

Watershed Dams In Caddo County

Oklahoma has 129 USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) assisted watershed projects in 64 counties. Over 2,100 watershed dams have been built in the state with financial and technical assistance from NRCS authorized through Public Law 78-534, Flood Control Act of 1944 (Washita River Watershed) and Public Law 83-566 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program.

Watershed projects address a myriad of natural resource issues such as flooding, soil erosion, water quality, animal waste management, irrigation water management, water supply, wetland development or enhancement, fish and wildlife habitat and recreation. Many of these watershed projects also include conservation practices such as terraces, waterways, ponds, gully control, and pasture and rangeland plantings.

Operation and Maintenance of Watershed Projects

The annual operation and maintenance of dams and their components is a major responsibility for project sponsors (local units of governments, usually conservation districts, conservancy districts, or city or county governments).

Operation and maintenance of watershed dams can be expensive and labor intensive, but is necessary to ensure the dams function as designed and remain safe. Maintenance work includes clearing trees from dams and spillway, repairing soil erosion damage, repairing damage to the spillway and dams after heavy rainstorms, and keeping the inlet towers cleared of debris.

Operation and Maintenance Needs

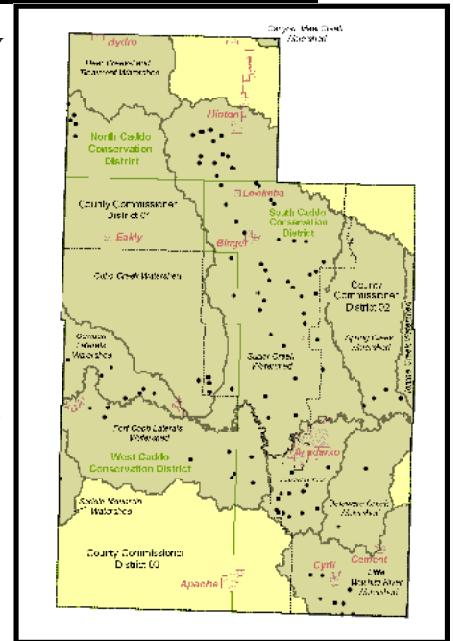
\$11.7 million is needed to meet operation and maintenance needs on all watershed dams in the state for fiscal years 2009-2012.

Rehabilitation of Aging Dams

Oklahoma has 321 watershed dams that will exceed their 50-year design life by 2009 and 806 will reach this milestone by 2013. *Caddo County has 10 dams that will exceed their*

50-year design life by 2009 and 34 by 2013.

Some Oklahoma dams will need rehabilitation to remain safe and protect the people that live or work downstream. It is estimated that \$30 million will be needed to rehabilitate the highest priority of these dams during the next five years. Oklahoma has several dams currently in various stages of rehabilitation.



NRCS assistance is available to rehabilitate aging watershed dams with 65 percent federal cost-share. Local project sponsors provide 35 percent of the rehabilitation costs.

North Caddo Conservation District

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Hinton, OK 73047-0698

405/542-3205

South Caddo Conservation District

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West Caddo Conservation District

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P.O. Box 96 (1/8 Mile North of Ft Cobb on hwy 9)

Fort Cobb, OK 73038-0096

405/643-5102

Annual Watershed Benefits (Entire Watershed)							
Watershed Name	Dams in Watershed	Dams in Caddo Co.	*Monetary Benefits	Farms / Ranches Benefited	Bridges Benefited	Wetlands Enhanced/Created	Reduced Sedimentation
Cobb Creek	12	9	\$235,009	365	34	420	160,186
Cowden Laterals	13	7	\$255,658	74	4	136	37,548
Delaware Creek	2	2	\$37,522	23	2	5	974
Ft. Cobb Laterals	9	9	\$191,133	61	3	126	26,463
Little Washita River	45	8	\$1,189,717	492	69	748	171,836
Saddle Mountain Ck.	12	1	\$242,178	109	18	277	49,420
Spring Creek	4	4	\$52,995	113	2	8	1,851
Sugar Creek	51	51	\$2,578,104	443	28	1,083	226,636
Tonkawa Creek	13	13	\$451,264	55	6	143	20,805
Total	161	104	\$5,233,580	1,745	166	2,946	695,719

*Monetary benefits include reduction in flood damages and may include other benefits such as soil erosion control, recreational areas, irrigation water, municipal and industrial water supply, and wildlife habitat. (Price Base 2007). December 2008