



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources
Conservation Service



Utah County Watershed Operations Plan EA Scoping Meeting

March 25, 2021



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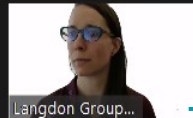




Zoom Meeting

You're sharing slides

Stop Share



ZOOM ORIENTATION

- Switch to Phone Audio
- Rename
- Reactions
- Participant Panel
- Chat
- Recording

Right click your video to rename yourself

Mute button

Participants (1)

LG Langdon Group/J-U-B (Host, me)

"Raise hand" button for participants

Lower your "raised hand" with clear all

yes no go slower go faster more clear all

Invite

Mute All

Chat

To: Everyone

Type message here...

File

Mute

Stop Video

Security

Participants

Polls

Chat

Share Screen

Record

Breakout Rooms

Reactions

More

End



1 of 23

Welcome and Introductions

Sponsor: Utah County



J-U-B Engineers



Co-Sponsors:

- Payson City
- Elk Ridge City
- Salem City
- Spanish Fork City
- Woodland Hills City
- Santaquin

**Jones & DeMille
Engineering**



NRCS



United States
Department of
Agriculture



CRS Engineers



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PL-566 Program Overview

Public Law 83-566; the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954, as amended

General Purposes

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



PL-566 Program Overview

Authorized Purposes

Flood prevention (flood damage reduction)

Watershed protection

Public recreation

Public fish and wildlife

Agricultural water management

Municipal and industrial water supply

Water quality management

Watershed structure rehabilitation



Proposed Project Measures

Address flooding issues due to the 2018 Pole Creek and Bald Mountain fires



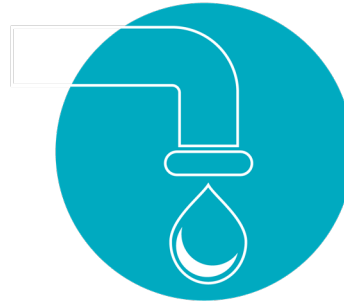


Remaining Concerns

Erosion and sediment risk to:



Infrastructure & Roads



Water Supply



Homes & Structures



Wildlife



Irrigation Canals

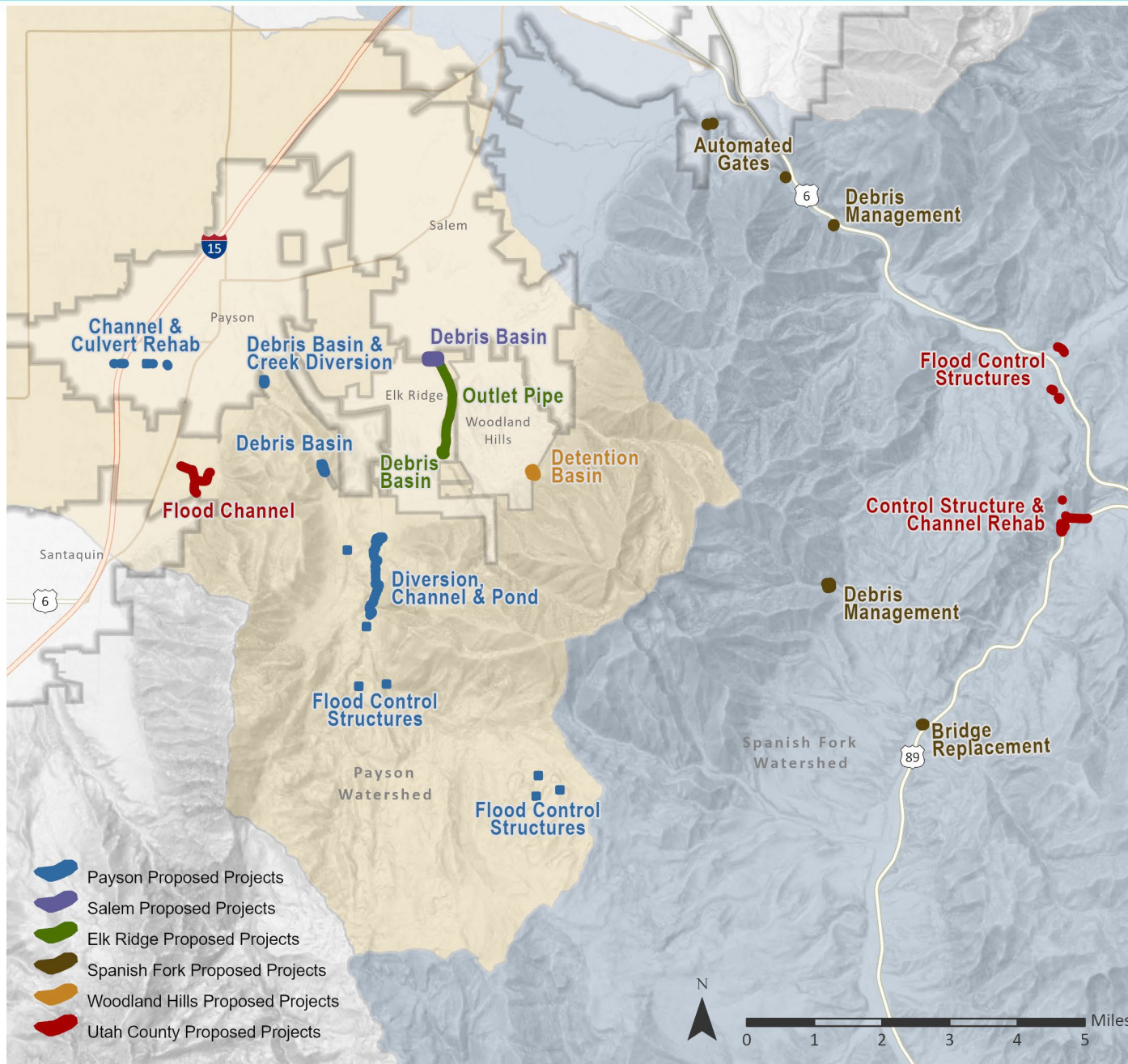




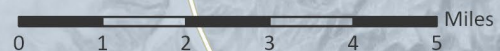
Project Goals

- 1 **Protect communities from high water flows**
- 2 **Reduce the frequency of flood damage to residents and critical infrastructure and roads**
- 3 **Reduce erosion and catch sediment and debris**
- 4 **Protect water quality**
- 5 **Protect wildlife habitats**





- Payson Proposed Projects
- Salem Proposed Projects
- Elk Ridge Proposed Projects
- Spanish Fork Proposed Projects
- Woodland Hills Proposed Projects
- Utah County Proposed Projects



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Purpose of the Planning Phase

Federal funds = NEPA

(National Environmental Policy Act)

***Federal lands and federal permits also invoke NEPA requirements**





NEPA aims to:

- 1. Consider environmental consequences**
- 2. Inform the public**





40 CFR 1501.7 - Scoping

“There shall be an early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action. This process shall be termed scoping.”



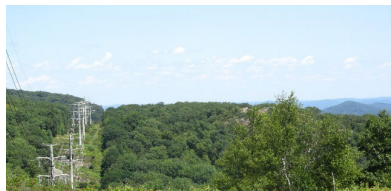
Issues to Consider



Air Quality



Recreation



Visual Resources



Policy and Regulation



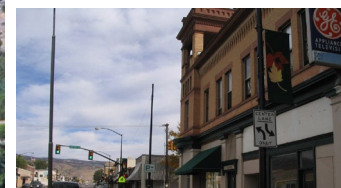
Land Uses



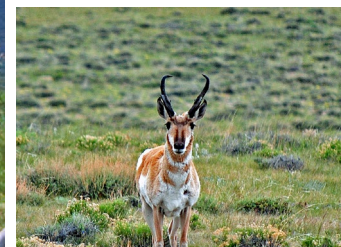
Water Resources



Cultural Resources



Economics



Wildlife





Initiate Plan Environmental Assessment

Develop project purpose and need
Conduct agency and public scoping
Collect baseline data
Alternative development

Collect Data

Analyze existing conditions
Identify needed resource surveys
Agency consultation and coordination

Analyze Alternatives

Analyze alternatives
Evaluate potential impacts to environmental resources

Draft Plan Environmental Assessment

Release Plan EA to public for review and comment
Review all public and agency comments
Prepare Plan EA

Decision Document

NRCS will prepare a Finding-of-No Significant Impact or recommend an Environmental Impact Statement

WE ARE HERE



Resource Evaluation/Prepare Plan EA

Spring 2021 – Spring 2022

Agency Review/Public Comment Period/Decision Document

Spring 2022 – Fall 2022

Final Design*

Spring 2022 – Spring 2023

*(pending environmental approval and funding)

Begin Project Construction*

Spring 2023 – Fall 2024

*(pending environmental approval and funding)



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Schedule

Public scoping comment period: 30 days
March 11 – April 9, 2021

Draft Plan-EA: 45 days Spring 2022

Final Plan-EA & Decision: Fall 2022



Questions to identify the scope:

- Are there concerns with the possible locations and associated conceptual designs?
- What are the most important environmental concerns?
- What are some options to reduce impacts?
- Is there any controversy?
- What other environmental laws apply?
- When does the decision need to be made?
- What other issues within the watershed could potentially be addressed with this project?



Comments

Comment Period March 11 – April 9, 2021



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