

# Poteau River Watershed Dam No. 5 Rehabilitation Project Scott County, Arkansas

Fact Sheet  
January 2014

## **History of the Dam:**

The Poteau River Watershed Dam No. 5 is located on the East Fork of the Poteau River about three and one-half miles northeast of Waldron, Arkansas.

The dam was constructed in 1964 as a multi-purpose dam providing flood control and a municipal water supply for Waldron (population of 3,500 people) and surrounding areas.

The dam was constructed by local watershed project sponsors with the assistance of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program. It is one of 16 dams in the Poteau River Watershed Project.



Rehabilitation included raising the height of the dam and the elevation of the principal spillway inlet.

## **Partners:**

City of Waldron, Arkansas  
Poteau River Watershed Improvement District  
Poteau River Conservation District  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

## **Why Rehabilitate the Dam?**

The dam was originally designed as a low hazard dam with a 50-year design life. It was reclassified as a high hazard dam due to development downstream. The dam was rehabilitated in 2010 to extend the service life of this aging dam and to meet current high-hazard safety criteria.

## **Rehabilitation Details:**

The height of the dam embankment was raised 4.7 feet; the principal spillway inlet height was raised 0.9 feet; and the elevation of the auxiliary spillway was raised 0.9 feet and the width increased from 600 feet to 770 feet.

## **Project Cost:**

The total cost of the rehabilitation project was \$1,615,469 with NRCS providing \$1,050,055 for design and construction costs and project sponsors providing \$565,414 for land rights and construction. Federal funds for the project came from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

## **Benefits:**

The dam provides protection for the lives and property of residents downstream. Twenty homes, several commercial properties, farm and poultry operations and a highway will be protected from flooding. The dam also provides 2,100 acre feet (684 million gallons) of water supply storage for 4,000 people in the City of Waldron and other areas of Scott County.

Rehabilitation of the dam brought it up to current State dam safety criteria and extended its life and its benefits for another 100 years. The rehabilitation project provides direct benefits to the immediate area and also provides resource conservation, economic benefits and public safety benefits that extend well beyond that area.

## **For More Information Contact:**

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