

Lake McConaughy Teacher Background Information

- * Kingsley Dam was completed¹ in 1941 (75 years ago) on the North Platte River, but work began in 1936.
- * Lake McConaughy is the reservoir created by Kingsley Dam. It is the largest reservoir in Nebraska, has 76 miles of shoreline, and is 22-miles long.
- * Charles McConaughy and George P. Kingsley were two of the founders who worked to obtain legal rights and financing for the project.
- * Kingsley Dam was built mainly to store water for crop irrigation through canals and pipelines.
- * The project “required moving 39 miles of state and federal highways, 33 miles of Union Pacific Railroad track, 22 miles of county roads, 20 miles of oil pipelines and the entire town of Lemoyne.”¹
- * It has been used to generate electricity since 1984.
- * Lake McConaughy has about one million visitors each year.
- * Economic benefits from the dam and lake (irrigation, hydropower, and recreation) range from \$556 million to \$806 million each year.

¹ http://www.omaha.com/opinion/editorial-big-mac-gives-back-big-time/article_d20b193d-80b4-5798-9c16-08e4647eb249.html