Fact Sheet July 2023

Lower Running Water Draw Dam No. 4 Rehabilitation Project Hale County, Texas

History of the Dam:

The Lower Running Water Draw Dam No. 4 is located about 2.5 miles west of Plainview, Texas. The dam was constructed in 1976 by local watershed project sponsors with the assistance of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Watershed Program.

The dam was constructed as a significant hazard dam for watershed protection and flood prevention.



Dam under rehabilitation in June 2023

Why Rehabilitate the Dam?

Since construction in 1976, residential and commercial structures, major highways, and utilities have been constructed downstream of the dam.

As a result of this downstream development, a catastrophic failure of the dam could result in property and infrastructure damages and potential loss of life.

The dam was reclassified as a high-hazard dam and is being rehabilitated to upgrade it to meet current high hazard dam standards.

Rehabilitation Details

Major components of the project will include:

- Removal of the existing principal spillway inlet and installation of a new inlet tower with the crest elevation at the existing low-stage elevation and connecting the inlet to the existing conduit.
- Lowering the existing earthen auxiliary spillway crest elevation by 1.7 feet and regrading the inlet and outlet channels.
- Installing a 340 feet wide roller compacted concrete auxiliary spillway over the existing embankment.

Project Cost:

The NRCS is providing technical assistance and covering the design and construction inspection costs plus 65 percent of the construction costs. The remaining 35 percent of the cost will be funded through a grant from the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) and local watershed project sponsors.

Benefits:

Rehabilitation will extend the life and benefits of the dam for another 100 years and provide flood protection for 446 people at risk, including 66 residences, 58 commercial businesses, 12 public roads/crossings, I-27, Business I-27, US-70, FM 400 (Date Street), numerous city streets, several county roads, park areas and golf course, 1,551 acres of agricultural land and 381 acres of urban areas.

Partners:

- Hale County Soil and Water Conservation
 District
- Hale County Commissioners Court
- TSSWCB
- USDA NRCS

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