

North Deer Creek Watershed Dam No. 1M

Wes Watkins Reservoir

Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma



Protecting Our People - Protecting Our Natural Resources

This is one of 2,107 examples of how local, state and federal government agencies have worked together to utilize the Natural Resources Conservation Service Watershed Program to address natural resource needs and improve the quality of life for thousands of Oklahomans.*

North Deer Creek Watershed Dam No. 1M

North Deer Creek Watershed Dam No. 1M, known as Wes Watkins Reservoir, is located one mile south of McLoud, Oklahoma in Pottawatomie County.

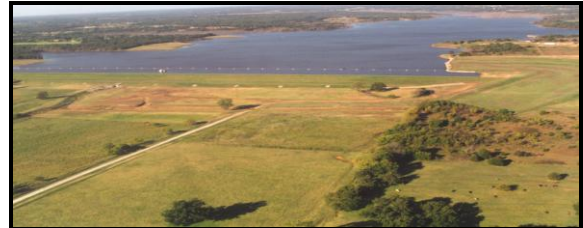
The dam was constructed in 1996 by the Pottawatomie County Development Authority (PCDA) and the Shawnee Conservation District with the assistance of the Oklahoma Conservation Commission and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program.

The dam was constructed for flood control, municipal water and recreation with the PCDA paying 80 percent of the construction cost of the dam and the NRCS paying 20 percent. PCDA and NRCS each paid 50 percent of the recreational development around the lake.

The 1,142 surface acre lake is the largest lake of the 2,107 flood control dams that have been built in Oklahoma with assistance of the NRCS Watershed Program. Municipal water supplies from the lake are allocated to the cities of Shawnee and Tecumseh.

Recreational facilities around the lake include three boat ramps, fishing docks, and six restrooms with three sets of showers for overnight campers and swimmers. There are three large picnic pavilions, group barbecue grills, and overnight campsites that include 33 primitive tent sites and 16 RV sites.

The dam provides flood protection for some of the most productive bottomland farms in the county and for the City of Dale. The dam provides \$2.4 million in average annual benefits. It provides flood protection for 150 farms and ranches; reduces sedimentation by 92,000 tons of soil annually; protects four bridges and several miles of county roads; and has created or enhanced over 300 acres of wetlands.



North Deer Creek Watershed Dam No. 1M provides flood control, municipal water and recreational areas



The North Deer Watershed Project is one of 129 projects in Oklahoma that have been planned and implemented by local people with assistance from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

2,107* NRCS - assisted flood control dams have been constructed in 61 Oklahoma counties. These watershed projects, that also include thousands of conservation practices, provide over \$81 million in average annual benefits.

For additional information about watershed projects in the state visit the Oklahoma Conservation Commission website at: <http://conservation.ok.gov> or visit your local conservation district and NRCS office.



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