



Grassy Lake, Millwood Lake, AR

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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FACT SHEET as of 06 February 2012

AUTHORIZATION: Section 1135, WRDA 1986, as amended; HR 108-212, ERWA 06; Omnibus 2008 - SR 65, CR Named 6h

TYPE OF PROJECT: Continuing Authorities Program (CAP)

PROJECT PHASE: Feasibility



CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: Senators Pryor (AR) and Boozman (AR); Representative Ross (AR-04)

NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR: State of Arkansas, Arkansas Natural Resources Commission

BACKGROUND: An ecosystem restoration study is being conducted in the area of Grassy Lake, a pristine wetland, just downstream of Millwood Dam along Yellow Creek in Hempstead County in southwest Arkansas. In May 2010, wetland scientists drafted their report on the ecosystem's problems and potential solutions. The primary solution is the provision of water from Millwood Lake to the Beard's Lake/Yellow Creek area. The report was presented to the state and Federal agencies that support going forward with a project and the area's owners, which are private hunting clubs that may not form a consensus on a project. The next steps are to develop plans and analyze the habitat gained versus the costs for these plans. There is 100 percent federal financing of the study phase with cost sharing of the study phase to be as a project cost when the project cooperation agreement is signed. The state of Arkansas acts as the sponsor with Arkansas Natural Resources Commission acting as the lead agency.

STATUS: In FY11, additional surveys were prepared to determine the amount of water required for Grassy Lake. Preliminary plans to provide water to the wetlands were drafted and costed. Grassy Lake Hunt club is determining the feasibility of it supplying water from Millwood Lake to Grassy Lake proper by pipeline. Hydraulics and Hydrology analysis to include analysis of the 2009 flooding event determined that the construction of the Red River Basin dams has reduced beneficial flooding to the wetlands and has contributed to their environmental degradation. The project is not funded in FY 2012.

ISSUES: The project is not included in the FY 2013 President's budget. The project was placed on hold at the end of FY11 when remaining funds were revoked. Funding is required to resume the feasibility study to provide much needed ecosystem restoration measures in the study area.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY (\$):

Federal Cost Estimate
Non-Federal Cost Estimate
Total Project Cost

FEASIBILITY

\$900,000
0
\$900,000

Allocation thru FY 2010
ARRA Funding
Allocation for FY 2011
Allocation for FY 2012
President Budget FY 2013
Capability for FY 2013
Balance to Complete

\$806,000
0
-\$186,000 ^{1/}
0
0
\$150,000
\$280,000

^{1/} Funds in the amount of \$261,042 were revoked to fund the \$100M rescission required in the FY2011 full year CR and to fund high priority projects.

SCHEDULE:

FY 2012 Scheduled Work: Project is not included in the President's FY 2012 budget.

FY 2013 Budget: Project is not included in the President's FY 2013 budget. Funds in the amount of \$150,000 could be used in FY 2013 to continue the feasibility study.

COMPLETION: With optimum funding, the project feasibility phase completion date is 2013.

For more information regarding the Grassy Lake project contact: Ms. Julia A. Smethurst, Project Manager, Planning and Environmental Division, at (501) 324-5602 or Julia.A.Smethurst@usace.army.mil.

