

## Watershed Operations

April 2009

## *Re-establishment of Riparian Habitat on Stillwater Creek Watershed, Oklahoma*

### Introduction

This project will reestablish 12 acres of wild life habitat, fulfilling the commitments made with the Army Corps of Engineers as part of the Stillwater Creek Watershed Plan. Approximately 450 residents and agricultural producers are directly or indirectly benefiting from flood protection and damage reduction.



The Stillwater Creek Watershed Dam is located in Payne County.

### Project Description

- **Location:** Payne County, Oklahoma, 3rd Congressional District
- **Federal Funding:** \$40,000
- **Sponsor Funding:** \$24,000

Tree plantings composed of native species will be installed to re-establish riparian habitat. Stillwater Creek Watershed Dam 33C was completed in April 2006. Residents and producers in Payne County are benefitting from flood protection and damage reduction to agriculture lands, roads, and bridges provided by Site 33C.

### Partners

- USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Stillwater Creek Conservancy District #16
- Payne County Conservation District

### Benefits

Dam No. 33C was completed in April 2006. An estimated 450 residents and producers are benefitting from flood protection and damage reduction to agriculture lands, roads, and bridges. There is a significant reduction of sediment delivered to streams each year.

Funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, this project is part of the Obama Administration's plans to modernize the nation's infrastructure, jump-start the economy, and create jobs. NRCS is using Recovery Act dollars to update aging flood control structures, protect and maintain water supplies, improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, and restore wetlands. NRCS acquires easements and restores floodplains to safeguard lives and property in areas along streams and rivers that have experienced flooding.



Stillwater Creek Watershed Dam No. 33C adjacent to the Stillwater Regional Airport.

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### Economic Opportunities

The dam provides an estimated average annual flood damage reduction of \$12,000. This project will create or save jobs in the local area through contractors installing vegetative practices.

### Statewide Perspective

Stillwater Creek Watershed Dam No. 33C, one of 35 dams in the 177,216-acre watershed, is part of a vital network of 2,105 dams in 121 NRCS-assisted watershed projects in Oklahoma. These dams make up a \$2 billion infrastructure and provide \$75 million in annual flood protection benefits.

### For More Information

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Aerial view during the construction of the dam shows homes, agricultural land, and roads downstream of Stillwater Creek Watershed Dam No. 33C.

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