

Appendix A

Comments, Responses, and Consultation

Draft Plan-EA Comments and Responses *(to be included in Final Plan-EIS)*

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Bureau of Land Management

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Forest Service

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

State Historic Preservation Office

Tribes

Utah Division of Air Quality

Scoping Report

Bureau of Indian Affairs

ELECTRONIC PHONE LOG



Call To:	Chip Lewis BIA Regional Environmental Protection Officer	Project:	Skull Valley Flood Protection Project
Call From:	Derek Hamilton NRCS Water Resources Coordinator	Cc:	File
Date:	June 25, 2020		
Subject:	Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA Cooperating Agency Status		

I spoke with Chip Lewis regarding the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA to determine the BIA level of interest in the Project. After asking if BIA was interested in becoming a cooperating agency in preparation of the Plan-EA, Chip Lewis stated that the BIA declines to be a cooperating agency based on the project scope and limited BIA staff.

Mr. Garry J. Cantley
November 15, 2021
Page 2

cc: (w/o encl)

Kristi Westwood, Acting State Conservationist for Field Operations, NRCS, Ogden, Utah

Clayton Schmitz, State Resource Conservationist, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Jenny Jo Cox, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, Utah

Leslie Warta, Environmental Compliance Specialist, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Norm Evenstad, Water Resources, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

From: [Lewis, Charles](#)
To: [Hamilton, Derek - NRCS, Salt Lake City, UT](#)
Subject: Skull Valley Watershed Plan EA
Date: Thursday, June 25, 2020 9:04:56 AM

Mr. Hamilton,

Good morning, sir. The scoping materials and the letter requesting BIA's participation as a Cooperating Agency recently landed on my desk.

Before answering, I'd like to discuss the project with you. Can you please give me a call at your convenience? (602-390-2014)

Thank you.

Chip Lewis

[Chip Lewis](#)

Regional Environmental Protection Officer
Branch of Environmental Quality Services
Bureau of Indian Affairs-Western Region
2600 N. Central Ave, Fourth Floor Mailroom
Phoenix, AZ 85004
Office: (602) 379-6750
Direct: (602) 240-8448
Cell: (602) 390-2014



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Utah State Office

125 South State Street
Room 4010
Salt Lake City, UT 84138

Ph: 801-524-4550
Fax: 844-715-4928
www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov

May 29, 2020

Bureau of Indian Affairs
Western Region Regional Office
ATTN: NEPA Program Director
2600 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85004

RE: Formal request to be a Cooperating Agency in the development of the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for proposed food prevention measures in Tooele County, Utah.

Dear NEPA Program Director:

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) at 40 CFR Part 1501.6, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is formally requesting that the Bureau of Indian Affairs become a cooperating agency in the planning and development of the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA. The proposed project measures are located on the Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Reservation in Tooele County, Utah. The project location and proposed measures are summarized in the enclosed scoping notice.

This request is made since your agency is identified as having special expertise or jurisdiction by law related to this project. The Plan-EA is being prepared to fulfill our NEPA compliance responsibilities pertaining to federal financial assistance through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program as authorized through Public Law 83-566. Upon acceptance of this invitation, roles can be defined in an informal agreement or a memorandum of understanding. If unable to participate as a cooperating agency, please return a written explanation to include in our administrative record for the Plan-EA.

Please send notification confirming your decision to: Emily Fife, State Conservationist, USDA-NRCS, Wallace F. Bennett Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Room 4010, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1100.

Thank you for your timely response and cooperation with these efforts. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Derek Hamilton, Water Resources Coordinator, at 801/524-4560 or derek.hamilton@usda.gov.

Sincerely,
NORMAN
EVENSTAD

Digitally signed by
NORMAN EVENSTAD
Date: 2020.05.29 16:23:01
-06'00'

NORM EVENSTAD

Asst. State Conservationist—Partnerships and Water Resources

Enclosure

cc:

Chet Fitzgerald, Area Conservationist, NRCS, Ogden, UT

Dave Hansen, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, UT

Derek Hamilton, Water Resources Coordinator, NRCS, Salt Lake City, UT



November 15, 2021

Mr. Garry J. Cantley
Regional Archeologist
BIA Western Regional Office
2600 North Central Avenue, Suite 400
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-3008

Reference: A Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah

Dear Mr. Cantley:

Enclosed is a cultural resources report titled *A Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah*. Tooele County, in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), is preparing a new Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for the Skull Valley Watershed. The Plan-EA focusses on identifying needed mitigation measures for flood and debris flows impacting property of the Skull Valley Reservation as a result of recent wildfires. The NRCS has provided funding for the Plan-EA and may provide funding for the future mitigation projects. Issuance of this funding constitutes an undertaking per the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800. As such, impacts to historic properties must be considered and resolved as part of project implementation.

Pedestrian inventory of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) was conducted in October 2020 by Principal Investigator, Sherri Murray Ellis under State of Utah PPCO Permit No 176. The APE was intensively inventoried in transects spaced approximately 50 feet (15 meters) apart. Fieldwork was completed under authority of UDSH Project No. U21HY0765 and under the direction of NRCS.

NRCS has determined this project will result in ***no adverse effect*** to historic properties. As the lead agency, NRCS requests State Historic Preservation Officer concurrence for the National Register of Historic Places eligibility determination for the archaeological sites, and requests concurrence for the determination of project effects for this undertaking. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Shelley A. Szeghi, North Area Cultural Resources Specialist, at (801) 597-4552, or Shelley.Szeghi@usda.gov, at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Fife". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

EMILY FIFE
State Conservationist

Enclosure

Mr. Garry J. Cantley
November 15, 2021
Page 2

cc: (w/o encl)

Kristi Westwood, Acting State Conservationist for Field Operations, NRCS, Ogden, Utah

Clayton Schmitz, State Resource Conservationist, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Jenny Jo Cox, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, Utah

Leslie Warta, Environmental Compliance Specialist, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Norm Evenstad, Water Resources, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah



April 11, 2023

Garry J. Cantley
Regional Archeologist
BIA Western Regional Office
2600 North Central Avenue, Suite 400
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-3008

Reference: *An Addendum Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah*

Dear Mr. Cantley:

Enclosed is a cultural resources report titled *An Addendum Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah*. Tooele County, in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), is preparing a new Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for the Skull Valley Watershed. The Plan-EA focusses on identifying needed mitigation measures for flood and debris flows impacting property of the Skull Valley Reservation as a result of recent wildfires. The NRCS has provided funding for the Plan-EA and may provide funding for the future mitigation projects. Issuance of this funding constitutes an undertaking per the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800. As such, impacts to historic properties must be considered and resolved as part of project implementation. The County contracted with Bowen Collins & Associates (BCA) to assist in fulfilling the regulatory requirements for the Plan-EA. In turn, BCA contracted with Certus Environmental Solutions (Certus) to prepare a cultural resource assessment pursuant to 36 CFR 800. Certus conducted a cultural resource inventory for the project in 2020 under report number U21HY0765. Subsequent to that survey, the project area was expanded slightly, and anticipated impacts were identified in four small areas outside the original survey area. Certus conducted an addendum assessment for these areas. The results of that addendum assessment are presented in this submission under report number U22HY0435.

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United States Department of Agriculture

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Sincerely,

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Emily Fife
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc: (w/o encl)

Ammon Boswell, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, NRCS, Ogden, Utah

Andrew Hopkin, State Resources Conservationist, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Jenny Jo Cox, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, Utah

Norm Evenstad, Water Resources, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Bureau of Land Management

From: [Graham, Stephanie E](#)
To: [Hamilton, Derek - NRCS, Salt Lake City, UT](#)
Subject: Skull Valley Water Project
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 3:38:16 PM

Derek,

We received your request to be a cooperating agency for the Skull Valley Water Project. At this time we decline the invitation to be a cooperating agency. However, we would appreciate staying informed about the project if there are potential impacts to BLM lands.

Thanks,
Stephanie Graham

*Stephanie Graham
Assistant Field Manager-Renewable Resources
2370 S. Decker Lake Boulevard
West Valley City, UT 84119
Office: (801) 977-4364
Cell: (385) 235-0608*



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Utah State Office

125 South State Street
Room 4010
Salt Lake City, UT 84138

Ph: 801-524-4550
Fax: 844-715-4928
www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov

May 29, 2020

Mr. Matt Preston
Field Office Manager, Salt Lake Field Office
Bureau of Land Management
2370 South Decker Lake Blvd
West Valley, UT 84119

RE: Formal request to be a Cooperating Agency in the development of the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for proposed flood prevention measures on the Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Reservation in Tooele County, Utah.

Dear Mr. Preston:

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) at 40 CFR Part 1501.6, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is formally requesting that the Bureau of Land Management become a cooperating agency in the planning and development of the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA. The proposed project area is located on the Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Reservation in Tooele County, Utah. The project location and proposed measures are summarized in the enclosed scoping notice.

This request is made since your agency administers land within the proposed Plan-EA watershed boundary, and has special expertise or jurisdiction by law related to this project. The Plan-EA is being prepared to fulfill our NEPA compliance responsibilities pertaining to federal financial assistance through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program as authorized through Public Law 83-566. Upon acceptance of this invitation, roles can be defined in an informal agreement or a memorandum of understanding. If your agency is unable to participate as a cooperating agency, please return a written explanation indicating that your agency cannot participate.

Please send notification confirming your decision to: Emily Fife, State Conservationist, USDA-NRCS, Wallace F. Bennett Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Room 4010, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1100.

Thank you for your timely response and cooperation with these efforts. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Derek Hamilton, Water Resources Coordinator, at 801/524-4560 or derek.hamilton@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

NORMAN
EVENSTAD

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EVENSTAD
Date: 2020.05.29 16:26:09 -06'00'

NORM EVENSTAD

Asst. State Conservationist—Partnerships and Water Resources

Enclosure

cc:

Chet Fitzgerald, Area Conservationist, NRCS, Ogden, UT

Dave Hansen, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, UT

Derek Hamilton, Water Resources Coordinator, NRCS, Salt Lake City, UT

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Utah State Office

125 South State Street
Room 4010
Salt Lake City, UT 84138

Ph: 801-524-4550
Fax: 844-715-4928
www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov

May 29, 2020

Mr. Jason Gipson
Chief, Nevada-Utah Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
533 West 2600 South, Suite 150
Bountiful, Utah 84010

RE: Formal request to be a Cooperating Agency in the development of the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for proposed flood prevention measures in Tooele County, Utah.

Dear Mr. Gipson:

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) at 40 CFR Part 1501.6, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is formally requesting that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers become a cooperating agency in the planning and development of the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA. The proposed project measures are located on the Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Reservation in Tooele County, Utah. The project location and proposed measures are summarized in the enclosed scoping notice.

This request is made since your agency is identified as having special expertise or jurisdiction by law related to this project. The Plan-EA is being prepared to fulfill our NEPA compliance responsibilities pertaining to federal financial assistance through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program as authorized through Public Law 83-566. Upon acceptance of this invitation, roles can be defined in an informal agreement or a memorandum of understanding. If unable to participate as a cooperating agency, please return a written explanation to include in our administrative record for the Plan-EA.

Please send notification confirming your decision to: Emily Fife, State Conservationist, USDA-NRCS, Wallace F Bennett Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Room 4010, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1100.

Thank you for your timely response and cooperation with these efforts. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Derek Hamilton, Water Resources Coordinator, at 801/524-4560 or derek.hamilton@usda.gov.

Sincerely,
NORMAN
EVENSTAD

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Date: 2020.05.29 16:25:25 -06'00'

NORM EVENSTAD

Asst. State Conservationist—Partnerships and Water Resources

Enclosure

cc:

Chet Fitzgerald, Area Conservationist, NRCS, Ogden, UT
Dave Hansen, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, UT
Derek Hamilton, Water Resources Coordinator, NRCS, Salt Lake City, UT

U.S. Forest Service



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Utah State Office

125 South State Street
Room 4010
Salt Lake City, UT 84138

Ph: 801-524-4550
Fax: 844-715-4928
www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov

May 29, 2020

Mr. Lance Kovel, P.E.
Acting District Ranger, Salt Lake Ranger District
U.S. Forest Service
6944 South 3000 East
Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121

RE: Formal request to be a Cooperating Agency in the development of the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for proposed flood prevention measures on the Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Reservation in Tooele County, Utah.

Dear Mr. Kovel:

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) at 40 CFR Part 1501.6, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is formally requesting that the U.S. Forest Service become a cooperating agency in the planning and development of the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA. The proposed project area is located on the Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Reservation in Tooele County, Utah. The project location and proposed measures are summarized in the enclosed scoping notice.

This request is made since your agency administers land within the proposed Plan-EA watershed boundary, and has special expertise or jurisdiction by law related to this project. The Plan-EA is being prepared to fulfill our NEPA compliance responsibilities pertaining to federal financial assistance through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program as authorized through Public Law 83-566. Upon acceptance of this invitation, roles can be defined in an informal agreement or a memorandum of understanding. If your agency is unable to participate as a cooperating agency, please return a written explanation indicating that your agency cannot participate.

Please send notification confirming your decision to: Emily Fife, State Conservationist, USDA-NRCS, Wallace F Bennett Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Room 4010, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1100.

Thank you for your timely response and cooperation with these efforts. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Derek Hamilton, Water Resources Coordinator, at 801/524-4560 or derek.hamilton@usda.gov.

Sincerely,
NORMAN
EVENSTAD

NORM EVENSTAD

Asst. State Conservationist—Partnerships and Water Resources

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Enclosure

cc:

Chet Fitzgerald, Area Conservationist, NRCS, Ogden, UT
Dave Hansen, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, UT
Derek Hamilton, Water Resources Coordinator, NRCS, Salt Lake City, UT

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



May 2, 2024

George Weekley
Field Supervisor, Utah Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2369 West Orton Circle, Suite 50
West Valley City, UT 84119

RE: Skull Valley Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA)
Section 12 Notification--Public Law 83-566

Dear George Weekley:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is currently preparing the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA for flood protection measures in Tooele County, Utah. In accordance with Section 12 of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, Public Law 83-566 (U.S.C. Section 1008), this letter serves to notify the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that NRCS invites the USFWS to submit survey reports or investigations regarding wildlife resources that will be considered in development of the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA. Additionally, the NRCS welcomes USFWS participation in the preparation of the Plan-EA in accordance with Section 12 of Public Law 83-566.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact Derek Hamilton, Water Resources Coordinator, at derek.hamilton@usda.gov or 801/524-4560.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS MOTE Digitally signed by TRAVIS MOTE
Date: 2024.05.03 08:55:57 -06'00'

TRAVIS MOTE
Acting State Conservationist

cc:

Todd Allai, Acting Assistant State Conservationist—Water Resources, NRCS, Salt Lake City, UT
Derek Hamilton, Water Resources Coordinator, NRCS, Salt Lake City, UT

From: [Hamilton, Derek - NRCS, Salt Lake City, UT](#)
To: [USFWS Utah Field Office \(utahfieldoffice_esa@fws.gov\)](#)
Cc: [Converse, Yvette](#); [Weekley, George M](#); [Reyna, Ritamay N](#)
Subject: NRCS Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA
Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 2:27:00 PM
Attachments: [NRCS Skull Valley Plan-EA BA No Effect FINAL.pdf](#)

For your files, please find the attached Biological Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA.

It has been determined by NRCS that the proposed project would have **no effect** on federally-listed species or critical habitat for such.

Please contact me with questions or concerns.

~~~~~  
Derek Hamilton  
Water Resources Coordinator

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
125 South State Street Room 4010, Salt Lake City, UT 84138  
Office: 801.524.4560 Mobile: 385.321.4987  
E-mail: [derek.hamilton@usda.gov](mailto:derek.hamilton@usda.gov) | [www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov)  
~~~~~




United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Utah State Office

125 South State Street
Room 4010
Salt Lake City, UT 84138

Ph: 801-524-4550
Fax: 844-715-4928
www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov

May 29, 2020

Ms. Laura Romin
Acting Field Supervisor, Utah Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2369 West Orton Circle, Suite 50
West Valley City, UT 84119

RE: Formal request to be a Cooperating Agency in the development of the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for proposed food prevention measures in Tooele County, Utah.

Dear Ms. Romin:

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) at 40 CFR Part 1501.6, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is formally requesting that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service become a cooperating agency in the planning and development of the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA. The proposed project measures are located on the Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Reservation in Tooele County, Utah. The project location and proposed measures are summarized in the enclosed scoping notice.

This request is made since your agency is identified as having special expertise or jurisdiction by law related to this project. The Plan-EA is being prepared to fulfill our NEPA compliance responsibilities pertaining to federal financial assistance through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program as authorized through Public Law 83-566. Upon acceptance of this invitation, roles can be defined in an informal agreement or a memorandum of understanding. If unable to participate as a cooperating agency, please return a written explanation to include in our administrative record for the Plan-EA.

Please send notification confirming your decision to: Emily Fife, State Conservationist, USDA-NRCS, Wallace F Bennett Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Room 4010, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1100.

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Sincerely,

NORMAN

EVENSTAD

NORM EVENSTAD

Asst. State Conservationist—Partnerships and Water Resources

Digitally signed by NORMAN
EVENSTAD
Date: 2020.05.29 16:27:53
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Enclosure

cc:

Chet Fitzgerald, Area Conservationist, NRCS, Ogden, UT

Dave Hansen, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, UT

Derek Hamilton, Water Resources Coordinator, NRCS, Salt Lake City, UT

State Historic Preservation Office



Spencer J. Cox
Governor

Deidre M. Henderson
Lieutenant Governor

Jill Remington Love
Executive Director
Utah Department of Cultural
and Community Engagement



Christopher Merritt
State Historic Preservation Officer
Utah State Historic Preservation Office

April 20, 2023

Emily Fife
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
125 South State Street, Room 4010
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1100

RE: An Addendum Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah

For future correspondence, please reference Case No. 23-0795

Dear Ms Szeghi,

The Utah State Historic Preservation Office received your submission and request for our comment on the above-referenced undertaking on April 14, 2023.

We concur with your determinations of eligibility and effect for this undertaking.

This letter serves as our comment on the determinations you have made within the consultation process specified in §36CFR800.4. If you have questions, please contact me at 801-245-7263 or by email at cmerritt@utah.gov.

Sincerely,

Christopher W. Merritt
State Historic Preservation Officer



April 11, 2023

Dr. Christopher Merritt
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer - Archaeology
Utah Division of State History
300 Rio Grande Avenue
Salt Lake City, Utah. 84101-1182

Reference: *An Addendum Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah*

Dear Dr. Merritt:

Included in this submission is a cultural resources report titled *An Addendum Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah* and accompanying data. Tooele County, in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), is preparing a new Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for the Skull Valley Watershed. The Plan-EA focusses on identifying needed mitigation measures for flood and debris flows impacting property of the Skull Valley Reservation as a result of recent wildfires. The NRCS has provided funding for the Plan-EA and may provide funding for the future mitigation projects. Issuance of this funding constitutes an undertaking per the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800. As such, impacts to historic properties must be considered and resolved as part of project implementation. The County contracted with Bowen Collins & Associates (BCA) to assist in fulfilling the regulatory requirements for the Plan-EA. In turn, BCA contracted with Certus Environmental Solutions (Certus) to prepare a cultural resource assessment pursuant to 36 CFR 800. Certus conducted a cultural resource inventory for the project in 2020 under report number U21HY0765. Subsequent to that survey, the project area was expanded slightly, and anticipated impacts were identified in four small areas outside the original survey area. Certus conducted an addendum assessment for these areas. The results of that addendum assessment are presented in this submission under report number U22HY0435.

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United States Department of Agriculture

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Shelley A. Szeghi, North Area Cultural Resources Specialist, at (801) 597-4552, or Shelley.Szeghi@usda.gov, at your convenience.

Sincerely,

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Emily Fife
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc: (w/o encl)

Ammon Boswell, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, NRCS, Ogden, Utah

Andrew Hopkin, State Resources Conservationist, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Jenny Jo Cox, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, Utah

Norm Evenstad, Water Resources, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah



Spencer J. Cox
Governor

Deidre M. Henderson
Lieutenant Governor

Jill Remington Love
Executive Director
*Utah Department of Cultural
and Community Engagement*



Jennifer Ortiz
Director

Christopher Merritt
State Historic Preservation Officer

November 23, 2021

Emily Fife
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
125 South State Street, Room 4010
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1100

RE: A Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah
(U21HY0765)

For future correspondence, please reference Case No. 21-2431

Dear Ms. Fife,

The Utah State Historic Preservation Office received your submission and request for our comment on the above-referenced undertaking on November 19, 2021.

We concur with your determinations of eligibility and “No Adverse Effect” for this undertaking.

This letter serves as our comment on the determinations you have made within the consultation process specified in §36CFR800.4. If you have questions, please contact me at 801-245-7246 or by email at sagardy@utah.gov.

Sincerely,

Savanna Agardy
Compliance Archaeologist



November 15, 2021

Dr. Christopher Merritt, PhD
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer - Archaeology
Utah Division of State History
300 Rio Grande Avenue
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101-1182

Reference: A Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah

Dear Dr. Merritt:

Included in this submission are a cultural resources report titled *A Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah*, and accompanying data. Tooele County, in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), is preparing a new Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for the Skull Valley Watershed. The Plan-EA focusses on identifying needed mitigation measures for flood and debris flows impacting property of the Skull Valley Reservation as a result of recent wildfires. The NRCS has provided funding for the Plan-EA and may provide funding for the future mitigation projects. Issuance of this funding constitutes an undertaking per the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800. As such, impacts to historic properties must be considered and resolved as part of project implementation.

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Sincerely,

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EMILY FIFE
State Conservationist

Enclosure

Dr. Christopher Merritt

November 15, 2021

Page 2

cc: (w/o encl)

Kristi Westwood, Acting State Conservationist for Field Operations, NRCS, Ogden, Utah

Clayton Schmitz, State Resource Conservationist, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Jenny Jo Cox, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, Utah

Leslie Warta, Environmental Compliance Specialist, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Norm Evenstad, Water Resources, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

TRIBES

Tribal Consultation Summary Table

Tribe Information			Cons Initiated ¹	Cultural Resource Report Consultation Package ²		Consultation Follow Up ²			
Federally Recognized Tribe	Contact Name	Address		NRCS Mailed to Tribe ³	Tribe Response	Follow Up #1 Type (Date)	Response #1	Follow Up #2 Type (Date)	Response #2
Confederated Tribe of the Goshute Reservation	Cleel Pete (Environmental Protection Department)	195 Tribal Center Rd Ibapah, Utah 84034	5/28/2020	11/15/2021 & 4/11/2023	None	Email (10/30/2023) clell.pete@ctgr.us	None	Phone (12/1/2023) 435-234-1138	Left message. No response received
	Rupert Steele / Amos Murphy (Chairman)		5/28/2020	11/15/2021 & 4/11/2023	None	Email (10/30/2023) amos.murphy@ctgr.us	None	Phone (12/1/2023) Amos Murphy 435-234-1138	No answer
Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians ⁴	Candace Bear / Daniel Moon (Chairman)	407 Skull Valley Rd Skull Valley Reservation, Utah 84029	7/10/2019 & 6/9/2020	7/13/2023	None	Email (10/30/2023) danielm@svgoshutes.com	None	Phone (11/27/2023, 11/29/2023, 12/1/2023, & 12/8/2023) Daniel Moon 435-831-4079 & 435-882-4532	No answer or phone number disconnected
Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation, Utah	Luke Duncan (Chairman)	P.O. Box 190 Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026	5/28/2023	11/15/2021 & 4/11/2023	None	Email (10/30/2023) luked@utetribes.com	None	-	-
	Betsy Chapoose (THPO)		5/28/2020	11/15/2021 & 4/11/2023	None	Email (10/30/2023) betsyc@utetribes.com	None	Phone (12/8/2023) 435-725-4826	No concerns with the Project. She will prepare response letters next week.

Notes: Cons = Consultation, THPO = Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

1 – Tribe consultation was initiated as part of the Scoping process and is documented in the Scoping Report included in Appendix A.

2 – Documentation is included below the Table.

3 – An addendum to the Cultural Resource Survey was made after it was provided to the Tribes and a second letter was sent to all Tribes with the updated Cultural Resource Survey. The first letter and second letter mailed and received dates are included.

4 – The Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians are Project Sponsors and Canace Bear (Chairman) attended the Project Kickoff Meeting held on 7/10/2019 and the Scoping Meeting held 6/9/2020. Candace Bear distributed the Scoping Notice to the members of the tribe prior to the Scoping Meeting. Candace Bear also attended a Sponsor Project Alternatives Meeting held on 8/20/2021. Dainiel Moon is now Chairman and is the new contact for further tribe coordination.

ELECTRONIC PHONE LOG



Call To:	Betsy Chapoose Ute Tribe THPO	Project:	Skull Valley
Call From:	Tara Hoffmann NRCS Water Resources CRS	Cc:	File
Date:	December 8, 2023		
Subject:	Cultural Resources Consultation		

I spoke with Betsy to ask if the tribe has any cultural resources concerns regarding our Skull Valley project. She said she had no concerns and was in the process of preparing a response letter.

From: [Hoffmann, Tara - FPAC-NRCS, UT](#)
Bcc: danielm@svgoshutes.com; luke@utetribes.com; [Betsy Chapoose \(betsyc@utetribes.com\)](mailto:Betsy.Chapoose@utetribes.com); amos.murphy@ctgr.us; clell.pete@ctgr.us
Subject: NRCS Follow-up Consultation for American Fork and Skull Valley Watershed Projects
Date: Monday, October 30, 2023 4:08:00 PM
Attachments: U21HY0765.pdf
U22HY0435.pdf
AFork_U21HX0470.pdf

I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out about two of the NRCS' watershed projects, one located in American Fork, Lehi and Pleasant Grove, Utah (American Fork Supplemental Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment (EA)) and one located on the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians Reservation in Northwestern Utah (Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA).

For the American Fork Supplemental Plan-EA, we last mailed consultation letters in June 2023, along with copies of the cultural resources report (attached). The main objective of the project is to implement flood reduction and prevention solutions in specific locations within the three sponsor cities (American Fork, Lehi and Pleasant Grove) that will protect public safety on public roadways, private property, and agricultural areas. Construction would consist of the designing and building of box culverts, as well as the reconstruction of channels to increase capacity and improve channel operations. The APE consists primarily of linear corridors and small polygons totaling 90.08 acres of municipal and private land. A cultural resources inventory identified two historic bridges, three historic ditches, two historic railroad grades, an historic cemetery, and one prehistoric lithic scatter (eligible for the National Register). All of the eligible cultural resources sites will be avoided by project activities and the lithic scatter was found to be located outside of the APE. Given these findings, and that the Pleasant Grove portion of the project is not moving forward, the NRCS determined that the project would result in No Adverse Effect to Historic Properties. The Utah SHPO concurred with this determination. Per Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), we are reaching back out to Tribes to see if there are any Tribal concerns, TCPs, or other cultural resources that need to be taken into account as we continue in our development of the Plan-EA. In addition, please let us know within 30 days if you concur with our determinations of site eligibility and project effects.

The second project we are reaching out about is the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA located on the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians Reservation in western Utah. NRCS Utah is working with Tooele County (the Project Sponsor) and the Skull Valley Band of Goshute on a proposed Watershed Plan-EA project to build a berm above town to prevent future floods from reaching town and causing damage. An initial cultural resources survey was completed in 2020, and another survey in 2022 along an access road (both reports are attached as U22HY...)). Five historic cultural resources sites (two roads and three trash dumps) were identified as a result of those surveys. As such, the NRCS determined that there would be No Adverse Effect to Historic Properties, and the Utah SHPO concurred. We again want to ensure that all Tribal concerns are addressed per Section 106 of the NHPA, and as such, please let us know within 30 days if you have any concerns, TCPs, or other cultural resources that need to be taken into account as we continue in our development of the Plan-EA. Please also let us know if you concur with our determinations of site eligibility and project effects.

If you have any questions, comments, or need additional information regarding either project, please don't hesitate to contact me via email or phone. I do understand that you receive a plethora of consultation requests and I would be so appreciative of a response regarding these NRCS projects. Thank you again you for your continued involvement and support on all of our projects.

Cheers,

Tara

Tara S. Hoffmann, MA
Water Resources Cultural Resources Specialist/Tribal Liaison
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Salt Lake City, UT
385.258.1266



July 13, 2023

Ms. Candace Bear
Chairwoman
Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians
Skull Valley Goshute General Council
407 Skull Valley Road
Skull Valley Reservation, Utah 84029

Reference: A Cultural Resource Assessment and Addendum Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA, Tooele County, Utah (U21HY0765, U22HY0435)

Dear Ms. Bear:

Enclosed are two cultural resources reports: *A Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah* and *Addendum Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah*. Tooele County, as project Sponsor, in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), is preparing a new Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for the Skull Valley Watershed. The Plan-EA focusses on identifying needed mitigation measures for flood and debris flows impacting property of the Skull Valley Reservation as a result of recent wildfires. The NRCS has provided funding for the Plan-EA and may provide funding for the future mitigation projects. Issuance of this funding constitutes an undertaking per the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800. As such, impacts to historic properties must be considered and resolved as part of project implementation. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) consists of 132.4 acres of tribal land located in and around the Skull Valley Reservation housing area and extending northeasterly into along Indian Hickman Canyon.

Pedestrian inventories of the APE were conducted in October 2020 by Certus Environmental Solutions. The inventories resulted in the identification of five cultural resources sites, including two historical roads (42TO2265 and 42TO7514) and three historical trash scatters/dumps (42TO7511, 42TO7512, and 42TO7513). Of these five sites, one (42TO2265) has been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as a result of prior evaluations under 36 CFR 800. The NRCS has determined that the remaining newly documented site are ineligible for the NRHP.

The fundamental path of Site 42TO02265 and its overall design would not be altered by the proposed flood protection improvements and only modern culverts would be potentially replaced. As such, the NRCS has determined this project will result in ***no adverse effect*** to historic properties. As the lead agency, NRCS requests concurrence for the NRHP eligibility determinations for the archaeological sites, and requests concurrence for the determination of project effects for this undertaking.



United States Department of Agriculture

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Tara S. Hoffmann, State Cultural Resources Specialist, at 385-258-1266, or tara.hoffmann@usda.gov, at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Fife". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

EMILY FIFE
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc: (w/o encl)

Ammon Boswell, ASTC Field Operations, NRCS, Ogden, Utah

Andrew Hopkin, State Resources Conservationist, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Jenny Jo Cox, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, Utah

Derek Hamilton, Water Resources Coordinator, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Bobbi Preite, President and Senior Environmental Consultant, Adaptive Environmental Planning,
Eagle, Idaho

Tara Hoffmann, State Cultural Resources Specialist, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah



April 11, 2023

Ms. Betsy Chapoose
Director
Cultural Rights Protection Department
Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation
P.O. Box 190
Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026

Reference: *An Addendum Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah*

Dear Ms. Chapoose:

Enclosed is a cultural resources report titled *An Addendum Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah*. Tooele County, in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), is preparing a new Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for the Skull Valley Watershed. The Plan-EA focusses on identifying needed mitigation measures for flood and debris flows impacting property of the Skull Valley Reservation as a result of recent wildfires. The NRCS has provided funding for the Plan-EA and may provide funding for the future mitigation projects. Issuance of this funding constitutes an undertaking per the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800. As such, impacts to historic properties must be considered and resolved as part of project implementation. The County contracted with Bowen Collins & Associates (BCA) to assist in fulfilling the regulatory requirements for the Plan-EA. In turn, BCA contracted with Certus Environmental Solutions (Certus) to prepare a cultural resource assessment pursuant to 36 CFR 800. Certus conducted a cultural resource inventory for the project in 2020 under report number U21HY0765. Subsequent to that survey, the project area was expanded slightly, and anticipated impacts were identified in four small areas outside the original survey area. Certus conducted an addendum assessment for these areas. The results of that addendum assessment are presented in this submission under report number U22HY0435.

Pedestrian inventory of the amended Area of Potential Effect (APE) was conducted in October 2020 by Principal Investigator, Sherri Murray Ellis under State of Utah PPCO Permit No 176. The APE was intensively inventoried in transects spaced approximately 50 feet (15 meters) apart. Fieldwork was completed under authority of UDSH Project No. U22HY0435, and under the direction of NRCS.

NRCS has determined this project will result in ***no adverse effect*** to historic properties. As the lead agency, NRCS requests SHPO concurrence for the NRHP eligibility determination for the archaeological sites, and requests concurrence for the determination of project effects for this undertaking.



United States Department of Agriculture

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Shelley A. Szeghi, North Area Cultural Resources Specialist, at (801) 597-4552, or Shelley.Szeghi@usda.gov, at your convenience.

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Emily Fife
State Conservationist

Enclosure

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Andrew Hopkin, State Resources Conservationist, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Jenny Jo Cox, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, Utah

Norm Evenstad, Water Resources, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah



April 11, 2023

Mr. Luke Duncan
Chairman
Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation, Utah
P.O. Box 190
Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026

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Norm Evenstad, Water Resources, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah



April 11, 2023

Mr. Clell Pete
Environmental Protection Department
Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation
HC61 Box 6104
195 Tribal Center Road
Ibapah, Utah 84034

Reference: *An Addendum Cultural Resource Assessment for the Skull Valley Watershed EA, Tooele County, Utah*

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April 11, 2023

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Chairman
Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation
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195 Tribal Center Road
Ibapah, Utah 84034

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November 15, 2021

Ms. Betsy Chapoose
Director
Cultural Rights Protection Department
Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation
P.O. Box 190
Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026

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EMILY FIFE
State Conservationist

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Ms. Betsy Chapoose

November 15, 2021

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Kristi Westwood, Acting State Conservationist for Field Operations, NRCS, Ogden, Utah

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Jenny Jo Cox, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, Utah

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November 15, 2021

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Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation
HC61 Box 6104
195 Tribal Center Road
Ibapah, Utah 84034

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Enclosure

Mr. Rupert Steele
November 15, 2021
Page 2

cc: (w/o encl)

Kristi Westwood, Acting State Conservationist for Field Operations, NRCS, Ogden, Utah

Clayton Schmitz, State Resource Conservationist, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Jenny Jo Cox, District Conservationist, NRCS, Provo, Utah

Leslie Warta, Environmental Compliance Specialist, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Norm Evenstad, Water Resources, NRCS, Salt Lake City, Utah



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Utah State Office

125 South State Street
Room 4010
Salt Lake City, UT 84138

Ph: 801-524-4550
Fax: 844-715-4928
www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov

May 28, 2020

Ms. Betsy Chapoose
Director
Cultural Rights Protection Department
Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation
P.O. Box 190
Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026

Reference: NRCS Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Flood Prevention Project

Dear Ms. Chapoose:

The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with Tooele County as the project sponsor, is proposing to partially fund through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law [PL] 83-566), the Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Plan Project (Project) in Tooele County, Utah. Improvements are being proposed within the Watershed to:

- Prevent flood damages;
- Further the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water; and
- Further the conservation and proper utilization of land.

In cooperation with Tooele County, the NRCS is in the very early planning stages of preparing a Supplemental Watershed Plan and an Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to consider and analyze potential impacts from the action. For the purposes of compliance with NEPA and Section 106 of the NHPA, the NRCS is the designated lead agency. Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Executive Order 13007, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, we write to you at this time regarding the project and we welcome any information you would like to share with us regarding historic properties or places of traditional religious and cultural importance near the proposed project area that we should consider as part of our analysis. We would also appreciate your assistance in identifying any other tribes with whom we should consult on this project.

You are invited to attend a virtual public scoping meeting where the Project and associated resource concerns will be discussed. We are inviting agency, organization, tribal and public input on the Project during the scoping phase. The virtual scoping meeting will be held to provide information about the proposed Project and to collect comments. Comments can be received anytime during the open comment period from **May 26, 2020 to July 10, 2020**.

Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2020

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. (noon)

Access:

1. To access the meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone, use the following:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/915693557>

2. To access from you telephone, use the following: **United States: +1 (646) 749-3122** Access Code: **915-693-557**

3. Join from a video-conferencing room or system. **Dial in or type: 67.217.95.2 or inroomlink.goto.com Meeting ID: 915 693 557 Or dial directly: 915693557@67.217.95.2 or 67.217.95.2##915693557**

4. To download the app, use this link below: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/915693557>

The participation of agencies, organizations, tribes and 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 at the meeting or via letter, email, or fax anytime during the scoping open comment period. To be considered and become part of the public record for the Project, **comments must be received by close-of-business on July 10, 2020.**

We look forward to hearing from and working with you on this important project. We welcome your call if you have questions on the proposed project or if you wish to arrange a meeting or initiate government-to-government consultation regarding this project.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact Shelley A. Szeghi, Area Cultural Resources Specialist, at 801-597-4552 or email at shelley.szeghi@usda.gov. We look forward to receiving your comments and discussing this project further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Fife". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Emily" and last name "Fife" clearly distinguishable.

EMILY FIFE
State Conservationist

cc:

Chet Fitzgerald, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, Salt Lake City, UT
Shelley A. Szeghi, NRCS, Area Cultural Resources Specialist, Ogden, UT
Derek Hamilton, NRCS, Water Resources Coordinator, Salt Lake City, UT
Jamie Tsandes, Bowen Collins & Associates, Draper, Utah



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May 28, 2020

Mr. Luke Duncan
Chairman
Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation, Utah
P.O. Box 190
Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026

Reference: NRCS Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Flood Prevention Project

Dear Mr. Duncan:

The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with Tooele County as the project sponsor, is proposing to partially fund through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law [PL] 83-566), the Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Plan Project (Project) in Tooele County, Utah. Improvements are being proposed within the Watershed to:

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EMILY FIFE
State Conservationist

cc:

Chet Fitzgerald, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, Salt Lake City, UT
Shelley A. Szeghi, NRCS, Area Cultural Resources Specialist, Ogden, UT
Derek Hamilton, NRCS, Water Resources Coordinator, Salt Lake City, UT
Jamie Tsandes, Bowen Collins & Associates, Draper, Utah



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May 28, 2020

Mr. Cleel Pete
Environmental Protection Department
Confederated Tribe of the Goshute Reservation
195 Tribal Center Road
Ibapah, Utah 84034

Reference: NRCS Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Flood Prevention Project

Dear Mr. Pete:

The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with Tooele County as the project sponsor, is proposing to partially fund through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law [PL] 83-566), the Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Plan Project (Project) in Tooele County, Utah. Improvements are being proposed within the Watershed to:

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EMILY FIFE
State Conservationist

cc:

Chet Fitzgerald, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, Salt Lake City, UT
Shelley A. Szeghi, NRCS, Area Cultural Resources Specialist, Ogden, UT
Derek Hamilton, NRCS, Water Resources Coordinator, Salt Lake City, UT
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May 28, 2020

Mr. Rupert Steele
Chairman
Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation
195 Tribal Center Road
Ibapah, Utah 84034

Reference: NRCS Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Flood Prevention Project

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State Conservationist

cc:

Chet Fitzgerald, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, Salt Lake City, UT
Shelley A. Szeghi, NRCS, Area Cultural Resources Specialist, Ogden, UT
Derek Hamilton, NRCS, Water Resources Coordinator, Salt Lake City, UT
Jamie Tsandes, Bowen Collins & Associates, Draper, Utah

Utah Division of Air Quality

From: [Joe Thomas](#)
To: [Bobbi Preite](#)
Subject: Re: Question on Construction Air Quality Permit
Date: Sunday, August 4, 2024 9:28:52 PM

Hi Bobbi,

Thank you for reaching out to the Utah Division of Air Quality. The short answer is no, a permit is not required for construction activities that only use non-road construction equipment.

However, Utah's New Source Review Approval Order (AO) does require a permit for sources that emit five tons or more of criteria pollutants per year, or more than 500 pounds of an individual HAP or 2,000 pounds of all HAPs combined per year. This requirement applies regardless of the area's NAAQS designation.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Thanks,



Joe Thomas

Assistant Director

Email: joethomas@utah.gov

Phone: Office (801) 536-4175

Main Office: (801) 536-4000

airquality.utah.gov



On Thu, Aug 1, 2024 at 9:40 AM Bobbi Preite <bobbi@adaptiveenviro.com> wrote:

Hi Joe,

I am trying to get some information regarding construction air quality permits in Utah. At what point does UDEQ require a permit for construction activities? Is there a de minimis threshold and what is it?

I am working on a Project in Tooele County, on the west side of the Stansbury Mountains outside of nonattainment or maintenance areas. It is a small project that would involve some earthwork to construct flood berms and flood conveyance channels. The work would last less than 6 months. Does UDEQ require a permit for this type of activity? If not, at what point is a permit required in areas outside of nonattainment or maintenance areas?

Thanks,

Bobbi Preite | President and Senior Environmental Consultant

Adaptive Environmental Planning, LLC

2976 East State Street, Ste 120 #431, Eagle, Idaho 83616

208-514-8729 | bobbi@adaptiveenviro.com | www.adaptiveenviro.com

SCOPING REPORT



Skull Valley Watershed Project

Scoping Report

Final

Prepared by:



February 2022

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Appendices

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1.0 Introduction

The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), in cooperation with the project sponsor (Toole County), is proposing improvements within the Skull Valley Watershed located in Tooele County, Utah. Measures are being proposed to address potential flooding on the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Reservation.

The project is partially funded through the NRCS Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law [PL] 83-566), which authorizes funding to help urban and rural communities protect, improve, and develop land resources in watersheds of up to 250,000 acres. NRCS, as the lead federal agency, has initiated NEPA analysis in the form of a Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) to analyze impacts to the environment from project actions. The Plan-EA will comply with the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ's) regulations at 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508 which require an evaluation of potential environmental impacts associated with federal project and actions. The Plan-EA will be composed of the elements listed below.

- Alternatives analysis of potential options to meet the general purposes of PL 83-566, and the defined purpose and need of the project.
- Detailed analysis of resources that may be affected for each of the alternatives analyzed in detailed study that may satisfy the purpose and need for the project.
- Identification of potential avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate potential impacts.
- A plan of public participation and agency consultation and coordination throughout development of the Plan-EA.

The participation of the public/agencies/organizations is a vital component of the NEPA process and development of project alternatives so that those who are interested in or potentially affected by proposed project alternatives have an opportunity to share their concerns and provide input regarding the Plan-EA during the initial stages of the planning process. Scoping is the first phase of the public involvement process, and this report documents the scoping process conducted for this project.

1.1 Purpose and Need

The general purposes of NRCS Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Action (PL 83-566) include:

- Preventing damage from erosion, floodwater, and sediment.
- Furthering the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water.
- Furthering the conservation and proper utilization of land.

The project-specific purpose and need will be developed as the planning advances. Project sponsors and public/agencies/organizations have expressed a general need for improvements to prevent flood and erosion damages on the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Reservation.

1.2 Scoping Goals and Objectives

Scoping is used to identify the public, stakeholder, and government agency resource concerns for the project and potential obstacles/controversy/opposition, and to begin to identify proposed alternatives based on the input received. It is important to involve a diverse group of public/agency/organization participants. During the scoping process and throughout the development of the Plan-EA, ongoing communication will be maintained with stakeholders, agencies, organizations, tribes, and the public. Education about the environmental review process and each party's role will be provided to all participating parties. Public participation activities will be evaluated for effectiveness on a continual basis and use the most effective techniques throughout the NEPA process. Scoping activities involving outreach and meetings and the results of scoping are documented to ensure NEPA, CEQ, and NRCS scoping requirements have been met.

2.0 Scoping Process Summary

This section summarizes the scoping activities performed and outreach conducted for the proposed project.

2.1 Scoping Announcement and Open Comment Period Schedule

The following dates outline the milestones for the scoping announcements and activities that occurred in preparation for the scoping comment period. The scoping comment period **opened on May 26, 2020 and closed on July 10, 2020**.

- May 22, 2020: Scoping announcement was mailed to landowners, the public, and agencies.
- May 28, 2020: Scoping announcement was mailed to four tribes.
- **May 26, 2020: Open Comment Period.**
- May 26, 2020: Scoping notice and public meeting details were posted to the NRCS project website.
- May 28, 2020: Scoping notice was published in the Tooele Transcript Bulletin.
- June 4, 2020: Scoping notice was published in the Tooele Transcript Bulletin.
- June 9, 2020: Virtual scoping meeting was held online via GoToMeeting and was recorded and made available for viewing on the NRCS project website for 30 days after the meeting.
- **July 10, 2020: Close Comment Period.**

2.2 Notices

Materials were developed to announce the public scoping meeting and consisted of a scoping notice, flyer, and newspaper notices. These materials identified the proposed project site, announced the open comment period, listed the scoping meeting details, and requested public participation and input. Contact information for submittal of comments was provided in all postings along with the open date for the comment period. Copies of the scoping notice, flyer, and newspaper notices are included in Appendix A. Details of the notices are listed below.

- A scoping notice was prepared and mailed to 46 individuals that were associated with agencies/organizations/public.

- A tribal scoping letter was prepared and mailed to one tribe on May 28, 2020.
- The scoping notice, project status, and scoping meeting information was posted on the NRCS project website for the duration of the scoping comment period. The website is located at: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ut/programs/planning/wpfp/?cid=nrcseprd1517221>
- A newspaper notice ran twice in the Tooele Transcript Bulletin.

2.3 Meetings

Multiple meetings were held to gather input for project resource concerns and potential obstacles/controversy/opposition, and to help identify proposed alternatives based on the input received. Prior to the scoping open comment period, one meeting was held to help identify watershed problems and issue areas. The meeting held is summarized below.

- July 10, 2019: An internal project team kick-off meeting was held with project sponsors to discuss the project and to get feedback on issues and/or alternatives to fix problems identified.

One virtual scoping meeting was held during the scoping comment period. The meeting was held June 9, 2020, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm online via GoToMeeting. The meeting presented the overall project and Plan-EA process. The scoping meeting materials, consisting of the presentation, are included in Appendix B.

Participants of the scoping meetings were invited to submit comments either verbally at the meeting or subsequently by mail, fax, phone, or e-mail during the scoping comment period. Attendance at the meeting was counted using verbal roll call and is located in Appendix B.

2.4 Mailing List

A public and agency/organization mailing list was prepared by NRCS, the sponsor, Skull Valley Band of Goshute, and Bowen Collins & Associates, to inform them about the scoping process and scoping meetings for the project. A total of 46 mailings were sent to individuals who were either public citizens and/or agency/organizations.

A tribal mailing list was prepared by NRCS, and a formal scoping letter was sent out to four tribes. The tribal scoping letters are included in Appendix A.

3.0 Comments

3.1 Public Meeting

The virtual public scoping meeting was conducted on June 9, 2020 via GoToMeeting. There were 17 people in attendance at the meeting, including public/agencies/organizations and project team members.

Table 3-1 below identifies project team members that were in attendance for the scoping meeting.

Table 3-1. Project Team Members

Name	Organization	Title
Derek Hamilton	Natural Resources Conservation Service	NEPA Biologist
Norm Evenstad	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Assistant State Conservationist
Jason Roper	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Environmental Engineer
David Hansen	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Local District Conservationist (Tooele)
Chet Fitzgerald	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations (Northern Utah)
Nancy Williams	Bureau of Land Management	Wildlife Biologist
Nichole Ring	Bureau of Land Management	Fisheries Technician
Bucky Whitehouse	Tooele County	Emergency Services Director
Candice Bear	Skull Valley Band of Goshute	Tribal Chairperson
Dwayne Wash	Skull Valley Band of Goshute	Tribal Vice Chairperson
Jamie Tsandes	Bowen Collins & Associates	Project Manager
Craig Bagley	Bowen Collins & Associates	Civil and Environmental Engineer
Cameron Jacobs	Bowen Collins & Associates	Water Resource Engineer
Greg Allington	McMillen Jacobs Associates/AEP	Senior Biologist
Jessica Peters	McMillen Jacobs Associates	NEPA Specialist

3.2 Comments Received

Comments could be submitted during the meeting or via mail, e-mail, telephone, or facsimile. There was one written scoping comment received during the scoping open comment period (Appendix C).

3.2.1 Comment Categories

The methodology for categorizing and addressing public and agency comments is to separate each of the comments into comment categories in order to identify the nature of each comment. The following table summarizes the categories and comments received.

Table 3-2. Scoping Comments

Comment Category	Commenter	Comment
Surface Water and Groundwater Resources		
Water Quality Impacts and Mitigation	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	-Surface Water Quality and Sedimentation: Potential impacts to water quality from runoff associated with surface disturbance. Runoff could introduce sediments as well as salts, nutrients, and other pollutants into surface waters. - Drinking Water: Potential impacts to drinking water from the Project, which may affect source water protection areas and other municipal or private water supplies. - Groundwater: Potential impacts to groundwater recharge areas and the identification of community wells with associated shallow or sensitive aquifers that may be modified by Project activities. - EPA recommends the NEPA analysis include: •A list of Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will be required to protect surface water and groundwater resources; •A discussion of the circumstances under which the BMPs would be applied (e.g., proximity to surface water resources, presence of erosive soils, slope, shallow water aquifers, proximity of water wells, etc.); and, •An explanation of how NRCS or another government entity would ensure that the BMPs would be monitored to ensure timely and correct implementation.
Protection of Wetlands, Riparian areas and Floodplains	EPA	-We recommend that NRCS analyze potential impacts from all potential Project alternatives to the following: •Total wetland area and function; •Stream structure and channel stability; •Streambed substrate, including seasonal and spawning habitats; •Stream bank vegetation, riparian habitats, and aquatic biota; and, •The cumulative effects of increased levels of erosion and sedimentation. -We also recommend that the NEPA analysis evaluate methods to protect wetlands, riparian areas and floodplains,
Air Resources		
Air Resources	EPA	-Dust suppression from disturbed areas is an important mitigation consideration in many areas of the west. The EPA recommends the NEPA analysis include a plan for addressing dust control. -Construction vehicle emission analyses are also recommended for inclusion in the EA.

Construction and Failure Response		
Proposed Alternative Construction	EPA	-We nonetheless recommend including specific information about reservoir and flood control structure construction so that anticipated impacts can be considered when selecting between alternatives. These details include a description of the following factors: •Structural specifications, materials, and locations relative to the Reservation; •Anticipated support facilities including structural yards, maintenance buildings and roads, construction camps and materials sites; •Anticipated temporary land use locations; •Sensitive plant and animal life in the Project area; and, •Topography, geology and surficial hydrology in the vicinity of each structure.
Failure Response	EPA	-We recommend the EA include an evaluation of potential adverse impacts from the structural failure of the proposed flood control and reservoir construction measures.
Mitigation and Control Measures		
Mitigation and Control Measures	EPA	-We recommend that the NRCS include a section in the NEPA analysis that details the mitigation and control measures that will be implemented for the Project, including what entity will be implementing the mitigation. If activities could take place near or on the Dugway historic Superfund site, located up Indian Hickman Canyon, a description of associated risk management efforts are recommended. Requirements under the National Historic Preservation Act related to proposed excavation activities on or near tribal lands are also recommended for inclusion in the EA along with a list of all necessary permits or tribal agreements for construction, transportation, water, air, or land use in the Project vicinity.

4.0 Resource Concerns and Cooperating Agencies

4.1 Resource Concerns

A list of resource concerns was compiled for the project based on required scoping concerns outlined in the National Watershed Program Manual Section 501.24 B, and from any additional concerns identified by the public, sponsoring local organization, or agencies/organizations during the scoping meeting or scoping period. Table 4-1 below lists a comprehensive list of the resource concerns compiled for the project. An analysis of resource concerns specific to the project will be completed during the development of the Draft Plan-EA and non-relevant resource concerns will be eliminated.

Table 4-1. Resources

Item/Concern	Item/Concern
Soils	Human Environment
Upland Erosion and Sedimentation	Socioeconomics
Prime and Unique Farmland	Historic Properties/Cultural Resources
Water	Hazardous Materials
Surface Water Quality	Environmental Justice and Civil Rights
Ground Water Quantity	Public Health and Safety
Clean Water Act - Waters of the U.S.	Recreation
Regional Water Mgt. Plans and Coastal Zone Management Areas	Land Use
Floodplain Management	Visual Resources
Wetlands	Scenic Beauty
Wild and Scenic Rivers	Parklands
Sole Source Aquifers	Transportation Infrastructure
Air	Noise
Air Quality	Ecologically Critical Areas
Clean Air Act	National Parks, Monuments and Historical Sites
Plants	Scientific Resources
Special Status Species (Federal and State listed)	Animals
Forest Resources	Essential Fish Habitat
Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plant Species	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Natural Areas	Coral Reefs
Riparian Areas	Special Status Species (Federal and State listed)
	Invasive Species
	Migratory Birds/Bald and Golden Eagles

4.2 Cooperating Agencies

Cooperating agency letters were sent to the agencies listed below.

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- U.S. Forest Service

At the issuance of this report, a response has not yet been received from either agency.

Appendix A Scoping Notices

Scoping Notice

Scoping Flyer

Newspaper Notices

Website Announcements

Scoping Notice

Skull Valley – Band of Goshutes Watershed Plan-EA Project Tooele County

Scoping Notice



Project Information

The United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with assistance from Tooele County (project sponsor), is considering watershed improvements to reduce potential flooding to Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Reservation in Tooele County, Utah.

An evaluation of potential project alternatives and associated environmental impacts is required to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act and the Council of Environmental Quality's regulations and will be documented in the form a Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA). NRCS and Tooele County will hold a virtual public scoping meeting to provide information about the proposed project and to collect comments.

At this time, NRCS is requesting comments on the project to identify issues and resource sensitivities. Written comments are can be submitted during the open comment period starting May 26, 2020 and ending on July 10, 2020. Note that this virtual meeting will be recorded and made available for 30 days after the meeting date during the public comment period.

Written comments must be received by:

July 10, 2020

Additional information can be found at the NRCS Skull Valley Watershed Project website accessed from:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ut/programs/planning/wfpfp/>

Virtual Public Meeting

The public is invited to participate, discuss, and submit a comment during a virtual public meeting.

**June 9, 2020 - Tuesday
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon**

1. To access the meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone, use the following:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/915693557>
2. To access from you telephone, use the following:
United States: +1 (646) 749-3122
Access Code: **915-693-557**
3. Join from a video-conferencing room or system.
Dial in or type: 67.217.95.2 or inroomlink.goto.com
Meeting ID: 915 693 557
Or dial directly: 915693557@67.217.95.2 or 67.217.95.2##915693557
4. To download the app, use this link below:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/915693557>

How to Submit a Comment

All comments should be directed to Jamie Tsandes:

Bowen Collins & Associates

Address:

154 E. 14075 South

Draper, UT 84020

Phone: (801) 495-2224

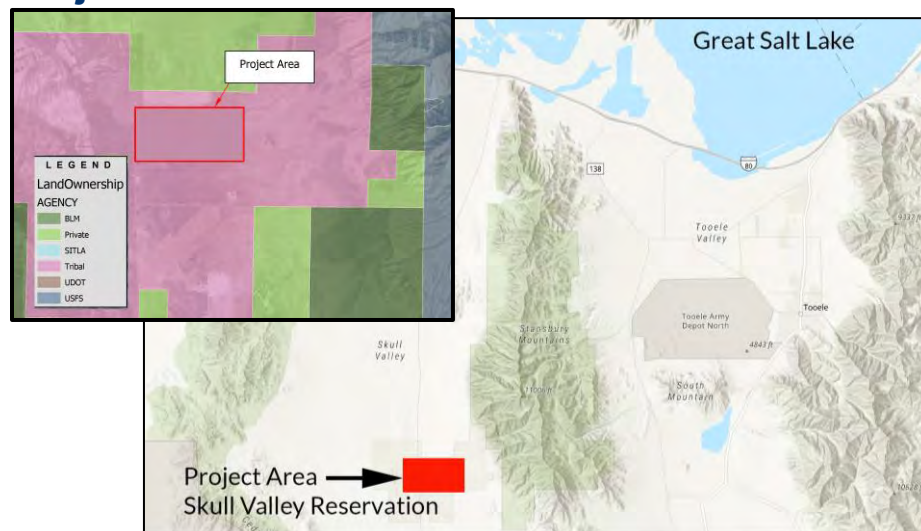
Fax: (801) 495-2225

Email:

svwatershed@bowencollins.com

Comments may be mailed or emailed to the above address or submitted during the public scoping meeting.

Project Area Overview



**Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service**

nrcs.usda.gov/





United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Utah State Office

125 South State Street
Room 4010
Salt Lake City, UT 84138

Ph: 801-524-4550
Fax: 844-715-4928
www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov

May 28, 2020

Mr. Cleel Pete
Environmental Protection Department
Confederated Tribe of the Goshute Reservation
195 Tribal Center Road
Ibapah, Utah 84034

Reference: NRCS Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Flood Prevention Project

Dear Mr. Pete:

The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with Tooele County as the project sponsor, is proposing to partially fund through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law [PL] 83-566), the Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Plan Project (Project) in Tooele County, Utah. Improvements are being proposed within the Watershed to:

- Prevent flood damages;
- Further the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water; and
- Further the conservation and proper utilization of land.

In cooperation with Tooele County, the NRCS is in the very early planning stages of preparing a Supplemental Watershed Plan and an Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to consider and analyze potential impacts from the action. For the purposes of compliance with NEPA and Section 106 of the NHPA, the NRCS is the designated lead agency. Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Executive Order 13007, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, we write to you at this time regarding the project and we welcome any information you would like to share with us regarding historic properties or places of traditional religious and cultural importance near the proposed project area that we should consider as part of our analysis. We would also appreciate your assistance in identifying any other tribes with whom we should consult on this project.

You are invited to attend a virtual public scoping meeting where the Project and associated resource concerns will be discussed. We are inviting agency, organization, tribal and public input on the Project during the scoping phase. The virtual scoping meeting will be held to provide information about the proposed Project and to collect comments. Comments can be received anytime during the open comment period from **May 26, 2020 to July 10, 2020**.

Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2020

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. (noon)

Access:

1. To access the meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone, use the following: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/915693557>
2. To access from your telephone, use the following: **United States: +1 (646) 749-3122** Access Code: **915-693-557**
3. Join from a video-conferencing room or system. **Dial in or type: 67.217.95.2 or inroomlink.goto.com Meeting ID: 915 693 557 Or dial directly: 915693557@67.217.95.2 or 67.217.95.2##915693557**
4. To download the app, use this link below: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/915693557>

The participation of agencies, organizations, tribes and 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 at the meeting or via letter, email, or fax anytime during the scoping open comment period. To be considered and become part of the public record for the Project, **comments must be received by close-of-business on July 10, 2020.**

We look forward to hearing from and working with you on this important project. We welcome your call if you have questions on the proposed project or if you wish to arrange a meeting or initiate government-to-government consultation regarding this project.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact Shelley A. Szeghi, Area Cultural Resources Specialist, at 801-597-4552 or email at shelley.szeghi@usda.gov. We look forward to receiving your comments and discussing this project further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Fife". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Emily" and last name "Fife" clearly distinguishable.

EMILY FIFE
State Conservationist

cc:

Chet Fitzgerald, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, Salt Lake City, UT
Shelley A. Szeghi, NRCS, Area Cultural Resources Specialist, Ogden, UT
Derek Hamilton, NRCS, Water Resources Coordinator, Salt Lake City, UT
Jamie Tsandes, Bowen Collins & Associates, Draper, Utah



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Utah State Office

125 South State Street
Room 4010
Salt Lake City, UT 84138

Ph: 801-524-4550
Fax: 844-715-4928
www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov

May 28, 2020

Mr. Rupert Steele
Chairman
Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation
195 Tribal Center Road
Ibapah, Utah 84034

Reference: NRCS Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Flood Prevention Project

Dear Mr. Steele:

The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with Tooele County as the project sponsor, is proposing to partially fund through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law [PL] 83-566), the Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Plan Project (Project) in Tooele County, Utah. Improvements are being proposed within the Watershed to:

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Sincerely,

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EMILY FIFE
State Conservationist

cc:

Chet Fitzgerald, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, Salt Lake City, UT
Shelley A. Szeghi, NRCS, Area Cultural Resources Specialist, Ogden, UT
Derek Hamilton, NRCS, Water Resources Coordinator, Salt Lake City, UT
Jamie Tsandes, Bowen Collins & Associates, Draper, Utah



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources
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Utah State Office

125 South State Street
Room 4010
Salt Lake City, UT 84138

Ph: 801-524-4550
Fax: 844-715-4928
www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov

May 28, 2020

Ms. Betsy Chapoose
Director
Cultural Rights Protection Department
Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation
P.O. Box 190
Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026

Reference: NRCS Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Flood Prevention Project

Dear Ms. Chapoose:

The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with Tooele County as the project sponsor, is proposing to partially fund through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law [PL] 83-566), the Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Plan Project (Project) in Tooele County, Utah. Improvements are being proposed within the Watershed to:

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EMILY FIFE
State Conservationist

cc:

Chet Fitzgerald, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, Salt Lake City, UT
Shelley A. Szeghi, NRCS, Area Cultural Resources Specialist, Ogden, UT
Derek Hamilton, NRCS, Water Resources Coordinator, Salt Lake City, UT
Jamie Tsandes, Bowen Collins & Associates, Draper, Utah



United States Department of Agriculture

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www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov

May 28, 2020

Mr. Luke Duncan
Chairman
Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation, Utah
P.O. Box 190
Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026

Reference: NRCS Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Flood Prevention Project

Dear Mr. Duncan:

The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with Tooele County as the project sponsor, is proposing to partially fund through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law [PL] 83-566), the Skull Valley Band of the Goshutes Watershed Plan Project (Project) in Tooele County, Utah. Improvements are being proposed within the Watershed to:

- Prevent flood damages;
- Further the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water; and
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EMILY FIFE
State Conservationist

cc:

Chet Fitzgerald, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, Salt Lake City, UT
Shelley A. Szeghi, NRCS, Area Cultural Resources Specialist, Ogden, UT
Derek Hamilton, NRCS, Water Resources Coordinator, Salt Lake City, UT
Jamie Tsandes, Bowen Collins & Associates, Draper, Utah

Scoping Flyer

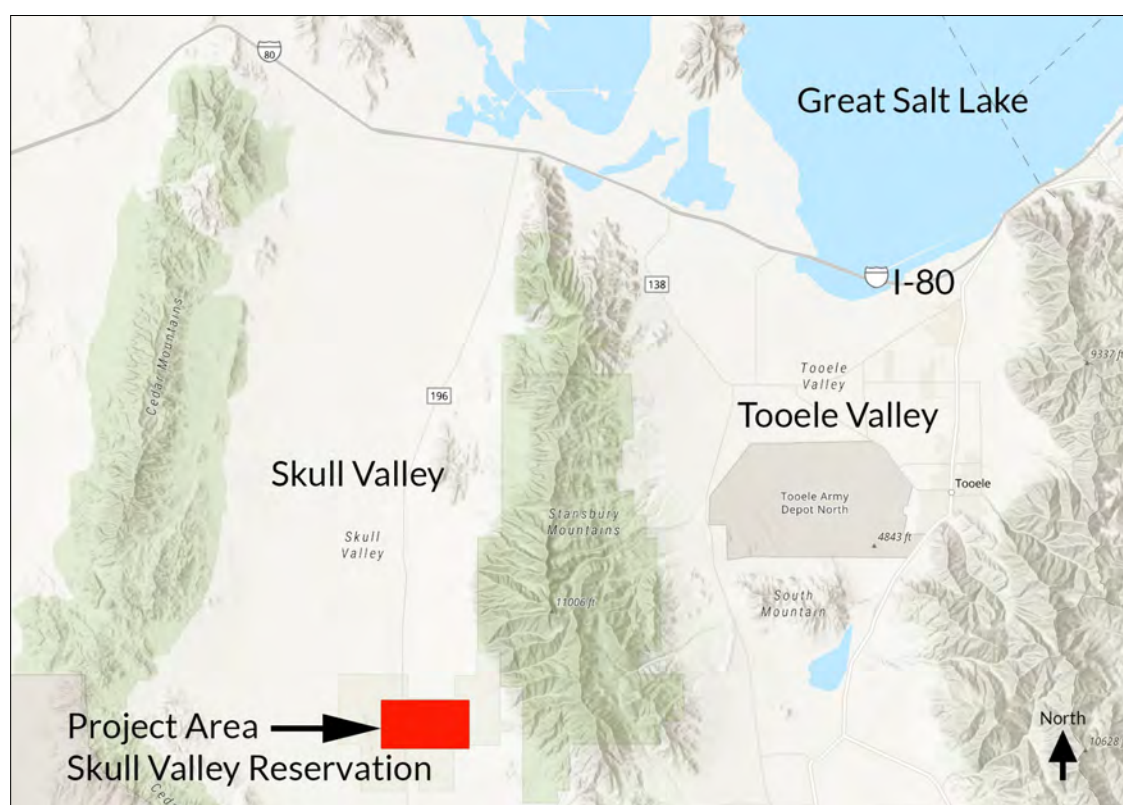
VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING

You are invited to attend a virtual public scoping meeting where the Skull Valley Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations Project and associated resource concerns will be discussed. Interested parties may voice their comments, ideas, and concerns to NRCS and Tooele County during this meeting. Note that this virtual meeting will be recorded and made available for 30 days after the meeting date during the public comment period.

When: **June 9, 2020**
Time: **10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon**
Where:

1. To access the meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone, use the following:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/915693557>
2. To access from you telephone, use the following: United States: [+1 \(646\) 749-3122](tel:+16467493122)
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The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, with Tooele County as the project sponsor, is proposing to partially fund through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law 83-566), the Skull Valley Watershed (Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Reservation) and Flood Prevention Operations Project in Tooele County, Utah. The project will require a Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) to analyze environmental impacts associated with proposed flood prevention improvements.



More information is available on the project website or can be obtained by contacting project team members below.



<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ut/programs/planning/wpfp/>



Jamie Tsandes - Bowen Collins & Associates
(801) 495-2224 or svwatershed@bowencollins.com



Norm Evenstad - NRCS
(801) 524-4569 or norm.evenstad@ut.usda.gov



Non- Discrimination Statement

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited basis will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

Newspaper Notices

SPORTS

Porthan, Buffs rout Farmington

Tooele overcomes early three-run deficit

DARREN VAUGHAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Tooele's Brett Porthan had his final season of high school baseball taken away from him — and, with it, a chance for the Dixie State University to show why he was a preseason All-America selection on his way to playing Division I college baseball.

Fortunately, the American Legion season has given Porthan one last chance to don the Buffaloes' familiar purple-and-white uniform, and one last chance to display his highly regarded pitching skills. He put on a show in Wednesday's 12-3 win over Farmington at Dow James Memorial Park, allowing no earned runs in 6 2/3 dominant innings.

The Buffs (2-0) fell behind the Phoenix 3-0 in the top of the second inning after a rash of errors in the field. A ground-er squeaked through the right side of the infield, and a throwing error by Porthan on a comebacker gave Farmington a pair of baserunners. Porthan struck out the next two batters, but the Phoenix came up with an RBI single to shallow right to take a 1-0 lead. A third error allowed two more Farmington runners to score.

However, Tooele wasn't

rattled by the rough start. Instead, as Porthan slammed the door on the Phoenix the rest of the game, the Buffs' bats came to life. In the bottom of the third inning, Camden Colovich and Dillon Palmer hit back-to-back singles to jump-start Tooele's offense before Porthan ripped a two-run double to right-center field. Porthan later scored on a Farmington error to tie the game, and Brock Beer's RBI single to right-center drove in Mason Donadio with the go-ahead run.

The Buffs blew the game open in the bottom of the fourth inning, sending 10 batters to the plate as part of another four-run frame. Joseph Tippetts was hit by a pitch and Bryson Byrd walked to lead off the inning, and Palmer walked ahead of another RBI single by Porthan. Connor Spindler reached on a Phoenix error that drove in Byrd to make it 6-3. Palmer came home on a double-steal with Porthan to stretch the lead to four runs.

A bit of controversy followed later in the inning with two outs, when the home-plate umpire called ball four on Beer but the scoreboard showed only three balls. In the confusion, Porthan was caught in

a rundown between second and third base and was tagged out for the apparent third out. However, after a bit of conversation between the umpires, Beer was awarded first base and Porthan was placed on third with speed-up runner Zander Adams on second. Jake Hervat then hit an RBI single, driving in Porthan.

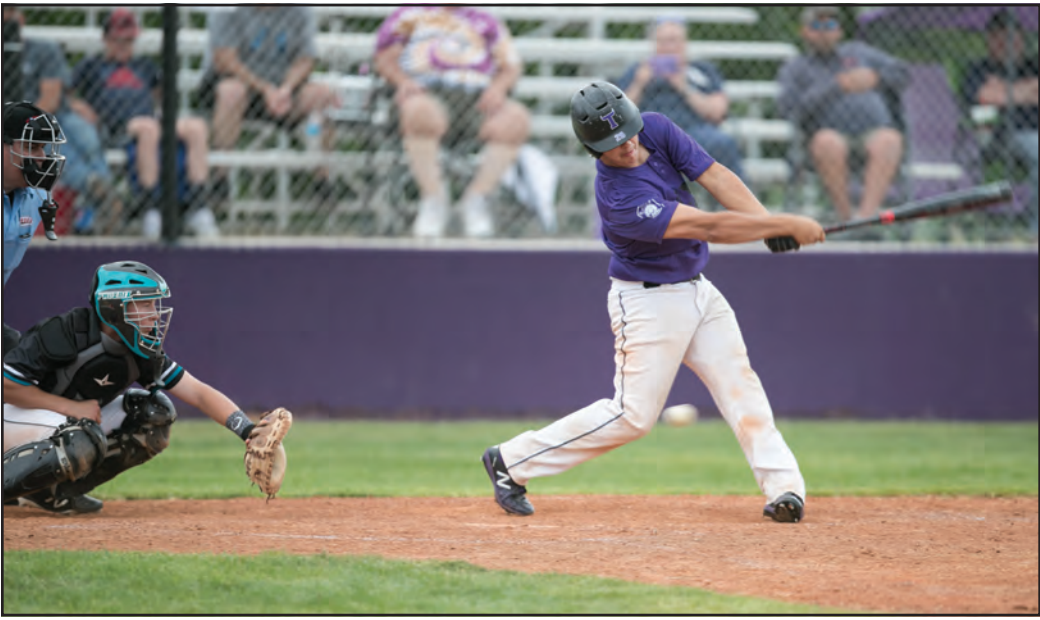
Tooele nearly ended the game in the sixth inning via the 10-run mercy rule with another four-run outburst. Spindler hit a one-out double into the left-field corner, and Adams was safe at third on Donadio's fielder's choice. Beer hit an RBI single into right-center, and Hervat singled to left before Austin Avery's two-run single to right-center put Tooele up 11-3. Byrd capped the scoring with an RBI single to shallow left, driving in Hervat with the game's final run.

Porthan got the first two Farmington batters to fly out in the seventh inning before being replaced by Colovich on the mound. After allowing a base hit, Colovich struck out the last batter of the contest.

Porthan had eight strikeouts and walked just one to pick up the win. He was 3-for-4 at the plate with a double, three RBIs and two runs scored. Beer was 2-for-3 with two RBIs, a walk and a run, while Hervat was 3-for-4 with an RBI and a run.

Tooele will play host to Viewmont on Friday, with the 17-and-under team playing at 3:30 p.m. and the 19-and-under team at 6 p.m. On Monday, the Buffaloes will face rival Stansbury on the road.

dvaughan@tooeletranscript.com



Tooele's Joseph Tippetts takes a swing at a pitch during Wednesday's American Legion baseball game against Farmington at Dow James Memorial Park. Tippetts and the Buffaloes won the game 12-3.



Tooele pitcher Brett Porthan and catcher Connor Spindler talk strategy between batters during Wednesday's American Legion baseball game against Farmington at Dow James Memorial Park. Porthan didn't allow an earned run over 6 2/3 innings and drove in three runs at the plate, leading the Buffaloes to a 12-3 win over the Phoenix.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), in cooperation with Tooele County as the project sponsor, is proposing to partially fund through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law 83-566), the Skull Valley Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations Project in Tooele County, Utah. Per the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations at 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, an evaluation of potential alternatives and associated environmental impacts is required. Environmental impacts will be documented in the form of a Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA). The NRCS and Tooele County are requesting public input in preparation of the Plan-EA for the Skull Valley Watershed (Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Reservation improvements).

You are invited to attend a virtual public scoping meeting where the project and associated resource concerns will be discussed. We are inviting agency, organization, and public input on the project during the project scoping phase.

Virtual Public Scoping Meeting
Date: June 9, 2020
Time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon
Place: Virtual Meeting—See Below

1. To access the meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone, use the following:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/915693557>
2. To access from you telephone, use the following: United States: +1 (646) 749-3122 Access Code: 915-693-557

Comments may be submitted during the open comment period **starting May 26, 2020 and ending on July 10, 2020** to:

Mail: Skull Valley Watershed Project
c/o Bowen Collins & Associates - Jamie Tsandes
154 E. 14075 S.
Draper, Utah 84020

Email: svwatershed@bowencollins.com

Fax: (801) 495-2225

Phone: (801) 495-2224

For additional information, to check on the status of the project, and download project related documents during the course of the NEPA process please visit <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ut/programs/planning/wpfp/>

OUT & ABOUT

I'll take any bit of normalcy I can get

Having been born in the mid-1980s, the last nationwide pandemic pre-dates me by almost 70 years.

The civil rights movement was two decades before I was born. Even when riots erupted in Los Angeles over the arrest and beating of Rodney King, I was only eight years old and have only a vague recollection of my parents watching news coverage on television. The shooting at Columbine High School in Colorado happened when I was a freshman in high school, and Sept. 11, 2001, was at the beginning of my senior year.

All of those were historic events, for sure. But nothing

Darren Vaughan
SPORTS EDITOR

could have prepared my generation — or, really any generation — for what has unfolded over the first five months of this year. Between COVID-19 and the demonstrations in the wake of George Floyd's death, 2020 is going to be remembered as a year that forever altered world history, one way or another.

It is a lot to process for anyone, even for me. I have been in the newspaper business for 14 years as a professional and have never experienced something on this scale before. Isolated incidents? Sure. I lived and worked in the Southern California community where eight-year-old Gabriel Fernandez was murdered in 2013 and worked alongside those who covered the story up close. Before that, I moved to a New Mexico city reeling from the death of a Native American man after an altercation with law enforcement in a Walmart parking lot.

If anything, I should be a little bit jaded, but like they have for everyone else, these past few months have hit me hard. I've had to change my life in ways I never imagined possible. I've seen things in the

news I never thought I would see in my lifetime. My emotions run the gamut from sad to frustrated to furious to resigned. While I have a fair amount of life experience, I am at a loss to make sense of what this year has brought so far.

I can only imagine how the younger generation feels.

Tooele football coach Dru Jones shared the same concern as his players were allowed to resume formal workouts on Monday. For the past two-plus months, nothing has been normal. Kids were forced out of school and the daily routine it provides — not just academically, but socially. He joked about how his players weren't complaining as much about practicing in 90-degree heat as they had previously, but there's a big element of seriousness there. We all need some sort of structure in our lives, and in the case of high-school kids, school and extra-curricular activities provide a lot of that.

It isn't just the kids, either. I was chatting with Tooele baseball coach Nolan Stouder as I copied his lineup card before Wednesday's American Legion game, and he mentioned the size of the crowd that had showed up to Monday's contest — noting the amount of money that the concession stand had taken in.

I've been covering summer baseball for years. While it is fun to watch, and from my

standpoint, it's a great way to get to know the kids in a more relaxed environment, it isn't usually the most popular event among spectators. If there are a dozen friends and family members in the bleachers, it's a pretty good crowd under normal circumstances.

As I approached Dow James Memorial Park on Wednesday evening, I was awestruck at how many cars were in the parking lot. Two days earlier, there was a lengthy wait to turn from state Route 36 onto Bates Canyon Road to reach Stansbury High's baseball field.

But in the summer of 2020, after everyone has been cooped up at home for the past couple months, people are desperate for any hint of normalcy they can find. And for a few hours, a baseball game is the perfect panacea. The players are back with their friends, playing the game they love and just generally enjoying being kids. The adults get to watch our local youth, while enjoying the time-honored tradition of a hot dog and a soda under the setting sun. And while health remains a concern, life almost feels normal.

I know I won't ever take these moments for granted again.

Darren Vaughan is the sports editor for the Transcript Bulletin. Email him at dvaughan@tooele-transcript.com.

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** Based on customer experience reviews shared online at www.thehartford.com/aarp as of April 2019.

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¹ If you are age 50 or older, once you're insured through this Program for at least 60 days, you cannot be refused renewal as long as applicable premiums are paid when due. Also, you and other customary drivers of your vehicles must retain valid licenses, remain physically and mentally capable of operating an automobile (not applicable in MA), have no convictions for driving while intoxicated and must not have obtained your policy through material misrepresentation. Benefit currently not available in HI, MI, NH, NC and TX.

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¹⁹ Texas, the Auto Program is underwritten by Southern County Mutual Insurance Company, through Hartford Fire General Agency. Hartford Fire Insurance Company and its affiliates are not financially responsible for insurance products underwritten and issued by Southern County Mutual Insurance Company.

006131

MY ANSWER

We mustn't let sin weigh us down with weariness

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: I get weary of my family telling me that Hell is a literal place. Why should I believe their wild imaginations and misinterpretations of passages in the Bible? How can we know what Hell really is? — I.M.

A: Mankind can only know the reality of Hell by reading the truth of Scripture. Hell is a lake of fire (Revelation 20:15). It's a place of sorrow (Psalm 18:5). It's a place of wailing (Matthew 13:42). It's a place of outer darkness (Matthew 8:12). It's a place where people scream for mercy (Luke 16:24) and a place of everlasting punishment (Matthew

25:46).

That is God's description — not man's. And God declares that all people outside of Jesus Christ are headed to that terrible place unless they repent of their sins and turn by faith to Jesus Christ.

The same Bible that teaches the wrath, anger and judgment of Almighty God also teaches His love and mercy. Scores of Scripture passages emphasize this truth.

For those who have confessed their sin and turned to the Lord He says: "The Lord your God is a merciful God, He will not forsake you nor destroy you" (Deuteronomy 4:31). For those who have not humbled themselves, this is the day of deci-

sion. Outside of Christ we are all wicked and steeped in sinful disobedience to God. "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon" (Isaiah 55:7).

What a merciful promise coming down from Heaven to the human race. We mustn't let sin weigh us down with weariness. Hell will be filled with eternal sinfulness that will never be satisfied. Turn to the Lord while there is still time and know the richness of His forgiveness.

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OBITUARIES

Ronald W. Condie

Ronald W. Condie, 80, passed away peacefully Thursday, May 21, 2020, at his home in Tooele, Utah.

He was born Dec. 17, 1939, in Preston, Idaho, to Clyde J. Condie and Bernice Winger Condie. He was the oldest of their five sons.

Ronald married Nancy Minson on Sept. 7, 1962, and was the father of eight children. He and his sweetheart were married for 57 years. He graduated from Brigham Young University in 1962 with an accounting degree and was a Certified Public Accountant. He worked for a variety of companies including Davis & Smith, Doty Daton Movie Productions, Dynatronics and Rancho Tooele Construction. He also partnered with his father in the real estate business and a bother-in-law in the roofing business.

Ronald Condie was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He served as a bishop twice and on Stake High Councils in Salt Lake City, Utah; Sandy, Utah; Escondido, California; and Tooele, Utah. He also served as a member of the Stake Presidency in the Tooele Utah East Stake.

He is survived by his wife Nancy Minson Condie; his children Sheri (Robert) Nash of Alpine, Utah; Brian (Terri)



Condie of Rifle, Colorado; Janell (Richard) Rice of Carlsbad, California; Paul (Karyn) Condie of Arlington, Virginia; Michelle (Craig) Woolston of Sandy, Utah; Nathan (Keeley) Condie of Holt, Michigan; Kirk (Christine) Condie of Weber, Utah; Marci Condie and Curtis Antczak of Tooele, Utah; brothers Allen (Carol) Condie of Rupert, Idaho; Garth Condie of Kingston, Missouri; Brent (Kym) Condie of Nampa, Idaho; Kent (Susan) Condie of Herriman, Utah; 32 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

A service will be held at noon on May 30, 2020, at Tate Mortuary, 110 S. Main St., Tooele, Utah. A viewing will be held before the service from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.

Brenda Gail Fox

Brenda Gail Fox, born Feb. 18, 1954, in Belfast, Northern Ireland, passed away May 24, 2020. Brenda is survived by her son Jason Fox; grandchildren William Fox and Calym Fox; brothers George, Steven, and Frank; and sister Julie.

Everybody who met Brenda loved her. She was an amazing wife, mother and grandmother. She will be missed dearly by all who knew her.

A viewing will be held Monday, June 1, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., at Didericksen Memorial, 87 W. Main St., Grantsville. A private interment will follow at Tooele City



Cemetery. Services entrusted with Didericksen Memorial, 435-277-0050.

HARVARD HEALTH LETTER

Crucial ways you can support a healthy immune system

If only there were a pill that could keep the immune system in top shape. You could take the pill every day and feel more protected against viruses, infectious bacteria, and other bugs that threaten health. It would be a simple and easy solution.

Too bad the only “pill” we have to maintain robust immune health is one that many people find hard to swallow. It’s not a vitamin or an herb — the evidence that those things ramp up protection just isn’t there. Instead, it’s a combination of healthy lifestyle habits.

While we don’t have evidence that maintaining a healthy lifestyle will suddenly boost the immune system, we do know good habits contribute to overall health, supporting our ability to fight germs instead of creating new problems. And living a healthier lifestyle is something simple you can start right now.

Get more sleep

One of the best ways to optimize your immune system is to get a good night’s sleep. “Research has demonstrated that people who get less than six hours of sleep per night are about four times more likely to catch a cold compared with those who sleep seven hours or more,” says Dr. Beth Frates, who directs wellness programming for the Stroke Research and Recovery Institute at Harvard-affiliated Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital.

Why is sleep so important? “Sleep activates the immune system, which fights infections and scans for cancers or other signs of illness. Sleep deprivation depresses the immune system,” explains Dr. Lawrence Epstein, a sleep expert at Harvard-affiliated Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

Try going to sleep 30 minutes earlier, maintaining the same sleep and wake sched-



ule every day, and shooting for seven to nine hours each night. Avoiding caffeine past 4 p.m. and avoiding alcohol or food a few hours before bedtime can lead to more restorative sleep.

Start moving more

Exercising regularly is another key to supporting your immune system. Exercise reduces blood pressure, cholesterol, and the risk of heart disease, diabetes, depression, and more. Exercise also improves blood flow to the brain, thinking skills, bone strength, and the body’s “feel good” chemicals.

The goal is to get at least 150 minutes per week of moderate-intensity activity, like brisk walking. “But any amount of exercise that gets your heart and lungs working overtime will help, even just a few minutes per day. If you’re stuck inside, you can walk around, dance to music, or step or jump in place while you’re watching TV or talking on the phone,” suggests Dr. Suzanne Salamon, associate chief of gerontology at

Harvard-affiliated Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

Reduce stress

Chronic stress has many negative effects on health, and a suppressed immune system appears to be one of them. This could be because of the chemicals, such as cortisol, that the body releases in the “fight or flight” mode. “High cortisol levels lower the immune response, specifically inhibiting white blood cells called lymphocytes, which help you fight infection,” Dr. Frates says.

She advises practicing deep breathing as a way to lower your stress and your cortisol levels.

“Deep breathing helps to stop the fight-or-flight response and allows the opposite ‘rest and digest’ response to take over and create a sense of calm,” she notes.

Improve your diet

Good nutrition plays an important role in maintaining a healthy immune system. For example: “Fiber will positively affect the gut microbes

that aid immunity. Nutrients from fruit and vegetables provide vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants that also support immune function,” says Debbie Krivitsky, a registered dietitian at Harvard-affiliated Massachusetts General Hospital. “Vary the colors of fruit and vegetables so that you include many different antioxidants that are protective against disease.”

In addition to eating lots of fruit and vegetables, you should eat a diet rich in legumes, whole grains, fish, nuts, and seeds, Krivitsky advises.

Additional steps

Other steps to support your immune system: Stay up to date with immunizations, don’t smoke, drink alcohol only in moderation, maintain a healthy weight, and try to get underlying health conditions under control. The sum total will be better overall health and a better chance of protecting it.

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HARVARD HEALTH LETTER – ASK A DOCTOR

Treatments for a stiff, narrow aortic valve

ANTHONY L. KOMAROFF, M.D.
EDITOR IN CHIEF, HARVARD HEALTH LETTER

Q. I’m 74, and my doctor says severe aortic stenosis is causing me to feel breathless and faint, and that I need

treatment soon: either surgery or something called TAVR. Neither sounds particularly appealing. Can’t I just take medicine?

A. The heart pumps blood through the aortic valve and out to the rest of the body. With severe aortic stenosis, the aortic valve gets stiff and narrow, and the heart can’t pump enough blood to the body. That’s a problem.

The most common cause of aortic stenosis is buildup of calcium deposits on the valve, which can develop with aging. In general, people like you have three options: open heart surgery to replace the defective valve, a transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR), or medicine. Which option is best

depends on your symptoms, how severely narrowed your valve is, and your general health. For example, if you have another serious illness that increases your risk from surgery or TAVR and limits your life expectancy, medicines may be the best option.

Cardiac ultrasound (also called cardiac echo) can help identify how stiff and narrow the valve has become. Other heart tests can determine how effectively the heart is pumping blood around the body.

If your doctor has recommended either open heart surgery or TAVR, I assume that means your general health can tolerate either procedure and that the heart tests show your condition is severe. For you,

medicines alone may lead to a worse outcome than either open heart surgery or TAVR.

With surgery, your chest and your heart are opened up. Your heart is temporarily stopped, and you are placed on a heart-lung machine that pumps oxygen-rich blood around the body during the operation. The surgeon removes the diseased valve and replaces it with a new, artificial valve. That’s a major operation.

With TAVR, a tube (called a catheter) is inserted into an artery in your leg. The tip of the tube is pushed through the blood vessels up to the aortic valve, and then a new, artificial valve is inserted inside the diseased valve, opening it up. TAVR is definitely less invasive than surgery, and the short-term results are as good as surgery.

The question has been how effective TAVR would be in the long run. A study published in February 2020 in The New England Journal of Medicine was reassuring. Over 2,000 people with severe, symptomatic aortic stenosis were assigned at random to surgery or TAVR and followed for five years. Five years out, the results for TAVR still were as good as for surgery.

So for most people like you, surgery or TAVR are equally good choices. And when you balance the risks against the benefits, medicines alone may be the worst choice — attractive as that option may seem.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

TCM

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), in cooperation with Tooele County as the project sponsor, is proposing to partially fund through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law 83-566), the Skull Valley Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations Project in Tooele County, Utah. Per the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality’s regulations at 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, an evaluation of potential alternatives and associated environmental impacts is required. Environmental impacts will be documented in the form of a Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA). The NRCS and Tooele County are requesting public input in preparation of the Plan-EA for the Skull Valley Watershed (Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Reservation improvements).

You are invited to attend a virtual public scoping meeting where the project and associated resource concerns will be discussed. We are inviting agency, organization, and public input on the project during the project scoping phase.

Virtual Public Scoping Meeting
Date: June 9, 2020
Time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon
Place: Virtual Meeting—See Below

- To access the meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone, use the following:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/915693557>
- To access from you telephone, use the following: United States: +1 (646) 749-3122 Access Code: 915-693-557

Comments may be submitted during the open comment period **starting May 26, 2020 and ending on July 10, 2020** to:

Email: Skull Valley Watershed Project
c/o Bowen Collins & Associates - Jamie Tsandes
154 E. 14075 S.
Draper, Utah 84020
svwatershed@bowencollins.com

Fax: (801) 495-2225

Phone: (801) 495-2224

For additional information, to check on the status of the project, and download project related documents during the course of the NEPA process please visit <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ut/programs/planning/wpfp/>

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Protection Program](#)[Watershed Protection and Flood
Prevention Program](#)[Watershed Surveys and
Planning](#)[Watershed Operations](#)[Watershed Rehabilitation](#)**Skull Valley Watershed (Sponsor: Tooele County)****Project Description**

The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with Tooele County as the project sponsor, is proposing to partially fund through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law [PL] 83-566), the Skull Valley Watershed Project in Tooele County, Utah. Improvements are being proposed within the Warner Draw Watershed to 1) prevent flood damages, 2) further the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water, and 3) further the conservation and proper utilization of land.

NEPA Analysis

NRCS, as the lead federal agency, is initiating National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis in the form of a Supplemental Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) to analyze impacts to the natural and human environment from this project. The Plan-EA 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.

Current Status

NRCS is preparing to begin a public scoping period for the project. Project scoping information and documents will be added as we move forward with the NEPA process.

Watch the virtual-recorded NEPA scoping meeting below:

Utah NRCS - Skull Valley Watershed Scoping Meeting June 6, 2020

Public Notice:

Contact Information

For further project information please contact:

Jamie Tsandes – Bowen Collins & Associates 154 East 14075 South Draper, UT 84020 Phone: 801-495-2224 Email: svwatershed@bowencollins.com	Norm Evenstad – USDA-NRCS 125 S. State Street – Room 4010 Salt Lake City, UT 84138-1100 801-524-4569 phone norm.evenstad@usda.gov
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Project #74363

Key Info:

Sponsor: Other/Federal Government

Title of Action: Virtual Public Scoping Meeting - Skull Valley PL566 Watershed Plan-EA

Federal ID: Skull Valley-Goshute PL566 Watershed Plan-EA

Project URL Link: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ut/programs/planning/wpfp/>

Project Start Date: 07/10/2022

Location: 40.39, -112.71

Location/Supplemental Attachment:

Counties: Tooele

Has local government been contacted? Yes

Date Local Government was Contacted: 11/04/2019

Acquisition: No

Date of Acquisition: N/A

Have the state representative and state senator been contacted? No

Project abstract:

The United States Department of Agriculture -Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with assistance from Tooele County (project sponsor), is considering watershed improvements to reduce potential flooding to Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Reservation in Tooele County, Utah.

An evaluation of potential project alternatives and associated environmental impacts is required to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act and the Council of Environmental Quality's regulations and will be documented in the form a Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA). NRCS and Tooele County will hold a virtual public scoping meeting to provide information about the proposed project and to collect comments.

At this time, NRCS is requesting comments on the project to identify issues and resource sensitivities. Written comments are can be submitted during the open comment period starting May 26, 2020 and ending on July 10, 2020. Note that this virtual meeting will be recorded and made available for 30 days after the meeting date during the public comment period.

Virtual Meeting Info:

June 9, 2020 - Tuesday

10:00 a.m. 12:00 noon

1. To access the meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone, use the following:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/915693557>

2. To access from you telephone, use the following:
United States: +1 (646) 749-3122
Access Code: 915-693-557

3. Join from a video-conferencing room or system.
Dial in or type: 67.217.95.2 or inroomlink.goto.com Meeting ID: 915 693 557
Or dial directly: 915693557@67.217.95.2 or 67.217.95.2##915693557

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http://rdcc.utah.gov/plpco/auth/agency/viewProject.action?projectId=74363[5/22/2020 11:09:00 AM]

Federal ID

Skull Valley-Goshute PL566 Watershed Plan-EA

Local government's response?

Local Government (Tooele County) is the sponsor for this project and has been involved from the beginning.

How is the local government(s) likely to be impacted?

Flood damage reduction, resource protection.

Possible significant impacts likely to occur:

Beneficial flood protection of residents in Skull Valley.

Consistency Review

No Consistency Review Document

Record of Decision

No Record of Decision Document

State Comments

No State Comments

For further information please contact project sponsor.

Appendix B

Scoping Meeting Materials

Scoping Meeting Presentation



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Skull Valley Watershed Plan-EA Tooele County Environmental Assessment Public Scoping Meeting

June 9, 2020



BOWEN COLLINS
& ASSOCIATES

&



Skull Valley, Tooele County Plan-EA Scoping Meeting Attendee List

June 9, 2020

Name	Organization	Title/Role
Jamie Tsandes	Bowen Collins & Associates	Project Manager
Craig Bagley	Bowen Collins & Associates	Water Resource Engineer
Cameron Jenkins	Bowen Collins & Associates	Water Resource Engineer
Greg Allington	McMillen Jacobs/AEP	NEPA Specialist
Jessica Peters	McMillen Jacobs	NEPA Writer
Norm Evenstad	NRCS	Assistant State Conservationist
Derek Hamilton	NRCS	Water Resources Coordinator
Jason Roper	NRCS	State Environmental Engineer
David Hansen	NRCS	Local District Conservationist (Tooele)
Chet Fitzgerald	NRCS	Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations in Northern Utah
Bucky Whitehouse	TCEM (Tooele County)	Emergency Services Director
Beckie Boekweg	TCEM (Tooele County)	Administrative Assistant
Dwayne Wash	Band of Goshutes	Vice Chairperson
Candance Bear	Band of Goshutes	Chairperson
Melissa McCoy	EPA Region 8	NEPA Reviewer
Nancy Williams	BLM SLC Field Office	Wildlife Biologist
Nichole Ring	BLM SLC field Office	Fisheries Technician

Introductions

- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Tooele County
- Skull Valley Band of Goshutes
- Bowen Collins & Associates
- McMillen Jacobs

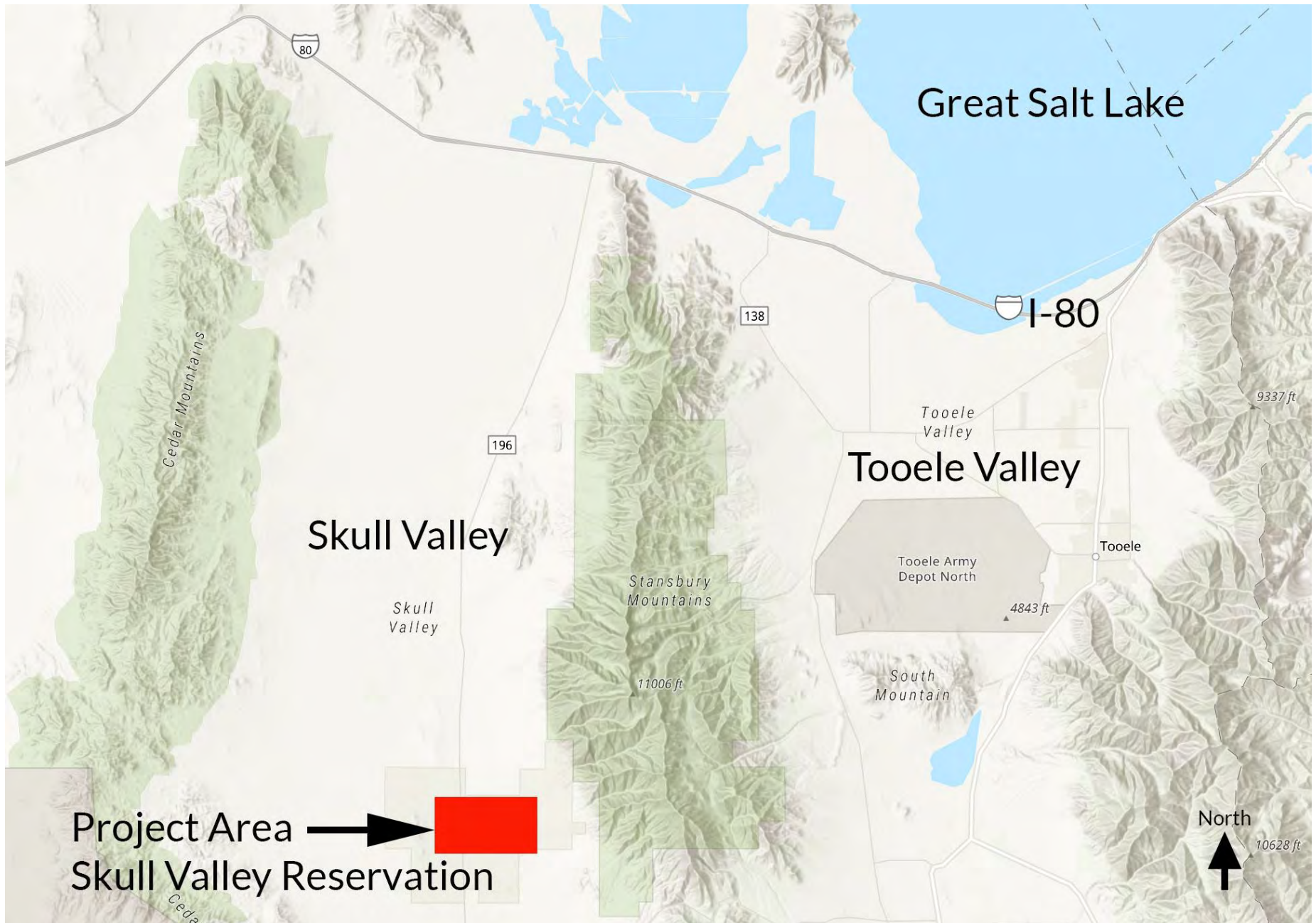


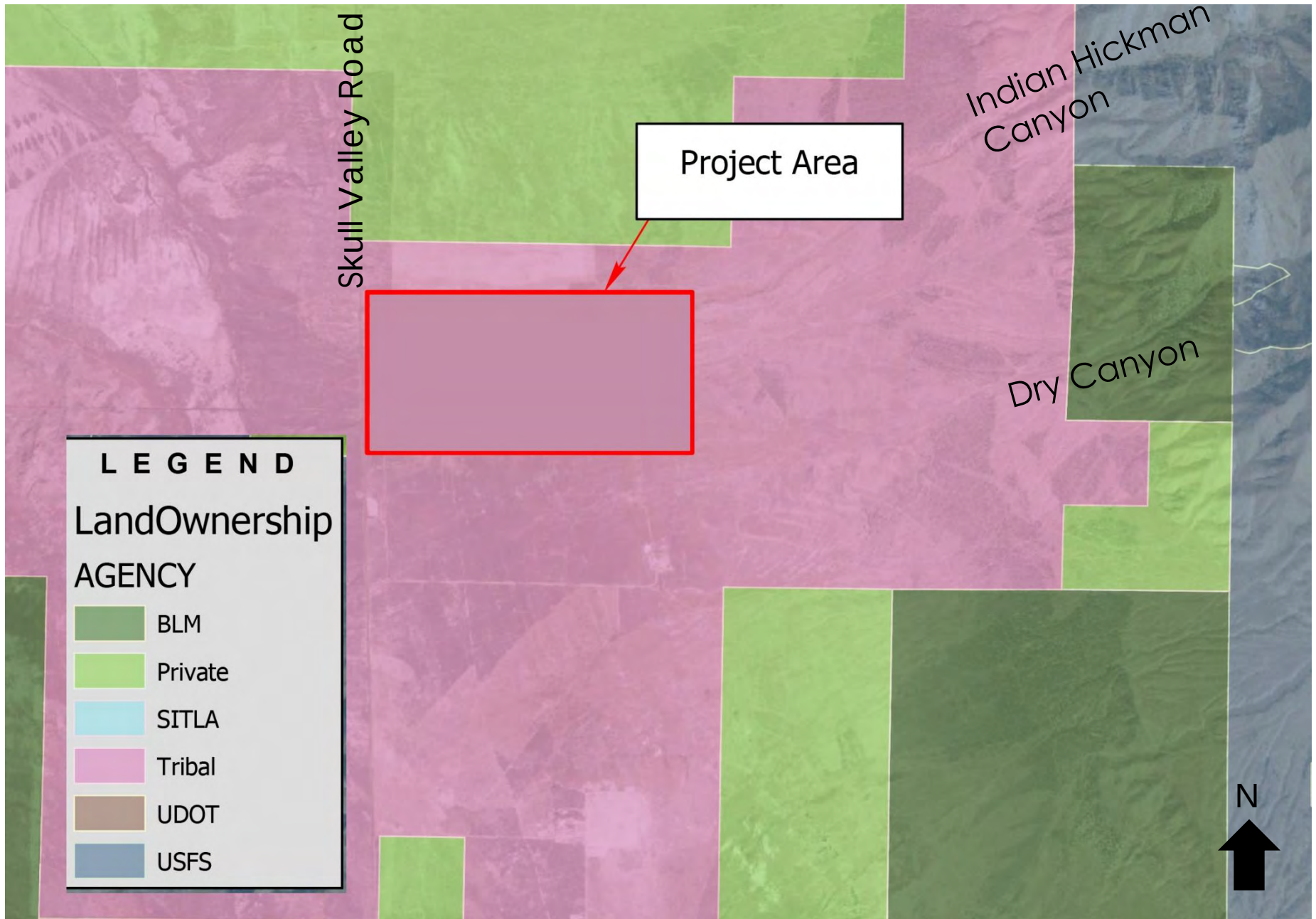
BOWEN COLLINS
& ASSOCIATES

&



McMILLEN
JACOBS
ASSOCIATES





Purpose of Meeting

- Explain the project
- Explain the **NEPA** (National Environmental Policy Act) planning process
- Discuss project issues
- Receive input



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Purpose of the Project

➤ Protect the Reservation from future flooding

- August 2013 Patch Springs Fire
- Fall 2013, Flood
- Fall 2013 K-Rails installed by NRCS
- 2014 more flooding, more K-Rails were installed
- 2013-2014 homes were flooded and an irrigation pipeline was damaged



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Other NRCS Projects

Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Projects in Utah

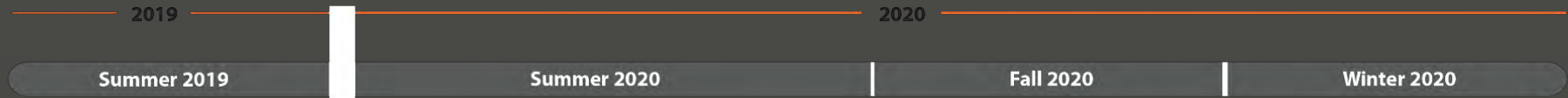
Planning

Plan-Environmental Assessments are currently in progress for the sites listed below:

- > Duchesne County Water Conservancy District (DCWCD) Watershed Plan (Sponsor = Duchesne County Water Conservancy District)
- > Cottonwood Creek Watershed-Joes Valley (Sponsor=Emery County)
- > Ashley Valley Watershed (Sponsor=Uintah County)
- > Santaquin City Watershed (Sponsor=Santaquin City, Utah)
- > Upper Weber Basin Watershed Plan (Sponsor = Weber Basin Water Conservancy District)
- > Lower Price River Watershed Plan-EA (Sponsor = UT Division of Wildlife Resource)
- > Parowan Valley Watershed (Sponsor=Iron County)
- > Warner Draw Watershed (Sponsor=Washington County)
- > Cove Reservoir Watershed (Sponsor=Kane Co. Water Conservancy District)
- > North Ogden Watershed (Sponsor=Weber-Box Elder Conservation District)
- > Uintah Water Efficiency Project Plan-EA (Sponsor = Uintah Water Conservancy District)
- > Pleasant Grove-Mill Ditch Piping (Sponsor=Pleasant Grove City)
- > Richfield-West Sevier Watershed (Flat Canyon) (Sponsor=Sevier County)
- > Saratoga Springs Watershed (Sponsor = Saratoga Springs)
- > Skull Valley Watershed (Sponsor = Tooele County)
- > Tri Valley Watershed (Sponsor = Wasatch County)



Where are we now?



We are here



- Meet with SVBOG
- Site Visit
- Start engineering analysis

- **Conduct public scoping meetings**
- Listen to ideas
- Find alternatives based on feedback from the public scoping meetings
- Preliminary engineering

Field work:

- Cultural Resources
- Wetlands/Waters
- Biological/Wildlife
- Vegetation
- Geotechnical Investigations
- Topographic Surveys

Engineering:

- 30% Engineering Drawings
- Engineering Technical Memorandums

1. Preliminary EA
- 2. Draft EA**
 - 30 Day Public Comment Period
3. Final EA
3. FONSI
5. Administrative Record

2021 | 2022



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Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program

- Watershed Protection and Flood Protection Act (PL 83-566) has three general purposes:
 - Preventing damage from erosion, floodwater, and sediment
 - Furthering the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water
 - Furthering the conservation and proper utilization of land
- Planning Constraints
 - Less than **250,000-acre watershed area**
 - **\$25 million** requires a Plan-EIS



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NEPA Plan-EA Process

- Conducted a Project Kick-Off Meeting
- Data Search, Data Collection
- Preliminary Engineering/Hydrology Modeling
- Meet with the Reservation and Conduct Site Visit
- **Public Scoping Meeting (Open Until July 10, 2020)**
- Field Reconnaissance
- Geotechnical Engineering
- Concept Design Plans (~30%)
- Engineering Report/Technical Memorandum (Investigation & Analysis Report)



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NEPA Plan-EA Process

- Federal Funding Requires Analysis of the Project under NRCS NEPA Regulations
- Cooperating Agency Coordination with Federal and State Agencies
- Public Scoping & Comment Period (30 Days)
Identify resource concerns, get agency/public/sponsor/stakeholder input, discuss problems & potential alternatives
- Concept Design & Engineering Analysis
- Agency Coordination
USACE Section 404 Coordination, USFWS Section 7 Consultation, SHPO Section 106 Consultation, Cooperating Agencies, State Agencies, Stakeholders



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NEPA Process (Plan-EA)

- Federal Funding Requires Analysis of the Project under NRCS National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations. Enacted Jan. 1, 1970
 - NEPA requires Federal Agencies to assess the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions.
 - Two Basic Objectives
 - Ensure that decision-makers consider the environment in planning projects (both natural and man-made)
 - Prevent/minimize damage to the environment



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NEPA Process Resource Concerns Considered (Plan-EA)

SWAPAH

Soils

Upland Erosion and Sedimentation

Prime and Unique Farmland

Water

Surface Water Quality

Ground Water Quantity

Clean Water Act - Waters of the U.S.

Regional Water Mgt. Plans and Coastal

Zone Management Areas

Floodplain Management

Wetlands

Wild and Scenic Rivers

Sole Source Aquifers

Air

Air Quality

Clean Air Act

Plants

Special Status Plant Species

Forest Resources

Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plant
Species

Natural Areas

Riparian Areas

Animals

Essential Fish Habitat

Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat

Coral Reefs

Special Status Animal Species

Invasive Species

Migratory Birds/Bald and Golden Eagles

Human Environment

Socioeconomics

Historic Properties/Cultural Resources

Hazardous Materials

Environmental Justice and Civil Rights

Public Health and Safety

Recreation

Land Use

Visual Resources

Scenic Beauty

Parklands

Transportation Infrastructure

Noise

Ecological Critical Areas

National Parks, Monuments and Historical Sites

Scientific Resources



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Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program

Authorized Purpose	Description	Cost Share Construction		Cost Share Engineering		Cost Share (Real Property Rights)	
		NRCS	Sponsor	NRCS	Sponsor	NRCS	Sponsor
Flood Protection	Measures to reduce or prevent floodwater damages by reducing runoff, erosion and sediment	100%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Watershed Protection	Onsite treatment of watershed natural resources to reduce pollutants related to floodwater, erosion, sediment and agriculture	Variable - up to 100%	Variable	100%	0%	0%	100%
Public Recreation	Allowed only when Sponsor agrees to operate and maintain a reservoir or other area for public recreation. Measures must include only minimum basic facilities needed for public health and safety and access to and use of the area.	Up to 50%	≥50%	100%	0%	Up to 50%	≥50%
Public Fish & Wildlife	Allowed only when Sponsor agrees to operate and maintain a reservoir or other area for public fish and wildlife access. Measures installed for public use of areas developed to improved habitat, growth, and development of fish and wildlife may be included.	Up to 50%	≥50%	100%	0%	Up to 50%	≥50%
Agricultural Water Management	Includes drainage, ground water recharge, irrigation, water conservation, water quality improvement, and agricultural water supply.	Up to 75%	≥25%	≤ 100%	≥0%	0%	100%
Municipal & Industrial Water Supply	Measures necessary to provide storage capacity in reservoirs to increase the availability of water for present and future municipal and industrial use.	≤50%	≥50%	0%	100%	0%	100%
Water Quality Management	Provides water storage capacity in reservoirs for regulation of stream flow to improve water quality in streams.	Variable	Variable	Up to 100%	≥ 0%	0%	100%
Watershed Structure Rehabilitation	Authorizes financial assistance to local organizations to cover a portion of the costs of rehabilitating dams originally constructed as part of PL 83-566, PL-78534 the pilot watershed program, or the Resource Conservation and Development Program.	65%	35%	100%	0%	0%	100%



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NEPA Process (Plan-EA)

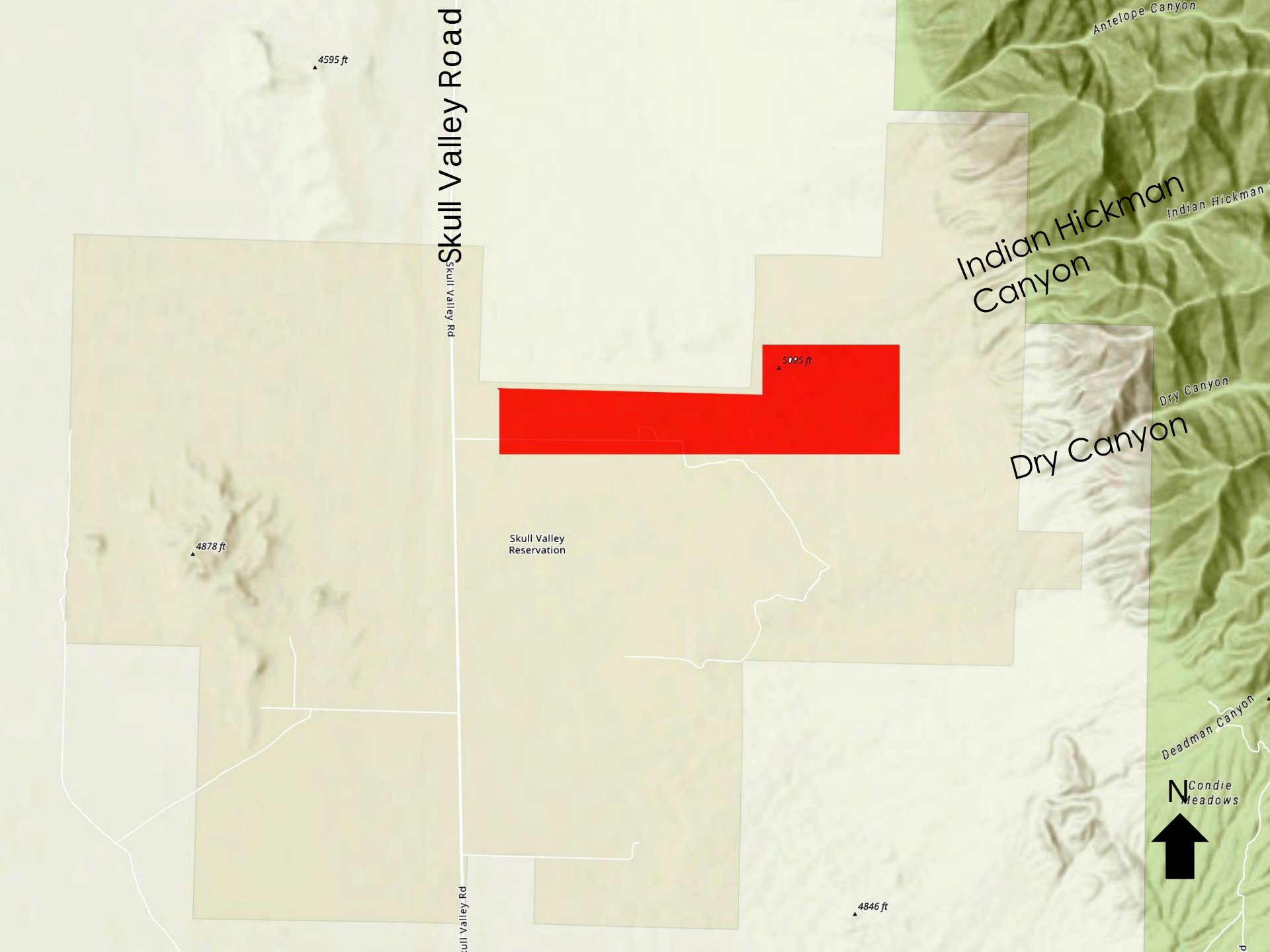
- Internal Preliminary Draft Plan-EA
- Draft Plan-EA
 - Public review and comment period (30 days) of Plan-EA that includes alternatives and environmental impacts
- Final Plan-EA
 - Final EA document that Incorporates Draft EA comments
- Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) Or Preparation of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- Administrative Record



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Skull Valley Rd

Skull Valley
Reservation

Indian Hickman
Canyon

Dry Canyon

Antelope Canyon

Indian Hickman

Dry Canyon

Deadman Canyon

N
Condie
Meadows

▲ 4595 ft

▲ 4878 ft

▲ 5095 ft

▲ 4846 ft



Skull Valley Road

Skull Valley Rd

196

Indian Hickman
Canyon

Dry Canyon

N

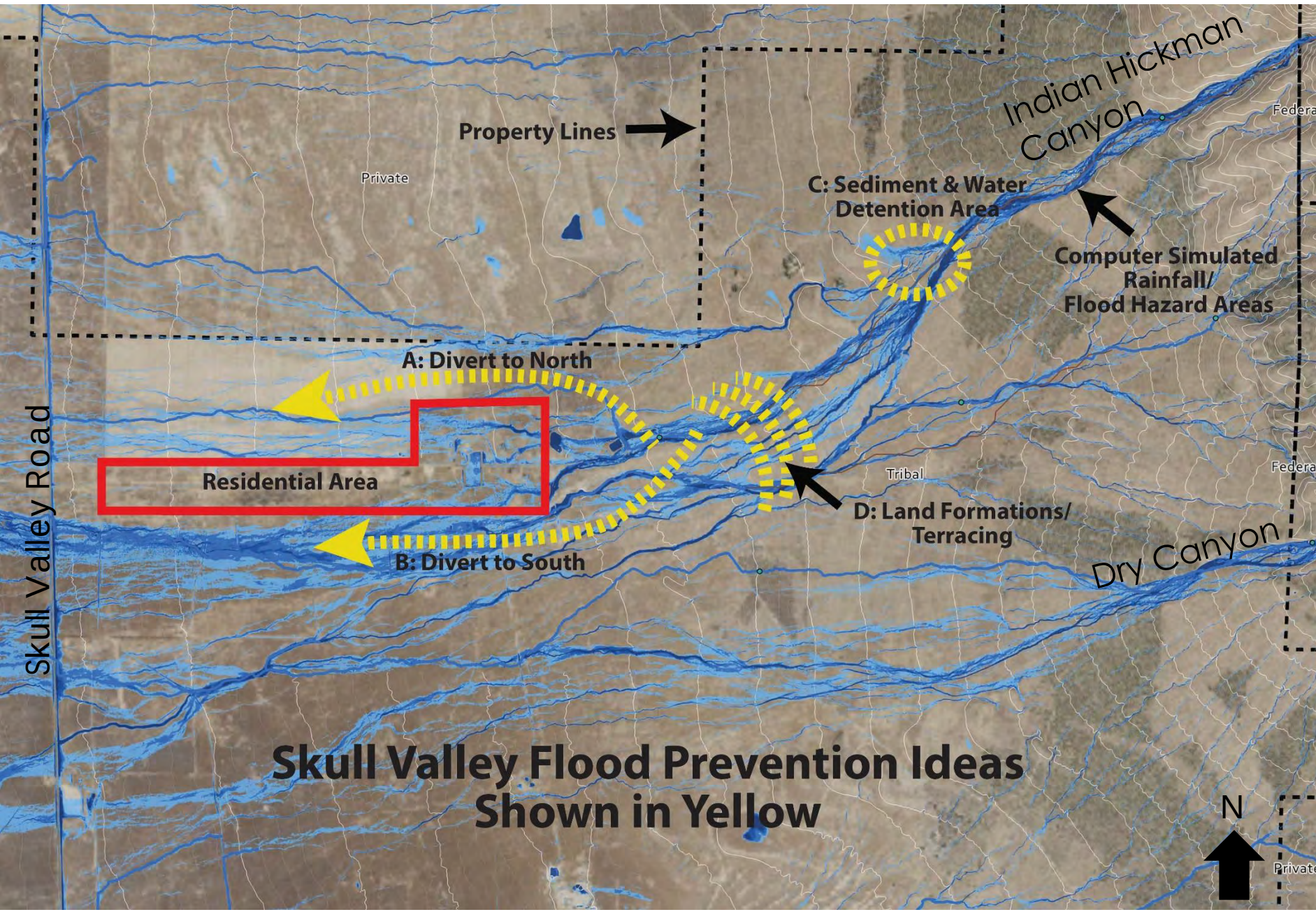


Indian Hickman Canyon – Looking Upstream



Landscape Surrounding Reservation





Other Projects

USACE Culvert Sizing Along Skull Valley Road



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Questions



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Appendix C

Scoping Comments

Comments

Jamie Tsandes

From: Gleason, Carolyn <Gleason.Carolyn@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2020 10:24 PM
To: svwatershed
Subject: Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Watershed Plan EA Scoping Comments- EPA R8
Attachments: Skull Valley Band of Goshutes Scoping Letter_Final.pdf

Dear Ms. Tsandes,

Please find attached the Skull Valley-Band of Goshutes Watershed Plan-EA scoping letter prepared by the US Environmental Protection Agency- Region 8 NEPA program. We appreciate your consideration of our comments at this early stage of the project.

Please contact me if further explanation of our comments is desired. We look forward to working with you and your team as this EA develops.

Sincerely,

Carolyn L. Gleason
NEPA Branch
US EPA- Region 8 (ORA-N)
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
P: (303) 312-6641



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8**

1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
Phone 800-227-8917
www.epa.gov/region8

July 9, 2020

Ref: ORA-N

Jamie Tsandes
Bowen Collins & Associates
154 E 14075 South
Draper, UT 84020

Dear Ms. Tsandes,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 recently participated in the June 9th virtual public meeting (Meeting) concerning the Scoping Notice for the Skull Valley-Band of Goshutes Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment (EA) Project (Project) prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The following scoping comments were prepared in accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The Project will construct flood control structures around the Skull Valley-Band of Goshutes Reservation (Reservation) in Tooele County, Utah. Several flood and debris flow mitigation alternatives are proposed by NRCS including debris retention basins and flood training berms along the Indian Hickman Canyon alluvial fan. The federal delineation of the watershed of concern will also occur as part of the Project scope. Reconstruction of a historic piped reservoir on the northeast side of the Reservation within the Project watershed was mentioned, though not fully explained, during the Meeting.

Based on our current understanding of the proposed Project and the area, the EPA has identified the following key topics that we recommend evaluating in the NEPA analysis so that potential impacts to public health and the environment can be fully understood: (1) groundwater and surface water resources; (2) air resources; (3) construction and failure response; and (4) mitigation and control measures. These issues will assist NRCS in determining whether to apply a Finding of No Significant Impact.

The EPA's detailed comments are enclosed; we appreciate your consideration of our comments at this early stage of Project development and request a future notification to review the draft EA. If further explanation of our comments is desired, please contact me at (303) 312-6441 or gleason.carolyn@epa.gov, or Region 8 NEPA Branch Chief Philip Strobel at (303) 312-6704 or strobel.philip@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Carolyn L. Gleason
NEPA Branch

Enclosure

Enclosure -EPA Comments
Natural Resource Conservation Service: Skull Valley- Band of Goshutes Watershed Plan-EA

(1) Surface Water and Groundwater Resources

A. Water Quality Impacts and Mitigation

The EPA recommends discussing the following resource impacts, including disclosure of which waters may be impacted, the nature of potential impacts, and specific pollutants likely to impact those waters:

- Surface Water Quality and Sedimentation: Potential impacts to water quality from runoff associated with surface disturbance. Runoff could introduce sediments as well as salts, nutrients, and other pollutants into surface waters.
- Drinking Water: Potential impacts to drinking water from the Project, which may affect source water protection areas and other municipal or private water supplies.
- Groundwater: Potential impacts to groundwater recharge areas and the identification of community wells with associated shallow or sensitive aquifers that may be modified by Project activities.

The EPA recommends the NEPA analysis identify and discuss how surface water and groundwater quality will be protected and how significant impacts will be avoided or mitigated. To this end, the EPA recommends the NEPA analysis include:

- A list of Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will be required to protect surface water and groundwater resources;
- A discussion of the circumstances under which the BMPs would be applied (e.g., proximity to surface water resources, presence of erosive soils, slope, shallow water aquifers, proximity of water wells, etc.); and,
- An explanation of how NRCS or another government entity would ensure that the BMPs would be monitored to ensure timely and correct implementation.

B. Protection of Wetlands, Riparian Areas and Floodplains

The protection and restoration of wetlands and riparian areas is a high priority. These resources increase landscape and species diversity, support many species of wildlife, and are critical to the protection of water quality and designated beneficial water uses. In addition, these areas warrant protection under Section 404 of the CWA and any dredge or fill in Waters of the U.S. warrants permitting administered jointly by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and EPA. We recommend that NRCS analyze potential impacts from all potential Project alternatives to the following:

- Total wetland area and function;
- Stream structure and channel stability;
- Streambed substrate, including seasonal and spawning habitats;
- Stream bank vegetation, riparian habitats, and aquatic biota; and,
- The cumulative effects of increased levels of erosion and sedimentation.

We also recommend that the NEPA analysis evaluate methods to protect wetlands, riparian areas and floodplains, including the following:

- Specific mitigation requirements and BMPs applicable for construction, operation and reclamation activities to prevent adverse impacts to these aquatic resources. These could include silt fences, detention ponds and other stormwater control measures; and,

- A map of seeps, springs and wetlands made in cooperation with the Corps to delineate these resources before development in order to facilitate their protection and support any necessary permits.

(2) Air Resources

Dust suppression from disturbed areas is an important mitigation consideration in many areas of the west. The EPA recommends the NEPA analysis include a plan for addressing dust control. We suggest the plan include the level of required or anticipated dust control, control methods, inspection schedules, documentation procedures, and accountability processes. The EPA recommends reducing surface disturbance to effectively reduce fugitive dust. Impacts can also be reduced by reclaiming disturbed areas as soon as practicable.

Construction vehicle emission analyses are also recommended for inclusion in the EA. The Project area is adjacent to an area of designated nonattainment for the 2006 24-hour particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM_{2.5}) National Ambient Air Quality Standard. If emissions will occur within the nonattainment area through planned transportation or construction activities, it will be necessary for NRCS to analyze the applicability of the requirements of Clean Air Act Section 176(c) and the implementing regulations at 40 CFR part 93, subpart B for general conformity. Pollutants for PM_{2.5} that would need to be considered include directly emitted PM_{2.5} as well as precursors including NO_x, sulfur dioxide (SO₂), VOC, and ammonia. The thresholds in 40 CFR 93.153(b) should be used for determining whether a conformity determination is required considering the classification of the nonattainment area. If NRCS anticipates project emissions within the nonattainment zones, we are available to assist NRCS with their responsibility to assess general conformity.

(3) Construction and Failure Response

A. Proposed Alternative Construction

We understand that the EA will not authorize construction within the watershed. We nonetheless recommend including specific information about reservoir and flood control structure construction so that anticipated impacts can be considered when selecting between alternatives. These details include a description of the following factors:

- Structural specifications, materials, and locations relative to the Reservation;
- Anticipated support facilities including structural yards, maintenance buildings and roads, construction camps and materials sites;
- Anticipated temporary land use locations;
- Sensitive plant and animal life in the Project area; and,
- Topography, geology and surficial hydrology in the vicinity of each structure.

Based on these criteria, we recommend choosing flood control structure locations proposed in each alternative in cooperation with the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Tribe.

B. Failure Response

We recommend the EA include an evaluation of potential adverse impacts from the structural failure of the proposed flood control and reservoir construction measures. This should include potential adverse impacts to surface waters, public or private water supplies, human health, vegetation, and wildlife. In

this part of the analysis, it would be useful to discuss the probabilities and likely frequencies of different types and volumes of potential failure events over the life of each alternative. We expect this information would be useful in determining emergency transportation corridor locations. We also recommend describing the failure detection and repair program for this Project, their associated costs for each alternative, and the margin and methods of potential error for each program.

(4) Mitigation and Control Measures

We recommend that the NRCS include a section in the NEPA analysis that details the mitigation and control measures that will be implemented for the Project, including what entity will be implementing the mitigation. If activities could take place near or on the Dugway historic Superfund site, located up Indian Hickman Canyon, a description of associated risk management efforts are recommended. Requirements under the National Historic Preservation Act related to proposed excavation activities on or near tribal lands are also recommended for inclusion in the EA along with a list of all necessary permits or tribal agreements for construction, transportation, water, air, or land use in the Project vicinity.