



September 11, 2013

Dear Interested Parties:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), in cooperation with the Washington County Flood Control Authority as the project sponsor, is proposing to address rehabilitating the Gypsum Wash Dam in Washington County, Utah, to upgrade the structures to meet current dam safety and engineering performance criteria as well as being rated as high hazard class dams. The primary purposes of the structures are flood control and sediment retention. The proposed project is located near the foothills on the southeast side of Washington City, Utah. **You are invited to attend a public meeting** where a wide range of conceptual alternatives addressing damage rehabilitation and resource issues pertaining to Gypsum Wash Dam will be presented and discussed.

Scoping Period

Open: Wednesday, September 11, 2013

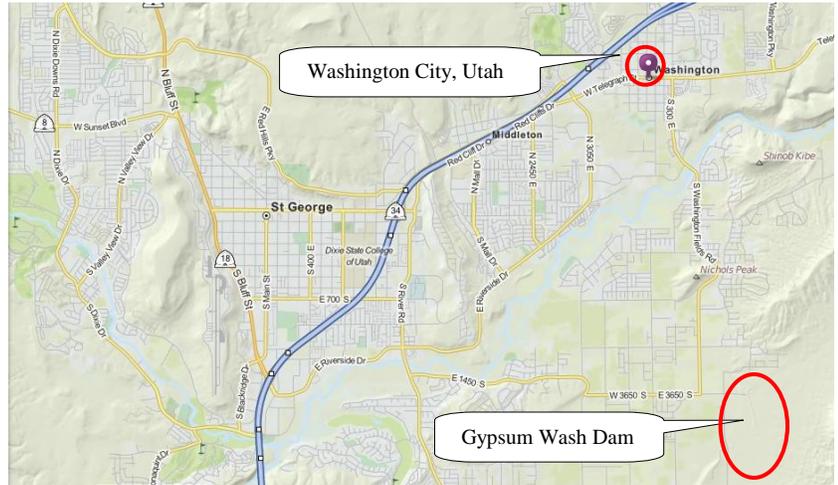
Close: Friday, October 11, 2013

Scoping Meeting

When: Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Time: Formal Presentation: 6 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.
 Informal Open House: 6:45 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Where: Washington City Public Works
 1305 Washington Dam Rd
 Washington City, UT



Vicinity Map

More project specific information is available by contacting Greg Allington (McMillen, LLC) with the project team by phone at 208-342-4214 or email at gypsumwash@mcmillen-llc.com

Environmental Assessment Introduction

The NRCS is proposing to partially fund the project, through the Small Watershed Program (PL83-566), to address rehabilitation of the Gypsum Wash Dam, which will increase public safety downstream from the dam and improve overall functionality of the facilities. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality’s regulations at 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508 require an evaluation of potential environmental impacts associated with federal projects and actions. The project will require an environmental analysis and the environmental impacts will be documented in the form of a Supplemental Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for each separate project.



Gypsum Wash Dam

Project Purpose and Need

In accordance with the rehabilitation provisions of the NRCS’s Small Watershed Program, the area is eligible for rehabilitation funding due to the need to ensure public safety downstream from the dam. The purpose of the project is to rehabilitate the dam to meet current NRCS and Utah State Dam Safety regulations and current engineering standards. The project is necessary in order to extend the life of the dams to continue to provide potential flood damage reduction and sediment accumulation.

Public Participation

The participation of the public is a vital component of the project providing those who are interested in or potentially affected by the proposed project an opportunity to share their comments, ideas, and concerns regarding actions during the initial scoping stage of the NEPA process. You are encouraged to attend the public meeting and express your comments, ideas, and concerns. You may also submit your comments via letter, email or fax anytime during the public comment period. To be considered and become part of the public record for the project, **comments must be received by close-of-business on October 11, 2013.**

Please mail your written comments to:

Gypsum Wash Dam Rehabilitation Project
c/o McMillen, LLC – Greg Allington
1401 Shoreline Drive
Boise, ID 83702

You may also submit comments by email, phone or fax to McMillen LLC –Attention: Greg Allington

Email: gypsumwash@mcmillen-llc.com

Phone: 208-342-4214

Fax: 208-342-4216

After receiving comments by close-of-business on October 11, 2013, the NRCS will begin reviewing the comments and developing conceptual alternatives for analysis in the Plan-EA. Preliminary resource concerns identified during this initial project scoping process will also be addressed in the Plan-EA.

To check on the status of the project and download project-related documents during the course of the NEPA analysis, you may visit the project website at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ut/programs/planning/wr/> or search for NRCS Utah Small Watershed Program and select the appropriate project.

The project team values your feedback and encourages you to attend the public meeting on September 26, 2013.

Sincerely,



Bronson Smart
NRCS State Engineer

cc: Norm Evenstad – NRCS
Washington County Flood Control Authority
Dan Axness – McMillen, LLC
Greg Allington – McMillen, LLC