



Watershed Rehabilitation (Rehab) Program

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

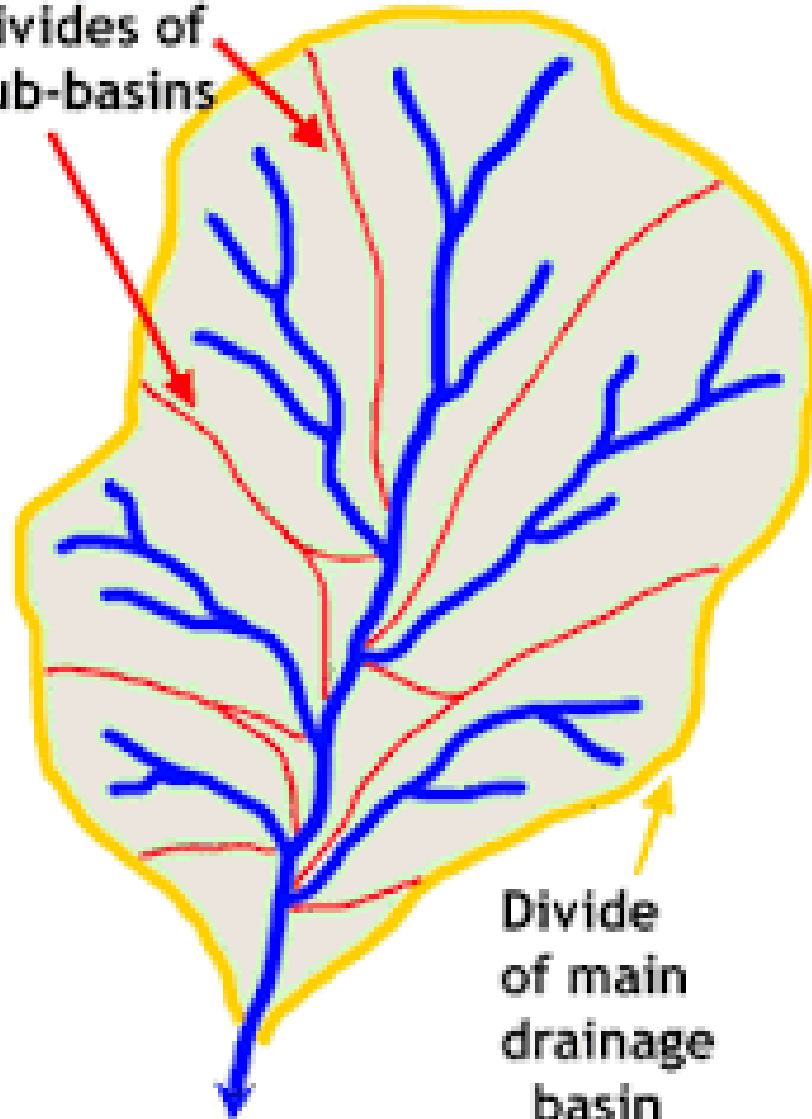
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What is a Watershed?

- **Hydrologic Unit Codes-** Used nationwide to describe drainage areas labelled with a series of numbers
- **Different numbers represent different scales**
 - The smaller the number the LARGER the are
 - HUC-12 drainage basin will represent a smaller area than a HUC-8 drainage basin



Divides of
sub-basins



Divide
of main
drainage
basin



GENERAL	DESIGN	DATA SOURCES	PDLS	DEVICES	FILES	EAP FILES	SPONSORS
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NID	Dam Name	Other Dam Name	Watershed Name	Watershed Project Code	Program Authorization		
NM00222	Upper Rio Penasco Site 1	Bear Creek Retard Dam	Upper Rio Penasco	NM2005	WS		
Longitude	Nearest City/Town	Distance City/Town (mi)	County	Project ID	Congressional District		
-105.5662	Mayhill	7	Otero County	Upper Rio Penasco	NM-02		
River or Stream	Year Completed	Year Modified	Planned Service Life (yr)	Purposes	Hazard Classification (current)		
Bear Creek; Tr- Rio Penasco	1960	0	50	CD	H		
Hazard Potential Classification Year	Population at Risk (no. of people)	Emergency Action Plan	EAP Year	O&M Responsibility	State Regulatory Agency		

The “NRCS Watershed Umbrella”

WFPO

- Watershed & Flood Prevention Operations Program
- Helps units of federal, state, local and federally recognized tribal governments (project sponsors) protect and restore watersheds.

Rehab

- Rehabilitation Program
- Helps project sponsors rehabilitate aging dams that are reaching the end of their design life and/or no longer meet federal or state safety criteria or performance standards

EWP

- Emergency Watershed Protection Program
- Helps people reduce imminent hazards to life and property threatened by excessive erosion and flooding caused by a natural disaster

Rehab Background

- **Authorities**

- Public Law 78-534 (Flood Control Act of 1944)
- Public Law 83-566 (Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954)
- Public Law 156-67 (dam rehabilitation)

- **New Mexico Benefits**

- Approx 30 approved Watershed Plans
 - Encompassing nearly 85 structures for flood reduction and/or grade stabilization
 - Provide approx. \$20 million in average annual flood reduction benefits

Program Requirements

- **Only dams originally constructed with assistance from the following programs are eligible for Rehab Program Assistance:**
 - Pub. L. No. 83-566 (Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954)
 - Pub. L. No. 78-534 (Flood Control Act of 1944)
 - Pilot Watershed Program authorized under the Department of Agriculture Appropriation Act of 1954
 - Resource Conservation and Development Program authorized by the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981

Program Requirements Cont.

Rehab Program work may include any of the following:

- Protecting the integrity of the dam or extending the useful life of the dam beyond the original evaluated life expectancy.
- Repairing damage to the dam from a catastrophic event.
- Repairing structural components that are deteriorating at an abnormal rate.
- Upgrading the structural works of improvement to meet changed land use conditions in the watershed served by the structural works of improvement or changed safety criteria applicable to the structural measure.
- Decommissioning (removing) the structure and stabilizing the site, if requested by the sponsoring local organization (SLO).

Rehab Program Cost Share

- **65% Federal / 35% Sponsor**
 - Specific rate established in the statute
 - Cost share revolves around the total eligible project cost, not to exceed 100% of the actual construction cost
 - Project cost includes items like construction, in-kind services (planning, engineering, project administration), required replacement in-kind, required decent/safe/sanitary facilities, etc.

Sponsor Eligibility

- Any entity legally organized under state law
 - State
 - County
 - Town
 - Soil and Water Conservation District
 - Natural Resources District
- Any Indian Tribe or Tribal organization, as defined in Section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. § 450b)

Sponsor Responsibilities

At least one eligible sponsor must have the authority and be willing to provide the following functions:

- Power of Eminent Domain
- Acquire Real Property Rights and or easements
- Authority to Levy Taxes
- Acquire Permits and Licenses
- Implement Land Treatment above Reservoirs
- Operation and Maintenance: must fund, operate, and maintain features installed as part of the project
- Watershed Management
- Public Participation

Rehab Program Steps

1. Dam Assessment

- Typically funded by NRCS, and completed by NRCS or Contractor
- Duration to complete is approx. 12 months

2. Rehab Planning

- Normally fully funded by NRCS
- Multiple options for who completes / creates the Watershed Plan
 - Federal Contract
 - Local-Led Agreement
- Duration to complete is approx. 18-24 months (+ or -)

3. Rehab Design

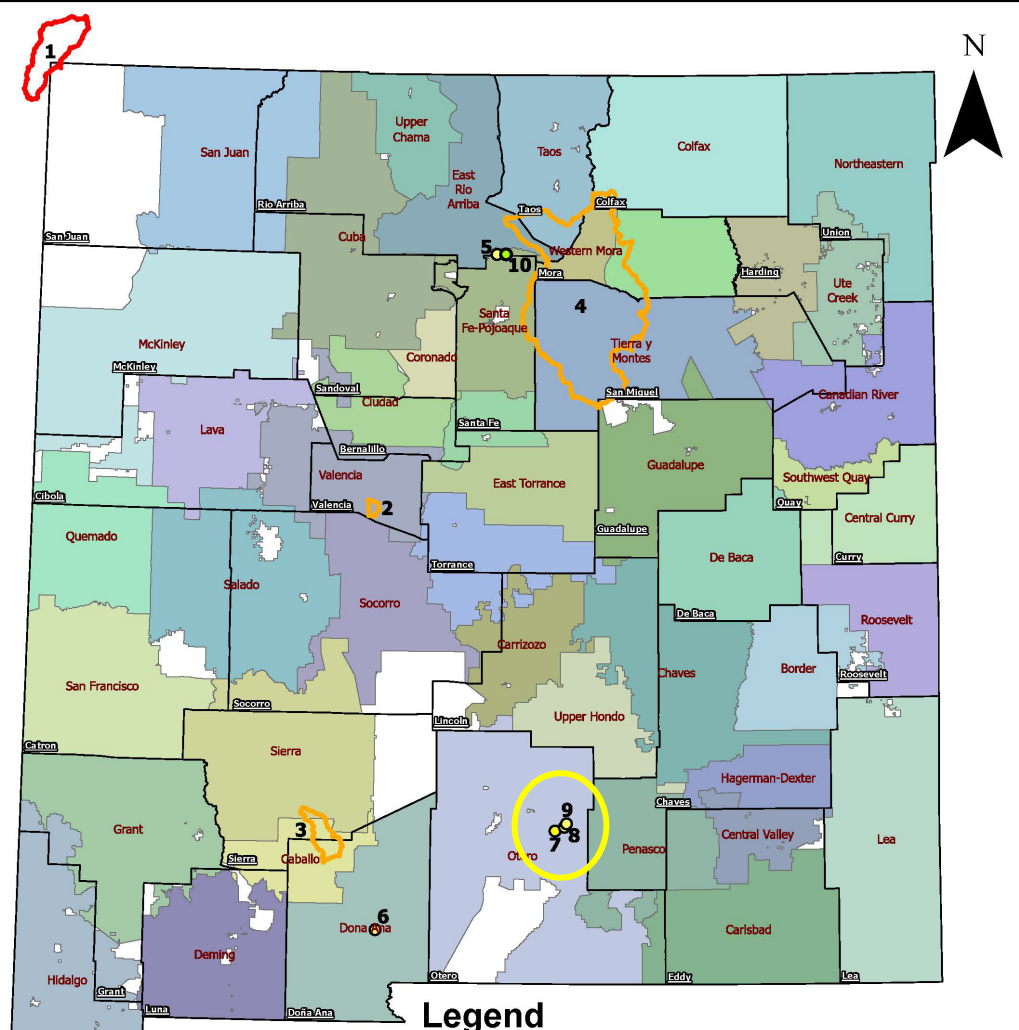
- Normally fully funded by NRCS
- Multiple options for who completes the design(s)
- Duration is approx. 1-2 years

4. Rehab Construction

- Funded at 65% Federal / 35% Sponsor for total construction costs
- Duration ranges from 2 years to 5 years due to:
 - Acquisition of easements and or land rights
 - Permits

Rehab Program Ranking System

1. Applications submitted by for rehabilitation planning and implementation assistance are ranked and funded annually based on the condition of the dam and risk to loss of life should the dam fail. Dams with the highest risk of failure and threat to loss of life are prioritized for program planning and implementation.
 - High hazard dams will always take precedence over significant or low hazard dams



Legend

WFPO Planning - PIFRs

1 (CO) Marble Wash-San Juan River

WFPO Planning - EAs

- 2 Belen Watershed
- 3 Rincon Arroyo Watershed

WFPO Planning - EISs

4 HPCC Burn Scar

WFPO Design

WFPO Construction

Rehab Planning - Assessments

Rehab Planning - EAs

- 50 Santa Cruz Site 4
- 60 Tortugas Site 1
- 70 Upper Rio Penasco Site 1
- 80 Upper Rio Penasco Site 2
- 90 Upper Rio Penasco Site 3A

Rehab Design

100 Santa Cruz Site 1

Rehab Construction

Upper Rio Penasco Dam Sites

Site #1 – Bear Creek Dam

Site #2 – Curtis Canyon Dam

Site #3A – Graveyard Canyon Dam

Upper Rio Penasco Dam Sites Cont.

Original work plan was completed in 1957

- Dams were constructed between 1959 and 1960
- **Originally built as low hazard dams to protect agricultural fields**
 - Since then, development downstream has increased the safety risk.
 - Dams were not built to protect human life
- **They are now classified as high hazard structures**
 - Which is why the SWCD came to NRCS for assistance

For More Information, Please Contact:

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