

# Cove-East Fork Virgin River Watershed Project – Kane County, Utah

## Public Scoping Notice



### Project Information

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with assistance of the Kane County Water Conservancy District as the project sponsor and Washington County Water Conservancy District as the co-sponsor, is considering proposed improvements within the East Fork Virgin River Watershed. The proposed improvements include a new water storage facility (Cove Reservoir), or an alternate reservoir site, as well as other improvements associated with the Mt. Carmel, Glendale, and Orderville irrigation systems.

NRCS is holding a virtual public meeting, via Zoom to provide information about the proposed project and to collect comments. Supplemental technical studies are scheduled to take place during fall 2021, with a Draft Watershed Plan – Environmental Impact Statement (Plan-EIS) circulated to the public and agencies for review in mid-2022. The Plan-EIS will further evaluate the proposed project along with any viable project alternatives in accordance with the rules and guidelines of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ).

The Plan-EIS is being funded under the NRCS Watershed Flood Prevention and Protection Program (PL83-566), which provides both technical and financial assistance to help communities protect, improve, and develop water and land resource in watersheds up to 250,000 acres.

### Project Background

Initially known as the “Cove Reservoir Watershed” project, alternatives and associated impacts were analyzed in a Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA); however, after careful project review and consideration of comments received on the Draft Plan-EA presented in winter 2020/2021, the NRCS has initiated the preparation of a Plan-EIS.

Improvements under consideration include water conservation, water storage, agricultural and municipal demands, public safety risks, and increased opportunities for public recreation in the East Fork Virgin River watershed.

### Project Website

Additional information can be found at the NRCS project website:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ut/programs/planning/wpfp/?cid=nrcseprd1403022>

### Public Meeting

The public is invited to attend a project scoping presentation, discuss project details, and submit comments during the online meeting:

#### Virtual Meeting

**Wednesday, October 20, 2021**

**6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. (MST)**

#### How to Join the Virtual Public Meeting

**Log-in via Zoom:** [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join)

**Enter Meeting ID:** 891 2373 1558

**Note:** This meeting will be recorded and posted on the NRCS project website the following day.

### Project Location Map



At this time, the NRCS is requesting comments on the project to identify opportunities, issues, and resource concerns.

### How to Provide Official Comment

All comments should be directed to Brian Parker:

#### Transcon

#### Environmental

Attn: Brian Parker  
 1745 South Alma School Rd., Suite 220  
 Phoenix, AZ 85210  
**480-807-0095**  
[bparker@transcon.com](mailto:bparker@transcon.com)

Comments must be received or post-marked no later than 30 days after the NOI is published in the Federal Register.

### How to Be Added to Mailing List

Provide your email address when logging into the Zoom meeting or send a letter or email request to Brian Parker using the contact information provided above.

Utah State Office

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