

# Geospatial assessment of invasive Bighead carp in Oklahoma reservoirs

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Funding provided by

Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force



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### *Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*

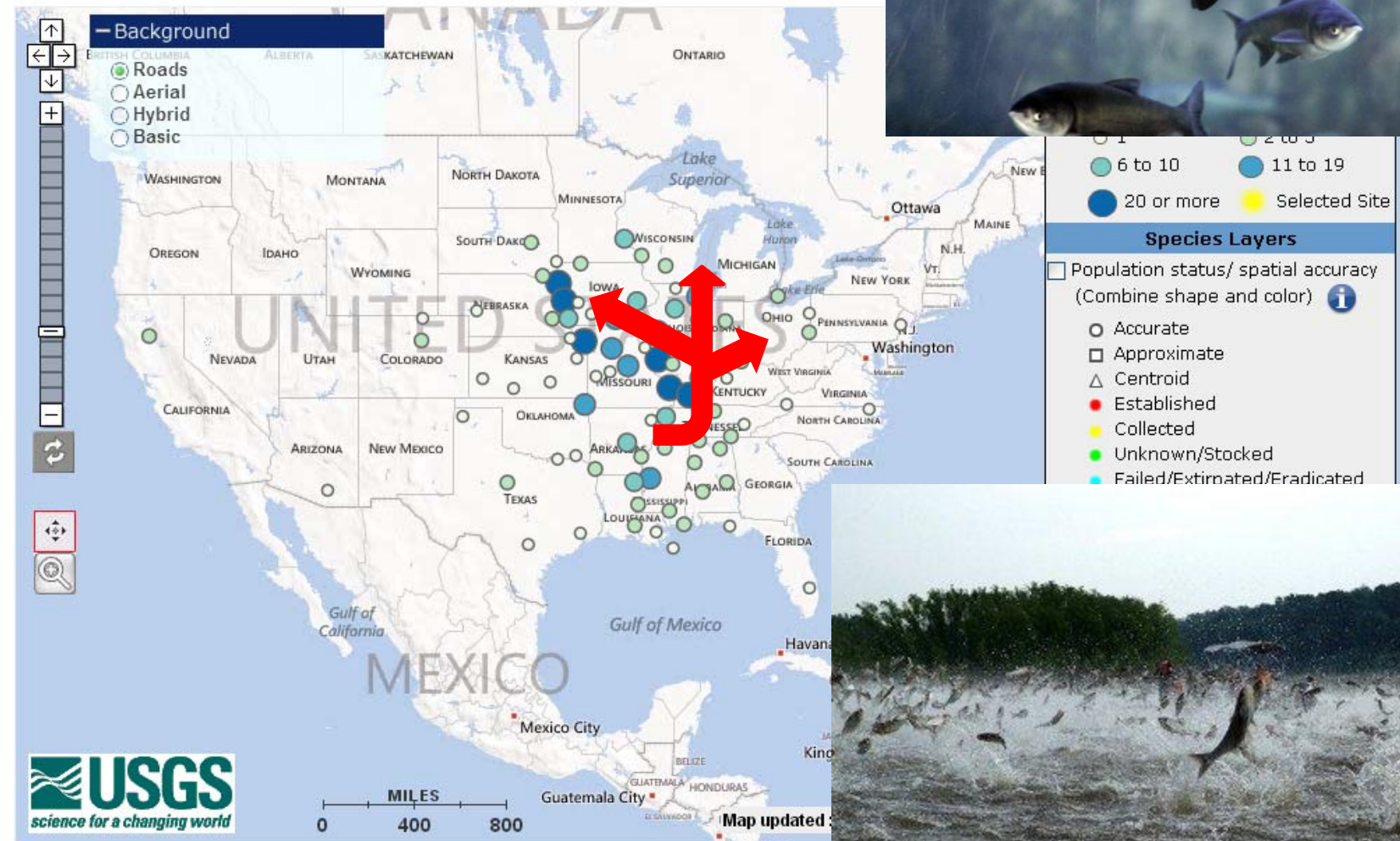
(bighead carp)

Fishes

Exotic to United States

[Collection Info](#)[HUC Maps](#)[Fact Sheet](#)

Disclaimer: Number of records does not imply species abundance

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## Two Potential Sources of Exotic Fish in Oklahoma

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Received: 1992 Dec 14; Revised: 1993 Mar 15; Accepted: 1993 Apr 10

In the summer of 1991 a commercial bait dealer delivered a shipment of fathead minnows to the Byron State Fish Hatchery near Byron, OK; the shipment originated in Minnesota. Mixed with the fatheads were five brook stickleback, *Culaea inconstans*. This occurrence illustrates how this exotic fish could be introduced into Oklahoma waters. The collected specimens were deposited in the Oklahoma State University Collection of Vertebrates (OSUS #253510).

On April 20, 1992, two bighead carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*), each weighting 18 kg, were snagged by fisher persons in the Neosho (Grand) River at Miami Riverview Park, 0.5 km S of Miami (T27N, R22E, S3), Ottawa County. Photographs of these fish were displayed in the Miami bait shop.

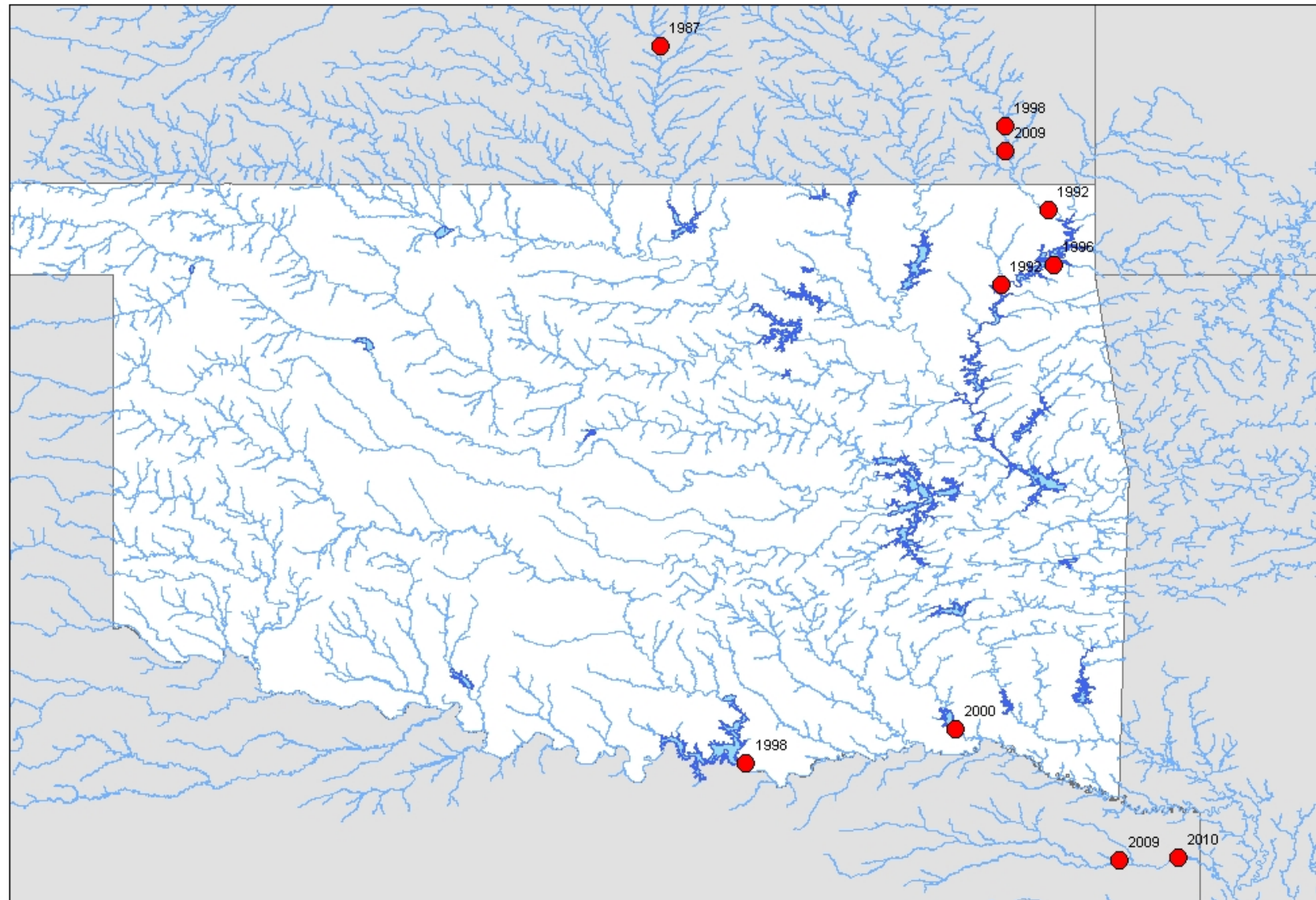
# OKLAHOMA AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN

Small silver carp *Hypophthalmichthys molitrix* and bighead carp resemble gizzard shad *Dorosoma cepedianum*. Cast-netting for bait in tailwaters below some major reservoirs in Oklahoma has the potential to introduce Asian carp into some of the premier sport fishing lakes in the state. Anglers routinely cast net for bait below the Dennison Dam at Lake Texoma and use the bait to fish for striped bass or catfish in Lake Texoma. Asian carp can be accidentally introduced into the lake through this practice. Bighead and silver carp have reproductive requirements similar to those of striped bass. There is a real potential to establish a reproducing population of Asian carp in Lake Texoma which could be devastating to the striped bass fishery and paddlefish *Polyodon spathula* recovery efforts.





# Temporal Distribution of Bighead Carp in Oklahoma



0 25 50 100 Kilometers

2010

by Ryan Liang

# Bighead Carp Invasion Ecology

Introduction + Establishment = Invasion

Introduction factors unknown

Establishment factors fairly well known

Thus, we sought to determine those  
reservoirs most at risk for establishment  
should introduction occur

# Bighead Carp Reproduction

- Requirements for establishment:
  - Large river
  - 100 km free-flowing
  - Suitable hydrology
    - Sufficient flow to maintain egg buoyancy
- Suitable for spatial assessment

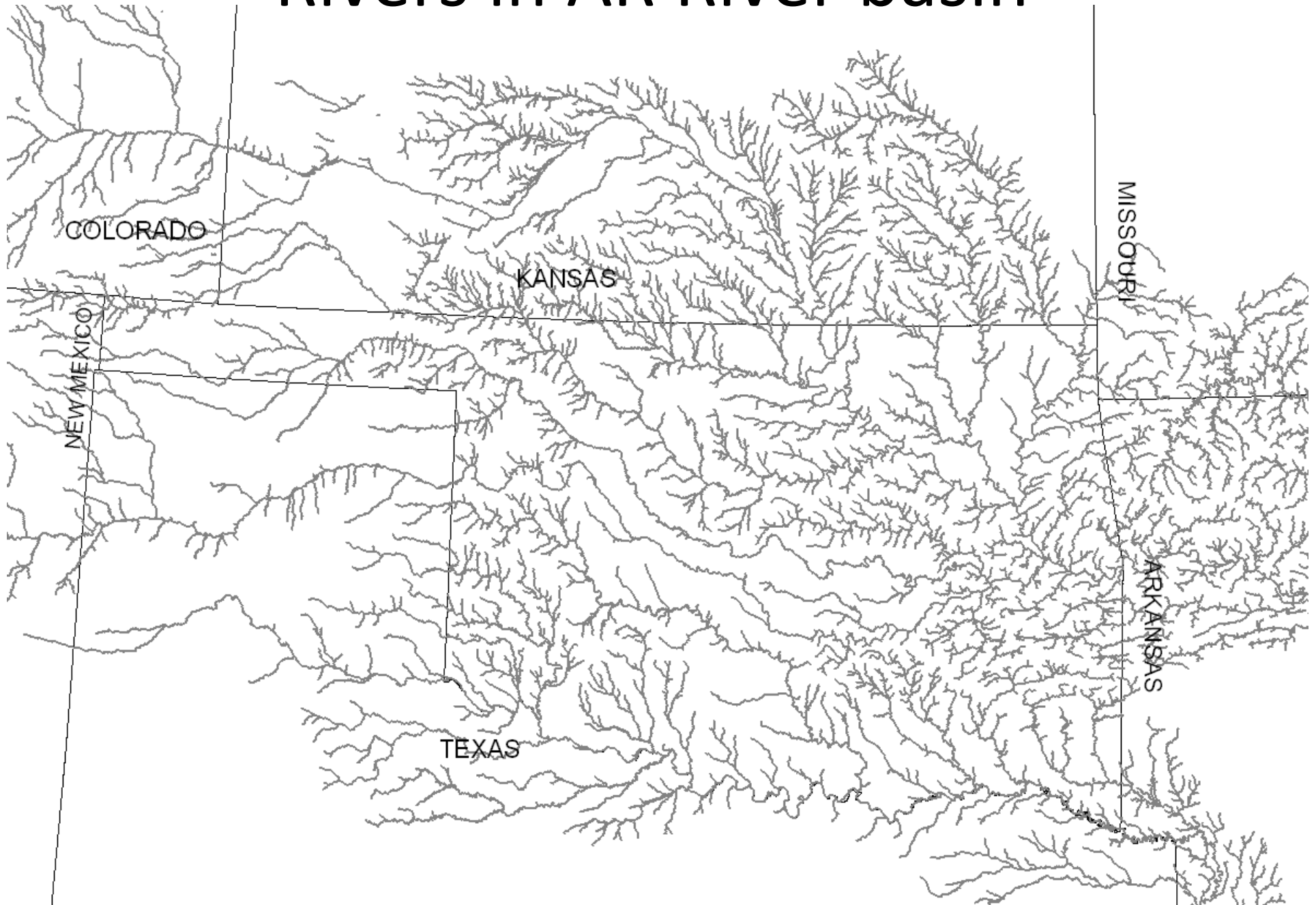




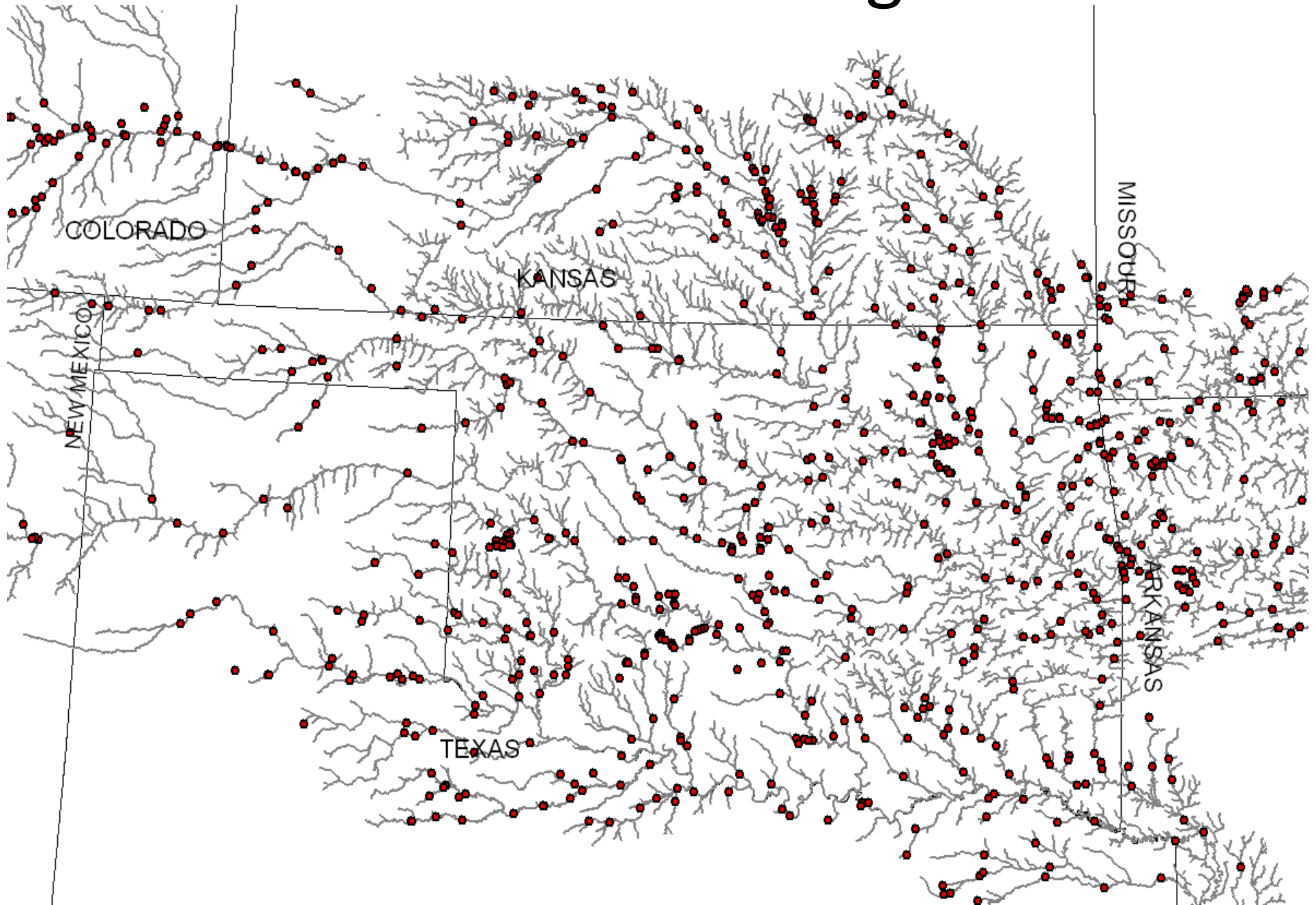
# Bighead Carp Reproduction

- Large river
  - No database on which rivers support reproduction
  - Missouri, Mississippi rivers obviously
  - Big Muddy, Kaskaskia, and Cache River consistently reported
  - Cache is the smallest at 300 mean annual cfs

# Rivers in AR River basin

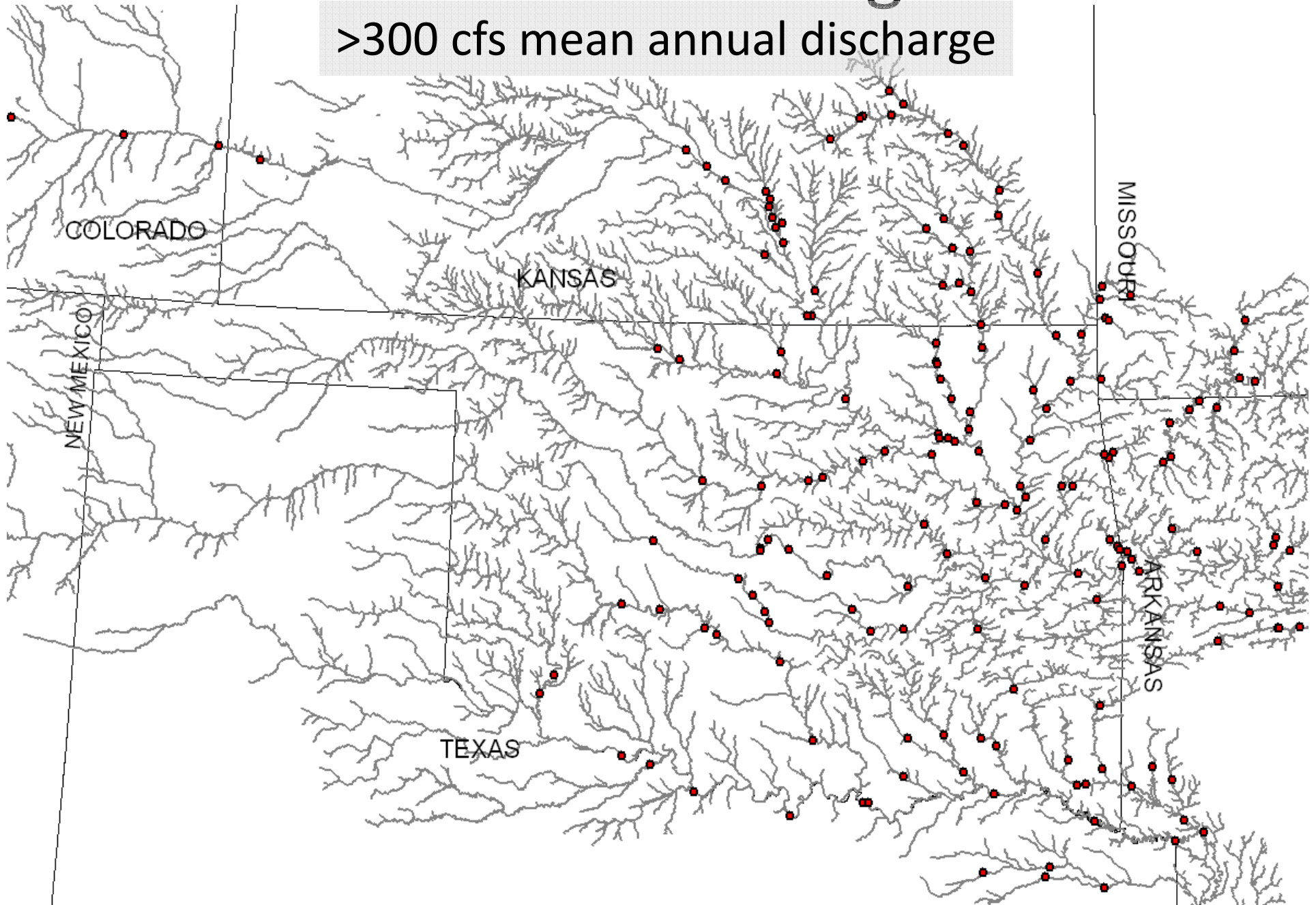


# USGS Stream Gages



# USGS Stream Gages

>300 cfs mean annual discharge

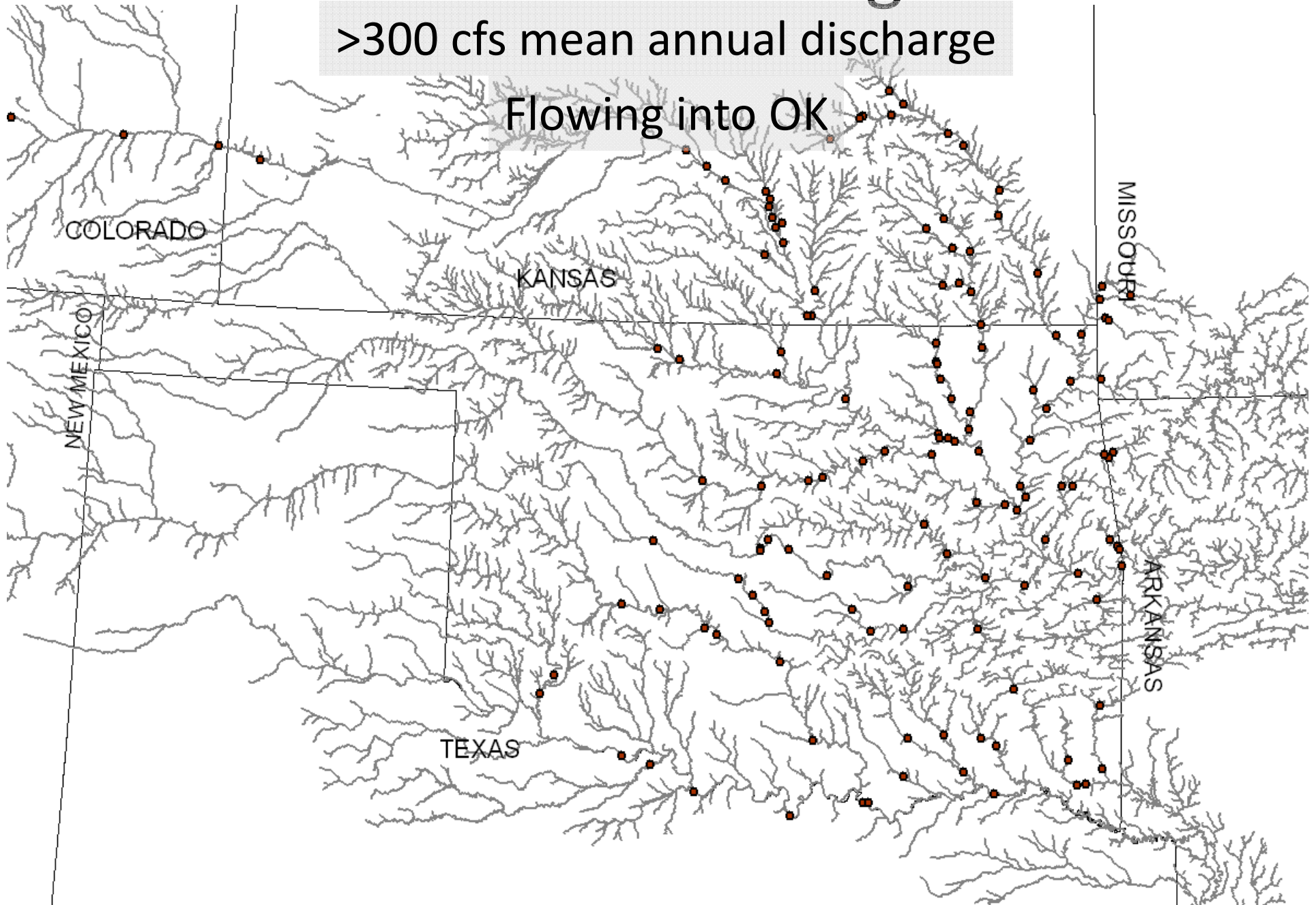




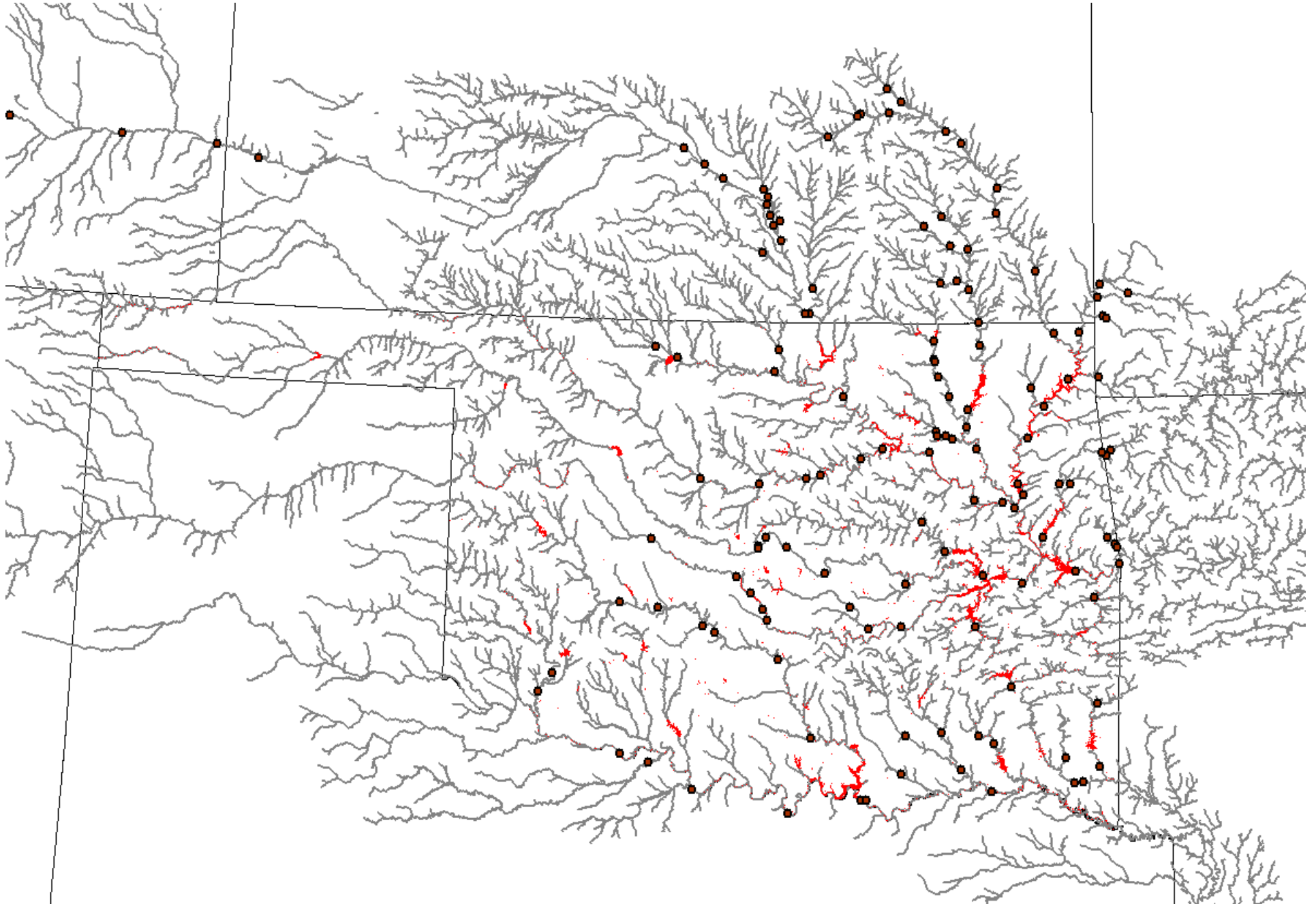
# USGS Stream Gages

>300 cfs mean annual discharge

Flowing into OK

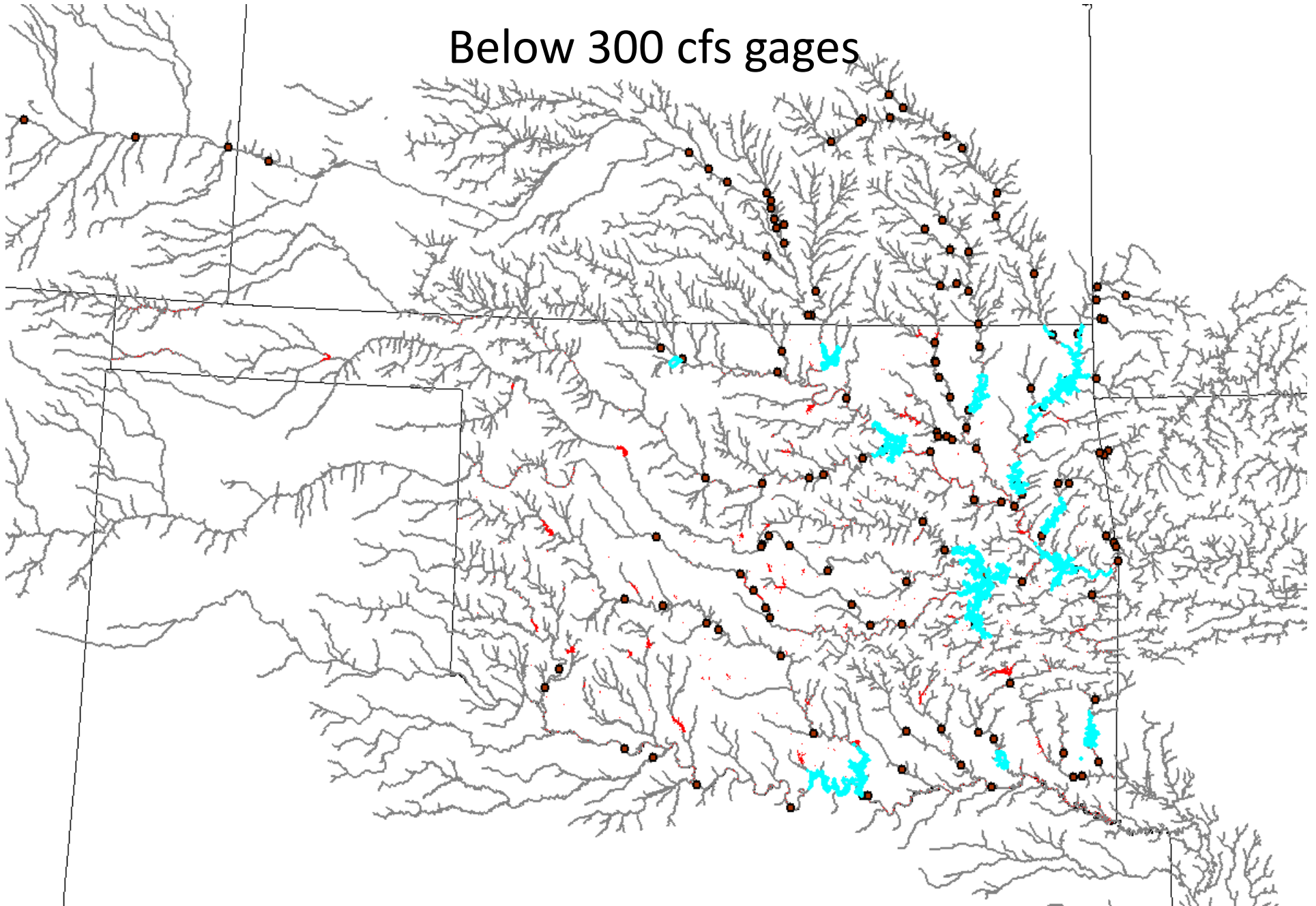


# Reservoirs in OK



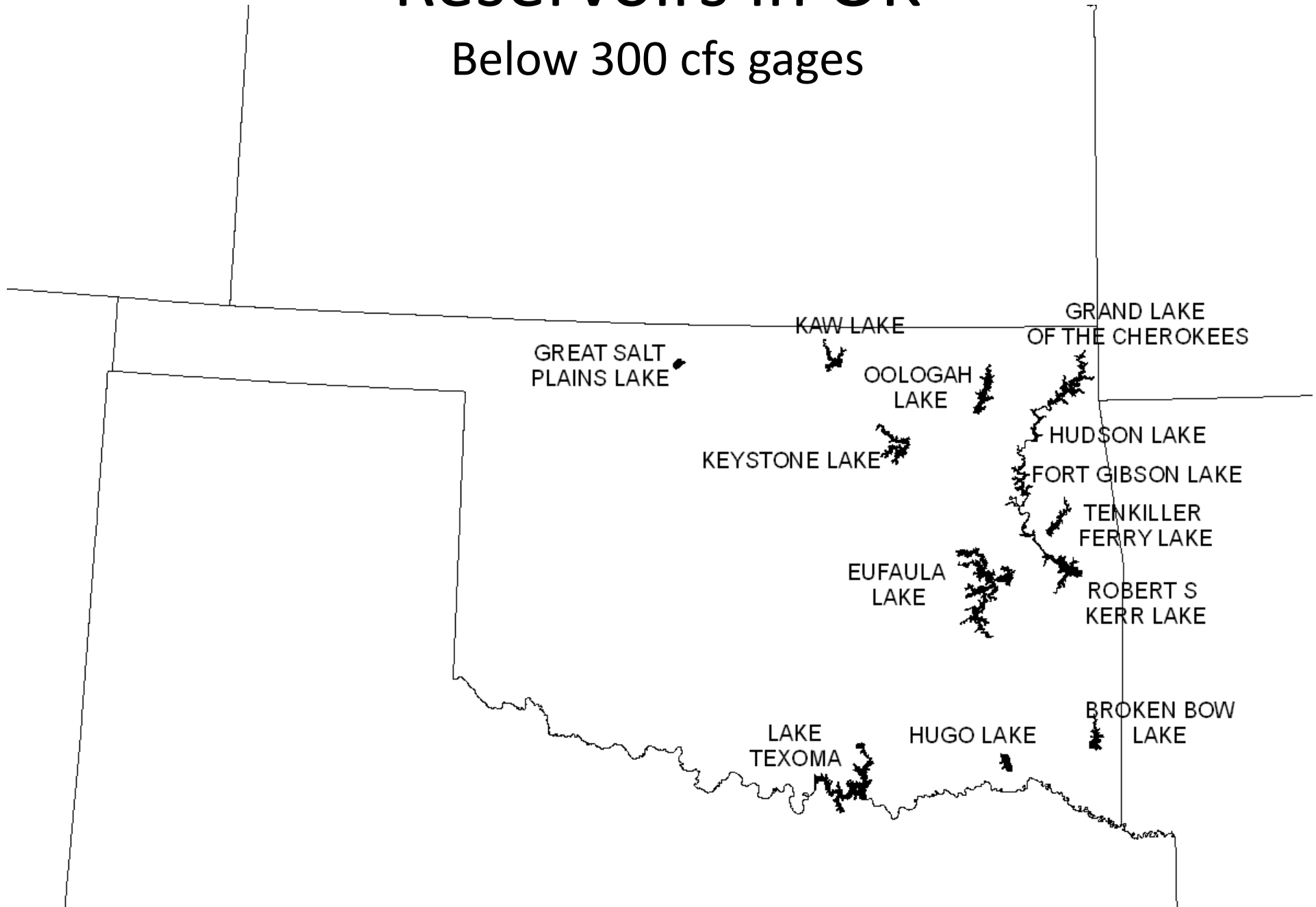
# Reservoirs in OK

Below 300 cfs gages



# Reservoirs in OK

Below 300 cfs gages

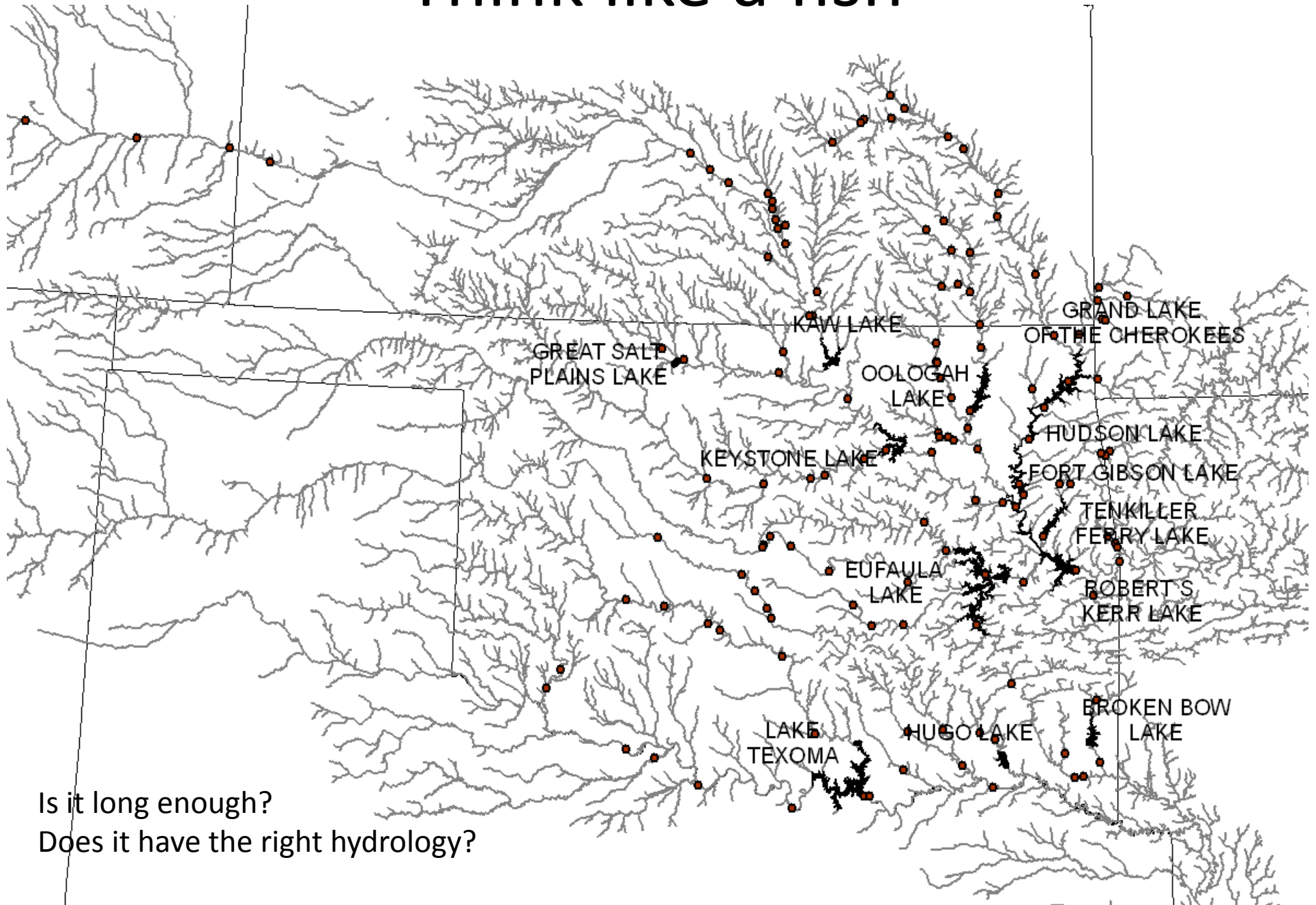




# Bighead Carp Reproduction

- Large river
  - >300 mean annual cfs
- 100 km free-flowing

# Think like a fish



# Dams and hydrology



# Bighead Carp Reproduction

- Large river
  - >300 mean annual cfs
- 100 km free-flowing
- Hydrology
  - Sufficient flow to maintain egg suspension during development



# Days of Discharge Rise (DDS)

May-June

- Mean number of days of discharge rise calculated over the period of record

- Most upstream USGS gage that has mean annual cfs  $\geq 300$  and is at least 100 km from reservoir.

第4卷 第3期

中国水利水电科学研究院学报

Vol.4 No.3

2006年9月

Journal of China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research

September, 2006

文章编号:1672-3031(2006)03-0170-07

## 长江中游四大家鱼发江生态水文因子分析及生态水文目标确定

李静, 彭静, 廖文根

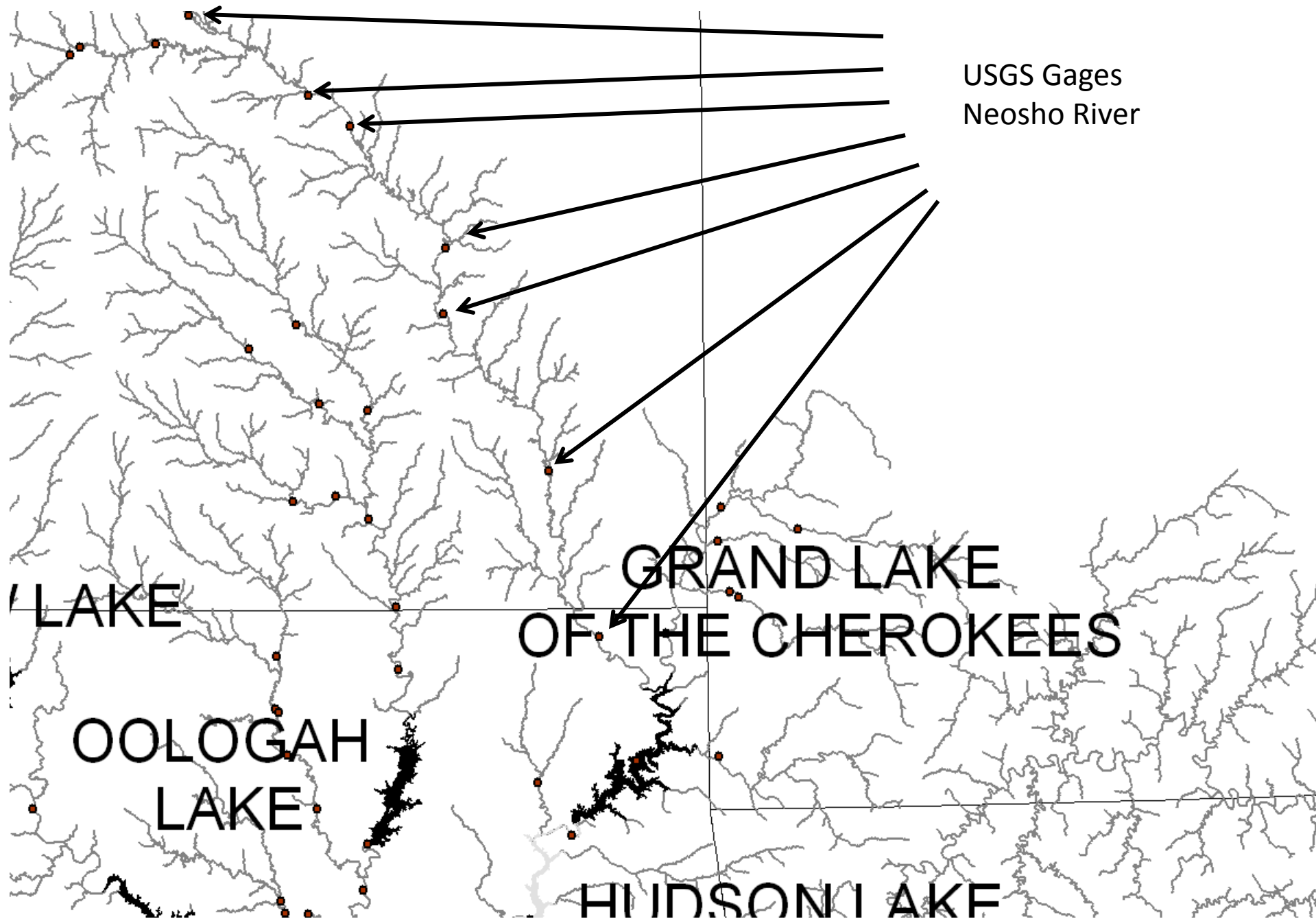
(中国水利水电科学研究院 水环境研究所, 北京 100038)

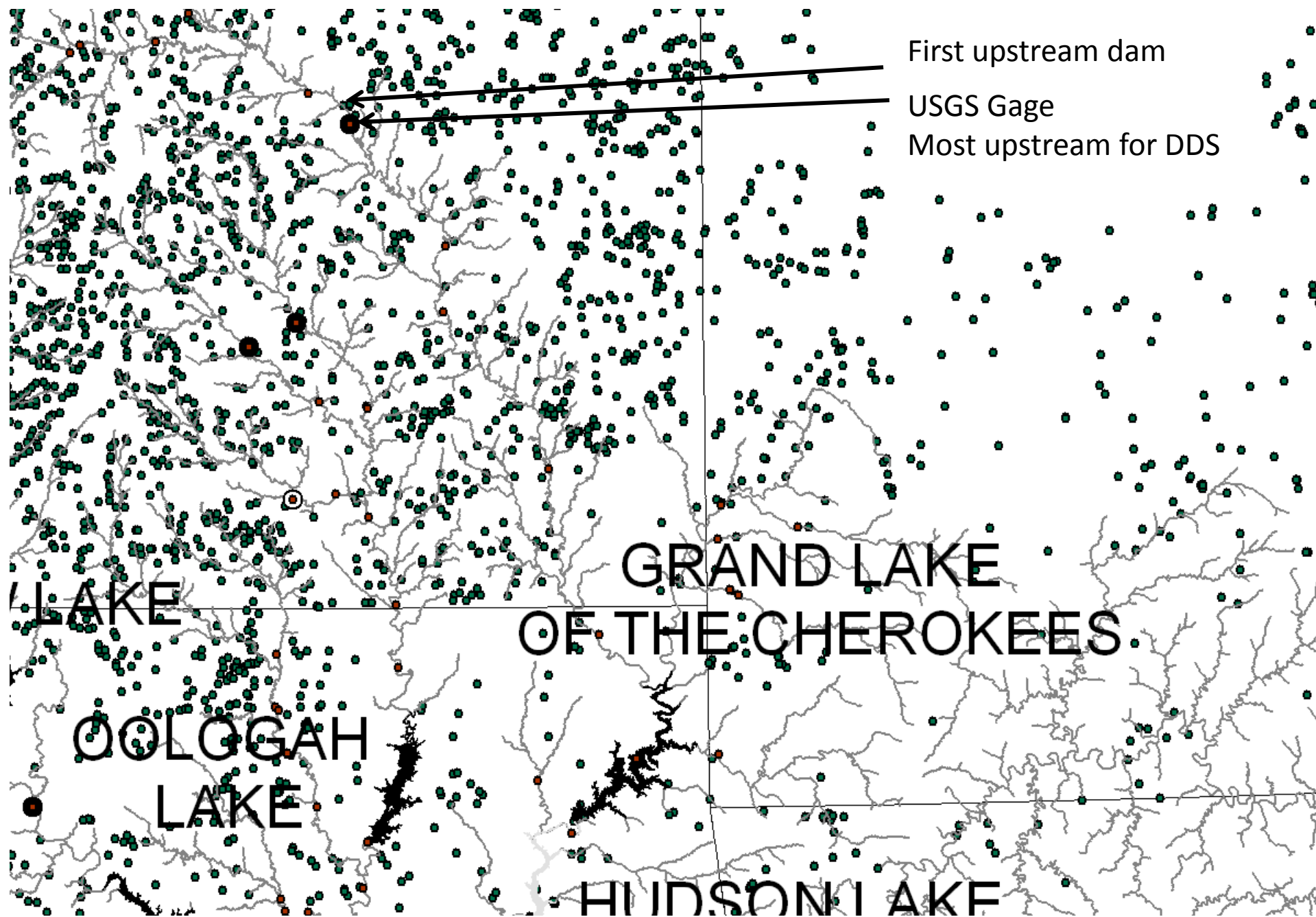
**摘要:** 基于长江中游四大家鱼发江量历次调查数据, 采用宜昌站作为长江中游水文情势变化分析的控制站, 基于其1900~2004年共105年的日径流资料, 采用每年5~6月涨水过程数、总涨水日数、平均每次涨水过程日数等3项生态水文指标, 分析了四大家鱼发江量与3项生态水文因子的变化关系, 认为产卵场所处江段每年5~6月的总涨水日数是决定家鱼发江量多寡的一个重要环境因子。根据IHA方法, 对宜昌站105年来的生态水文指标分析表明, 长江宜昌站生态水文过程的变化并不明显, 5~6月总涨水日数变化趋势不显著, 显示长江中游影响四大家鱼发江量的生态流量过程改变不明显, 与前人得出的葛洲坝枢纽修建后四大家鱼的产卵条件和产卵江汛规律没有变化这一认识一致。但是, 随着三峡水库的运行, 下游河道的生态环境流量过程会有较大改变, 本文建议三峡水库的调控以保障长江中游每年5~6月的总涨水日数维持在  $22.1 \pm 7.2$  范围内为生态水文目标, 即可从生态环境流量过程方面补偿水利工程对中游四大家鱼发江量的影响。

**关键词:** 四大家鱼; 生态水文因子; 生态水文目标; 长江中游

中国分类号: X143

文献标识码: A





# Days of Discharge Rise (DDS)

May-June

Mean number of days of discharge rise calculated over the period of record for the most upstream USGS gage that has mean annual cfs  $\geq 300$  and is at least 100 km from reservoir.

Day		Discharge		Rise?		Year 1	Suitable Mean DDS >15 or <27			
M	Day		Discharge		Rise?			Year 2		
M	M	Day		Discharge		Rise?		Year 3		
M	M	M	Day		Discharge			Rise?		Year N
...	M	M	May 1	500		NA				
Ju	...	M	May 2	600		1				
Ju	...	M	May 3	500		0				
Ju	...	Ju	...	...		...				
Ju	...	Ju	July 1			Sum				

# Bighead Carp Establishment Potential

Free-flowing (100 km above reservoir) river at least 300 cfs mean annual discharge with suitable hydrology (i.e., mean DDS >15 & <27)

Reservoir is suitable if at least 1 tributary meets this criteria



# Bighead Carp Establishment Potential

