



## **Santaquin East Bench Flood Prevention – Environmental Assessment PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING SUMMARY**

The following information is a summary of the preparation and execution of the Santaquin East Bench Flood Prevention Environmental Assessment (EA) public scoping meeting:

<b>Project and Meeting Overview</b>	<p>Santaquin City, as the project sponsor and in partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS), has initiated an EA to evaluate impacts associated with proposed flood prevention measures within the Santaquin east bench watersheds.</p> <p>A public scoping meeting (open house format) was held to educate and inform the public about the EA process and gather input regarding the study.</p>
<b>When/Where</b>	<p>The public scoping meeting was held on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Santaquin Senior Citizen Center in Santaquin, Utah.</p>
<b>Advertisement</b>	<p>Postcards containing meeting details were mailed to businesses and residences in the project area 11 days in advance of the open house (see Appendix A).</p> <p>A scoping notice was published in The Payson Chronicle on February 14, 2018 and February 21, 2018. It was also posted on Santaquin City's website as part of their calendar (see Appendix B).</p> <p>Meeting details were posted on Santaquin City's Facebook page on February 15, 21 and 26, 2018.</p>
<b>Attendance</b>	<p>18 attendees signed in.</p>
<b>Information Presented</b>	<p>The public scoping meeting boards were set up around the room and included information about the study area and EA process (see Appendix C). Team members were present to explain the EA process and answer questions.</p>
<b>Comments</b>	<p>The public comment period for this initial phase ran from February 14, 2018 to March 19, 2018. Members of the public were able to comment in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completing comment forms provided at the open house (see Appendix D).</li><li>• Mailing comment forms provided at the open house.</li><li>• Emailing comments to mendym@horrocks.com.</li></ul> <p>Two comments were submitted in writing, one on a comment form and one by email. Two comments were submitted by phone. Members of the public also provided comments while speaking with project representatives at the public scoping meeting. All comments are included in this report summary (see Appendix E).</p>



	<p>On March 14, 2018, an email was sent to all attendees who provided their email at the public scoping meeting reminding them of the comment period deadline.</p>
<b>Agency Scoping</b>	<p>An agency scoping meeting was held on February 27, 2018 from 3 to 4 p.m. A scoping notice was mailed to key agencies (see Appendixes F and G).</p> <p>Attendees included representatives from the United States Forest Service and Utah County government.</p> <p>Attendees were given information about the EA process and the study area. They were also given the opportunity to provide input regarding the study area and potential flood prevention measures. Comments were given as part of a discussion between agency and study team representatives.</p>

# WE WANT YOUR INPUT

## SANTAQUIN EAST BENCH FLOOD PREVENTION

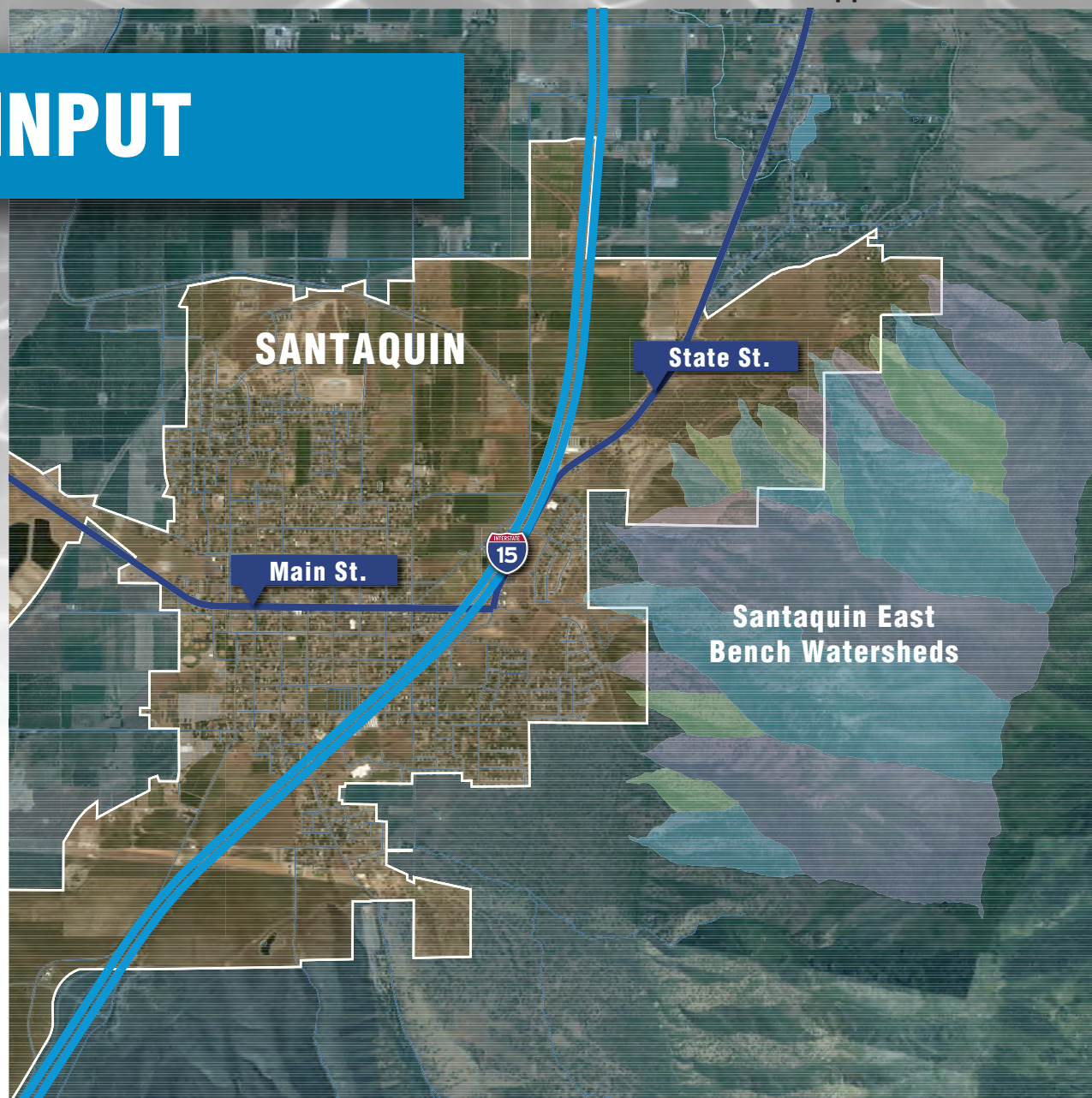
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Come to a public open house to provide input about potential improvements to Santaquin's east bench watersheds.



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# PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

Santaquin City as the project sponsor, in partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS), is considering implementing flood prevention measures within the Santaquin east bench watersheds.

**You are invited** to attend a public scoping meeting to learn about the environmental study process, provide input regarding the proposed project and meet with project representatives. A range of potential issues and design concepts related to the system improvements in the Santaquin east bench watersheds will be displayed.

## WHEN

Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2018  
5-7 p.m

## WHERE

Senior Citizen Center  
55 W. 100 S.  
Santaquin, UT 84655

## CONTACT US

801-763-5256  
[mendym@horrocks.com](mailto:mendym@horrocks.com)

You may attend anytime between 5 and 7 p.m.

Please contact us using the information above if you are unable to attend and would like to know more.

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting by calling **801-763-5256** or emailing [mendym@horrocks.com](mailto:mendym@horrocks.com)

## SANTAQUIN EAST BENCH FLOOD PREVENTION

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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HORROCKS ENGINEERS  
2162 W. GROVE PARKWAY, SUITE 400  
PLEASANT GROVE, UT 84062

## Scoping Notice

The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS), with assistance of Santaquin City as the project sponsor, is considering proposed improvements within the Santaquin east bench watersheds. The proposed improvements include the construction of up to six (6) stormwater debris basins and associated facilities along the eastern foothills in Santaquin. Improvements under consideration may be partially funded through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954 (PL83-566) and will address flood prevention and control, water conservation, and public safety risks while supporting existing agricultural and municipal land use.

The proposed project is located in Utah County along the east bench of Santaquin. The National **Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations at 40 CFR** Parts 1500-1508 require an evaluation of potential environmental impacts associated with federal projects and actions with input from the public.

You are invited to attend a public scoping open house where your input is requested. The range of resource issues and conceptual alternatives addressing the system improvements in the Santaquin Watershed will be presented and discussed.

### Public Scoping Open House

Date: February 27, 2018

Time: 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Location: Santaquin Senior Citizen Center, 55 West 100 South, Santaquin, Utah 84655

Comments may be submitted during the public scoping period starting February 14, 2018 and ending on March 19, 2018. Comments may be mailed to Horrocks Engineers, 2162 West Grove Parkway Suite 400, Pleasant Grove, Utah, 84602 or emailed to [mendym@horrocks.com](mailto:mendym@horrocks.com).

Additional information is available by contacting Ryan Pitts with Horrocks Engineers at 801-763-5184, [ryanp@horrocks.com](mailto:ryanp@horrocks.com) or the NRCS link for Public Notices: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ut/newsroom/pnotice/>.

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# WELCOME

## **SANTAQUIN EAST BENCH FLOOD PREVENTION**

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

# **PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING**

February 27, 2018

5 - 7 p.m.



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# BACKGROUND

- Santaquin City, as the project sponsor and in partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS), has initiated an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate environmental impacts associated with proposed flood prevention measures within the Santaquin east bench watersheds.
- The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) require an evaluation of potential environmental impacts associated with federal projects and actions with input from the public.



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# PURPOSE & NEED

The purpose of the project is to help control and prevent stormwater flooding and associated debris flow off the hillsides from impacting private properties and public infrastructure.

The project is needed to address the potential for erosion and debris flows from the east hillside watersheds near Santaquin and their impact on private properties and public infrastructure.



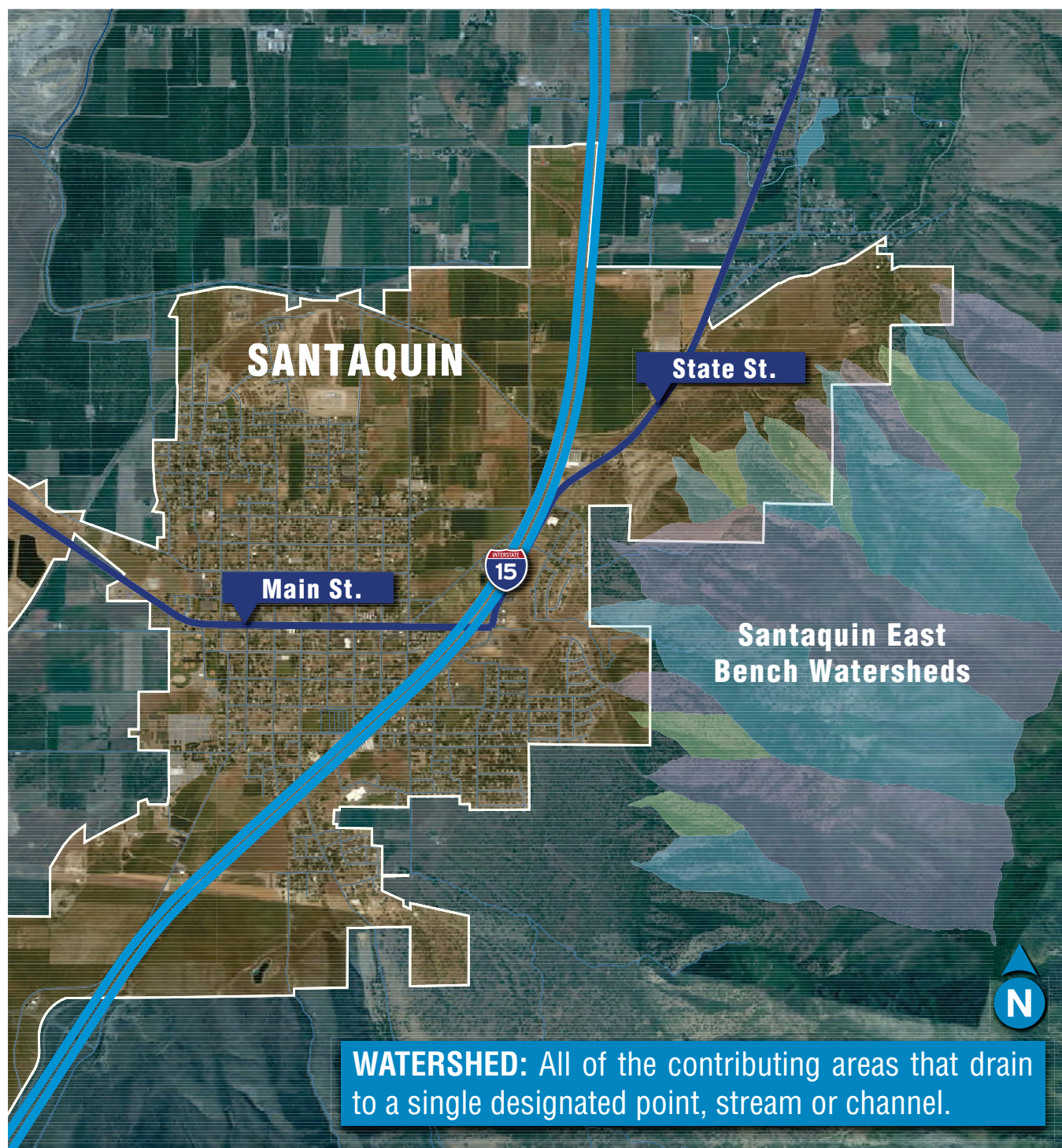
*Debris Flow - September 2002*





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# PROJECT AREA





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# PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The potential improvements include the installation of flood prevention measures within the Santaquin watershed along the east bench foothills.

## Possible flood prevention measures include:

- Debris basins
- Excavated debris basins
- Diversion berms or channels
- Flow impediments
- Check dams
- Debris racks
- Debris flow nets
- Combination of the above

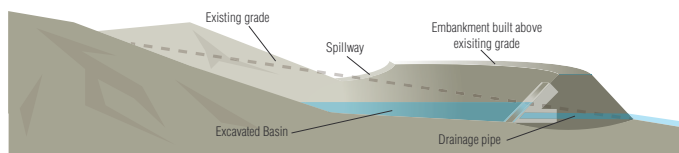


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# FLOOD PREVENTION MEASURES

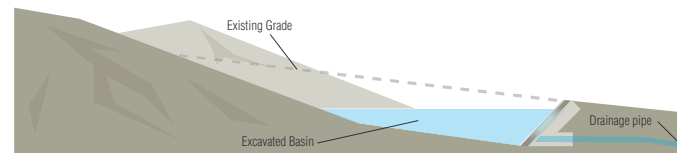
## Debris Basin

Partially excavated basin and embankment built to collect debris and store stormwater.



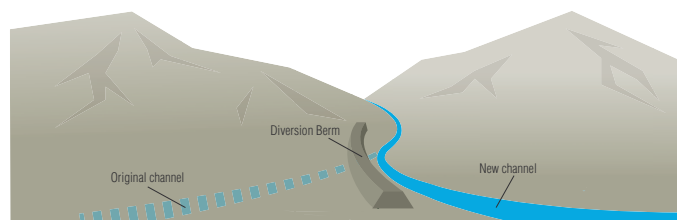
## Excavated Debris Basin

Fully excavated basin built to collect debris and store stormwater. No built up embankment.



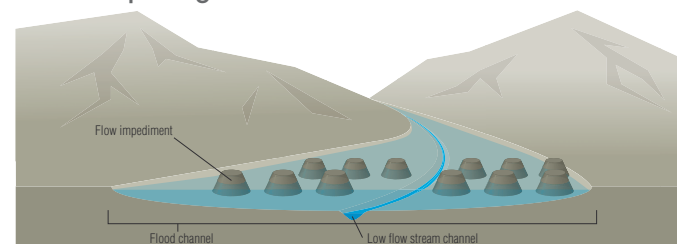
## Diversion Berm

Structure built to redirect flow of existing channel to a new location or into a basin.



## Flow Impediments

Structures built in flood channel to slow down and stop large debris.



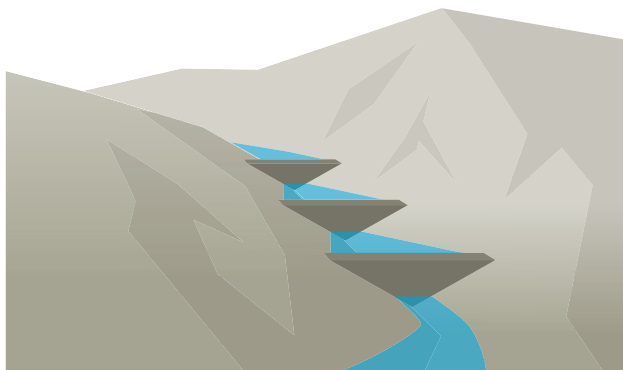


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# FLOOD PREVENTION MEASURES

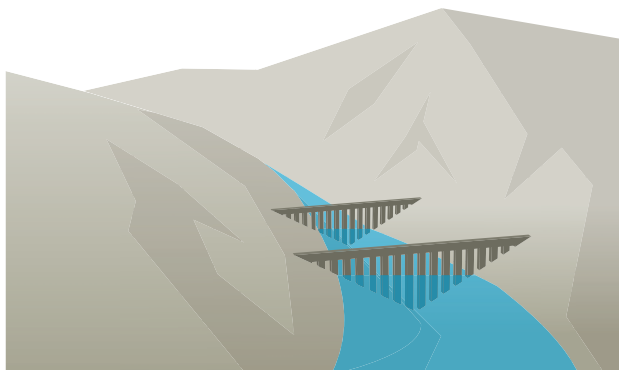
## Check Dams

A series of structures to stop large debris.



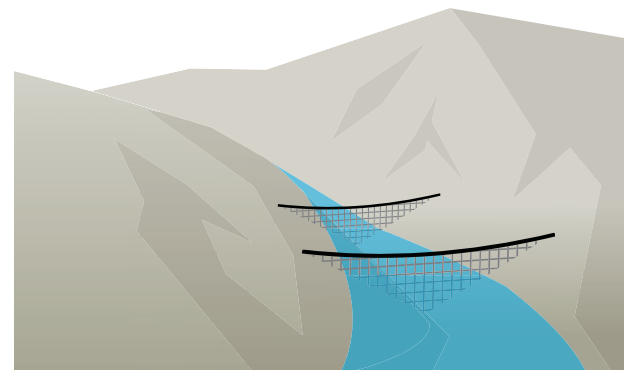
## Debris Rack

Steel bar structure to screen large debris.



## Debris Flow Net

Steel netting to screen large debris.







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# ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

**Once a Proposed Action has been determined, potential impacts to environmental resources will be evaluated. Environmental resources of likely concern for this study include:**

- Land use and acquisition
- Socioeconomic
- Biological (wildlife/vegetation/invasive species)
- Water quality
- Visual
- Recreational (including potential new recreational trails)
- Human health and safety
- Flooding

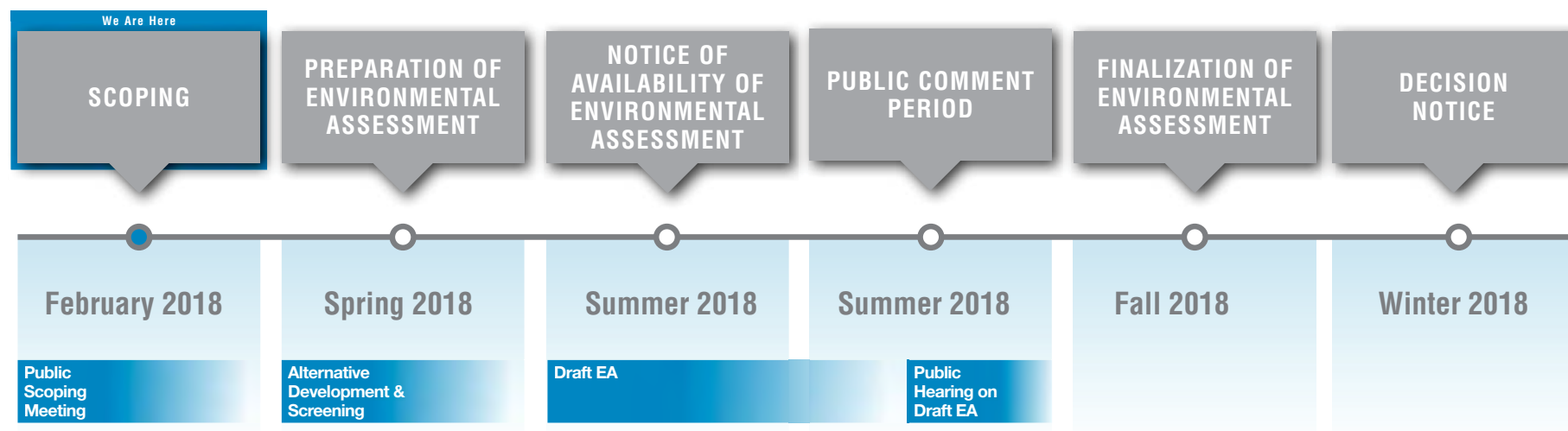
**What other resources are you concerned with for this study?  
Please provide input by filling out a comment form.**





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# NEPA PROCESS & SCHEUDLE





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# HOW TO COMMENT

Comments are due by March 19, 2018



**Submit comments tonight**



**Email:** [mendym@horrocks.com](mailto:mendym@horrocks.com)



**Mail:** Horrocks Engineers  
Attn: Mendy Magistro  
2162 W. Grove Parkway, Suite 400  
Pleasant Grove, UT 84062

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\_\_\_\_\_

*Place  
Postage  
Stamp  
Here*

Horrocks Engineers  
Attn: Mendy Magistro  
2162 W. Grove Parkway, Suite 400  
Pleasant Grove, UT 84062

*Fold Here*



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Appendix D

# COMMENT FORM

## SANTAQUIN EAST BENCH FLOOD PREVENTION ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### COMMENTS

Submit comments by March 19, 2018

What are your concerns regarding flooding issues and potential prevention measures in the proposed study area?

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Please provide any other information or comments you feel would be helpful to the study team.

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Thank you for your input. We look forward to a successful project. Please email comments to [mendym@horrocks.com](mailto:mendym@horrocks.com) or fold, secure and stamp this form and mail to the address on the back. **Please postmark them on or before March 19, 2018.**

DATE	COMMENTING METHOD	COMMENT
<b>The following comments were submitted in writing.</b>		
2/27/18	Comment Form	Our concern is that there will be nothing done. We are glad to see that measures are being considered. We are grateful that the city is spearheading this assessment. We would like to see a recreational lake developed- Santaquin Lake!
2/28/18	Email	I just wanted to add that where the Mudslide came down in Spring Lake and left the mouth of the canyon it went an existing 10 foot deep gully for about half the distance to the canal. This gully was filled in when [personal information excluded] put in the Orchard about 5 years ago and if another flood comes out of this canyon it can hit any of the houses below the canal. If the gully had not been filled in, another flood would have most likely followed that gully.
<b>The following comments were given over the phone or in person at the Public Scoping Meeting and have been summarized. They will not be a part of the final EA document, however, are important to include as part of the scoping process.</b>		
2/21/18	Phone	Will you be planting vegetation?
2/26/18	Phone	Worried about flooding occurring in the future. Would prefer that something be done in advance to solve the problem.
2/27/18	In Person	The father's house was impacted by the debris flows. He had several feet of water in his basement. He has since constructed a berm along the back of his house.
2/27/18	In Person	There used to be a 10-foot ravine that drained the canyon above Spring Lake. It has been filled in by the owner of the orchard property.
2/27/18	In Person	We are pleased with the idea of a basin to collect the debris.
2/27/18	In Person	A check dam won't do anything to stop the debris flow. It will just push right through it.
2/27/18	In Person	There were several smaller flows that came out of the canyon but didn't reach the homes.
2/27/18	In Person	I'm on the Highline canal board. The canal will one day be piped. We agree that the canal should be protected.
2/27/18	In Person	No matter what you build, there will be some people that are happy about it and some that don't like it.
2/27/18	In Person	How will all of the mud be captured?
2/27/18	In Person	We don't like the look of the check dams and nets. We don't think they will work well. How will someone get to them? How high up will they be?
2/27/18	In Person	There is a small basin behind my house. I don't mind how it looks.
2/27/18	In Person	Approval expressed for the idea of use of check dams and other debris capturing methods. Expressed support for an embankment style debris basin over a fully excavated one.
2/27/18	In Person	Stated that frequently during rainfall the runoff collects from the trails and roads in the undeveloped land above their house and the carries rocks and sediment onto the roadway at the end of 650 South.
2/27/18	In Person	Concerns over cost of infrastructure.



DATE	COMMENTING METHOD	COMMENT
2/27/18	In Person	Stated that she didn't live there at the time, but had heard that after the fire in 2001, mud came off of the burned areas above her neighborhood and ran down around the houses at approximately 600 South.
2/27/18	In Person	Stated that a 10-foot dike was built behind his father's home in Spring Lake after the event to protect against future events, but the property owner to the south filled in the natural channel that directed it that way when they installed their orchard. Now the flows could go in any direction. New homes have been developed below and a berm protecting their homes would just push it down towards other people's homes.
2/27/18	In Person	Stated brother who lives next door barely got out of his basement before the mud was going to seal it shut, and the mud was flowing over the roof of his garage as he tried to pull out.
2/27/18	In Person	Stated that debris flow filled the canal and came over it extremely fast. We thought the canal had burst. The sound was like a jet engine coming down. Stated a woman who lived up above saw it arrive at the Highline canal and it overtopped it nearly immediately. Subsequent runoff caused it to fill the canal again, and since they had been given direct numbers to call people arrived quickly to dig it out as it came in, or it may have gone over again.
2/27/18	In Person	Stated that when excavating to remove the debris in an emergency they told them they should stop because they were digging right where a high pressure gas line was.
2/27/18	In Person	Stated that mud pushed his car down the road next to the neighbor's house across the street, and moved his truck in his front yard. Mud and debris flows filled his entire yard.
2/27/18	In Person	Still afraid every time it rains, evacuates whenever the rainfall or runoff exceeds a certain amount.
2/27/18	In Person	Expressed concern that the area at approximately main street, between Oak Summit Drive and Angelus Road could develop, but is shown as an area of potential impact for improvements.
2/27/18	In Person	Stated that a smaller fire in the general vicinity of Crooked Canyon near Spring Lake that occurred later caused similar debris flows to occur, but not to the extent of these other events.
2/27/18	In Person	No significant flows or debris have been noticed since the watershed had reestablished vegetation after the rainfall.
2/27/18	In Person	Stated that the Forest Service or another agency showed them proposals to build a debris basin or barrier that would capture large debris and spill over on either side to slow down or spread out the flow, where it would dissipate in the oaks and brush, but the property owner below the canyon didn't want it.
2/27/18	In Person	Concerns over why we still allow development to encroach where previous debris flows happened.
2/27/18	In Person	Concerns over why nothing has been done in 16 years since the last debris flows.
2/27/18	In Person	Concerns over damage caused to homes and vehicles and personal property.
2/27/18	In Person	Questions over who is funding this EA project (was development driving the project?).

Date: February 16, 2018

### Scoping Notice

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The proposed project is located in Utah County along the east bench of Santaquin. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations at 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508 require an evaluation of potential environmental impacts associated with federal projects and actions with input from the public.

**You are invited to attend an agency scoping meeting** where your input is requested regarding issues and concerns relative to your respective specialties. After the agency meeting, there will be a public scoping open house to present the conceptual improvement ideas and solicit public input, to which you are also invited to participate.

#### **Agency Scoping Meeting**

**Date:** February 27, 2018  
**Time:** 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM  
**Location:** Santaquin Senior Citizen Center  
55 West 100 South, Santaquin, Utah 84655

#### **Public Scoping Open House**

**Date:** February 27, 2018  
**Time:** 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM  
**Location:** Santaquin Senior Citizen Center,  
55 West 100 South, Santaquin, Utah 84655

**Comments may be submitted during the public scoping period starting February 14, 2018 and ending on March 19, 2018.** Comments may be mailed to Horrocks Engineers, 2162 West Grove Parkway Suite 400, Pleasant Grove, Utah, 84602 or emailed to [mendym@horrocks.com](mailto:mendym@horrocks.com).

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The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting to [mendym@horrocks.com](mailto:mendym@horrocks.com).

**An agency scoping notice was mailed to the following agencies:**

BLM  
Highline Canal Company  
NRCS  
Resource Development Coordinating Committee  
Santaquin Public Works  
School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration  
State of Utah - Office of the Governor  
US Bureau of Reclamation  
US EPA  
USACE  
USDA NRCS  
USFS  
USFWS  
Utah County Engineering Department  
Utah County Health Department  
Utah Department of Agriculture  
Utah Department of Community and Culture  
Utah Department of Environmental Quality  
Utah Department of Natural Resources  
Utah Department of Public Safety  
Utah Division of Drinking Water  
Utah Division of Water Resources  
Utah Division of Water Rights  
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources - Central Region  
Utah Environmental Congress  
Utah Geological Survey  
Utah Natural Heritage Program