

Francis, Ronald - Salt Lake City, UT

Subject: 4-5-07 eBlast from NRCS



April 5, 2007

## UPDATE EVENT ON HANKSVILLE EWP

Senator Bob Bennett and NRCS State Conservationist Sylvia Gillen met yesterday with county and city officials to review plans to rehabilitate the water delivery system with a \$5 million EWP grant the Senator helped acquire to rehabilitate areas near Hanksville that were devastated by last fall's floods along the Fremont River. "I've been to New Orleans and Mississippi to see the damage caused by Hurricane Katrina, and although the scope may not be as large, the Fremont River flood last fall was equally devastating," Bennett said. "The residents of Hanksville understand that because their livelihoods depend on the river. The funding we helped secure for this reconstruction is every bit as important as the funding used to rebuild communities along the Mississippi Delta."

Gillen reminded the 30 plus attendees that EWP funds are used to solve problems that existed before the disaster and cannot be used to raise the level of protection that existed prior to the emergency. She reported that an NRCS team, headed by State Engineer Eric Fleming, is currently in the process of identifying and evaluating alternatives that would bring the impacted irrigation systems back to a functioning state. Gillen assured local farmers that they would do all they can to help restore vital irrigation water supplies to the land as soon as possible.



The media event was covered by several news media (see the *Salt Lake Tribune* story at [http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci\\_5598071](http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_5598071)). The accompanying photo shows VIP's attending the media event (left to right): Wayne Co. Commissioner DeRae Fillmore, Canal Co. President Ronnie Albrech, Hanksville Mayor Stanley Alvey, Commissioner Thomas Jeffery, Commissioner Stan Wood, Senator Bennett,

and State Conservationist Sylvia Gillen.

 **NRCS** Periodic news reports from NRCS Utah

To see blasts from the past go to [e-Blast archives](#)

**Sylvia Gillen, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service**

125 S. State St., Salt Lake City, UT 84138; (801) 524-4550; (801) 524-4403 - fax; [www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov)

To submit news items or subscribe/unsubscribe to the mailing list, contact NRCS Public Affairs Specialist Ron Francis at 801-524-4557; [ron.francis@ut.usda.gov](mailto:ron.francis@ut.usda.gov)

*USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*