



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Memphis District

# Bayou Meto Basin, AR

## Point of Contact

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**Authority:** WRDA 1996, Sec. 363

**Appropriation:** Energy and Water Development,  
Mississippi River and Tributaries, Construction

**Local Interest/Project Sponsor:** The State of Arkansas is assuming non-Federal sponsorship of the project and is using its bonding authority to insure that funding for the non-Federal cost share is available when Federal funds become available for construction. The Bayou Meto Water Management District (BMWMD) is a legal entity with taxing authority in partnership with the State of Arkansas.

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

**Description:** The major problems are agricultural flooding, loss of environmental resources, and the depletion of the alluvial aquifer, which provides essentially all the water used for agricultural irrigation and supports area wetlands. Features of the project include diversion of excess water from the Arkansas River via a delivery system made up of pump stations, new canals, existing streams, and pipelines to the water depleted areas; channel improvements and a pumping station to provide an outlet to reduce flooding; waterfowl conservation and management measures; and other environmental restoration and enhancement features.

**Importance:** Continued withdrawals at the current rate will deplete the alluvial aquifer such that by the year 2015 it will no longer be a viable source of irrigation water. Without a supplemental source of irrigation water only about 34 percent of the project area could be irrigated which would cause approximately \$48,292,000 losses in net farm revenues. The project will provide a supplemental source of irrigation water combined with conservation, which will allow the alluvial aquifer to stabilize. The project includes features to reduce flooding, improve drainage and enhance water management. Environmental restoration features will create 240 acres of moist soil habitat for waterfowl, and restore 10,000 acres of wet land buffer units.

**Status:** This project was first funded for construction in 2010. To date, a total of \$86 million has been invested in the project (\$65M Federal; \$21M non-Federal) and the project is 13% complete. Construction continues on both pump station structures and is about 89% complete for Pump Station No.1. Little Bayou Meto pump station is about 79% complete.

## **Project Financial Data:**

|                             |                |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Estimated Federal Cost:     | \$ 395,337,000 |
| Estimated Non-Federal Cost: | 218,837,000    |
| Estimated Total Cost:       | \$ 614,174,000 |

## **Federal Funding Information:**

|                             |               |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Allocation thru FY 2012     | \$ 60,709,000 |
| Allocation for FY 2013      | \$ 4,800,000  |
| President's Budget, FY 2014 | \$ 5,000,000  |

