

Cobb Creek Watershed Dam No. 1 Rehabilitation Project Custer County, Oklahoma

Fact Sheet
February 2016

History of the Dam:

Cobb Creek Watershed Dam No. 1, locally known as Crowder Lake, is located in western Oklahoma, ten miles south of the City of Weatherford.

The dam was constructed for flood control in 1958 by the Deer Creek Conservation District with assistance from the Oklahoma Conservation Commission and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Watershed Program.

In 1983 the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department created a state park around the lake and it became the Crowder Lake State Park. In 1997 Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) took over management of the park and it became known as the Crowder Lake University Park.

Originally design as a single purpose flood control dam now it also provides recreational facilities and is used by SWOSU as a teaching facility.

The dam is one of 12 dams in the Cobb Creek Watershed Project and together they provide \$252,000 in average annual benefits to those living in the watershed.



The principal spillway inlet tower and concrete pipe through the dam were replaced during rehabilitation.

Why Rehabilitate the Dam?

The dam was originally designed as a low hazard dam and constructed to protect rural agricultural land from flooding. Because of later development downstream the dam was reclassified as high hazard in 2006 and it did not meet current dam safety criteria.

Rehabilitation Details:

The dam was rehabilitated in 2011 to bring it up to current dam safety criteria. Rehabilitation included raising the height of the dam, replacing the principal spillway (concrete inlet tower and concrete pipe through the dam) and widening the earthen auxiliary spillway.

Project Cost:

The NRCS provided technical assistance and 65 percent of the project cost. Local project sponsors provided 35 percent of the cost. Rehabilitation of the dam cost \$4.2 million and took two years to complete.

Benefits:

Rehabilitation of the dam extends the life of the dam for another 100 years. It will ensure the safety of the dam and those citizens living and working downstream and will continue to provide flood prevention, recreational and educational benefits.

Partners:

- Deer Creek Conservation District
- Southwestern Oklahoma State University
- Oklahoma Conservation Commission
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

For More Information Contact:

Bill Porter, NRCS Assistant State Conservationist
Stillwater, Oklahoma
Phone: 405-742-1206
email: bill.porter@ok.usda.gov

