

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE SEPTEMBER 20, 1991 CONTACT: WALT RIKER (202) 224-5358

#### SENATE PASSES INTERIOR BILL; DOLE WILDLIFE, EDUCATION & RESEARCH REQUESTS PROVIDE MORE THAN \$ 9.1 MILLION FOR KANSAS

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Senate late Thursday night approved a bill containing funding requested by Kansas Senator Bob Dole for several major Kansas wildlife, education and research projects. Dole's amendments, providing more than \$9.1 million for Kansas projects, are included in the FY92 Interior Appropriations bill which now goes to a joint House/Senate conference.

"I'm pleased the full Senate has agreed to fund these worthwhile initiatives," Dole said. "These funds will contribute to the preservation of our wildlife, wetlands and many historic sites, and boost our homestate education and research. Preserving our state's natural treasures is a top priority, so everyone can have the opportunity to enjoy and learn about our Kansas heritage."

Dole-backed projects in the funding bill include:

## HASKELL INDIAN JUNIOR COLLEGE, LAWRENCE: \$3.97 MILLION

\$3 million for construction of a dormitory and \$977,000 for program development. The program development includes strengthening of associate programs, updating instructional technology and equipment and establishing a baccalaureate degree in elementary education.

# MARAIS DES CYGNES WILDLIFE REFUGE, LINN COUNTY: \$2 MILLION

\$2 million to purchase 4,000 acres of wooded wetlands for preservation along the Marais des Cygnes River which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has identified as a priority site. The area would be maintained as a refuge for waterfowl and a number of threatened and endangered species.

#### UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS OIL RECOVERY INSTITUTE, LAWRENCE: \$1.64 MILLION

\$1,646,250 for the oil recovery research program at KU. The program combines petroleum engineering and geology with advanced technology to analyze all aspects of oil recovery, including reservoir sites and drilling capability in Kansas.

(MORE)

## NORTH AMERICAN WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT PLAN: CHEYENNE BOTTOMS, PLAYA LAKES

\$8.5 million in nationwide funding for President Bush's management plan for the nation's wetlands was also included in the bill at Dole's request. Cheyenne Bottoms in Barton County and the playa lakes in Southwest Kansas are slated to receive a significant portion of the funding for wetland restoration and enhancement of habitat projects.

## FLINT HILL WILDLIFE REFUGE/JOHN REDMOND RESERVOIR, EMPORIA: \$680,000

\$680,000 for a new office/visitor center. Located along Kansas Highway 130, the refuge is managed for migratory waterfowl, containing wetlands, grasslands, and sustainable agriculture.

# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER, WICHITA: \$675,000

\$675,000 for an Environmental Education Center in Wichita. Funding will be used for planning and design of the center. The site will include nature trails, demonstration plots, and wildlife observation posts. Plans for the center include aquarium displays, wildlife exhibits, classrooms and audio visual rooms.

# SANTA FE TRAIL: \$205,000

\$205,000 to fund promotions for the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. The funding will be used to produce a full-color trail brochure, auto tour route signs, an interpretive film, and a prop kit for the educational outreach program. This funding was added to the bill at Dole's request on Wednesday.

#### NICODEMUS, KANSAS

At Dole's request, the bill also includes a provision transferring the funds remaining from the Wilson Lake feasibility study to perform a feasibility study on the establishment of Nicodemus as a National Historic Site. It is estimated that \$15,000 remains unused from the Wilson Lake study. The National Park Service would oversee the Nicodemus study.

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