

Annual Average Benefits (Entire Watersheds)

Watershed Name	Dams in Watershed	Dams in OCC Area 5	*Monetary Benefits	Farms/Ranches Benefited	Bridges Benefited	Wetlands Enhanced/Created (acres)	Reduced Sedimentation (tons of soil)
Big Wewoka Creek	41	11	\$1,240,920	543	7	1,628	329,494
Boiling Springs Ck.	1	1	\$37,627	18	3	25	4,516
Brushy Peaceful Ck.	18	18	\$735,153	198	5	269	20,409
Caney Creek	14	14	\$269,806	75	9	246	38,396
Caney-Coon Creek	3	3	\$339,681	53	2	183	32,652
Carney Ck.	1	1	\$66,208	52	3	37	4,183
Caston Mountain Ck.	5	5	\$877,811	219	5	149	35,576
Delaware Ck.	13	13	\$693,334	109	5	299	61,885
Fourche Maline Ck.	14	14	\$1,489,078	744	12	386	92,846
Frogville Ck.	2	2	\$474,852	29	10	7	703
Leader-Middle Clear Boggy Creek	33	33	\$861,330	161	7	472	64,238
Little Wewoka Ck.	16	14	\$458,909	344	23	790	51,568
Lower Clear Boggy Creek	22	23	\$543,281	335	2	742	122,979
Mill Creek	18	5	\$143,597	177	10	340	49,903
Okfuskee Tributaries	29	24	\$1,637,555	562	7	502	80,182
Pennington Creek	3	3	\$18,641	188	7	114	18,917
Rock Creek	5	5	\$451,495	152	5	70	12,476
Sandy Creek	29	25	\$942,113	425	17	555	90,705
Upper Blue River	2	2	\$13,168	5	0	15	2,224
Upper Clear Boggy Creek	49	49	\$1,151,130	394	20	1,033	167,410
Upper Muddy Boggy Creek	24	24	\$450,032	334	9	369	63,298
Waterfall-Gilford Creek	11	11	\$111,923	215	47	167	21,768
Whitegrass-Waterhole Creek	9	9	\$1,389,415	148	9	191	24,581
Total	362	309	\$14,397,059	5,480	224	8,589	1,390,909

*Monetary benefits include reduction in flood damages to crops, roads, bridges, fences, etc. and may include other benefits such as irrigation, municipal and industrial water supply and recreation.

Oklahoma Watershed Program Facts

The state has always been a leader in flood control beginning with the construction of the first upstream flood control dam in the nation in 1948, Cloud Creek Dam Number 1. The dam located near Cordell, Oklahoma, is in the Cloud Creek Watershed, a tributary to the Washita River.

The Flood Control Act of 1944 (Public Law 78-534) authorized funding and technical assistance from the USDA Soil Conservation Service. This law authorized pilot watershed projects in eleven watersheds in the nation, including the Washita River Watershed in Oklahoma.

Congress saw the success and benefits of these eleven watershed projects and in 1954 passed the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954 (Public Law 83-566) that expanded the program to other approved watersheds.

1,107 dams have been constructed under the PL-78-534 program; 987 dams under the 83-566 Program; 7 under the Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Program; and 6 under a Pilot Program (Double Creek).

Oklahoma has the first completed watershed project in the nation, Sandstone Creek Watershed Project in Roger Mills County. Twenty-four dams were constructed in the watershed between 1950 and 1953.

Oklahoma was the first state to construct a multi-purpose dam (Wildhorse Creek Dam No. 22 in Stephens County) in 1957. Oklahoma was the first state to rehabilitate a dam (Sergeant Major Creek Watershed Dam No. 2 in the Upper Washita Conservation District, Roger Mills County in 2000).

Oklahoma was the first state to rehabilitate all the dams in a watershed project: Double Creek Watershed Dams 1-6 in the Caney Valley Conservation District, Washington County. The six dams were rehabilitated in 2004-2009. Oklahoma has rehabilitated more dams than any other state (35).

Oklahoma has more flood control dams than any other state with 2,107. Texas is second in number of dams with approximately 2,000.

1,218 of Oklahoma's watershed dams reached the end of their designed life in 2016. In 2017, one dam every three days will reach the end of their design life. Most dams were designed for a 50-year life span.

The 2,107 watershed dams represent a \$2 billion public infrastructure for Oklahoma (just like roads, bridges, interstates, water systems, etc.).

If the remaining 320 planned dams were constructed they would provide an additional \$33 million in average annual benefits.