



Gypsum Wash Dam Rehabilitation

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Public Scoping Project Description

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is analyzing alternatives to rehabilitate Gypsum Wash Dam located near the foothills on the southeast side of Washington City, Utah. The 2006 NRCS assessment concluded that Gypsum Wash Dam does not meet current Utah State Dam Safety regulations and NRCS Engineering standards for a Class “C” dam (potential “Loss of Life”). The purpose of this project is to rehabilitate the dam to meet current Utah State Dam Safety regulations and current NRCS Engineering standards, and stabilize the existing dam structures. The life of the dam would be extended for a minimum of 50 years and a maximum of 100 years. The project would also restore the design storage capacity in the reservoir by possibly raising the height of the dam, enlarging the spillway to pass the Probable Maximum Flood, and provide slope stability for seismic events.

The NRCS is analyzing alternatives to rehabilitate the dam and conceptual alternatives that have been identified include the following:

- No Action: The dam would be left in its existing condition.
- Dam Decommissioning: Completely remove the dam and restore the site back to its natural condition.
- Rehabilitate Dam: Repair the dam infrastructure to meet current NRCS Engineering standards and Utah State Dam Safety regulations. Restore the reservoir storage capacity. (minimum of 50-yr evaluated life)
 - Spillway Replacement: Replace the spillway at the same elevation.
 - Raised Spillway: Increase the elevation of the spillway to create additional storage capacity in the reservoir.
- Sediment Removal: Remove the accumulated sediment in the reservoir to restore the original capacity.
- Recreation Improvements: Improve recreation components for public use.
- Other Alternatives: Other alternatives identified by the public and project team during scoping will be analyzed during the NEPA process to rehabilitate the diversion.

NEPA Analysis

This project is being partially funded by the NRCS Small Watershed Rehabilitation Amendments (PL 106-472) which authorizes funding and technical assistance to rehabilitate aging flood control dams built under the Small Watershed Program (PL83-566). NRCS, as the lead federal agency, is initiating NEPA analysis in the form of a Supplemental Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment to analyze impacts to the natural and human environment from this project. The Environmental Assessment will comply with the Council on Environmental Quality’s regulations at 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508 which require an evaluation of potential environmental impacts associated with federal projects and actions. The project sponsor is the Washington County Flood Control Authority.

Figure 1: Gypsum Wash Dam Vicinity Map

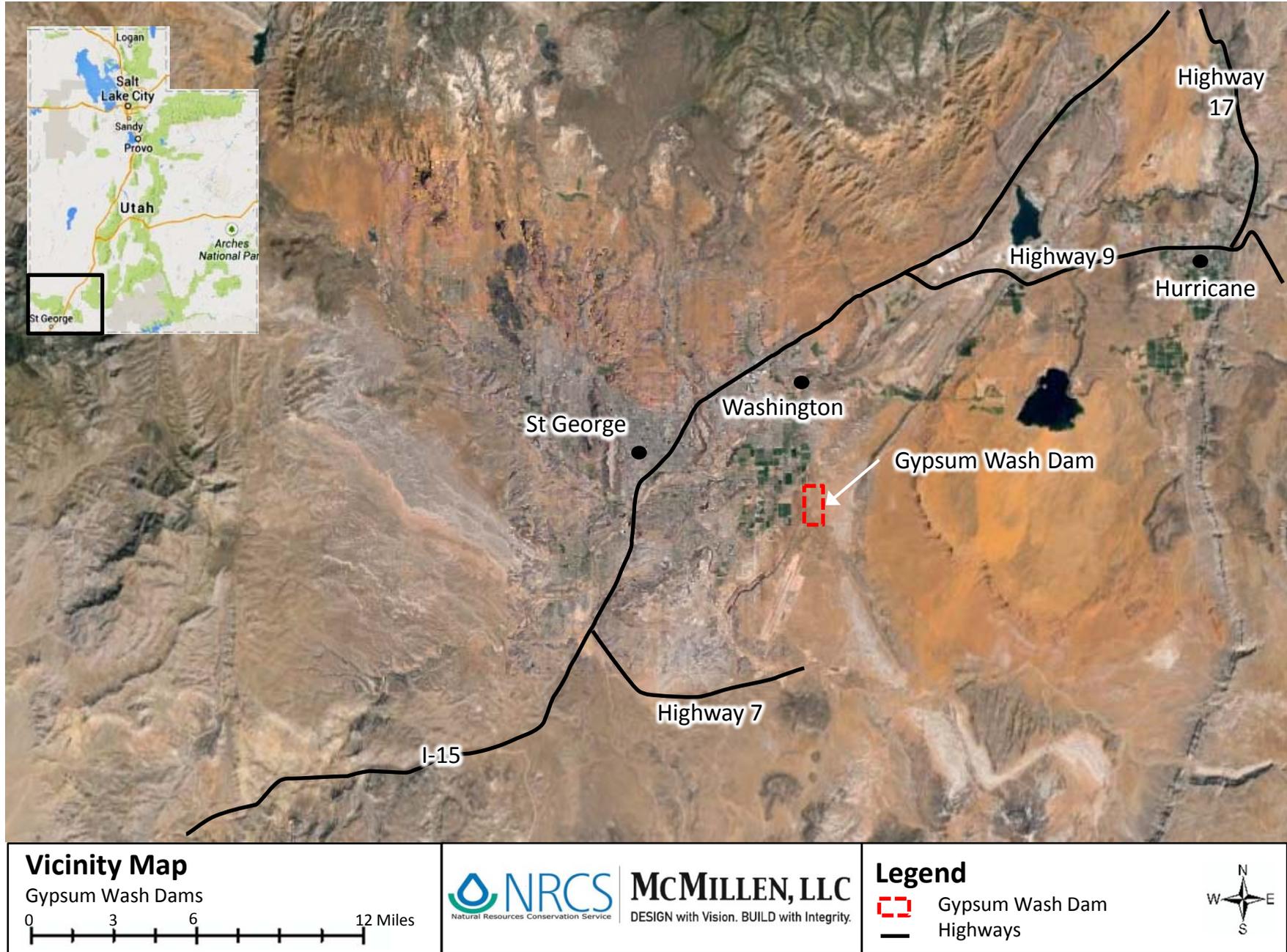
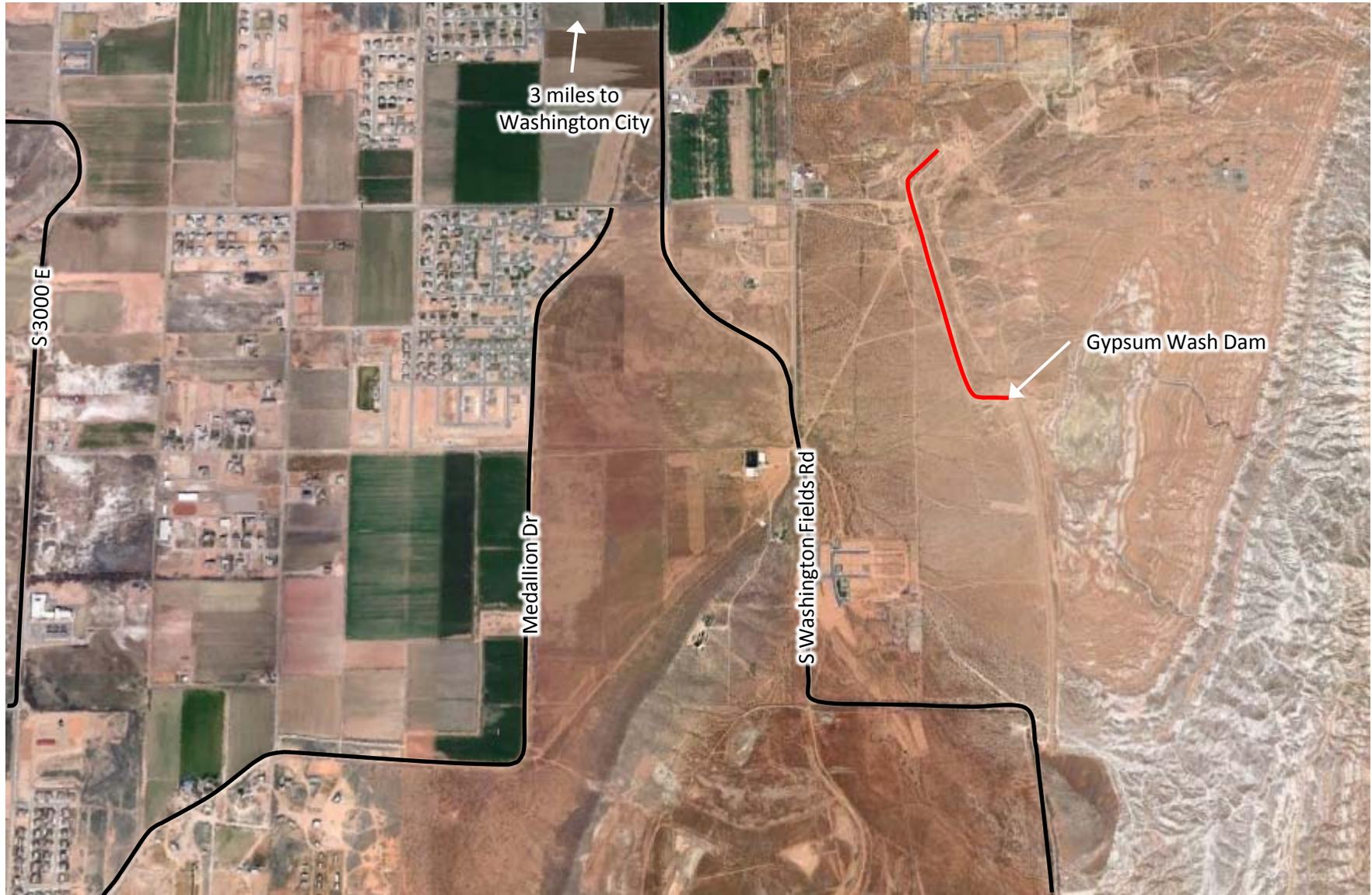
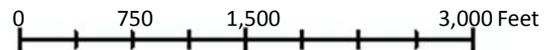


Figure 2: Gypsum Wash Dam Project Map



Project Map

Gypsum Wash Dam



McMILLEN, LLC
DESIGN with Vision. BUILD with Integrity.

Legend

-  Gypsum Wash Dam
-  Road(s)



Photos



Dam Crest Looking South



Reservoir Pool Area

Photos



Emergency Spillway



Spillway

Photos



Dam Crest Looking South



Spillway Channel Looking Downstream