

Fact Sheet

April 2013

Reinvesting in the Little Sandy Trail Creek No. 1 Dam, Georgia

Introduction

This watershed rehabilitation project provides substantial flood protection below Little Sandy-Trail Creek Dam No. 1 in Madison County. It helps promote the continuation of economic growth of the area by providing over \$113,451 in average annual flood damage reduction benefits.



Funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, this project was part of the Obama Administration's plans to modernize the nation's infrastructure, jump-start the economy and create jobs. NRCS Recovery Act dollars was used in updating aging flood control structures, protect and maintain water supplies, improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, enhance fish and wildlife habitat and restore wetlands.

Project Description

- Location: Madison County, Georgia, Congressional District: 9.
- Size: 27,276 watershed acres.
- Federal Funding: About \$170,000 design and construction costs
- Sponsor Funding: About \$90,000 design and construction costs
- Completion Date: April 2012

The structural work consisted of widening the auxiliary spillway to 195 feet and lengthening the control section to 100 feet. This upgraded the dam to current public safety standards to achieve required protection downstream of this high hazard dam.

Partners:

USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission
Broad River Soil and Water Conservation District
Madison County Board of Commissioners

Benefits

This project enhances four miles of stream corridor and flood plain function. There is a potential for more community open space where houses were removed.

Greatly improves public health and safety by substantially reducing the potential for flood damages to about 120 home and 15 businesses, reduces threat of loss of life, injury or disease; reduces danger and need for emergency personnel; less disruption to community services after a flood.

Estimated average annual flood damage reduction benefits of \$113,451.

Estimated average annual non-flood damage reduction benefits of \$537,156.

Estimated 10,000 residents directly or indirectly benefited in flood plain.

Majority of beneficiaries reside along the lower 25 miles of the Little Sandy Trail Creek 100-year flood plain; also indirectly benefits all residents of four municipalities.

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Range for the communities served: Minority (predominately African-American): 1-5%; Poverty rate: 1-10%; Age 65 and over: 5-20%.

Economic Opportunities

Jobs were created or saved with the planning, design, and construction of this project. Protection provided by the dam helps maintain the economic base and enhances future economic development and opportunity in the area. Each year the completed

project provides more than \$88,400 in average annual flood damage reduction benefits and \$12,700 in non-flood damage reduction benefits.

Statewide Perspective

Rehabilitation of Little Sandy Creek 1 helps the state achieve the overall goal of upgrading all high hazard class dams to state

safe dam standards which provide maximum flood protection to the communities within each watershed.

For More Information

USDA-NRCS
355 East Hancock Avenue
Athens, GA 30601
(706) 546-2272
www.ga.nrcs.usda.gov



Little Sandy Trail Creek Dam 1.
Widening auxiliary spillway



Little Sandy Trail Creek Dam 1.
Completed auxiliary spillway



Little Sandy Trail Creek Dam 1.
Widened auxiliary spillway after vegetation establishment

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