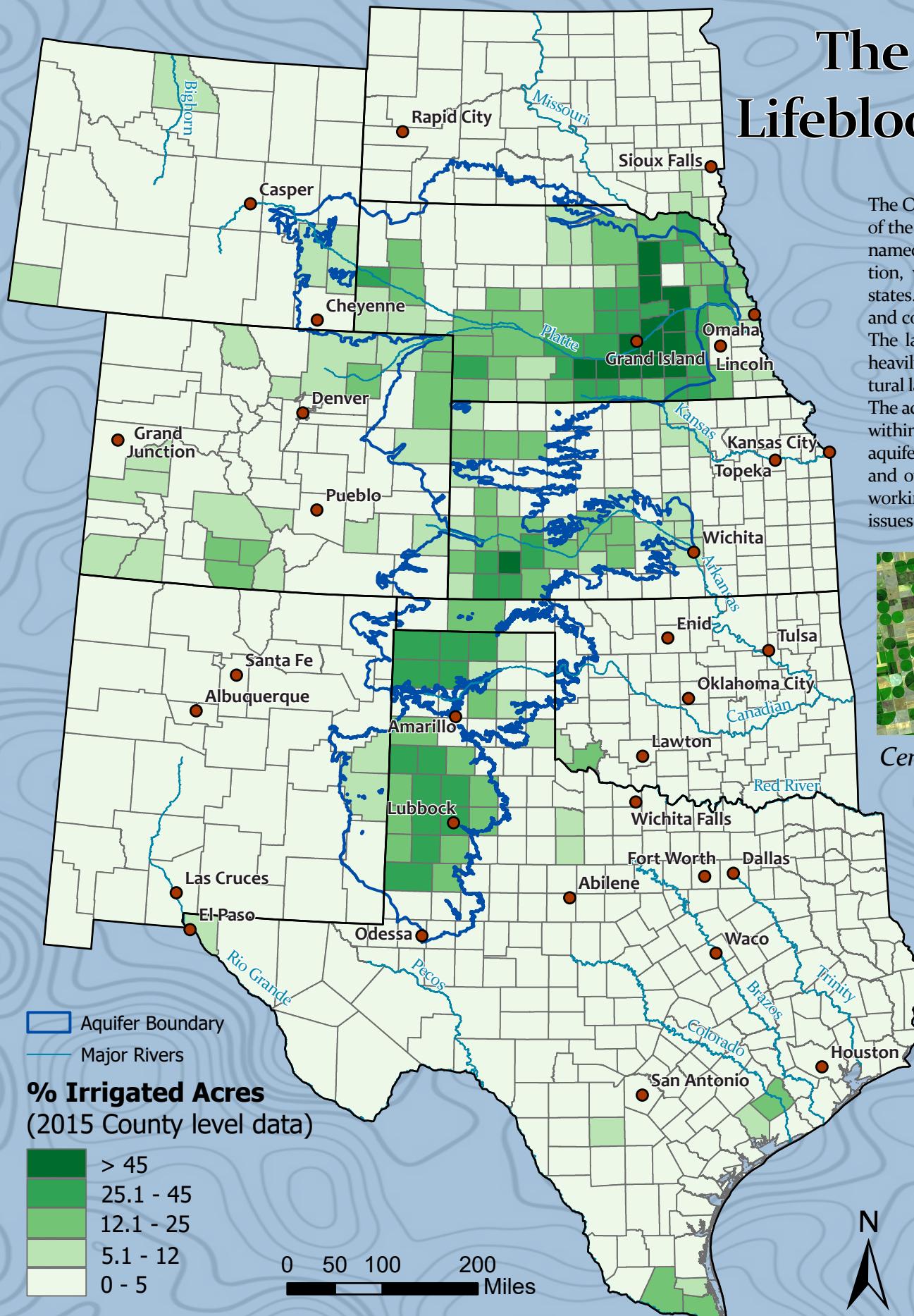


The Ogallala Aquifer: Lifeblood of the High Plains



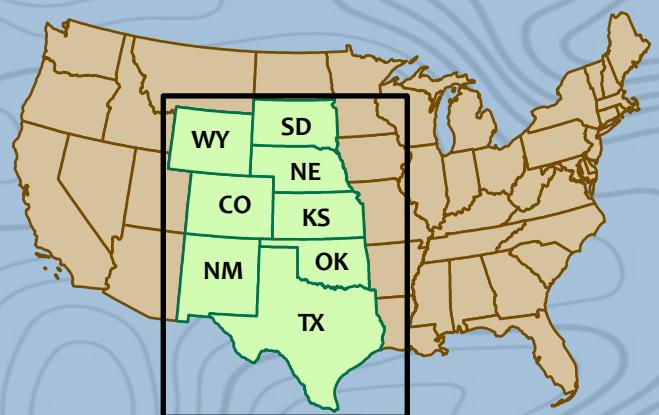
The Ogallala Aquifer (also known as the High Plains Aquifer) is one of the world's largest fresh groundwater resources. The aquifer was named for the city of Ogallala, Nebraska and the Ogallala Formation, which is a geologic formation underlying the High Plains states. The aquifer stretches from southern South Dakota to Texas and covers small portions of Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico. The land that lies above the Ogallala Aquifer is one of the most heavily irrigated regions in North America. These irrigated agricultural lands are invaluable to the economies of the High Plains states. The aquifer also supplies drinking water to most of the communities within its extent. In recent years, water storage in some parts of the aquifer has declined, in large part due to increases in irrigated land and overall water use. Many local, state, and federal agencies are working to address both water storage/quantity and water quality issues within the aquifer region.



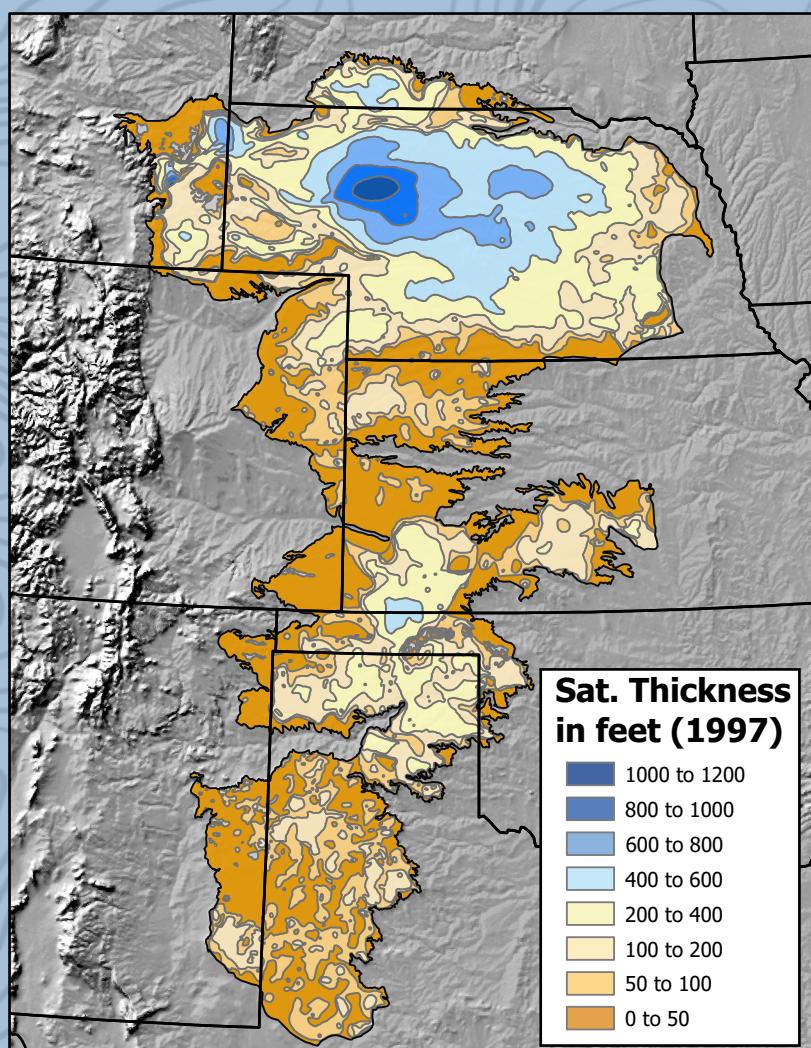
Center Pivot Irrigation in Finney County, Kansas

High Plains Top States: Estimated Irrigated Acres (2015)

1. Nebraska; 9.5 Million
2. Texas; 5.6 Million
3. Kansas; 3.1 Million



Saturated Thickness



Precipitation and Withdrawal

