

***Conservation Is Our Passion***  
*Together, we make fishing better.*

## **Our Conservation Approach**

We work to protect important habitat, improve degraded waterways, restore and improve warm and cold water fish populations. The best conservation work comes from true partnerships between all stakeholders.

Oklahoma Conservation Focus:

-Gain minimum water flow in the Lower Illinois River and other streams sufficient to maintain viable fisheries and aquatic habitat. Lack of Oklahoma minimum flow requirements threatens our streams and fisheries, particularly the Lower Illinois River.

-Improve water quality using the best science, advanced methods, strict enforcement, legislation and collaboration to reduce all forms of pollution in our already heavily impaired streams. Sixty percent of our streams are rated heavily impaired with no foreseeable resolution or meaningful legislation.

-Monitor the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality's request to shift the management of fracking fluids from the EPA to the understaffed Oklahoma DEQ. The OK DEQ has also requested that treated fracking fluid be sprayed onto OK land, roads, ditches, and dumped into surface waters, i.e. Oklahoma lakes and streams. This poses a very real threat to already heavily impaired streams and fisheries. We encourage recycling, reuse and the application of advanced technology by industry and not shifting the impossible burden of cleanup to taxpayers.

-Oppose legislation to transfer fishing and hunting license fees from the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation to an unspecified state general fund; this would cost the ODWC to lose its \$24 million share of federal excise taxes on sporting goods. The ODWC is a highly successful model entirely self-funded by your fishing and hunting license fees.

- Monitor bills or state board actions including; high volume river water withdrawal and sale, bills blocking purchase or lease of outdoor recreation lands, introduction of a "European" model where citizens have no public outdoor recreation land and must pay large membership fees to fish, hunt and recreate on their own lands, and bills to sell off our public recreation land. We also oppose attempts for increased control of the highly successful Department of Wildlife Conservation for political reasons vs. its successful outdoor recreation and conservation charter.

-Add meaningful representation for fishing and all outdoor recreation at the state capitol, including the Oklahoma Water Resources Board and Corporate Commission.