USDA NRCS
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

RECOVERY.GOV

Watershed Operations

October 2009

Prop Canyon and Tributaries Watershed, New Mexico

Introduction

This watershed project will contribute to the economic growth of the area. The site provides flood protection for 30 residents and 280 acres of farmland in Cibola County, New Mexico.

The Prop Canyon and Tributaries

Project Description

- **Location:** Cibola County, 2nd Congressional District
- **Federal Funding:** $1,200,000
- **Sponsor Funding:** $15,000

This project will repair cracks in the dam caused by shrinkage of the soil material due to changed moisture content.

Partners

- USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Lava Soil and Water Conservation District
- Bluewater-Toltec Irrigation District
- Rio San Jose Flood Control District

Benefits

This project will restore the integrity and safety to an existing flood control dam to ensure flood damage reduction benefits and improved public health and safety are provided. By reducing the flood danger, the project will decrease the need for emergency personnel. Existing sediment damage will be reduced by 8,070 tons per year.

Funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, this project is part of the Obama Administration's plans to modernize the nation's infrastructure, jump-start the economy, and create jobs. NRCS is using Recovery Act dollars to update aging flood control structures, protect and maintain water supplies, improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, and restore wetlands. NRCS acquires easements and restores floodplains to safeguard lives and property in areas along streams and rivers that have experienced flooding.

Home immediately below Prop Canyon dam.

Prop Canyon and Tributaries Watershed, New Mexico

Economic Opportunities

Numerous jobs will be created during construction of this project. The flood protection provided will improve crops and reduce downstream sediment damages.

Statewide Perspective

The dam provides multiple benefits to the farms and residents in the watershed. Downstream, the Rio San Jose flows through Grants, NM. The flood damage reduction provided by this dam provides protection to farmland and the Village of Bluewater. Reduced sedimentation in the Rio San Jose improves flood control on the Rio San Jose by reducing sediment removal costs.

For More Information

USDA, NRCS
6200 Jefferson NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109
Phone: 505-761-4400
www.nm.nrcs.usda.gov

Cracks that have formed in the dam due to changed moisture conditions.

Inspection of of Prop Canyon and Tributaries □ood control dams.

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer