

Corps to Stop Releasing Water from 3 Ks Reservoirs

(KNZA)--With historic drought conditions across the state, U.S. Senator Pat Roberts and Kansas Governor Sam Brownback on Monday said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has pledged it will stop releasing supplemental navigational support water from three Kansas River reservoirs.

The Corps will discontinue releasing water for Missouri River navigational support from Tuttle Creek, Milford and Perry Lake on Aug. 7, allowing critical water to remain in the state, the governor's office said.

Last week, the Army Corps of Engineers announced it would release water from the Kansas River reservoirs until at least Aug. 8 and retain the option to reopen the flow from the reservoirs in October. The Army Corps said the decision was to assist with river navigation and comply with the Endangered Species Act to preserve wildlife and their habitat north of Kansas.

Following a letter from Brownback and a series of calls between Roberts and Jody Farhat, chief of the Missouri River Water Management Division of the Army Corps of Engineers, as well as from the governor and Kansas Water Office staff, the Army Corps agreed to discontinue tapping Kansas reservoirs beginning Aug. 7 and lasting through the end of the release season, pledging not to release water in October. Wildlife and navigation needs will continue to be addressed.

Many Signals Communications