



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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WASHINGTON, D.C. -- In remarks before the Senate Public Works Appropriations Subcommittee today, Senator Bob Dole discussed the FY'74 funding of water resource developments in the Arkansas River Basin.

Dole said that Kansas flood damages this spring have prompted the designation of 54 counties as Federal disaster areas. He noted that the Arkansas River and its tributaries have been the major source of this damage -- totaling more than \$3.5 million.

Dole added that although Kansas flood damage in the Arkansas basin has been serious, without the existing projects and improvements funded by Federal appropriations, it is estimated that damages would have run nearly three times as large.

Dole stressed the importance of continued progress and forward movement as being vital to an orderly program. "The requested \$230,000 for the Great Bend-Tulsa Arkansas River Navigation Study is a top priority, and I am pleased that the budget reflects its importance," Dole said.

Perhaps the preconstruction planning stage is the category which must be most carefully scrutinized. Delay in the planning phase can cause serious consequences, both in terms of continued damage by flooding and the toll of inflation on total cost.

Cedar Point Lake is a clear example, for it is estimated that virtually all of the flood damage on the Cottonwood River (one-third of the basin total this spring) could have been prevented by the existence of Cedar Point Dam. "I believe this project deserves full funding support in the coming year, and urge that

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\$80,000 be appropriated to supplement the \$140,000 remaining from last year's appropriation to enable the completion of the project's planning." He also added that the Eldorado and Towanda Lake projects are in need of funds.