Balancing the Natural and Built Environment

June 12, 2025

Koren Manning Interim Director Planning and Development Services

Samuel A. Credio, PE Director of Transportation and Mobility City of Tucson 201 N. Stone Ave. Tucson, AZ 85701

Re: Rita 10 Planned Community Development STAC Review

Dear Ms. Manning and Mr. Credio,

Psomas is on the team of consultants that have been hired by the Arizona State Land Department ("ASLD") to prepare and process a Planned Community Development (PCD) for the Rita 10 PCD project. Psomas's role is focused on the surface drainage analysis of the property, including existing conditions analysis and devising a strategy for handling surface flows in the post developed condition. This project comprises 8,361+/- acres of State Trust Land managed by the state that is targeted by the City and County for large-scale industrial/employment uses, supplemented with a mixture of uses including large employment, office, residential and commercial.

ASLD owns all of the State Trust Land within the Rita 10 PCD project area. State Trust Land was assigned to Arizona as an asset to fund a specific set of public service beneficiaries. Revenues from the lease or sale of State Trust Land are used to fund these beneficiaries, the largest of which are Arizona's K-12 public schools. Acting as the fiduciary of the Trust, ASLD's land management mandates are established in Arizona's Enabling Act, Constitution, and State Statute. All State Trust Land must be sold at public auction. Because ASLD cannot predict the ultimate developed condition of their property, they work with the local jurisdiction to create entitlements that establish the overall development framework and requirements for secondary planning, engineering and design to be implemented by ASLD's successors who ultimately develop the property.

The purpose of this letter is to explain how the Rita 10 PCD proposed floodplain management approach facilitates the City-adopted 2024 Rincon Southeast Subregional Plan (RSSP) Special Area Policy 1-05, and maintains the intent of the City of Tucson Unified Development Code (UDC), Technical Standards Manual (TSM), and the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study (LMWBMS). The information provided herein is intended to support the Stormwater Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) review of this project. As required by RSSP Special Area Policy 1-05, the goal of

the STAC is to review and make recommendations related to the Rita 10 PCD overall floodplain management approach. Because the ultimate surface water management strategy and impact to PRA won't be known until the land is sold and a site plan is developed, the PCD establishes the overall framework within Section III.F and identifies additional studies required during the site development process in Section IV.B of the PCD.

Governing Policies and Regulations

ERZ washes are governed by Section 4-02.0.0 of the TSM, and amendments to ERZ designations are processed in compliance with Section 5.7.2.D of the UDC. The recently approved RSSP amendment facilitates the proposed Rita 10 PCD floodplain management approach, which permits modification, consolidation and channelization of ERZ washes. The goal of this approach is to facilitate appropriate floodplain management, consolidation of water flow into more meaningful, enhanced corridors that also maintain wildlife movement while creating a sequenced and logical drainage implementation strategy that enables ASLD to manage land disposition in accordance with their constitutional and statutory mandates.

All ERZ washes within Rita 10 PCD were addressed by the RSSP amendment. ERZ washes within the northernmost portion of the Rita 10 PCD boundary are within the Airport Wash watershed and are governed solely by standard City regulations. Several of the other ERZ washes are located within the Lee Moore Wash Floodplain and are generally governed by the LMWBMS, published in 2008. The LMWBMS Implementation Plan acknowledges that ASLD owns most of the land within the study limits and that the proposed LMWBMS development standards may not apply due to the State's fiduciary requirements to the Trust (LMWBMS Development Criteria, pages 4 and 57). The Implementation Plan also notes that the LMWBMS development standards were intended to address rural residential development and, in an acknowledgement of the development Criteria, pages 30 and 38).

The process to justify removal of ERZ wash designations in this area was established in the H2K Planned Area Development (C9-21-23, Ordinance 11941) also owned by ASLD and located upstream within the Julian Wash Watershed. The H2K PAD's Environmental Resources Report (ERR) determined that the limited and poor quality of existing protected riparian area is inconsistent with historically mapped riparian areas and ERZ washes. The H2K PAD removed ERZ designations in favor of concentrating flows into the larger incised Julian Wash to help improve riparian habitat and offer a continuous wildlife corridor through the developed area. The biological value of this approach was evaluated and verified by both JE Fuller and SWCA (see attachments for these reports).

The City's adoption of the RSSP amendment in 2024 establishing the special area policies for ASLD managed lands, specifically this Rita 10 PCD, permits and encourages the same floodplain management approach as was established in the H2K PAD and is proposed to be executed through the Rita 10 PCD and this process.

Rita 10 Floodplain Conditions

As has been demonstrated in other areas of the state, today's advanced manufacturing employers and other industrial/employment users require large contiguous tracts of land that must be mass graded. The Rita 10 PCD is comprised of disbursed sheet flow from several watersheds. Using an approved sampling strategy, the plant inventory within the Rita 10 PCD Environmental Resource Report (ERR) determined that most of the areas designated as ERZ and Protected Riparian Areas demonstrate plant species are in poor health except in areas with higher accumulations of water. To help the region attract large employers, part of the Rita 10 PCD development strategy involves consolidating and eliminating certain current ERZ designations in order to convey sheet flows across the site in incised, vegetatively enhanced channels. It is to be noted that within the southern half of the Rita 10 PCD there are several ERZ designations within a single floodplain area, the designations were developed decades ago using outdated methods and the ERZ designations within the City's jurisdiction are sometimes inconsistently applied to only a portion of a corridor, creating large gaps in designations within several wash corridors.

Rita 10 Floodplain Management Approach

By entitling a large area of land, the Rita 10 PCD enables a more regional approach to managing the existing sheet flows and facilitates a meaningful effort to improve habitat conditions. The Rita 10 PCD proposes removing several ERZ designations and establishing higher flow watercourses through construction of wide incised earthen channels. This approach will help support, re-create, enhance and support Protected Riparian Areas (PRA) that will connect to planned upstream flow corridors, thereby improving vegetation health and habitat, maintaining connectivity for wildlife and providing recreational opportunities.

Rita 10 PCD Requirements

- Page 53 of the PCD contains language addressing the ERR prepared for the property. The assessment in the ERR of ERZ washes and PRA supports the removal of ERZ wash designations and a mitigation strategy for disturbed PRA.
- Pages 56 59 contain the requirements of the PRA Mitigation and Wash Enhancement Plan.

The drainage strategy for the Rita 10 PCD proposes incised channels rather than berms or levee-like structures for several reasons:

- Berms and levees are more susceptible to catastrophic failure, berms require closer ongoing inspection and maintenance.
- While berms may be more easily incorporated into residential developments, they make extension of utility and roadway infrastructure across a larger development difficult and more costly.
- Finally, because berms effectively raise the base flood elevation, locating the types of development desired in the area behind berms or levee-like structures may deter some corporate employers from locating in the region due to cost-prohibitive insurance requirements, such as raising the building foundation above the base flood elevation.

Supporting Regulations and Policies:

• The amendment to the RSSP (Resolution 23744) approved by Mayor and Council specifically permits the proposed surface drainage strategy acknowledging that the PCD would outline

the development standards and regulations for implementation of that strategy.

- The City of Tucson UDC Section 5.7.2.D allows for changes in ERZ designations via the standard rezoning procedures of the UDC.
- Section 4-02.0.0 of the City of Tucson Technical Standards Manual (TSM) includes requirements for the identification of and mitigation of disturbed PRA. The regulations contained within the Rita 10 PCD comply with the TSM. Please refer to pages 56 59 of the Rita 10 PCD for more information.
- The Rita 10 Environmental Resource Report (ERR) discusses the proposed drainage strategy on page 9. The preliminary identification of PRA begins on page 10 and page 18 contains an exhibit identifying the preliminary PRA limits.
- SWCA Environmental Consultants conducted a review of the H2K PAD and the H2K ERR to provide an evaluation regarding ecological principles and best practices described in the PRA Mitigation and Wash Enhancement Plan. Page 2 of the SWCA report indicates that "Justification to remove ERZ designations from Julian Wash Tributaries and Franco Wash Tributary appear to be validated by the ERR" and the "The H2K PAD, along with the ERR" makes a valid argument that enhancement of the Julian Wash riparian area would mitigate for the loss of PRA in the other portions of the subject property." This analysis is similar to Rita10, and the full report is included with this letter as Attachment A.
- JE Fuller conducted a best practice evaluation of the H2K PAD and the H2K ERR with specific focus on the removal of ERZ wash designations and the mitigation strategy for disturbed PRA. The analysis related to H2K is similar to Rita 10, and that report states on page 6 that "JE Fuller concludes that with implementation of the included requirements, recommendations, and Best Management Practices, the Protected Riparian Area Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan would provide a net benefit to wildlife and native plant communities within the Julian Wash corridor, with ancillary benefits in the area including groundwater recharge, sustainable development, and enhanced recreation opportunities." The full report is included with this letter as Attachment B.
- Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study (LMWBMS). There are statements made in this study that indicate support for the proposed Rita 10 PCD drainage strategy. The study acknowledges that State Land is required to be managed in the best interest of the state and suggests that there should be flexibility in the handling of surface drainage, as may be approved by the local floodplain manager. Refer to Attachment C, page 1 and Appendix E, page 4 and 57.

The following statements are made in the LMWBMS that support the proposed drainage strategy for the Rita 10 PCD:

- State Trust Lands have flexibility with regard to the development criteria in the LMWBMS.
- The LMWBMS allows for maximum flexibility in the review process so that Floodplain Use Permit applicants may proceed with development and may incorporate drainage features that do not explicitly meet the Development Criteria established herein,

provided plans for such features are designed and sealed by a registered professional engineer and reviewed and approved by the local floodplain management agency having jurisdiction.

- Implementation of development criteria intended to reduce drainage, flood, and erosion hazards will lessen public expenditures for structural flood-control measures, will decrease the amount of maintenance needed for flood-control facilities and will complement riparian-habitat regulations.
- Channelization should be allowed when it can be demonstrated that long-term or short-term offsite impacts to channel stability are mitigated; that downstream reaches are adequately protected from erosion and flooding; and that a long-term inspection and maintenance program is implemented.
- The Rita 10 PCD will adhere to Section 4.2 of the Development Criteria that outlines the process for modifications to flow corridors.
- The H2K PAD (C9-21-23; Ordinance 11941) removed ERZ designations as part of a balanced strategy to provide large areas for development and a mitigation strategy for disturbed washes and associated Protected Riparian Area. The removal or ERZ designations in H2K was justified in part due to the general poor health of the vegetation, primarily attributed to drought, and the lack of significant, healthy riparian vegetation. This vegetation assessment was supported by evaluations completed by SWCA Environmental Consultants and JE Fuller. These evaluations also indicated that the Protected Riparian Area Mitigation Plan in the H2K PAD (the same plan is proposed in the Rita 10 PCD) would promote healthier wash corridors that would be beneficial to wildlife and native plant communities, while also providing groundwater recharge and recreational opportunities.

Based on the ERR prepared for the Rita 10 PCD and initial field observations of the vegetation on the site, it appears that the overall poor health condition of the vegetation within the Rita 10 PCD is similar to the H2K PAD. A such, the same reasons for ERZ removal, and associated benefits, can be applied to the Rita 10 PCD.

Please refer to pages 56 – 60 of the H2K PAD for more information.

FEMA Community Rating System (CRS)

The City of Tucson has indicated that their favorable rating under the CRS is, in part, derived from the ERZ regulations in the City of Tucson Technical Standards Manual. After discussions with staff from both the City of Tucson and the Pima County Regional Flood Control District (PCRFCD), it is understood that the ERZ washes contributions to the City's rating come from the fact that the ERZ regulations exist rather than from a ground level inventory or quality of ERZ designated washes. Accordingly, the removal of some ERZ designated washes within the Rita 10 PCD should have a neutral impact on the City's rating. Furthermore, representatives from the PCRFCD indicate that there are opportunities for the City of Tucson to improve its rating that are not impacted by the floodplain management approach in the Rita 10 PCD, including additional public outreach and education. We understand that as part of Tucson's Floodplain Management updates, the City has hired a consultant to help identify other opportunities to improve the City's overall CRS rating.

ERZ Wash Exhibit

The exhibit on the following page has been prepared to illustrate the ERZ washes, both on the Rita 10 PCD as well as upstream and downstream of the PCD. The exhibit depicts the following information:

- Existing regulated 100-year floodplains.
- Existing ERZ designations.
- Proposed flow corridors.
- ERZ designations proposed for removal.
- ERZ designations removed via the H2K PAD that are upstream of the Rita 10 PCD.
- Gaps in ERZ designations.

The map has been color coded based on regional named washes, which include the North Fork and South Fork Airport Washes, the Franco Wash Tributary and the Franco Wash.

Please also refer to the conceptual channel cross section that provides additional information on the proposed flow corridors.

Respectfully Submitted,

PSOMAS

Regin Beem

Regina Beam, P.E. Vice President Office: 520.690.7840 Mobile: 520.260.7168 rbeem@psomas.com

EXHIBIT T: PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS OF ERZ WASH DESIGNATIONS



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| AERIAL DATE:2024 | 53|

EXHIBIT S: CONCEPTUAL CHANNEL CROSS SECTION



Attachment A SWCA Environmental Consultants Review of the H2K PAD Mitigation Plan



343 West Franklin Street Tucson, Arizona 85701 Tel 520.325.9194 Fax 520.325.2033 www.swca.com

May 11, 2022

Lance Peterson, P.E. City of Tucson Department of Transportation and Mobility *via email* Lance.Peterson@tucsonaz.gov

Re: Review of the H2K Planned Area Development Mitigation Plan / SWCA Project No. 73806

Dear Mr. Peterson:

SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) reviewed the documents for the environmental mitigation plan section identified in the H2K Planned Area Development (H2K PAD) document (The WLB Group, Inc. 2022) to make an evaluation regarding the overall ecological principles and best restoration industry practices described in the proposed mitigation plan. Specifically, SWCA reviewed the Environmental Resource Report (ERR), which is Appendix B of the H2K PAD, and the statements made in the H2K PAD document Section III.B.3. Surface Drainage/Environmental Resources on page 55; Section III.B.4. Protected Riparian Area Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan Requirements starting on page 56; and the conceptual mitigation plan (Exhibit T of the H2K PAD) (The WLB Group, Inc. 2022).

The H2K PAD proposes to remove portions of the Environmental Resource Zone (ERZ) designations from several areas including Julian Wash tributaries and a portion of Franco Wash Tributary, as shown in Exhibit S, page 59 of the H2K PAD. Any Protected Riparian Areas (PRAs) within areas of the subject property that would be disturbed would need to be accounted for in the Protected Riparian Area Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan. The H2K PAD proposes that a Protected Riparian Area Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan (elements of which are presented in Section III.B.4 of the H2K PAD) would be prepared to allow development, comply with environmental regulations, and mitigate for lost ERZ washes.

Preserving and enhancing on-site PRA is one possible strategy for mitigating for loss of vegetation, wildlife habitat, and protected ERZ wash areas. However, it should be noted that the H2K PAD does not consider other options that may be used to offset biological resource losses including the acquisition of off-site habitat areas, in lieu fee purchasing, or some combination of these and on-site mitigation. If these options are allowable under the City of Tucson statutes, they could be included to allow for flexibility for any future project development.

H2K PLANNED AREA DEVELOPMENT (PAD)

The H2K PAD, along with the ERR, generally contains sufficient information to identify portions of the subject property that contain the highest ecological resource value as defined by PRAs and to further identify which portions of the subject property would be left undisturbed and or enhanced (i.e., Julian Wash main channel) and which portions are proposed to be removed from the ERZ designations (i.e., Julian Wash tributaries and Franco Wash Tributary). The ERR additionally contains maps (Exhibit H of the ERR) showing locations of PRAs and photographs of various locations within the subject property.

Justifications to remove ERZ designations from Julian Wash Tributaries and Franco Wash Tributary (page 55 of the H2K PAD) appear to be validated by the ERR. The ERR has photographs of areas showing thin bands of xeroriparian vegetation surrounding drainages indicating minimal significant, healthy vegetation within the ERZ and the rest of the subject property, as well as lack of riparian vegetation (e.g., mesquite bosques or riparian woodland) within the ERZ and the rest of the subject property, and maps showing lack of connectivity from washes and public lands/preserves (e.g., barriers including the railroad and Interstate 10).

The purpose of the proposed Protected Riparian Area Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan is to allow for compensation of the loss of PRA in some locations (i.e., Julian Wash tributaries) by preserving and enhancing the vegetation and therefore wildlife habitat in another location (i.e., Julian Wash and relocated Franco Wash Tributary) is described in Section III.B.4 of the H2K PAD (page 56).

The H2K PAD, along with the ERR, makes a valid argument that enhancement of Julian Wash (as illustrated by Exhibit T of the H2K PAD) riparian area would mitigate for the loss of PRA in the other portions of the subject property, especially Julian Wash tributaries and Franco Wash Tributary. It is likely that enhancing the PRA would increase wildlife habitat quality and quantity in Julian Wash and relocated Franco Wash Tributary and would be overall beneficial for wildlife in the vicinity of the project. This is because 1) most of the PRA mapped occurs in Julian Wash, 2) there is a small amount of xeroriparian habitat in the tributaries and much of it appears drought-stressed, and 3) the subject property is generally cut off from surrounding areas by railroad facilities and Interstate 10. However, there does not appear to be a clearly stated objective for the mitigation plan (e.g., to offset the loss of x acres of ERZ washes by enhancing the density and or diversity of native vegetation within Julian Wash by x percent over x acres). In addition, no clearly stated success criteria for supplemental plantings survival is provided.

In addition, because of the logistical difficulty in transplanting large woody trees and the reduced likelihood of survival of those large trees post-transplantation, the mitigation plantings would likely be smaller replacement trees (e.g., 5-gallon size) grown from nursery stock. As the area is drought-stressed and new trees may not survive beyond the time frame they are actively irrigated to increase plant survival rates, irrigation may need to extend over a longer time period and passive water harvesting of stormwater runoff should be incorporated into the landscape design. In addition, it should be noted that increased recreational use in the area, which is a stated goal within the H2K PAD, may serve to reduce the quality of habitat for wildlife species by increasing the amount of human presence and noise in the vicinity of the mitigation area.

PROTECTED RIPARIAN AREA (PRA) MITIGATION AND JULIAN WASH ENHANCEMENT PLAN

The PRA Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan components to be included in its preparation are outlined on pages 56 and 57 of the H2K PAD. Although the PAD states that the Mitigation and Enhancement Plan would be prepared at a later date, additional details at this stage regarding the scope of the Plan would be useful to avoid confusion by the City and the ultimate developer on the scope of the Plan, its objectives, monitoring, adaptive management, and success criteria.

Outline Section III.B.4.g. states, "The revegetation effort will create habitat that approximates the predisturbed habitat in square footage, plant density, diversity and volume." In general terms, this describes the goal of mitigation and is probably sufficient for the level of description in the H2K PAD. However, there are some omissions in the outline for what information the PRA Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan should include, which are discussed below.

Any mitigation plan that is developed would need to indicate the methods of determining the pre-disturbance vegetation characteristics, as these will form the basis of the success criteria. The PRA Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan does not include a success metric for when restoration can be considered a success and monitoring discontinued. A section should be added to describe that the success of enhancement would be based on objective, measurable, repeatable success metrics that compare the pre-construction PRA vegetation values (e.g., acreage, number of plants, diversity of plants, or density of plants) to the vegetation values within the mitigation areas over a set period of time.

In addition, a section should be added that specifies the use of an adaptive management strategy, if needed. For example, problematic areas could be evaluated for variables causing failure, including small-mammal damage, low precipitation, noxious weed colonization, or erosion, and then specific causes of failure could be reduced or eliminated. Finally, a section should be added that indicates what further steps would be taken if the mitigation areas do not achieve success within the 3-year time period mentioned (e.g., more replanting, more irrigation).

The following bullet points indicate information that is missing from the H2K PAD or could be clarified:

- Section III.B.4.e.: the term "inventory of living plants" might lead to confusion. It should be specified that the plant inventory within the PRA is separate from the Native Plant Preservation Ordinance (NPPO) inventory, and that the protected plant list and caliper and height requirements are different than would be used for the NPPO plant inventory (City of Tucson 2022).
- Section III.B.4.e.ii.: Contains a typo: burrow bush should be "burrobush" (i.e., *Ambrosia dumosa*).
- Pima pineapple cactus (*Coryphantha scheeri* var. *robustispina*), a species listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act and as a Highly Safeguarded plant under the Arizona Native Plant Law, is not mentioned within this section of the document, but has the potential to occur within the subject property.

While Section III.J. Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan indicates that coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, field surveys, and relocation of individuals would occur prior to ground disturbance, this information should be summarized in the PRA Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan components within or following Section III.B.4.g. iii. Pima pineapple cactus is not commercially available and would not be able to be replaced at a 2:1 ratio like other cacti.

- Will any provisions be made to preserve large saguaro (*Carnegiea gigantea*) plants in place when possible within the areas proposed for development as opposed to smaller using replacement plants? Large saguaros are used as a nectar resource and bird nest sites (National Park Service 2022), and because the plants are slow-growing, replacement plants often do not have the same habitat value as mature plants for decades.
- Section III.B.4.g.v.: Irrigation should be better described. A mitigation plan of this magnitude would likely have hundreds of transplanted or replacement plants. Does irrigation include each plant having its own emitter? Does it include any passive design feature that allows rainwater harvesting? Will any provisions be made for plants that cannot be actively irrigated owing to infrastructure limitations?

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE REPORT (ERR)

The ERR is missing data or needs more detail in several places:

- Page 12 of the ERR indicates that Appendix B of the H2K PAD contains mitigation standards for the disturbance of PRAs; however, Appendix B of the H2K PAD is the ERR, not the mitigation standards.
- Maps of the Lee Moor Wash Flow Corridor—Pima County Wildlife Movement Area/Riparian Wash Pima County Wildlife Movement Area as described in the *Pima County Wildlife Connectivity Assessment: Report on Stakeholder Input* (Arizona Game and Fish Department 2012) that overlaps with the Franco Wash Corridor should be included.

This Wildlife Movement Area was listed as intersecting with the project footprint in Appendix A of the ERR: Arizona Game and Fish Department Environmental Review Report, but was not shown on the Environmental Review Report, nor mapped within any of the exhibits within the ERR. Attachment A of this document shows an updated Arizona Game and Fish Department Environmental Review Report with the Pima County Wildlife Linkages mapped.

Because this corridor overlaps with the portion of Franco Wash where ERZ Wash Designation is proposed for removal (Exhibit S of the H2K PAD), the loss or change of location of Franco Wash as a potential wildlife corridor should be acknowledged and evaluated. This could be added to Section IV.C. of the ERR in the final paragraph where barriers to wildlife movement across the subject property are discussed. It is likely that the loss of the wildlife corridor would not have widespread adverse impacts to species, as the subject property is effectively cut off from the surrounding landscape with the railroad tracks and Interstate 10.

- A list of observed wildlife at the time of field reconnaissance would be helpful to underscore the paucity of high-quality habitat on-site. This list could be added to Section IV.C. or Section IV.S.
- Section IV.C. could be modified to include the information that the ERR Area buffer radius includes areas with aquatic and riparian resources (e.g., the portion of Pantano Wash north of the project), which is where many of these occurrence records are likely from.

Sincerely,

mall With

Russell Waldron Senior Natural Resources Lead

LITERATURE CITED

- Arizona Game and Fish Department. 2012. The Pima County Wildlife Connectivity Assessment: Report on Stakeholder Input. Available at: https://azgfd-portal-wordpresspantheon.s3.amazonaws.com/wpcontent/uploads/archive/PimaCountyWildlifeConnectivityAssessment.pdf. Accessed May 2022.
- City of Tucson. 2022. Riparian Vegetation Preservation and Protection Codes, Standards and Policies Summary. Available at: https://www.tucsonaz.gov/tdot/city-tucson-riparian-vegetationpreservation-and-protection-codes-standards-and-policies. Accessed May 2022.
- National Park Service. 2022. Wildlife Interactions with Saguaros. Available at: https://www.nps.gov/sagu/learn/nature/saguaros_animals.htm. Accessed May 2022.
- The WLB Group, Inc. 2022. H2K Planned Area Development. Prepared for the Arizona State Land Department. November 9, 2021, revised April 28, 2022. Including Appendices.

ATTACHMENT A

Arizona Game and Fish Department Environmental Review Report

Arizona Environmental Online Review Tool Report



Arizona Game and Fish Department Mission To conserve Arizona's diverse wildlife resources and manage for safe, compatible outdoor recreation opportunities for current and future generations.

Project Name:

Review of H2K Planned Area Development

User Project Number:

73806

Project Description:

Review of H2K Planned Area Development Project area also associated with HGIS-14797

Project Type:

Development Within Municipalities (Urban Growth), Commercial/industrial (mall) and associated infrastructure, New construction

Contact Person:

Stacy Campbell

Organization:

SWCA

On Behalf Of:

CITY

Project ID:

HGIS-16248

Please review the entire report for project type and/or species recommendations for the location information entered. Please retain a copy for future reference.

Disclaimer:

- 1. This Environmental Review is based on the project study area that was entered. The report must be updated if the project study area, location, or the type of project changes.
- 2. This is a preliminary environmental screening tool. It is not a substitute for the potential knowledge gained by having a biologist conduct a field survey of the project area. This review is also not intended to replace environmental consultation (including federal consultation under the Endangered Species Act), land use permitting, or the Departments review of site-specific projects.
- 3. The Departments Heritage Data Management System (HDMS) data is not intended to include potential distribution of special status species. Arizona is large and diverse with plants, animals, and environmental conditions that are ever changing. Consequently, many areas may contain species that biologists do not know about or species previously noted in a particular area may no longer occur there. HDMS data contains information about species occurrences that have actually been reported to the Department. Not all of Arizona has been surveyed for special status species, and surveys that have been conducted have varied greatly in scope and intensity. Such surveys may reveal previously undocumented population of species of special concern.
- 4. HabiMap Arizona data, specifically Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) under our State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) and Species of Economic and Recreational Importance (SERI), represent potential species distribution models for the State of Arizona which are subject to ongoing change, modification and refinement. The status of a wildlife resource can change quickly, and the availability of new data will necessitate a refined assessment.

Locations Accuracy Disclaimer:

Project locations are assumed to be both precise and accurate for the purposes of environmental review. The creator/owner of the Project Review Report is solely responsible for the project location and thus the correctness of the Project Review Report content.

Recommendations Disclaimer:

- 1. The Department is interested in the conservation of all fish and wildlife resources, including those species listed in this report and those that may have not been documented within the project vicinity as well as other game and nongame wildlife.
- 2. Recommendations have been made by the Department, under authority of Arizona Revised Statutes Title 5 (Amusements and Sports), 17 (Game and Fish), and 28 (Transportation).
- 3. Potential impacts to fish and wildlife resources may be minimized or avoided by the recommendations generated from information submitted for your proposed project. These recommendations are preliminary in scope, designed to provide early considerations on all species of wildlife.
- 4. Making this information directly available does not substitute for the Department's review of project proposals, and should not decrease our opportunity to review and evaluate additional project information and/or new project proposals.
- 5. Further coordination with the Department requires the submittal of this Environmental Review Report with a cover letter and project plans or documentation that includes project narrative, acreage to be impacted, how construction or project activity(s) are to be accomplished, and project locality information (including site map). Once AGFD had received the information, please allow 30 days for completion of project reviews. Send requests to:

Project Evaluation Program, Habitat Branch Arizona Game and Fish Department 5000 West Carefree Highway Phoenix, Arizona 85086-5000 Phone Number: (623) 236-7600 Fax Number: (623) 236-7366 Or

PEP@azgfd.gov

 Coordination may also be necessary under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and/or Endangered Species Act (ESA). Site specific recommendations may be proposed during further NEPA/ESA analysis or through coordination with affected agencies





Web Map As Submitted By User







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Special Status Species Documented within 3 Miles of Project Vicinity									
Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	NPL	SGCN			
Agosia chrysogaster chrysogaster	Gila Longfin Dace	SC		S		1B			
Athene cunicularia hypugaea	Western Burrowing Owl	SC	S	S		1B			
Bat Colony									
Camptostoma imberbe	Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet		S						
Choeronycteris mexicana	Mexican Long-tongued Bat	SC	S	S		1C			
Coccyzus americanus	Yellow-billed Cuckoo (Western DPS)	LT	S	S		1A			
Coryphantha scheeri var. robustispina	Pima Pineapple Cactus	LE			HS				
Danaus plexippus	Monarch	С		S					
Echinomastus erectocentrus var. erectocentrus	Needle-spined Pineapple Cactus	SC			SR				
Gastrophryne mazatlanensis	Sinoloan Narrow-mouthed Toad			S		1C			
Gopherus morafkai	Sonoran Desert Tortoise	CCA	S	S		1A			
Heloderma suspectum	Gila Monster					1A			
Kinosternon sonoriense sonoriense	Desert Mud Turtle			S		1B			
Lithobates yavapaiensis	Lowland Leopard Frog	SC	S	S		1A			
Myotis velifer	Cave Myotis	SC		S		1B			
Poeciliopsis occidentalis occidentalis	Gila Topminnow	LE				1A			
Tadarida brasiliensis	Brazilian Free-tailed Bat					1B			
Terrapene ornata luteola	Desert Box Turtle			S		1A			

Note: Status code definitions can be found at https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/planning/wildlifeguidelines/statusdefinitions/

Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	NPL	SGCN
Lee Moore Wash Flow Corridors	Pima County Wildlife Movement Area - Riparian/Wash					

Note: Status code definitions can be found at <u>https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/planning/wildlifeguidelines/statusdefinitions/</u>

Species of Greatest Conservation Need Predicted that Intersect with Project Footprint as Drawn, based on Predicted Range Models

Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	NPL	SGCN
Aix sponsa	Wood Duck					1B
Amazilia violiceps	Violet-crowned Hummingbird		S			1B
Ammospermophilus harrisii	Harris' Antelope Squirrel					1B
Anthus spragueii	Sprague's Pipit	SC				1A
Aquila chrysaetos	Golden Eagle	BGA		S		1B
Aspidoscelis stictogramma	Giant Spotted Whiptail	SC	S			1B

Species of Greatest Conservation Need Predicted that Intersect with Project Footprint as Drawn, based on Predicted Range Models

Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	NPL	SGCN
Aspidoscelis xanthonota	Red-backed Whiptail	SC	S			1B
Athene cunicularia hypugaea	Western Burrowing Owl	SC	S	S		1B
Buteo swainsoni	Swainson's Hawk					1C
Calypte costae	Costa's Hummingbird					1C
Chilomeniscus stramineus	Variable Sandsnake					1B
Colaptes chrysoides	Gilded Flicker			S		1B
Coluber bilineatus	Sonoran Whipsnake					1B
Corynorhinus townsendii pallescens	Pale Townsend's Big-eared Bat	SC	S	S		1B
Crotalus tigris	Tiger Rattlesnake					1B
Cynanthus latirostris	Broad-billed Hummingbird		S			1B
Dipodomys spectabilis	Banner-tailed Kangaroo Rat			S		1B
Euderma maculatum	Spotted Bat	SC	S	S		1B
Eumops perotis californicus	Greater Western Bonneted Bat	SC		S		1B
Falco peregrinus anatum	American Peregrine Falcon	SC	S	S		1A
Glaucidium brasilianum cactorum	Cactus Ferruginous Pygmy-owl	PT	S	S		1B
Gopherus morafkai	Sonoran Desert Tortoise	CCA	S	S		1A
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	SC, BGA	S	S		1A
Heloderma suspectum	Gila Monster					1A
Hypsiglena sp. nov.	Hooded Nightsnake					1B
Incilius alvarius	Sonoran Desert Toad					1B
Lasiurus xanthinus	Western Yellow Bat		S			1B
Leopardus pardalis	Ocelot	LE				1A
Leptonycteris yerbabuenae	Lesser Long-nosed Bat	SC				1A
Lepus alleni	Antelope Jackrabbit					1B
Lithobates yavapaiensis	Lowland Leopard Frog	SC	S	S		1A
Macrotus californicus	California Leaf-nosed Bat	SC		S		1B
Melanerpes uropygialis	Gila Woodpecker					1B
Melospiza lincolnii	Lincoln's Sparrow					1B
Melozone aberti	Abert's Towhee		S			1B
Micrathene whitneyi	Elf Owl					1C
Micruroides euryxanthus	Sonoran Coralsnake					1B
Myiarchus tyrannulus	Brown-crested Flycatcher					1C
Myotis occultus	Arizona Myotis	SC		S		1B
Myotis velifer	Cave Myotis	SC		S		1B
Myotis yumanensis	Yuma Myotis	SC				1B
Notiosorex cockrumi	Cockrum's Desert Shrew					1B
Nyctinomops femorosaccus	Pocketed Free-tailed Bat					1B
Oreoscoptes montanus	Sage Thrasher					1C

Species of Greatest Conservation Need Predicted that Intersect with Project Footprint as Drawn, based on Predicted Range Models

Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	NPL	SGCN
Oreothlypis luciae	Lucy's Warbler					1C
Panthera onca	Jaguar	LE				1A
Peucaea carpalis	Rufous-winged Sparrow					1B
Phrynosoma solare	Regal Horned Lizard					1B
Phyllorhynchus browni	Saddled Leaf-nosed Snake					1B
Progne subis hesperia	Desert Purple Martin			S		1B
Setophaga petechia	Yellow Warbler					1B
Sphyrapicus nuchalis	Red-naped Sapsucker					1C
Spizella breweri	Brewer's Sparrow					1C
Tadarida brasiliensis	Brazilian Free-tailed Bat					1B
Terrapene ornata	Ornate Box Turtle					1A
Thomomys umbrinus intermedius	Southern Pocket Gopher					1B
Toxostoma lecontei	LeConte's Thrasher			S		1B
Vireo bellii arizonae	Arizona Bell's Vireo					1B
Vulpes macrotis	Kit Fox	No Status				1B

Species of Economic and Recreation Importance Predicted that Intersect with Project Footprint as Drawn

Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	NPL	SGCN
Callipepla gambelii	Gambel's Quail					
Callipepla squamata	Scaled Quail					1C
Odocoileus hemionus	Mule Deer					
Patagioenas fasciata	Band-tailed Pigeon					1C
Pecari tajacu	Javelina					
Puma concolor	Mountain Lion					
Zenaida asiatica	White-winged Dove					
Zenaida macroura	Mourning Dove					

Project Type: Development Within Municipalities (Urban Growth), Commercial/industrial (mall) and associated infrastructure, New construction

Project Type Recommendations:

Minimization and mitigation of impacts to wildlife and fish species due to changes in water quality, quantity, chemistry, temperature, and alteration to flow regimes (timing, magnitude, duration, and frequency of floods) should be evaluated. Minimize impacts to springs, in-stream flow, and consider irrigation improvements to decrease water use. If dredging is a project component, consider timing of the project in order to minimize impacts to spawning fish and other aquatic species (include spawning seasons), and to reduce spread of exotic invasive species. We recommend early direct coordination with Project Evaluation Program for projects that could impact water resources, wetlands, streams, springs, and/or riparian habitats.

Based on the project type entered, coordination with Arizona Department of Water Resources may be required (<u>https://new.azwater.gov/</u>).

<u>The Department requests further coordination to provide project/species specific recommendations, please</u> <u>contact Project Evaluation Program directly at PEP@azgfd.gov</u>.

Project Location and/or Species Recommendations:

HDMS records indicate that one or more native plants listed on the **Arizona Native Plant Law and Antiquities Act** have been documented within the vicinity of your project area. Please contact: Arizona Department of Agriculture 1688 W Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007 Phone: 602.542.4373 https://agriculture.az.gov/sites/default/files/Native%20Plant%20Rules%20-%20AZ%20Dept%20of%20Ag.pdf starts on page 44

Analysis indicates that your project is located in the vicinity of an identified <u>wildlife habitat connectivity feature</u>. The **County-level Stakeholder Assessments** contain five categories of data (Barrier/Development, Wildlife Crossing Area, Wildlife Movement Area- Diffuse, Wildlife movement Area- Landscape, Wildlife Movement Area- Riparian/Washes) that provide a context of select anthropogenic barriers, and potential connectivity. The reports provide recommendations for opportunities to preserve or enhance permeability. Project planning and implementation efforts should focus on maintaining and improving opportunities for wildlife permeability. For information pertaining to the linkage assessment and wildlife species that may be affected, please refer

to: <u>https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/planning/habitatconnectivity/identifying-corridors/</u>. Please contact the Project Evaluation Program (<u>pep@azgfd.gov</u>) for specific project recommendations.

HDMS records indicate that one or more **Listed**, **Proposed**, **or Candidate** species or **Critical Habitat** (Designated or Proposed) have been documented in the vicinity of your project. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) gives the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regulatory authority over all federally listed species. Please contact USFWS Ecological Services Offices at <u>https://www.fws.gov/office/arizona-ecological-services</u> or:

Phoenix Main Office

9828 North 31st Avenue #C3 Phoenix, AZ 85051-2517 Phone: 602-242-0210 Fax: 602-242-2513

Tucson Sub-Office 201 N. Bonita Suite 141 Tucson, AZ 85745 Phone: 520-670-6144 Fax: 520-670-6155

Flagstaff Sub-Office

SW Forest Science Complex 2500 S. Pine Knoll Dr. Flagstaff, AZ 86001 Phone: 928-556-2157 Fax: 928-556-2121

HDMS records indicate that **Sonoran Desert Tortoise** have been documented within the vicinity of your project area. Please review the Tortoise Handling Guidelines found at: <u>https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/nongamemanagement/tortoise/</u>

HDMS records indicate that **Western Burrowing Owls** have been documented within the vicinity of your project area. Please review the western burrowing owl resource page at: https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/speciesofgreatestconservneed/burrowingowlmanagement/.

Attachment B JE Fuller Best Practice Evaluation of the Protected Riparian Arae Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan



TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

TO: Karen Dada
Manager, Planning and Engineering Section
Arizona State Land Department
1616 W. Adams Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007
FROM: Rafael Reyna

Environmental Planner JE Fuller, Hydrology and Geomorphology, Inc. 3111 Caden Court, Suite 180, Flagstaff, Arizona 86004 Coauthor and Reviewer– Jean Marie Rieck, Senior Biologist, JE Fuller

DATE: May 12, 2022

RE: Best Practice Evaluation of the Protected Riparian Area Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan, Tucson, AZ Contract: CTR031428 Purchase Order: 0000378727

INTRODUCTION

This technical memorandum contains a best practice evaluation regarding a proposed development project on Arizona State Trust Land (ASLD) southeast of the City of Tucson. ASLD is proposing a mitigation plan for the Houghton Study Area or H2K, which encompasses 2,160 acres (see *Figure 1*). H2K is bisected by a primary wash, Julian Wash, which is regulated via Tucson's W.A.S.H. ordinance. There are two tributaries to Julian Wash that ASLD is proposing to remove that would encourage development and environmental sustainability in the area. ASLD also proposes to relocate what the City of Tucson designates as "Protected Riparian Area" (PRA) to Julian Wash and some retention basins. The project would require site grading to flow toward these basins and Julian Wash. The intent is to address the drought-stressed condition of the vegetation by concentrating the flows and valuable habitat in one area, with the goal of increasing buildable area while also taking a sustainable approach to mitigation.

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Figure 1. Conceptual PRA Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan (WLB 2022a).

Best Practice Evaluation of the Protected Riparian Area Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan, Tucson, AZ JEF Project No. P2551.01



REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

In development of this Environmental Evaluation, JE Fuller reviewed the Planned Area Development (PAD; WLB 2022a) with focus on the Environmental Resource Report (ERR; WLB 2022b) and Mitigation Plan provided by ASLD. JE Fuller also reviewed environmental designations of the property, including:

- Watercourse Amenities, Safety and Habitat (WASH Ordinance; City of Tucson 2013)
- Environmental Resource Zone (ERZ)
- Pima County designated Important Riparian Area (IRA)
- Critical and Sensitive Wildlife Habitat as identified in the 1986 study (Critical and Sensitive Wildlife Habitats of Eastern Pima County, completed by Dr. William Shaw)

In addition, JE Fuller reviewed data and photographs collected during previous studies (Houghton I-10 Corridor Wash Evaluation; JE Fuller 2022), which determined potentially jurisdictional washes in the project area.

FINDINGS

ASLD is proposing the Protected Riparian Area Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan to provide a viable strategy of balancing a large, developable area with environmental preservation and enhancement. Based on field work conducted during the Houghton I-10 Corridor Wash Evaluation (JE Fuller 2022), JE Fuller has confirmed that the overall wildlife habitat in the majority project area is marginal due to drought-stressed vegetation, noxious weeds, and livestock grazing. Habitat along Julian Wash is noticeably higher in quality than the surrounding areas due to greater water availability throughout the year. The purpose of the proposed mitigation strategy is ecological restoration for enhancement of wildlife connectivity and revegetation, and other ancillary benefits including groundwater recharge, sustainable development, and increased recreation potential. ASLD proposes to disturb wash areas outside of Julian Wash and implement a mitigation and floodplain management strategy that compensates for the loss of wash area and associated vegetation. A summary of JE Fuller's findings are described below:

- The PAD states that there are washes (other than Julian Wash) on the property that are categorized as Environmental Resource Zone (ERZ) washes, which are generally of lesser significance than the Julian Wash, and via this PAD, the designation of ERZ washes (and the washes themselves) on the property would be removed. The concept of removing these washes was largely based on these washes containing low 100-year flow volumes and providing an insignificant amount of groundwater recharge
 - JE Fuller has confirmed that the washes proposed for removal are primarily composed of small, braided washes with sheet flow, or paleochannels.
 - Vegetation in many of these areas proposed for removal are composed of mature and mid-successional desertscrub shrubs and mature grasses and forbs with only pockets of riparian-type or PRA vegetation.



- The Protected Riparian Area Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan proposes to enhance Julian Wash and address existing drought-stressed vegetation.
 - JE Fuller's field observations confirm that the vegetation on this site is stressed by prolonged drought. Whitethorn acacia (*Vachellia constricta*) and velvet mesquite (*Prosopis velutina*) appeared to be dying off in many areas within the site particularly in the upland areas.
 - During wetter periods or growing seasons, the project area is dominated by growth of annual forbs including amaranth (*Amaranthus* spp.) and Arizona anoda (*Anoda thurberi*) particularly along the washes. This can be attributed to the heavy rainfall events during 2021 monsoon season that benefitted many annual forbs. However, woody species did not appear to noticeably benefit from the previous year's rainfall likely due to years of prolonged drought. The average annual precipitation in the area is 11.44 inches (WRCC 2016).
- The Protected Riparian Area Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan seeks to relocate valuable and protected plants to the Julian Wash corridor. Transplantation and native plant seeding would occur in areas on the site that receive the most water (naturally and from runoff from the proposed development areas), thereby increasing the opportunity to create a healthier wash corridor.
 - JE Fuller acknowledges that expansion of the riparian area buffer and drainage basins along Julian Wash would likely have the following ecological benefits:
 - 1. Creation and improvement of riparian or xeroriparian habitat and provision of a source of detritus and wood debris.
 - 2. Restoration of riparian or xeroriparian plant communities.
 - 3. Creation of wildlife habitat and preservation of the Julian Wash wildlife corridor. This habitat would be particularly conducive to occupancy of breeding birds, desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*), and Western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*), which have been documented as occurring within 3.0 miles of the project vicinity (AGFD 2021).
 - 4. Sequestration of nutrients and infiltration of stormwater through use of drainage basins.

RECOMMENDATIONS

JE Fuller recommends that the following mitigation measures be considered for inclusion in the Protected Riparian Area Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan:

• While much of the stressed vegetation can likely be attributed to the prolonged drought in the region, JE Fuller observed livestock grazing throughout the project area. Livestock grazing was most evident in close proximity to stock tanks and appeared to negatively impact vegetative growth



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around the washes. Livestock grazing can also contribute to soil erosion through the loss of understory plants that cattle prefer to feed on. As in many areas across the state, ASLD allows active grazing leases as an interim land management tool and revenue-generating resource for the Trust's beneficences. Such grazing leases will be canceled upon the sale of the land for development, ultimately leading to the implementation of the mitigation strategy and elimination of the grazing operations.

- Section J of the PRA Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan lists removal of invasive plants ٠ as part of a monitoring/maintenance program for the revegetated mitigation areas (WLB 2022a). During field surveys conducted during the Houghton I-10 Corridor Wash Evaluation (JE Fuller 2022), JE Fuller noted the presence of buffelgrass (Cenchrus ciliaris) throughout the understory of the project area, particularly along the washes in the proposed conceptual Julian Wash corridor, which likely also contributes to stress of native vegetation. Buffelgrass can out-compete native vegetation for soil nutrients and moisture and rapidly form a monoculture. In addition, infestations of buffelgrass can injure native plant communities by altering the fire regime through an increase in the frequency, intensity, and connectivity of fuel (USDA 2014). JE Fuller recommends Best Management Practices including long-term planning, integrated invasive plant management with chemical or mechanical control, and follow-up monitoring for effective control of buffelgrass. Furthermore, invasive plants could potentially be spread from the existing seed bank of the current invasive plant community or brought in by construction/maintenance equipment. In order to limit the potential establishment of invasive species as well as encourage the growth of native species, Best Management Practices should be followed to incorporate weed prevention and control into the project planning effort.
- Five Pima pineapple cacti (PPC), which are federally listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act, were observed opportunistically and documented by JE Fuller on the east side of the project area. The cacti were verified onsite by a professional botanist; however, it should be noted that protocol-level surveys for the species were not conducted during JE Fuller's wash analysis (JE Fuller 2022). As discussed in the PAD, coordination with US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and comprehensive protocol-level field surveys of the project area would need to occur prior to ground disturbing activities to minimize adverse impacts to PPC. Mitigation of affected PPC habitat would need to occur through on-site set asides, purchase of credits in a PPC conservation bank, or acquisition of other off-site PPC habitat, or some combination of these. USFWS does not recommend transplanting or salvage and relocating of PPC as a measure to offset impacts because the limited data shows that this is ineffective (*personal communication, Karen Reagan, Biologist, USFWS, 11/9/2021*). However, transplantation can be used in conjunction with other mitigation approaches if a transplant or salvage effort would contribute to USFWS' knowledge and understanding of the species.
- JE Fuller recommends that the seed mix for revegetation areas be composed entirely of droughtresistant native species. In addition, to support monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexxipus*) and other



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beneficial pollinators, the seed mix should also contain native species of milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.) or other nectar species approved for use in Pima County.

- The ultimate mitigation plan should include mitigation measures for special status species potentially impacted by construction. These include:
 - Burrowing owl preconstruction surveys following the Burrowing Owl Project Clearance Guidance for Landowners (Arizona Burrowing Owl Working Group 2009).
 - Mitigation processes and measures for Sonoran desert tortoise, where appropriate, including additional surveys when presence/absence is questionable or suitable habitat exists, and implementation of a desert tortoise protection and education program for construction contractors (AIDTT 2008).

SUMMARY

In summary, JE Fuller concludes that with implementation of the included requirements, recommendations, and Best Management Practices, the Protected Riparian Area Mitigation and Julian Wash Enhancement Plan would provide a net benefit to wildlife and native plant communities within the Julian Wash corridor, with ancillary benefits in the area including groundwater recharge, sustainable development, and enhanced recreation opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

Hael Taysu

Rafael Reyna Environmental Planner JE Fuller/Hydrology and Geomorphology, Inc. 3111 North Caden Court, Suite 180, Flagstaff, AZ 86004



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WLB Group. 2022b. H2K Planned Area Development: Environmental Resource Report. Tucson, Arizona.

Attachment C Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study

Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study

Volume 3

Implementation Plan

Adopted by Pima County Regional Flood Control District Board of Directors June 1st, 2010

Adopted by City of Tucson Mayor and Council October 19th, 2010

Adopted by Town of Sahuarita Mayor and Council December 13th,2010

Stantec Project No.: 185120071






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- D Arizona State Land Department Letter of Concurrence
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Stakeholder Involvement program for this project was designed by C.L. Williams Consulting, Inc. (CLW), and completed with the goal of maximizing implementation opportunities for the Recommended Alternative(s) of the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study (LMWBMS). The results of the Stakeholder Involvement and Implementation Strategy are summarized in this Implementation Plan which is Volume 3 of 3 of the LMWBMS. The Implementation Plan details the Recommended Alternative(s) by location, capital improvement costs, potential cost sharing partner, participation interest, potential mechanism for participation and preliminary timeline whenever possible. The Implementation Plan has been developed iteratively and in cooperation with the affected stakeholders. It does not represent a binding legal agreement on any partners, but does provide a solid summary of implementation efforts to date, as well as a roadmap for the Pima County Regional Flood Control District implementation efforts since the LMWBMS has been adopted by the Board of Directors, the City of Tucson and the Town of Sahuarita (see Appendices A, B, C for copies of the signed Resolutions). The Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) which owns approximately 48% of the land in the Basin was involved throughout the LMWBMS and has provided a Letter of Concurrence for the Study (see Appendix D). Several of the Recommended Alternatives are connected with other agency programs. The result is that often their schedule or funding will drive the implementation timeline. Recognition of this fact by the District and planning for this in future follow through efforts will allow for cost effective and efficient construction completion. If the coordination is not continued after LMWBMS completion, it is possible that other agencies will move ahead with their projects and not include Recommended Alternatives drainage improvements.



The Recommended Alternatives for this project are comprised of structural and non-structural solutions at various locations. These locations are distributed throughout the project area and include construction and non-construction activities that will ultimately be funded in one of three ways:

- 1) **Solely** funded by the District.
- Funded solely or in partnership among private and/or public agencies including the District.
- Funded solely or in partnership among private and/or public agencies <u>not</u> including the District.

The Recommended Alternatives were developed after extensive technical review of the drainage, infrastructure and land use conditions in the project area. Significant effort was also put forth by the project team to involve the general public, as well as public and private sector stakeholders, in development of the Recommended Alternatives. Included within Volume 2 of 3 of the LMWBMS report is documentation of the public and stakeholder activities and responses.



STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM APPROACH

The Stakeholder Involvement program for this project was designed and completed with the goal of maximizing implementation opportunities for the Recommended Alternatives of the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Plan (LMWBMS). To achieve this end, the "3-I's" method (Inform, Involve and Include) to interact with stakeholders was utilized. Simply put, the 3-I's method of Stakeholder Involvement is to utilize a 3-Phase approach as identified in the accompanying Stakeholder Flowchart (see Appendix F) & Implementation Plan Summary below:

Phase 1

Inform the stakeholders of the project at the early stages to obtain any useful knowledge they may have from a data collection standpoint, as well as to receive any initial input they may have regarding scope of work or process. This was accomplished through facilitated workgroups of stakeholders with similar mandates, jurisdictions, and interests (i.e. private and public sector). Several individual meetings were also held for those stakeholders with a unique interest (i.e. Diamond Ventures, etc.). Stakeholders and their preliminary concerns/interests were identified and compiled into a spreadsheet which was used as the baseline database for the rest of the stakeholder involvement program. The Stakeholder database (see Appendix G) is included herein for completeness.

Phase 2

Involve the stakeholders throughout the course of the LMWBMS so that they stay informed and interested in the project. This also allowed for them to see how and the reasons why, or why not, their input would be included in the development of alternatives. This was accomplished through the use of



facilitated workgroups as well as individual meetings. An added benefit of maintaining contact throughoout the course of the project is that new staff members from the agencies were educated prior to being shown the end product. Their involvement was instrumental in developing the matrices used for all of the alternatives evaluated at each site as documented in Volume 1 of the LMWBMS.

Phase 3

Include the stakeholders in the process of selection of the Recommended Alternative(s). This effort included information exchange and discussion of:

- a) costs of capital improvements
- b) costs of maintenance
- c) conceptual cost sharing agreements for capital improvements
- d) conceptual agreements on maintenance responsibilities
- e) conceptual construction timelines coordinated with other agencies' projects and budgets.

This was accomplished using a combination of workgroups and individual meetings because of the iterative nature of these negotiations. Stakeholders' input was considered in the conceptual design plans and cost estimates contained in Volume 1 of the LMWBMS.

IMPLEMENTATION SUMMARY

The results of the Stakeholder Involvement and Implementation Strategy are summarized in the following Implementation Summary. The Summary details the Recommended Alternatives by location, capital improvement costs, potential cost sharing partner, participation interest, mechanism for participation and preliminary timeline. The Implementation Summary was



developed iteratively and in cooperation with the affected stakeholders. It does not represent a binding legal agreement on any partners, but does provide a solid summary of implementation strategies to date and a roadmap for the Pima County Regional Flood Control District (District) implementation efforts since it was adopted by the Board of Directors on June 1st, 2010. Many of the Recommended Alternative(s) are connected with other agency programs. The result is that often their schedule or funding will drive the construction timeline. Recognition of this fact by the District and planning for this in future follow through efforts will allow for cost effective and efficient construction completion. If the coordination is not continued after LMWBMS completion, it is possible that other agencies will move ahead with their projects and not include Recommended Alternatives drainage and flood mitigation improvements.

The Recommended Alternatives for this project are comprised of structural and non-structural solutions at various locations. These locations are distributed throughout the project area and include construction and non-construction activities that will ultimately be funded in one of three ways:

- 1) **Solely** funded by the District.
- Funded solely or in partnership among private and/or public agencies including the District.
- Funded solely or in partnership among private and/or public agencies <u>not</u> including the District.

The Recommended Alternatives were developed after extensive technical review of the drainage, infrastructure and land use conditions in the project area. Significant effort was also put forth by the project team to involve the general public, as well as public and private sector stakeholders, in development of the Recommended Alternatives. Included within Volume 2 of 3 of the LMWBMS Report is documentation of the public and stakeholder activities and responses. The stakeholder effort was designed and carried out so as to maximize development of Recommended Alternative(s) that could be implemented as efficiently and cost-effectively as



possible. The purpose of this Plan is to summarize the key opportunities and constraints for implementation of the Recommended Alternatives.

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS (Existing Conditions)

The Recommended Alternatives for the existing conditions are organized into the four (4) Planning Areas of the project with specific sites in each planning area. The Planning Areas (in capital letters) and identified problems within each planning area (designated numerically) are as follows:

LMWBMS Area-Wide Problem Area

- 25 drainage complaints within unplatted areas north of Sahuarita Road;
 60% related to access and flooding issues
- 2. 20 drainage complaints along Wilmot corridor unplatted areas; 35% related to access and flooding issues.
- 3. 35 drainage complaints within unplatted areas east of Wilmot Road; 40% related to access issues
- 4. Existing Stock Pond/Diversion Structures
- 5. Enhance Public Education and Outreach
- 6. Flooding within unplatted residential areas

Franco/Flato/Summit Area Problem Area

- 1. Old Vail Road; Franco Wash 100-year flow depth 7-8 feet
- 2. Summit Street; Franco Wash 100-year flow depth 3-4 feet
- 3. Flooding along Franco Wash; potential flooding of 45-50 structures within Summit Area



- 4. Flooding along Summit Wash; potential flooding of 30-35 structures from County Club to Nogales Highway
- 5. Additional flooding along Franco Tributary south of Old Vail Road
- 6. Flooding along Flato at Old Nogales Highway
- 7. Maintenance of Lee Moore Channel Bank Protection/Bank Erosion
- 8. Franco Wash at Houghton Road: +/-1000 feet, depth >1 foot
- 9. Flato Wash at Houghton Road--depth>1 foot
- 10. Stock ponds upstream of Wentworth/I-10 interchange--potential flooding at interchange with failure
- 11. Stock Ponds/diversions along Flato main corridor--potential diversion of flow north into Franco watershed
- 12. New Tucson all-weather access issues at several crossings; undersized culverts at several crossings
- 13. Impacts of stock ponds/diversion structures south of Sahuarita Road and New Tucson area

Cuprite/Fagan/Petty Ranch Area Problem Area

- 1. FICO Channel lacks capacity to convey flow north, breakout/flooding to west
- 2. Sahuarita Road-all-weather access limited from east near Wentworth Road to Houghton
- 3. Approximately 2 miles of Sahuarita Road Houghton Road to Rita Road alignment
- 4. Houghton Road-all-weather access limited from north
- 5. Houghton, Sahuarita Area--flooding/erosion issues

Sycamore Canyon & Gunnery Range Area Problem Area

1. Sahuarita Road-Rita Road alignment to Nogales Highway



- 2. Undersized/clogged culverts in Sycamore Canyon Estates south of Sahuarita Road
- 3. Complaints about integrity of berm along Columbus Boulevard, north of Dawson, east of Irving
- 4. Sahuarita, Delgado, Dawson: FICO channel--lack of capacity/sedimentation causes residential flooding

A brief description of the problem and overview of the Recommended Alternatives for each of the sites follows.

LMWBMS Area-Wide Recommended Alternative(s)

- 25 drainage complaints within unplatted areas north of Sahuarita Road;
 60% related to access and flooding issues.
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - *Floodproofing* Approximately 6 structures in this area could be protected from flooding by floodproofing.

- 2. 20 drainage complaints along Wilmot corridor unplatted areas; 35% related to access and flooding issues.
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Floodproofing Approximately 17 structures in this area could be protected from flooding by floodproofing.



- 3. 35 drainage complaints within unplatted areas east of Wilmot Road; 40% related to access issues
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Floodproofing Approximately 7 structures in this area could be protected from flooding by floodproofing.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

- 4. Existing Stock Pond/Diversion Structures
 - Non-Structural Alternatives:
 - Ensure maintenance, operation, study and analysis of stock ponds with future development – There are at least 105 stock ponds in this area to which this alternative could apply.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

5. Enhance Public Education and Outreach

- <u>Non-Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Public Education and Outreach At least annually the District should disseminate information regarding flood and drainage hazards



and LMWBMS implementation status.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

- 6. Flooding within unplatted residential areas in the Sahuarita, Santa Rita and Dawson areas
 - *Improvement District(s)* The Improvement District(s) allow property owners to pay to bring their infrastructure up to Standard so that a public agency can accept maintenance for the infrastructure.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

Franco/Flato/Summit Area Recommended Alternative(s)

- 1. Old Vail Road -- Franco Wash 100-year flow depth 7-8 feet
 - <u>Non-Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Automatic barricade control This alternative would require the installation of two (2) automatic barricades to prevent vehicles from entering flooded roadway. This could be a temporary alternative that would be removed once the culvert system was installed.
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Install culverts A total of 11- 10' x 4' RCB's were sized within this area.



There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives. The County will be the lead agencies for implementation of this alternative and will be responsible for pursuing an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the County and City Department of Transportation's as well as the District.

2. Summit Street -- Franco Wash 100-year flow depth 3-4 feet

- Non-Structural Alternatives:
 - Automatic barricade control This alternative would require the installation of two (2) automatic barricades to prevent vehicles from entering flooded roadway.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

3. Flooding along Franco Wash--potential flooding of 45-50 structures within Summit Area

- <u>Non-Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Public Education and Outreach While this can't be quantified, the effects of the dissemination of information should be measured in reference to reaching the goals being evaluated.



- 4. Flooding along Summit Wash--potential flooding of 30-35 structures from County Club to Nogales Highway
 - <u>Non-Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Public Education and Outreach While this can't be quantified, the effects of the dissemination of information should be measured in reference to reaching the goals being evaluated.
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - *Regional detention basin* The facility evaluated at this location would require about six (6) acres to meet design criteria.

5. Additional flooding along Franco Tributary south of Old Vail Road

- Non-Structural Alternatives:
 - Public Education and Outreach While this can't be quantified, the effects of the dissemination of information should be measured in reference to reaching the goals being evaluated.
- o <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - *Regional detention basin* The facility evaluated at this location would require about 7 acres to meet design criteria.



6. Flooding along Flato at Old Nogales Highway

- Non-Structural Alternatives:
 - Floodprone Land Acquisition Program (FLAP) Approximately 13 structures can participate in the FLAP in this area.
 - Public Education and Outreach While this can't be quantified, the effects of the dissemination of information should be measured in reference to reaching the goals being evaluated.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

7. Maintenance of Lee Moore Channel Bank Protection/Bank Erosion

- <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Bank stabilization There is 7,2000 linear feet of bank applicable to this alternative.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

8. Franco Wash at Houghton Road: +/-1000 feet, depth >1 foot

- Non-Structural Alternatives:
 - Automatic barricade control This alternative would require the installation of two (2) automatic barricades to prevent vehicles from



entering flooded roadway. This could be a temporary alternative that would be removed once the culvert system was installed.

- <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Install culverts A total of 7- 10' x 4' RCB's were sized within this area.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

9. Flato Wash at Houghton Road--depth>1 foot

- Non-Structural Alternatives:
 - Automatic barricade control This alternative would require the installation of two (2) automatic barricades to prevent vehicles from entering flooded roadway.
- <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - *Install culverts* A total of 20- 10' x 4' RCB's at 5 locations were sized within this area.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

10. Stock ponds upstream of Wentworth/I-10 interchange--potential flooding at interchange with failure

• Non-Structural Alternatives:



- Ensure maintenance, operation, study and analysis of stock ponds with future development – There are at least 8 stock ponds in this area to which this alternative could apply.
- <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Utilize stock ponds as regional detention basin(s)

- 11. Stock Ponds/diversions along Flato main corridor; potential diversion of flow north into Franco watershed
 - Non-Structural Alternatives:
 - Ensure maintenance, operation, study and analysis of stock ponds with future development – There are at least 3 stock ponds in this area to which this alternative could apply.
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Utilize stock ponds as regional detention basin(s)

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

12. New Tucson all-weather access issues at several crossings; undersized culverts at several crossings (Wentworth Road, Andrada Road, Sahuarita Road and internal road crossings)



- <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - *Maintain culverts, upgrade culvert size* There are approximately 15 RCB's at 2 locations and 24 existing culverts in this area which should be maintained or upgraded.
 - *Remove access points* There are approximately three (3) access points applicable to this alternative.

13. Impacts of stock ponds/diversion structures south of Sahuarita Road and New Tucson area

- <u>Non-Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Ensure maintenance, operation, study and analysis of stock ponds with future development – There are at least 10 stock ponds in this area to which this alternative could apply.
- <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Utilize stock ponds as regional detention basins There are 10 stock ponds which could be utilized as regional detention basins.



Cuprite/Fagan/Petty Ranch Area Recommended Alternative(s)

- 1. FICO Channel lacks capacity to convey flow north, breakout/flooding to west
 - <u>No Action Alternative</u>: The no action alternative was evaluated and determined to be the Recommended Alternative for this location

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

2. Sahuarita Road-all-weather access limited from east near Wentworth Road to Houghton

• <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>

- Collector/conveyance channels
- *Install Culverts* A total of 8 10' x 4' RCB's and 7-48 inch culverts at 7 locations were sized within this area.
- Maintain culverts, upgrade culvert size There are approximately 4 existing RCB's and 4-48 inch culverts in this area at 3 locations which should be maintained or upgraded.



- 3. Approximately 2 miles of Sahuarita Road Houghton Road to Rita Road alignment
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - *Install Culverts* A total of 27- 10' x 4' RCB's and 2-48 inch culverts at 8 locations were sized within this area.
 - *Maintain culverts, upgrade culvert size* There are approximately 5 existing culverts in this area which should be maintained or upgraded.

4. Houghton Road-all-weather access limited from north

- Non-Structural Alternatives:
 - Automatic barricade control This alternative would require the installation of 2 automatic barricades to prevent vehicles from entering flooded roadway.
- <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Install Culverts A total of 33- 10' x 4' RCB's and 21-48 inch culvertswere sized within this area.
 - Maintain culverts, upgrade culvert size There are approximately eight (8) culverts in this area which should be maintained or upgraded.



5. Houghton, Sahuarita Area--flooding/erosion issues

• <u>No Action Alternative</u>: The no action alternative was evaluated and determined to be the Recommended Alternative for this location.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

Sycamore Canyon & Gunnery Range Area Recommended Alternative(s)

- 1. Sahuarita Road-Rita Road alignment to Nogales Highway
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Install Culverts A total of 56- 10' x 4' RCB's and 13-48 inch culverts at 16 locations were sized within this area.
 - Maintain culverts, upgrade culvert size There are approximately 10 existing culverts and 6 RCB's at 2 locations in this area which should be maintained or upgraded.

- 2. Undersized/clogged culverts in Sycamore Canyon Estates south of Sahuarita Road
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - *Maintain culverts, upgrade culvert size* There are approximately 9



existing culverts in this area which should be maintained or upgraded.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

- 3. Complaints about integrity of berm along Columbus Boulevard, north of Dawson, east of Irving
 - <u>No Action Alternative</u>: The effects of taking no action should be evaluated for use as a baseline for any action alternative.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

4. Sahuarita, Delgado, Dawson: FICO channel--lack of capacity/sedimentation causes residential flooding

- <u>Non-Structural Alternatives</u>:
 - *Floodprone Land Acquisition Program (FLAP)* Approximately 141 structures can participate in the FLAP in this area.
- <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - *Regional detention basin* The two facilities evaluated at this location would require about 154 acres to meet design criteria.
 - *Maintain FICO channel* The subject channel is approximately 7000 feet in length.



Summit Area Detailed Drainage Mitigation Study

One of the more intensely developed areas is located within the northwest portion of the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study project area along the Nogales Highway corridor, and is generally known as the Summit area. This area is situated within the downstream reach of the Franco Wash, and represents about a two-square mile residential area bounded by Old Vail Connection Road and the Singing Cactus Lane alignment along the north and south, respectively, and the Country Club Road alignment and Nogales Highway along the east and west. The Summit Wash impacts the southern portion of the area. There are a few small platted subdivisions within the area along with a limited number of County-maintained roads, however, the vast majority of the development within the area are unplatted subdivisions and lots. Many of the existing drainage problems reported within the LMWBMS project area are experienced within the above-referenced unrecorded subdivisions. Given the nature of flooding issues within the area, a more detailed study of the hydrology and hydraulics was authorized by the PCRFCD as part of the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study in order to evaluate the potential of developing site-specific drainage solutions. A summary of these efforts is presented in the following discussion.

The intent of the study was to identify local watersheds that generate peak flows in excess of 100 cfs, the threshold defined by Pima County ordinance for regulatory 100-year floodplains. Since the Summit area is generally bisected by the Franco Wash from southeast to northwest and the Summit Wash flows along the southern section, many of the subareas identified with these efforts were generally small tributary drainage areas flanking either side of these main washes. Additional areas that discharge east toward Nogales Highway, as well as a larger tributary to Franco Wash (north of the main Franco flow corridor) comprise the remainder of the watershed area impacting the Summit residential areas. A summary discussion of the Summit Area study is provided in the LMWBMS Summary report with detailed Hydrology and Hydraulic data included.



Upon identification of watershed areas that generate peak flows meeting the regulatory threshold, hydraulic models were developed to determine local regulatory 100-year floodplains within the Summit area. A map was generated displaying these floodplain areas, as well as the regional floodplains for Franco Wash and Summit Wash developed with the LMWBMS. Based on the data developed with this study, along with review of drainage complaints and information gathered from meetings with residents, potential drainage solutions to specific localized flooding areas were developed. The primary recommended alternatives involved grading and/or clearing specific drainage paths in order to provide positive drainage through the identified areas, as well as maintenance or upgrading of existing drainage culverts.

The proposed conveyance swales would typically be 10-20 feet wide with a depth of about one foot, and would convey flows associated with the smaller, frequent storms in a westerly, northwesterly direction through the developed areas. Maps of the proposed location and alignments of the conceptual improvements were generated, and are included in the Technical Appendices (Stantec, 2008c) associated with the LMWBMS Hydrologic and Hydraulic Report. The results of these efforts were presented to residents of the Summit area at public meetings. However, due to private ownership conflicts, it was determined that implementation of the proposed alternatives was not feasible at this time.

Specifically, the PCRFCD stipulated to the public at the beginning of the Summit Area Detailed Drainage Mitigation Study that the District would fund construction and maintenance of the local drainage improvements, but that residents must dedicate the necessary Right-of-Way or Easements without cost to the District. After numerous public and individual meetings an insufficient number residents were willing to dedicate the Right-of-Way or Easements, and therefore the local drainage improvements identified in the Summit Area Detailed Drainage Mitigation Study were not included as part of the Existing Condition Recommended Alternatives for the LMWBMS.



RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE(S) OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS (Future Conditions)

The Recommended Alternative(s) are organized into the four Planning Areas of the project with specific sites in each planning area. The Planning Areas (in capital letters) and problem sites within each planning area (designated numerically) are as follows:

LMWBMS Area-Wide Problem Area

- 1. Develop Backbone Drainage Infrastructure
- 2. Identify and Disclose Flood Hazard Information

Franco/Flato/Summit Area Problem Area

- 1. 50% of Wilmot Road & Kolb Road alignments are impacted by defined floodplain areas
- 2. Country Club Road alignment impacted by main flow corridors of Franco Wash and Flato Wash
- 3. Intersection at Dawn Road & I-10 located within floodprone area

Cuprite/Fagan/Petty Ranch Area Problem Area

- 1. Proposed Dawn Road alignment swings south into flood hazard area, +/- 1/3 mile flow depths >0.5 foot
- 2. 60-65% of proposed Wilmot Road & Rita Road alignments impacted by defined floodplain areas
- 3. Swan Road Alignment--situated within sheet flow area north of Sahuarita Road
- 4. Pima Mine Road--from Houghton to Wilmot is within shallow sheet flow; divert flow to Cuprite watershed



5. Hook M Ranch property--40-50% of property impacted by shallow sheet flow

Sycamore Canyon & Gunnery Range Area Problem Area

- 1. Wilmot Road & Dawson Road proposed alignments situated in areas dominated by shallow sheet flow
- 2. Sycamore Canyon Blocks C-G--plan platted, currently undeveloped; flood hazard areas fairly contained

A brief description of the problem and overview of the Recommended Alternatives for each of the sites follows.

LMWBMS Area-Wide Recommended Alternative

- 1. Develop Backbone Drainage Infrastructure
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Delineate and preserve flow corridors There are 6,674 acres of Flow Corridor and 10,090 acres of potential reclaimed floodplain in this area.
 - *Regional detention basins* There are 9 basins identified with a total of 925 acres needed.
 - <u>Non-Structural Alternatives</u>:
 - Development Criteria Uniform Development Criteria, a regulatory tool for all jurisdictions and are specific to the conditions within the LMWBMS are needed.



There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

2. Identify and Disclose Flood Hazard Information.

- <u>Non-Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Delineate additional FEMA floodplains Approximately 333 stream miles could be delineated for adoption as FEMA floodplains.
 - Public Education and Outreach While this can't be quantified, the effects of the dissemination of information should be measured in reference to reaching the goals being evaluated.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

Franco/Flato/Summit Area Recommended Alternative(s)

- 1. 50% of Wilmot Road & Kolb Road alignments are impacted by defined floodplain areas
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - *Realign Wilmot Road* Realignment will minimize the need for costly drainage structures while still providing traffic system continuity.



2. Country Club Road alignment impacted by main flow corridors of Franco Wash and Flato Wash

- <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Realign Country Club Road Realignment will minimize the need for costly drainage structures while still providing traffic system continuity.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

3. Intersection at Dawn Road & I-10 located within floodprone area

- <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - *Relocate intersection* Realocation will remove the intersection from the floodplain and thus eliminate the need for drainage structures while still providing traffic system continuity.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

Cuprite/Fagan/Petty Ranch Area Recommended Alternative

- 1. Proposed Dawn Road alignment swings south into flood hazard area, +/- 1/3 mile flow depths >0.5 foot
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - *Realign roadway* Realignment will minimize the need for costly drainage structures while still providing traffic system continuity.



- 2. 60-65% of proposed Wilmot Road & Rita Road alignments impacted by defined floodplain areas
 - o <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - *Realign Wilmot Road* Realignment will minimize the need for costly drainage structures while still providing traffic system continuity.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

- 3. Swan Road Alignment--situated within sheet flow area north of Sahuarita Road
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - *Remove roadway section* Removal will minimize the need for costly drainage structures while still providing traffic system continuity.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

4. Pima Mine Road--from Houghton to Wilmot is within shallow sheet flow; divert flow to Cuprite watershed



• <u>No Action Alternative</u>: The effects of taking no action was evaluated and determined to be the best alternative.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

- 5. Hook M Ranch property--40-50% of property impacted by shallow sheet flow
 - <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Delineate and preserve flow corridors Approximately 275 acres are needed for dedication as Flow Corridors and approximately 578 acres can be reclaimed from the floodplain.
 - Non-Structural Alternatives:
 - Development Criteria Uniform Development Criteria, a regulatory tool for all jurisdictions and are specific to the conditions within the LMWBMS are needed.

There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

Sycamore Canyon & Gunnery Range Area Recommended Alternative

1. Wilmot Road & Dawson Road proposed alignments situated in areas dominated by shallow sheet flow



• <u>No Action Alternative</u>: The effects of taking no action was evaluated and determined to be the best alternative.

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There was no negative feedback from the public regarding this component of the Recommended Alternatives.

2. Sycamore Canyon Blocks C-G--plan platted, currently undeveloped; flood hazard areas fairly contained

- <u>Structural Alternatives:</u>
 - Delineate and preserve flow corridors Maintaining the platted drainage easements will provide for sufficient benefit for the backbone drainage system.
- <u>Non-Structural Alternatives</u>:
 - Development Criteria Uniform Development Criteria, a regulatory tool for all jurisdictions and are specific to the conditions within the LMWBMS are needed.

	Table A Recommended Alternatives Summary – Existing Conditions						
SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT PARTICIPATION		MECHANISM	TIMELINE	
AREA WIDE ALTERNATIVES							
 25 drainage complaints within unplatted areas north of Sahuarita Road; 60% related to access and flooding issues. 							
a. Floodproofing	\$180,000	PCRFCD	Residential Flood Protection	In-House Engineering/Cost Share Funding	Operating Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11	
		Homeowners	Residential Flood Protection	Cost Share Funding	Individual and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11	
2. 20 drainage complaints along Wilmot corridor unplatted areas; 35% related to access and flooding issues.							
a. Floodproofing	\$510,000	PCRFCD	Residential Flood Protection	Cost Share Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11	
		Homeowners	Residential Flood Protection	Funding	Individual and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11	
3. 35 drainage complaints within unplatted areas east of Wilmot Road; 40% related to access issues							
a. Floodproofing	\$240,000	PCRFCD	Residential Flood Protection	In-House Engineering/Cost Share Funding	Operating Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11	
		Homeowners	Residential Flood Protection	Funding	Individual and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11	
4. Existing Stock Pond/Diversion Structures							
a. Ensure maintenance & operation of stock ponds/diversion structures; study & analysis with future development	\$2,625,000	PCRFCD	BMS	Planning	PDD Budget	After FY10/11	

SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT	PARTICIPATION	MECHANISM	TIMELINE
		DEVELOPERS	Component of Backbone or other Funding Drainage System		Development Budget	After FY10/11
		ASLD	Grazing Permitee Improvement	No Cost Permitting or Easements or Permitee Contribution	Operations Budget	After FY10/11
5. Enhance Public Education and Outreach						
a. Public Education and outreach	\$30,000	PCRFCD	Flooding Education/CRS Credits	Funding	PDD Budget	Before June 2011
6. Flooding within unplatted residential areas						
a. Improvement District		PCRFCD	BMS	Planning	PDD Budget	After FY10/11
		RESIDENTS	Bring Infrastructure to Standard for Maintenance	Individual Funding	Individual Property Tax	After FY10/11
FRANCO/FLATO/SUMMIT AREA						
 Old Vail Road Franco Wash 100-yr flow depth 7-8 feet 						
a. Automatic Barricade Control	\$300,000	PCRFCD	Public Safety	Cost Share Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
		PC/COT DOT	Traffic Safety	Cost Share Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
b. Culvert	\$1,718,750	PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
		PCRFCD	Public Safety	Cost Share Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11

	SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT	PARTICIPATION	MECHANISM	TIMELINE
2.	Summit Street Franco Wash 100-yr flow depth 3-4 ft						
	a. Automatic Barricade Control	\$300,000	PCRFCD	Public Safety	Funding CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant		After FY10/11
			PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Cost Share Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
3.	Flooding along Franco Washpotential flooding of 45-50 structures within Summit Area						
	a. Public Education and Outreach	\$30,000	PCRFCD	Flooding Education/CRS Credits	Funding	PDD Budget	Before June 2011
4.	Flooding along Summit Washpotential flooding of 30-35 structures from County Club to Nogales Highway						
	a. Public Education and Outreach	\$30,000	PCRFCD	Flooding Education/CRS Credits	Funding	PDD Budget	Before June 2011
	b. Regional detention basin	\$513,110	PCRFCD	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Funding	CIP Budget, Bond and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
			DEVELOPERS	Component of Backbone or other Drainage System	Funding	Development Agreement	After FY10/11
			OTHER JURISDICTION	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Cost share Funding	IGA	After FY10/11
5.	Additional flooding along Franco Tributary south of Old Vail Road						
	a. Public Education and Outreach	\$30,000	PCRFCD	Flooding Education/CRS Credits	Funding	PDD Budget	Before June 2011

SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT	PARTICIPATION	MECHANISM	TIMELINE
b. Regional detention basin	\$578,920	PCRFCD	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Funding	CIP Budget, Bond and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
		DEVELOPERS	Component of Backbone or other Drainage System	Funding	Development Agreement	After FY10/11
		OTHER JURISDICTION	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Cost share Funding	IGA	After FY10/11
. Flooding along Flato at Old Nogales Hwy						
a. Public Education and Outreach	\$30,000	PCRFCD	Flooding Education/CRS Credits	Funding	PDD Budget	Before June 2011
b. FLAP	\$1,482,000	PCRFCD	Remove Repetitive Loss Properties from Floodplain	Funding	PCRFCD Budget	After FY10/11
Maintenance of Lee Moore Channel Bank Protection/Bank Erosion						
a. Bank Stabilization	\$3,445,200	PCRFCD	Protect Residents and Property from Channel Erosion	Funding	CIP Budget, Bond and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
Franco Wash at Houghton Road: +/-1000 ft, depth >1ft						
a. Automatic Barricade Control	\$300,000	PCRFCD	Public Safety	Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
		PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Cost Share Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
b. Culvert	\$1,093,750	PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
		PCRFCD	Public Safety	Cost Share Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11

	SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT	PARTICIPATION
9.	Flato Wash at Houghton Roaddepth>1ft				
	a. Automatic Barricade Control	\$300,000	PCRFCD	Public Safety	Funding
			PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Cost Share Funding
	b. Culvert	\$3,125,000	PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Funding
			PCRFCD	Public Safety	Cost Share Funding
10.	Stock ponds upstream of Wentworth/I-10 interchangepotential flooding at interchange with failure				
	a. stock ponds/diversion structures; study & analysis with future development	\$200,000	DEVELOPER	Component of Backbone or other Drainage System	Funding
	b. Utilize as regional detention basins	\$2,611,000	PCRFCD	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Funding
			DEVELOPERS	Component of Backbone or other Drainage System	Funding
			OTHER JURISDICTION	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Cost share Funding
11.	Stock Ponds/diversions along Flato main corridor potential diversion of flow north into Franco watershed				
	a. stock ponds/diversion structures; study & analysis with future development	\$75,000	DEVELOPER	Component of Backbone or other Drainage System	Funding

MECHANISM	TIMELINE
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
Development Agreement	After FY10/11
CIP Budget, Bond and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
Development Agreement	After FY10/11
IGA	After FY10/11

Development Agreement

After FY10/11
	SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT	PARTICIPATION
	b. Utilize as regional detention basins	\$979,125	PCRFCD	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Funding
			DEVELOPERS	Component of Backbone or other Drainage System	Funding
			OTHER JURISDICTION	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Cost share Funding
40					
12.	New Tucson all-weather access issues at several crossings; undersized culverts at several crossings				
	a. Maintain culverts, upgrade culvert size	\$2,415,750	PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Funding
	b. Close access points	\$545,600	PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Funding
			PCRFCD	Public Safety	Cost share Funding
13.	Impacts of stock ponds/diversion structures south of				
	Sahuarita Road and New Tucson area				
	a. stock ponds/diversion structures; study & analysis with future development	\$250,000	DEVELOPER	Component of Backbone or other Drainage System	Funding
	b. Utilize as regional detention basins	\$3,263,750	PCRFCD	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Funding
			DEVELOPERS	Component of Backbone or other Drainage System	Funding

MECHANISM	TIMELINE
CIP Budget, Bond and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
Development Agreement	After FY10/11
IGA	After FY10/11

CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Budget, Bond and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
Development Agreement	After FY10/11
Development Agreement CIP Budget, Bond and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11 After FY10/11

SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT	PARTICIPATION	MECHANISM	TIMELINE
		OTHER JURISDICTION	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Cost share Funding	IGA	After FY10/11
CUPRITE/FAGAN/PETTY RANCH AREA ALTERNATIVES						
 FICO Channel lacks capacity to convey flow north, breakout/flooding to west 						
a. No Action		N/A				
2. Sahuarita Road-all-weather access limited from east near Wentworth Road to Houghton						
a. Culverts	\$1,306,875	RTA	Traffic Safety as Part of Regional Transportation Corridor	Funding	CIP Funding	After FY10/11
		PCRFCD	Public Safety	Cost share Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
		PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Cost share Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
b. Maintain culverts, upgrade culvert size	\$357,000	PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Funding	CIP & Maintenance Budget	After FY10/11
		PCRFCD	Public Safety	Cost share Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
Approx. 2 miles of Sahuarita Road - Houghton Road to Rita Road alignment						
a. Culverts	\$4,235,000	RTA	Traffic Safety as Part of Regional Transportation Corridor	Funding	CIP Funding	After FY10/11
		PCRFCD	Public Safety	Cost share Funding	CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11

SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT	PARTICIPATION
		PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Cost share Funding
b. Maintain culverts, upgrade culvert size	\$15,000	RTA	Traffic Safety as Part of Regional Transportation Corridor	Funding
		PCRFCD	Public Safety	Cost share Funding
		PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Cost share Funding
4. Houghton Road-all-weather access limited from north				
a. Automatic Barricade Control	\$300,000	PCRFCD	Public Safety	Funding
		PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Cost Share Funding
b. Provide all weather access	\$6,658,596	RTA	Traffic Safety as Part of Regional Transportation Corridor	Funding
		PCDOT	Public Safety	Cost share Funding
		PCRFCD	Traffic Safety	Cost share Funding
c. Culverts	\$5,326,875	RTA	Traffic Safety as Part of Regional Transportation Corridor	Funding
		PCDOT	Public Safety	Cost share Funding
		PCRFCD	Traffic Safety	Cost share Funding

MECHANISM	TIMELINE
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Funding	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11

CIP Budget	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Funding	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Funding	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11

	SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT	PARTICIPATION
5.	Houghton, Sahuarita Areaflooding/erosion issues				
	a. No Action		N/A		
v	CAMORE CANYON & GUNNERY RANGE AREAS ALTER				
	CAMORE CANTON & GONNERT RANGE AREAS ALTER	NATIVES			
•	Sahuarita Road-Rita Road alignment to Nogales hwy				
	a. Culverts	\$8,855,625	RTA	Traffic Safety as Part of Regional Transportation Corridor	Funding
			PCRFCD	Public Safety	Cost share Funding
			PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Cost share Funding
	b. Maintain culverts, upgrade culvert size	\$967,500	RTA	Traffic Safety as Part of Regional Transportation Corridor	Funding
			PCRFCD	Public Safety	Cost share Funding
			PCDOT	Traffic Safety	Cost share Funding
I	Undersized/clogged culverts in Sycamore Canyon Estates south of Sahuarita Road				
	a. Maintain culverts, upgrade culvert size	\$27,000	PCDOT	Traffic Safety	CIP Funding
			PCRFCD	Public Safety	Cost share Funding

LEE MOORE WASH BASIN MANAGEMENT STUDY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

MECHANISM

TIMELINE

CIP Funding	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Funding	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
CIP Budget and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11

	SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT	PARTICIPATION
	a. No Action		N/A		
4.	Sahuarita, Delgado, Dawson: FICO channellack of capacity/sedimentation causes residential flooding				
	a. FLAP	\$23,062,806	PCRFCD	Remove Repetitive Loss Properties from Floodplain	Funding
	b. Regional detention basins	\$14,881,300	PCRFCD	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Funding
			DEVELOPERS	Component of Backbone or other Drainage System	Funding
			OTHER JURISDICTION	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Cost share Funding
	c. Construct 100-year channel	\$2,541,000	PCRFCD	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Funding
			DEVELOPERS	Component of Backbone or other Drainage System	Funding
			OTHER JURISDICTION	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Cost share Funding

MECHANISM	TIMELINE
PCRFCD Budget	After FY10/11
CIP Budget, Bond and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
Development Agreement	After FY10/11
IGA	After FY10/11
CIP Budget, Bond and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
Development Agreement	After FY10/11
IGA	After FY10/11

	Table BRe	ecommended Alte	rnatives Summary – Fu	ture Conditions		
SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT	PARTICIPATION	MECHANISM	TIMELINE
REA WIDE ALTERNATIVES						
Develop Backbone Drainage Infrastructure						
a. Delineate and preserve flow corridors	\$504,500,000	All Agencies and Developers	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Regulatory Preservation Requirement	Resolution and/or Special Area Plan	FY10/11
						After FY10/11
b. Regional detention basins	\$127,692,675	PCRFCD	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Funding	CIP Budget, Bond and /or Federal Grant	After FY10/11
		DEVELOPERS	Component of Backbone or other Drainage System	Funding	Development Agreement	After FY10/11
		OTHER JURISDICTION	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Cost share Funding	IGA	After FY10/11
c. Development Criteria	No cost	All Agencies and Developers	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Regulatory Development Requirement	Resolution and/or Ordinance	FY10/11
Identify and Disclose Flood Hazard Information						
a. Delineate additional FEMA floodplains	\$1,665,000	PCRFCD	Hazard Delineation	Regulatory Development Requirement	RFCD Operating Budget	After FY10/11
b. Public Education and Outreach	\$30,000	PCRFCD	Flooding Education/CRS Credits	Funding	PDD Budget	FY10/11

	SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT	PARTICIPATION
FR	ANCO/FLATO/SUMMIT AREA				
1.	50% of Wilmot Road & Kolb Road alignments are impacted by defined floodplain areas				
	a. Realign Wilmot Road	(\$606,061)	PAG/RTA/PCDO T/COTDOT	Keeps Roadway out of Floodplain	Southeast Arterial study Revision
2.	Country Club Road alignment impacted by main flow corridors of Franco Wash and Flato Wash				
	a. Realign Country Club Road	(\$1,060,606)	PAG/RTA/PCDO T/COTDOT	Keeps Roadway out of Floodplain	Southeast Arterial study Revision
3.	Intersection at Dawn Road & I-10 located within floodprone area				
	a. Relocate intersection	\$1,136,364	PCDOT	Keeps Roadway out of Floodplain	Funding
CUPRITE/FAGAN/PETTY RANCH AREA ALTERNATIVES					
CU	PRITE/FAGAN/PETTY RANCH AREA ALTERNATIVES				
CU 1.					
	Proposed Dawn Road alignment swings south into	(\$757,576.00)	PAG/RTA/PCDO T/COTDOT	Keeps Roadway out of Floodplain	Southeast Arterial study Revision
	Proposed Dawn Road alignment swings south into flood hazard area, +/- 1/3 mile flow depths >0.5ft a. Realign roadway	(\$757,576.00)		• •	•
1.	Proposed Dawn Road alignment swings south into flood hazard area, +/- 1/3 mile flow depths >0.5ft a. Realign roadway 60-65% of proposed Wilmot Road & Rita Road	(\$757,576.00) (\$3,030,303)		• •	•



	SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT	PARTICIPATION		
	a. Remove roadway section	(\$10,984,848)	RTA	Keeps Roadway out of Floodplain	Southeast Arterial study Revision		
4.	Pima Mine Roadfrom Houghton to Wilmot is within shallow sheet flow; divert flow to Cuprite watershed						
	a. No Action	NA					
5.	Hook M Ranch property40-50% of property impacted by shallow sheet flow						
	a. Delineate and preserve flow corridors	\$28,900,000	All Agencies and Developers	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Regulatory Preservation Requirement		
	b. Development Criteria	No cost	All Agencies and Developers	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Regulatory Development Requirement		
SY	SYCAMORE CANYON & GUNNERY RANGE AREAS ALTERNATIVES						
1.	Wilmot Road & Dawson Road proposed alignments situated in areas dominated by shallow sheet flow a. No Action	NA					

 Sycamore Canyon Blocks C-G--plan platted, currently undeveloped; flood hazard areas fairly contained MECHANISM

TIMELINE

RTA Budget

After FY10/11

Resolution and/or Ordinance

FY10/11

Resolution and/or Ordinance

FY10/11

	SITE(S)	TOTAL COST	PARTNER(S)	INTEREST/ BENEFIT	PARTICIPATION
a.	Delineate and preserve flow corridors	No cost	All Agencies and Developers	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Regulatory Preservation Requirement
b. Development Criteria		No cost	All Agencies and Developers	Component of Backbone Drainage System	Regulatory Development Requirement

MECHANISM

TIMELINE

Resolution and/or Ordinance

FY10/11

Resolution and/or Ordinance

FY10/11

Appendix A Pima County Flood Control District Board of Directors Resolution

RESOLUTION No. 2010 - FC 6

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RESOLUTION OF THE PIMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPTING THE LEE MOORE WASH BASIN MANAGEMENT STUDY

WHEREAS, the Arizona Legislature authorized the Pima County Flood Control District (District) to adopt floodplain management regulations designed to promote the public health, safety and general welfare pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.), Title 48, Section 48-3603 through 48-3627, and

WHEREAS, the District is authorized to delineate floodplains for areas where development is ongoing or imminent pursuant to A.R.S. Title 48, Section 48-3609, and

WHEREAS, the District is authorized to develop watercourse master plans and to adopt and enforce uniform rules for the river or drainage system pursuant to A.R.S. Title 48, Section 48-3609.01A, and

WHEREAS, the District in cooperation with the Pima County (County), City of Tucson (Tucson) and Town of Sahuarita (Sahuarita) initiated the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study to identify potential flood hazards, provide a comprehensive flood control protection program and develop floodplain management protocol while enhancing public safety, fiscal responsibility and habitat conservation through a balance multi-objective approach, and

WHEREAS, the District help open public meetings and stakeholder meetings to provide opportunity for the public to comment; and a public website so that interested members of the public could review and comment on all studies and reports generated for the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study, and

WHEREAS, the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study produced, for the County, Tucson, and Sahuarita, a common set of facts, flood hazard maps, implementation plan, and development criteria (Exhibit A) which can now serve as a resource to guide and manage development activities in the Study Area, and

WHEREAS, the Study is intended to provide guidance and regulatory authority to discourage development in flood prone areas by minimizing encroachments into regional floodplains, and establishing a watershed-wide "backbone" drainage system, primarily by employing a natural flow corridor concept (Exhibit B), and

WHEREAS, the Study provides for floodplain management guidance whereby lands within the regulatory floodplain including riparian habitat and erosion hazard areas will be

managed to preserve or enhance natural values and expressed environmental resource management goals.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PIMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS HEREBY:

- 1. Adopts the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study including the technical data, flood hazard maps, implementation plan and development criteria which will:
 - Ensure that regional planning for land use, water resources and infrastructure are integrated.
 - Provide a regional uniform and coordinated approach by the County, Tucson and Sahuarita.
 - Guide new development in the Study Area so that it is designed and located to promote public safety, protect the environment, and be economically and fiscally sustainable.
- 2. Directs District staff to continue to work with the County, Tucson and Sahuarita to implement the floodplain management recommendations and implementation plan in the Study.
- 3. Directs District staff to provide for the Board's consideration an amendment to the County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan providing Special Area Policies for the Lee Moore Basin to integrate floodplain management and environmental protection policies into the County's land use planning for the Study Area.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 1st day of June , 2010 by the Board of Directors of the Pima County Flood Control District, Pima, County, Arizona.

ATTEST:

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Lori Godoshian, Clerk of the Board

Approved as to form: Attorney

PIMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ramon Valadez, Chair JUN 0 1 2010

Recommended to the Board:

Suzanne Shields, Director Pima County Flood Control District

Appendix B City of Tucson Resolution

ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

October 19, 2010

RESOLUTION NO. 21641

RELATING TO PLANNING AND ZONING; AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE LEE MOORE WASH BASIN MANAGEMENT STUDY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUCSON, ARIZONA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study ("Study"), attached hereto as Exhibit A, which will be used to ensure that regional planning for land use, development, water resources, and infrastructure in the flood prone areas identified in the study are uniform is hereby adopted;

SECTION 2. The various City officers and employees are authorized and directed to perform all acts necessary or desirable to give effect to this resolution.

SECTION 3. WHEREAS, it is necessary for the preservation of the peace, health, and safety of the City of Tucson that this resolution immediately

{A0030204.DOC/}

become effective, an emergency is declared to exist and this resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY THE Mayor and Council of the City of Tucson, Arizona, October 19, 2010.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS/TO FORM: CITY ATTORNEY V

REVIEWED BY:

CITY MANAGER

VRW:tl 10/6/10

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{A0030204.DOC/}

Appendix C Town of Sahuarita Resolution

SAHUARITA RESOLUTION NO. 2010-237

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF SAHUARITA, ARIZONA, ADOPTING THE LEE MOORE WASH BASIN MANAGEMENT STUDY.

WHEREAS, the Arizona Legislature authorized the Pima County Flood Control District (District) to adopt floodplain management regulations designed to promote the public health, safety and general welfare pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.), Title 48, Section 48-3603 through 48-3627; and

WHEREAS, the District is authorized to delineate floodplains for areas where development is ongoing or imminent pursuant to A.R.S. Title 48, Section 48-3609; and

WHEREAS, the District is authorized to develop watercourse master plans and to adopt and enforce uniform rules for the river or drainage system pursuant to A.R.S. Title 48, Section 48-3609.01A; and

WHEREAS, the District in cooperation with Pima County (County), City of Tucson (Tucson) and Town of Sahuarita (Sahuarita) initiated the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study to identify potential flood hazards, provide a comprehensive flood control protection program and develop floodplain management protocol while enhancing public safety, fiscal responsibility and habitat conservation through a balanced multi-objective approach; and

WHEREAS, the District held open public meetings and stakeholder meetings to provide opportunities for the public to comment, and a public website so that interested members of the public could review and comment on all studies and reports generated for the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study; and

WHEREAS, the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study produced, for the County, Tucson and Sahuarita, a common set of facts, flood hazard maps, implementation plan, and development criteria which can now serve as a resource to guide and manage development activities in the Study Area; and

WHEREAS, the Study is intended to provide guidance and regulatory authority to discourage development in flood prone areas by minimizing encroachments into regional

Sahuarita, Arizona, Resolution No. 2010-237

floodplains, and establishing a watershed-wide "backbone" drainage system, primarily by employing a natural flow corridor concept; and

WHEREAS, the Study provides for floodplain management guidance whereby lands within the regulatory floodplain including riparian habitat and erosion hazard areas will be managed to preserve or enhance natural values and expressed environmental resource management goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Sahuarita, Arizona, as follows:

- Section 1. The Town hereby adopts the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study including the technical data, flood hazard maps, implementation plan and development criteria which will:
 - **a.** Ensure that regional planning for land use, water resources and infrastructure are integrated.
 - **b.** Provide a regional uniform and coordinated approach by the County, Tucson and Sahuarita.
 - **c.** Guide a new development in the Study Area so that it is designed and located to promote public safety, protect the environment, and be economically and fiscally sustainable.
- Section 2. The Town directs Town staff to continue to work with the County, District, and Tucson to implement the floodplain management recommendations and implementation plan in the Study.
- Section 3. The Town directs Town staff to provide for the Town's consideration of an amendment to the Town's General Plan providing Special Area Policies for the Lee Moore Basin to integrate floodplain management and environmental protection policies into the Town's land use planning for the Study Area.
- Section 4. The various Town officers and employees are authorized and directed to perform all acts necessary or desirable to give effect to this Resolution and sections of the Town Code.
- Section 5. All ordinances, resolutions, or motions and parts of ordinances, resolutions or motions of the Council in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed, effective as of the effective date of this Resolution. All internal references within the Town Code to any affected provision are hereby updated.
- Section 6. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Resolution is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Sahuarita, Arizona, this 13th day of December, 2010.

Mayor Lynne Skelton

ATTEST:

Vicky Mieł MMC

Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Daniel J. Hochuli

Town Attorney

Appendix D Arizona State Land Department Letter of Concurrence

ARIZONA STATE **LAND DEPARTMENT**

Janice K. Brewer Governor

Maria Baier State Land Commissioner

March 17, 2010

Suzanne Shields, PE Chief Engineer Pima County Regional Flood Control District 97 East Congress, 3rd Floor Tucson, AZ 85701

RE: Concurrence Letter for the Development Criteria for the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study

Dear Ms. Shields:

The Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) has evaluated and been included in the process of the creation of the *Development Criteria for the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study (DCLMW)*, which is development criteria that will used by developers, land owners, utility companies, and governmental agencies to develop and construct in a way to mitigate flood impacts within the Lee Moore Wash Basin area.

ASLD will cooperate, to the extent permissible, with the Pima County Flood Control District (PCFCD) in the development and implementation of the DCLMW for planning State Trust Land (STL) within the Lee Moore Wash Basin study area.

Sincerely,

James L. Adams Director Real Estate Division Arizona State Land Department

 c: Lillian Moodey, Manager, Planning and Engineering Section, Real Estate Division, ASLD
 Mike Farley, Planning and Engineering Section, Real Estate Division, ASLD
 Tim Bolton, Planning and Engineering Section, Real Estate Division, ASLD

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Appendix E Development Criteria

DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA for the LEE MOORE WASH BASIN MANAGEMENT STUDY

Adopted by Pima County June 1, 2010

Adopted by the City of Tucson October 19, 2010

Adopted by the Town of Sahuarita December 13, 2010









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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background & Applicability

Historically, Arizona communities have developed floodplain-management measures such as floodplain ordinances, drainage ordinances, and development standards intended to mitigate the flood impacts of urbanization. If these measures are not adequate or are not adequately enforced, the consequences may include flooding of homes and businesses, displacement of existing natural flood flows, increased flood depths and flow velocities, and flooding of lands previously not in a floodplain. Adverse impacts of urbanization on drainage often include the following:

- a. <u>More Frequent Flooding.</u> As the land area within a watershed is urbanized, less rainfall infiltrates into the ground and more rainfall becomes runoff. This results in more frequent runoff events and increased nuisance flooding.
- b. <u>Larger Flood Peaks.</u> The change from natural, pervious land surfaces to urbanized, impervious surfaces also causes the size of floods to increase, as more runoff is generated within, and emanates from, the watershed. Urbanized watersheds generate not only larger flood peaks, but also larger flood volumes and floods of longer duration, both of which increase flood damages. As flood peaks increase with urbanization, existing drainage structures may become inadequate and have a greater risk of failure.
- c. Loss of Natural and Beneficial Floodplain Functions. Natural floodplains provide important sociological, as well environmental and hydrologic benefits. These sociological benefits include continuous linear open space, visual and aesthetic beauty, multi-sensory relief from pervasive constructed hardscapes, and a sense of community character tied to the natural setting. These environmental and hydrologic benefits include sustaining system sediment balance and riparian areas, thus avoiding man-made erosion and loss-of-wildlife issues.



- d. <u>Scour and Erosion.</u> Because more land area is covered by homes, streets and landscaping as a watershed urbanizes, the natural sediment supply to streams is decreased, which causes floods to be more erosive. This erosion leads to increasing the risk of property damage due to riverine bank erosion, scour damage to bridges, and adverse impacts to flood-control facilities and natural river habitat.
- e. <u>Flow Diversion</u>. Lack of managing development can lead to blockage of natural flow paths, diverting runoff toward areas that were previously not flooded.
- f. <u>Flow Concentration.</u> Development in riverine or distributary flow floodplains blocks natural overland flow paths, concentrating runoff through narrower conveyance corridors. Flow concentration leads to larger flood peaks, higher flow velocities, and accelerated scour and erosion.
- g. <u>Expanded Floodplains.</u> Larger flood peaks and more flow diversions increase floodwater elevations and expand floodplain widths, inundating properties previously safe from flooding, thus increasing the number of homes and business at risk from future flood damage.
- h. <u>Reduced Surface Storage.</u> Reducing surface storage area by grading and/or erecting structures within former ponding and flood-prone areas increases both the peak flow and the volume of runoff generated by a given storm, and may also result in a loss of vegetation that further increases runoff rates.
- i. <u>Decreased Groundwater Recharge.</u> Increased areas of impervious surfaces in an urbanized watershed inhibit groundwater recharge and reduce soil moisture, with adverse consequences to long-term water supply, subsidence, and vegetation.
- j. <u>Loss of Riparian Habitat.</u> Increased erosion due to increased flood peaks and reduced sediment supply leads to degraded habitat along river corridors, with adverse impacts to wildlife and public recreation.



In order to protect private and public property, as well as the health and general welfare of the public, naturally occurring flood hazards and potential flood hazards related to development need to be identified, and appropriate standards applied to safely manage new development.

Development Criteria are a work product of a Basin Management Study (BMS). This study includes a hydrologic assessment of the watershed, identifies potential flood-prone areas and drainage problems, and offers alternatives to mitigate flooding and related impacts of urbanization within a watershed. A key part of this BMS includes identification of new development criteria. Adherence to these development criteria will substantially lessen the adverse impacts of urbanization and will decrease the cost of mitigating flooding for the public and private sectors.

Development of this BMS included compiling information, identifying and analyzing alternatives, and selecting Recommended Alternatives (RA). The RA contain both structural solutions (such as basins, culverts, and channels) and non-structural solutions (such as development criteria, flood warning system, and property acquisition).

The Lee Moore Wash study area is located in the southeast portion of Pima County, and includes a portion of the City of Tucson and the Town of Sahuarita. The northern half of the study area lies predominantly within the incorporated limits of the City of Tucson. A small area in the southwestern portion of the study area lies within the bounds of the Town of Sahuarita. The majority of the central study area is located within unincorporated Pima County. Approximately the southern two-thirds of the Lee Moore Wash watershed are characterized by distributary flooding. Much of this area is undeveloped.

Counties and cities generally have what many consider adequate authority to regulate residential subdivisions, multi-family, industrial and commercial projects, and address potential flooding and related impacts on adjacent properties. Unlike cities, however, counties lack the regulatory authority to adequately manage lot splits (i.e., those exempt from subdivision and/or other improvement requirements due to the small number of lots involved). Although impacts from lot-split development may appear relatively insignificant on an individual lot-by-lot basis, the cumulative impacts over the long term may be significant.



Over the past few decades the County has been managing floodplain areas it has become apparent that there is a lack of tools to adequately manage individual lot development, especially lots located within distributary flow areas. As part of this BMS, it was determined that Development Criteria focused on single-family development on individual lots, standard subdivisions and/or large master-planned developments could reduce flood- and erosion-related damage within the Lee Moore Wash watershed.

Approximately 48 percent of the Study area is owned by the state of Arizona and managed by the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD). ASLD manages lands in compliance with the State Enabling Act, the Arizona Constitution, and with Arizona Revised Statutes Title 37, which all require that State Trust Lands be managed in the best interests of the designated State Trust beneficiaries. As such, certain elements of the Development Criteria presented herein may not have the same regulatory compliance authority with regard to State Trust Lands as they do to land owned by others. Nevertheless, the principles, policies, and practices contained within these Development Criteria provide a useful method for insuring a consistent and comprehensive approach to floodplain management within the Study area. Therefore, it is in the best interest of all land owners and jurisdictions to comply with these Development Criteria to the fullest extent possible.

1.2 Implementation

Implementation of these Development Criteria are addressed in Volume 3 of the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study.

1.3 Objectives

The Lee Moore Wash BMS identifies flooding and erosion hazards in the study area and recommends alternatives to mitigate those hazards. Both structural and non-structural measures are incorporated into the recommended alternatives to address drainage and flooding problems. The Development Criteria are one of the non-structural components of the recommended alternatives. General objectives of the Development Criteria are as follows.



- 1.3.1 General Objectives
 - a. Enhance public safety by guiding development in the watershed to protect current and future residents from flood and erosion related impacts.
 - b. Reduce adverse drainage and related impacts due to development in the watershed by guiding activities of residents so that future runoff into the Santa Cruz River is maintained at current conditions to preclude negative impacts to downstream and upstream neighbors.
 - c. Guide future development in a manner consistent with the recommended alternatives of the Lee Moore Wash BMS.
- 1.3.2 Specific Objectives

The following specific objectives were established to guide the development of the recommended Development Criteria, as presented herein, and their implementation.

- a. Use existing aerial photography, topographic data, and GIS database resources to the maximum extent possible.
- b. Use available resources and the work products of the BMS, including floodplain delineations, geomorphic evaluation, stakeholder involvement, public involvement and identification of drainage problems, to enhance the suitability and applicability of the Development Criteria.
- c. Provide the citizenry with as much upfront information as possible about the process and permit requirements in order to minimize cost and time investments for all parties.
- d. Allow for maximum flexibility in the review process so that Floodplain Use Permit applicants may proceed with single-lot and subdivision development, and may incorporate drainage features that do not explicitly meet the Development Criteria established herein—provided plans for such features are designed and sealed by a registered professional engineer and reviewed and approved by the local floodplain management



agency having jurisdiction.

- e. Utilize Development Criteria consistent and compatible with existing statutes, ordinances, and regulations.
- f. Limit the use of Development Criteria to those criteria necessary to address problems in the Lee Moore Wash watershed which are not adequately addressed by existing Floodplain or Drainage Regulations.

The proposed Development Criteria for the Lee Moore Wash BMS are consistent with the general and specific objectives set forth above.

1.4 Authority

The authority for counties, cities, and towns in Arizona to manage floodplains within their respective jurisdictions is authorized by the state of Arizona. Applicable state statutes providing for the use of Development Criteria by local governments are summarized below.

Arizona Revised Statutes (Excerpted)

- a. ARS 11-251.36. Subject to the prohibitions, restrictions and limitations as set forth in section 11-830, adopt and enforce standards for excavation, landfill and grading to prevent unnecessary loss from erosion, flooding and landslides.
- b. ARS 48-2664.D. The Board may adopt equitable by-laws, rules and regulations and perform all acts necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.
- c. ARS 48-3609.B. Except as provided in section 48-3610, the board shall adopt and enforce regulations governing floodplains and floodplain management in its area of jurisdiction which shall include the following:
 - i. Regulations for all development of land, construction of residential, commercial or industrial structures or uses of any kind which may divert, retard or obstruct floodwater and threaten public health or safety or the general welfare.



d. ARS 48-3609.01.A. If a district organized pursuant to this chapter has completed a watercourse master plan which includes one or more watercourses, and if the plan has been adopted by the board and subsequently adopted by the other local jurisdiction(s) in that river or drainage system, then the board and the governing body of each jurisdiction may adopt and shall enforce uniform rules for the river or drainage system within the jurisdiction using criteria that meet or exceed criteria adopted by the director of water resources pursuant to section 48-3605, subsection A.

1.5 Summary

An analysis of the BMS area-development trends and regulatory options was conducted to identify specific issues not addressed by existing drainage and floodplain regulations. Based on that analysis, it was determined that singlefamily development on individual lots, as well as master-planned subdivisions, would benefit from Development Criteria formulated specifically for the Lee Moore Wash watershed.

Implementation of Development Criteria intended to reduce drainage, flood, and erosion hazards will lessen public expenditures for structural flood-control measures, will decrease the amount of maintenance needed for flood-control facilities, will complement riparian-habitat regulations, and will lessen the need to acquire public right-of-way for flood-control purposes. In addition, application of Development Criteria will reduce flood-damage potential to private and public property, as well as the need for public funding for flood mitigation and repair of flood damage.



SECTION 2: FLOOD-HAZARD AREAS

2.1 Overview

The Study Area is subject to two major types of Flood Hazards: Riverine and Distributary Flow. Riverine areas are concentrated in the northern part of the Lee Moore Wash watershed; while Distributary Flow areas are found in the central and southern portions of the watershed. Due to the difference in flood hazards associated with the two flooding types, the following Development Criteria are proposed.

2.2 Riverine Areas

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following criteria shall apply in the Study Area.

2.2.1 Criteria

- a. Floodplain delineations shall be conducted in conformance with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Guidelines, Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) State Standards, and local regulatory regulations. When development impacts non-FEMAdesignated floodplains, floodplain delineations will be for local floodplain management purposes only, and need not be submitted to or approved by FEMA.
- b. Development in FEMA-designated floodplains shall be governed by the most recent National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Regulations, ADWR State Standards, and any requirement by the local jurisdiction having authority. Anyone proposing development that alters a FEMA floodplain limit or base flood elevation is required by NFIP regulations to submit a Conditional Letter of Map Revision to FEMA for review and approval prior to construction, if appropriate. A Letter of Map Revision shall also be submitted to FEMA for review and approval prior to the Final Release of Assurances for subdivisions, and Certificate of Occupancy for Development Plans; but partial-assurance releases,



along with temporary Certificates of Occupancy, are allowable at the discretion of the local jurisdiction.

- c. Development in, or modification of, the floodplain is generally discouraged. Development should be located outside the 100-year floodplain wherever possible. If site characteristics require development within the floodplain, the floodplain modifications should be minimized in order to lessen impacts on the natural stormwater and sediment-transport capacity of the floodplain.
- d. The placement or development of critical facilities, as defined by FEMA, shall also be discouraged in the Riverine Floodplain of the Study Area.
- e. Changes to natural drainage patterns in the interior of individual properties should be avoided whenever possible. The point(s) where regulatory drainage enters and exits a parcel shall not be altered without the express written consent of all affected property owners and unless an engineering study demonstrating no adverse impacts to affected land parcels is submitted to and approved by the flood-control agency having jurisdiction.
- f. The lowest finished-floor elevation of all habitable structures (those structures which are constructed and permitted for human occupancy, whether on a full- or part-time basis) within a FEMA or other regulatory floodplain shall be at least one (1) foot above the highest natural adjacent grade. Highest natural adjacent grade is defined as the highest pre-construction/pre-grading ground elevation within the footprint of the proposed structure. For development within a floodplain, the minimum finished-floor elevation of all habitable structures shall be set to the regulatory flood elevation, which is one (1) foot above the base flood elevation.
- g. All development in a Regulatory Floodway shall comply with applicable local, state, and federal standards. A "Regulatory Floodway" means the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water-surface elevation by more than the



designated height as defined by the floodplain ordinance of the agency having jurisdiction.

- h. Encroachment means the advance of obstructive uses, such as fill, excavation, buildings, temporary or permanent structures or other development, into a floodplain, in a manner which may impede or alter the flow capacity of a floodplain. Encroachment is allowed only where it can be demonstrated by an engineering analysis that no long-term or short-term off-site impacts are expected to occur, that neighboring properties are not adversely affected, and that the encroachment is adequately protected from erosion and flooding hazards. Also, a long-term inspection and maintenance program must be adopted by the property owner and approved by the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction.
- i. The foundations of buildings constructed in the floodplain shall be protected against scour. Where floodplain or overbank flow is concentrated by development, the post-construction (full build-out) condition 100-year hydraulic data shall be used to establish the parameters for scour-protection design.
- j. Building sites shall be graded to direct nuisance runoff away from the building pad and building interior.
- k. Buildings constructed in riverine floodplains shall be aligned parallel to the primary flow direction in order to limit flow obstruction and allow for flow-path continuity.

2.2.2 Rationale

In the study area, riverine floodplains of watercourses with discharges greater than 100 cubic feet per second (cfs) are found along portions of the Franco, Flato, Summit, and Lee Moore washes. These watercourses include both the river channel and adjacent areas that are periodically inundated by floodwaters. For the purposes of these Development Criteria, a riverine floodplain only occurs along a defined stream channel.



Floodplain means any land area susceptible to being inundated by water from any source. A riverine floodplain exists along a river or linear watercourse.

Flood Hazard Zone means any land area located partially or wholly within a delineated floodplain that is susceptible to flood-related damage, as designated on the flood-management maps.

Regulatory Flood Elevation, which is an Arizona state standard, means an elevation one foot above the base flood elevation for a watercourse for which the base flood elevation has been determined. Base Flood Elevation means the water-surface elevation produced by a base flood, or one-hundred-year flood.

Certain riverine floodplains located within the area encompassing the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study area have been delineated on Flood Insurance Rate Maps or other flood-hazard maps published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and are referred to as **FEMA Floodplains**.

Some riverine floodplains in the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study area have been delineated by agencies, developers, or other parties; but have not been submitted, reviewed, or approved by FEMA. Per NFIP regulations, these floodplains may be used in the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study area as the best available information for floodplain-management purposes, which are based on local standards.

2.3 Distributary Flow Areas

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following criteria shall apply in the Study Area.

2.3.1 Criteria

- a. Development in, or modification of, the floodplain is generally discouraged. Development should be located outside the 100-year
- floodplain wherever possible. If site characteristics require that some development occur within the floodplain, the floodplain modifications should be the minimum possible to lessen impacts to the natural stormwater and sediment-transport capacity of the floodplain.


- b. Development in regulatory distributary flow areas should not concentrate flows or eliminate flow paths that change the flow rate or flow distribution on adjacent parcels.
- c. A drainage master plan is required for any subdivision plat or development plan located in distributary areas. The drainage master plan should demonstrate that the roadway network that serves the development has acceptable impacts relative to drainage patterns and runoff concentration. Drainage design in distributary flow areas shall limit the concentration of flows. Where flows are concentrated, appropriate scour protection shall be provided along the channel reach. Concentrated flows shall be returned to the natural distributary flow condition prior to exiting the property.
- d. Finished-floor elevations of all habitable structures (those structures constructed and permitted for human occupancy, whether on a full- or part-time basis) within a FEMA or other regulatory floodplain shall be at least (1) foot above the highest natural adjacent grade. Highest natural adjacent grade is defined as the highest pre-construction/pre-grading ground elevation within the footprint of the proposed structure. For development within a floodplain, the minimum finished-floor elevation of all habitable structures shall be at least one (1) foot above the regulatory flood elevation, which is one (1) foot above the base flood elevation. In addition, the finished-floor elevation for new construction may be estimated using the procedures cited in State Standard 4-95.
- e. For drainage design purposes, if a hydraulic rating is used to determine flow distribution at a flow-split, no less than 50% of the 100-year discharge upstream of the bifurcation should be used on any single channel downstream, unless a publicly maintained engineered structure controls the flow distribution. If no hydraulic modeling is provided, the full 100-year discharge upstream of the split should be used on all downstream channels.
- f. Applicable engineering guidelines for estimating flow rates, designing flood-control facilities, setting finished-floor elevations, and for



performing other floodplain management tasks should be used in Distributary Flow areas.

- g. The foundations of buildings constructed in the floodplain shall be protected against scour. Where floodplain or overbank flow is concentrated by development, the post-construction (full build-out) condition 100-year hydraulic data shall be used to establish the parmeters for scour-protection design.
- h. Building sites shall be graded to direct nuisance runoff away from the building pad and building interior.
- i. Buildings constructed in distributary floodplains shall be aligned parallel to the primary flow direction in order to limit flow obstruction and allow for flow-path continuity.

2.3.2 Rationale

Distributary flow areas occur within a significant portion of the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study area, and create difficulty for engineering design and floodplain management due to the uncertainty created by diverging flow paths. Development in distributary flow areas can cause changes to flow distributions and result in adverse impacts to downstream and adjacent properties.

Distributary flow is a specific drainage pattern in which defined channels divide, such that the number of channels increase in the downstream direction. Distributary flow areas have channels which split and rejoin in a complex pattern. The number of channel forks commonly exceeds the number of channel confluences, creating a distributary, rather than tributary, drainage pattern. The separate channels downstream of a channel fork may have terraces independent of other channels within the distributary flow system. A distributary channel is a stream branch flowing away from the main stream and not rejoining it. Identifying characteristics of distributary flow areas include, but are not limited to, the following:

a. Low, but distinguishable topographic relief perpendicular to the primary flow direction.



- b. Topographic relief sufficient to create isolated islands during flood conditions within the overall floodplain.
- c. Channels that divide in the downstream direction so that the number of flow paths conveying floodwaters increase in the downstream direction.
- d. An increase in vegetative density along flow lines extending laterally over an expansive area, with more uniform upland vegetation types found between flow lines.
- e. During larger floods, the distribution of flow between various existing distributary flow paths may not be predictable.
- f. Flow lines are relatively stable, especially during smaller floods.
- g. Larger floods may cause isolated or widespread bank erosion and/or sediment deposition within the channel, which changes channel capacity and/or overbank conveyance. Such conditions may lead to channel avulsion.

2.4 Ponding Areas

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following criteria shall apply in the Study Area.

2.4.1 Criteria

- a. All areas upstream of embankments (such as roadway, canals, dams and earthen embankments) shall be evaluated to determine if ponding conditions exist.
 - i. For Subdivisions and Commercial Development Detailed engineering analyses shall be performed to determine ponding elevations and flow patterns. Such analyses may include generation of hydrographs using detailed rainfall/runoff models, hydrologic and hydraulic routing of hydrographs, development of stage-storage-discharge relationships for the ponding area, hydraulic rating of outflow control structures, and hydraulic



modeling of flow parallel to the impoundment structure. In some cases, two-dimensional modeling may be required to accurately account for both the hydrologic and hydraulic characteristics of the flooded area. The engineer should distinguish between static and flowing ponding areas when selecting the appropriate modeling tool(s).

- ii. Single-Lot development If no detailed ponding data are available, the ponding depth shall be assumed to be at least equal to the elevation of the embankment crest. The Floodplain Management agency having jurisdiction may require a detailed engineering analysis, as described above, if the ponding hazard appears severe or the flow patterns are complex.
- b. The following criteria apply to development in ponding areas:
 - i. Discourage development in ponding areas behind (upstream of) embankments; and in areas downstream of embankments, where stormwater runoff overtops these structures during the 100-year or more frequent flood events.
 - ii. Onsite stormwater detention/retention shall be provided to decrease hydrostatic pressure on embankments.
 - iii. Avoid disrupting any existing drainage pathways located parallel to embankments, and maintain current flow and volume quantities along streets and roads.
- c. Finished-floor elevations shall be at least one foot above the 100-year ponding elevation. Where detailed information is not available, the finished-floor elevations for single-lot residential development may be set at least one foot above the structure crest controlling the ponding elevation.
- d. Removing ponding areas by site-grading or by breaching the controlling embankment are permitted only if an engineering analysis is performed that demonstrates no adverse impact to adjacent and upstream/downstream properties.



2.4.2 Rationale

Ponding is a type of floodplain in which flood levels are controlled by a structure that blocks or restricts flow, in which no well-defined channel exists, and where the floodwater has near-zero velocity. Ponding occurs in both natural and developed watersheds.

Natural ponding areas occur in topographic depressions. They are somewhat rare, geologically short-lived features that tend to be filled with sediment over time.

Man-made ponding areas are far more common than natural ponding areas, and are caused by constructed features, such as roadway embankments, levees, canals or railroad grades that block natural flow paths. Man-made ponding areas are often found in sheet and distributary flow areas where well-defined flow paths are lacking, like much of the Lee Moore Wash watershed. Ponding also typically occurs in agricultural areas where field leveling and irrigation structures block and obscure the natural drainage pattern.



SECTION 3: STRUCTURAL CATEGORIES

3.1 Road Crossings

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following criteria shall apply in the Study Area.

- 3.1.1 Criteria
 - a. Roadway alignments shall be designed so that runoff collected by the roadway is conveyed to its historic flow path to the maximum extent possible. Roadways shall be designed so as to not divert flows, unless it can be shown that the diversion will have minimal impact on the natural functioning of the subject watercourse.
 - b. Roadway crossings should be designed so the roadway alignment is perpendicular to the watercourse in order to minimize disruption to the floodplain. The crossing should generally be located at the narrowest part of the floodplain. New roads shall be aligned to minimize placement of pavement within designated Flow Corridors. Road intersections should not be located over watercourses.
 - c. Roadway crossings are discouraged at locations where the watercourse is braided. Where braided watercourses must be crossed, wide or multiple crossings that minimize flow contraction and disruption of sediment balance are recommended.
 - d. Roadway crossings should be designed to minimize downstream scour, minimize the risk of erosion of roadway approaches, and maintain sediment balance up to the bank-full discharge. Scour protection is required to assure structure stability.
 - e. All crossings, regardless of the type, should be designed to minimize the disruption of sediment-transport balance upstream and downstream of the crossing.



3.1.2 Rationale

Roadway crossings of drainageways and floodplains can create considerable problems if not properly designed, constructed, and maintained. These problems include sediment-transport disruption, increased velocities and (potential) scour downstream of the crossing, ponding and (potential) flow diversion upstream of the crossing, and unintended overtopping of the roadway due to debris clogging of culverts and erosion of channel banks adjoining the crossing.

Maintenance of roadway crossings is made more difficult by poorly located, designed or constructed crossings. Increased maintenance is required when culverts are undersized, which can cause ponding and sedimentation upstream, scour downstream, pavement damage from overtopping, and erosion of channel banks adjoining the crossing.

Crossings that utilize the natural main-channel depth, width, and slope at the crossing location will have the least impact. Crossings that widen, narrow, deepen, or flatten the main channel may require frequent maintenance and may be more at risk of failure than crossings that maintain the natural channel geometry.

Roadway crossings shall be consistent with all local, state, and federal ordinances and regulations regarding environmental issues and riparian habitat.

3.2 Stock Ponds

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following additional criteria shall apply in the Study Area.

3.2.1 Criteria

- a. An engineering analysis of any upstream or onsite stock ponds is required in order to determine the potential flood hazard posed to new development.
- b. Based on the results of the analysis, stock ponds may be addressed by one of the following measures:



- i. Breaching and/or removing, if approved by the owner;
- ii. Improving the stock pond as warranted, so that it remains intact during the 100-year flood. A maintenance plan with posted assurances will be needed, similar to what is required for other significant flood control structures. In this case, the stock pond may be used to reduce or off-set stormwater detention/retention requirements; or,
- iii. Allowing the stock pond to remain in its existing condition, and addressing the flood hazard associated with pond failure, including the potential for a flood wave that exceeds the base flood floodplain, and the potential for redirection of flow outside of the historic floodplain.
- c. If the stock pond needs to be mitigated or removed, all local, state, and federal ordinances and regulations pertaining to environmental and riparian issues shall be addressed.
- 3.2.2 Rationale

There are over 100 stock ponds within the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study area. Stock ponds typically consist of a non-engineered earthen dam of varying height placed across a watercourse to impound stormwater runoff. Vegetation typically lines the impoundment area on older facilities. Should downstream areas become developed, these non-engineered earthen dams may pose a hazard from potential flow diversions and/or overtopping.

The ADWR Dam Safety Section has legal jurisdiction over dams (embankments) that exceed certain height and storage limits. ADWR currently defines a jurisdictional dam as "either 25 feet or more in height or stores more than 50 acre-feet. If it is less than six feet in height regardless of the storage capacity or does not store more than 15 acre-feet regardless of height, it is not jurisdictional." Even though a structure may not be considered jurisdictional, dams (embankments) in an urban environment may pose a significant flood hazard.

As development occurs, the structural integrity, hydraulic influence, and the safety of existing stock ponds should be assessed relative to downstream impacts created by a dam break. A stock-pond analysis may indicate that the



structure reduces downstream flooding, and is therefore beneficial. The analysis might also indicate that removing or breaching the structure would minimize downstream flood-hazard potential. Regardless, any analysis should address maintenance needs, as sedimentation and reduction of embankment integrity can occur over time if the structure is not properly maintained.

3.3 Stormwater Detention Facilities

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following criteria shall apply in the Study Area.

- 3.3.1 Criteria
 - a. Within the Study Area, only regional inline stormwater detention basins are allowed in a Flow Corridor.
 - b. If a regional detention basin is proposed in a Flow Corridor, the basin must pass the 10-year existing pre-development flow in order to minimize disruption to sediment-transport rates.
 - c. All regional stormwater detention basins shall be analyzed and designed to accommodate multi-use functions in a manner determined by the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction.
 - d. Within the Study Area, all stormwater detention facilities shall be designed in accordance with the regulations, policies, and standards of the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction. This may include, but is not limited to:
 - i. Stormwater Detention/Retention Manual and Update; Pima County Department of Transportation and Flood Control District, City of Tucson
 - ii. Standards Manual for Drainage Design and Floodplain Management in Tucson, Arizona; City of Tucson Department of Transportation, Engineering Division
 - iii. State Standard for Stormwater Detention/Retention; Arizona Department of Water Resources, Flood Mitigation Section



- iv. Watercourse and Riparian Habitat Protection and Mitigation Requirements, Pima County Regional Flood Control District
- v. Tucson Codes 23, 26, and 29, with related Policies and Standards, City of Tucson
- vi. Guidelines for the Development of Regional Multi-Use Detention Basins in Pima County, Pima County Transportation and Flood Control District

3.3.2 Rationale

Stormwater detention is widely used to mitigate the effects of urbanization on flood-peak discharges. Generally speaking, stormwater detention involves storing stormwater runoff emanating from urbanized areas and releasing it at flow rates that reflect natural or non-urbanized conditions which existed prior to development. Within the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study Area (Study Area), detention is required by all the jurisdictions, for certain types of new development. Stormwater detention may also be utilized to mitigate existing flooding problems within the Study Area.

Within the Study Area, certain washes have been designated as "Flow Corridors". Within these defined Flow Corridors, only regional inline stormwater detention facilities are allowed. Offline stormwater detention basins are not allowed, as Flow Corridors are intended to maintain natural flow and sediment-transport capacity, and remain free from development.

Because stormwater detention basins can impact habitat and wildlife within washes, basin design and analysis of impacts shall address federal, state, and local environmental requirements, as well as relevant policies and guidelines in adopted land use plans. Where feasible, detention basins shall be designed for multi-purpose uses, including riparian habitat and wildlife, as well as passive and active recreational uses. Stormwater detention basins shall also be analyzed and designed, to the fullest extent possible in accordance with other local land policies, standards, and ordinances.

Mitigation of the effects of urbanization increasing stormwater runoff volumes is further addressed in the Development Criteria for water harvesting.



3.4 Utility Crossings

- 3.4.1 Criteria
 - Underground utilities shall be buried below the total 100-year scour depth in the main channel, including any long-term scour component (i.e., streambed degradation), unless acceptable engineering mitigation is provided.
 - b. Where the potential for lateral migration of the main channel exists, underground utilities shall be buried at the same depth in the overbank areas or erosion-hazard zone as in the main channel, unless controls are in place to prevent utility damage and/or exposure after lateral movement of the main channel.
 - c. Utility poles shall be placed outside the floodplain and erosion-hazard zone when possible. Where it is necessary to place utility poles within the floodplain, they shall be designed to withstand scour, debris impacts, and hydraulic forces, including debris accumulation.
 - d. Utilities shall cross the regulatory floodplains, and especially designated Flow Corridors, at the same locations and in the same manner as Road Crossings (i.e., typically perpendicular to the wash), to the greatest extent possible.
 - e. Utilities shall be attached to the downstream side, rather than upstream side, of bridges unless placement at the latter location is justified.
 - f. Utilities located at culverts or at-grade crossings shall be located on the upstream side, rather than downstream side, of the culvert or at-grade crossing unless placement at the latter location is justified.
 - g. After construction, utility-crossings shall be revegetated in a manner consistent with all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 404 Permit requirements typically provide guidance for this activity.



h. Utility design standards exist for most utilities. Where the standards conflict with the criteria set forth in this document, a conflict resolution meeting will be requested by the floodplain management agency havin jurisdiction to determine the appropriate course of action.

3.4.2 Rationale

Direct impacts on channel stability can occur during utility construction due to disturbance of channel bank and floodplain soils and vegetation. Where vegetation is removed, the disturbed and underlying soils are more vulnerable to erosion and scour. If floods occur before the vegetation is re-established, erosion along the construction alignment may occur, which in turn may initiate erosion of adjacent channel reaches. Mitigation of construction impacts should be addressed in the grading plan.

Site-specific conditions must always be considered during the planning, design, and construction phases, whenever utilities are to be placed in or near drainageways or floodplains. Also, after major flow events utilities located within drainageways or floodplains should be regularly inspected, and subsequently maintained as needed.

3.5 Culverts & At-grade Crossings

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following criteria shall apply in the Study Area.

- 3.5.1 General Criteria
 - a. At-grade roadway crossings of watercourses are generally appropriate along watercourses characterized by shallow flow conditions, such as distributary flow areas, due to the difficulty in spanning the floodplain.
 - i. Subdivision Roads and Public Roads At-grade roadway crossings may be allowed in rural and low-density residential areas, when intended for secondary an<u>d not primary access</u>, if such crossings are acceptable to the jurisdiction having floodplain-management authority.
 - ii. Private driveways At-grade crossings shall be required in



distributary flow areas, unless the design of a culverted crossing is prepared by an Arizona registered civil engineer and submitted to the jurisdiction having floodplain management authority for review and approval.

- 3.5.2 Culverted Crossing Criteria
 - a. When culverts are proposed to cross a major watercourse, drivable access to the culvert shall be provided in order to facilitate access by maintenance vehicles. Major watercourses are defined as those with a 100-year discharge greater than 2,000 cfs. If there are environmentally sensitive areas near the culvert crossing, alternative access locations may be proposed nearby, subject to approval of the Floodplain Management agency having jurisdiction.
 - b. Box culverts shall be used to span the main channel(s) of a watercourse. The total box culvert span shall be at least as wide as the main channel bankfull width, and the box culvert rise shall be at least as high as the bankfull elevation. An exception to this rule is where a deeply incised channel has a much greater capacity than the design event. Unless approved by the local Floodplain Management agency having jurisdiction, all box culverts shall have a minimum height of 4 feet.
 - c. All culverts shall be provided with engineered outlet protection in accordance with applicable local standards.
 - d. Culvert design shall address potential clogging from the accumulation of sediment and debris. For culverts less than four feet high, a debris control device shall be required, except in unusual situations where it can be demonstrated that the culvert size or watershed characteristics preclude clogging.
- 3.5.3 Improved At-grade Crossing Criteria
 - a. At-grade crossings, or dip crossings, typically have only minimal or localized impacts on watercourse stability. More commonly, streams impact at-grade crossings, rather than vice-versa. Flow over the at-



grade crossing can cause erosion of the pavement and subgrade, deposition of sediment in the road section, and disruption of traffic flow. Channel stability impacts commonly observed near at-grade crossings that need to be mitigated include the following:

- i. Roadway Elevation If the improved at-grade crossing is constructed at an elevation above the natural channel bed, deposition will occur upstream of the crossing. This may lead to expansion of the floodplain, increasing the risk of avulsions and accelerating the formation of a downstream scour hole. The minimum elevation of an improved at-grade crossing shall not be higher than the upstream existing channel invert.
- ii. Carrying Capacity The profile of the roadway at the improved atgrade crossing shall be sufficient to pass the design event so that the roadway does not capture and divert flows from the upstream wash.
- iii. Scour Hole A scour hole often forms on the downstream side of an at-grade crossing due to long-term system sediment discontinuities, acceleration of flow over the hydraulically smooth roadway surface, and increased turbulence as flow transitions back at the natural channel bed. Development of a scour hole can undermine the at-grade crossing, ultimately leading to its failure. To mitigate downstream scour impacts, the following criteria apply: For Subdivisions and Public Roads: For an improved at-grade crossing, upstream and downstream cutoff walls shall be designed to withstand scour during a 100-year peak discharge, as well as predicted long-term streambed degradation.
- iv. For private driveways: Upstream and downstream cutoff walls for improved at-grade crossings shall extend at least three (3) feet below natural grade.

3.5.4 Rationale

The design of culvert structures includes consideration of public safety, long-term function and maintenance, and impacts to the channel form and function. Typically, the impacts of culvert crossings on a watercourse system are primarily a function of their size relative to design discharge, channel and floodplain



morphology, clogging potential, sediment-transport capacity, and scour potential. Undersized culverts and culverts that create significant headwater ponding can have adverse impacts on both upstream and downstream properties. Impacts of undersized culverts on channel stability may include the following:

- a. <u>Sediment Deposition.</u> If the entrance geometry to the culvert and the slope of the approach channel are improperly designed to convey both floodwaters and sediment during the design flood, much of the sediment load of a stream will likely be deposited in the headwater pool at the culvert inlet. The volume of sediment deposited depends not only on the entrance geometry of a culvert and the slope of the approach channel, but also on the culvert capacity relative to the floodwater discharge and sediment inflow, the duration of the ponding condition, the geometry of the ponding area, and the size of the sediments in transport. Sediment deposition decreases channel (and culvert) capacity, increases the potential for overbank flooding and avulsions, and requires maintenance to restore conveyance capacity. Culverts that do not obstruct the main channel will have less frequent impacts on channel stability.
- b. <u>Scour-Hole Formation</u>. A scour hole may form at the culvert outlet due to accelerated velocity through the culvert, discharge of sediment-deprived water, and turbulence at the culvert/channel interface.
- c. Long-Term Degradation. Where a significant percentage of the sediment load is deposited upstream of a culvert due to headwater ponding, discharge of clear water may lead to channel degradation downstream until the channel slope adjusts to the new sediment supply. Oversized (relative to channel width and floodplain geometry) culvert structures, which increase the width of the channel in order to minimize the height or depth of ponding, can also have detrimental impacts to both upstream and downstream properties.
- d. <u>Long-Term Aggradation.</u> Increasing the width of a channel to accommodate a culvert structure may change the sediment-transport capacity of the channel. During frequent events or events lesser than the design capacity of the culvert structure, sediment may be deposited in the channel section that has been widened. Accumulation of



sediment may decrease both the capacity of the channel and the capacity of the structure, ultimately resulting in flooding impacts to adjacent properties. Culverts that do not obstruct the main channel will have less frequent impacts on channel stability than culverts that block the main channel.

3.6 Levees & Embankments

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following criteria shall apply in the Study Area,

- 3.6.1 Criteria
 - a. The use of levees for flood-control purposes is discouraged in the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study area. Nevertheless, FEMA does have specific criteria relating to the design, construction, maintenance, and certification of levees. Flood-control levees constructed within the Study Area must meet current effective FEMA policies to be considered as flood-control structures. Engineers proposing to use levees for floodcontrol purposes should verify that the most current FEMA levee criteria are being used.
 - b. The structural integrity and potential for failure of existing earthen levees shall be evaluated within the Study Area. The foundation investigation shall consist of borings, test pits, and other subsurface explorations, as deemed necessary. These investigations shall assess soil and rock stability and groundwater conditions. Laboratory testing of undisturbed and remolded soil specimens and rock samples shall be required, as well as stability and settlement analyses and fissure studies, unless it is demonstrated by a Registered Professional Engineer (P.E.) or Profession Geologist (P.G.), to the satisfaction of the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction, that these analyses are not necessary.
 - c. Unless a current hydrologic/hydraulic study is available, a hydrologic and hydraulic evaluation shall be performed by a P.E. to evaluate levee performance and the level of protection provided. Hydraulic analyses



shall be conducted to determine flood elevations for stream reaches affected by the levee. The analyses shall include flood depth and velocity data for the 100-year as well as the top-of-levee event. An assessment of impacts on the levee of the 100-year and top-of-levee flood depths and velocities, as well as impacts on adjacent property and structures, shall also be provided to the satisfaction of the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction.

- d. In the course of due diligence and site analyses, developers and their engineers should evaluate the watershed for the presence of any levees or levee-type embankments.
- e. No levee may be constructed for the purpose of storing, conserving, or retarding water, or for any other purpose, unless the person or governmental agency desiring the construction has been authorized by the local community having floodplain management jurisdiction. Potential future development of areas upstream, downstream, and adjacent to the levee shall be considered in the levee design. The levee shall operate safely during all floods up to the design flood elevation. The levee must be protected from, or designed to prevent, erosive velocities along the structure and its foundation.
- f. FEMA requires that hydrologic, hydraulic, and geotechnical analysis shall be completed, and plans and specifications prepared, by a P.E. for design of all new levees. FEMA also requires that the basis, references, calculations, and conclusions relative to hydrologic, hydraulic, and structural design studies be provided in a design report. Design procedures established by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and FEMA are generally accepted as sound engineering practice. A written summary of the design references and assumptions used shall be included in the information submitted to the local community having floodplain-management jurisdiction.
- g. Hydraulic analyses shall be conducted to determine flood elevations for stream reaches affected by the construction of a levee. The analyses must provide flood depth and velocity data for the 100-year and top-oflevee flood events. For construction of new levees, the flood depths and



velocities must be determined with and without the levee in place. The impact of increased flood depths and velocities on affected properties and structures with a levee in place must be provided. The levee must be protected from, or designed to prevent, erosive velocities along the structure and its foundation. FEMA regulations also require that all levees providing 100-year flood protection be certified by FEMA. Design Reports shall include:

- i. Discharge/probability data
- ii. Hydrographs
- iii. Valley cross-sections
- iv. Descriptive hydraulic information concerning bridges and other structures that influence the hydraulic characteristics of the watercourse
- v. Scour calculations/erosion control design
- vi. Stream elevation-discharge-storage data
- vii. Stream flood routings and flood profiles
- viii. Operation and Maintenance Manual
- ix. Freeboard calculations
- h. Design plans and specifications shall be prepared by a P.E. in accordance with the standards of the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction, and shall contain all necessary legal easements for access to, and maintenance of, the structure. A Levee Inspection Report shall be prepared for the owner by a registered P.E.
- It is the levee owner's responsibility to fund and conduct inspection, maintenance, and repair of levees. For each levee, a regular schedule shall be established for inspection and maintenance purposes. Easements shall be obtained, as needed, to facilitate access to, and maintenance of, the structure. Special funding districts may be set up for this purpose.
- j. All plans to remove, to alter, or to permanently repair a levee must be prepared by a P.E., and must be approved by the local agency having floodplain management jurisdiction.
- 3.6.2 Rationale



Levees and levee-type embankments are located throughout the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study Area. Levees have the potential to divert, concentrate, obstruct or impound surface water runoff.

For the purposes of this study, an embankment is defined as any artificial barrier that diverts, retards, or obstructs runoff. A levee is defined as any artificial barrier, together with any appurtenant facility, that diverts or restrains the flow of a stream or other body of water for the purpose of protecting an area from inundation by floodwaters. A levee-type embankment may be built for other reasons, for example, to form a stock pond, or serve as a non-engineered diversion berm or directional training dikes, but it is considered to function like a levee.

3.7 Channelization

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following criteria shall apply in the Study Area.

3.7.1 Criteria

Channelization generally impacts the natural environment in several ways, as listed below. Proposals for channelization in the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study area shall address the following:

- a. *Velocity.* Channelization generally increases channel velocities. Because sediment-transport rate is exponentially related to velocity, increased channel velocities lead to increased erosion potential.
- b. *Depth.* Channelization can increase the flow depth by eliminating the floodplain area available for conveyance and by concentrating flows. Increased flow depths result in greater scour depths and higher channel velocities.
- c. *Discharge.* Channelization may eliminate the area available for storage of floodwaters on the floodplain, resulting in decreased attenuation of



flows and increased peak discharges downstream. Increased peak discharges are associated with increased sediment-transport rates and erosion potential.

- d. *Design Standard.* In Pima County engineered flood-control channels are typically designed to a 100-year design standard. Therefore, damage may occur to development adjacent to a 100-year channel (or to the channel itself) if a peak flow rate greater than than the peak of a 100-year event were to occur. If design discharges change due to watershed changes or as a result of revisions to hydrologic modeling standards, mitigation solutions may be required to maintain the same standard of protection.
- e. *Design Life.* Engineered structures have a limited design life, thus they require regular inspection, maintenance, and eventual replacement. All channelization shall be in compliance with the Development Criteria for Maintenance.
- f. *Equilibrium Slope.* As a result of increases in discharge, velocity, and depth typically associated with channelization, the new stable-channel bottom slope will generally be flatter than the previously existing natural channel slope. This change results in long-term degradation as the system attempts to reach a new state of dynamic equilibrium.
- g. *Habitat.* Channelization caused by proposed development typically reduces the natural floodplain and streambank habitat, and may require habitat mitigation.
- h. Sediment Supply. Channel bank erosion is an important source of sediment supply for the streams in the study area. Construction of bank protection eliminates this source of sediment supply, thus increasing the likelihood of channel bank erosion of adjacent and downstream reaches.
- i. *Downstream Impacts.* An increase in the local instability should be expected at the outlet of a channelized reach due to changes in velocity, sediment supply, habitat impacts, and discharge. Depending on the channel geometry, the expected response can range from lateral erosion



and scour to sediment deposition and overbank flooding. Channelization should be allowed only when it can be demonstrated that long-term or short-term offsite impacts to channel stability are mitigated; that downstream reaches are adequately protected from erosion and flooding; and that a long-term inspection and maintenance program is implemented.

- j. *Environmental Compatibility.* When structural flood-control measures are necessary, their design and installation should complement the environment and be accomplished with the least disturbance to the natural setting. Design guidelines and standards for structural flood-control improvements are provided in the *Drainage Design and Riparian Ordinance Manuals* of local communities.
- k. *Vegetation Management.* Channelization typically eliminates much of the natural vegetation. If the channel is not designed to accommodate vegetation, then vegetation management shall be required.
- 3.7.2 Rationale

Channelization is defined as the construction of an engineered channel, with bank protection and grade-control structures as needed. Channelization shall be allowed only when it can be demonstrated that no long-term or short-term offsite impacts to channel stability are likely, and that downstream reaches would be adequately protected from flooding and erosion, and that a long-term inspection and maintenance program would be implemented.

Where structural flood-control measures are necessary, their design and installation should limit disturbance to the natural setting. All channelization shall comply with local riparian ordinances and design guidelines and standards for structural flood-control improvements. Channelization standards are provided in the *Pima County Drainage and Channel Design Standards for Local Drainage*, in the *State Standards* developed by the Arizona Department of Water Resources, and in the City of Tucson *Standards Manual for Drainage Design and Floodplain Management in Tucson, Arizona*.



SECTION 4: NON-STRUCTURAL/REGULATORY CATEGORIES

4.1 Erosion-Hazard Setbacks

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following criteria shall apply in the Study Area.

- 4.1.1 Criteria
 - a. In the portion of the Study Area that exhibits riverine flow conditions, current (or future revisions to) erosion-hazard regulations apply.
 - b. In the portion of the Study Area that exhibits distributary flow conditions, the following criteria apply:
 - i. When the 100-year peak discharge of the watercourse is less than 500 cfs, the following setbacks shall apply:
 - 1. For individual channels that convey bankfull flows less than 100 cfs the setback shall be 10 feet, as measured from the edge of the bank of the channel or braid.
 - 2. For channels that can convey bankfull flows greater than 100 cfs the setback shall be 25 feet, as measured from the edge of the bank of the channel or braid.
 - ii. When the 100-year peak discharge of the watercourse is between 500 and 2000 cfs, the following setbacks shall apply:
 - 1. For individual channels that convey bankfull flows less than 100 cfs the setback shall be 10 feet, as measured from the edge of the channel or braid bank.
 - For channels that can convey bankfull flows greater than 100 cfs the setback shall be 25 feet, as measured from the edge of the channel or braid bank
 - 3. For channels that can convey bankfull flows greater than 500 cfs the setback shall be 50 feet, as measured from the edge of the channel or braid bank.



- iii. When the 100-year peak discharge of the watercourse is between 2000 and 5000 cfs, the following setbacks shall apply:
 - 1. For individual channels that convey bankfull flows less than 500 cfs the setback shall be 25 feet, as measured from the edge of the channel or braid bank.
 - 2. For channels that can convey bankfull flows greater than 500 cfs the setback shall be 50 feet, as measured from the edge of the channel or braid bank.
 - 3. For channels that can convey bankfull flows greater than 1000 cfs the setback shall be 75 feet, as measured from the edge of the channel or braid bank.
- c. Alternative safe setbacks that differ from the setbacks established above may be proposed, based upon submittal of technical justification to the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction.
- d. For existing legal lots recorded prior to the adoption of this study, and which are now, by virtue of this study, located in an adopted flow corridor within a distributary channel, the erosion-hazard setback and foundation design for any proposed structure shall be prepared by an Arizona-registered civil engineer, and shall be submitted to the local authority having floodplain management jurisdiction for review and approval.

4.1.2 Rationale

In the Study Area severe erosion, both lateral and vertical, may occur over a short periods of time, as a result of a large flood; or, over a longer period of time as the result of a series of smaller floods. Since conventional hydraulic engineering methods do not account for erosion hazards, the local jurisdictions have established erosion-hazard setbacks along watercourses to minimize erosion damage and potential loss of life and property. These setbacks have been developed for riverine flow conditions. Approximately one-third of the Study Area (primarily the northern portion) exhibits riverine flow, and current City, County, and Town erosion-hazard regulations appear to work well in these areas. However, these regulations are not as readily applicable in distributary flow areas, like those which exist in many areas of the Lee Moore Wash Watershed.



In distributary flow areas, water flows within, or back and forth between, multiple channels or "braids" during a single event or a series of flooding events. Typically these braids are contained within the regulatory floodplain, but they convey considerably less water than traditional riverine low-flow channels. In order to establish Development Criteria with more appropriate erosion-hazard setbacks for distributary flow areas, the following have been evaluated:

- a. 100-year floodplain depths greater than 0.5 feet
- b. Capacity of a channel or braid, as measured by its ability to convey a given range of discharges (Q), measured in cubic feet per second (cfs).
- c. Velocity of flow within a channel or braid during the 100-year flood, as measured in feet per second (fps).
- d. The potential for a channel or braid to increase its flow capacity due to geomorphic processes, such as erosion, deposition, or avulsion.
- e. Location of a channel or braid as to whether it is located either within or without an adopted or revised flow corridor.

These factors have been utilized to establish a minimum lateral erosion-hazard setback from the primary bank of a channel or braid, as identified in the Criteria contained herein.









EROSION HAZARD SETBACK CONCEPT DISTRIBUTARY FLOW CHANNELS

VERTICAL EXAG: 50:1 N.T.S. Pima County Regional Flood Control District



4.2 Flow Corridors

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following criteria shall apply in the Study Area.

- 4.2.1 Criteria
 - a. Flow corridors established and defined as part of the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study shall be maintained in their natural state, except as described below.
 - b. Private and public development shall preserve the flow corridors identified in the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study to the fullest extent possible.
 - c. A 50-foot recreation easement may be provided on both sides of all adopted and any modified flow corridors, if required by the agency having jurisdiction.
 - d. Modifications to the flow-corridor width and location may be granted by the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction. Prior to approving such a modification, the jurisdictional agency shall consult with other floodplain management agencies with jurisdiction and private property owners within the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study area that may be impacted by the proposed modification. The purpose of the consultation is to ensure that the integrity of the backbone natural drainage infrastructure system is maintained. There are several flowcorridor modification administrative thresholds, as described below:
 - i. Those modifications granted by the Chief Engineer or Floodplain Administrator of the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction when (1) the modifications are made only on parcels of land which are within one political jurisdiction and for which 100% of the land owners consent to the modifications in writing, and (2) the proposed modifications result in collection and release of water that is maintained at pre-existing flow rates



and collected and released at the same pre-development locations.

- ii. Those modifications granted by the Chief Engineers or Floodplain Administrators of the floodplain management agencies having jurisdiction when (1) the modifications are made only on parcels of land which are within several political jurisdictions and for which 100% of the land owners consent to the modifications in writing, and (2) the proposed modifications result in collection and release of water that is maintained at pre-existing flow rates and collected and released at the same pre-development locations.
- Those modifications of a flow corridor within an adopted Special iii. Flood Hazard area, as designated by FEMA, shall need a variance conforming to the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program, as provided within 44CFR66. Prior to scheduling a variance hearing, the agency with jurisdiction shall consult with and obtain concurrence from the other local government agencies within the Study Area. The purpose of the consultation is to ensure that the integrity of the backbone natural drainage infrastructure system is maintained. Variances shall be filed with the Chief Engineers or Floodplain Administrators of the floodplain management agencies having jurisdiction, and shall follow the procedures outlined by each of those agencies having jurisdiction in those areas within which the proposed flow-corridor modifications lie.
- e. Flow corridors may be used for non-paved, non-motorized vehicular trail use in compliance with other local, state, and federal regulations.
- f. Flow corridors may be used for regional habitat restoration projects, but may not be used as Riparian Habitat Mitigation Areas.
- g. Underground utility-construction activities are not allowed in flow corridors, except that generally perpendicular crossings of major utilities may be allowed if demonstrated, as necessary, for public health and safety purposes. When demonstration of need has been documented, these crossings shall comply with the "Utility Crossing Development



Criteria for the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study."

 Roadway crossings of flow corridors should create minimal disturbance.
When needed, these crossings shall comply with the "Road Crossing Development Criteria for the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study."

4.2.2 Rationale

As land is developed, there is a need to identify and preserve a backbone natural drainage system for the efficient conveyance of stormwaters and floodwaters. Preservation of existing flow paths in their natural condition allows for the conveyance of post-development drainage while maintaining the natural functions of the floodplain. Current City, County and Town Floodplain Management Ordinances allow for limited encroachment into the 100-year floodplain, based on engineering analysis and compliance with other applicable ordinances.

Identification and preservation of flow corridors in the watershed, prior to development, will provide a backbone natural drainage infrastructure "blueprint" for new development that will minimize future flood hazards and losses. Flow-corridor preservation, in conjunction with other drainage and environmental ordinances, will reduce development impacts and costs, and will provide environmental benefits by maintaining existing flow paths, optimizing system sediment balance, and providing continuity for wildlife corridors.

The flow corridors adopted as part of this Study have been delineated using the following criteria:

- a. For that portion of the Study Area located west of the Pima County Conservation Land System boundary, flow corridors are generally identified as follows:
 - i. the limits of the 10-year floodplain in distributary flow areas; and
 - ii. the floodway or primary channel bank limits, whichever is greater, in the riverine flow areas.
- b. For that portion of the Study Area located east of the Conservation Land



System boundary, flow corridors are generally identified as the limits of the 100-year floodplain.

- c. Flow Corridors must convey the 100-year peak flow for all distributary flow in the flow corridor, including any abandoned braids replaced by the flow corridor.
- d. The flow corridors and their limits are graphically depicted on the Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study Flow Corridor and Floodplain Delineation Maps.

These limits may be reduced or expanded based on current information at the time of application (See exhibits in Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Study).





FLOW CORRIDOR SCHEMATIC LMWBMS ADOPTED VS POTENTIAL MODIFICATIONS BASED ON MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

N. T. S.

NOTE: A 50' RECREATION EASEMENT SHALL BE PROVIDED ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ADOPTED AND ANY POTENTIAL MODIFICATION.

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4.3 Water Harvesting

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following criteria shall apply in the Study Area.

- 4.3.1 Criteria
 - a. Installation of water-harvesting earthworks (localized depressions, French drains, and other small-scale water-harvesting features that facilitate the concentration and infiltration of harvested stormwater into the soil for beneficial use) is strongly encouraged throughout the Lee Moore Wash watershed at all residential and commercial sites.
 - b. If requested, credit for a volumetric reduction of stormwater as a result of using water-harvesting techniques shall be given by the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction.
 - c. Water harvesting is strongly encouraged in the rights-of-way of public roads to decrease the contribution of roadway runoff to regional stormwater volumes.
 - d. The size and location of water-harvesting earthworks should be determined on a site-specific basis.
 - e. To increase effectiveness, install multiple small earthworks throughout a site, starting at the highest elevation of the site. Use the harvested water to supplement irrigation needs of plants placed within or adjacent to the earthworks. Plants should be placed in or near earthworks based on their tolerance for temporary inundation. Earthworks placed in proximity to existing plants should be constructed to prevent disturbance of existing roots of trees and shrubs.
 - f. Stormwater detention basins can contain and slowly release large volumes of stormwater, and also support vegetation, making them ideal as water-harvesting structures. The functions of properly designed multi-purpose stormwater detention basins can include stormwater



management, support of native vegetation, creation of wildlife habitat, and active and passive recreation. Multi-purpose stormwater detention basins should be designed according to guidance from relevant jurisdictions.

- g. Small-scale water-harvesting earthworks shall be designed and maintained to ensure that harvested water infiltrates into the subsurface within 24 hours of catchment. Sites with clayey soils or near-surface caliche might require percolation tests to determine if water harvesting is advisable for basins deeper than 6 inches. Cost of long-term maintenance of functionality of stormwater controls should be considered when analyzing viability of decentralized stormwater management.
- h. Water-harvesting earthworks shall be designed and constructed to prevent backup of pooled stormwater into onsite structures or anywhere off site.
- 4.3.2 Rationale

Water harvesting is a technique for concentrating stormwater runoff into depressions in the soil in locations where vegetation can benefit from increased water infiltration.

Water harvesting is also conducted by collecting stormwater runoff in above- or below-ground tanks for storage until later use for landscape irrigation or other beneficial purposes. From a flood-control and stormwater-management perspective, water harvesting can assist in the infiltration of stormwater runoff on individual sites, reducing offsite flows that contribute to regional stormwater management challenges.

Other benefits of water harvesting accrue regionally. Harvesting the first flush of runoff from an urban site sequesters pollutants in the soil, rather than allowing it to flow into the waters of the US. Water harvesting can be an excellent tool for controlling stormwater quality. Therefore, to increase the beneficial use of water harvesting all new commercial sites, common areas of new subdivisions, public buildings, and public right-of-ways shall be strongly encouraged to be



constructed with water-harvesting features that assist, in general terms, with meeting landscape water needs.

Specific sites benefit from water harvesting through the reduction in potable water costs due to reduced potable irrigation demand. In some cases, required stormwater detention basins can be reduced in size because of increased water harvesting in other parts of the site. Given the regional and individual site benefits of water harvesting, it should be put to extensive use in the Lee Moore Wash watershed.

Guidance on techniques, sizes, and functions of various water-harvesting earthworks can be found in the City of Tucson Water Harvesting Guidance Manual, which is online at:

(http://dot.tucsonaz.gov/stormwater/downloads/2006WaterHarvesting.pdf),

and at several websites: http://www.watershedmg.org/ and http://www.harvestingrainwater.com/

among many other sources.

4.4 Disturbance Envelopes

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following criteria shall apply in the Study Area, as justified in the rationale.

- 4.4.1 Criteria
 - a. Development is limited in regulatory floodplain areas. No more than 60 percent of the portion of the parcel in the regulatory floodplain may be permanently disturbed; and all improvements (including, but not limited to, roof-bearing structures; retention areas; cleared and grubbed areas, such as horse corrals; landscaping with permanent irrigation; and areas with impervious ground cover and/or barriers that preclude infiltration) shall be located within this area. The cap of 60 percent of disturbance area in the regulatory floodplain is adopted for drainage purposes, and does not override zoning requirements or entitlements.



- b. The full limits of the proposed disturbance in the regulatory floodplain, as provided herein by these criteria, shall be shown on the submitted site plan or plat. Areas within the 100-year floodplain, but outside the disturbance envelope, shall not be disturbed, except as outlined herein, without approval of the Floodplain Management agency having jurisdiction.
- c. For the contractor's use and for inspection purposes, prior to issuance of the building permit boundaries of the area to be disturbed must be delineated on the property with physical markers. Locations of the physical markers shall be delineated on the site plan submitted for the building permit.
- d. Temporary disturbance in excess of the 60% is allowed for utility installation, temporary construction access, and temporary stockpiling of construction related materials. Revegetation of these areas is required and must be completed prior to issuance of a final certificate of occupancy. Revegetation methods shall be consistent with regulations of the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction.

4.4.2 Rationale

A disturbance envelope is the area on a single lot, within or outside of a subdivision, which may be altered from its natural state during development of the lot. The rationale for providing for limitations of the disturbance envelope is twofold.

- a. The placement of fill in and disturbance of the regulatory floodplain may have adverse impacts on adjacent properties (i.e. increase in watersurface elevation, diversion of flow, increase in flow velocity, and increase in erosion).
- b. The removal of vegetation and other disturbance of the natural ground results in rainfall no longer being intercepted by the native plants and soils, thus more of this rainfall becomes runoff. Also, plant roots and other biological activity associated with vegetation increase the rate at which rainfall infiltrates into the soil. The combined result of lot



disturbance is an increase in both the magnitude and frequency of runoff from the disturbed area.

Another consequence of the disturbance of the natural areas is a disruption and partial elimination of habitat for wildlife. Preservation and maintenance of an undisturbed lot area enhances opportunities for use by wildlife.

4.5 Walls & Fences

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following additional criteria shall apply in the Study Area, as justified in the rationale.

- 4.5.1 Criteria
 - a. Prior to construction, any wall or fence proposed on a lot that is impacted by the 100-year floodplain shall be subject to review and approval by the local authority having floodplain management jurisdiction.
 - b. Fences and walls are prohibited within floodways and constructed drainageways.
 - c. When proposed in a regulatory floodplain, only open-type fences such as pipe rail, split rail, or barbed wire shall be allowed on or within 25 feet of property boundary lines. Block walls and other fences such as chain link and chicken-wire fences, which are not considered open-type fencing, are prohibited on or within 25 feet of property boundary lines.
 - d. When proposed in a regulatory floodplain, chain link, chicken wire, or other fences may be allowed if the fence is 25 feet or more from all property boundary lines, the bottom of the fence is elevated to at least the base flood elevation, and the fence completely spans any low-flow wash channels.
 - e. When proposed in a regulatory floodplain, block walls may be allowed if the wall is 25 feet or more from all property boundary lines, is designed


and constructed to provide at least 50% flow-through openings, and the wall avoids any low-flow wash channels.

- f. When proposed in a regulatory floodplain, a solid interior "courtyard" wall may be allowed immediately downslope or upslope of the principle dwelling unit as long as the wall does not provide more than 15 feet of additional encroachment as measured perpendicular to the direction of flow, and is greater than 50 feet from any property line.
- g. Other solid fences and walls proposed in a regulatory floodplain shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Floodplain Administrator that there is no adverse impact to neighboring properties as a result of the proposed improvement.

4.5.2 Rationale

Fences and walls can significantly obstruct flow. Consequently, construction of improvements is prohibited within floodways and constructed these drainageways, and should be avoided or minimized in regulatory floodplains. If fences or walls are necessary, certain design considerations apply, including elevating the bottom of the fence to at or above the base flood elevation within the regulatory floodplain limits, offsetting the wall or fence from the property line to allow drainage, and providing sufficient flow-through openings in otherwise solid walls. Fences and walls that cross natural washes, channels, or flow paths shall be elevated to pass bankfull flows without obstruction, and should provide openings to convey the 100-year flood with no adverse offsite impacts. Solid perimeter walls should be set back from property lines to provide flow conveyance between lots, or should be designed to pass drainage (accounting for blockage by vegetation or debris and scour), with no adverse impacts on neighboring properties. In other words, it must be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Floodplain Administrator that there is no increase in peak discharge, flow depth, flow velocity, or flow diversion resulting from the proposed improvement(s).



SECTION 5: MAINTENANCE

5.1 Inspection and Maintenance Practices

In addition to any other rules, policies, and standards that may apply, the following criteria shall apply in the Study Area.

5.1.1 Criteria

All Facilities:

The following shall be addressed in a maintenance plan:

- a. Routine (quarterly) inspection and maintenance/cleanup for activities such as trash removal, fence repair, landscaping etc.
- b. Periodic (annual) inspection and maintenance/repairs to ensure the structural integrity of the facility, as well as to insure physical integrity relative to aggradation or degradation, vandalism, vegetative invasion, etc.
- c. Post-storm or flooding maintenance/repairs to address significant aggradation and degradation episodes, damage to the structural integrity of the facility, or maintenance/ repairs, as warranted, to restore the flood-control functionality.

Inspection and Maintenance responsibility:

When drainage infrastructure is dedicated to the public, it shall be the responsibility of the local jurisdiction having authority to perform the inspection and maintenance responsibilities described herein.

When the drainage infrastructure is privately maintained, the entity that has inspection and maintenance responsibility shall be established at the time of review of the Development Plan or Subdivision Plat. Also, a mechanism to ensure adequate resources for routine and annual inspections and any necessary maintenance shall be provided and disclosed in the Conditions, Covenants, and Restrictions, and/or on the Plan or Plat, as appropriate.



Stormwater Detention Basins (including associated landscaping):

Routine maintenance activities will be based on the results of the required quarterly inspections of stormwater detention basins, and associated landscaping, if applicable. The floors of stormwater detention basins will be cleaned of all trash and debris that can clog outlet structures during floods. Outlet structures will also be inspected and cleaned of any debris on a regular and routine basis. Landscaping shall be trimmed to design levels, and trimmings shall be disposed of at an approved facility (not in conveyance channels or stormwater detention basins). Gravel or decomposed granite will be maintained at design levels, which may include sweeping and replacement to assure adequate functionality.

Periodic Maintenance for Stormwater Detention Basins:

Routine inspection and maintenance activities will be based on the results of the required annual inspections. If regular and routine inspections reveal that no damage has occurred from minor storms or vandalism, then major maintenance need only be performed at 3-year intervals, or longer if justified.

- a. Basin Bottom. Measurements of basin floor elevations will be taken if the inspection reveals signs of sediment aggradation or degradation. The elevations will then be compared to the design and as-built condition. If existing elevations are found to be, on average, more than one foot different than design elevations, the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction or a designated responsible party will be notified immediately for a determination as to what course of action, if any, is needed.
- b. Basin Side-Slopes. Detention basin side-slopes will be inspected for signs of rill erosion, embankment cracking, or sloughing due to slope instability. If the erosion, cracking, or sloughing is minor, then the slopes may be regraded to re-establish the design grades. If major grading is needed, and it will significantly disturb established vegetation, then the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction or a designated responsible party will be notified immediately for a determination as to what course of action, if any, is needed.



c. Other. A visual inspection will be completed of all surface structural components including, but not limited to, inlet and outlet structures, scour protection and erosion-control, access areas, and recreational facilities. They will be evaluated for signs of distress, sulfate attack, cracking, differential settlement, tilting, surface-water ponding near the foundations, or unauthorized modifications. Minor repairs will be made, as needed, but before any major repairs are conducted the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction or a designated responsible party will be notified immediately for a determination as to what course of action, if any, is needed.

The results of all Periodic Maintenance Activities will be documented and available for review by both the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction and the designated responsible party. After completion, all maintenance activities performed as a result of the annual inspection will be photographed, and a description of the activity and its costs will be documented and filed with the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction and the designated responsible party.

Post-Storm Maintenance for Stormwater Detention Basins:

Post-storm inspections should be performed as soon as it is feasibly possible to do so after significant storms have subsided. Although designed for 100-year flow conditions, the system is still susceptible to damage during more frequent flow events. A post-storm maintenance inspection shall be completed after the occurrence of a rainfall of 1.5 inches in 3 hours, or similar event, regardless of any reported flooding. During prolonged storm events, daily monitoring of the flood-control structures, particularly the stormwater detention basins, should be conducted. Online precipitation gauge data is available from the Pima County Regional Flood Control District to assist in evaluating rainfall events.

The results of all post-storm maintenance will be documented and available for review by both the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction and the designated responsible party. If major damage has occurred due to a flow event, then the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction or a designated responsible party will be notified immediately for a determination as to what



course of action, if any, is needed.

Annual Inspections:

Annual inspections are intended to assess the system's operating condition, and should identify larger-scale repair and maintenance items. These inspections shall be performed by an Arizona registered Civil Engineer, who shall provide a certification letter indicating that the maintenance is consistent with the approved maintenance plan and the criteria in this document. If this is not the case, then the appropriate jurisdiction shall be immediately notified.

These inspections are intended to evaluate how the facilities have changed from their as-built condition. Detailed photo documentation provides a permanent record of changing conditions, and is strongly recommended. For example, cracks can be carefully monitored by placing a scale/ruler within a photo. These inspections should typically be performed mid-year, prior to the monsoon season after high spring flows have subsided. Annual inspection records should be maintained by the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction or a designated responsible party. Key items to be evaluated include:

- a. *Crest Height*: monitor crest elevation of any embankments to ensure design freeboard height is maintained.
- b. *Embankment Integrity*: monitor and address cracking of embankments to mitigate piping through the embankment or foundation, or slope instability.
- c. *Vegetation*: ensure vegetative cover is maintained to reduce erosion during flood events, while maintaining size-control in order to avoid root damage.
- d. *Embankment Crests*: ensure all-weather driving surface is maintained along embankment crest, for maintenance purposes.
- e. *Erosion*: monitor areas for the development of erosion or undercutting of any flood-control structures.



- f. *Sediment Build-Up*: monitor the depth of sediment deposition in the base of the culvert, channel, or stormwater detention basin.
- g. *Rodent Activity*: monitor rodent activity (e.g., burrows) which may increase the potential for embankment foundation piping.
- h. *Structural Integrity*: monitor the condition of all erosion-control walls for signs of distress, sulfate attack, cracking, differential settlement, tilting, surface-water ponding near the foundations, or any unauthorized modifications.

Post-Storm Inspections:

Post-storm inspections should be performed as soon as possible after flood conditions have subsided. Although flood-control systems are usually designed for 100-year flow conditions, they may incur damage during more frequent flow conditions. Post-storm inspection records should be kept and maintained by the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction or a designated responsible party. Items to be inspected after storm flows have subsided are listed below:

- a. Vegetation: high-flow erosion damage
- b. Earthen Fill: slope and bank-protection integrity, and seepage through the embankment face
- c. Culverts: culverts to ensure free-flowing conditions
- d. Embankment crests: in event of overtopping, check that concentrated flow areas do not develop
- e. Erosion: monitor the improvements for indications of erosion
- f. Sediment Build-Up: monitor the depth of sediment deposition at the base of the channel



Field-inspection reports shall include, at a minimum:

- A description of the facility's current condition, for the entire length of the improvements. It is important to note areas where erosion is, or will likely become, a problem.
- b. A description of the existing vegetation, if any, and the loss of any vegetation, together with comments and/or recommendations regarding the need for the addition and/or removal of any vegetation that may impede the flow within the wash, or which may need to be replaced for erosion control.
- c. Comments and/or notes, with photographs where necessary, of unauthorized uses of the facility, unauthorized dumping, and/or damage to the system components.
- d. Comments and/or notes, with photographs if necessary, of any damage to any culverts, irrigation pipes, utilities, etc.
- e. Recommendations for remedial actions needed to preserve the integrity of the facility and its designated function.
- f. The report shall note any change of land use adjacent to the wash.
- g. Inspect, and include comments in the report, regarding existing utilities in or adjacent to the wash that may have been impacted by a storm event.
- h. Inspect for sediment, silt, debris, trash, or deleterious material. Where depths of sedimentation are excessive, where debris causes flow restrictions, or where trash has accumulated, removal shall be required.

A field-inspection report shall be completed; and, if requested by a complaint, the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction can request a field-inspection report within 15 days of receipt of said complaint.

A field-inspection report shall be completed on a daily basis during times of high flow. Immediately after the waters have receded, a field-inspection shall be conducted as described herein.



5.1.2 Rationale

The purpose of this Development Criteria is to provide procedural guidelines for a systematic approach to monitoring, operating, and maintaining regional stormwater detention basins and other flood-control facilities in the Study Area, for the overall purpose of enhanced public safety. Currently there are no local guidelines or criteria outlined or documented anywhere regarding inspection and maintenance procedures, and this Development Criteria is being written to help rectify this situation. Monitoring, operating, and inspection/maintenance plans should be commensurate with the scale and complexity of the improvement. Basic guidelines are provided herein; however, specific plans should be developed for each facility, as warranted. The importance of conducting routine inspections as part of any operating plan cannot be overstated, as early detection of gradual changes can reduce overall maintenance costs and the likelihood of major failure of the facility in the future.

Channels, levees, stormwater detention basins, culverts and erosion-control walls in the Study Area shall be inspected at least once a year. During high flows, facility conditions shall be routinely monitored each day, and thoroughly inspected after the flows subside. It is anticipated that multiple agencies will be responsible for funding the monitoring, operating, and maintenance activities in the Study Area. These agencies will likely include the following:

- a. Town of Sahuarita
- b. Pima County Regional Flood Control District
- c. City of Tucson
- d. Homeowner Associations
- e. Special Districts Maintenance

Operating and inspection/maintenance activities shall be performed by the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction, or a designated responsible party. All records, including inspection, maintenance, and flow monitoring, shall be kept on file with the floodplain management agency having jurisdiction.



SECTION 6: SUMMARY

6.1 Summary

The major components of future alternatives involve generating Development Criteria, intended to provide regulations and guidelines for future development within the area, and the delineation of a network of flow corridors throughout the study area. Public education and outreach, as well as recommending modifications or changes to future roadway alignments to avoid floodprone areas, were also recommended alternatives associated with the future analyses. The Public Involvement Plan for this project was designed to fulfill the promise of "consult" on the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Spectrum of Public Participation: to keep the public informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how the public input was considered in the decision. The goal of the plan was to bring more information into the study for consideration, provide additional perspectives on alternatives in order to reach the best outcome, and greater public understanding, support and acceptance of the study and its final outcome. The plan outlined 12 stakeholder workgroup meetings, 12 individual stakeholder meetings and six public meetings (three rounds of two meetings).

The actual effort materialized as seven workgroup meetings (three rounds of two meetings - one for public agencies and one for private organizations; the final meeting combined both public and private), seven stakeholder meetings (one each with Diamond Ventures, Pima Association of Governments, Arizona State Land Department, Southern Arizona Home Builders Association and Tucson Water, and two with City of Tucson staff), three rounds of two public meetings (each round included a meeting on both the east and west sides of the study area, for a more inclusive approach), and an additional two (2) public meetings were held in the Summit area to address specific flooding and drainage needs in that area. Additionally, 10 focus group meetings were held with staff from both public agencies and private organizations to collaboratively discuss and edit the Development Criteria for the LMWBMS.

The Development Criteria identified herein are part of the non-structural Recommended Alternative of the LMWBMS. Adherence to these development criteria will lessen the adverse impacts of urbanization and decrease the cost of



flooding for the public and private sectors. Over the past few decades that the County has been managing floodplain areas, it has become apparent that there is a lack of tools to adequately manage individual lot development, especially in distributary flow areas. In addition, as part of this basin management study, it was determined that Development Criteria which focused both on single-family development on individual lots, standard subdivisions and/or large master planned developments could reduce flood and related damage within the Lee Moore Wash watershed. As a result, a major component of the study presented herein establishes preferred, natural flow corridors to convey flows within these areas, as illustrated in Exhibit C.

Approximately 48% of the LMWBMS area is owned by the state of Arizona and managed by the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD). ASLD manages lands in compliance with the Enabling Act, the Arizona Constitution, and Arizona Revised Statutes Title 37 which require that State Trust Lands be managed in the best interests of the designated State Trust beneficiaries. As such, certain elements of the Development Criteria may not have the same regulatory compliance authority with regards to State Trust Lands as it does to land owned by others. The principles, policies and practices contained within the Design Criteria provide a useful method for insuring a consistent and comprehensive approach to floodplain management within the Study area; therefore it is in the best interest of all land owners and jurisdictions to comply with these Development Criteria to the fullest extent possible.



SECTION 7: APPENDICES

7.1 Authority

7.1.1 Arizona Revised Statutes

Arizona Revised Statutes Title 48 - Special Taxing Districts. http://www.azleg.gov/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp?Title=48

7.2 Drainage and Development Regulations

7.2.1 City of Tucson

City of Tucson Standard Manual for Drainage Design and Floodplain Management in Tucson, Arizona, December 1989, Revised, July 1998. http://tdotmaps.transview.org/mandr/Download/

7.2.2 Pima County Regional Flood Control District

Pima County Title 16, Floodplain and Erosion Hazard Management Ordinance. <u>http://rfcd.pima.gov/rules/</u>

7.2.3 Town of Sahuarita

Sahuarita Town Code, Title 14, Floodplain Management and Right-of-Way. http://www.codepublishing.com/AZ/Sahuarita/Sahuarita14/Sahuarita1405.html#1 4.05 Appendix F Stakeholder Involvement Flow Chart

LEE MOORE WASH BASIN MANAGEMENT STUDY



STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT FLOW CHART



Appendix G Stakeholder Database

Attended 10/12/06	Sir Title	First Name	Last Name	Company/Agency	Title	Business Address	City	State	Postal Code	Business Fax	Business Phone	E-mail Address
	Mr.	Greg	Fizer	Arizona Department of Corrections, ASPC - Tucson	Warden	10000 S. Wilmot Rd. PO Box 24400	Tucson	AZ	85734	574-7300	574-0024	
	Mr.	Greg	Gentsch	Arizona Department of Transportation		1221 S. Second Ave.	Tucson	AZ	85713	903-9969	388-4262	ggentsch@azdot.gov
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	Mr.	Jim	Glock	City of Tucson Department of Transportation	Director	201 N. Stone Ave. 6th Floor	Tucson	AZ	85701	791-5641	791-4371	jim.glock@tucsonaz.gov
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	Mr.	Rafael	Payan	Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation	Director	3500 W. River Rd.	Tucson	AZ	85741	877-6006	877-6000	pcpr@parks.co.pima.us
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Attended 10/12/06	Sir Title	First Name	Last Name	Company/Agency	Title	Business Address	City	State	Postal Code	Business Fax	Business Phone	E-mail Address
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LeeMooreWashBasin, PUBLIC SECTOR, DATA BASE

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Attachment D Environmental Resource Report

RITA 10 Environmental Resource Report

Arizona State Land Department

June 2023

RITA 10 Environmental Resource Report

Tucson, Arizona

Prepared for:

Arizona State Land Department

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June 2023

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I. INTRODUCTION



Introduction

This Environmental Resource Report (ERR) has been prepared in conjunction with the proposed RITA 10 Planned Area Development (PAD) for 8,361 acres of Arizona State Trust Land between Interstate 10 and Wilmot Road. See *Exhibit 1: Location Map* and *Exhibit 2: Subject Property*. This report conforms to the standards set forth by the City of Tucson's *Technical Standards Manual Section 4-02.0.0: Floodplain, Wash and ERZ Standards*. This report examines the property's hydrologic, geologic, vegetative, wildlife, and development factors. The ERR details existing environmental resources to more accurately identify Protected Riparian Areas (PRA) on the property, as defined by *Section 4-02.2.3* of the *Technical Standards Manual*.

Environmental designations applied to the property include:

- Environmental Resource Zone (ERZ) washes previously designated on the property
- Critical and Sensitive Wildlife Habitat of Eastern Pima County
- Protected Riparian Area (PRA) for areas within 100-year floodplains with flows exceeding 100 cfs

Background

With proximate utilities and future transportation planning underway, the subject property is well-positioned to develop with industrial, manufacturing, or logistics uses along with supportive housing and commercial services. ASLD is currently working to establish initial entitlements through the RITA 10 PAD rezoning to prepare the property for auction. The PAD creates the policy framework and regulatory standards for how future development will address the existing environmental resources. Secondary planning efforts will detail future site design and development plans after end users have purchased property within RITA 10.

The ERR informs this process by identifying existing environmental factors and specifying the extent of existing Protected Riparian Areas.



File Name: RITA 10 Location Source: Pima County GIS, 2022



Exhibit 2: Subject Property

Legend



RITA 10 PAD Boundary (8,361 ac)

Tucson City Limits

Parcels

PROJECT: SLD-03 File Name: RITA 10 Subject Property DATE: 5/31/2023

0 ¼ ½ SCALE: 1" = 1 mile

II. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE REPORT



Hydrology

RITA 10's hydrology consists of broad shallow floodplains of varying widths flowing across the property from east to west. Named washes within these floodplains are generally braided flow networks with little to no bank definition, dispersing across the property in a sheet flow condition. Due to their ill-defined nature, these watercourses are best described as broad, dispersed floodplain areas rather than defined wash corridors. Named washes associated with these 100-year floodplains within RITA 10 are the North Fork Airport Wash, South Fork Airport Wash, Franco Wash, and the Flato Wash. See *Exhibit 3: Floodplains*. These floodplain watercourses are described individually as follows:

The property is covered by FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) 04019C2905L, 04019C2925L, and 04019C40L. These maps identify the entire property in Zone X, outside the 0.2% chance of flood. No FEMA floodplains are located within 200 feet of the property boundary.

Named Watercourse Characteristics North Fork Airport Wash

The eastern extent of the North Fork Airport Wash flows through the northern portion of RITA 10 north of the Old Vail Connection Road alignment. It flows in a northwest direction, exits the property, and continues through the Sycamore Park neighborhood and Voyager RV Park. Its tributary flows in a similar direction and separates the northern RITA 10 boundary from the Sycamore Park subdivision. The main floodplain and tributary are generally 200 to 300 feet wide, however flows are still primarily dispersed as shallow sheet flow.

South Fork Airport Wash

The South Fork Airport Wash and its tributaries flow through the central portion of RITA 10. The main floodplain generally forms north of the Pima County Fairgrounds near Harrison Road and flows to the northwest. It has a defined flow path approximately 200 feet in width south of the TEP and El Paso Natural Gas substations before spreading out as braided flow west of these facilities. The northern tributary floodplain north of the TEP Substation has a 500 to 600-foot wide shallow flow path that joins the braided wash network. The southern tributary floodplain varies in width from 200 to 400 feet. It follows a similar flow path as the main wash floodplain before turning north and joining the main floodplain near the Kolb Road alignment. The main wash floodplain and the two tributaries all converge at the Old Vail Road alignment approximately ¾ of a mile south of the Kolb Road terminus. A large manmade berm stops drainage within these floodplains at this convergence point. These flow paths break out around the sides of the berm and continue to the northwest as a braided network downstream of the berm.

Franco Wash

The Franco Wash and its tributaries begin across I-10 east of the property. It is a broad, braided floodplain network flowing in a sheet flow condition through the eastern portion of RITA 10 between I-10 and Houghton Road. The flow is captured and directed underneath Houghton Road through a series of channels, catchment basins, and culverts installed as part of Pima

County's recently completed Houghton Road widening project. It continues through the Pima County Fairgrounds in this managed condition before returning to its original broad and braided sheet flow pattern flowing in two paths through the southern portion of RITA 10. The floodplain reaches over ½ mile wide as it flows in a westerly direction through the property. The sheet flow consolidates into defined natural channels approximately one mile west of the property, and continues in this condition before emptying into the Santa Cruz River to the west.

Flato Wash

A small portion of the Flato Wash's northern tributary floodplain crosses the southwest corner of RITA 10's boundary along the Dawn Road alignment. This tributary follows the similar braided, shallow sheet flow network as the other floodplains onsite. It flows in this condition to the west through State Trust Land outside of the RITA 10 boundary before crossing Wilmot Road and converging into the Flato's main flow through the solar generation facility to the west.

These floodplains along with their many tributaries are designated as Environmental Resource Zone (ERZ) washes under Article 5.7 of the City of Tucson UDC (see *Exhibit 4: ERZ Designations*).

100-Year Floodplains

There are two separate 100-year floodplains located on the property, one in the north and one in the south. First are the floodplains associated with the North and South Fork Airport Washes flowing across the northern half of the property and are delineated as regulatory floodplains carrying at least 100 cubic feet per second (cfs). Second, the Lee Moore Wash study delineates the floodplain associated with the Franco Wash flows across the site's southern portion and a small portion of the Flato Wash's northern extent. See *Exhibit 3: Floodplains*.

Exhibit 3: Floodplains



Previous Studies & Basin Management

Portions of the property are located within several study areas, including the Airport Wash Basin Management Study, Lee Moore Wash Basin Management Plan, Lee Moore Wash East, and Lee Moore Wash West. Pima County Regional Flood Control District completed these studies to identify the drainage and flooding hazards within the area's watersheds and develop alternatives to address those hazards.

Existing & Proposed Drainageway

The property is undeveloped, with no constructed drainageways present on-site. The Arizona State Land Department owns the locally mapped floodplain segments flowing through the property and the locally occurring drainageways. The RITA 10 PAD proposes maintaining and enhancing the site's more significant flow paths through consolidation of the floodplain areas carrying less flow. The details would be identified as part of an enhancement plan established in the PAD in a manner similar to the Julian Wash Enhancement Plan in the H2K PAD, approved by the Tucson City Council in July 2022. This consolidation and enhancement approach would allow for the creation of larger contiguous tracts of land desired by large-scale industrial users, facilitate land sales by ASLD and contribute positively to the City of Tucson's economic growth. Alterations to and ownership of the enhanced drainageways will be determined during the secondary planning process or at the time of development.

Vegetation

Protected Riparian Areas (PRA)

The Shaw 1994 Habitat Modeling and the Critical and Sensitive Wildlife Habitats of Eastern Pima County (CSWH) (2005) established a presumption of riparian habitat that might be present on the property; however, Shaw's identification of potential riparian habitat on the property conflicts with that shown on the CSWH Map. Shaw shows large, isolated patches of potential riparian area, while the CSWH shows narrow strands linking riparian areas together. See *Exhibit 5: Shaw Riparian Habitat Modeling (1994)* and *Exhibit 6: Critical & Sensitive Wildlife Habitats of Eastern Pima County (2005)*. Since the last survey's completion nearly twenty years ago, a rise in temperature and decades of drought conditions have affected the vegetative condition within the study area. Field work verifies that both studies overestimate the riparian resources currently present on-site.

A more recent analysis was conducted to determine the presence and extent of riparian resources within the RITA 10 boundary. Analysis began with floodplain mapping conducted by Psomas to identify regulatory floodplains, flow areas, and the overall drainage network. The property was then examined for regulated riparian areas per Section 4-02.2.2 of the City of Tucson Technical Standards Manual (TSM) using a combination of current aerial photography (Pima County 2022 Pictometry), infrared imagery (see *Exhibit 7: USDA NAIP Vegetation Cover*), and on-site vegetative sampling to determine the extent of potential Protected Riparian Areas on-site. *Exhibit 8: Preliminary PRA* *Delineation* depicts the results of this analysis with a preliminary area of 492 acres of Protected Riparian Areas distributed across RITA 10. These PRA limits are subject to further refinement and alteration through additional analysis and field inventory as part of the secondary planning effort or development plan process. *Exhibit 9: PRA & Riparian Habitat Comparison* depicts the difference between the Preliminary PRA limits and the Pima County riparian areas from Exhibit 6. Some areas overlap, but the Pima County Riparian tends to overestimate the amount of habitat in RITA 10.

The TSM also requires identification of Protected Riparian Areas (PRA) per Section 4-02.2.3:

"The protected riparian area is the area that has riparian habitat that is to be preserved. Except for watercourses designated by ordinance as subject to ERZ and WASH regulations, the protected riparian area shall not exceed the 100-year floodplain. Protected riparian areas include areas that provide habitat structure, wildlife food and shelter, and that also aid in supporting wildlife connectivity, control and help to improve quality. Riparian habitat may include (A) vegetative resources, (B) mapped areas and wildlife habitat and (C) corridors listed below where such habitat is riparian in nature and function."

A. Vegetative Resources

Vegetative Resources are defined as groups of three or more individual plants in close proximity to each other representing any of the plant species (and any combination of associated vegetative structure) listed below:
Mesoriparian plant species, including Arizona walnut, Fremont cottonwood, Goodding (black) willow, Arizona sycamore, Arizona ash.

Analysis Results: No Mesoriparian plant species are present within the RITA 10 PAD area.

2. Over-story vegetation consisting of closely spaced, perennial, woody plants (e.g., mesquite, foothill palo verde, Mexican palo verde, ironwood, netleaf hackberry) that are generally six feet or more in total height, and where the distance between canopy margins of individuals of the predominant over-story plant species is less than two times the height of the tallest individuals.

Analysis Results: This vegetative resource is present in areas of higher water accumulation, such as the defined floodplain of the South Fork Airport Wash south of the TEP Substation and the floodplain areas immediately upstream of two manmade berms blocking the flow of the South Fork Airport Wash and the Franco Wash floodplains.

3. Understory vegetation consisting of closely spaced, perennial woody plants (e.g., catclaw and whitethorn acacia) that are generally six feet or less in total height and where the distance between canopy margins of individuals of the predominant understory plant species is generally less than two times the height of the tallest individuals, excluding nearly pure stands of understory

vegetation consisting of the following perennial woody plants: burrow bush, creosote bush, desert broom, or triangle-leaf bursage.

Analysis Results: This is the dominant vegetative condition for most of the RITA 10 floodplains. Much of the understory vegetation is found along portions of braided flow paths in shallow sheet flow areas. Vegetation in these areas generally consisted of small plants in poor health due to extended periods of drought.

 Combinations of overstory and understory vegetation that together constitute valuable habitat, and tobosa swales.

Analysis Results: This combination is limited to areas where stormwater concentration is identified in Section A.2.

B. Mapped Areas shown on the Critical and Sensitive Wildlife Habitat Maps which contain:

1. Major segments of desert riparian habitat extending from public preserves.

Analysis Results: No public preserves are adjacent to RITA 10.

2. Major segments of desert riparian habitat not extending directly from a public preserve but containing a high density and diversity of plant and animal species.

Analysis Results: No major segments of desert riparian areas containing a high density and diversity of plants and animals are present within RITA 10.

3. Deciduous riparian woodlands.

Analysis Results: No deciduous riparian woodlands are present within RITA 10.

4. Mesquite bosques.

Analysis Results: No mesquite bosques are present within RITA 10.

5. Lakes, ponds, or wetlands.

Analysis Result: There is one manmade ponding area associated with the current ASLD grazing lease that was created by damming off the Franco Wash with a berm west of the Pima County Fairgrounds.

C. Wildlife Habitat Corridors:

Wildlife includes, but is not limited to, the wildlife and areas identified in the public draft or final City of Tucson Habitat Conservation Plan applicable to the regulated area.

Analysis Results: No mapped wildlife habitat corridors exist through RITA 10. The fragmented vegetation pattern prevents habitat connection. The RITA 10 PAD will create

these connections through the enhancement of the Franco Wash and South Fork Airport Wash corridors.

Environmental Resource Zone

Section 4-02.2.2 of the TSM stipulates that ERZ Watercourses are regulated areas subject to review. Nearly every floodplain flow path and tributary throughout RITA 10 has been designated an ERZ Watercourse. WASH Watercourses are also subject to review, but no WASH Watercourses are located on-site. See *Exhibit 4: ERZ Designations*.

Regulated areas not designated as ERZ or WASH watercourses are defined as the 100-year floodplain of watercourses with flows of 100 cfs or more, including those areas which contain the following:

1. Hydroriparian, Mesoriparian, or Xeroriparian Types A, B, or C habitats as delineated by Pima County as part of Article X of the Pima County Floodplain and Erosion Hazard Ordinance.

Analysis Result: The property contains only small pockets of Hydroriparian, Mesoriparian, or Xeroriparian Types A, and B habitats, except for two areas upstream of manmade berms: one at the convergence of the South Fork Airport Wash and its two tributaries and one on the Franco Wash west of the Pima County Fairgrounds. These interventions stop the natural flow of these washes, degrading riparian habitat downstream. Xeroriparian C is the dominant classification shown on Pima County's riparian map. However, a more recent vegetative analysis was performed as part of this ERR,

showing that much of this habitat is not present on-site. See *Appendix 1 Vegetation Inventory Summary*.

2. Hydroriparian, Mesoriparian, or Xeroriparian High or Xeroriparian Intermediate Habitats as delineated in the TSMS Phase II Stormwater Master Plan.

Analysis Result: This habitat type has not been delineated within RITA 10.

3. Xeroriparian Low Habitats as delineated in the TSMS Phase II Stormwater Master Plan or Type D habitat as delineated by Pima County for connectivity between higher habitat classes, if low-volume, high-value habitats are present, including tabosa swales or similar habitats.

Analysis Result: Pima County's riparian map shows several Type D habitats forming connections between higher value habitat areas within the site's broad, shallow floodplains. Recent vegetation analysis shows that much of the habitat delineated on the Pima County Map is not present on-site, and subsequently, no connections between these habitats exist.

4. Unclassified or undocumented riparian habitat of equivalent value to the above criteria.

Analysis Result: While additional unclassified or undocumented riparian habitat may be present on-site, there is no other habitat of equivalent value to the above criteria located within the RITA 10 boundaries. Undocumented habitat that meets the definition of PRA as described in the

City of Tucson TSM and is planned for disturbance or removal will have a mitigation plan prepared following the standards established in the RITA 10 PAD. Riparian habitat delineated by Pima County that meets the City of Tucson PRA criteria and is planned for disturbance, will follow an off-site mitigation plan prepared in accordance with the RITA 10 PAD standards.

Exhibit 4: ERZ Designations



Legend





--- ERZ Wash

PROJECT: SLD-03 File Name: RITA 10 Subject Property DATE: 5/31/2023



Exhibit 5: Shaw Riparian Habitat Modeling (1994)



Exhibit 6: Critical & Sensitive Wildlife Habitats of Eastern Pima County (2005)



Exhibit 7: USDA NAIP Vegetation Cover



Exhibit 8: Preliminary PRA Delineation

Legend

Parcels

RITA 10 PAD Boundary (8,361 ac)

Preliminary PRA Limits* (492 ac)

*NOTE: PRA Limits shown on this exhibit are preliminary delineations based on aerial imagery, remote sensing data, and field sampling. These limits are subject to further verification and may be altered with additional analysis through the secondary planning or development plan process. PROJECT: SLD-03 File Name: RITA 10 Subject Property

0 ¼ ½ SCALE: 1" = 1 mile

DATE: 5/31/2023



Exhibit 9: PRA & Riparian Habitat Comparison

Pima County Regulated Riparian Areas (2005) (1,501 ac)

*NOTE: PRA Limits shown on this exhibit are preliminary delineations based on aerial imagery, remote sensing data, and field sampling. These limits are subject to further verification and may be altered with additional analysis through the secondary planning or development plan process.

PROJECT: SLD-03 File Name: RITA 10 Subject Property DATE: 5/31/2023

Parcels

Wildlife

Arizona Game & Fish Department

The Arizona Game and Fish Department's Environmental Online Review Tool indicates nine Special Status Wildlife Species have been documented within a three-mile radius of the PAD boundary. These species are listed in the table below, along with their status from various agencies. Please note that this report does not indicate the presence of these species on the property, only that they may occur in the area. *Appendix 2: Arizona Game & Fish Report* of this document includes the entire Environmental Online Review Tool report.

Special Status Wildlife Species					
Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	SGCN*
Athene cunicularia hypugaea	Western Burrowing Owl	SC	S	S	2
Camptostoma imberbe	Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet		S		2
Danaus plexippus	Monarch	С		S	
Gastrophryne mazatlanensis	Sinaloan Narrow-mouthed Toad			S	2
Gopherus morafkai	Sonoran Desert Tortoise	CCAA	S	S	1
Myotis velifer	Cave Myotis	SC		S	2
Poeciliopsis occidentalis	Gila Topminnow	LE			
Tadarida brasiliensis	Brazilian Free-tailed Bat				2
Terrapene ornata luteola	Desert Box Turtle			S	
FWS: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service					
USFS: U.S. Forest Service					
BLM: Bureau of Land Management					
SGCN*: Species of greatest conservation need					
C: Candidate Species					
CCAA: Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances	5				
LE: Listed endangered					
SC: Species of Concern					
S: Sensitive					
1: Deemed Vulnerable with additional protection criteria					
2: Deemed Vulnerable with no additional protection criteria	1				

Geology & Soils

Soil Conditions

Exhibit 10: Soils shows that RITA 10 consists of multiple soil types typical of the Tucson Valley. Future purchasers of land within the PAD will submit geotechnical reports assessing the soil characteristics for their respective sites before construction. These reports will be submitted during the secondary planning or development plan stages and include recommendations for addressing soil conditions and best practices for developing the property.

Previous grading on-site is limited to a series of berms created to control water flowing through the floodplains of the Franco Wash and South Fork Airport Wash. Many of these berms divert flow paths into jogs and bends or capture flows for storage in ponding areas. Combined with the area's dispersive, shallow sheet flow, this results in fragmented and intermittent flow patterns across the property. Alterations or removal of these berms will be assessed with future drainage analysis and improvements.

A composting and landfill facility is located near the southwest corner of the PAD boundary off Wilmot Road. This facility accepts inert construction debris and landscape waste. No aggregate mines are present within one mile of the property.

Erosion Potential & Sediment Transport

The various soil types within RITA 10 have different wind and water erosion susceptibilities. *Appendix 3: Soil Report* identifies each soil's erosion potential. Further erosion potential and sediment transport analysis will be conducted in the secondary planning process as properties are developed within RITA 10.

Groundwater Recharge Potential

The numerous soils on the property contain a range of infiltration characteristics. Further geotechnical analysis will be conducted as part of the secondary planning process and include recommendations pertaining to stormwater retention and groundwater recharge potential on the property. See *Appendix 3: Soil Report* for information regarding each soil type's permeability and infiltration capacity. The potential for groundwater recharge is anticipated to be increased through the consolidation of sheet flow areas into enhanced flow corridors.

Exhibit 10: Soils



Development

Development Boundary

Future development in RITA 10 is anticipated to accommodate a range of large-scale employers, campus-style developments, and supporting office, commercial, and residential uses. Future market demand will ultimately determine the end users.

Rights-of-way

- Old Vail Connection Road, running through the northern portion of RITA 10, has a right-of-way between 100 and 150 feet.
- Rocket Road/Harrison Road in the northern boundary has an existing right-of-way width between 100 and 160 feet.
- Houghton Road right-of-way in the eastern portion of the property is approximately 250 feet wide.
- To date, the future Sonoran Corridor route has only been identified through the Tier I Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as a 2,000-foot-wide Preferred Alternative Corridor running along the east side of the property. ADOT will need to complete a future Tier II EIS to determine the ultimate 400foot right-of-way for this future highway.

Easements

• A Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) easement runs diagonally through the eastern portion of the property to the TEP substation. From there, it runs south to the southern edge of the property.

- TEP also has an easement that runs parallel with the WAPA easement south of Interstate 10.
- El Paso Natural Gas has an easement running approximately ½ mile south of the WAPA easement, roughly parallel to I-10.

Utility Infrastructure *Sewer*

Most of the RITA 10 property is vacant and undeveloped. As such, the existing sewer facilities are concentrated near surrounding established development in the northern and western portions of the PAD boundary.

The northern portion is served by a fifteen-inch main that connects to Pima County's Southeast Interceptor along Harrison Road. This line serves the Pima County Fairgrounds and the Southeast Employment and Logistics Center (SELC) development area. Capacity in this line may be limited due to narrower pipe sizing downstream.

The western portion of the property is best positioned to be served by the existing wastewater network, as recent improvements have increased the service capacity in this area. An eighteen-inch sewer main was recently installed in the Old Vail Connection alignment to increase capacity for the state and federal prisons west of Wilmot Road. This new main connects to the Old Nogales Interceptor west of the Southlands. Initial analysis of this new line indicates an available capacity of nearly 12.5 million gallons per day. The Old Vail Connection main has the added benefit of opening approximately two million gallons per day of additional capacity in the Wilmot Road mains to the north that used to serve the prisons.

Secondary planning efforts will further analyze the wastewater network, including line sizing, capacity, points of connection, and other potential improvements.

Electricity

Tucson Electric Power's (TEP) Vail Substation is located on the larger of the two utility out parcels in the northern portion of RITA 10. The approximately 219-acre property is southwest of the intersection of Rita Road and Old Vail Connection Road. The Vail Substation serves the southeast portion of the Tucson Metro Area. Transmission lines connecting to the substation run from the south, southeast, and west.

The Western Area Power Administration's (WAPA) Southline high voltage transmission line runs diagonally along the eastern RITA 10 boundary parallel with I-10. These transmission lines cross Harrison Road north of the Pima County Fairgrounds and connect to the Vail Substation. The WAPA transmission lines continue south of the substation for approximately two miles before running northwest toward Tucson International Airport. TEP has partnered with WAPA to upgrade the Southline to a double-circuit 230-kV line connecting the Vail Substation to the Tortolita Substation in Pinal County. This upgrade is in the final planning phase. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2023 and be completed in 2023. The new transmission line will better serve Tucson with more reliable power. It will also increase the transmission capacity enabling future renewable energy development.

The Wilmot Solar Energy Center west of RITA 10 is one such renewable energy development. This 100-megawatt solar generation and 30-megawatt battery storage facility is TEP's largest renewable energy investment to date.

These electric facilities and transmission lines will be analyzed further during the secondary planning process to ensure future developments in RITA 10 are compatible.

Natural Gas

El Paso Natural Gas maintains a compressor station south of TEP's Vail Substation. This compressor station serves the high-pressure natural gas transmission pipeline that crosses the RITA 10 property. This pipeline runs in a northwest/southeast direction through the center of the property. Secondary planning efforts will account for this pipeline to ensure future development is compatible with this existing infrastructure.

Water

Existing water infrastructure

The property is entirely within Tucson Water's Obligated Service Area. Existing water facilities consist of reservoirs and water mains north of RITA 10 and production wells to the south. An existing 36-inch water main along Wilmot Road connects to the Hermans Reservoir southeast of the Wilmot Road and Hermans Road intersection. This reservoir generally serves established developments to the north and west, with little pressure available to serve the RITA 10 property to the south. A recently constructed 24-inch water main along Houghton Road will provide water to the eastern portion of RITA 10 as well as the Pima County Fairgrounds upon completion of a future transmission main connecting to the Vail Booster Station north of I-10 and east of Houghton Road.

Planned Water Infrastructure

Tucson Water maintains a Capital Improvement Program (CIP), which is the primary means for identifying and funding long-term water supply projects. There are several projects affecting the RITA 10 area which are intended to move a large volume (10 MGD) of potable water by connecting existing facilities from the west through the Old Vail Connection Road to storage facilities east of Houghton Road. The CIP's justification statements indicate the purpose of these improvements is to both convey water east to the Vail Booster Station for use in Corona de Tucson as well as to provide water availability to support economic development in the area.

On-Site Open Space & Trails

No open spaces, parks, or trails are within the RITA 10 boundary. Informal trails on the property are not permitted uses on State Trust Land.

The Pima Regional Trail System Master Plan proposes several greenways through RITA 10. These include the *Flato Wash Greenway (G020), Franco Wash Greenway (G021), Houghton Road Greenway (G025), Kolb Rd South Greenway (G029), Old Vail/Harrison Greenway Rd (G032), Power Line Greenway (G034), Sarnoff Rd Greenway (G045), and Wilmot Rd Greenway (G053). Two trails, the Airport Wash North Trail (T001)* and the *Railroad Wash Trail (T024)*, are proposed in the northeast portion of the

property. The Houghton Road Greenway is the only existing trail abutting RITA 10. This segment consists of a multiuse path south of Interstate 10 that was included with the recent Houghton Road improvements. This segment continues north of I-10 and provides access to the Loop at the Julian Wash Greenway.

Any trails on State Trust Land will require an application to ASLD for legal ROW or will need to be negotiated with the ultimate purchaser(s) and included in the secondary planning process.

Future on-site open space may be created through the designation of protected washes or the creation of enhanced flow corridors. Any trail or recreation elements associated with this future open space shall be approved by ASLD and detailed in the secondary planning phase. See *Exhibit 11: Recreation*.



Plant Inventory

Site visits were conducted to determine the vegetation condition and observe the general state of the property. Over 30 one-acre sample plots were inventoried in this assessment. See *Appendix 1: Vegetation Inventory*. Individual plant inventories will be conducted during the secondary planning or development plan process to comply with the Native Plant Preservation Plan and Riparian Habitat Mitigation Plan requirements established in the RITA 10 PAD regulations.

Riparian Encroachment

The riparian areas associated with the existing floodplains will be evaluated and may be enhanced or removed as part of the secondary planning process according to the RITA 10 PAD regulations. This planning effort seeks to address RITA 10's drainage, vegetation, and wildlife movement holistically. The backbone of this approach are drainage improvements that consolidate the existing broad 100-year floodplains and braided flow paths into manageable and naturalistic drainage areas called enhanced flow corridors. Enhancing these floodplains creates a consistent and predictable drainage pattern across the property and lays the groundwork for habitat improvement and wildlife connectivity.

Mitigation Plan

The process for mitigating impacts on the existing vegetation is detailed in the RITA 10 PAD Mitigation Standards. These standards create simplified and streamlined procedures to meet the intent of existing habitat and vegetation regulations.

Furthermore, the enhanced flow corridors will be designed to accommodate mitigation measures on-site.

APPENDIX 1: VEGETATION INVENTORY





RITA 10 Vegetation Inventory Summary - March 17, 2023

This report summarizes the methodology and findings of a vegetation inventory and analysis conducted by The Planning Center. The inventory was conducted on December 16, 2022, and the first week of March 2023. It assessed the general condition and density of vegetative communities found on Arizona State Trust Land within the RITA 10 PAD boundaries. The findings of this inventory will inform mitigation strategies crafted through the PAD entitlement process for future implementation in secondary planning and the development plan process.

Methodology

The large size of the planning area led to the use of sample plots as a data collection method. Sample plots are often utilized to extrapolate data across larger land areas where a full inventory is not feasible. Sample Plots (also known as relevés) have been used in vegetation studies as a practical, relatively fast means of collecting information on vegetation (MDNR, 2013). Sample plots have been used by the National Park Service, Pima County, and The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum to assess vegetation coverage and health in the Tucson region. The sample plot method for this inventory was presented to City Staff who approved it as a valid method for assessing vegetation within RITA 10.

This study's sample plot methodology is derived from a combination of the relevé method found in Pima County's *Environmentally Sensitive Roadway Design Guidelines* (Pima County, 2002) and The National Parks Service's sampling in *Monitoring Upland Vegetation and Soils in the Sonoran Desert and Chihuahuan Desert Networks* (NPS, 2012). The sample plots represent vegetative communities and were objectively identified using aerial photography, established floodplain limits, and USDA NAIP vegetative density imagery. One-acre sample plots were located within the 100-year regulatory floodplain limits at ½ mile intervals along the major flow corridors of the Franco Wash Tributary and the central flow of South Fork Airport Wash. Additional one-acre sample plots were located in upland areas to sample vegetation outside of floodplains. Sample plots were chosen for inventory based on their vehicular accessibility.

Thirty-one sample plots were inventoried based on accessibility (see *Exhibit 1: Sample Plot Locations*). The sample plots are in areas most likely to be altered by future development and drainage improvements. They include locations upstream and downstream of manmade interventions, along wash channels, and inside and outside 100-year regulatory floodplains.

Within each sample plot, plants meeting inventory criteria outlined in the City of Tucson standards for protected native plant species were geo-referenced into an online GIS database. The inventory criteria included: species type, plant height, trunk caliper of two inches or greater, and viability. Viability was determined as High, Medium, or Low as outlined in *UDC Section* 7.7.5.A.1.b.(1) Plant Viability Standards and TSM Section 2.5B.1.r Encroachment in Regulated Areas.

The inventory was conducted using GPS mobile phone app and GIS data to collect and record individual plant information. In sample plots with dense uniform vegetation, individual plants were counted, and the characteristics of each species (height, caliper, and viability) were summarized on-site and input into GIS. Site photos were also taken to document plant species, general vegetative coverage, and vegetative communities within the sample plot areas. The collected data may be utilized to project plant species, plant densities, and the overall health of vegetative communities throughout the planning area.





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Exhibit 1: Sample Plot Locations

Vegetative Communities

Generally, three vegetative communities were observed: Upland, Upland Floodplain, and Floodplain.

Upland Community

The Upland community is located on higher ground outside of the floodplain limits. The terrain consists of rocky soils on gentle slopes. Vegetation cover is dominated by creosote flats, cholla and prickly pear cacti stands, with ocotillos also present. The few desert trees present in this community mainly consist of Mesquite and Foothills Palo Verde species. Mesquites are small (less than eight feet in height) and in poor health. Foothills Palo Verdes are larger and in better health than the Mesquites. Shrubs and annual grasses are absent from this community.

Upland Floodplain Community

The Upland Floodplain community is located in or near the 100-year floodplain limits. The terrain is flat and consists of bare sandy soils. Vegetation consists of a mixture of desert trees (Mesquite and Blue Palo Verde), shrubs (Acacia species, Desert Hackberry), creosote flats, cholla and prickly pear cacti stands. The concentration of trees and shrubs along small stream flows differentiates the Upland Floodplain community from the Upland Community. Trees are small (less than eight feet in height) and tend to be in poor health. Some patches of ground cover annuals are present in this community.

Floodplain Community

The Floodplain communities had a higher concentration of plants predominately associated with riparian communities, such as Acacia and Hackberry species. The ground plane typically comprised annual grasses, shrubs, and short-lived perennials. These communities also have trees that are larger in form (greater than eight feet in height) and typically identified as being healthier. The densest and largest vegetation is found upstream of two manmade berms, one west of the fairgrounds (Plots 22 and 23) and one at the confluence of South Fork Airport Wash (Plot 4). This difference is likely due to the accumulation of water behind the berms.

The following site photos demonstrate the varying vegetative communities (see *Exhibits 2-4*).



Exhibit 2: Upland Vegetation Community Photos



Sample Plot 2



Sample Plot 3



Exhibit 2: Upland Vegetation Community Photos (continued)



Sample Plot 9



Sample Plot 12



Sample Plot 18





Exhibit 2: Upland Vegetation Community Photos (continued)

Sample Plot 14



Sample Plot 16





Exhibit 2: Upland Vegetation Community Photos (continued)

Sample Plot 24



Sample Plot 24





Exhibit 3: Upland Floodplain Vegetation Community Photos

Sample Plot 6



Sample Plot 11





Exhibit 3: Upland Floodplain Vegetation Community Photos (continued)

Sample Plot 13



Sample Plot 15



Exhibit 3: Upland Floodplain Vegetation Community Photos (continued)



Sample Plot 19



Exhibit 3: Upland Floodplain Vegetation Community Photos (continued)



Sample Plot 20



Sample Plot 21



Sample Plot 25





Exhibit 3: Upland Floodplain Vegetation Community Photos (continued)

Sample Plot 26



Sample Plot 31



Exhibit 4: Floodplain Vegetation Community Photos

Sample Plot 1



Sample Plot 4





Sample Plot 4

Exhibit 4: Floodplain Vegetation Community Photos



Sample Plot 4 – central flow channel



Sample Plot 5





Exhibit 4: Floodplain Vegetation Community Photos

Sample Plot 7



Sample Plot 8





Exhibit 4: Floodplain Vegetation Community Photos (continued)

Sample Plot 11



Sample Plot 23





Exhibit 4: Floodplain Vegetation Community Photos (continued)

Sample Plot 27



Sample Plot 28


Findings

The 31 sample plots are divided among the three vegetative communities as follows: Upland (8), Upland Floodplain (14), Floodplain (9), and communities. A total of 1,940 plants met the inventory criteria and were recorded within the 31 one-acre sample plots. The range of vegetation found within these plots corresponds with the vegetative community. The Floodplain community accounted for 60% (1,169 plants) of the total plants inventoried. The Upland Floodplain and Upland sample plots predominantly consisted of creosote flats, cholla and prickly pear cacti stands, and bare soils. They contained fewer species that met the inventory criteria. The Upland Floodplain community community contained 36% (698 plants), and the Upland community contained 3% (73 plants) of the inventory total.

Species type is only one determinant of the overall vegetative condition of the area. The size and health of plant species play a more important role in habitat formation. Velvet Mesquite is the most numerous species accounting for 46% of species inventoried across all sample plots. However, the form and health of most of these trees are poor. As shown in the chart below, inventoried Mesquite trees have an average height of six feet and an average caliper of seven inches. Nearly 70% of these trees are given a low viability rating as they are damaged, display health issues, or have died. Outside the regulated Floodplain, mitigation is not required for dead plants or plants with a low viability rating per the City of Tucson's Native Plant Preservation Ordinance. Whitethorn Acacia and Desert Hackberry are the next most prevalent species accounting for 29% and 18% of inventoried plants, respectively. These species are found near accumulations of water in the Floodplain and Upland Floodplain communities. They tend to have a higher viability rating than the Mesquite species. Other inventoried species include Foothills Palo Verde, Blue Palo Verde, Catclaw Acacia, Graythorn, Ocotillo, and Yucca (see *Table 1: Inventory Summary - All Communities*).



	Table 1	: Inventory	Summary -	- All Comm	unities		
Species	Count	Average Height	Average Caliper	High Viability	Medium Viability	Low Viability	Dead Plant
		(feet)	(inches)				
Trees							-
Velvet Mesquite	893	6	7	1%	30%	49%	20%
Blue Palo Verde	72	9	6	36%	42%	17%	5%
Foothills Palo Verde	17	6	7	65%	29%	6%	0%
Shrubs							
Whitethorn Acacia	553	6	3	39%	45%	11%	5%
Desert Hackberry	345	11	4	18%	77%	3%	2%
Catclaw Acacia	21	8	6	24%	76%	0%	0%
Graythorn	4	10	4	75%	25%	0%	0%
Other							
Ocotillo	30	10	14 canes	97%	3%	0%	0%
Soaptree Yucca	4	8	N/A	100%	0%	0%	0%
Other Yucca species	1	6	N/A	0%	100%	0%	0%
Total	1,940	-	-	19%	43%	22%	16%

Species size and viability vary across vegetative communities. As shown in the following tables, the Floodplain community contains a greater range and concentration of species that tend to be healthier and larger in caliper and height than the other communities. This is likely due to greater water availability within the Floodplain's main flows, leading to a healthier vegetative condition. It should be noted that sample plots 4, 22, and 23 account for nearly 40% of all Floodplain vegetation inventoried. These plots have the highest concentration of larger, healthier plants compared to other sample plots. These plots are upstream of manmade earthen berms that impede major flow corridors in their respective washes. These manmade interventions likely contribute to a higher accumulation of water upstream, leading to a healthier, larger, and denser vegetative condition than found in other sample plots (see *Table 2: Inventory Summary - Floodplain Community*).



Ta	Table 2: Inventory Summary - Floodplain Community									
Species	Count	Average Height (feet)	Average Caliper (inches)	High Viability	Medium Viability	Low Viability	Dead Plant			
Trees										
Velvet Mesquite	558	12	8	2%	43%	35%	20%			
Blue Palo Verde	43	13	7	56%	40%	4%	0%			
Foothills Palo Verde	3	12	5	33%	67%	0%	0%			
Shrubs										
Whitethorn Acacia	261	9	2	35%	58%	4%	3%			
Desert Hackberry	303	11	4	16%	81%	1%	2%			
Catclaw Acacia	13	11	6	8%	92%	0%	0%			
Graythorn	2	6	2	100%	0%	0%	0%			
Other										
Soaptree Yucca	1	8	N/A	100%	0%	0%	0%			
Other Yucca species	1	5	N/A	0%	100%	0%	0%			
Total	1,169	-	-	15%	56%	25%	4%			

The Upland Floodplain community tends to have similar species as the Floodplain community though they are less abundant, with less than 700 plants inventoried. Plants in this community exhibit smaller size, lower density, and poorer health. Velvet Mesquite is the most abundant species, but many exhibit low viability or are dead. Desert Hackberry is also present though fewer in number. They also tend to be smaller and less viable than similar species in the Floodplain community. There are slightly more Whitethorn Acacias in this community, but they are smaller and present a wider range of viability than their Floodplain counterparts. (see *Table 3: Inventory Summary – Upland Floodplain Community*).



Table	3: Invent	ory Summa	ary – Uplan	d Floodpla	in Commun	nity	
Species	Count	Average Height	Average Caliper	High Viability	Medium Viability	Low Viability	Dead Plant
Trees		(feet)	(inches)				
Velvet Mesquite	310	6	5	0%	10%	48%	42%
		-	-				
Blue Palo Verde	43	11	6	26%	44%	19%	11%
Foothills Palo Verde	10	12	6	90%	10%	0%	0%
Shrubs							
Whitethorn Acacia	280	6	2	42%	33%	16%	9%
Desert Hackberry	42	8	3	31%	50%	14%	5%
Catclaw Acacia	8	8	6	50%	50%	0%	0%
Graythorn	2	12	5	50%	50%	0%	0%
Other							
Soaptree Yucca	3	8	N/A	100%	%	%	%
Total	698	-	-	23%	24%	35%	18%

The Upland community contains the least inventoried plants (73 total). Tree species are sparse as cacti, creosote, and bare ground dominate this community. Many of the shrub species found in the other two communities are absent from the Upland community. This community is the only one containing Ocotillos, as they are suited for this drier setting (see *Table 4: Inventory Summary – Upland Community*).

-	Table 4: Inventory Summary – Upland Community									
Species	Count	Average Height (feet)	Average Caliper (inches)	High Viability	Medium Viability	Low Viability	Dead Plant			
Trees										
Velvet Mesquite	25	8	7	0%	4%	72%	24%			
Foothills Palo Verde	4	14	14	25%	50%	25%	0%			
Blue Palo Verde	2	8	6	0%	0%	100%	0%			
Shrubs										
Whitethorn Acacia	12	6	3	33%	25%	33%	8%			
Other										
Ocotillo	30	10	14 canes	97%	3%	0%	0%			
Total	73	-	-	45%	11%	29%	15%			



Conclusion

The three vegetation communities identified in this report give a general overview of the vegetative character of this portion of the Southlands. The overall vegetative condition of the inventory area consisted of a mix of stressed and sparse plants with pockets of healthier vegetation concentrated in areas of higher water accumulation. Manmade interventions have altered stormwater flows and improved vegetation coverage upstream. Aside from the pockets of concentrated vegetation, there is little difference in quality between plants inside and outside the regulatory 100-year Floodplain limits. The mixture of cacti and bare ground combined with the lack of healthy tree species and understory plants indicates that the flows within the 100-year floodplains are not of sufficient quantity or frequency to sustain healthy, mature native tree populations outside of specific concentrated areas. Based on this initial study, vegetation cover is not a major factor in developing this portion of Arizona State Trust Land. Further sampling and analysis may be needed to assess the vegetation condition in other portions of the RITA 10 planning area and the remainder of the Southlands.



Sources:

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), *A handbook for collecting vegetation plot data in Minnesota: The relevé method. 2nd edition,* 2013

National Park Service, *Monitoring Upland Vegetation and Soils in the Sonoran Desert and Chihuahuan Desert Networks*, <u>https://www.nps.gov/articles/uplands-monitoring-sonoran-desert.htm</u> (website visited 2/27/2023)

Pima County, Environmentally Sensitive Roadway Design Guidelines, 2002

Pima County GIS, Aeiral Pictometry Data, 2022

USDA Farm Services Agency (USDA), National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery, 2020

Van Devender, Thomas R. and Dimmitt, Mark A., *Final Report on "Conservation of Arizona Upland Sonoran Desert Habitat. Status and Threats of Buffelgrass (Pennisetum ciliare) in Arizona and Sonora. Project #2004-0013-003)".* Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, 2021 N. Kinney Rd., Tucson, AZ 85743, 2006





Arizona Environmental Online Review Tool Report



Arizona Game and Fish Department Mission To conserve Arizona's diverse wildlife resources and manage for safe, compatible outdoor recreation opportunities for current and future generations.

Project Name: RITA 10

User Project Number:

SLD-03

Project Description: Preliminary planning for State Trust Land

Project Type:

Development Within Municipalities (Urban Growth), Commercial/industrial (mall) and associated infrastructure, New construction

Contact Person:

Adam Call

Organization: The Planning Center

On Behalf Of: ASLD

Project ID:

HGIS-18760

Please review the entire report for project type and/or species recommendations for the location information entered. Please retain a copy for future reference.

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Disclaimer:

- 1. This Environmental Review is based on the project study area that was entered. The report must be updated if the project study area, location, or the type of project changes.
- 2. This is a preliminary environmental screening tool. It is not a substitute for the potential knowledge gained by having a biologist conduct a field survey of the project area. This review is also not intended to replace environmental consultation (including federal consultation under the Endangered Species Act), land use permitting, or the Departments review of site-specific projects.
- 3. The Departments Heritage Data Management System (HDMS) data is not intended to include potential distribution of special status species. Arizona is large and diverse with plants, animals, and environmental conditions that are ever changing. Consequently, many areas may contain species that biologists do not know about or species previously noted in a particular area may no longer occur there. HDMS data contains information about species occurrences that have actually been reported to the Department. Not all of Arizona has been surveyed for special status species, and surveys that have been conducted have varied greatly in scope and intensity. Such surveys may reveal previously undocumented population of species of special concern.
- 4. Arizona Wildlife Conservation Strategy (AWCS), specifically Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN), represent potential species distribution models for the State of Arizona which are subject to ongoing change, modification and refinement. The status of a wildlife resource can change quickly, and the availability of new data will necessitate a refined assessment.

Locations Accuracy Disclaimer:

Project locations are assumed to be both precise and accurate for the purposes of environmental review. The creator/owner of the Project Review Report is solely responsible for the project location and thus the correctness of the Project Review Report content.



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Recommendations Disclaimer:

- 1. The Department is interested in the conservation of all fish and wildlife resources, including those species listed in this report and those that may have not been documented within the project vicinity as well as other game and nongame wildlife.
- 2. Recommendations have been made by the Department, under authority of Arizona Revised Statutes Title 5 (Amusements and Sports), 17 (Game and Fish), and 28 (Transportation).
- 3. Potential impacts to fish and wildlife resources may be minimized or avoided by the recommendations generated from information submitted for your proposed project. These recommendations are preliminary in scope, designed to provide early considerations on all species of wildlife.
- 4. Making this information directly available does not substitute for the Department's review of project proposals, and should not decrease our opportunity to review and evaluate additional project information and/or new project proposals.
- 5. Further coordination with the Department requires the submittal of this Environmental Review Report with a cover letter and project plans or documentation that includes project narrative, acreage to be impacted, how construction or project activity(s) are to be accomplished, and project locality information (including site map). Once AGFD had received the information, please allow 30 days for completion of project reviews. Send requests to:

Project Evaluation Program, Habitat Branch Arizona Game and Fish Department 5000 West Carefree Highway Phoenix, Arizona 85086-5000 Phone Number: (623) 236-7600 Fax Number: (623) 236-7366 Or

PEP@azgfd.gov

6. Coordination may also be necessary under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and/or Endangered Species Act (ESA). Site specific recommendations may be proposed during further NEPA/ESA analysis or through coordination with affected agencies

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RITA 10 Web Map As Submitted By User

Sources: Ean, Airbus DS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodalastyretxen, Rijkswaterstaat, CSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap and the GIS user commanity

Township/Range(s): T15S, R15E; T16S, R15E; T16S, R16E

USGS Quad(s): TUCSON SE; VAIL

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Sources's Earl, Amou Do, Dedo, Nuca, Nicas, Colar, In Robinson, Noces, Nicas, OS Sources, Earl, Amou Do, Dedo, Nicas, Andrea, Calarda, Calarda, Intermap and the GIS user commonly inser Community.

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RITA 10 Township/Ranges and Land Ownership

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Arizona Game and Fish Department Project ID: HGIS-18760

Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	NPL	SGCN
Athene cunicularia hypugaea	Western Burrowing Owl	SC	S	S		2
Bat Colony						
Camptostoma imberbe	Northem Beardless-Tyrannulet		S			2
Coryphantha scheeri var. robustispina	Pima Pineapple Cactus	LE			HS	
Danaus plexippus	Monarch	С		S		
Echinocereus fasciculatus	Magenta-flower Hedgehog-cactus				SR	
Echinomastus erectocentrus var. erectocentrus	Needle-spined Pineapple Cactus	SC			SR	
Gastrophryne mazatlanensis	Sinoloan Narrow-mouthed Toad			S		2
Gopherus morafkai	Sonoran Desert Tortoise	CCA	S	S		1
Myotis velifer	Cave Myotis	SC		S		2
Poeciliopsis occidentalis occidentalis	Gila Topminnow	LE				1
Tadarida brasiliensis	Brazilian Free-tailed Bat					2
Terrapene ornata luteola	Desert Box Turtle			S		

Note: Status code definitions can be found at https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/planning/wildlifeguidelines/statusdefinitions/

Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	NPL	SGCN
Lee Moore Wash Flow Corridors	Pima County Wildlife Movement Area - Riparian/Wash					

Note: Status code definitions can be found at https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/planning/wildlifeguidelines/statusdefinitions/

Species of Greatest Conservation Need Predicted that Intersect with Project Footprint as Drawn, based on Predicted Range Models

Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	NPL	SGCN
Ammodramus savannarum perpallidus	Western Grasshopper Sparrow					
Ammospermophilus harrisii	Harris' Antelope Squirrel					
Anthus spragueii	Sprague's Pipit	SC				2
Aquila chrysaetos	Golden Eagle			S		2
Asio otus	Long-eared Owl					2
Aspidoscelis sonorae	Sonoran Spotted Whiptail					2
Athene cunicularia hypugaea	Western Burrowing Owl	SC	S	S		2
Auriparus flaviceps	Verdin					2
Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	SC		S		2
Buteo swainsoni	Swainson's Hawk					2

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.

Species of Greatest Conservation Need Predicted that Intersect with Project Footprint as Drawn, based on Predicted Range Models

Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	NPL	SGCN
Buteogallus anthracinus	Common Black Hawk					2
Calcarius ornatus	Chestnut-collared Longspur					2
Callipepla squamata	Scaled Quail					2
Calypte costae	Costa's Hummingbird					2
Camptostoma imberbe	Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet		S			2
Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus	Cactus Wren					2
Catharus ustulatus	Swainson's Thrush					2
Chaetodipus baileyi	Bailey's Pocket Mouse					2
Charadrius montanus	Mountain Plover	SC				2
Chilomeniscus stramineus	Variable Sandsnake					2
Choeronycteris mexicana	Mexican Long-tongued Bat	SC	S	S		2
Coccyzus americanus	Yellow-billed Cuckoo (Western DPS)					
Colaptes chrysoides	Gilded Flicker			S		2
Columbina inca	Inca Dove					2
Corvus cryptoleucus	Chihuahuan Raven					2
Corynorhinus townsendii pallescens	Pale Townsend's Big-eared Bat	SC	s	s		1
Crotalus tigris	Tiger Rattlesnake					2
Cynanthus latirostris	Broad-billed Hummingbird		s			2
Elgaria kingii	Madrean Alligator Lizard					2
Empidonax wrightii	Gray Flycatcher					2
Eumops perotis californicus	Greater Western Bonneted Bat					
Falco mexicanus	Prairie Falcon					2
Falco peregrinus anatum	American Peregrine Falcon					
Falco sparverius	American Kestrel					2
Gastrophryne mazatlanensis	Sinoloan Narrow-mouthed Toad					
Glaucidium brasilianum cactorum	Cactus Ferruginous Pygmy-owl					
Gopherus morafkai	Sonoran Desert Tortoise	CCA	S	S		1
Heloderma suspectum	Gila Monster					1
Icterus bullockii	Bullock's Oriole					2
Icterus cucullatus	Hooded Oriole					2
Icterus parisorum	Scott's Oriole					2
Incilius alvarius	Sonoran Desert Toad					2
Kinosternon sonoriense sonoriense	Desert Mud Turtle					
Lanius Iudovicianus	Loggerhead Shrike	SC				2
Lasiurus blossevillii	Western Red Bat		S			2
Lasiurus cinereus	Hoary Bat					2
Lasiurus xanthinus	Western Yellow Bat		S			2
Leptonycteris yerbabuenae	Lesser Long-nosed Bat	SC				1
Lepus alleni	Antelope Jackrabbit					2
200201300000000000000000000000000000000						

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Species of Greatest Conservation Need Predicted that Intersect with Project Footprint as Drawn, based on Predicted Range Models

Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	NPL	SGCN
Lithobates yavapaiensis	Lowland Leopard Frog	SC	S	S		1
Macrotus californicus	California Leaf-nosed Bat	SC		S		2
Megascops kennicottii	Western Screech-owl					
Melanerpes uropygialis	Gila Woodpecker					2
Melospiza lincolnii	Lincoln's Sparrow					2
Melozone aberti	Abert's Towhee		S			2
Micrathene whitneyi	Elf Owl					
Micruroides euryxanthus	Sonoran Coralsnake					2
Myadestes townsendi	Townsend's Solitaire					2
Myotis auriculus	Southwestern Myotis					2
Myotis thysanodes	Fringed Myotis	SC				2
Myotis velifer	Cave Myotis	SC		S		2
Myotis yumanensis	Yuma Myotis	SC				2
Neotoma mexicana mexicana	Mexican Woodrat					2
Notiosorex cockrumi	Cockrum's Desert Shrew					2
Nyctinomops femorosaccus	Pocketed Free-tailed Bat					2
Nyctinomops macrotis	Big Free-tailed Bat	SC				2
Parabuteo unicinctus	Harris's Hawk					2
Passerculus sandwichensis	Savannah Sparrow					2
Perognathus amplus	Arizona Pocket Mouse					2
Peucaea carpalis	Rufous-winged Sparrow					2
Phrynosoma solare	Regal Horned Lizard					2
Phyllorhynchus browni	Saddled Leaf-nosed Snake					2
Pooecetes gramineus	Vesper Sparrow					2
Progne subis hesperia	Desert Purple Martin					
Sigmodon arizonae cienegae	Arizona Cotton Rat					2
Spizella breweri	Brewer's Sparrow					2
Tadarida brasiliensis	Brazilian Free-tailed Bat					
Toxostoma bendirei	Bendire's Thrasher					2
Troglodytes pacificus	Pacific Wren					2

Species of Economic and Recreation Importance Predicted that Intersect with Project Footprint as Drawn

Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	NPL	SGCN
Callipepla gambelii	Gambel's Quail					
Callipepla squamata	Scaled Quail					
Odocoileus hemionus	Mule Deer					
Pecari tajacu	Javelina					
Puma concolor	Mountain Lion					
Zenaida asiatica	White-winged Dove					

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Species of Economic and Recreation Importance Predicted that Intersect with Project Footprint as Drawn

Scientific Name	Common Name	FWS	USFS	BLM	NPL	SGCN
Zenaida macroura	Mourning Dove					

Project Type: Development Within Municipalities (Urban Growth), Commercial/industrial (mall) and associated infrastructure, New construction

Project Type Recommendations:

Minimization and mitigation of impacts to wildlife and fish species due to changes in water quality, quantity, chemistry, temperature, and alteration to flow regimes (timing, magnitude, duration, and frequency of floods) should be evaluated. Minimize impacts to springs, in-stream flow, and consider irrigation improvements to decrease water use. If dredging is a project component, consider timing of the project in order to minimize impacts to spawning fish and other aquatic species (include spawning seasons), and to reduce spread of exotic invasive species. We recommend early direct coordination with Project Evaluation Program for projects that could impact water resources, wetlands, streams, springs, and/or riparian habitats.

Based on the project type entered, coordination with Arizona Department of Water Resources may be required (https://new.azwater.gov/).

The Department requests further coordination to provide project/species specific recommendations, please contact Project Evaluation Program directly at PEP@azgfd.gov.

Project Location and/or Species Recommendations:

HDMS records indicate that one or more native plants listed on the Arizona Native Plant Law and Antiquities Act have been documented within the vicinity of your project area. Please contact: Arizona Department of Agriculture 1688 W Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007 Phone: 602.542.4373 https://agriculture.az.gov/sites/default/files/Native%20Plant%20Rules%20-%20AZ%20Dept%20of%20Ag.pdf starts on page 44

Analysis indicates that your project is located in the vicinity of an identified <u>wildlife habitat connectivity feature</u>. The **County-level Stakeholder Assessments** contain five categories of data (Barrier/Development, Wildlife Crossing Area, Wildlife Movement Area- Diffuse, Wildlife movement Area- Landscape, Wildlife Movement Area- Riparian/Washes) that provide a context of select anthropogenic barriers, and potential connectivity. The reports provide recommendations for opportunities to preserve or enhance permeability. Project planning and implementation efforts should focus on maintaining and improving opportunities for wildlife permeability. For information pertaining to the linkage assessment and wildlife species that may be affected, please refer

to: https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/planning/habitatconnectivity/identifying-corridors/.

Please contact the Project Evaluation Program (pep@azofd.gov) for specific project recommendations.

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Arizona Game and Fish Department Project ID: HGIS-18760 project_report_rita_10_59460_61282.pdf Review Date: 3/29/2023 08:53:52 AM

HDMS records indicate that one or more **Listed**, **Proposed**, **or Candidate** species or **Critical Habitat** (Designated or Proposed) have been documented in the vicinity of your project. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) gives the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regulatory authority over all federally listed species. Please contact USFWS Ecological Services Offices at <u>https://www.fws.gov/office/arizona-ecological-services</u> or:

Phoenix Main Office

9828 North 31st Avenue #C3 Phoenix, AZ 85051-2517 Phone: 602-242-0210 Fax: 602-242-2513

Tucson Sub-Office 201 N. Bonita Suite 141 Tucson, AZ 85745 Phone: 520-670-6144 Fax: 520-670-6155

Flagstaff Sub-Office SW Forest Science Complex 2500 S. Pine Knoll Dr. Flagstaff, AZ 86001 Phone: 928-556-2157 Fax: 928-556-2121

HDMS records indicate that **Sonoran Desert Tortoise** have been documented within the vicinity of your project area. Please review the Tortoise Handling Guidelines found at: <u>https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/nongamemanagement/tortoise/</u>

HDMS records indicate that Western Burrowing Owls have been documented within the vicinity of your project area. Please review the western burrowing owl resource page at: https://www.azofd.com/wildlife/speciesofgreatestconservneed/burrowingowlmanagement/.





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Map Unit Description

The map units delineated on the detailed soil maps in a soil survey represent the soils or miscellaneous areas in the survey area. The map unit descriptions in this report, along with the maps, can be used to determine the composition and properties of a unit.

A map unit delineation on a soil map represents an area dominated by one or more major kinds of soil or miscellaneous areas. A map unit is identified and named according to the taxonomic classification of the dominant soils. Within a taxonomic class there are precisely defined limits for the properties of the soils. On the landscape, however, the soils are natural phenomena, and they have the characteristic variability of all natural phenomena. Thus, the range of some observed properties may extend beyond the limits defined for a taxonomic class. Areas of soils of a single taxonomic class rarely, if ever, can be mapped without including areas of other taxonomic classes. Consequently, every map unit is made up of the soils or miscellaneous areas for which it is named, soils that are similar to the named components, and some minor components that differ in use and management from the major soils.

Most of the soils similar to the major components have properties similar to those of the dominant soil or soils in the map unit, and thus they do not affect use and management. These are called noncontrasting, or similar, components. They may or may not be mentioned in a particular map unit description. Some minor components, however, have properties and behavior characteristics divergent enough to affect use or to require different management. These are called contrasting, or dissimilar, components. They generally are in small areas and could not be mapped separately because of the scale used. Some small areas of strongly contrasting soils or miscellaneous areas are identified by a special symbol on the maps. If included in the database for a given area, the contrasting minor components are identified in the map unit descriptions along with some characteristics of each. A few areas of minor components may not have been observed, and consequently they are not mentioned in the descriptions, especially where the pattern was so complex that it was impractical to make enough observations to identify all the soils and miscellaneous areas on the landscape.

The presence of minor components in a map unit in no way diminishes the usefulness or accuracy of the data. The objective of mapping is not to delineate pure taxonomic classes but rather to separate the landscape into landforms or landform segments that have similar use and management requirements. The delineation of such segments on the map provides sufficient information for the development of resource plans. If intensive use of small areas is planned, however, onsite investigation is needed to define and locate the soils and miscellaneous areas.

An identifying symbol precedes the map unit name in the map unit descriptions. Each description includes general facts about the unit and gives important soil properties and qualities.

Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey National Cooperative Soil Survey 4/21/2023 Page 1 of 10 Soils that have profiles that are almost alike make up a *soil series*. All the soils of a series have major horizons that are similar in composition, thickness, and arrangement. Soils of a given series can differ in texture of the surface layer, slope, stoniness, salinity, degree of erosion, and other characteristics that affect their use. On the basis of such differences, a soil series is divided into *soil phases*. Most of the areas shown on the detailed soil maps are phases of soil series. The name of a soil phase commonly indicates a feature that affects use or management. For example, Alpha silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is a phase of the Alpha series.

Some map units are made up of two or more major soils or miscellaneous areas. These map units are complexes, associations, or undifferentiated groups.

A *complex* consists of two or more soils or miscellaneous areas in such an intricate pattern or in such small areas that they cannot be shown separately on the maps. The pattern and proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas are somewhat similar in all areas. Alpha-Beta complex, 0 to 6 percent slopes, is an example.

An association is made up of two or more geographically associated soils or miscellaneous areas that are shown as one unit on the maps. Because of present or anticipated uses of the map units in the survey area, it was not considered practical or necessary to map the soils or miscellaneous areas separately. The pattern and relative proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas areas are somewhat similar. Alpha-Beta association, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is an example.

An *undifferentiated group* is made up of two or more soils or miscellaneous areas that could be mapped individually but are mapped as one unit because similar interpretations can be made for use and management. The pattern and proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas in a mapped area are not uniform. An area can be made up of only one of the major soils or miscellaneous areas, or it can be made up of all of them. Alpha and Beta soils, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is an example.

Some surveys include *miscellaneous areas*. Such areas have little or no soil material and support little or no vegetation. Rock outcrop is an example.

Additional information about the map units described in this report is available in other soil reports, which give properties of the soils and the limitations, capabilities, and potentials for many uses. Also, the narratives that accompany the soil reports define some of the properties included in the map unit descriptions.

Report—Map Unit Description

Pima County, Arizona, Eastern Part

34—Hantz loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 1t00 Elevation: 2,400 to 3,600 feet

Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey National Cooperative Soil Survey 4/21/2023 Page 2 of 10 Mean annual precipitation: 10 to 12 inches Mean annual air temperature: 64 to 70 degrees F Frost-free period: 220 to 280 days Farmland classification: Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

Map Unit Composition

Hantz and similar soils: 80 percent Minor components: 20 percent Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Hantz

Setting

Landform: Swales, alluvial fans, flood plains Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread, dip Down-slope shape: Linear Across-slope shape: Linear Parent material: Mixed alluvium

Typical profile

A1 - 0 to 5 inches: loam A2 - 5 to 12 inches: clay loam

- C1 12 to 45 inches: clay
- C2 45 to 60 inches: clay

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 1 percent Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches Drainage class: Well drained Runoff class: Medium Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low to moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr) Depth to water table: More than 80 inches Frequency of flooding: NoneOccasional Frequency of ponding: None Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 10 percent Gypsum, maximum content: 4 percent Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to moderately saline (0.0 to 8.0 mmhos/cm) Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 13.0 Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: Moderate (about 8.9 inches) Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 3w Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 7w Hydrologic Soil Group: C Ecological site: R040XA102AZ - Clayey Swale 10"-13" p.z. Hydric soil rating: No

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Minor Components

Unnamed soils Percent of map unit: 20 percent Hydric soil rating: No

72—Sahuarita soils, mohave soils and urban land, 1 to 5 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 1127 Elevation: 2,200 to 2,800 feet Mean annual precipitation: 10 to 12 inches Mean annual air temperature: 64 to 70 degrees F Frost-free period: 220 to 280 days Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Sahuarita and similar soils: 34 percent Mohave and similar soils: 33 percent Urban land: 33 percent Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Sahuarita

Setting

Landform: Fan terraces Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread Down-slope shape: Convex Across-slope shape: Convex Parent material: Mixed alluvium

Typical profile

A - 0 to 3 inches: very gravelly fine sandy loam Bk - 3 to 28 inches: fine sandy loam 2Btkb - 28 to 45 inches: sandy clay loam 2Btb - 45 to 60 inches: very gravelly sandy clay loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 1 to 5 percent Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches Drainage class: Well drained Runoff class: Medium Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr) Depth to water table: More than 80 inches Frequency of flooding: None Frequency of ponding: None Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 35 percent

Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey National Cooperative Soil Survey 4/21/2023 Page 4 of 10 Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm) Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 3.0

Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: Moderate (about 8.3 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 7s Hydrologic Soil Group: C Ecological site: R040XA108AZ - Limy Fan 10"-13" p.z. Hydric soil rating: No

Description of Mohave

Setting

Landform: Fan terraces Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread Down-slope shape: Convex Across-slope shape: Convex Parent material: Mixed alluvium

Typical profile

A - 0 to 3 inches: loam BA - 3 to 6 inches: sandy loam Btk - 6 to 40 inches: clay loam C - 40 to 60 inches: loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 1 to 5 percent Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches Drainage class: Well drained Runoff class: Medium Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr) Depth to water table: More than 80 inches Frequency of flooding: None Frequency of flooding: None Frequency of ponding: None Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 40 percent Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm) Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 25.0 Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: High (about 9.7 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 7c Hydrologic Soil Group: C Ecological site: R040XA114AZ - Loamy Upland 10"-13" p.z. Hydric soil rating: No

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Description of Urban Land

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 8 Hydric soil rating: No

78—Stagecoach-Sahuarita association, 1 to 8 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 112f Elevation: 2,200 to 3,200 feet Mean annual precipitation: 10 to 12 inches Mean annual air temperature: 64 to 70 degrees F Frost-free period: 220 to 280 days Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Stagecoach and similar soils: 50 percent Sahuarita and similar soils: 25 percent Minor components: 25 percent Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Stagecoach

Setting

Landform: Fan terraces Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread Down-slope shape: Convex Across-slope shape: Convex Parent material: Mixed alluvium

Typical profile

A/Bw - 0 to 10 inches: very gravelly sandy loam Bk1 - 10 to 19 inches: very gravelly loam Bk2 - 19 to 40 inches: extremely gravelly loam 2C - 40 to 60 inches: very gravelly loamy sand

Properties and qualities

Slope: 3 to 8 percent Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches Drainage class: Well drained Runoff class: Medium Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): High (2.00 to 6.00 in/hr) Depth to water table: More than 80 inches Frequency of flooding: None Frequency of ponding: None Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 35 percent Gypsum, maximum content: 5 percent

Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey National Cooperative Soil Survey 4/21/2023 Page 6 of 10 Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm) Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 13.0 Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: Low (about 3.3 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 7s Hydrologic Soil Group: A Ecological site: R040XA106AZ - Limy Upland, Deep 10"-13" p.z. Hydric soil rating: No

Description of Sahuarita

Setting

Landform: Fan terraces Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread Down-slope shape: Convex Across-slope shape: Convex Parent material: Mixed alluvium

Typical profile

A - 0 to 3 inches: very gravelly fine sandy loam Bk - 3 to 28 inches: fine sandy loam 2Btkb - 28 to 45 inches: sandy clay loam 2Btb - 45 to 60 inches: very gravelly sandy clay loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 1 to 3 percent Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches Drainage class: Well drained Runoff class: Medium Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr) Depth to water table: More than 80 inches Frequency of flooding: None Frequency of ponding: None Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 35 percent Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm) Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 3.0 Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: Moderate (about 8.3 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 7s Hydrologic Soil Group: C Ecological site: R040XA108AZ - Limy Fan 10"-13" p.z. Hydric soil rating: No

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Minor Components

Unnamed soils Percent of map unit: 25 percent Hydric soil rating: No

81-Tubac gravelly loam, 1 to 8 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 112n Elevation: 2,400 to 3,200 feet Mean annual precipitation: 10 to 12 inches Mean annual air temperature: 64 to 70 degrees F Frost-free period: 220 to 280 days Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Tubac and similar soils: 80 percent Minor components: 20 percent Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Tubac

Setting

Landform: Fan terraces Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread Down-slope shape: Convex Across-slope shape: Convex Parent material: Mixed alluvium

Typical profile

A1 - 0 to 2 inches: gravelly loam A2 - 2 to 14 inches: loam Bt - 14 to 31 inches: clay 2Btk - 31 to 60 inches: gravelly sandy clay loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 1 to 8 percent Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches Drainage class: Well drained Runoff class: Medium Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low to moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr) Depth to water table: More than 80 inches Frequency of flooding: None Frequency of ponding: None Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 15 percent Gypsum, maximum content: 1 percent Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to slightly saline (0.0 to 4.0 mmhos/cm)

Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey National Cooperative Soil Survey 4/21/2023 Page 8 of 10 Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 10.0 Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: Moderate (about 7.7 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 6s Hydrologic Soil Group: C Ecological site: R040XA114AZ - Loamy Upland 10"-13" p.z. Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Unnamed soils

Percent of map unit: 20 percent Hydric soil rating: No

86—Yaqui fine sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 112t Elevation: 2,200 to 3,600 feet Mean annual precipitation: 10 to 12 inches Mean annual air temperature: 64 to 70 degrees F Frost-free period: 220 to 280 days Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Yaqui and similar soils: 80 percent Minor components: 20 percent Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Yaqui

Setting

Landform: Alluvial fans Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread Down-slope shape: Convex Across-slope shape: Convex Parent material: Mixed alluvium

Typical profile

A - 0 to 4 inches: fine sandy loam Bw - 4 to 31 inches: sandy clay loam 2Btb - 31 to 43 inches: clay loam 2Bkb - 43 to 60 inches: gravelly loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 1 to 3 percent Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches Drainage class: Well drained

Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey National Cooperative Soil Survey 4/21/2023 Page 9 of 10 Runoff class: Low Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr) Depth to water table: More than 80 inches Frequency of flooding: None Frequency of ponding: None Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 20 percent Gypsum, maximum content: 1 percent Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to slightly saline (0.0 to 4.0 mmhos/cm) Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 13.0 Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: Moderate (about 8.9 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 7c Hydrologic Soil Group: C Ecological site: R040XA108AZ - Limy Fan 10"-13" p.z. Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Unnamed soils

Percent of map unit: 20 percent Hydric soil rating: No

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Pima County, Arizona, Eastern Part Survey Area Data: Version 21, Aug 29, 2022



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K Factor, Whole Soil—Pima County, Arizona, Eastern Part (RITA 10 ERR)

MAP LEGEND						MAP INFORMATION		
Area of Interest (AOI)			~	Streams and Canals	The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at			
Area of Interest (AOI)			.28	Transportation		1:24,000.		
Soils Soil Rating Polygons			.32	***	Ralis Interstate Highvays	Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.		
	.02	1000		~	US Routes	Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey URL:		
	.05	~	.43		Major Roads	Coordinate System. Web Mercator (EPSG.3857) Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.		
	.10	~	.49		Local Roads			
	.15	~	.55	-				
	.17	~	.64	Backgro	Aerial Photography			
	.20		Not rated or not available		Actual Proceedings of			
	.24	Soil Rat	ing Points			This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data		
	.28		.02			as of the version date(s) listed below.		
			.05			Soli Survey Area: Pima County, Arizona, Eastern Part Survey Area Data: Version 21, Aug 29, 2022		
<u> </u>	.32		.10					
	.37		.15			Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.		
	.43		.17			Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Dec 31, 2009—May 1, 2018 The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were		
	_49		.20					
	.55	(25-4	.24					
	.64					compiled and digitized probably differs from the background		
	Not rated or not available		.28			imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.		
Soil Rating Lines			.32					
~	.02		.37					
~	.05		.43					
~	.10		.49					
	.15		.55					
	.17		.64					
	20		Not rated or not available					
-		Water Features						

Natural Resources Conservation Service

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Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI 2,319.8	Percent of AOI 27.7%
34	Hantz loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	.43		
72	Sahuarita soils, mohave soils and urban land, 1 to 5 percent slopes	.10	2,331.4	27.9%
78	Stagecoach-Sahuarita association, 1 to 8 percent slopes	.10	2,131.6	25.5%
81	Tubac gravelly loam, 1 to 8 percent slopes	.24	1,113.7	13.3%
86	Yaqui fine sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	.28	463.8	5.5%
Totals for Area of Inter	rest	8,360.3	100.0%	

K Factor, Whole Soil

Description

Erosion factor K indicates the susceptibility of a soil to sheet and rill erosion by water. Factor K is one of six factors used in the Universal Soil Loss Equation (USLE) and the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation (RUSLE) to predict the average annual rate of soil loss by sheet and rill erosion in tons per acre per year. The estimates are based primarily on percentage of silt, sand, and organic matter and on soil structure and saturated hydraulic conductivity (Ksat). Values of K range from 0.02 to 0.69. Other factors being equal, the higher the value, the more susceptible the soil is to sheet and rill erosion by water.

"Erosion factor Kw (whole soil)" indicates the erodibility of the whole soil. The estimates are modified by the presence of rock fragments.

Factor K does not apply to organic horizons and is not reported for those layers.

Rating Options

Aggregation Method: Dominant Condition



Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey National Cooperative Soil Survey 4/21/2023 Page 3 of 5 Aggregation is the process by which a set of component attribute values is reduced to a single value that represents the map unit as a whole.

A map unit is typically composed of one or more "components". A component is either some type of soil or some nonsoil entity, e.g., rock outcrop. For the attribute being aggregated, the first step of the aggregation process is to derive one attribute value for each of a map unit's components. From this set of component attributes, the next step of the aggregation process derives a single value that represents the map unit as a whole. Once a single value for each map unit is derived, a thematic map for soil map units can be rendered. Aggregation must be done because, on any soil map, map units are delineated but components are not.

For each of a map unit's components, a corresponding percent composition is recorded. A percent composition of 60 indicates that the corresponding component typically makes up approximately 60% of the map unit. Percent composition is a critical factor in some, but not all, aggregation methods.

The aggregation method "Dominant Condition" first groups like attribute values for the components in a map unit. For each group, percent composition is set to the sum of the percent composition of all components participating in that group. These groups now represent "conditions" rather than components. The attribute value associated with the group with the highest cumulative percent composition is returned. If more than one group shares the highest cumulative percent composition, the corresponding "tie-break" rule determines which value should be returned. The "tie-break" rule indicates whether the lower or higher group value should be returned in the case of a percent composition tie. The result returned by this aggregation method represents the dominant condition throughout the map unit only when no tie has occurred.

Component Percent Cutoff: None Specified

Components whose percent composition is below the cutoff value will not be considered. If no cutoff value is specified, all components in the database will be considered. The data for some contrasting soils of minor extent may not be in the database, and therefore are not considered.

Tie-break Rule: Higher

The tie-break rule indicates which value should be selected from a set of multiple candidate values, or which value should be selected in the event of a percent composition tie.

Layer Options (Horizon Aggregation Method): Surface Layer (Not applicable)



Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey National Cooperative Soil Survey 4/21/2023 Page 4 of 5 For an attribute of a soil horizon, a depth qualification must be specified. In most cases it is probably most appropriate to specify a fixed depth range, either in centimeters or inches. The Bottom Depth must be greater than the Top Depth, and the Top Depth can be greater than zero. The choice of "inches" or "centimeters" only applies to the depth of soil to be evaluated. It has no influence on the units of measure the data are presented in.

When "Surface Layer" is specified as the depth qualifier, only the surface layer or horizon is considered when deriving a value for a component, but keep in mind that the thickness of the surface layer varies from component to component.

When "All Layers" is specified as the depth qualifier, all layers recorded for a component are considered when deriving the value for that component.

Whenever more than one layer or horizon is considered when deriving a value for a component, and the attribute being aggregated is a numeric attribute, a weighted average value is returned, where the weighting factor is the layer or horizon thickness.



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