

DUNLOUP CREEK WATERSHED

A New Era in Flood Control



VOLUNTARY FLOODPLAIN BUYOUT

Kilsyth, Mt. Hope, Glen Jean, Red Star, Harvey
Fayette County, West Virginia

Project Celebration
August 12, 2010
Glen Jean, West Virginia

SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

Lead Federal Agency

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Local Sponsors

- Southern Conservation District
- West Virginia State Conservation Committee
- Fayette County Commission
- City of Mount Hope

With Support From

- Dunloup Creek Watershed Association
- New River Gorge National Park Service
- Raleigh County Commission

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Voluntary Floodplain Buyout

The purposes of this project are to reduce flood-related damage to property within a 100 year floodplain of Dunloup Creek and to protect the health and safety of the people that live there. The existing situation exposes residents and property to the unnecessary hazards of repeated flooding conditions. In addition to the risk of life and health, the existing developments in the floodplain increase the requirements for rescue and relief efforts; requiring emergency responders to be placed in harm's way; and hinder the natural function of the floodplain.

Watershed problems consist of repetitive flooding to homes, businesses, churches, yards, outbuildings, roads, utilities, and other property located in the floodplain of Dunloup Creek. Property values are diminished due to flooding. Opportunities exist that reduce flood damages, enhance personal safety and improve the standard of living for residents who live in an area prone to flooding. The recommended alternative consists of a voluntary floodplain buyout for 255 properties in the floodplain. Eligible properties would be removed and the floodplain would be returned to natural floodplain conditions.

Planning for the Dunloup Creek Watershed Project was conducted under the authority of Public Law 83-566, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act.



PROJECT LOCATION AND DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

The properties involved in this project are located in Fayette County in West Virginia. Portions of the following communities are located in the project along the Dunloup Creek:

- Kilsyth
- Mt. Hope
- Glen Jean
- Red Star
- Harvey

Watershed Size – 31, 510 acres

Land uses

- 6% Grassland
- 84% Forestland
- 8% Residential area
- 2% Mine land

Estimated Watershed Population: 3,000

- 78% White
- 22% Other Races

Per Capita Income: (1999)
\$13,809

Unemployment Rate: (Fayette
County 2006) 5.6%

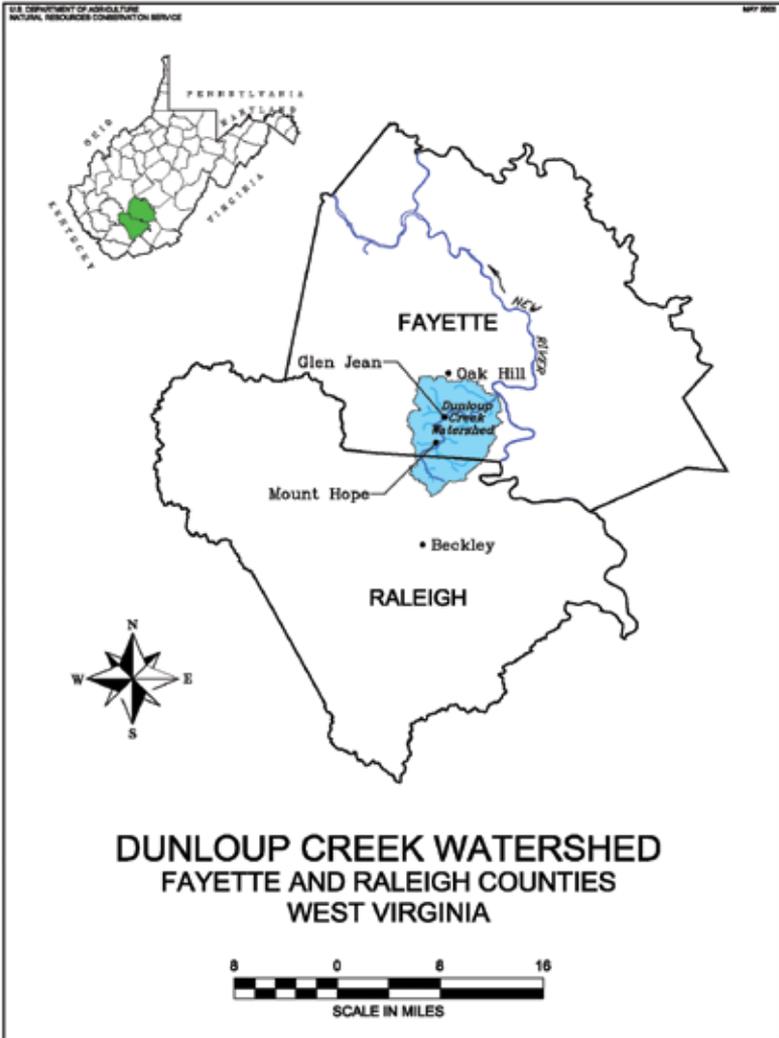
Resource Concerns: Flood
damage and health and safety
are the primary resource
concerns

Alternatives Considered:

Structural measures such as
dams, channels, floodwalls and
dikes were ineffective in solving
flooding issues.



WATERSHED MAP









PROJECT BENEFITS

- Risks to life and property associated with flooding will be removed for participating individuals.
- Human health and safety will be immensely improved for those that relocate from the floodplain.
- Removal of flood damaged buildings within the floodplain.
- There will be a reduced need for emergency services and rescue operation as residents relocate to non flood prone areas.
- Personal equity and financial well-being will be enhanced in a flood prone community.
- Aesthetic values of the floodplain will be restored.
- Natural flood plain functions will be restored
- Water quality will be improved with the removal of homes with failing or non-existent septic systems.
- Stream bank erosion will be reduced as areas along the stream are converted from mowed yards to natural stream bank vegetation.



HISTORY

Date	Event
1965	First request to NRCS to study problem.
1976	Watershed Plan-Environmental Impact Statement recommended channel enlargement and land treatment. Interest in project diminished.
1984	Mutual agreement between Sponsors and NRCS to de-authorize the project.
1987-1996	Continued flooding along Dunloup Creek.
1996	New application for assistance submitted to NRCS.
1998	Local Implementation Plan was provided, no funding tied to the plan.
2001	Local Sponsors requested a PL-566 Watershed Plan.
2002	WV Statewide Flood Protection Plan was released.
2004	NRCS began re-evaluation of Dunloup Creek with the goal of producing a PL-566 Watershed Plan.
Oct. 2006	NRCS released draft Watershed Plan-Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public review and comment.
May 2007	NRCS released Final Watershed Plan – EIS
May 2009	First Congressional appropriation of \$1.1 million
June –Sept. 2009	Sign-up period opened for project
December 2009	Project authorized by Congress
November 2009	Second Congressional appropriation of \$1.5 million
January 2010	ARRA funding of \$2.2 million
June 2010	Financial Agreement Signed
August 2010	First Closing on Floodplain Property

PROJECT COSTS

Costs include the purchase of the property based on the appraised value of the property, plus enhancement factors that will be determined for each property. All fees and costs associated with the purchase and transfer of the property to the local sponsors are included in the total costs. Demolition and site restoration is included in the project costs as well as funds for engineering, technical, and administrative assistance to carry out the project.

Federal Costs	Local Costs	Total
\$12,525,000	\$1,402,500	\$13,927,500

Applications were taken during a 90 day sign-up period. 198 applications were received for 255 parcels of which 128 are primary residences. Two primary criteria were used to rank applications and administer the funding – depth of flooding on the first floor and the primary use of the property with permanent residences ranking the highest.

FLOOD DAMAGES

Storms were evaluated based on their statistical chance for occurrence in any given year. The chart below shows the number of properties affected and the relative building and content damage that would result from storms of various magnitudes.

Buildings Flooded and Damages Incurred by Storm Event
Dunloup Creek Watershed
Fayette County, WV

Storm Occurrence	Buildings Flooded	Total Damages
100 year storm	292	\$14,629,820
50 year storm	277	\$ 10,326,021
25 year storm	255	\$ 6,407,164
10 year storm	176	\$ 2,417,091
5 year storm	97	\$ 801,978

RECENT FLOOD EVENTS

March 12-13, 2010
Spring 2007
Spring 2005
September 19, 2004
July 22-26, 2004
May 28, 2004
November 12 & 19, 2003
March 2003
May 2002
July 8, 26, & 29, 2001
January 19, 1996
Mid-Spring 1995
March 4, 1993
May 1987
Spring 1986









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