



# Senate Passes WRDA Bill – A real victory for Save Our Water!

**Senate passed the WRDA Bill (S. 728) on Wednesday, July 19th that was a major victory and step forward for Save Our Water, Inc. and all of Oklahoma.**

**MEDIA RELEASE:** July 24, 2006  
For Immediate Release

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*(Eufaula)* – On Wednesday, July 19, 2006 the Senate passed the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) Bill (Senate Bill 728) which contains provisions directly affecting and benefiting Lake Eufaula. The provisions include: 1) establishing recreation as a project purpose of the lake; 2) creating a Federal Lake Advisory Committee that will allow citizens a voice in the operations of the lake; 3) authorizing a reallocation study of Lake Eufaula; and provisions for a lake management plan.

“This is a major victory for Save Our Water, Inc. (SOW) Lake Eufaula and all of Oklahoma,” said Karen Weldin, President of SOW. “This project is what we have worked so hard on and have been waiting on patiently for months! This is the legislation we mobilized over 6000 people to write letters and email Senator James Inhofe about. It is a real victory for all of us.”

The WRDA Bill is typically reauthorized every two years but has not been reauthorized since 2000. The Bill passed the House last year and now it has passed the Senate. It now goes to a conference committee made up of representatives from both the House and Senate with the goal of coming to an agreement. We will know something before November.

Senator Inhofe, who managed the WRDA bill on the Senate floor stated, “WRDA is crucial for Oklahoma as we work toward meeting our critical water resource needs...After six long years, the Senate has taken a significant step forward to improve our nation’s water resource needs. .. We should now move quickly to conference with the House so that we can work out our differences and vote on a final package.”

Save Our Water, Inc. will be watching the Conference Committee very closely and is optimistic that the amendment in the WRDA Bill that contains the legislation affecting Lake Eufaula will stay in tact and become law.

WRDA also contains legislation affecting other Oklahoma lakes and water resources. You can read a summary of the other Oklahoma provisions on Save Our Water’s website at [www.SaveOurWaterLakeEufaula.com](http://www.SaveOurWaterLakeEufaula.com).

Save Our Water, Inc.’s mission is to preserve and protect Lake Eufaula and all Oklahoma’s water resources.

**For more information, go to [www.saveourwaterlakeeufaula.com](http://www.saveourwaterlakeeufaula.com)  
or call 918-452-3184.**