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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C. AUG. 12---Kansas Senators James Pearson, Bob Dole and Congressmen Garner Shriver and Chester Mize announced today that the Senate Public Works Committee, of which Dole is a member, has given final approval to plans for the Lyons Creek Watershed Joint District No. 41. The House Public Works Committee approved the proposal Monday.

The 280.9 square mile watershed district includes land in Marion, Dickinson, Geary and Morris counties. Total cost of the project is estimated to be \$5,267,000. The Federal Government will provide \$2.4 million of the cost.

The project includes 22 earth-filled dams which will each have a permanent pool of 11 acres or more. The largest structure, a dam 50 feet high and 1300 feet long, will provide a municipal water supply for the City of Herington and will be used for recreation purposes. The dam will be located approximately three miles west of Herington. The resulting water pool will cover 500 acres.

The City of Herington will need to build additional facilities to utilize the water supply feature of the plan. The city's cost is estimated to be \$40,000.

The 1951 flood did a half million dollars worth of damage in the watershed district. Crop and pasture damage due to flooding averages \$165,000 annually. Floodwater damage to roads, railroads and bridges averages \$28,900 per year. The City of Herington incurs \$2,800 in damage annually due to flooding of homes and businesses.

Cities within the watershed are Herington, Hope, Ramona, Woodbine and Navarre. Three summer camps, Rock Springs 4H camp, Camp Washunga and Camp Aubrey Henning, are also located in the watershed area.

The work plan calls for the improvements to be installed in about 5 years.

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"What is done for watersheds is important to the future water supply of urban and rural areas, to alleviating floods, to controlling silt pollution and to developing and improving recreational resources."

"I hope," Dole added, "the President can be convinced to adopt a reasonable attitude toward the watershed program which is vital to our national welfare and which has worked well for so many years."

Dole Budget Recommendations - - - - - 3

("New channels have been cut through many many farms," he said, "causing losses of millions of dollars. Measures should be taken to clear the river beds of these growths, and the necessary bank and levee repairs should be made.

("There is existing authority for snagging and clearing projects and up to \$100,000 may be expended for this purpose for any single tributary from appropriations from any fiscal year. Although this would be insignificant to accomplish much, I urge the Committee to provide the full \$100,000 so that snagging and clearing work may commence as soon as possible.")

9. Scandia unit - This proposed irrigation development is located in Republic County and is a part of the Kansas Bostwick Irrigation System. Reconnaissance studies on this proposed project have been performed, and the budget contains \$60,000 for the Bureau of Reclamation to enable it to proceed with necessary investigation during fiscal year 1967. The report is scheduled for completion in 1969.
10. Wilson Unit (includes former Kipp Unit) - Budget recommendation for continued investigative work during fiscal 1967 is \$20,000. This proposed irrigation development would be supplied with water from the recently completed Wilson Dam and R^uservoir and the Bureau of Reclamation is scheduled to complete the report during 1967.
11. Kanopolis Unit - Continued investigation would be made possible by the \$30,000 recommended in the budget for this project and the report is scheduled for completion in 1968.