

Yellow River Watershed Dam No. Y-14 Rehabilitation Project Gwinnett County, Georgia

Fact Sheet
February 2016

History of the Dam:

Yellow River Watershed Dam No. Y-14 dam was constructed in 1967 by local watershed project sponsors with assistance from the USDA Resource Conservation and Development Program (RC&D).

The dam is within the suburbs of Greater Atlanta near the City of Lawrenceville in Gwinnett County, Georgia. The dam was constructed to protect pasture and farm land and now provides flood protection for downstream subdivisions, apartment complexes, office parks, retail businesses, and bridges.



Rehabilitation of the dam included installing a roller compacted concrete spillway over the top and down the back slope of the dam.

Why Rehabilitate the Dam?

The dam was constructed as a significant hazard dam based upon the fact that two state highways were downstream from the dam. Since 1967 the population of the county has increased from 73,000 to 625,000 and urban development has occurred both upstream and downstream from the dam.

There are 45 homes in the dam breach zone and this prompted the Georgia Environmental Protection Division to reclassify the dam as a high hazard dam. The dam needed to be rehabilitated to bring it into compliance with current state safety criteria.

Rehabilitation Details:

A roller compacted concrete spillway was constructed over the top and down the back slope of the dam. The life span of the dam was extended for another 100 years.

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 \$1.8 million.

Benefits:

Rehabilitation of the dam extends the life of the dam for another 100 years. It is estimated that the dam will provide \$3.7 million annually in public benefits.

Partners:

- Gwinnett County
- Gwinnett County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Natural Resources Conservation Service

For More Information Contact:

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