



# DAM SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT

Margaret Creek Structure No. 5

File Number: 9220-002

Class III

Athens County, Alexander Township

Inspection Date: May 23, 2007



In accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 1521.062, the owners of dams must monitor, maintain, and operate their dams safely. Negligence of owners in fulfilling these responsibilities can lead to the development of extremely hazardous conditions to downstream residents and properties. In the event of a dam failure, owners can be subject to liability claims.

The Chief of the Division of Water has the responsibility to ensure that human life, health, and property are protected from the failure of dams. Conducting periodic safety inspections and working with dam owners to maintain and improve the overall condition of Ohio dams are vital aspects of achieving this purpose.

Representatives of the Chief conducted this inspection to evaluate the condition of the dam and its appurtenances under authority of Ohio Revised Code Section 1521.062. In accordance with Ohio Administrative Code Rule 1501:21-21-03, the owners of dams must implement all remedial measures listed in the enclosed report.

*Division of Water • 2045 Morse Road, Bldg. B-2 • Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693  
www.dnr.state.oh.us/water*

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## Required Remedial Measures

The requirements listed below are based on observations made during inspection, calculations performed, and requirements of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). A checklist noting all observations made during the inspection has been enclosed. References to right and left in this report are oriented as if you were standing on the dam crest and looking downstream.

**Engineer Repairs and Investigations:** The owner must retain the services of a professional engineer to address the following items. Plans, specifications, investigative reports, and other supporting documentation, as necessary, must be submitted to the Division of Water for review and approval prior to construction. A record of all repairs should be included in the operation, maintenance, and inspection manual.

No Engineer Repairs and Investigations items for this report.

## Required Remedial Measures

**Owner Repairs:** The owner must address the following items. The owner may perform the work or hire a contractor. Repair activities should be documented in the operation, maintenance, and inspection manual.

No owner repairs for this report.

Trees and brush are not permitted on embankment surfaces or earthen spillways. Remove trees and brush from

The embankment crest must have a uniform elevation. Repair the low area on/near...

Rodent burrows weaken dam embankments and must be repaired. Rodent activity must be controlled.

Repair the muskrat damage to the upstream slope.

Fill the rodent burrows on (*entire embankment, crest, upstream slope, downstream slope*).

The embankment and spillways must be protected from erosion.

Replenish riprap (*along the shoreline, at the principal spillway outlet*).

Repair ruts and/or erosion gullies...

A healthy grass cover should be present on embankments and earthen spillways. Establish a grass cover on ...

A satisfactory trashrack and/or antivortex plate must be present at the inlet of the principal spillway.  
(*Install/Repair*) the trashrack and/or antivortex plate.

Spillways must be able to flow at their full capacities.

Remove debris from the inlet of principal spillway. Continue to remove beaver obstructions.

Remove trees/brush from the emergency spillway.

The lake drain must be operable and accessible. Routine maintenance of the lake drain should be performed annually and should include operation and lubrication of the valve/sluice gate in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. Use caution if the operability is unknown. If the drain no longer functions contact the Division of Water to discuss repair or replacement.

Embankment drains and spillway drains must be periodically maintained to ease monitoring and functionality. Pipe outlets should be marked and cleared regularly to allow the owner to quickly identify changing seepage conditions in the dam. Perform routine maintenance on the

A spillway must convey flow without excessive leakage. Repair the (*cracks/joints/deterioration*) of the...

The Emergency Action Plan (EAP) must be updated. Also, this dam must have an operation, maintenance, and inspection manual (OMI). Prepare and submit an OMI manual. In general, your current procedures and checklists are acceptable. Guidelines for the preparation of these documents are included with this report.

Flow through a deteriorated spillway subjects it to further deterioration and potentially failure. Repair...

Mow the embankment and emergency spillway at least twice per year.

**Owner Dam Safety Program:** In accordance with Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 1521.062, the owner of a dam shall maintain a safe structure and appurtenances through inspection, maintenance, and operation. A dam, like any other part of the infrastructure, will change and deteriorate over time. Appurtenances such as gates and valves must be routinely exercised to ensure their operability. Inspection and monitoring of the dam identifies changing conditions and problems as they develop, and maintenance prevents minor problems from developing into major ones. Dams must have these procedures documented in an OMI.

Despite efforts to provide sufficient structural integrity and to perform inspection and maintenance, dams can develop problems that can lead to failure. Early detection and appropriate response are crucial for maintaining the safety of the dam and downstream people and property. The ORC requires the owner to fully and promptly notify the Division of Water of any condition which threatens the safety of the structure. A rapidly changing condition may be an indication of a potentially dangerous problem. The Dam Safety Engineering Program can be contacted at 614/265-6731 during business hours or at 614/799-9538 after business hours. Dams must have emergency preparedness procedures documented in an EAP.

The following references regarding dam safety and lake management are provided for your use and information:

- (1) OMI and EAP guidelines
- (2) Common Problems for Small Dams, including five fact sheets
- (3) "Agencies Associated with Dams and Lakes"
- (4) "Ohio Pond Management Handbook"

Val A. Zampedro 7/25/07  
Val A. Zampedro, P.E. Date  
Project Engineer  
Dam Safety Engineering Program  
Division of Water

Keith R. Banachowski July 25, 2007  
Keith R. Banachowski, P.E. Date  
Program Manager  
On behalf of Deborah F. Hoffman, Chief  
Division of Water

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This inspection was performed pursuant to the authority granted to the Chief of the Division of Water in ORC Section 1521.062.

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Photograph No. 1: The crest and downstream slope of the dam. Note the tall grass.



Photograph No. 2: The principal spillway riser.



Photograph No. 3: The principal spillway riser.



Photograph No. 4: The principal spillway riser. Note the indentation on the upstream slope of the dam.



Photograph No. 5: Looking toward the principal spillway outlet from the crest of the dam.



Photograph No. 6: The impact basin at the principal spillway outlet. Note the toe drain outlets.



Photograph No. 7: The left toe drain outlet.



Photograph No. 8: The emergency spillway channel looking downstream.



Photograph No. 9: The principal spillway channel looking downstream.



## Dam Classification Checklist

Name of Dam:	Margaret Creek Structure No. 5	File Number:	9220-002
County:	Athens	Date:	May 23, 2007
		Engineer:	VAZ

The classification of a dam is based on three factors: the dam's height, storage capacity, and potential downstream hazard. The height of the dam is the vertical distance from the crest to the downstream toe. The storage capacity is the volume of water that the dam can impound at the top of dam (crest) elevation. The downstream hazard consists of roads, buildings, homes, and other structures that would be damaged in the event of a dam failure. Potential for loss of life is also evaluated. Various dam failure scenarios must be considered, and they include failures when the dam is at normal pool level and failures during significant flood events. Each of the three factors is evaluated, and the final classification of the dam is based on the highest individual factor. Class I is the highest and Class IV is the lowest. The classification of a dam can change based on future development along the downstream channel.

This checklist is intended to establish or verify the appropriate classification in accordance with the Ohio Administrative Code – it does not necessarily show all potential hazards or the full extent of inundation. In addition, elevations and dimensions are estimated.

<b>HEIGHT CLASSIFICATION</b>	<b>STORAGE CLASSIFICATION</b>	<b>EXEMPT-NON-REGULATED</b>
Dam Height = 29 feet	Stor. Capacity (top of dam)= 416.9 acre-feet	Height ≤ 6 feet
_____ > 60' - Class I	_____ > 5000 acre-feet - Class I	_____ Storage ≤ 15 acre-feet
_____ > 40' - Class II	_____ > 500 acre-feet - Class II	_____ 6 ft. < Height < 10 ft. &
<u>  X  </u> > 25' - Class III	<u>  X  </u> > 50 acre-feet - Class III	_____ Stor. ≤ 50 ac-ft
_____ < 25' - Class IV	_____ ≤ 50 acre-feet - Class IV	
<b>Height Class:</b>	<b><u>  III  </u></b>	
<b>Storage Class:</b>	<b><u>  III  </u></b>	
<b>Hazard Class (see next page):</b>	<b><u>  III  </u></b>	<b>Estimated Population at Risk:</b> ( <u>  none  </u> 1-5 6-15 16+ )
<b>Final Class:</b>	<b><u>  III  </u></b>	

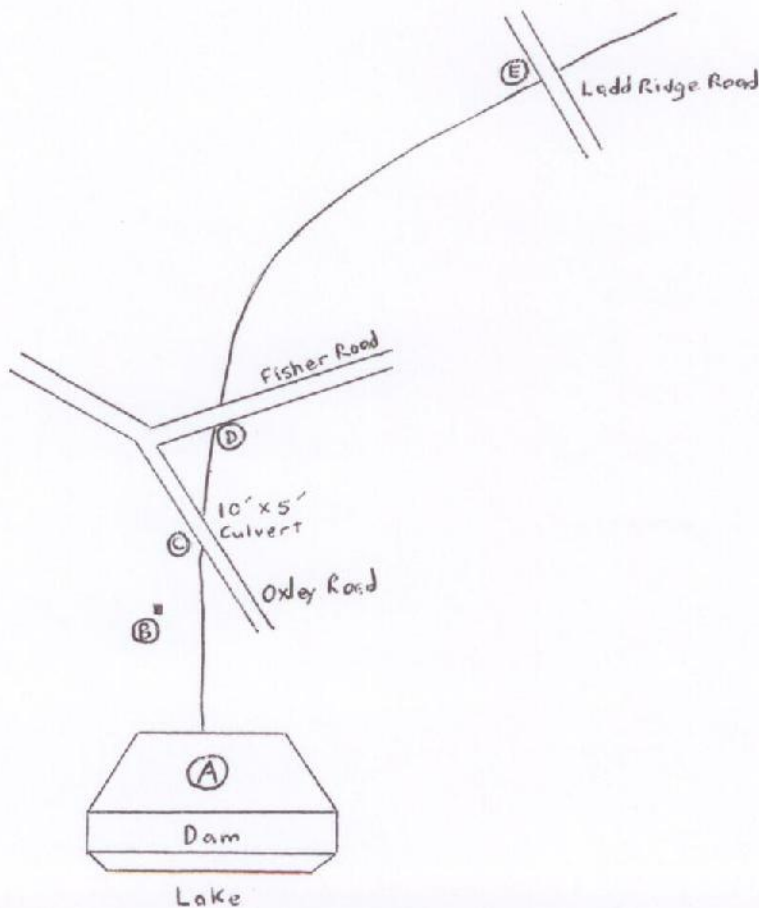
**Class Changed (Yes, No)**

## Potential Downstream Hazard

I	II					III	IV	-	-				
Probable loss of human life	Loss of public water supply or wastewater treatment facility, release of health hazardous waste	Flooding of structure or high-value property	Damage to high-value or Class I, II, III dam or levee	Damage to major road (US or state route), disruption of only access to residential or critical facility area	Damage to railroad or public utility	Damage to rural building, not otherwise high-valued property, or Class IV dam or levee	Damage to local road (county and township)	Loss restricted mainly to the dam or agricultural /rural land	No hazard to structure noted	No hazard assessment, further investigation needed	Distance downstream of dam to affected structure (feet)	Vertical distance from streambed to base of affected structure (feet)	Horizontal distance from stream to affected structure (feet)
								A			-	-	-
									B		1300	20	100
						C					2000	6	-
						D					3000	6	-
						E					5300	6	-

This checklist is intended to establish or verify the appropriate classification in accordance with the OAC - it does not necessarily show all potential hazards or the full extent of inundation.

### Sketch of Developments Downstream of Dam



## Flood Routing Summary

A dam must be able to safely pass severe flood events. A dam uses a combination of spillway discharge capacity and reservoir storage capacity, known as discharge/storage capacity, to prevent floodwater from overtopping the embankment crest and destabilizing the dam. When a dam has inadequate discharge/storage capacity, floodwater will overtop and erode the embankment. This can cause severe damage and dam failure.



Dam embankment prior to severe flood.



Erosion caused by floodwater overtopping the dam – a result of inadequate discharge/storage capacity.



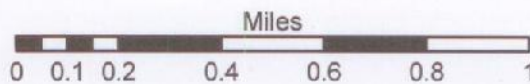
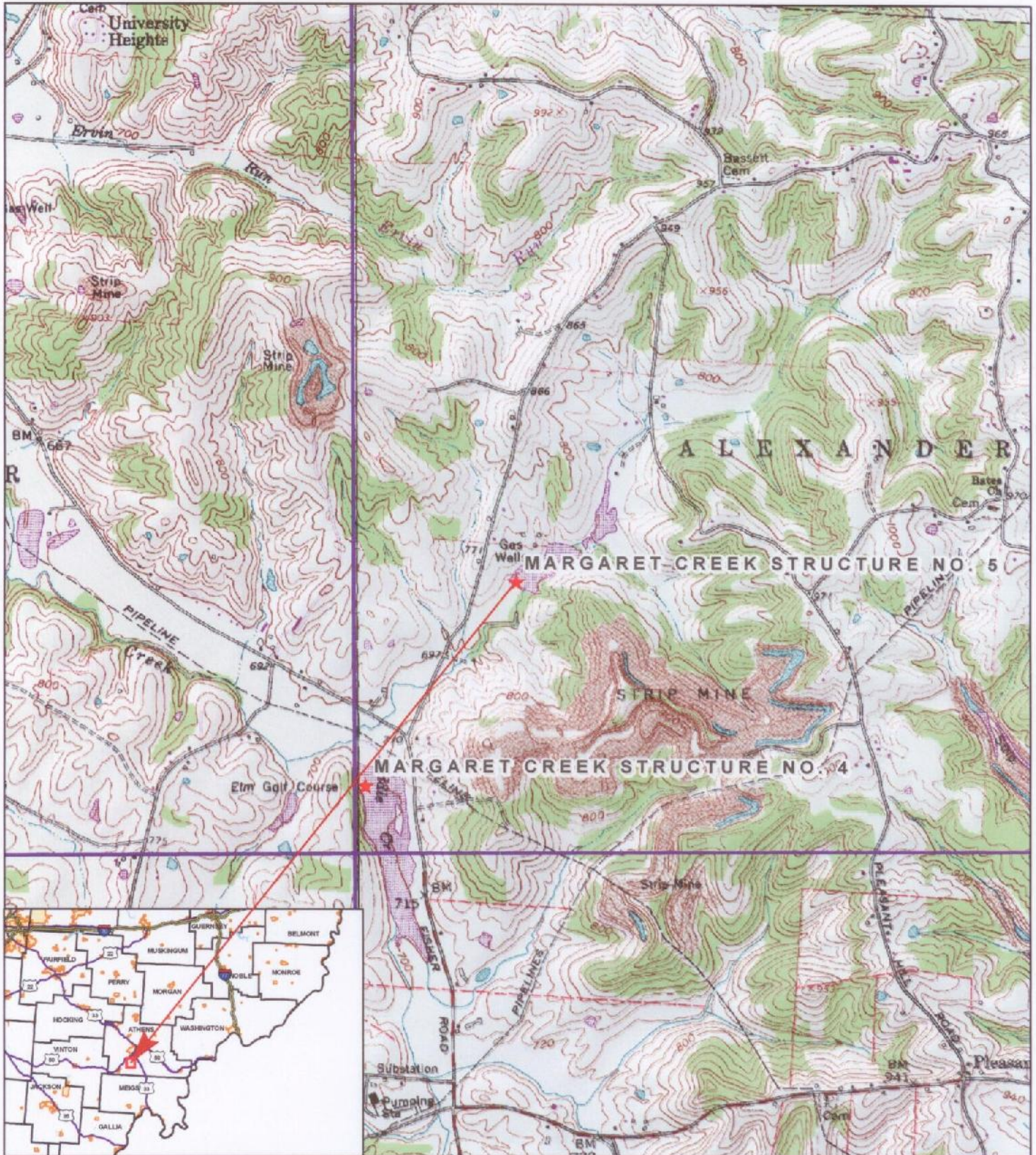
Erosion caused by floodwater overtopping the dam – a result of inadequate discharge/storage capacity and debris obstructing the 5-foot-diameter spillway pipe.

As part of this inspection, the Division of Water did not thoroughly investigate this dam's discharge/storage capacity or its ability to safely pass the required design flood. In 1990 the Division of Water performed hydrologic and hydraulic calculations to estimate the size of the design flood and the discharge/storage capacity of the dam. These calculations were used in the flood routings to determine the maximum water surface elevation in the reservoir for various flood events.

Margaret Creek Structure No. 5 is a Class III dam; therefore, in accordance with OAC Rule 1501:21-13-02, the required design flood is 25% of the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) or the critical flood. This dam and its spillway system must safely pass the design flood without overtopping the embankment crest and destabilizing the dam. Flood routing calculations indicate that the dam can pass approximately 80% of the PMF; Margaret Creek Structure No. 5 appears to be able to safely pass the design flood.

# LOCATION MAP

## MARGARET CREEK STRUCTURE NO. 5 - 9220-002



Legend	
	Dams
	Cities
	County Boundary
	Quad Boundary



# Dam Inventory Sheet

Name: MARGARET CREEK STRUCTURE NO. 5 File No: 9220-002  
Reservoir: JOHNSON/FRENCH LAKE National #: OH00085  
Permit No.: EXEMPT  
Class: III

**Owner Information**  
Owner: Hocking Conservancy District Owner Type: Public, C.d.  
Address: 560 West Union Street Parcel No.:

City: Athens State: OH Zip: 45701-2331  
Contact: Terry Courtney, Exec. Sec-Treas Phone No.: 740/592-1792

**Location Information**  
County: Athens Latitude Deg.: 39 Min.: 15 Sec.: 40  
Township: Alexander Longitude Deg.: 82 Min.: 7 Sec.: 0  
Stream: Biddle Creek

Nearest Affected Community: Athens  
Community's Distance from Dam (miles): 3.4  
USGS Quad.: Athens USGS Basin No.: 05030204

**Design/Construction Information**  
Designed By: Usda, Scs  
Constructed By:  
Completed: 1970 Plan Available: YES At: USDA, SCS  
Failure/Incident/Breach:

### Structure Information

Purpose: Flood Control, C.d.  
Type of Impound.: Dam And Spillway  
Type of Structure: Earthfill  
Drainage Area (sq. miles): 1.68 or (acres): 1078  
**Embankment Data**  
Length (ft): 600 Upstream Slope: 3H:1V  
Height (ft): 29 Downstream Slope: 2.5H:1V  
Top Width (ft): 14 Volume of Fill (cub. yds.): 46600

### Spillway Outlet Works Data

Lake Drain: 12-IN PIPE CAST IRON  
Principal: 30-IN REINFORCED CONCRETE PIPE W/30-IN X 90-IN CONCRETE RISER  
Emergency: 120-FT WIDE OPEN CHANNEL W/3H:1V SIDE SLOPES  
Maximum Spillway Discharge (cfs) 9573 Design Flood: 0.25 Flood Capacity 0.80

Dam Reservoir Data	Elevation (ft-MSL)*	Area (acres)	Storage (acre-feet)
Top of Dam:	734	37.3	416.9
Emergency Spillway:	728.5	31.2	228.7
Principal Spillway:	716.7	8.3	29.1
Streambed:	705		
Foundation:	699		

\*Elevations are not necessarily related to a USGS benchmark

### Inspection Information

Inspection: 05/23/2007 VAZ  
History: 03/28/2000 VAZ  
09/12/1990  
Phase I:  
Other Visits: 11/13/84 INV

### Operation Information/Remarks

PL-566 PROJECT

Emergency Action Plan: Yes Format: ICODS OMI: No  
Annual Fee: \$146.00 Last Entry: 07/20/2007

# Dam Safety Inspection Checklist

Name of Dam: Margaret Creek Structure No. 5  
 Date of Inspection: May 23, 2007  
 File Number: 9220-002  
 Class: III  
 Haz.: III, Height: III, Volume: III

Athens County  
 Required Action  
 None  Mon.  Maint.  Eng.

Design Flood: 0.25 Flood Capacity: 0.80

**Interview with Owner (at the site):**

Owner/Representative present: (Yes) No Name(s): Mark Holdcraft  
 Owner's Name(s): Hocking Conservancy District  
 Address: 560 West Union Street,  
 City: Athens State: OH Zip (+4): 45701-2331  
 Contact Person: Terry Courtney, Exec. Sec-Treas Telephone: 740/592-1792  
 Email Address:  
 Purpose of dam: Flood Control, C.d.

**Owner Dam Safety Program**

Emergency Action Plan Yes ICODS None Mon. Maint. Eng.  
 EAP (document): Up-to-date? (yes) no      
 Downstream development: No recent changes

**Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection** No

OMI (document): Up-to-date? (yes, no)      
 All drains operable? (yes) no

Normal rate of drawdown: 4 to 5 inches overnight Accessibility for operation: From shore.

Maintenance

Frequency of mowing: Twice per year.  
 Other maintenance: Woody plants cut annually, rodent burrows filled as needed, toe drains monitored.

Inspection

Frequency and thoroughness of day-to-day & routine inspections: Monthly walk through.

Problems found during inspections: None.

**Field Information**

Pool Elevation (during inspection): Slightly below normal. Time: 1:30 (a.m. p.m.)  
 Site Conditions (temp., weather, ground moisture): 85°, sunny, dry  
 Inspection Party: Val Zampetra, Keith Banachowski

Confirm the Following:  Dam Height (ft): 29  NP Area (ac): 8.3

**Reference Information**

Riser has a 1-ft x 1.9 ft low-flow inlet at 716.7, and two 7.5-ft-long weirs at 725.2;  
 Lake drain is cast iron and discharges into riser, control from top of riser, upstream side;  
 Toe drains (6-inch CMP) discharge into each side of impact basin.

	Elev.	Area (ac)	Stor. (ac-ft)	(in.)
PI-566 Project				
TOD:	734	37.3	416.9	4.3
Em. S/w:	728.5	31.2	228.7	2.1
Prin. S/w:	716.7	8.3	29.1	
Strmbd:	705			
Basin (ac):	1078			

Impound. Type: Dam And Spillway  
 Structure Type: Earthfill  
 Township: Alexander  
 Stream: Biddle Creek  
 Designed By: Usda, Scs  
 Constr. By:  
 Year Compl.: 1970 Plans Avail.? Yes At: Usda, Scs  
 Fail./Incid.:

**Upstream Slope**

Gradient: 3H:1V

Typical Problems: shoreline erosion, trees & brush, surface erosion, ruts, rodent burrows, earth slides, cracks

A few rodent burrows.

Tall grass on entire slope

Indentation 50 ft. long, 1 ft. into embankment, 6 inches high, near principal spillway riser.

Required Action			
None	Monitor	Repair	Engineer
		X	
		X	
	X		

**Crest**

Width (ft): 14

Length (ft): 600

Total Freeboard (ft): 17.30

Typical Problems: low areas, trees & brush, surface erosion, ruts, cracks

No problems noted.

None	Mon.	Rep.	Eng.
X			

**Downstream Slope**

Gradient: 2.5H:1V

Typical Problems: trees & brush, surface erosion, ruts, rodent burrows, earth slides, cracks, seepage

Tall grass on entire slope.

None	Mon.	Rep.	Eng.
		X	

**Principal Spillway**

30-in Reinforced Concrete Pipe W/30-in X 90-in Concrete Riser

Typical Problems: Inlet obstructed, unsatisfactory trashrack/anti-vortex plate, material deterioration, misalignment, open joints, outlet erosion, outlet overgrown, undermining

Sediment & debris around low-flow inlet - appears to be beaver activity.

Concrete in good condition.

Trashrack in good condition.

None	Mon.	Rep.	Eng.
		X	
X			
X			

Sufficient measurements to perform hydraulics (dimensions, riser depth, outlet elevation)

**Emergency Spillway**  120-ft Wide Open Channel W/3h:1v Side Slopes  
 Freeboard (to normal pool, feet) 11.80

Typical Problems: Flowpath obstructed, material deterioration, erosion, misalignment, overgrown, undermining

No problems noted.

Required Action

None	Monitor	Repair	Engineer
X			

Sufficient measurements to perform hydraulics (dimensions, breadth, side slopes)

**Lake Drain**

12-in Pipe Cast Iron

Typical Problems: Poor operating access, inoperable, deteriorated/missing components, outlet erosion

No problems noted.

None	Mon.	Rep.	Eng.
X			

**Other**

No flow in toe drain outlets.  
 A small amount of rust colored deposits at outlet areas.

None	Mon.	Rep.	Eng.
	X		
	X		

All Field Data Gathered (inspector's initials): VAZ

Site Sketch

Investigate Downstream Hazard





# Ohio Department of Natural Resources

TED STRICKLAND, GOVERNOR

SEAN D. LOGAN, DIRECTOR

Deborah F. Hoffman • Chief

## Division of Water

July 23, 2007

Hocking Conservancy District  
Terry Courtney, Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
560 West Union Street  
Athens, OH 45701-2331

RE: Margaret Creek Structures No. 1, No. 4, No. 5, and No. 6  
File Numbers: 9121-008, 9220-003, 9220-002, and 9221-001  
Athens County

Dear Mr. Courtney:

Thank you for allowing Val Zampedro and me to conduct safety inspections of Margaret Creek Structures No. 1, No. 4, No. 5, and No. 6 on May 23, 2007. These inspections were conducted by representatives of the Chief of the Division of Water under the provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section (ORC) 1521.062 to evaluate the conditions of the dams and their appurtenances. The Chief has the responsibility to ensure that human life, health, and property are protected from dam failures. Conducting periodic safety inspections and working with dam owners to maintain and improve the overall condition of Ohio dams are vital aspects of achieving this purpose. A copy of the laws and administrative rules for dam safety is available on the division's web site or by request. I have enclosed guidelines for preparing an operation, maintenance, and inspection manual and guidelines for preparing an emergency action plan.

The enclosed inspection reports were generated based on available information and are hereby provided for your use and study. Listed in the reports are several repair, maintenance, and monitoring items that as a dam owner you are required by law to perform. Completion of these required items will improve the safety and overall conditions of the dams. The Chief must approve any plans for modifications or repairs to these dams. Following approval of the engineered plans, all necessary repairs must be implemented by the owner under the supervision of a registered professional engineer.

Please be advised that you may qualify for a loan to make required repairs from the Ohio Dam Safety Loan Program administered by the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA). To find out more about the program, please contact OWDA's Loan Officer at 614/466-5822.

To gain information that will help improve the inspection program, a short survey has been developed and is enclosed. Please complete the survey and return it in the self-addressed envelope provided. Your feedback is important.

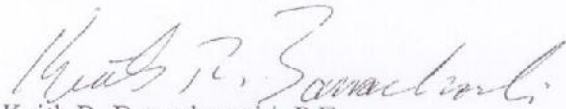
Margaret Creek Structures No. 1, No. 4, No. 5, and No. 6

July 23, 2007

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Your cooperation in improving the overall conditions of these dams is appreciated and you are commended on the maintenance performed thus far. Please contact Val Zampedro at 614/265-6760 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Keith R. Banachowski, P.E.

Program Manager

Dam Safety Engineering Program

Division of Water

KRB:vaz

Enclosures