

From: Bill Dodgen
To: [CWAwotus](#)
Cc: [Margaret Darter](#)
Subject: WOTUS
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I am Justice of Peace for District 13 in Faulkner County Arkansas. My district consists of half rural and half city. The rural part is agriculture to include hardwood and pine timber stands, livestock and crops (rice, soybeans, corn, and wheat we irrigate with shallow wells about 55 ft deep as well as water from Tucker creek and Tupelo Bayou. These streams drain Western Conway. Tucker Creek empties into Tupelo Bayou Tupelo Bayou empties into the Arkansas river The river recharges the wells each year.

The current proposed legislation by EPA would be devastating to my district as well as all of Faulkner County, since the entire county empties into the Arkansas River.

I think I can speak for the majority of my fellow justices and the county Judge in saying that WOTUS WOULD BE VERY DETRIMENTAL TO FAULKNER COUNTY...I BELIEVE THAT WE AS A COUNTY GOVERNING BODY CAN TAKE CARE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING OUR WATER AND DRAINAGE PROJECTS TO PROTECT OUR COUNTY!!!

Tupelo Bayou has flood gate in the main river levee to prevent flooding to at least 60% of my district It is therefore not navigable. Also Cadron Creek watershed has a very short navigable channel which is currently used to load single barges and a place for repairing barges To extend it farther inland would require elevating a very busy Missouri Pacific railroad, and elevating US Hwy 64 overpass. New levees would have to be erected and a lot of dredging would have to be done Flood gates would also have to be installed. The Cadron would not be navigable beyond this point.. The water treatment plant for the City of Conway would also have to be relocated. The eastern side of the county drains into Bayou Meto which supports a duck refuge and drains into the Arkansas River The eastern side of Conway and the city of Mayflower drain into Lake Conway and Palarm creek. Palarm creek empties into the Arkansas River and is not navigable. Farmland also is located throughout the county and contains above mentioned livestock and crops. Agriculture is a \$25 million industry in the county. Conway and the county also has a large industrial base as well as 2 large tech companies..

Wotus would not improve the county. It would be costly to many county residents as well as businesses.

I feel that thi sis a local matter, not an EPA or federal matter..

Bill Dodgen
Justice of Peace, District 13
Faulkner County Arkansas