

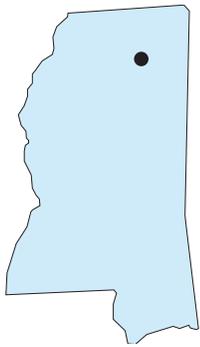
## Watershed Operations

December 2009

## *Skuna River Watershed, Mississippi*

### Introduction

Streambank erosion and excessive channel degradation are occurring in this watershed. Agricultural and urban lands are threatened.



Skuna River  
Watershed

Skuna River Watershed is located in Pontotoc County, Mississippi.

### Project Description

- **Location:** Pontotoc County, 1st Congressional District
- **Federal Funding:** \$750,000

This project consists of the installation of two rock riprap grade control structures and installation of corrugated metal pipe structures. Streambank erosion will be reduced, thereby improving water quality.

### Partners

- USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Skuna River Drainage District

### Benefits

The river's natural function will be enhanced by controlling erosion of the Skuna River banks. The stabilization of Mud Creek will protect agricultural land and protect upstream roads and bridges. Estimated net benefit, due to agricultural land saved, reduction in sediment load of the water system, and stabilization of the channel bottom is approximately \$1,000,000.

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.



Streambank erosion within the Skuna River Watershed increases downstream sediment and lowers water quality.

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## Skuna River Watershed, Mississippi

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### **Economic Opportunities**

Forty-two residents will be directly benefited in the project area. Others upstream of the project will indirectly benefit from the stabilization of Mud Creek. All beneficiaries own property along Skuna River and its tributary, known as Mud Creek. The towns of Houlka and Bruce, located downstream of the projects, will all benefit from the improvements.

### **Statewide Perspective**

Positive impacts from this watershed operation will include water quality improvements benefitting communities and wildlife habitat downstream.

### **For More Information**

USDA, NRCS  
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100 West Capitol Street  
Jackson, Mississippi 39269  
Phone: 601-965-5205  
[www.ms.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ms.nrcs.usda.gov)



Rock riprap will be placed in the channel to stabilize the bottom of Mud Creek within the Skuna River Watershed.

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