



United States Department of Agriculture



National Headquarters

Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service



# Oklahoma Governor's Water Conference

Jimmy Bramblett – Deputy Chief for Programs

December 6, 2018 | Oklahoma City, OK

Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service

[nrcs.usda.gov/](http://nrcs.usda.gov/)



United States Department of Agriculture

## AGENDA

- Watershed Projects –  
Maximizing Water  
Storage Capacity

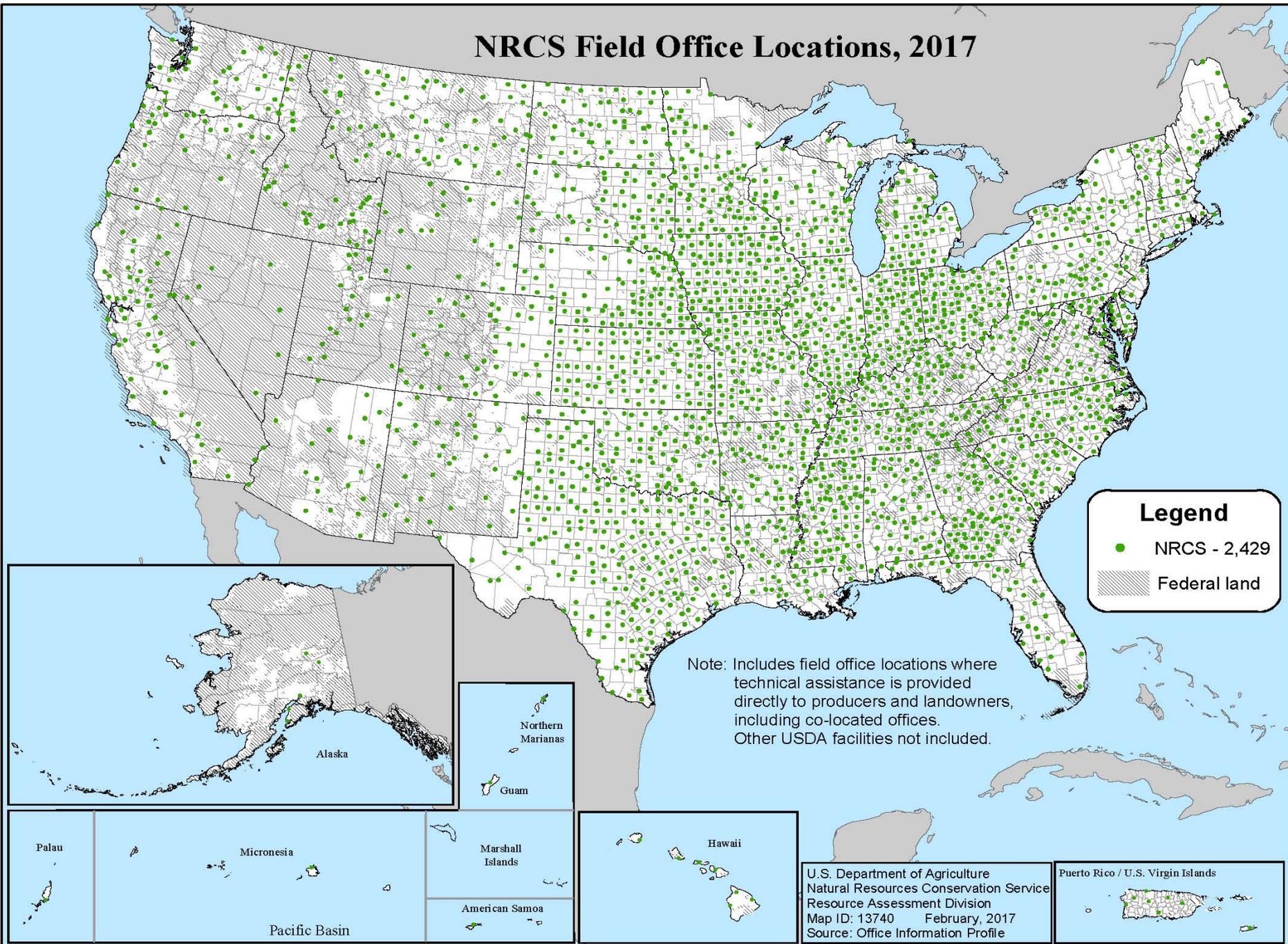


Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service

[nrcs.usda.gov/](https://nrcs.usda.gov/)



# NRCS Field Office Locations, 2017



# Watershed Projects

## Watershed Authorities

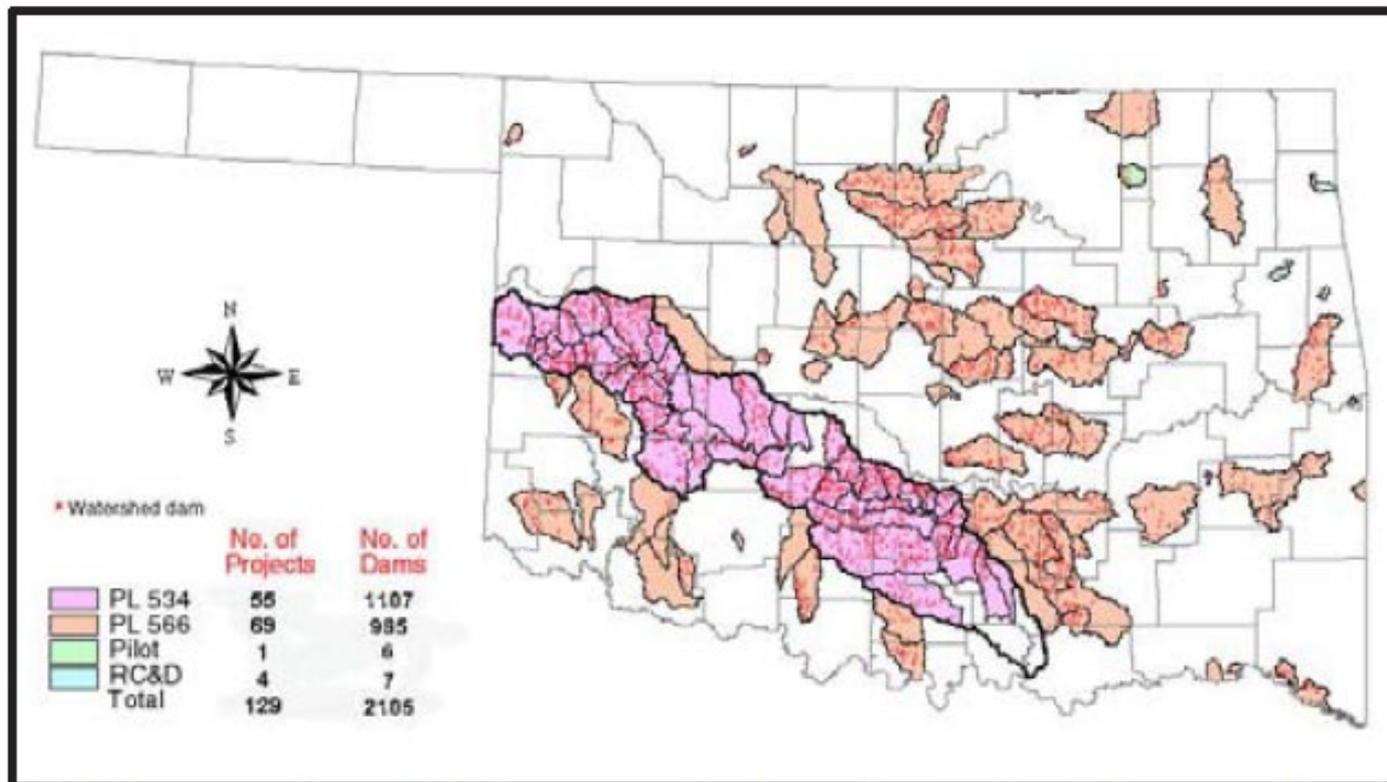
- Pilot Watershed Projects
- PL-534 Watershed Projects
- PL-566 Watershed Projects
- RC&D Watershed Projects
- PL-472 Watershed Rehabilitation Projects

## Purposes

- Erosion and sediment control
- Fish and wildlife habitat enhancement
- Flood prevention
- Hydropower sources
- Rural, municipal and industrial water supply**
- Water management
- Water quality Improvements



# Watershed Projects



Oklahoma has 129 watershed projects in 64 counties

Natural Resources Conservation Service

[nrcs.usda.gov/](https://nrcs.usda.gov/)



# Watershed Projects



## Watershed Dams Benefits

- 48,000,000 million people
- \$2.2 billion average annual benefits
- 610,00 homes
- 180,000 farms
- **28,000 water supplies protecte**



The area shown inside the red lines illustrate the downstream area protected from flooding by the dam (benefited area).



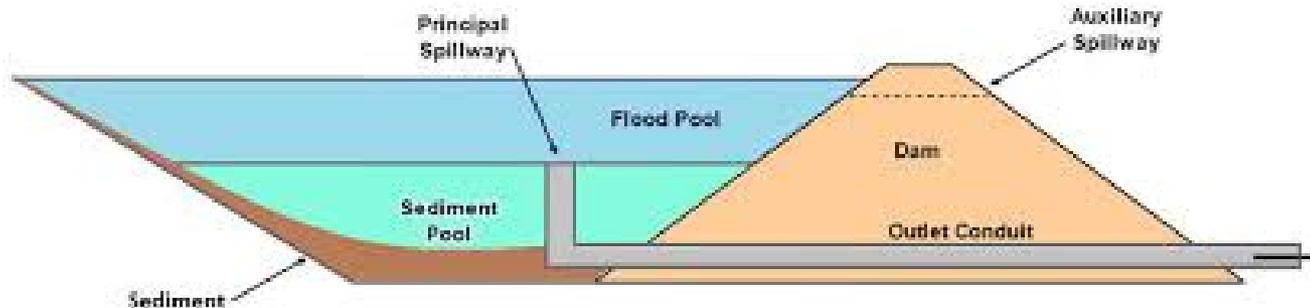
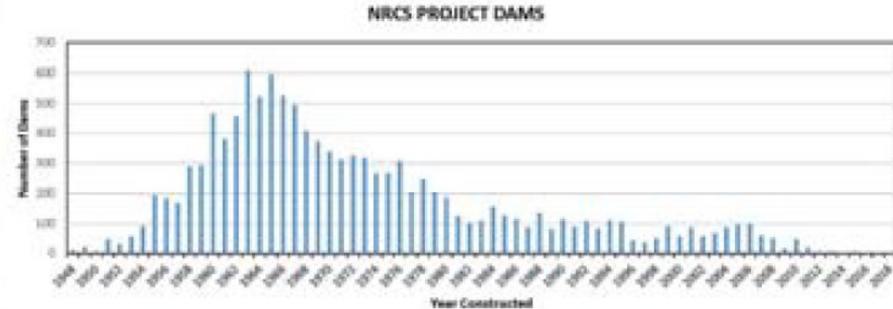
# Watershed Projects

## Watershed Project Dams

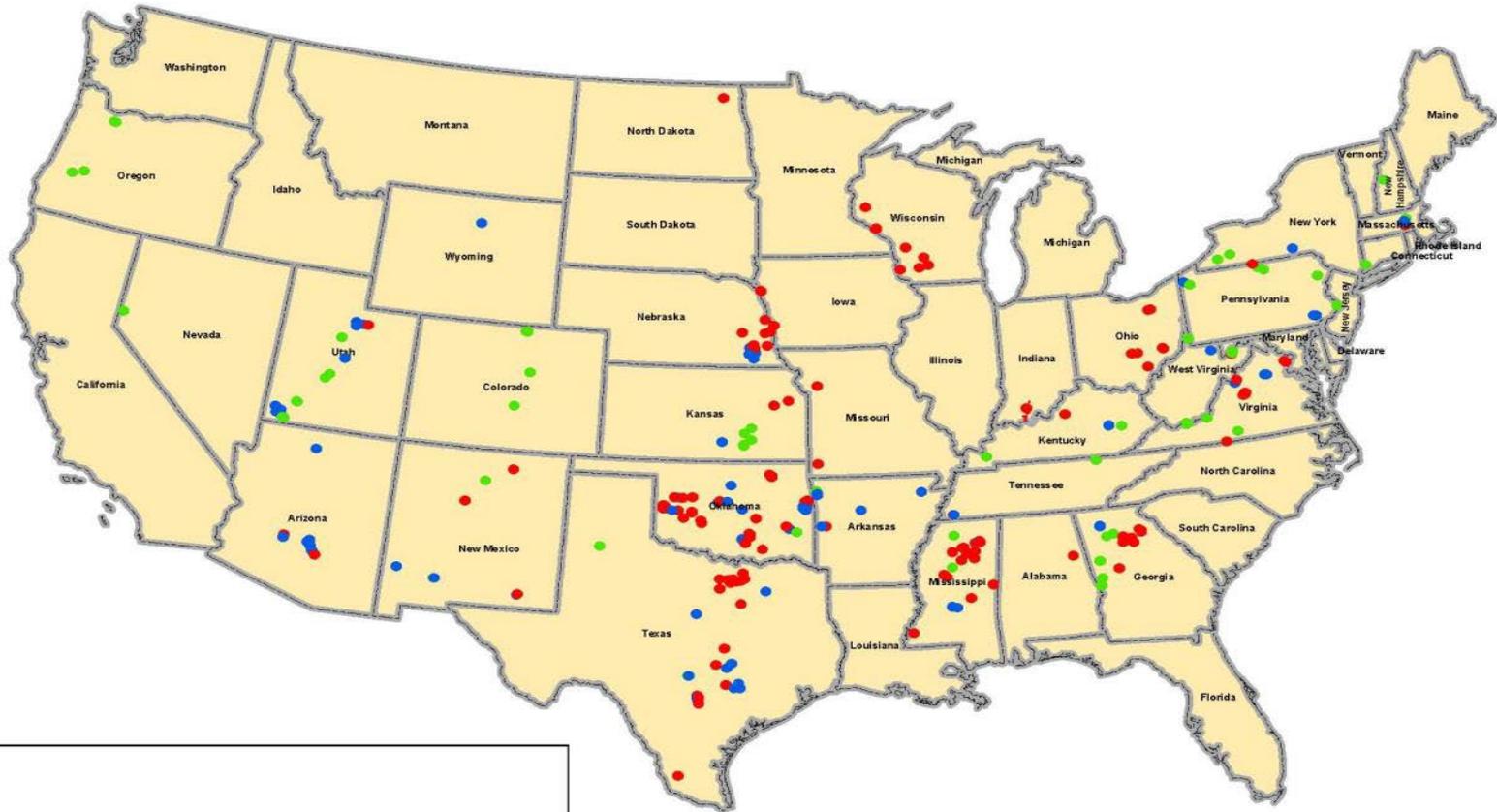
- 11,900 NRCS Assisted Dams
- Construction Peaked in 1963
- 2018 – Milestone => 5,850 dams reach their evaluated life

## Opportunities

- Address Other Eligible Purposes
  - **Water Supply**



## Status of Watershed Rehabilitation Projects January 2018



**Legend**

**Status**

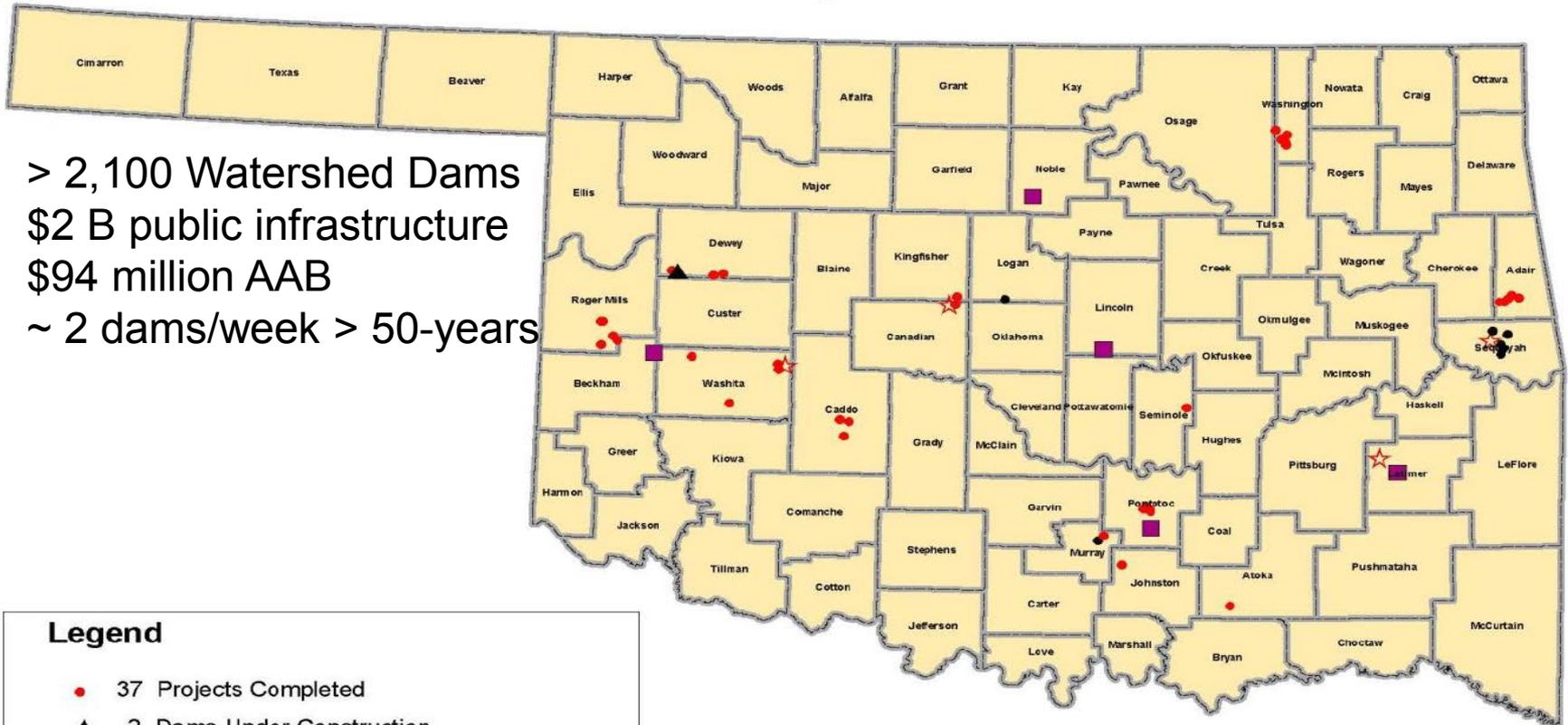
- 57 Projects in Planning (20 States)
- 78 Projects Authorized - Implementation in Progress (17 States)
- 145 Projects Completed (23 States)

Total 280 Projects in 30 States

# Oklahoma Watershed Rehabilitation Projects

## Status: August 2018

- > 2,100 Watershed Dams
- \$2 B public infrastructure
- \$94 million AAB
- ~ 2 dams/week > 50-years



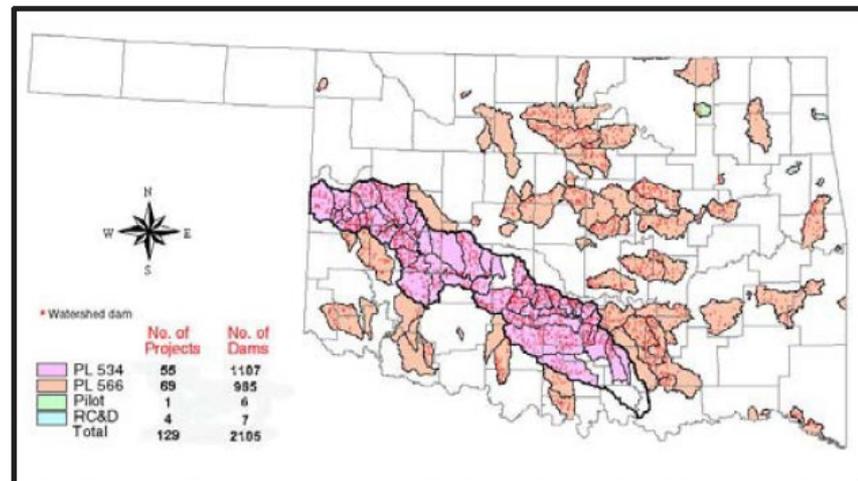
### Legend

- 37 Projects Completed
- ▲ 2 Dams Under Construction
- 2 Designs Completed-Awaiting Construction
- 4 In Design
- ☆ 8 Planning Completed - Awaiting Design
- 0 In Planning
- 53 Funded Projects

# Watershed Projects

## Watershed Project Dam Rehabilitation

- 42 Multi-Purpose Dams
  - **Mostly Water Supply**
- **~300 dams with potential for adding water supply**
- Traditional Partnerships more Critical
  - Institutional Knowledge
- American Water Works Association collaboration
  - Source Water Protection



Oklahoma has 129 watershed projects in 64 counties



Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service

[nrcs.usda.gov/](https://nrcs.usda.gov/)



# Watershed Projects



## 2018 Farm Bill

- EQIP
  - Expands Agreements with Irrigation interests
- Watershed Program
  - More stability in funding
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program
  - Makes Program Fund Specific, with increased funding
  - Expands PL-566 Program Authorities
  - State and Regional Funding Pools



# Watershed Projects



## Watershed Project Dams

- DamWatch collects real-time data to send alert notifications when thresholds are exceeded.
- Alert notifications are distributed immediately to respond according to their Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) or Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs).
- Started in Oklahoma



Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service

[nrcs.usda.gov/](https://nrcs.usda.gov/)

# National Firsts in the Oklahoma Watershed Program

First Completed Watershed Project Sandstone Creek Watershed Roger Mills County, 24 dams Built Between 1950-1953

First Completed Pilot Rehabilitation Watershed Project, Sergeant Major Creek Watershed Dam No. 2, April 2000, Roger Mills County

First Watershed Dam Constructed With Funds From the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Turkey Creek Dam No. 3, Garfield County, February 2010

First Complete Watershed Project To Have All Dams Rehabilitated, September 2009, Double Creek Watershed, Washington County

First Completed Watershed Rehabilitation Project Funded by the Watershed Rehabilitation Amendments of 2000, Sandstone Creek Watershed Dam No. 17A, Roger Mills County 2003

First Watershed Dam Decommissioned Under the Watershed Rehabilitation Program, Cavalry Creek Watershed Dam No. 6, July 2005, Washita County

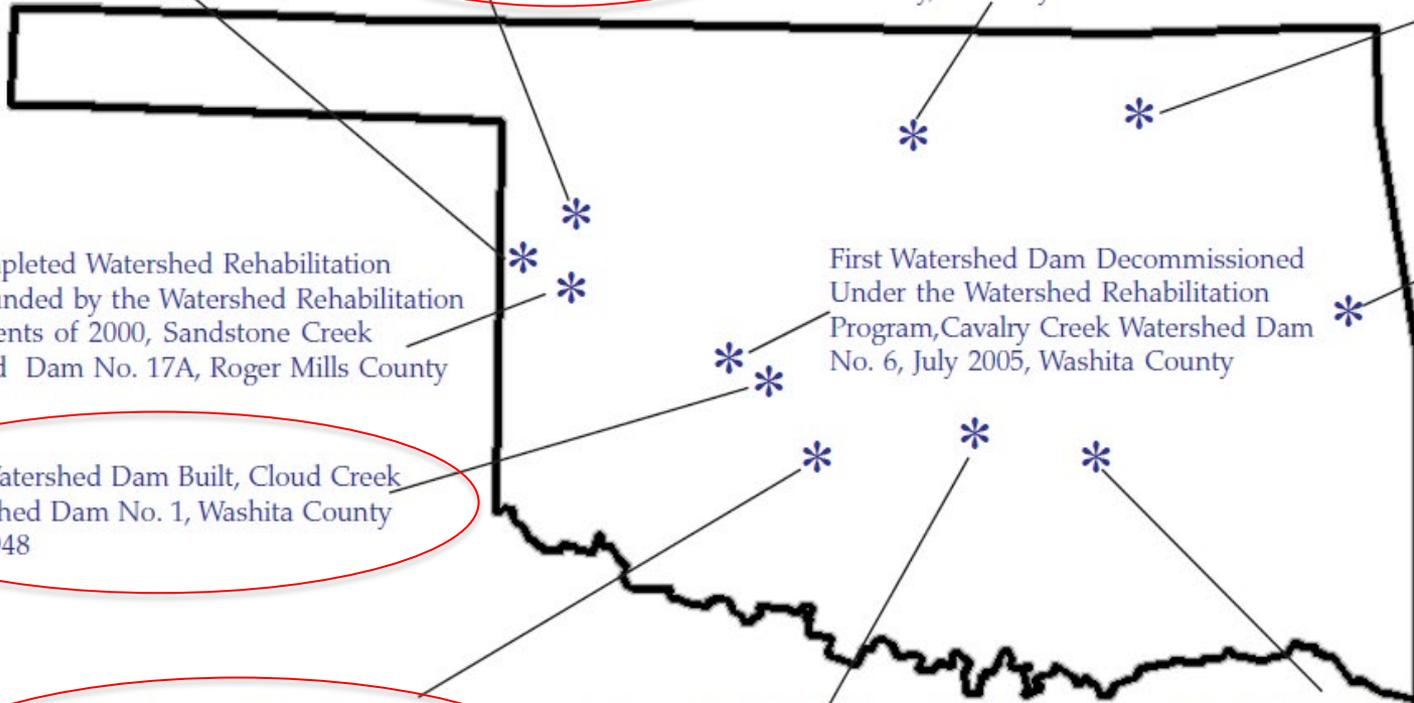
First Rehabilitation Project under construction using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funding, Sallisaw Creek Watershed Dam 18M,

First Watershed Dam Built, Cloud Creek Watershed Dam No. 1, Washita County July 1948

First Multipurpose Watershed Dam Wildhorse Creek Watershed Dam No. 22 Lake Humphreys - 1957, Water Supply for City of Duncan

First to Build 1,500 Watershed Dams Finn Creek Watershed Dam No. 34, Wiley Post Memorial Lake, Maysville, OK. 1971

First to Build 1,776 Watershed Dams, Sandy Creek Watershed Dam No. 11, Lake Liberty, Pontotoc County May 1976. Recognized During Bicentennial Celebration



A scenic photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, a rocky cliff edge is visible, with two people standing on it. The middle ground shows a valley with green fields, a farm with white buildings and silos, and a river. The background consists of rolling hills covered in dense green trees under a clear sky.

THANK YOU!