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WASHINGTON, D.C., March 26 --- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) last week cosponsored a bill to provide federal financial assistance to Kansans in seven southern counties for improving their lands for conservation and recreational purposes.

The proposed legislation, S3598, would provide funds to Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) project areas by authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to "bear such proportionate share of the costs of installing any works of improvement applicable to public water-based fish and wildlife or recreational development as is determined by him to be equitable in consideration of national needs."

The Sunflower Project, comprising Barber, Comanche, Harper, Kingman, Kiowa, Pratt and Sumner counties, was authorized by the Secretary of Agriculture, Dec. 1, 1969, for RC&D operations.

Explaining the need for the legislation, Dole said, "Local sources of financing are not sufficient in many RC&D project areas to develop its full resource potential. This bill would not only help to conserve and develop Kansas natural resources, but also would create jobs and new business in rural communities during and after construction."