

Kickapoo Nations Creek Watershed Project

Lincoln and Oklahoma Counties

Protecting Our People - Protecting Our Natural Resources



This is one of 129 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.*

Kickapoo Nations Creek Watershed Project

The Kickapoo Nations Creek Watershed Project includes five flood control dams, four in Lincoln County and one in Oklahoma County.

The Lincoln County and Oklahoma County Conservation Districts and City of Chandler serve as local project sponsors. These sponsors requested assistance from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Oklahoma Conservation Commission in the development of a watershed work plan in 1977 to address flooding and the need for municipal water for the City of Chandler.

This plan called for the construction of 15 flood control dams and installation of conservation practices to control flooding and erosion.

Dam No. 1M, known locally as Bell Cow Lake was constructed in 1990 by the City of Chandler and the Lincoln County Conservation District. The City provided funding for an additional 13,700 acre feet of water storage above that needed for flood control to be used for municipal water and recreational use.

Before the dams were constructed the Kickapoo Nations Creek Watershed was subject to frequent and severe flooding, including a portion of the City of Chandler. Erosion and sediment deposition were also major issues. Estimated cost of average annual flooding was \$290,000 (1977 dollars). If the remaining 10 dams were constructed they would provide an additional \$700,000 in annual benefits from reduced flooding.

Kickapoo Nations Creek Watershed Project Benefits – 5 Dams

- Dams provide \$2.1 Million in average annual benefits from reduced flood damages
- Provides flood protection for 289 farms and ranches
- Provides flood protection for 88 major bridges and many smaller bridges and county roads
- Created or enhanced 327 acres of wetlands
- Reduces sedimentation of streams and rivers by 60,446 tons of soil annually
- Impounded water has created fish and wildlife habitat, waterfowl nesting areas and livestock water

The Kickapoo Nations Creek 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 flood control dams have been constructed in 61 Oklahoma counties. The watershed projects that also include thousands of conservation practices provide over \$90 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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