

III. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This section presents the goals and objectives that are based on the outcomes of the TAG and PAW meetings (see public involvement section on TAG and PAW) and the public outreach efforts, documenting the consensus from stakeholders. Below are the resulting goals for how to manage the shared flood risks along the Big Blue River. It is important to re-affirm these goals as annual revisions are made due to changing needs and desires.

GENERAL GOALS

These goals were developed to guide planning and decision-making regarding the strategies and tools discussed in later sections of this FMP:

Goal 1. Develop a collaborative, multi-jurisdictional approach to manage the floodplains and address flood risks and concerns along the Big Blue and Kansas Rivers. The multi-jurisdictional approach should encompass public stakeholders, local, state and federal agencies.

1.1 Objective: Establish an organizational framework to facilitate ongoing collaboration, coordination and discussion of floodplain management issues and activities.

1.2 Objective: Adopt and implement a Big Blue and Kansas Rivers Floodplain Management Plan by Riley County, Pottawatomie County and the City of Manhattan.

Goal 2. Actively manage and reduce the flood risks along the Big Blue and Kansas Rivers to protect life and property.

2.1 Objective: Reduce risk to life, property and the economy to acceptable levels identified by the community and policy makers.

2.2 Objective: Identify and mitigate damage in repetitive loss areas.

2.3 Objective: Revise floodplain and subdivision policies and regulations to better prepare for and protect against flooding issues.

2.4 Objective: Identify and understand the unique flood risks associated with the Big Blue River Watershed below the Tuttle Creek Reservoir Dam related to flood risk.

Goal 3. Improve the public's understanding of flooding risks along the Big Blue and Kansas Rivers and the impacts of those risks on residents, property owners and businesses.

3.1 Objective: Develop a range of educational tools to inform the general public, elected officials and interested parties (i.e. realtors, property owners, tenants and developers) of the flood risks and the unique characteristics of the Big Blue and Kansas River Valleys to promote floodplain stewardship and connect citizens to the riparian environments.

3.2 Objective: Develop a range of educational and informational tools between the Federal Government (i.e. US ACE), the local jurisdiction and local media outlets to better communicate before, during and after a flood event.

- 3.3 Objective: Continue the existing early warning siren and voice modulated system in the Big Blue River Watershed and expand it to include the National Weather Service Big Blue River Prediction Model, Northeast Kansas Emergency Notification system, as well as other internet based systems and area media outlets (i.e. radio and television).
- 3.4 Objective: Coordinate the emergency preparedness and evacuation plan with federal, state and public officials and business partners (i.e. radio and television stations) for residents and property owners within the floodplain.

Goal 4. Create a balance between the development needs in the Big Blue River Watershed and the proper functions of the natural floodplains along the river.

- 4.1 Objective: Implement appropriate policies and regulations that incorporate the Community Base Floodplain and address needs of existing properties.
- 4.2 Objective: Implement appropriate Best Management Practices (BMP's) for water quality for new and redevelopment public and private projects. Encourage green infrastructure through incentives and development standards for redevelopment areas and with new development.
- 4.3 Objective: Encourage BMP's for water quality related to agriculture and range land through appropriate incentives.
- 4.4 Objective: Identify and preserve undeveloped land critical to the integrity and maintenance of the various flood controls and protection of infrastructure in the Big Blue River Watershed and the confluence with the Kansas River.

Goal 5. Project and preserve the natural environment of the riparian corridor to enhance habitat connectivity, water quality, erosion and sediment management, bank and channel stabilization, and provide compatible recreation opportunities.

- 5.1 Objective: Implement appropriate Best Management Practices regulations and guidelines to stabilize channel and stream banks, protect wildlife and habitat, conserve open space and re-establish riparian corridors.
- 5.2 Objective: Research, plan for and implement ways to restore the natural functions of floodplains including the storage capacity, when appropriate.
- 5.3 Objective: Identify compatible recreation opportunities in the floodplain along the Big Blue River.