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## Project Description

- **Location:** Harrison and Daviess Counties (Missouri), 6th Congressional District; Ringgold County (Iowa), 5th Congressional District
- **Federal Funding:** \$950,000

The West Fork Big Creek Watershed Project plan consists of implementing conservation practices to protect the soil from erosion on cropland, and constructing of a series of small flood control dams and one large multi-purpose reservoir for municipal, industrial and rural water supply, recreation, and flood prevention. To date, 138 of the planned 253 single purpose flood retarding structures and the large multi-purpose structure have been completed or are under construction in Missouri. The watershed is located in northern Missouri and extends into Iowa.

## Partners

- USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- West Fork Big Creek Watershed District
- Decatur County Soil and Water Conservation District (Iowa)
- Decatur County Board of Supervisors (Iowa)
- Harrison County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Harrison County Court

## Benefits

This project will have a major environmental benefit on the watershed problems of soil erosion and flood damage. Additionally, this project will also provide an abundant water supply for Harrison County. The entire watershed project will reduce flood damage to 23,316 acres, protect stream channels, wer

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## Investing in the West Fork Big Creek Watershed, Iowa and Missouri

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### Economic Opportunities

When completed, this project will provide \$3.6 million in average annual benefits directly or indirectly in the watershed in Iowa and Missouri. This project will create or save jobs in the area.

### Statewide Perspective

Completion of this project will assist in maintaining the state's infrastructure of roadways and railways that are imperative to the success of these rural areas. Flood damages in these areas repeatedly impair water quality and threaten the state's fish and animal populations, including some endangered or threatened species. Economic opportunities for local residents will be enhanced by the reduction of sediment left by frequent flooding on profitable agricultural lands.

### For More Information

USDA, NRCS  
Parkade Center, Suite 250  
601 Business Loop 70 West  
Columbia, Missouri 65203-2546  
Phone: 573-876-0900  
Fax: 573-876-0913  
[www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov)



To date, 138 of the planned 253 structures, like the one pictured above, have been completed or are under construction in the watershed. Recovery Act funding will allow the construction of ten additional structures.

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