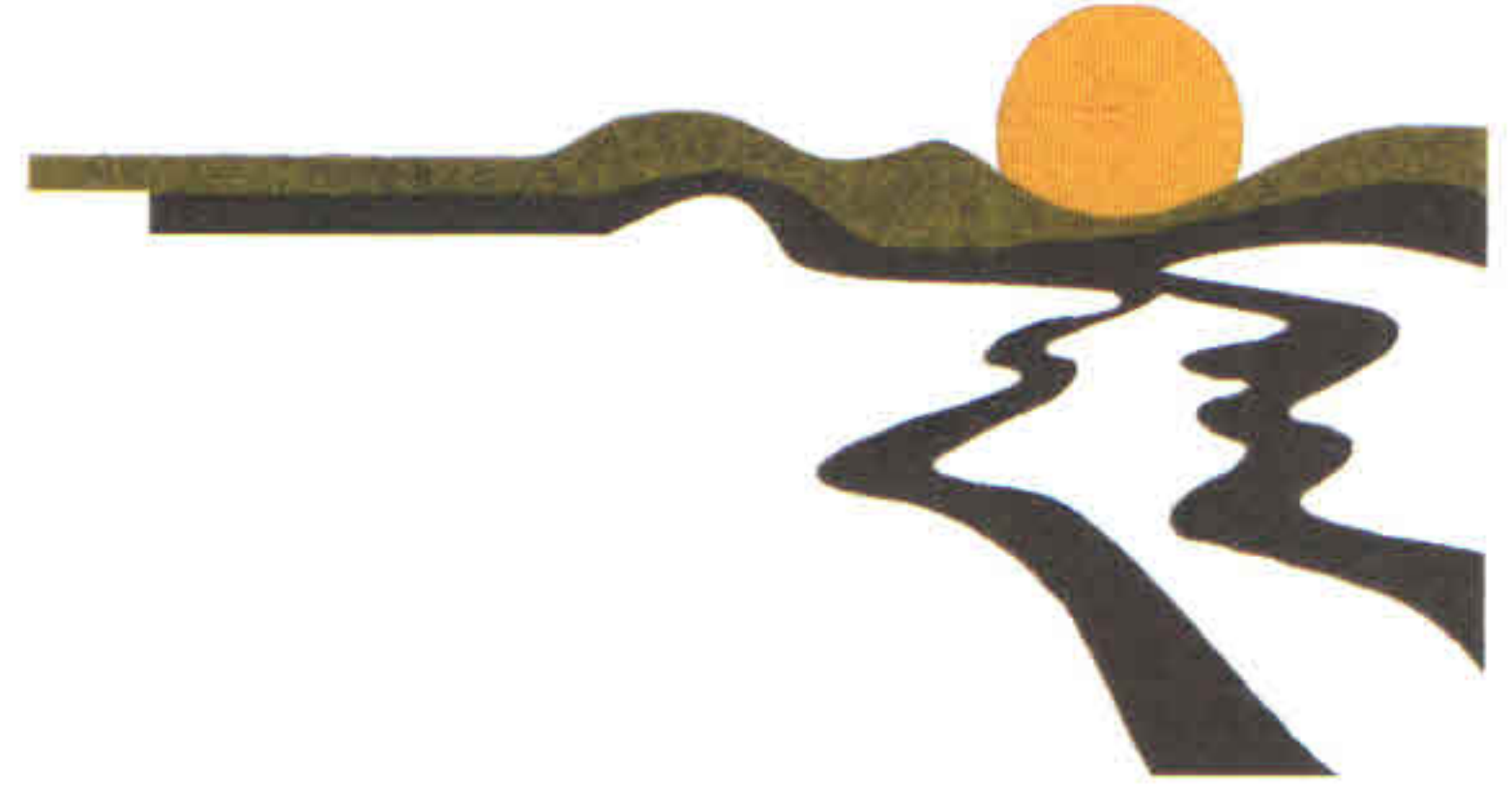


Arkansas River Coalition, Inc.

P. O. Box 3056
Wichita, KS 67201-3056



July 14, 2014

Jessica Mounts
%KDWPT
6232 E. 29th St. N.
Wichita, KS 67220

The Arkansas River Coalition (ARC) enthusiastically offers its support of the application from the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT) for inclusion of the Arkansas River Water Trail into the National Water Trail System (NWTS). ARC is an environmental organization founded in 1998 and dedicated to the protection, restoration and improvement of the Arkansas River watershed and the life it sustains. ARC partnered with the cities of Hutchinson, South Hutchinson, Wichita, Derby and Oxford; the counties of Reno, Sedgwick and Sumner and KDWPT in developing the Arkansas River Corridor Access Plan to establish additional access points on the Arkansas River and to promote its recreational use.

ARC actively promotes approximately 150 miles of the Arkansas River, from Alden, KS to Traders Bend at the upper reaches of Kaw Lake in Oklahoma, as a recreational, educational and economic resource. ARC conducts frequent floats, open to the public at no cost, as well as events such as field trips for school children and other groups. Over eight thousand participants have experienced time on the river with ARC, many having their first experience kayaking or canoeing. The coalition has established river access points at Belle Plaine, Burly Bend, Woodland Park, 47th Street, and Kellogg, and has adopted a river section in Wichita to clean up twice each year.

We believe that the Arkansas River as the fourth largest watershed of the nation deserves to be recognized as a NWTS, and that its inclusion will greatly enhance our efforts to increase awareness of the river and its recreational potential to attract visitors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Icke".

Russell Icke, President

It's Our River...It's Our Responsibility