



Hunter's Run
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

2022

Annual Report

Hunter's Run Conservancy District
2022 Annual Report

Conservancy Court Judge
Honorable David A. Trimmer
Court of Common Pleas
Fairfield County, Ohio

Board of Directors
Lindel R. Jackson, President
Ron Burris, Vice President
Charles Claypool, Director

Term of Appointments

Ron Burris – May 20, 2020 – May 18, 2025
Charles Claypool – February 25, 2022 – March 19, 2026 (Unexpired Term)
Lindel Jackson – April 12, 2019 – May 8, 2024

Staff
Sharolyn Orcutt – Secretary/Treasurer

Maintenance Staff
Joshua Fleure

Attorney
Morgan M. Lyles
Stebelton Snider, LPA

Appraiser
Dan Singer

Hunter's Run Conservancy District
2022 Annual Report

The Hunter's Run Conservancy District (District) Board of Directors respectfully submits this report for the 2022 fiscal Year.

The District continued operations during 2022 with one part time employee, Josh Fleure. In December of 2022, the Board again approved the annual agreement with the Fairfield Soil and Water District (FSWCD) for it to provide day to day operational support and oversight in 2023 at no cost to the District. Under the direction of Jonathan Ferbrache, Josh continues to receive additional training in Dam Safety Regulations, work safety, and inspection procedures and condition reporting of the dams. Josh continues to perform regular inspections of the dams and document those inspections with the online inspection reporting system provided by FSWCD. These reports are completed using an iPad and are backed up on the FSWCD servers.

HRCD continues to prioritize regular dam visits and document those reviews. Every dam in the inventory was visited at least 3 times in the calendar year 2022. Among the major flood retarding structures which are the greatest priority we offer the following summary:

Dam 1	48 visits	Dam 6	34 visits
Dam 2	41 visits	Dam 8	59 visits
Dam 3	33 visits	Dam 9	63 visits
Dam 4	57 visits	R 63	46 visits
Dam 5	21 visits		

NRCS in conjunction with HRCD/FSWCD completed inspection of all 28 dams in the Fall of 2022. While eleven structures were deemed in compliance with the Operation and Maintenance Agreement, there were seventeen structures deemed in violation of the O&M Agreement (attached memos). The Board feels the non-compliance letter was overly critical in consideration of the work that has been completed since 2019. In discussion with NRCS personnel, this was a standard letter to recognize there were outstanding issues. The issues listed relate mostly to the small "R" Structures that are past their useful life. NRCS recognizes HRCD's enhanced maintenance, planning and improvement in active management since 2019.

ODNR inspected the hazard class dams in June of 2022. Reports have not been received as of this time.

Josh has successfully completed the Ohio Department of Agriculture Pesticide Exam and will now be able to chemically treat undesirable vegetation.

The purchase of the 2015 Chevrolet Colorado has proven to be beneficial. In addition to reducing fuel costs, Josh has been working more efficiently going directly to work sites and having dry space to maintain his records and files.

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FSWCD Board continues to support HRCD Operations without additional personnel. From discussions last year the FSWCD Board has indicated it will consider an additional position once the District has adequate income to fund its share of the position. The District recognizes Jonathan Ferbrache and FSWCD for their continued support through 2022 at no cost to the District. The combined staff of FSWCD contributed 611 hours of labor in 2022, 449 hours less than in 2021.

District owned Dam No. 4 continues to be accessed for hunting and fishing and the permit process initiated in 2020 has been successful. Twenty-five permits were received in 2022. Tony Zerkle, ODNR Wildlife Officer was promoted to a new position and his position was filled by Wildlife Officer Jade Heizer.

The Economic Benefit analysis and assessment project was awarded to Jack Faucett and Associates and work has been completed on the study. However, there has been a delay in receiving the final report and this has prevented the District from preparing the reassessment. The Fairfield County Commissioners provided a sub-grant from the ARP funds to cover the \$139,895 cost for this project. The Board recognizes and appreciates the continued support provided by the Fairfield County Commissioners, the Fairfield County Auditor, and their staff. Progress would have been limited without their support.

The District would like to again recognize Jon Kochis, EMA Director, for his continued support and willingness to allow the use of the EMA conference room for board meetings.

The District continues to defer work on updating the original easements to assure they are identified in title searches until funding is available.

Maintenance and Operation accomplishments for 2022:

It became apparent during 2022 that the District needed to join the Ohio Utilities Protection Service to receive notice of planned construction activities near the dams and easements of the District. This was completed in December with assistance from the Fairfield County GIS Department in creating the mapping needed to identify the areas of notification.

Mowing and spraying contracts have continued with TD Landscapes and COMO Landscapes, in combination with some mowing and clearing by our District employee has assured the dams remain tree and brush free and that desirable grasses continue to grow.

Additional spraying and clearing of a section of the Hunter's Run channel downstream of Dam 3 was completed as planned. This consisted of the removal of trees on 200 feet of the north bank in accordance with the original easement. This effort will continue in future years until the required area is returned to grass.

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Fences were removed from across the auxiliary spillway of Dam 8 and along the auxiliary spillway of Dam 3. There are additional fences to be removed at Dam 8 and Dam 5. These fences are being removed to comply with the ODNR Dam Safety Regulations.

Communication was established with the property owner of S-4, a dry sediment control structure, and the dam was cleared of trees and unwanted brush over the course of 2022.

ODNR approved the update for the Dam 8 Emergency Action Plan (EAP).

NRCS and FEMA Project Status

Work on the FEMA Pre Disaster Mitigation study for Dams 5, R63, R61, R21, R18, and R33 was completed. This work will be integrated into planning for Work Plan Revisions and the Reappraisal of Benefits.

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) continues to work to address the current day design deficiencies in Dams 4 and 9. Structural analysis and required dam breach modeling for Dams 4 and 9 has been completed by Schnabel Engineering and Atterra Engineering under agreement with NRCS. Ground water monitoring with piezometers has begun in the monitoring wells installed previously. We will target this monitoring monthly throughout 2023 and then during high water events. Rehabilitation planning continues.

Earlier in the year, USDA Under Secretary Robert Bonnie visited the Margaret Creek Sub District of the Hocking Conservancy and announced funding for the engineering study of HRCD's Dam 3 which should include Dams 1, 2 and R13 as high hazard dams upstream of Dam 3.

HRCD Initiated Work

The District requested engineering assistance from Aterra Engineering to perform drawdown calculations and identify preferred pumping methods for Dams 4 and 9. This is necessary as part of the Emergency Action Plan to address the inoperability of the lake drains in the event of an emergency requiring the lakes to be drained. Aterra was selected for this task since they had completed the breach analysis on these dams and this additional work was efficiently accomplished under a separate agreement with the District.

Verdantas Engineering was engaged to develop the required breach modeling and Emergency Action Plan for Dam 6. This work continues into 2023.

Met with FSWCD, NRCS and the Ohio Department of Agriculture to develop a plan for modification to multiple small structures (the R Structures) in agricultural settings to determine

Hunter's Run Conservancy District
2022 Annual Report

the feasibility of removing these structures from the District inventory in future Work Plan Revisions. These discussions continue into 2023.

The District will be meeting with FSWCD and NRCS to develop a memorandum of actionable items requiring NRCS concurrence before approaching the Conservancy Court on Work Plan revisions.

Draft Emergency Action Plans (EAP) are under development for Dams 4 and 9 as required by ODNR Dam Safety. FSWCD continues to assist with this effort. Final submittal to ODNR for approval is expected by July of 2023.

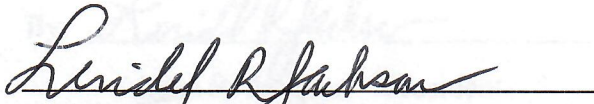
Legal Counsel has been engaged in the review of land rights at Dam 3. At issue is the absence of an easement for the flood pool. In preparation for future assistance from NRCS with rehabilitation of the dam the District will be responsible for all land rights.

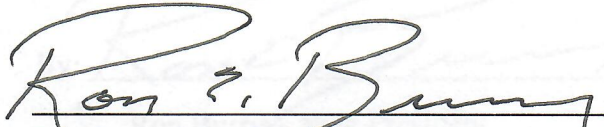
Verification of land rights for Dams 4 and 9 is necessary for planned work and to provide accurate easement locations for the property owners. Inquiries have been made with a local surveyor to perform these tasks.

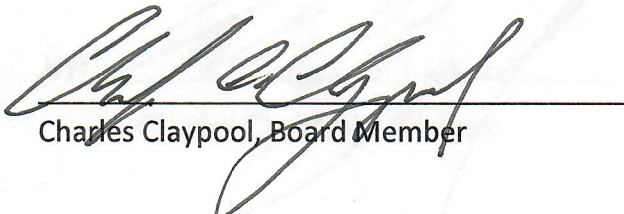
The District continues to make progress and looks forward to implementing the reappraisal in 2023.

Attached to this report are: 2022 Financial Report
2022 Budget
NRCS Memos (2)

Respectfully submitted,


Lindel R. Jackson President


Ron Burris, Vice President


Charles Claypool, Board Member

**HRCD STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENT AND EXPENSES
DECEMBER 2022 MONTHLY DETAIL ACTUALS**

Checking Balance (Begin)	\$169,640.11
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	\$169,640.11

CASH RECEIPTS		
Assessments Collected		
Grants	\$34,973.75	Sub Grant Agreement
Grants		
Other Deposits/Refund		
Other Deposits/Refund		
SUBTOTAL	\$34,973.75	

Payroll

	Date	Amount	Source	Description
BWC	12/8/23	\$56.42	Auto WD	
	12/9/23	\$304.21	Auto WD	
	12/22/23	\$56.42	Auto WD	
		\$417.05		
Payroll	12/8/23	\$989.80	Auto WD	
	12/22/23	\$589.49	Auto WD	
		\$1,579.29		
Payroll Preparation	12/8/23	\$205.00	Auto WD	
			Auto WD	
		\$205.00		
Payroll Taxes	12/8/23	\$97.46	Auto WD	
	12/22/23	\$56.99	Auto WD	
		\$154.45		
OPERS	12/28/22	\$480.48	Auto WD	
			Auto WD	
		\$480.48		
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TOTAL (Payroll)		\$2,836.27		
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**HRCD STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENT AND EXPENSES
DECEMBER 2022 MONTHLY DETAIL ACTUALS**

Expenses

	Date	Amount	Source	Description
T-Mobile	12/6/23	\$153.76	Check 2594	Cellular
T-Mobile				
Legal Fees				
Equipment				
Insurance				
Mileage/Travel	12/16/23	\$35.00	Check 2595	Lindel Jackson
Dam and Property Repairs				
Eng. Assistance for Structures				
Dam Inspection Fees ODNR				

Legal Ads				
Equipment Repairs				
SUB TOTAL		\$188.76		
<u>Contractual Services</u>				
TD Landscape				
COMO				
Fairfield Soil & Water				
Matching Funds/Loan Payment				
Verdantas				
Verdantas				
Hull & Associates (Verdantes)				
Other Contracts	12/19/23	\$20,984.25	Check 2596	Jack Faucett
Other Contracts	12/6/23	\$13,989.50	Check 2593	Jack Faucett
SUB TOTAL		\$34,973.75		
<u>Supplies/Incidentals</u>				
Fuel TOTAL		\$540.37		
Office Supplies				
Vehicle Maintenance	12/21/23	\$2,154.17	Check 2599	Reimb to Lindel Jackson -Hugh White
Vehicle Maintenance		\$46.99	LJ cc	Mr.Froggy
Vista Print		\$36.00	LJ cc	
Materials & Supplies TOTAL		\$171.96		
Miscellaneous				
Adobe				
Miscellaneous				
SUB TOTAL		\$2,949.49		

**HRCD STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENT AND EXPENSES
DECEMBER 2022 MONTHLY DETAIL ACTUALS**

SUMMARY PAGE

Beginning Balance	\$169,640.11
Receipts	\$34,973.75
	\$204,613.86

Payroll	\$2,836.27
Expenses	\$188.76
Contract	\$34,973.75
Administrative	\$2,949.49
	\$40,948.27

Ending Balance	\$163,665.59
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*** Outstanding Checks	\$15,667.00	COMO
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January 3, 2023

Hunter's Run Conservancy District – Board of Directors
c/o Lindel Jackson
P.O. Box 1139
Lancaster, OH 43130

Dear Representative:

This is to provide notice that watershed dam maintenance work is necessary to remain in compliance with the operation and maintenance agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

NRCS is responsible to ensure that dams installed through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program are adequately maintained. NRCS must ensure that dams are maintained properly to protect the public investment in the dam and to ensure public safety. As you are aware, the watershed project sponsor is responsible for maintaining dams installed through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program in accordance with the Operation and Maintenance Agreement between NRCS and the sponsoring local organization.

NRCS has been provided with the attached results of the most recent maintenance inspections of dams in the Hunter's Run Watershed Project, numbered:

- OH00717 – Structure #2
- OH00718 – Structure #3
- OH00719 – Structure #4
- OH00720 – Structure #5
- OH00721 – Structure #6
- OH00714 – Structure #9
- Structure R-15
- Structure R-18
- OH00679 – Structure R-21
- OH03188 – Structure R-33
- Structure R-37
- Structure R-41
- OH02899 – Structure R-42
- Structure R-47
- OH02953 – Structure R-61
- OH00715 – Structure R-63
- Structure S-4

The inspections were completed by Greg Wells P.E. and Justin Glier on September 26th and 30th, 2022 and also December 9th and 22nd, 2022. While the general condition of the dams is much improved from previous years, the inspection reports indicate that the existing condition of these dams is in violation of the Operation and Maintenance Agreement. For structures still within their planned service life, action is required to address them. For structures that are beyond their service life, O&M obligations to NRCS are complete and no longer required. However, we encourage dam owners to maintain dams properly and stay in compliance with O&M plans for regulatory compliance, public safety, and to stay eligible for future NRCS watershed program funding, including rehabilitation and watershed planning.

Please note the following regarding the needed actions to make the dams safe and functional for the purposes of the project. See inspection reports for additional detail.

- Several of the dams had routine items needing completed including: repairing and seeding areas of damaged grass cover; sediment removal or erosion near principal spillway outlets; filling varmint holes; embankment erosion due old varmint holes and near risers; and cutting/treating tree saplings and brush.

- Many of the structures with corrugated metal pipe (CMP) spillways have significant issues. In many cases the CMP's are badly corroded at the risers and/or outlet pipes, and in some cases they are failing.
- Many of the larger structures with reinforced concrete spillway structures are showing significant concrete deterioration.
- Multiple structures have lake drains which are inoperable or an unknown status of operation.
- NRCS will research their files and follow up regarding the service life and status of these structures. In the meantime, we encourage you to address the more routine deficiencies identified and develop a plan to address the more complex repairs.
- Please be aware that failure to complete the corrective actions on structures with active O&M obligations may result in further action by the government under terms of the applicable O&M Agreement.
- Hunter's Run Conservancy District, as the project Sponsor, has the right to appeal the State Conservationist's determination of the violation. To do so please contact Blake Arthur, Ohio NRCS State Conservation Engineer at blake.arthur@usda.gov

Please feel free to contact Greg Wells P.E. at 740-772-1711 ext. 128, NRCS Ohio Area 5 Supervisory Civil Engineer for further guidance regarding the maintenance work that is required.

Sincerely,

John Wilson
State Conservationist

enclosure: O&M Inspection Report

cc:

Blake Arthur – NRCS Ohio, State Conservation Engineer - Columbus
Greg Wells – NRCS Ohio, Area 5 Supervisory Civil Engineer - Chillicothe
Justin Glier – NRCS Ohio, Civil Engineer – Columbus
Jonathan Ferbrache – Fairfield SWCD
Dave Libben – NRCS Ohio, Fairfield Co. District Conservationist – Lancaster



January 3, 2023

Hunter's Run Conservancy District – Board of Directors
c/o Lindel Jackson
P.O. Box 1139
Lancaster, OH 43130

Dear Representative:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is responsible to ensure that dams installed through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program are adequately maintained. NRCS must ensure that dams are maintained properly to protect the public investment in the dam and to ensure public safety. As you are aware, the watershed project sponsor is responsible for maintaining dams installed through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program in accordance with the Operation and Maintenance Agreement between NRCS and the sponsoring local organization.

NRCS has been provided with the enclosed results of the most recent maintenance inspections of dams in the Hunter's Run Watershed Project, numbered:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| • OH00716 – Structure #1 | • Structure R-23 |
| • OH00722 – Structure #8 | • Structure R-25 |
| • Structure R-3 | • Structure R-46 |
| • Structure R-7 | • Structure R-57 |
| • Structure R-13 | • Structure R-65 |
| • Structure R-14 | |

The inspections were completed by Greg Wells P.E. and Justin Glier on September 26th and 30th, 2022 and also December 9th and 22nd, 2022. The inspection reports indicate that no major issues were found during inspection of these dams and so they are in compliance with the Operation and Maintenance Agreement.

Please feel free to contact Greg Wells P.E. at 740-772-1711 ext. 128, NRCS Ohio Area 5 Supervisory Civil Engineer if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

John Wilson
State Conservationist

enclosure: O&M Inspection Reports

cc:

Blake Arthur – NRCS Ohio, State Conservation Engineer - Columbus
Greg Wells – NRCS Ohio, Area 5 Supervisory Civil Engineer - Chillicothe
Justin Glier – NRCS Ohio, Civil Engineer – Columbus
Jonathan Ferbrache – Fairfield SWCD
Dave Libben – NRCS Ohio, Fairfield County District Conservationist – Lancaster

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
200 North High Street, Room 522, Columbus, Ohio 43215-2478
Voice: 614-255-2472 Fax: 8558549149

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