

Water shortage concerns experts

# Water loss may leave states dry

United Press International  
JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — A Texas water control expert has told two groups interested in water conservation the efficient use of water must be developed, or much of the Midwest and Southwest will be without it within the next 20 years.

Dr. Herbert Grubb of Austin, representing the Army Corps of Engineers, told a joint meeting of the Arkansas-White-Red Basins Inter-Agency Committee and the Upper Mississippi River Basin Association, there was an estimated 3.2 billion acre feet of water in storage in the Ogallala Aquifer in 1977.

The Ogallala Aquifer is a huge water source underneath Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico.

However, Grubb said by the year 2020, some of those states, particularly in the southwest, will have depleted their supplies by 60 percent.

"We can reduce the water loss in the Ogallala Aquifer by 40 to 50 percent through more efficient useage," he told the meeting Wednesday.

However, for the average farmer the increased efficiency cost will be about \$35,000 per quarter section of land.

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Robert L. Dunkeson, Water Resource Planner for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, told the second session of the meeting the amount of water in the Missouri River is declining and will continue to decline.

Missouri has joined with other states in a federal lawsuit to prevent South Dakota from selling Missouri River water to Energy Transportation Systems Inc. of Wyoming for use in a coal slurry pipeline.

Dunkeson said his report was not to take issue with that, "because ETSI is not on trial here." However, he said the plain fact was there was no surplus of Missouri River water.

"Low flow levels on the Missouri River have a significant impact upon navigation tonnage on both the Missouri and the middle Mississippi Rivers," reported Bill Ford of the Department of Natural Resources.

"Whether this low flow is caused by drought conditions in the Missouri Basin or by the diversion of Missouri Basin water for out-of-basin uses, the result is the same: a decrease in the navigation tonnages moved upon the river."

Full reports on water shortages and usages should be out within a few months, officials said. They were prepared under a 1976 law passed through Congress by former Sen. Harry Bellmon, R-Okla.



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# Vietnam vets win statue design battle

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — A group of Vietnam veterans won a battle with architects and secured approval to add a statue of three combat soldiers and a flag to the nearly completed black granite Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

The disgruntled veterans complained the initial V-shaped monument was more a tribute to Jane Fonda and the peace movement than those who fought and died in the nation's longest war.

So, after nearly five hours of arguments Wednesday, the Commission on Fine Arts unanimously approved adding an 8-foot-high statue and a 50-foot-high flag pole.

There was no complaint from Maya Lin who designed the initial memorial consisting of a 450-foot, V-shaped wall of granite engraved with the names of the 57,709 servicemen killed in the war.

Although no final decision has been made on where to place the statue and flag, Lin said it was her understanding they would be placed about 300 feet from her piece of art which recedes into the ground on the 2-acre site.

"Architecturally, the two could not mix, but there is enough room for two separate memorials," she said. "And that is what we will have."

She again rejected criticism to her design, saying the memorial is "a tribute to those who died and served in the war" and "not to the war, the politics or the controversy" surrounding the conflict.

Critics of the original design said it showed nothing of the American effort in Vietnam.

The monument is to be dedicated on Nov. 11, Veterans Day, during a four-day "National Salute" to all American veterans, expected to draw more than 250,000 persons.

The statue, which will depict three battle-weary servicemen, won't be completed until next year. It will be located between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument.

The design for the wall, which runs from surface level down into a landscaped hollow at the V junction, was conceived by Lin in 1980, then a 22-year-old Yale University student, after a nationwide competition that attracted some 3,800 designers.

Robert Lawrence, president of the American Institute of Architects, said the original design had been selected fairly and approved and should have been followed without alteration.

But Jan C. Scruggs, a wounded Vietnam veteran who became founder and president of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund three years ago, said veterans had second thoughts on the memorial and opted for the statue and flag.

Of the sculpture of the soldiers executed by Frederick Hart, 38, a local artist, Scruggs said: "This statue is a great tribute to Vietnam veterans and is highly praised among those who served, among those who once again want to be united behind their national memorial."

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