

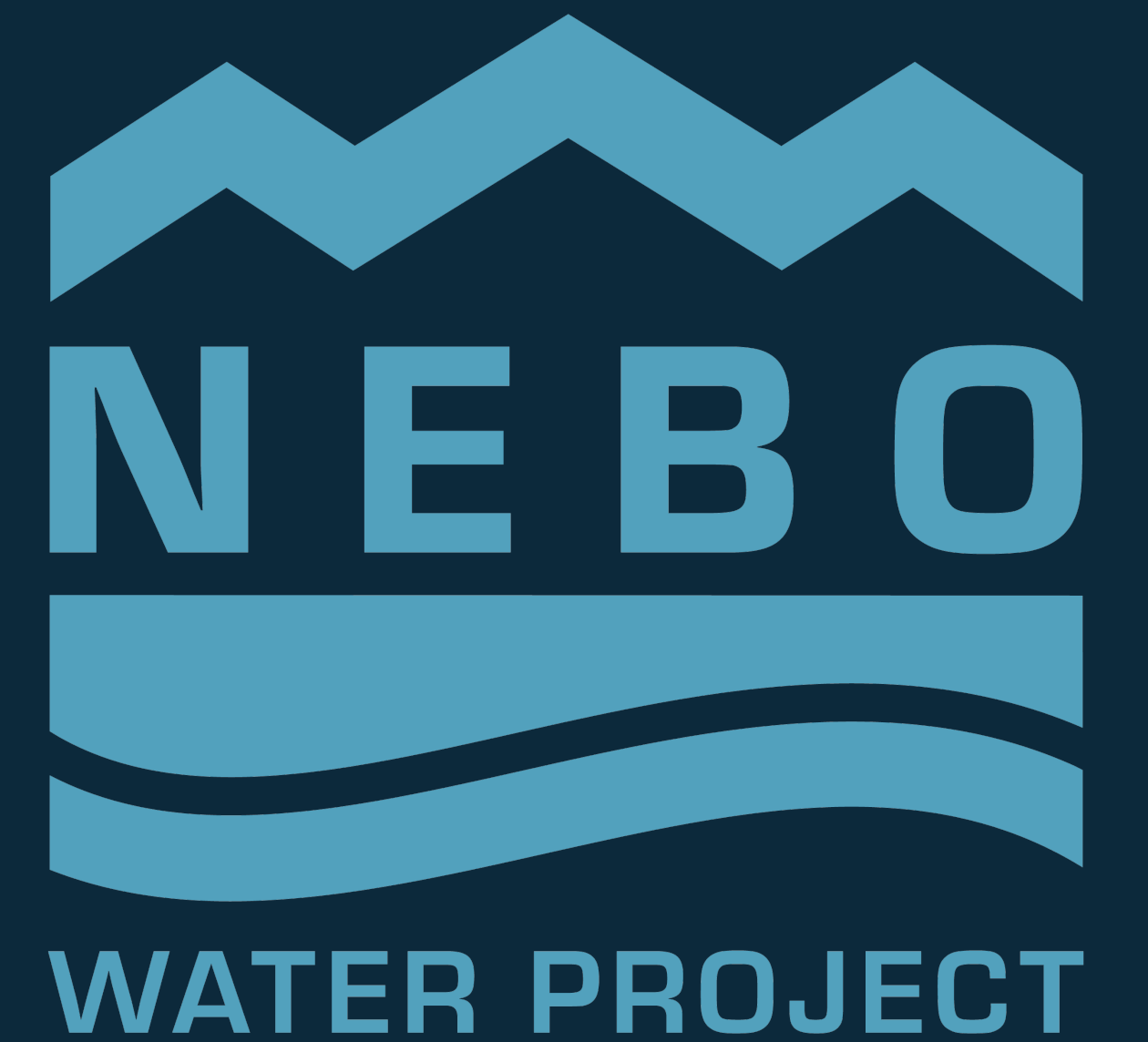
WELCOME

Nebo Regional Water Project Draft Environmental Assessment Public Open House

Joint Lead Agencies



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION



Strawberry Valley Project History



1903: Preliminary investigations are conducted to determine whether water could be carried from the Uinta Basin to Utah Valley.

1906: Construction begins on the project to build the 3.8-mile Strawberry Tunnel, Spanish Fork Diversion Dam, Strawberry Dam, High Line Canal, and Mapleton-Springville Lateral, and enhancements continue after construction. The original capacity of Strawberry Reservoir, which was completed in 1922, was about 270,000 acre-feet.

1956: Congress authorizes the Central Utah Project (CUP) in 1956 through the Colorado River Storage Project Act. The Bonneville Unit (BU), a component of the CUP, collects water from the south slopes of the Uinta Mountains and delivers it for temporary storage to the enlarged Strawberry Reservoir, which is now a part of the Bonneville Unit.

1974: Construction of Soldier Creek Dam increases the capacity of Strawberry Reservoir to 1.1 million acre-feet.



Project Purpose



Improve Safety

An enclosed canal would reduce flood risk and other safety risks associated with the aging, open-channel Strawberry High Line Canal.



Maximize Use of Limited Water Supply

The enclosed canal would conserve water by eliminating seepage and evaporation losses in the Strawberry High Line Canal.



Improve Operational Efficiency and Water Quality

Enclosing and pressurizing the Strawberry High Line Canal would deliver water directly from Strawberry Reservoir with less sediment and debris, making the system more efficient.



Modernize Water System

These improvements would provide an integrated, efficient, redundant, and flexible water delivery system that meets current and future demands for agricultural use while also facilitating the transition to future demand requirements for indoor and outdoor municipal and industrial (M&I) use in southern Utah County and eastern Juab County.



Project Needs

Safety Risks

The century-old Strawberry High Line Canal is vulnerable to failures caused by landslides, debris flows, and earthquakes. Additionally, the potential for breaches creates flood risks to residential areas below the canal.

Water Loss

The Strawberry High Line Canal Company estimates that 16% of water in the canal is lost per year through evaporation and seepage.



Project Needs



Operational Inefficiencies

The existing Strawberry High Line Canal frequently has issues with water quality due to sediment from the Spanish Fork River that requires extra effort and cost to mitigate and remove.

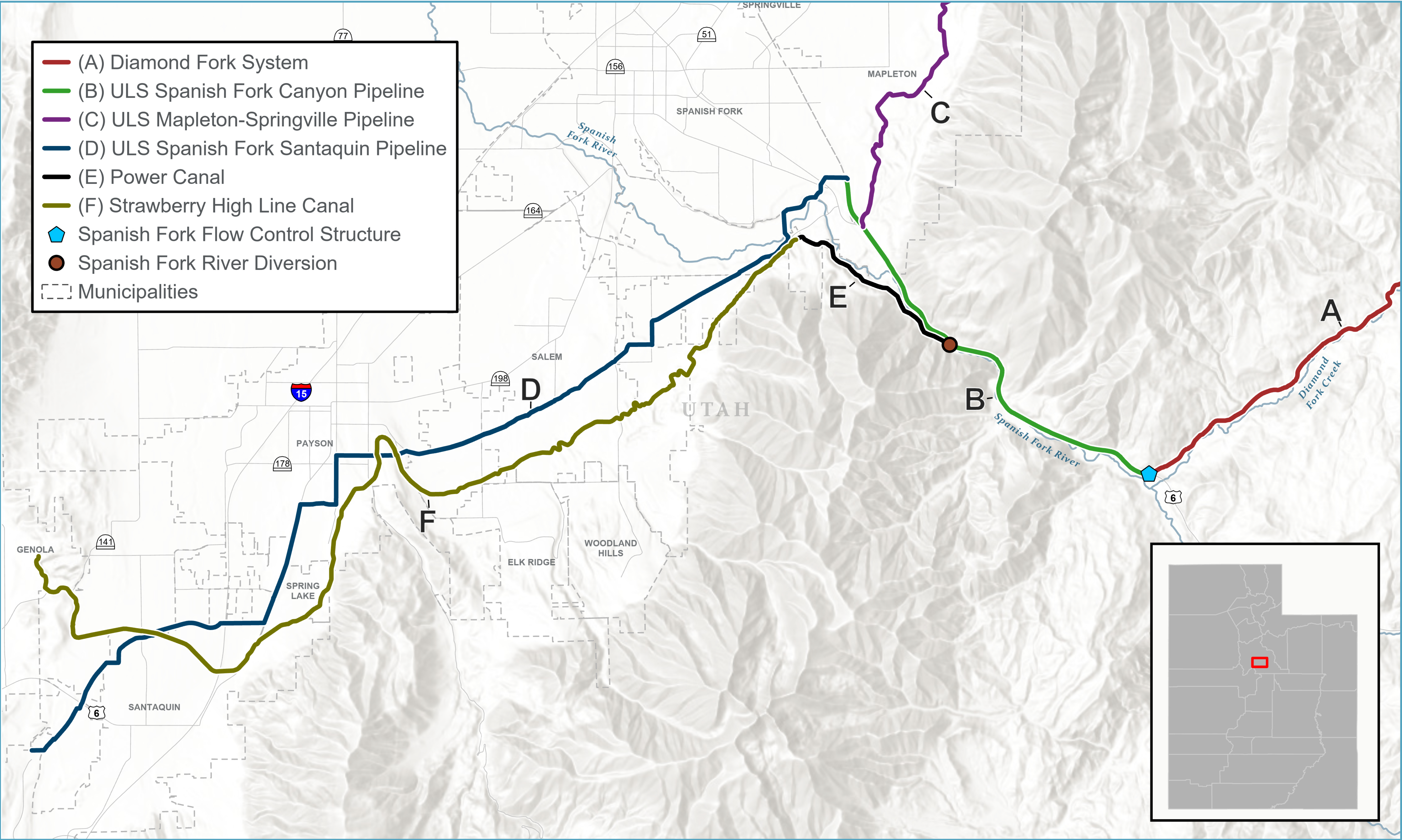


Lack of an Integrated, Redundant Water Delivery System

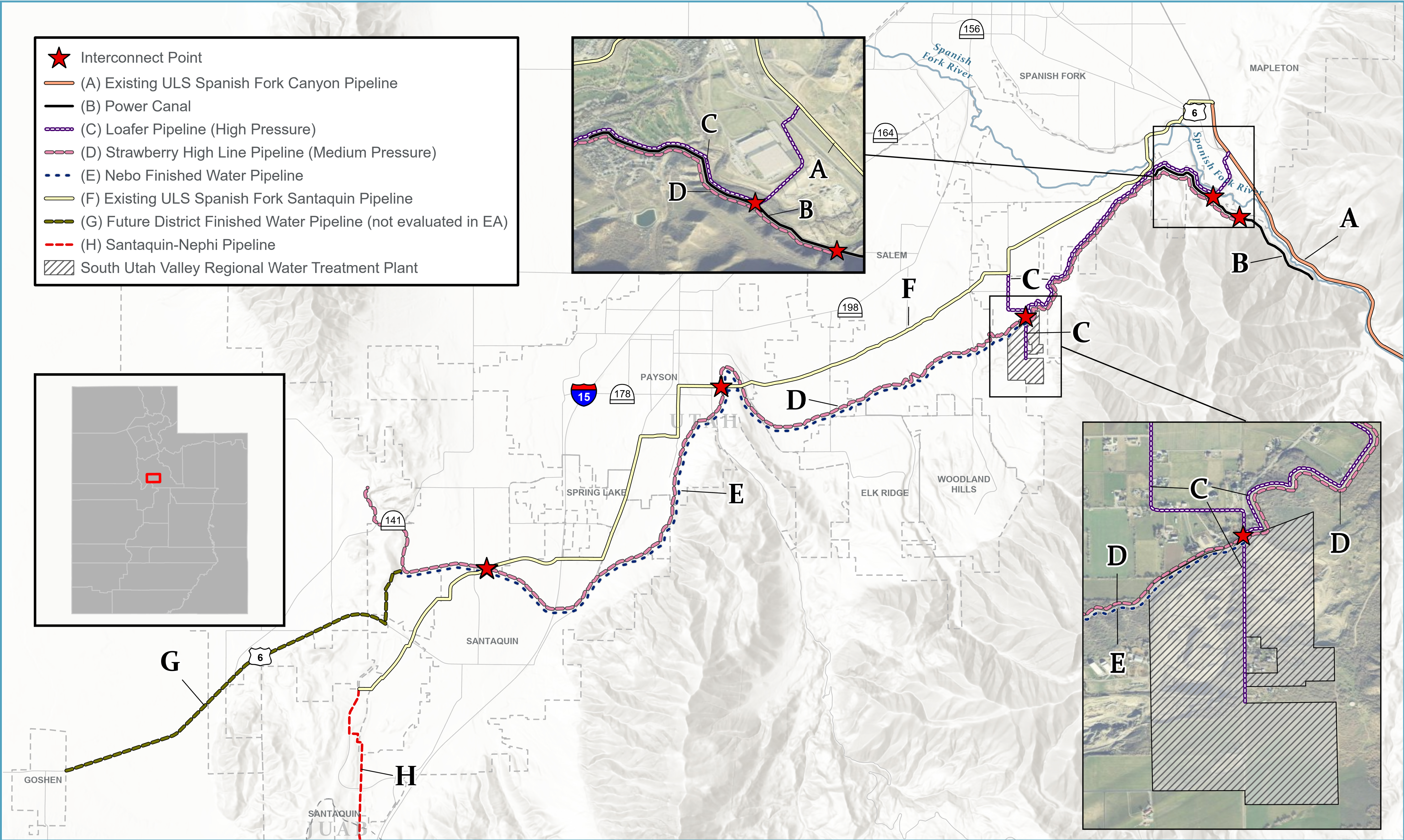
To meet the needs of current agricultural water demands and anticipated population growth as land uses change in southern Utah County and eastern Juab County, an integrated network between the Strawberry Valley Project and the Utah Lake Drainage Basin Water Delivery System will be needed to add redundancy to the system to ensure the distribution of water without interruptions or service delays.



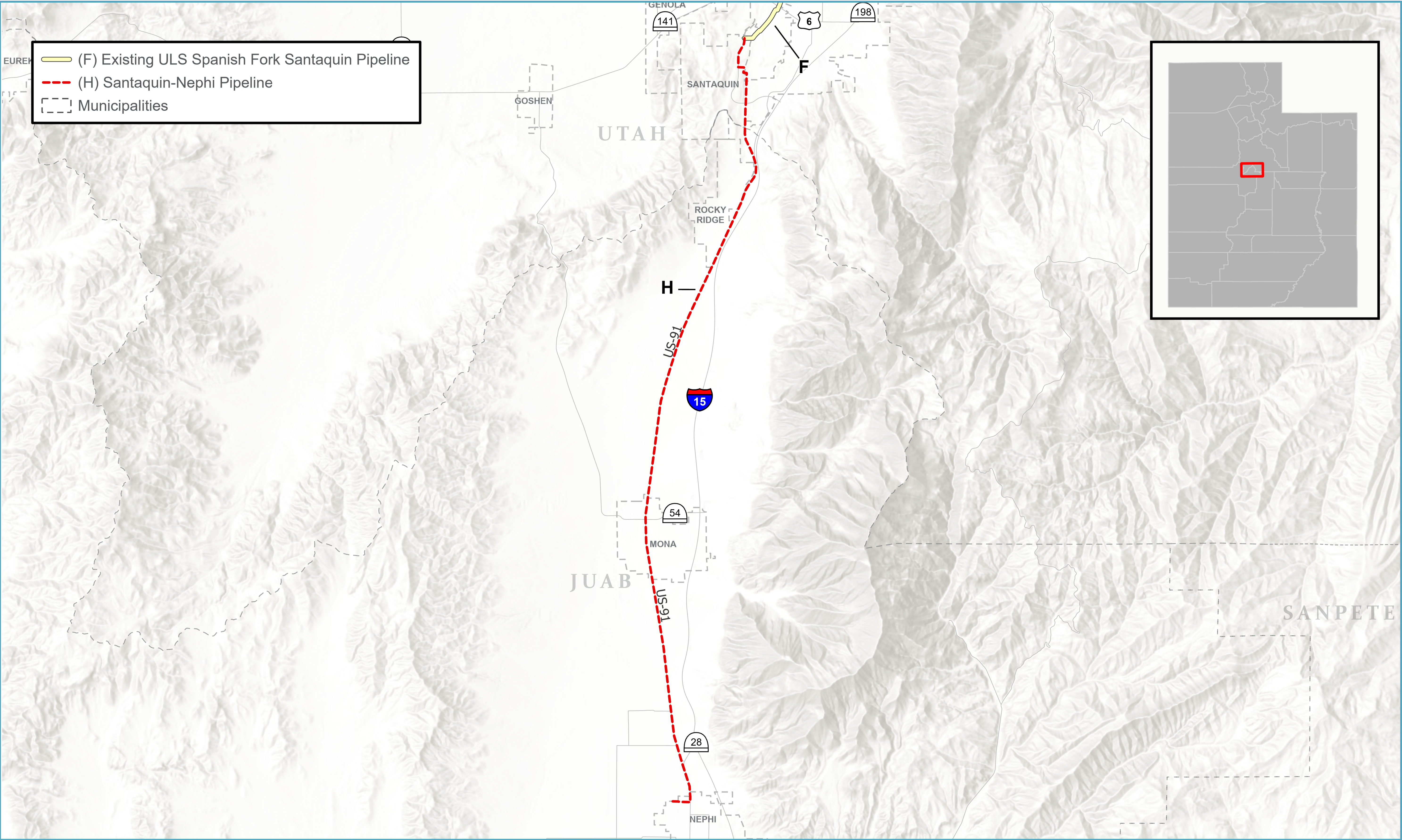
Existing Facilities



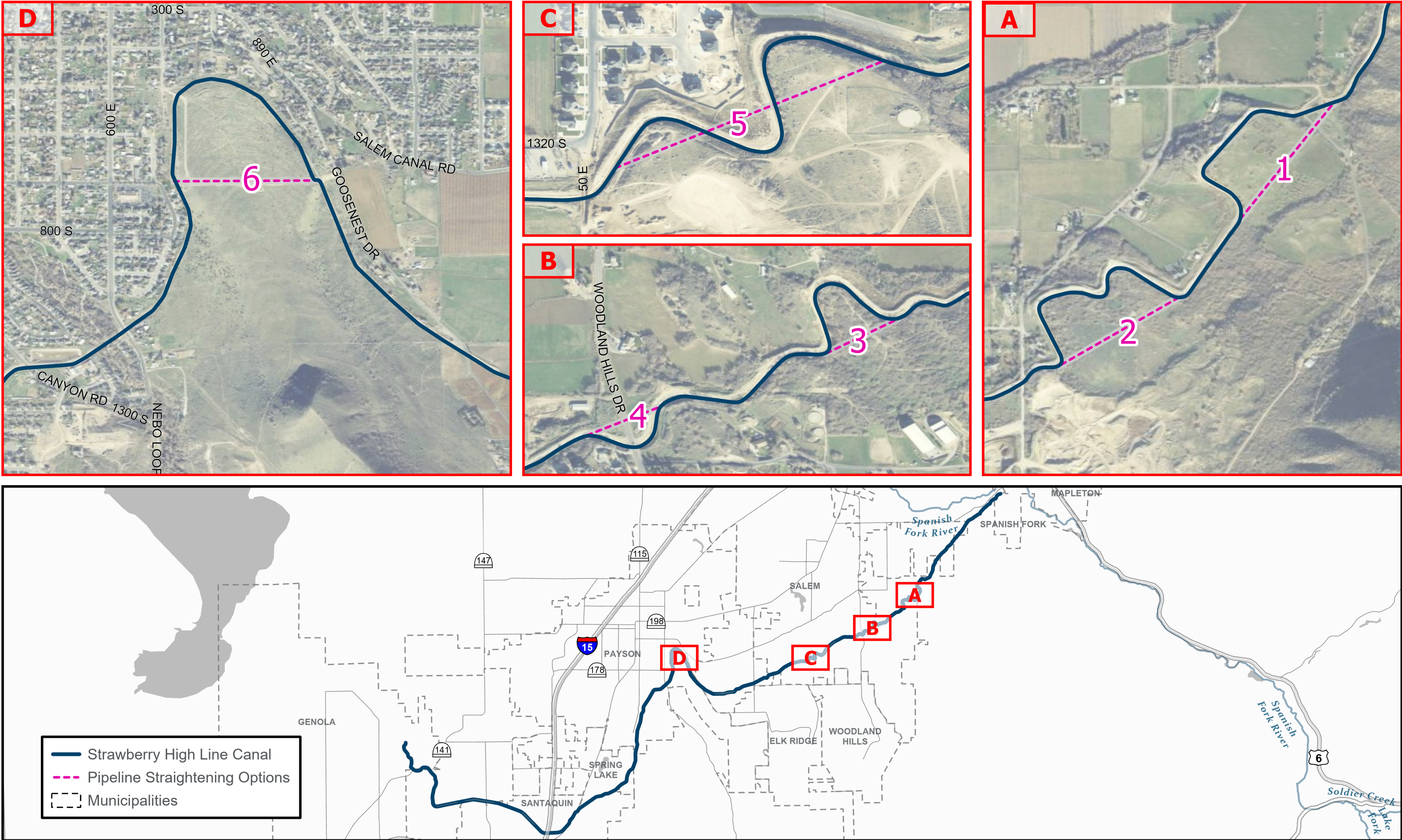
Preferred Alternative Overview



Preferred Alternative: Santaquin-Nephi Pipeline



Preferred Alternative: Straightening Options



Preferred Alternative: Multi-use Trail

Construction of a Multi-use Trail

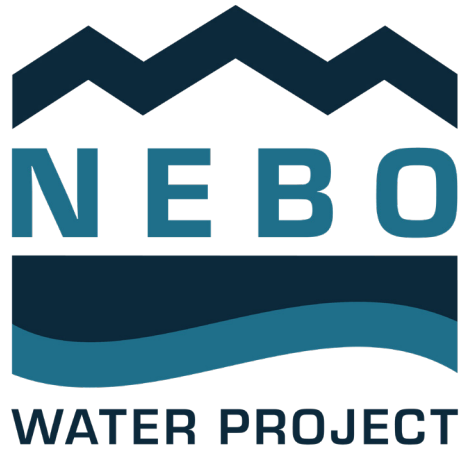
Utah County would fund the construction of and maintain a multi-use trail on the federally owned right-of-way on top of the proposed Strawberry High Line Pipeline once it's installed.



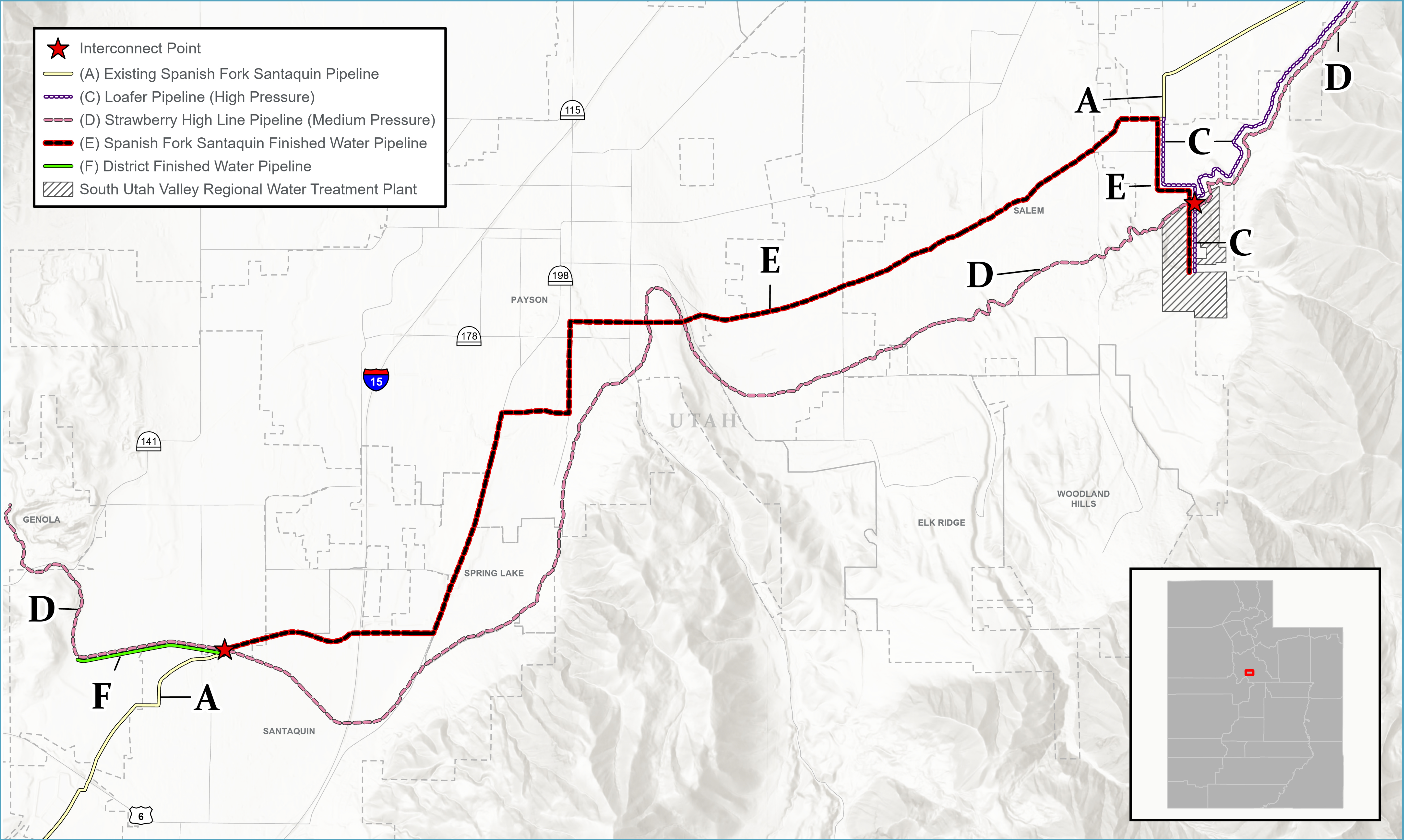
Murdock Trail in Utah County



Scan the QR code for MAG 2023 Regional Transportation Plan Map.



Spanish Fork-Santaquin Finished Water Option



Changes to Operations and Water Use

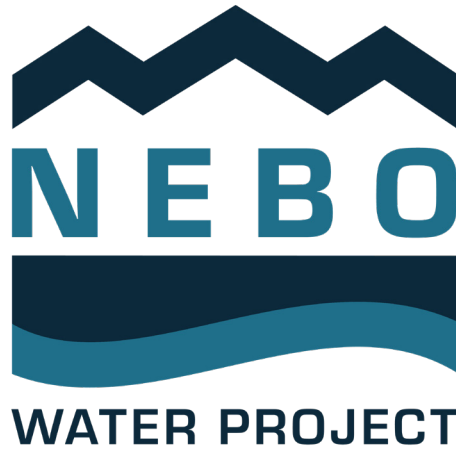
The Preferred Alternative also includes:

- » Changes to operations and water uses.
- » Strawberry High Line Pipeline legal, administrative, and contractual changes.
- » Supplementation of the 2004 Bonneville Unit Definite Plan Report and existing environmental documents.
- » Assignment of Strawberry Valley Project (SVP) facilities, contracts, and administrative responsibilities currently assigned to the Strawberry Water Users Association to the U.S. Department of the Interior.

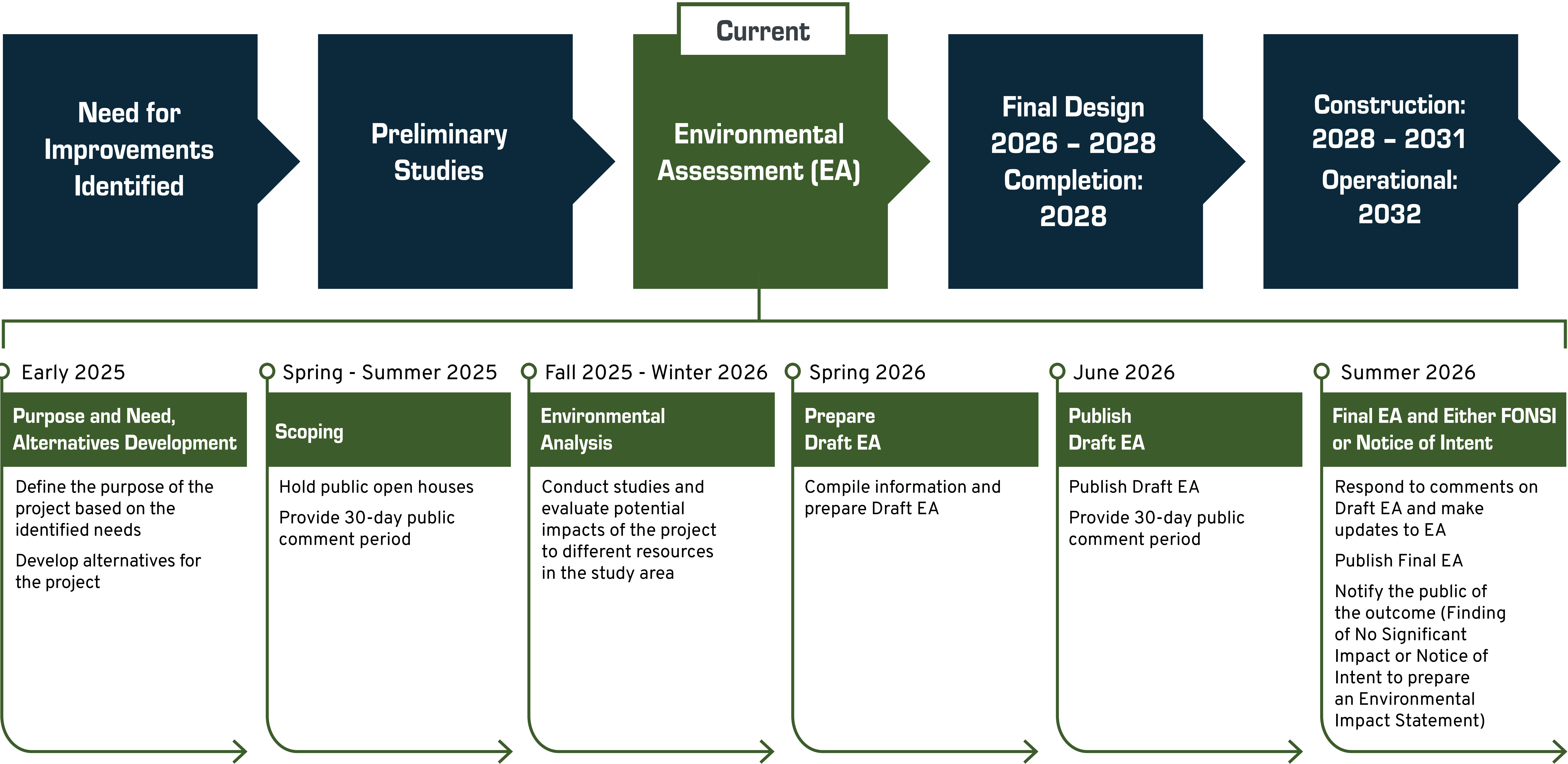


Preferred Alternative Impacts and Mitigation

Resource	Preferred Alternative Impact Summary
Hydrology	» Reduction in water quantity of the Spanish Fork River between Diamond Fork Canyon and Spanish Fork River Diversion between April to September due to import water from Strawberry Reservoir being delivered through the Spanish Fork Canyon Pipeline instead of the river. » Winter instream flows (coming from Strawberry Reservoir) would no longer return to the Spanish Fork River below City Dam and would not continue on to Utah Lake. » Changes in timing and use of 1991 Contract Water and CUP-BU water. » Increased water storage and elevations in Strawberry Reservoir. » Increase in return flows to Utah Lake as higher consumptive agricultural use is converted to lower consumptive M&I indoor uses. » Reduction in flood risk to adjacent development.
Groundwater	» Removal of incidental groundwater seepage from the Strawberry High Line Canal would likely reduce groundwater elevations for areas close to the existing canal.
Water Quality	» Water quality in the Spanish Fork River between Diamond Fork Canyon and the Spanish Fork River Diversion would be more similar to natural water quality conditions due to removal of some of the import water from Strawberry Reservoir.
Wetlands and Other Waters of the U.S.	» 0.03 acre of direct permanent impacts » 1.30 acres of temporary impacts to jurisdictional aquatic resources
Riparian Areas and Vegetation	» Permanent impacts to 0.37 acre of riparian areas along the Strawberry High Line Canal » Temporary impacts to 0.43 acre of riparian areas along the Spanish Fork River where Loafer Pipeline would be installed.
Threatened and Endangered Species	» Reduction in summer stream flows in the Spanish Fork River between Diamond Fork Creek and the Spanish Fork River Diversion may affect, but would not adversely affect potentially suitable habitat for yellow-billed cuckoo and Ute ladies'-tresses
Wildlife Resources	» Reduction in summer stream flows in the Spanish Fork River between Diamond Fork Creek and the Spanish Fork River Diversion could indirectly alter potentially suitable habitat for the Columbia spotted frogs, Bonneville cutthroat trout, and native minnow species.
Cultural Resources	» Adverse effect on the Strawberry High Line Canal because it would be removed with the Preferred Alternative. » Adverse effect on Strawberry High Line Canal laterals, the Spanish Fork Hydroelectric Facility, and the Payson Hydroelectric Facility due to transfer out of federal ownership.
Recreation	» Beneficial impact due to construction of a new regional multi-use trail. » Reductions in Spanish Fork River flows below the Diamond Fork confluence could impact recreational angling opportunities through loss of fishable areas or reduced trout populations.
Property/Right of Way	» 48 parcels would require a combination of fee title acquisition, perpetual easements and temporary construction easements to implement construction of Preferred Alternative.
Construction	» Construction could cause temporary impacts to air quality, noise and vibration, transportation, and access, including effects from trucks hauling materials to and from the construction site.
Mitigation Measures and Commitments	» Conduct a stream restoration study on the Spanish Fork River to assess conditions and evaluate potential restoration actions by river reach which could include: » Construct stream-restoration activities based on the study results—such as stream bank improvements, pools, and riffles—to improve fish habitat and aeration. » Plant and maintain water-friendly plants along the riverbanks to provide shade, reduce solar radiation, and reduce sediment from bank erosion. » Implement stream-restoration and/or water quality improvement projects on sections of the Spanish Fork River or tributaries above the Diamond Fork Creek confluence to assist with efforts to reduce sediment and nutrient loads in the upper watershed drainages of the Spanish Fork River.



Study Process Timeline



Submit Comments

Provide your input on:

- » The preferred alternative
- » Potential environmental impacts of the preferred alternative
- » Any information that might inform the study team before finalizing the EA

Public comments help the project team in decision making and determining the best course of action in the environmental process. Although all public comments will be considered by the project team, they are not considered a vote or survey response for or against the proposed project.



Comment Form:

Submit a written comment



Comment on our website:

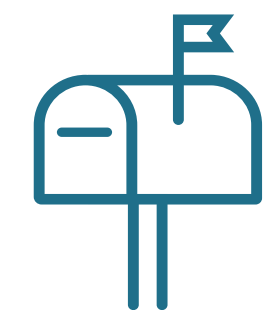
nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov



Email: connect@nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov



Call: 385-999-2212



Mail your comments to:

Nebo Water Project

2825 E. Cottonwood Pkwy #200

Salt Lake City, UT 84121



Public comment period: Closes July 10, 2026

