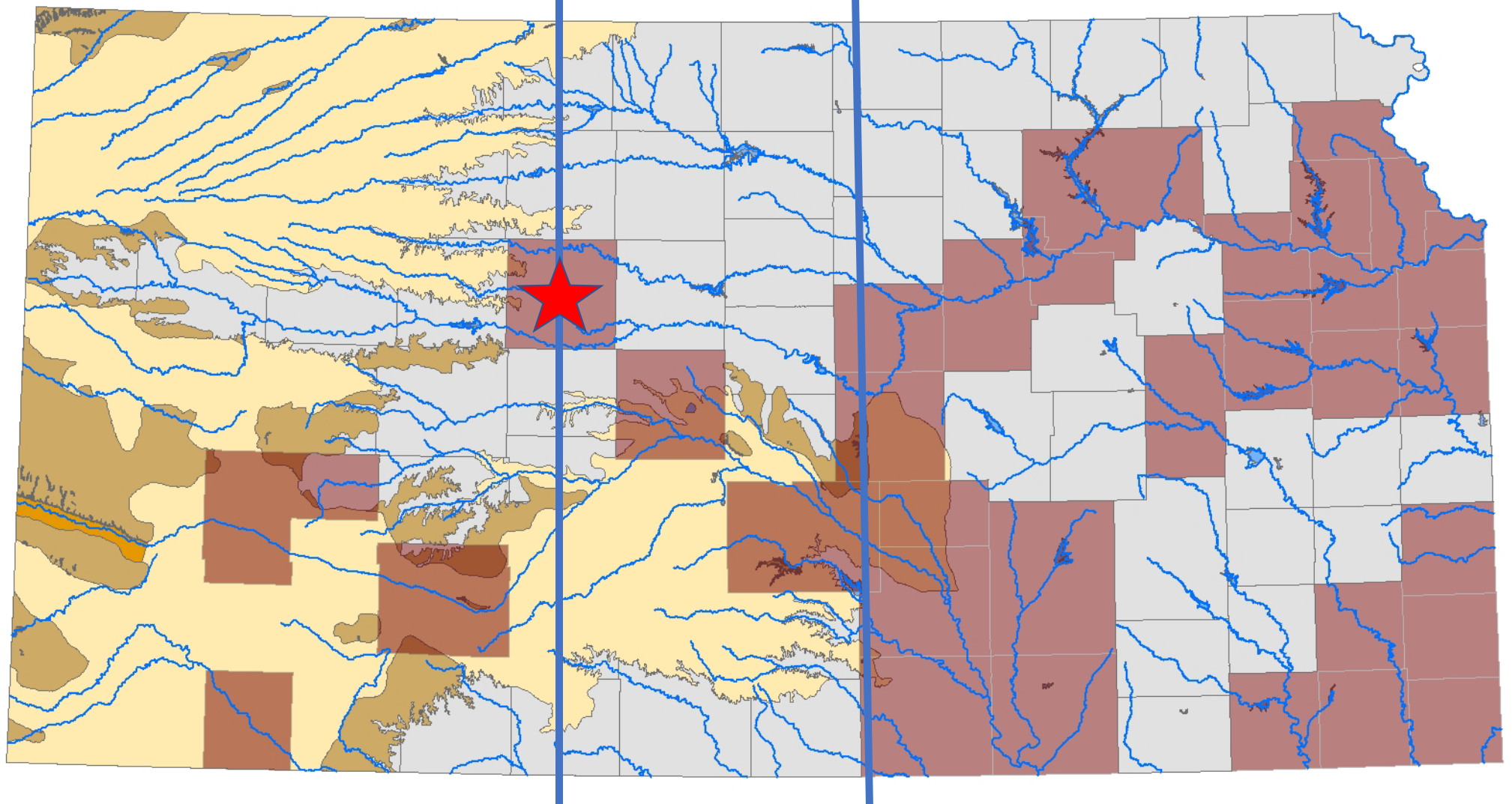
ANNUAL PRECIPITATION



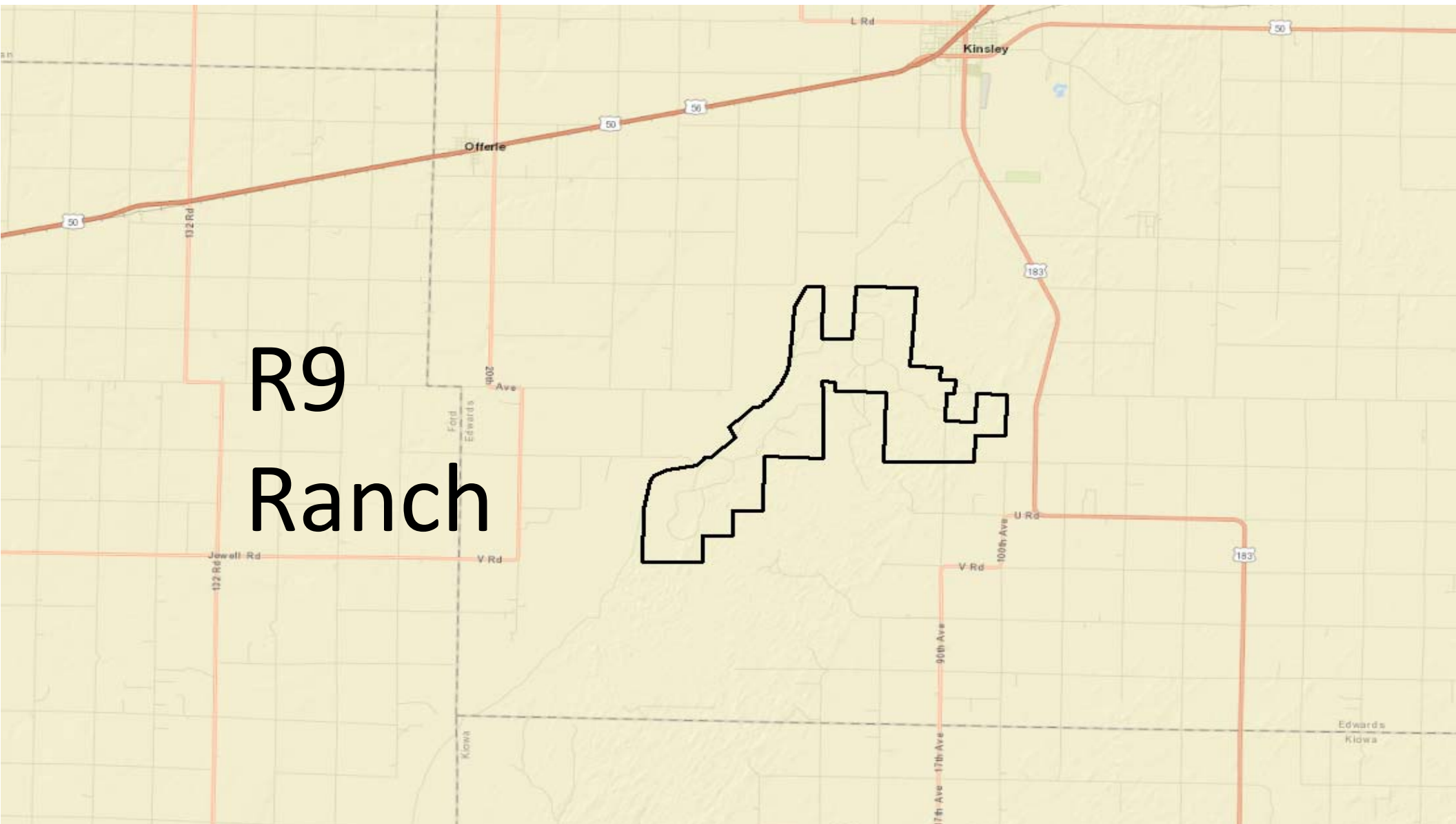


22

30



R9 Ranch

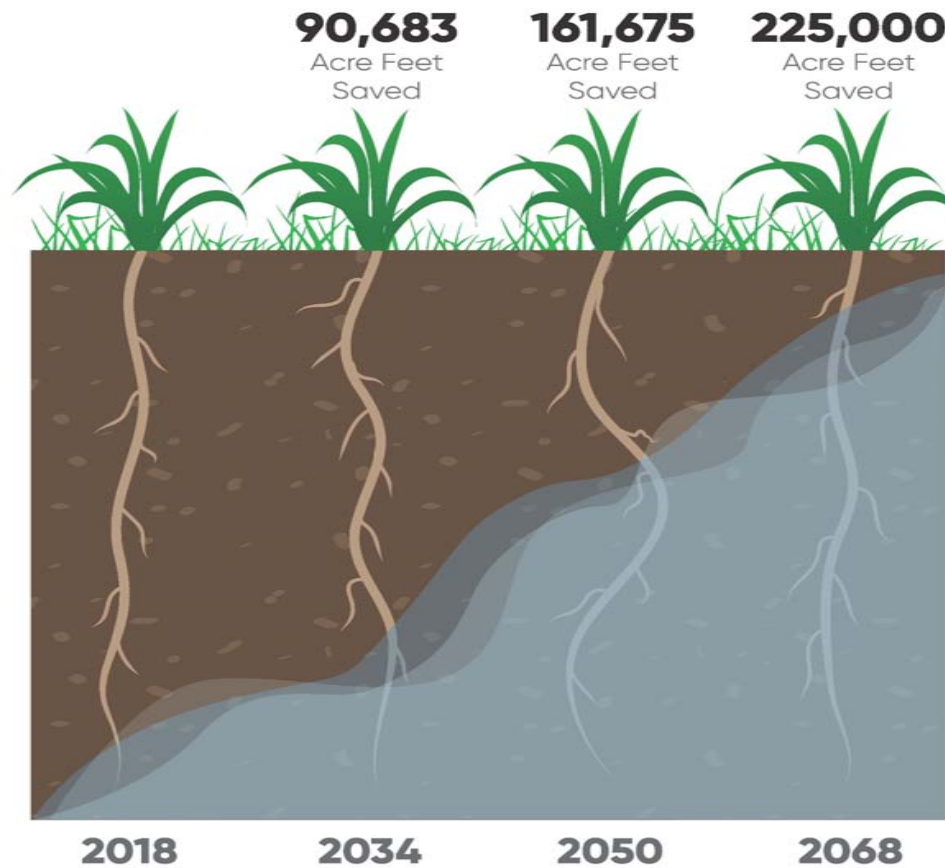


R9 development - Two part process

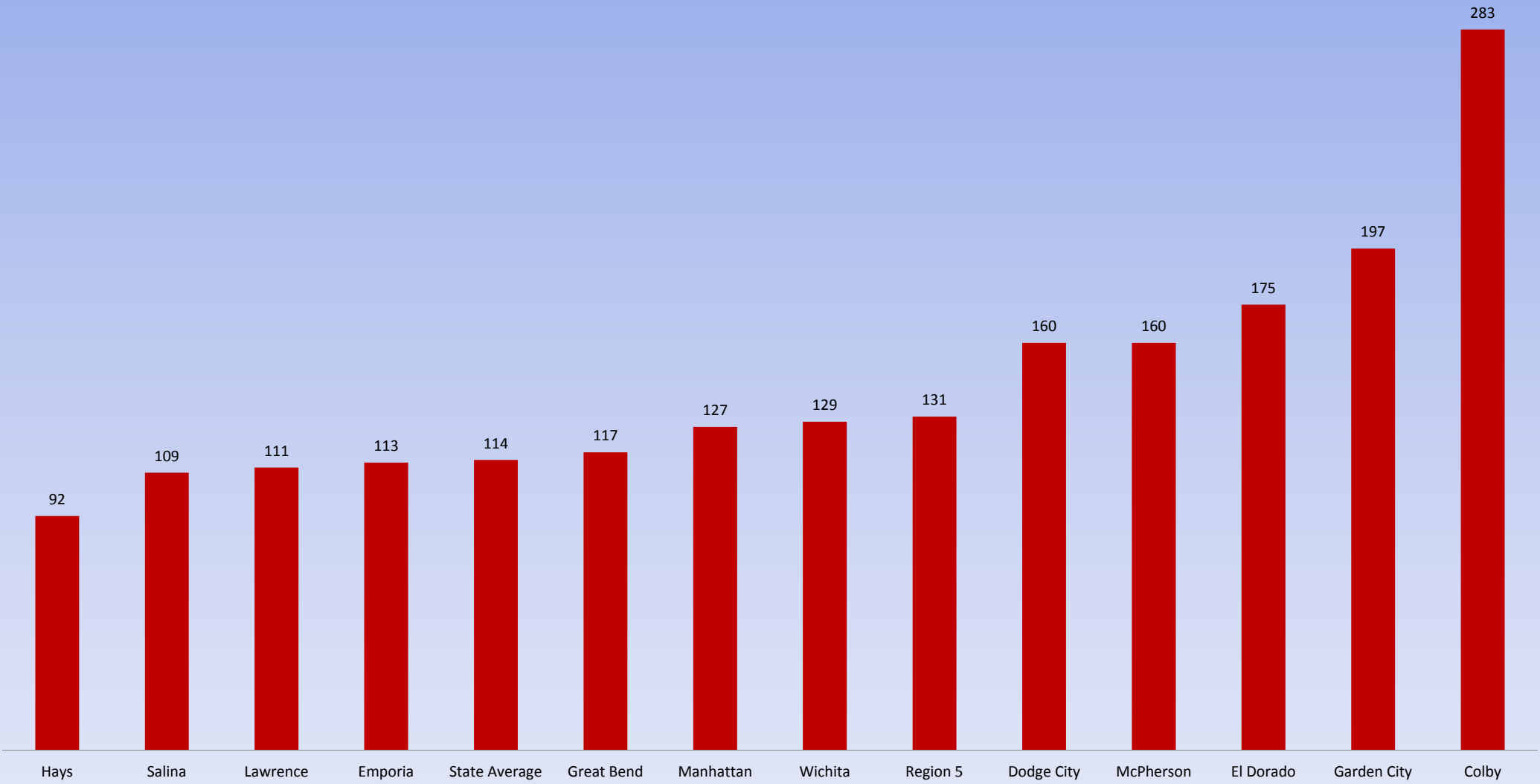
- Change application process (DWR)
 - Change application filed June 2015
 - Process nearing completion
- Water Transfer Act – K.S.A. 82a-1501, *et seq*
 - Slated to begin this fall
 - Three person panel and appointed hearing officer

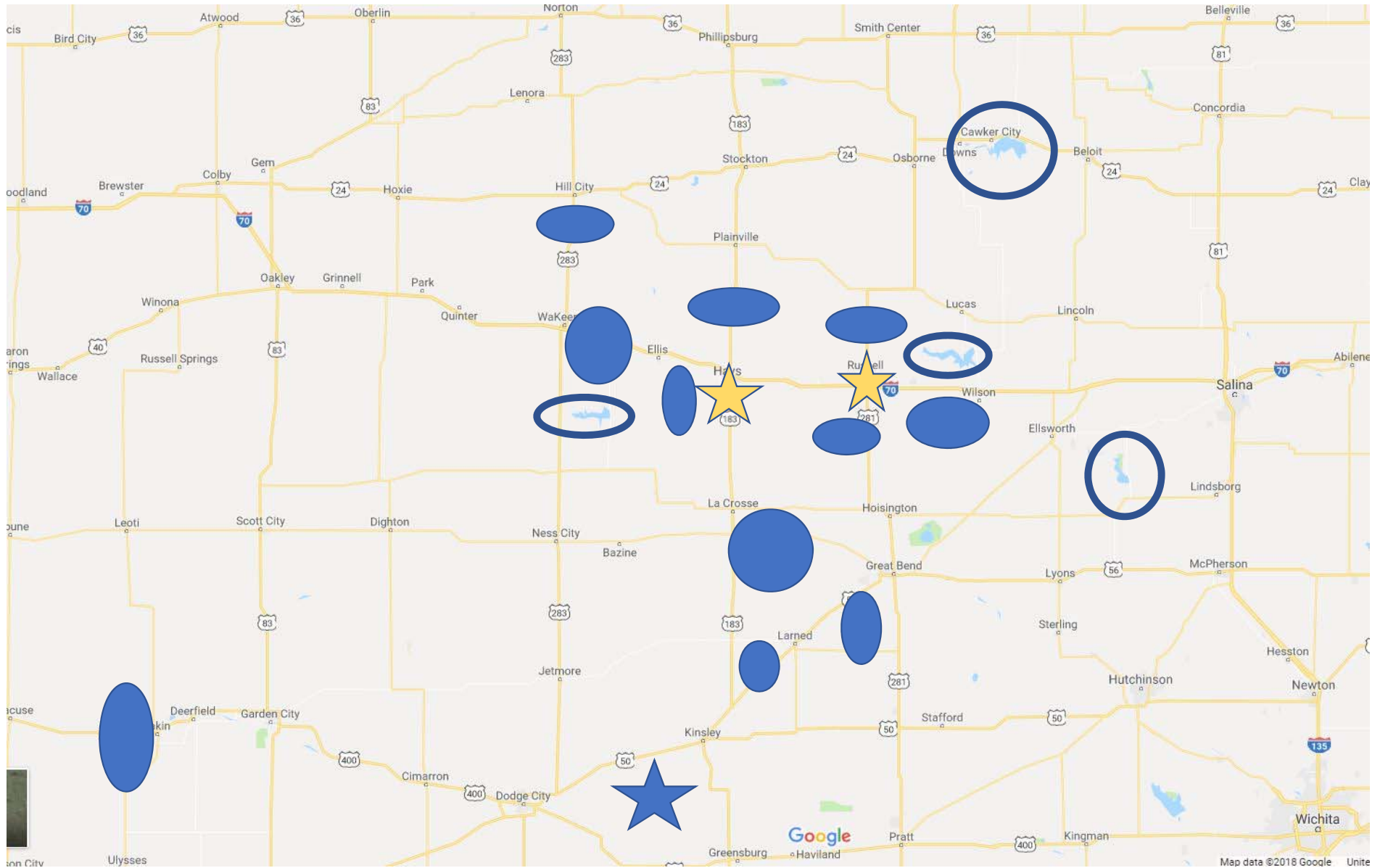
Aquifer Benefit

Converting the R9 Ranch from irrigated farmland to native grass, **a natural wildlife habitat**, will benefit the aquifer by **225,000** acre feet of water over the next 50 years.

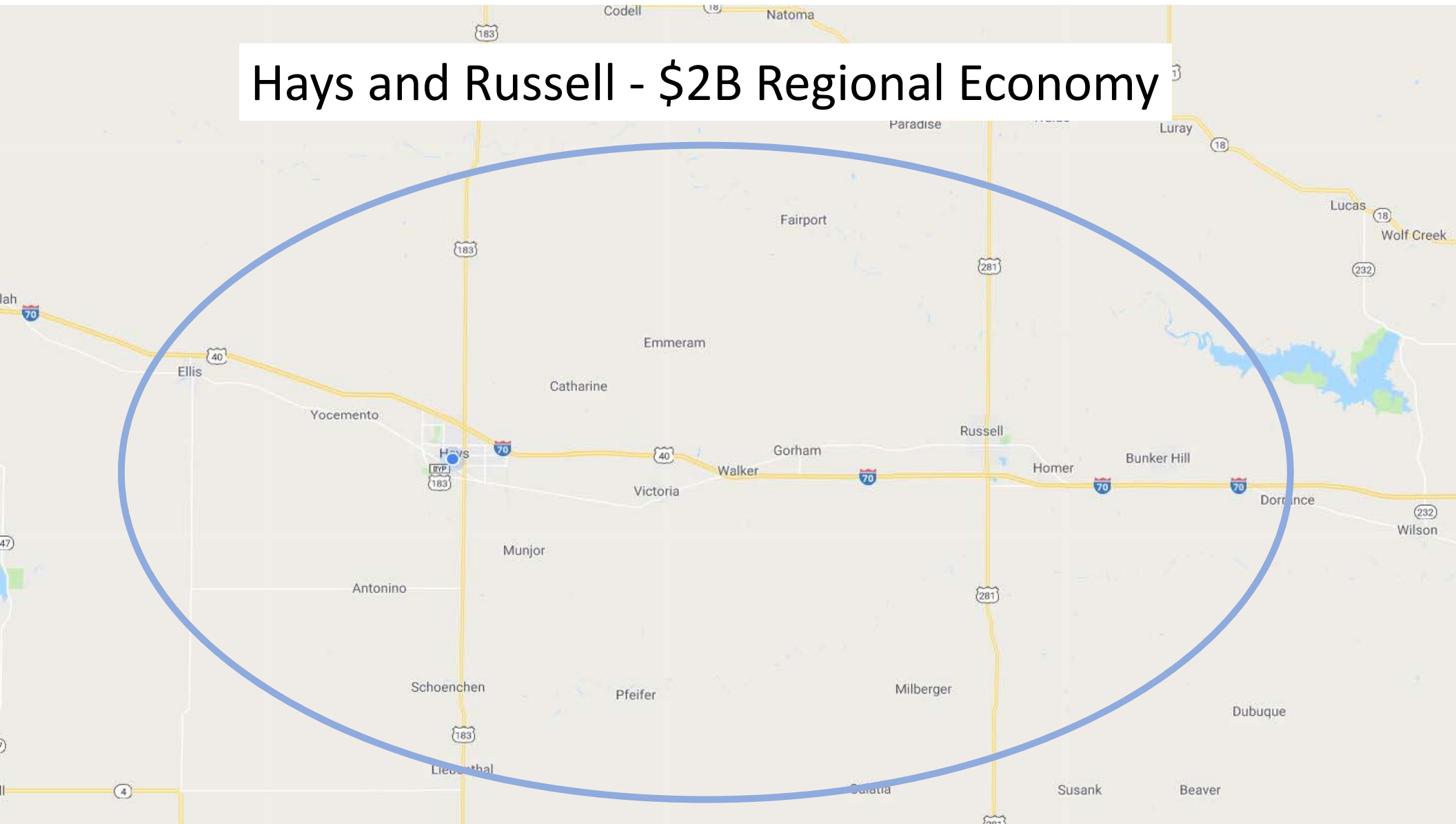


2011-2015 GPCD





Hays and Russell - \$2B Regional Economy



What is not happening

- Not developing new water rights
- Not taking someone else's water rights
- Not impairing existing water rights
- Not depleting the aquifer
- Not being treated like everyone else
 - Legally agreeing to limit usage to sustainable yield.
 - An extraordinary deviation from the norm.

K.S.A. 82a-708b

- Statute related to changing an existing water right
- Any owner of a water right may change:
 - Place of Use
 - Point of Diversion
 - Use made of water

K.S.A. 82a-708b

- Priority is not lost provided:
 - Application is made by the owner
 - Applicant demonstrates the proposed change is:
 - Reasonable
 - Will not impair
 - Relates to the same local source of supply

Hays-Russell/R9

- 29 applications have been filed to change:
 - Point of Diversion
 - Place of Use
 - Use Made of Water
- These are treated like any other change application

Hays-Russell/R9

- Proposed well locations all meet the same local source of supply. Maps and analysis were provided
- 53 well locations moving to 14 locations all inward to the well field
- Increasing spacing from other near by wells
- Passed the impairment test

Hays-Russell/R9

- Bought approximately 7,700 AF
- Calculated consumptive use from regulation equals approximately 6,700 AF
- Sustainable yield from model equals 4,800 AF
- Applicant agreed to 4,800 AF for the long term operation of the well field
- Provided all population and use justification
- Passes the reasonable test
- No waivers

Hays-Russell/R9

- I thought the hard stuff was done
- Now the lawyers take over 😊
- Not like any other change approval
- Contingent approval
- Path back to irrigation if transfer is not successful
- Many hard hours were put in by the lawyers

Change App Status

- Held public meeting
- Sent to GMD 5 for recommendation
- We received a presentation from Water PACK on the CU analysis
 - First time we saw it was at the public meeting
 - We have some preliminary data
 - Determining how we respond

Transfer

- 2000 AF
- 35 miles
- Panel
 - KWO director
 - KDHE Secretary
 - KDA/DWR Chief Engineer
- Determine whether the benefits to the state for approving the transfer outweigh the benefits to the state for not approving the transfer

Questions?

- All of the information is available at:
<http://agriculture.ks.gov/divisions-programs/dwr>