

Ashley Valley Watershed Project

Public Scoping Meeting



WHAT IS THE PROPOSED PROJECT?

NRCS Watershed Protection & Flood Prevention Program

The Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program helps units of federal, state, local and tribal governments protect and restore watersheds. The program provides financial and technical assistance for erosion and sediment control, watershed protection, flood prevention, water quality improvement, water management, fish and wildlife habitat enhancement, recreation and hydropower.

Ashley Valley Watershed Project

Uintah County and Ashley Central Canal Company have received funding from NRCS's Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program to evaluate improvements that include:

1. The construction of two large debris/detention basins for the Coal Mine and Yellow Hills sub basins to provide storage for debris and stormwater during large storm and flash flood events protecting residents, homes, properties, roadways, buildings, and businesses.
2. Piping 9.6 miles of the Ashley Central Canal including the pressurization of 6.3 miles of the canal.
3. The construction of three miles of recreation trails for bike and pedestrian use, giving access to educational, recreational, and business facilities nearby.

Improvements under consideration will address flood protection, watershed protection, agricultural water management, and public recreation development.

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CURRENT RESOURCE CONCERNS

Ashley Central Canal Irrigation Water

- Significant water loss due to seepage
- Safety concerns with open canal adjacent to residential neighborhoods
- Water quality impacts on Ashley Creek with irrigation tailwater from flood irrigation

Flood Protection

- Residents, homes, properties, roadways, buildings, businesses, and other infrastructure are at risk during large storm events because there isn't flood control associated with the Coal Mine Basin and Yellow Hills Basin
- Mingling irrigation water and stormwater in existing canal

Recreation

- Lack of recreational trails and connectivity

PROJECT GOALS

- Pipe Ashley Central Canal
- Provide flood protection for residents, homes, properties, roadways, buildings, businesses, and other infrastructure.
- Create additional trails

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PROJECT AREA



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PROPOSED CONCEPTUAL DESIGN OF DEBRIS BASINS



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NEPA PROCESS

Initiate Environmental Assessment

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

Collect Data

- Analyze existing conditions
- Identify needed resource surveys
- Agency consultation & coordination

Analyze Alternatives

- Analyze alternatives
- Evaluate potential impacts to environmental resources

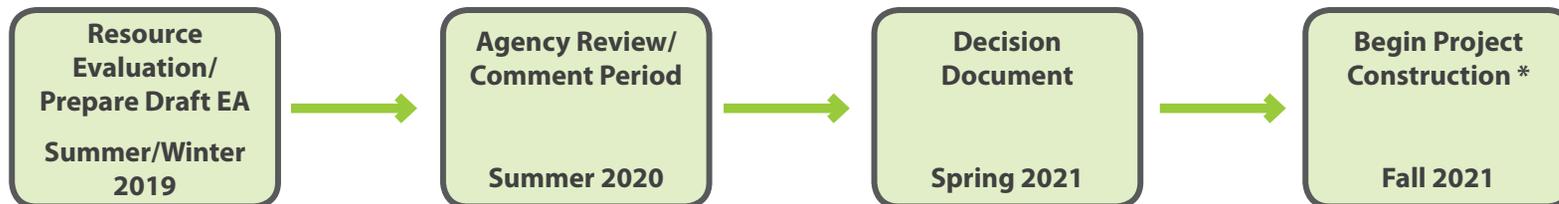
Draft Environmental Assessment

- Release Draft EA to public for review and comment
- Review all public and agency comments
- Prepare Final EA

Decision Document

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

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE



*(pending environmental approval)

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HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?

The Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Ashley Valley Watershed Plan Study Team are interested in your comments and suggestions regarding the proposed study. Please use one of the following methods to contact the study team and share your input.

- Fill out a comment card and leave it in the box provided.
- Take a comment card home and return it to the address indicated.
- Take a comment card home for friends and family to complete.
- Schedule a one-on-one meeting with a study team member.
- Email the study team at email@ashleywatershed.com.

Public involvement is an important part of the Environmental Assessment. If you would like a response to your comment, please indicate that on your comment and a member of our study team will respond as soon as possible. Thank you for your participation.