

## Watershed Rehabilitation

April 2009

## *Reinvesting in the South River Dam No. 4 Watershed Structure, Georgia*

### Introduction

This watershed rehabilitation project will create or save jobs and protect lives, property, and public works from dam failure. During and after floods, it will prevent injury or disease, reduce need for emergency personnel, and prevent disruption of community services.



The South River Dam No. 4 is located in Madison County, Georgia.

### Project Description

- **Location:** Madison County, 10th Congressional District
- **Federal Funding:** \$1,375,000
- **Sponsor Funding:** \$363,422

An auxiliary spillway with a weir will be installed over top of the existing dam. This work will bring the dam up to current safety standards.

### Partners

- USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission
- Broad River Soil and Water Conservation District
- Madison County Board of Commissioners

### Benefits

This project will protect transportation networks, utilities, and real estate values in the floodplain. The safety of 30 residents will be increased, and as many as 600 residents will indirectly benefit from improvements to this dam. Nearly four miles of stream corridor and flood plain function will be enhanced. There will also be open spaces in areas where houses have been removed.

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.



Aerial view of the South River Dam No. 4 site.

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### Economic Opportunities

Jobs will be created or saved with the planning, design, and construction of this project. Protection provided by the dam each year will provide more than \$57,000 in average flood damage reduction benefits and non-flood damage reduction benefits of nearly \$10,000.



South River Dam No. 4. Principal spillway inlet.

### Statewide Perspective

Rehabilitation of South River Dam No. 4 will help Georgia achieve the overall goal of upgrading all high-hazard class dams to State safe dam standards.

### For More Information

USDA, NRCS  
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[www.ga.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ga.nrcs.usda.gov)



South River Dam No. 4. Well vegetated auxiliary spillway.

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