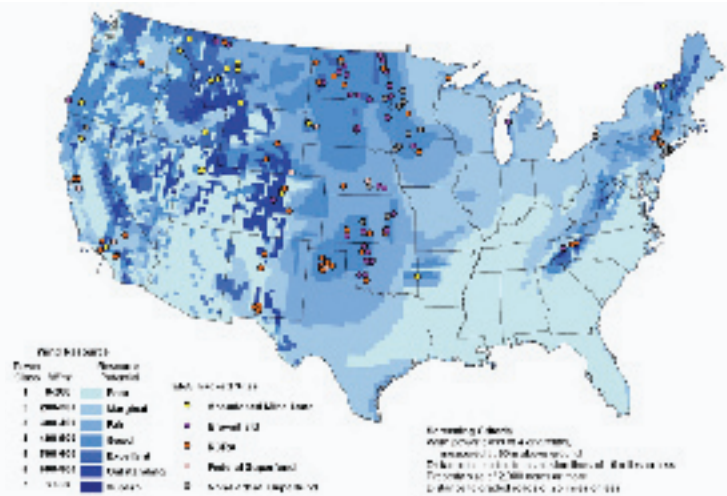


### Where is EPA investing and how much it has spent to date?

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is using geographic information system (GIS) technology to show how it is administering its \$7.22 billion allotment from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. The Web-based mapping application (<http://www.epa.gov/recovery/map.html>) shows total financial obligations and outlays by state. Once a state is selected, visitors can see how much money is going to State and Tribal Assistance Grants, Environmental Program and Management, the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund, and Hazardous Substance Superfund.

EPA has used ESRI GIS technology for years to manage its geographic data and deliver information to the public. Data related to air, water, and land issues across the United States are provided through the EnviroMapper portal, which includes EnviroMapper for Environmental Justice and EnviroMapper for the Toxics Release Inventory



Sites with utility-scale wind energy-generation potential—tracked by EPA

Program. The recently added MyEnvironment allows visitors to input a location and discover such location-specific information as air quality, cancer risk estimates, and water conditions. MyEnvironment is powered by ArcGIS Server and uses Microsoft Bing Maps. [[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)]

### The National Water Census

*“The United States has a strong need for an ongoing census of water that describes the status of our Nation’s water resource at any point in time and identifies trends over time” (National Science and Technology Council, 2007)*



In its simplest terms the philosophy behind the report “A Strategy for Federal Science and Technology to Support Water

Availability and Quality in the United States” is: “You can’t manage what you don’t measure.” Knowing our Nation’s water “assets” and rates of use on an ongoing basis is crucial to wise management. The USGS will shortly release an implementation plan demonstrating how the Bureau will put the National Water Census into operation. The goal is to place technical information and tools into the hands of stakeholders that allow them to evaluate water availability for the questions that they are facing. The responsibility for the management of water supplies rests at the state and local government level, but knowledge of the hydrologic system is needed across state lines. Therefore, we need to provide a seamless national database of water availability data across jurisdictional boundaries. The National Water Census

will use and build on data and assessments accomplished through state and local initiatives, as well as information produced under programs such as the Cooperative Water Program. The National Water Census is envisaged to develop a database of hydrologic indicators, a program for assessing flow needs for wildlife and habitat, and an application for delivering water availability information at scales that are relevant to the users. A series of collaborative studies will also be carried out on water availability in selected watersheds. [Water Website Team, USGS]

