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Watershed Protection/Flood Prevention Program: U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service Announces Local Watershed Grants (Including Arkansas)

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The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (“NRCS”) announced in an October 4th news release plans to invest in what it describes as:

... 48, new, multi-year projects that aim to build vital infrastructure while conserving natural resources in 20 states or territories through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program.

NRCS states it will invest \$150 million through project sponsors which include conservation districts, local governments and American Indian tribes.

The NRCS Watershed and Flood Prevention Program offers financial and technical assistance for:

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

The projects described in the October 4th announcement encompass smaller watersheds that cover 250,000 acres or less.

Two Arkansas projects are identified that include:

- Big Slough Site #7 - Described as flood prevention by reducing flood water damages to the intensified agricultural area, residential, business, and infrastructure to prevent sediment loading in Big Slough Drainage Ditch and its major tributaries
- Departee Creek Watershed – Described as alleviating flooding of cropland and grazing lands as well as improvement of wildlife habitat and water quality

[A link to the news release can be found here which has a link to the listed projects.](#)