



Wyoming Valley, PA Levee Raising Wilkes-Barre, PA

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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FACT SHEET as of February 1, 2015

AUTHORIZATION: Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986, as amended in WRDA 1988, 1992, 1996, and 2007.

TYPE OF PROJECT: Flood Risk Management

PROJECT PHASE: Construction

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: Senators **Casey** and **Toomey (PA)** and Representatives **Barletta (PA-11)** and **Cartwright (PA-17)**

NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR: Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority (LCFPA)



BACKGROUND: The project, constructed in 1936, is located on the Susquehanna River in the vicinity of Wilkes-Barre in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. The project includes the communities of Plymouth, Kingston-Edwardsville, Swoyersville-Forty Fort, Hanover, Exeter, and Wilkes-Barre. In 1972, Hurricane Agnes overtopped the project causing over \$2.8 B in damages. On January 2003, the project was modified to provide Agnes level protection, which is equivalent to a river discharge of 318,500 cubic feet per second with an estimated 345 year recurrence interval. Approximately 15 miles of levee and floodwalls were raised 3-5 feet. In addition, 21 pump stations were modified and utilities were relocated. The project also includes flood risk mitigation features required to reduce project-related adverse impacts to 53 communities. The required flood risk mitigation work includes: non-structural initiatives such as elevating or relocating structures out of the floodplain, structure flood-proofing; small scale public works projects, such as small levees and drainage projects; a flood warning and response system; and, hazard mitigation plans for interested mitigation communities. The mitigation work had included design/construction of an inflatable dam structure which, due to permit denial, is no longer an approved/required measure. WRDA 2007 authorized Solomon Creek as an element of Wyoming Valley project. Programming this element as a project requirement awaits a sponsor letter of intent. In September of 2011, Tropical Storm Lee caused the river to crest at 42.66 feet, 1.75 feet above the level caused by Hurricane Agnes. It impacted both the levee systems and the surrounding communities, however the systems performed as designed with no overtopping.

STATUS: All flood control construction is substantially complete. Portal gate seepage repairs were completed in August 2013. Tropical Storm Lee rehabilitation repairs funded under the Flood Control and Coastal Emergency Act (Public Law 84-99) program were completed in March 2014. Flood risk mitigation work is continuing and is approximately 44% complete.

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BUDGET(\$):

	<u>Construction</u>
<u>Total Estimated Cost</u>	\$200,952,000
Federal Cost ^{1,2}	147,741,000
Non-Federal Cost	53,211,000
<u>Federal Funds Data</u>	
Allocation Thru FY 2013 ^{1,2}	136,785,000
Allocation For FY 2014	950,000
President Budget FY 2015 ³	1,000,000
Allocation for FY 2015 ⁴	1,000,000
Balance to Complete	9,006,000

Notes:

¹ Includes Investigation Preconstruction Engineering and Design (PED) funding in the amount of \$11,400,000.

² Of these total allocations, \$7,932,954 were provided under the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

³ The President typically sends the budget to Congress in February each year. Upon release, budget amounts for the USACE Civil Works programs and specified projects are posted online at the HQUSACE website in a program budget press book at <http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/Budget.apsx>.

⁴ The final FY 2015 allocation amounts will be made available upon final approval pursuant to the Energy and Water Appropriations Act's continuing funding requirements .

SCHEDULE:

Fiscal 2014 Completed Work: Completed three Levee System Evaluation Reports: Wilkes-Barre/Hanover Township, Plymouth, and Kingston-Exeter. Continued preparing O&M manuals and initiated the Design Documentation Report (DDR). Completed all necessary repairs under the Flood Control and Coastal Emergency Act (FCCE) (Public Law 84-99) that included Brown Creek pump station repairs in Plymouth and Market Street Bridge, D&H, and Ross Street pump station repairs in Wilkes-Barre.

Fiscal 2015 Scheduled Work: Previous year carry in funds and fiscal 2015 allocations based on the President's budget amount will be used to: complete the outstanding punch list items at the seepage berm near Church Street; complete O&M manuals; and to complete the project's DDR. Non-federal sponsor will continue efforts towards completing the required flood risk mitigation measures.

COMPLETION: With optimum funding this construction phase that includes the remaining mitigation can be completed in 2017.

For more information regarding the Wyoming Valley, PA Levee Raising Project contact Rolando A. Sanidad, CENAB-PP-C, (410) 962-2668, or e-mail Rolando.Sanidad@us.army.mil.