

Goony Otter Creek, Barkers Creek **EWP**

PAS Contact Name and Number	Carol Lagodich 304-284-4826
ARRA Program Area	Floodplain Easements
Full State Name	West Virginia
Project Title	Goony Otter Creek, Barkers Creek, Upper Guyandotte River Watershed
Introduction	<p>The Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program allows USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to acquire permanent easements on private land that has been damaged by flooding at least once in the last 12 months or twice in the past 10 years. NRCS funds conservation work necessary to restore the land to its natural state.</p> <p>Restoring floodplains to a natural state ensures they function properly – conserving and improving fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, flood water retention, ground water recharge, and open space; reducing long-term federal disaster assistance; and safeguarding lives and property from floods and erosion.</p>
Project Description - County Location	Wyoming County
Project Description - Congressional District	West Virginia Third Congressional District
Project Description - Federal Funding	\$906,983.10
Project Description - Sponsor Funding	
Project Description - 3 Sentence Summary	Ten restoration projects include removal of structures, septic tanks, and the planting of native vegetation. Flood waters routinely cover some areas with over two feet of water. The demolition of the residence will enhance water quality and reduce the disease potential by eliminating direct discharge of domestic waste into the stream.
Partners - USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service	Partners - USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Partners	
Benefits	Natural floodplain functions will be restored as home sites are restored to riparian stream habitat and natural floodplain vegetation. The demolition of the residence will enhance water quality and reduce the disease potential by eliminating direct discharge of domestic waste into the stream. Streambank erosion will be reduced as areas along the stream are converted from mowed yards to natural streambank vegetation.
Economic Opportunities	The project provides demolition/site restoration, technical/engineering, and project administration jobs. Flood damages will be eliminated for property owners who relocate outside of the floodplain. There are incalculable benefits to reducing risk to life and property and restoring environmental integrity to

	the natural floodplain.
Statewide Perspective	There will be a reduced need for federal, state, and local government assistance to residents who are no longer exposed to flooding. There will be a positive effect on the riparian areas, water quality, and floodplain functions of Goony Otter Creek and Barkers Creek with the removal of residential homes from flood prone areas.
For More Information - USDA, NRCS	For More Information - USDA, NRCS
For More Information - State Office Address	USDA NRCS 1550 Earl Core Road, Suite 200 Morgantown, WV 26505
For More Information - State Office Phone Number	304-284-7540
For More Information - State Web Site	www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/WV/rograms
Photo Caption 1 (required)	barkersCkcPhoto1.jpg: Natural floodplain functions will be restored as home sites are restored to riparian stream habitat and natural floodplain vegetation
Photo Caption 2 (required)	barkersCkcPhoto2.jpg: Flood waters routinely cover the year with over two feet of water and extensive flooding has occurred in this area twice in the last 10 years.
Photo Caption 3	barkersCkcPhoto3.jpg: Removing structures will reduce the potential to damage bridges and roads.





