

Watershed Operations

October 2009

Oak Creek Watershed, Dam No. 9, Oklahoma

Introduction

The Oak Creek Watershed is located in Washita and Kiowa Counties, Oklahoma. This repair project will create or save jobs during the construction period. This project will make essential repairs to the eroding outlet channel of the dam.



Oak Creek Watershed Dam No. 9 is located in Washita County, Oklahoma.

Project Description

- **Location:** Washita County, 3rd Congressional District
- **Federal Funding:** \$90,000

The slopes of the outlet channel have failed, potentially endangering the principal spillway pipe. The failure of this pipe could lead to dam failure. This project will repair the steep, eroded slopes of the outlet channel by shaping the channel banks and lining the channel with rock riprap to protect the channel from future erosion.

Partners

- USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Mountain View Conservation District
- Oklahoma Conservation Commission

Benefits

This project will avoid more costly repairs in the future and prevent a dam failure. A dam failure would have catastrophic impact on water quality and downstream infrastructure. This project will ensure that \$67,362 in average annual flood damage reduction benefits will continue into the future.

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.



The eroded slopes of the discharge channel will be reshaped and lined with rock riprap to protect them from future erosion.

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Economic Opportunities

The construction of the project will provide jobs for heavy equipment operators, job foremen, and other construction personnel and subcontractors. Local businesses and suppliers will also benefit.

Statewide Perspective

Oak Creek Watershed Dam No. 9, 1 of 14 dams in the 46,394-acre watershed, is part of a vital network of 2,105 dams in 121 NRCS-assisted watershed projects in Oklahoma. These dams make up a \$2 billion infrastructure and provide \$75 million in annual flood-protection benefits.

For More Information

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Repairs to the eroded slopes of this channel will prevent damage to the principal spillway pipe.

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