

# Buckeye Watershed Dam No. 1 Rehabilitation Project Maricopa County, Arizona

Fact Sheet  
October 2021

## ***History of the Dam:***

The Buckeye No. 1 Flood Retarding Structure (FRS) was originally constructed by local watershed project sponsors with the assistance of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Watershed Program in 1975. It is currently operated and maintained by the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

The earthen structure parallels the north side of Interstate 10 for 7.1 miles between State Route 85 and the Hassayampa River and provides flood protection to a portion of the Town of Buckeye.

## ***Why Rehabilitate the Dam?***

The FRS had developed safety deficiencies and inadequacies since the time of its construction related to embankment cracking, inability to pass the PMF without overtopping and emergency spillway capacity.

Rehabilitation of the structure will ensure continued flood protection while meeting current dam safety and performance standards.

## ***Rehabilitation Details***

The project includes raising the dam height to contain the PMF, construction of a reinforced concrete auxiliary spillway, installation of a central filter and a concrete riser for the principal spillway. In addition new ramps and maintenance roads will be constructed for future maintenance.

## ***Project Cost:***

Rehabilitation of the dam will cost an estimated \$47.6 million.

The NRCS is providing technical assistance in the planning and design of the project and 65 percent of the construction cost. Federal funding is provided through the NRCS Watershed Rehabilitation Program.

Local sponsors are proving 35 percent of the construction cost.



Phase 2A requires the rehabilitation of approximately five miles of an embankment dam that is located just north of the Interstate 10 in Buckeye, Arizona.

## ***Benefits of Project:***

Rehabilitation will extend the life and benefits of the structure for another 100 years and provide flood protection for an estimated 800 current residents, 300 residential and commercial properties, agricultural land, and related infrastructure. Additional residents and structures will be protected in the future as development continues to occur in the downstream benefitted area.

## ***Project Partners:***

- Flood Control District of Maricopa County
- Agua Fria-New River Natural Resource Conservation District
- Buckeye Valley Natural Resource Conservation District
- USDA NRCS

## ***For More Information Contact:***

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This fact sheet was developed in cooperation with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service by the National Watershed Coalition. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.  
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