



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Memphis District

Section 363(a), Project Reauthorizations of the WRDA 1996, Public Law 104-303

# Bayou Meto Basin, AR

## Mississippi River and Tributaries (Construction)

**ASA(CW) Initiative:** Enabling Economic Activity

**MVD Command Priorities:** Groundwater Sustainability

**AMSCO Number:** 081307

**P2 Numbers:** 109378

504565 – Bayou Meto Canal 1000, Phase 3.2  
519088 – Bayou Meto Canal 1000, Phase 4  
570840 – Bayou Meto Canal 1000, Phase 4 Water Control Structure

**Location:** The project is located within east central Arkansas in Lonoke, Pulaski, Prairie, Jefferson, and Arkansas Counties.

**Description:** Groundwater challenges continue to impact our Nation and other nations around the globe. Worldwide, 93 percent of groundwater use is for irrigation. The declines in aquifers around the world threaten food security for more than half of the world's population and drinking water supplies. This project provides surface water to agricultural areas instead of groundwater. Thus, the project preserves the aquifer for human and environmental activities. The project uses a pump station to pump surface water from the Arkansas River and distributes it to farmland through a series of canals, pipes, and existing waterways. Additional project features include on-farm water conservation features and waterfowl management and flood risk management features in the Bayou Meto Waterfowl Management Area.

**Importance:** The Upper Mississippi Embayment provides groundwater to portions of seven states.

- Groundwater is exclusively used for residential water supply throughout the area, including the largest city in the embayment, Memphis Metropolitan Statistical Area (1.3 million people).
- This alluvial aquifer is the second most heavily utilized aquifer for irrigation in the nation, supporting 14% of the Nation's agriculture (total economic impact of \$11.88 billion). Over 50% of the Nation's rice is grown in eastern Arkansas alone.



**Project Sponsor:** Arkansas Department of Agriculture and Bayou Meto Water Management District

**Congressional Interest:** Senate: Boozman and Cotton, House: Crawford (AR-01) and Westermann (AR-04)

