

Sugar Creek Watershed Dam No. L-44 Rehabilitation Project Caddo County, Oklahoma

Fact Sheet
March 2017

History of the Dam:

Sugar Creek Watershed Dam No. L-44 is one of 51 dams in the 190,000-acre Sugar Creek Watershed in Caddo County, Oklahoma.

The dam was constructed in 1971 by the South Caddo Conservation District with assistance from the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The conservation district is the local sponsor of the project and is responsible for operation and maintenance of the dam. The dam was constructed as a low hazard dam to protect agricultural land, but was reclassified as a high hazard dam in 2005 due to the construction of homes downstream.



As the remainder of Tropical Depression Erin swept across Oklahoma on the weekend of Aug. 18-19, 2007, rainfall amounts in parts of Caddo County exceeded that of a 100-year frequency storm. Over eight inches of rainfall fell in the drainage area above Sugar Creek Dam L-44 in less than 12 hours.

Major damage occurred to the auxiliary spillway and a portion of the back slope of the dam, but the dam did not breach. After immediate temporary repair the project sponsors applied to the NRCS for assistance to rehabilitate the dam to bring it up to current high hazard dam standards.

Rehabilitation Details:

Rehabilitation included moving the centerline of the dam downstream from the current location, rerouting a county road over the top of the dam, installing a concrete spillway pipe, and raising the auxiliary spillway level by 3.8 feet.

Project Cost:

The NRCS provided technical assistance in designing the project and 65 percent of the construction cost. Project sponsors provided easements and land rights for the project and 35 percent of the cost. Funds from a capital improvement bond passed by the Oklahoma legislature were utilized to meet the local project sponsor share of the project cost. NRCS provided funds through the American Rehabilitation and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program.

Benefits:

Rehabilitation of the dam brought it up to current State dam safety criteria for a high hazard dam and extended its life and its benefits for another 100 years.

Rehabilitation of the dam provides flood protection for two homes, a county road and agriculture land downstream and will provide \$13 million in flood-reduction benefits over the dam's 100-year service life.

Partners:

- South Caddo Conservation District
- Oklahoma Conservation Commission
- USDA NRCS

For More Information Contact:

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