

Watershed Rehabilitation

April 2009

Reinvesting in the Little Choconut Creek Watershed Site 2, New York

Introduction

This dam rehabilitation project will create or save jobs and provide flood protection for the Town of Union and the City of Binghamton. The project will make the dam compliant with current safety criteria. During and after floods, it will prevent injury or disease, reduce need for emergency personnel, and prevent disruption of community services.



The Little Choconut Creek Watershed Site 2 is located in Broome County, New York.

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.

Project Description

- **Location:** Broome County, 22nd Congressional District
- **Federal Funding:** \$344,200
- **Sponsor Funding:** \$157,500

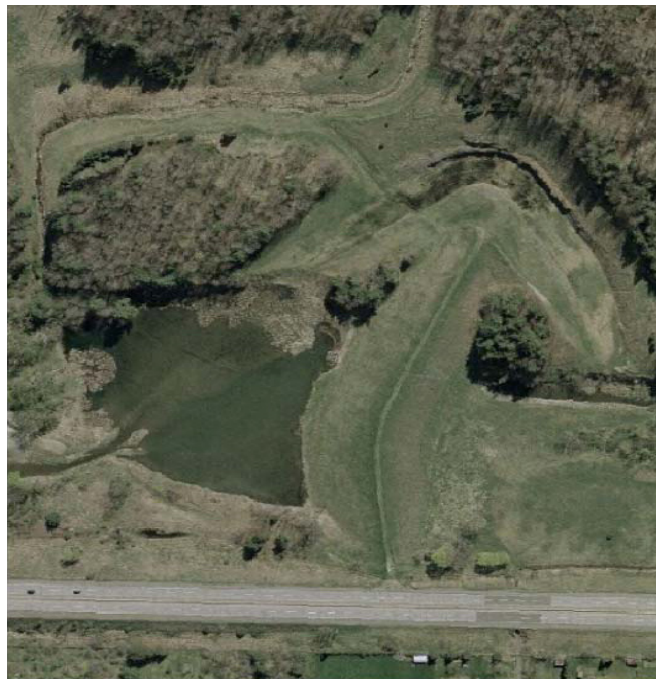
The project will raise the dam's auxiliary spillway, allowing it to hold more water. Sediment clogging the dam's pool will be removed and a drain needed to lower the pool's water will be replaced.

Partners

- USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- County of Broome
- Broome County Soil and Water Conservation District
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Dam Safety Section

Benefits

This rehabilitation project will protect 1,600 residents, several hundred homes, and 30 businesses from flooding for the next 100 years.



Aerial photo of Little Choconut Site 2 showing the flood water retention pool and the auxiliary spillway (at the top) to be raised.

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Economic Opportunities

Jobs will be created or saved through this project. These jobs will not be permanent, but the experience gained from this project will position these workers for future employment as more dam rehabilitation projects come on line. This project will increase the demand for construction supplies and equipment. Protection provided by the dam will help maintain the economic base and enhance future economic development and opportunity in the area. The project will provide an average annual flood damage reduction benefit of \$139,000 with a net economic benefit of \$111,000 annually.

Statewide Perspective

Site 2 is one of 59 dams constructed by NRCS in New York. These dams continue to provide millions of dollars in flood damage reduction benefits while providing millions of dollars in economic benefits for local communities and the State.

For More Information

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Flood pool of Little Choconut Site 2 will have the sediment removed.

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