



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®

Tulsa District

MEDIA MEMO

For Immediate Release

To: Editors, News Directors, and Assignment Editors
Synopsis: Information Request

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How have funds been spent at Optima Lake the past two years?

Fiscal Years (FY) 2008 and 2009 have been typical for the past several years on the amount of Operations and Maintenance (O&M) funds appropriated for the Optima project.

This past year, FY09, is typical of base level funding for Optima, as no specially recurring requirements occurred in this year. Total funds expended in FY09 were \$145,600. The breakdown in funds expended is as follows: Labor \$135,200, contracts \$4,100, supplies/materials \$3,400, travel \$2,000, and utilities \$900. Labor expenditures at Optima were divided across several elements of the Tulsa District organizations and are used to pay for routine Operations and Maintenance activities. General categories of expenditures included the following labor costs: inspection and compliance of Real Estate licenses, periodic operations issues such as ranger patrols and environmental inspection and stewardship of Public land, contract inspection of small service contracts, annual engineering inspections of the dam and outlet work (required of all dams each year), and routine maintenance, monitoring and testing of the flood control structures to ensure operability of the system. Contract costs include repair of the crane rollers, replacing four security lights, repair of the boundary fence, and mowing of the embankment to control unwanted woody vegetation and yucca. Supplies included direct drive blower and motor for the gate tower, safety and uniform items and toner cartridges.

Total FY08 total costs were \$212,300 and are typical of a year in which dam safety periodic inspections are required, on a recurring 5 year basis. Thus, labor costs (\$160,500), contracts (\$35,000), supplies/materials (\$12,200), and travel (\$3,900) were all higher than in a normal year, utility costs were \$700. Contract costs included cleaning and evaluations of piezometers which measure water levels and pore pressures, embankment and bridge surveys to measure movement, inclinometer data to measure horizontal movement in the embankment, generally required instrumentation surveys, and mowing of the embankment to control unwanted woody vegetation and yucca. Supplies/materials included truck rental, wire rigging and wire rope. Labor costs included the typical labor costs from FY08, plus the labor required for performing the dam safety instrumentation and periodic inspection required by Federal Regulation.

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