Appendix 4-A. Scoping Summary Report

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Scoping Summary Report

Nebo Regional Water Project EA

July 2025

U.S. Department of the Interior – CUPCA Office
Bureau of Reclamation
Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission
Central Utah Water Conservancy District

Mission Statements

The U.S. Department of the Interior protects and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage; provides scientific and other information about those resources; and honors its trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and affiliated island communities.

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

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Appendices

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Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
District	Central Utah Water Conservancy District
EA	environmental assessment
Interior	U.S. Department of the Interior – Central Utah Project Completion Act Office
JLA	Joint Lead Agency
M&I	municipal and industrial
Mitigation Commission	Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
Proposed Project	Nebo Regional Water Project
Reclamation	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
USC	*United States Code*

1.0 Introduction

As Joint Lead Agencies (JLAs), the Central Utah Water Conservancy District (District), the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), the U.S. Department of the Interior – Central Utah Project Completion Act Office (Interior), and the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission (Mitigation Commission) are preparing an environmental assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 *United States Code* (USC) Section 4321 and subsequent sections, and applicable regulations for the proposed Nebo Regional Water Project (Proposed Project).

The Proposed Project is located in southern Utah County, generally between Spanish Fork Canyon and the city of Genola, Utah, and in eastern Juab County. The JLAs have been coordinating with the Strawberry High Line Canal Company, the Strawberry Water Users Association, the East Juab Water Conservancy District, Utah County, and cities in southern Utah County and eastern Juab County to help identify the proposed actions, needs, and purposes.

1.1 Preliminary Project Purposes

The purposes of the Proposed Action are to improve safety, operational efficiency, and water conservation and to provide a water delivery system that can meet current and anticipated future water demands in southern Utah County and eastern Juab County. These purposes address the needs listed and summarized below.

1.2 Preliminary Project Needs

The needs that are driving the Proposed Action are:

- Safety risks due to the aging infrastructure of the Strawberry High Line Canal
- Strawberry High Line Canal operational inefficiencies
- Water loss in the Strawberry High Line Canal
- Lack of an integrated, redundant water delivery system to meet the anticipated population growth and increasing municipal and industrial (M&I) water demand in southern Utah County and eastern Juab County

1.3 Proposed Project Actions

The Proposed Project includes:

- Enclosing the Strawberry High Line Canal with a buried pipeline and establishing a public trail over the pipeline
- Modifying the Spanish Fork Santaquin Pipeline
- Constructing the South Utah Valley Regional Water Treatment Plant
- Constructing a Diamond Fork Recovery Pump Station
- Constructing interconnect pipelines
- Making changes to operations and water use
- Potentially changing the Strawberry Water Users Association's infrastructure
- Making changes to administrative responsibilities

1.4 Purpose of This Scoping Summary Report

This scoping summary report summarizes public and agency input gathered during the scoping period for the Proposed Project; this scoping period lasted from May 23 to June 27, 2025. Scoping is the first step in the NEPA process. It uses public and agency participation to develop possible solutions and identify issues regarding a proposed project. Scoping also helps determine needs, objectives, resources and constraints, potential alternatives, and any additional requirements for alternatives-screening criteria. This scoping summary report is a tool to ensure that the efforts of the EA are focused on the appropriate issues.

2.0 Summary of Scoping Activities

Section 2.0 summarizes the agency coordination, informational materials, public open houses, and comments received during the scoping period from May 23 to June 27, 2025.

Throughout the EA process, the JLAs will continue to facilitate and encourage involvement from agencies, stakeholders, and the public to help identify issues and develop solutions. The study team will continue to work with the public to ensure that those with interests in the Proposed Project understand how and why certain suggestions are being carried forward and why others are being eliminated. All public and agency comments received to date are being considered for this study and have been included in this report.

2.1 Notifications

The public scoping period began on May 23, 2025, and ended on June 27, 2025. The following methods were used to notify the general public of the public scoping period, open houses, Proposed Project materials available for review, and how to comment. Copies of the notification materials listed below are included in Appendix A, *Scoping Notifications*.

- Web notifications
  - Notifications about the scoping period and comment period were posted on the study website at https://nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov.
- Postcards
  - Postcards with information about the scoping open houses and scoping period were sent to parcels located adjacent to the study area. A total of 313 postcards were sent.
- Legal notices
  - *Deseret News*: May 23 and May 30, 2025
  - *Daily Herald*: June 4, 2025
- Social
  - District Facebook: May 30, June 3, and June 6, 2025
  - District Instagram: June 6, 2025
  - Genola Facebook: May 28, 2025
  - Nephi Instagram: June 1 and June 12, 2025
  - Salem Facebook: May 27, 2025
  - Santaquin Facebook: June 2 and June 13, 2025

  - Santaquin Instagram: June 2, June 3, June 9, June 25, and June 27, 2025
- **News Coverage**
  - KUTV: "Utah County plans $1.6B water project to meet growing population demand," May 29, 2025
  - *Daily Herald*: "Watering the future: How pioneer settler efforts provided basis for today's water needs in southern Utah County," June 7, 2025

2.2 Public Open Houses

To provide the public with an opportunity to learn more about the Proposed Project's improvements, alternatives, and purpose and needs developed by the JLAs, the study team held two open houses in June 2024. These open houses also provided the public with an opportunity to ask the JLAs questions and provide a public comment.

The first meeting was held on June 10, 2025, in the Banquet Hall of the Payson Municipal Building, located at 439 W. Utah Avenue in Payson, Utah. A total of 28 attendees signed in for the June 10 meeting.

The second meeting was held on June 12, 2025, in the commons area of Juab High School, located at 346 E. 600 N in Nephi, Utah. A total of 22 attendees signed in for the June 12 meeting.

These locations were chosen for convenience of access for stakeholders in southern Utah County and eastern Juab County, where the proposed improvements are located. The open houses included the following elements:

- Attendees were encouraged, but not required, to sign in at the welcome table.
- Attendees were given a brief explanation of the open house format and presentation layout.
- Attendees were given a fact sheet that provided an overview and details of the Proposed Project.
- Information boards were displayed throughout the meeting spaces.
- Large maps displaying Alternatives A and B were laid out in the center of the rooms.
- A screen was set up to display a geographic information system (GIS) map of the study area.
- JLA team members were in attendance to answer questions about the Proposed Project.

- A comment station was provided where attendees could write comments about the Proposed Project.

All of the materials provided at the open houses were made available for review on the Proposed Project website. To review materials presented at the scoping meetings, see Appendix B, *Scoping Meeting Materials*.

2.3 Agency and Tribal Scoping

2.3.1 Agency and Tribal Scoping Notification Letters

Scoping notification letters were sent to agencies and tribal stakeholders inviting them to attend the open houses, review the project scoping materials on the Proposed Project website, and provide comments regarding the Proposed Project.

The following agencies, municipalities, organizations, and federally recognized tribes were sent letters on May 21, 2025:

- **Federal**
  - U.S. Bureau of Land Management
  - U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (Eastern Nevada Agency, Wind River Agency, Uintah and Ouray Agency, Southern Paiute Agency, Fort Hall Agency)
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
  - U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
  - U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service
  - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Tribes**
  - Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation
  - Eastern Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation of Wyoming
  - Hopi Tribe of Arizona
  - Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians
  - Las Vegas Tribe of Paiute Indians
  - Moapa Band of Paiute Indians
  - Navajo Nation
  - Northern Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Reservation
  - Northwestern Band of Shoshoni Nation

  - Paiute Indian Tribe
  - Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho
  - Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians
  - Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
  - Ute Tribe
  - Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Reservation
- **State**
  - Utah Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
  - Utah Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office
  - Utah Department of Agriculture and Food
  - Utah Department of Environmental Quality
  - Utah Department of Transportation
  - Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands
  - Utah Division of State History
  - Utah Division of Water Quality
  - Utah Division of Water Resources
  - Utah Division of Water Rights
  - Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
  - Utah State Parks and Recreation
- **Regional**
  - Mountainland Association of Governments
  - R6 Regional Council/Six County Association of Governments
- **County**
  - Utah County
  - Utah County Commission
  - Juab County Commission
- **Cities**
  - Elk Ridge City
  - Mapleton City
  - Mona City
  - Nephi City
  - Payson City

  - Salem City
  - Santaquin City
  - Spanish Fork City
  - Springville City
  - Woodland Hills City
- **Towns**
  - Town of Genola
  - Town of Goshen
  - Town of Rocky Ridge
- **Legislative**
  - U.S. Senators
  - U.S. Representatives
  - Utah Senate members for districts in the Proposed Project area
  - Utah House members for districts in the Proposed Project area
- **Water Users, Districts, and Associations**
  - East Juab Water Conservancy District
  - Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District
  - Mapleton Irrigation District
  - Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy
  - Mt. Nebo Water Agency
  - Provo River Commissioner
  - Provo River Water Users Association
  - South Utah Valley Municipal Water Association
  - Spanish Fork River Commissioner
  - Springville Irrigation District
  - Strawberry High Line Canal Company
  - Strawberry Water Users Association
  - Utah Lake Authority
  - Utah Lake Water Users Association
  - Weber Basin Water Conservancy District

To review the scoping notification letter recipients and the scoping notification letter, see Appendix C, *Scoping Notification Letters*.

3.0 Scoping Comments

The scoping period for the Proposed Project began on May 23, 2025, and ended on June 27, 2025. Each comment was reviewed and considered by the JLAs.

The study received 15 comments during the scoping process. Most of these comments were from state and federal agencies. Topics included:

- Support for Proposed Project elements, including:
  - Potential future water to Juab County
  - Shared-use path on the Strawberry High Line Pipeline
- Concerns about potential impacts to:
  - Wildlife, specifically the June sucker (*Chasmistes liorus*), brown trout (*Salmo trutta*), and rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)
  - Riparian habitat
  - Recreation access
  - Downstream implications for Utah Lake and the Great Salt Lake
  - Aquatic resources
  - Water quality and quantity
  - Air quality
  - Private property
  - Existing and planned transportation infrastructure

To review the scoping comments, see Appendix D, *Scoping Comments*.

4.0 Next Steps: Environmental Analysis

The alternatives proposed during the scoping process will be included in the EA. The JLAs may consider making refinements to these alternatives based on agency and public input.

Public involvement opportunities will be available again at the draft EA stage of the environmental review process.

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Appendix A: Scoping Notifications

Postcard

Legal Notices

Social Media

News Coverage

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NEBO WATER PROJECT

YOU'RE INVITED!

Come learn about the Nebo Regional Water Project.

The Central Utah Water Conservancy District and federal partners are conducting an Environmental Assessment to evaluate improvements to the Strawberry High Line Canal and water delivery in southern Utah County and eastern Juab County.

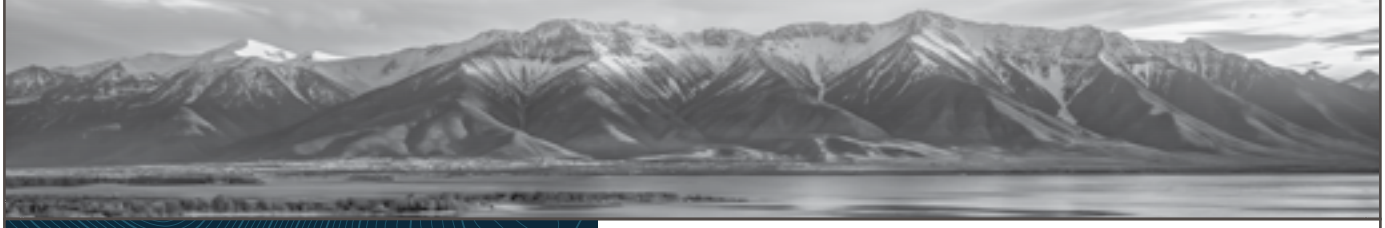
Your input matters.

Public Scoping Open Houses

Tuesday, June 10 | 5–7 p.m.
Payson City Hall, Banquet Room
439 W Utah Ave, Payson, UT

Thursday, June 12 | 5–7 p.m.
Juab High School Gymnasium
802 N 650 E, Nephi, UT

Maps and displays will be available for review, and project experts will be on hand to answer questions.



NEBO WATER PROJECT

YOU'RE INVITED!

Learn about proposed improvements to the water delivery system serving southern Utah County and eastern Juab County

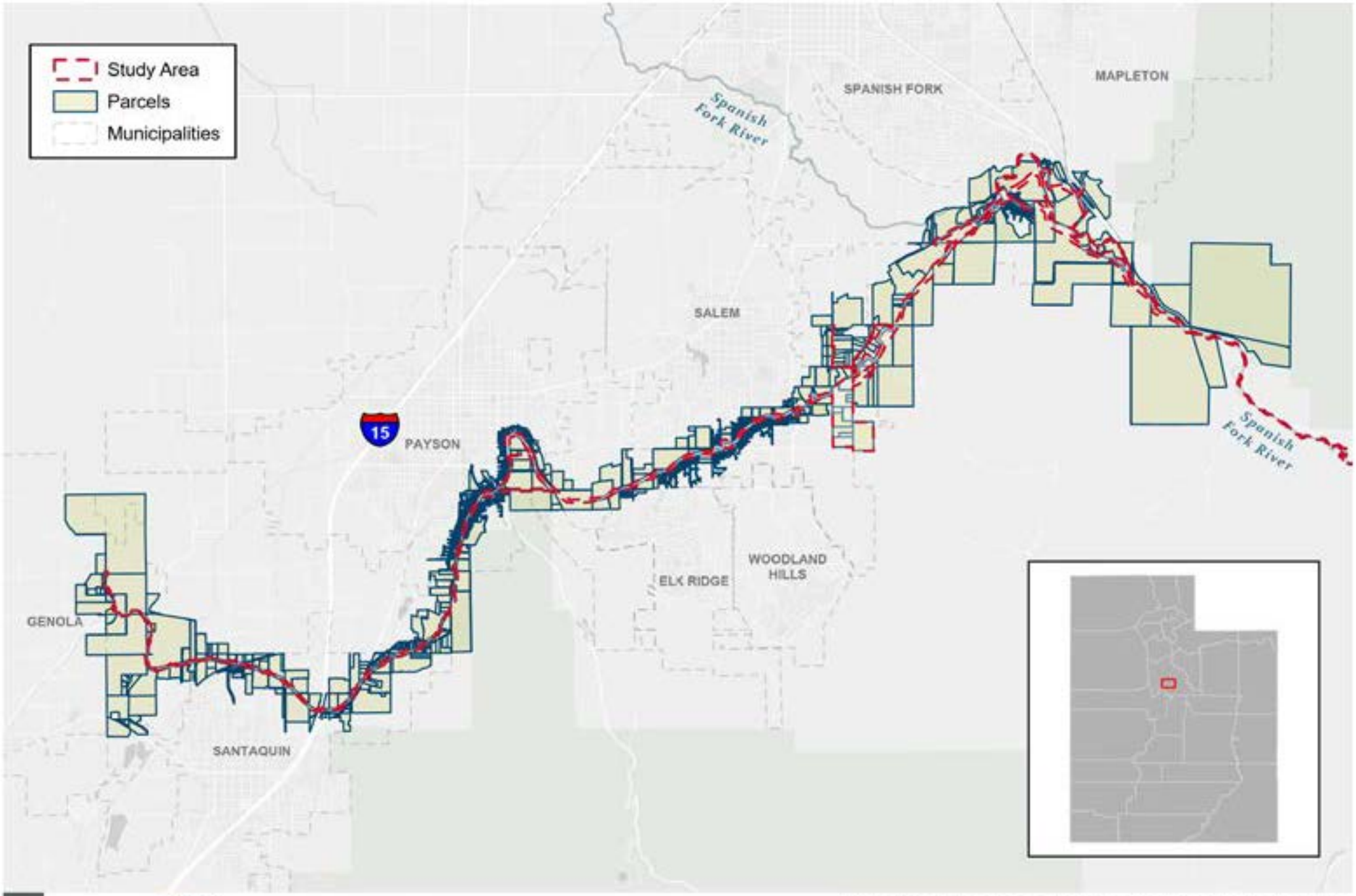
Public Scoping Open Houses:
Tuesday, June 10 &
Thursday, June 12

Learn more:
385-999-2212
connect@nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov

nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov

Nebo Regional Water Project
HDR Engineering
2825 E Cottonwood Pkwy #200
Salt Lake City, UT 84121

Notification postcard front and back



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SCOPING PERIOD POSTCARD NOTIFICATION PARCELS

Deseret News

Publication Name:
Deseret News

Publication URL:

Publication City and State:
Salt Lake City, UT

Publication County:
Salt Lake

Notice Popular Keyword Category:

Notice Keywords:
Nebo

Notice Authentication Number:
202507071543092669504
2742324387

Notice URL:

Back

Notice Publish Date:
Friday, May 23, 2025

Notice Content

PUBLIC NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE – SCOPING PERIOD, PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES, AND OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE COMMENTS The Central Utah Water Conservancy District, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Department of the Interior – Central Utah Project Completion Act Office, and the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, as Joint Lead Agencies (JLAs), are preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 United States Code §§ 4321, et seq. for the Nebo Regional Water Project (Proposed Project). The Proposed Project is located in southern Utah County between Spanish Fork Canyon and the city of Genola and in eastern Juab County. The Proposed Project involves enclosing the Strawberry High Line Canal, conveying finished water from the proposed South Utah Valley Regional Water Treatment Plant, constructing interconnect pipes to and from the proposed treatment plant, and various administrative changes that would affect the water operations, timing, and use. The purpose of this notice is to offer an opportunity to comment on the Proposed Project. All comments received will be evaluated and considered in the EA. The JLAs will hold two public scoping open houses: on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at Payson City Center, 439 W. Utah Avenue in Payson and on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at Juab High School, 802 North 650 East in Nephi. Both meetings will be in an open-house format from 5 to 7 p.m. Comments will be accepted until June 27, 2025, and may be submitted by email (connect@nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov), by postal mail (Nebo Regional Water Project c/o HDR, 2825 E. Cottonwood Parkway, Suite 200, Salt Lake City, UT 84121-7077), or on the project website (nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov). An electronic map is available on the project website for recording comments. For more information, visit the project website or call the project phone number at 385-999-2212. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) or language translation services during these meetings should notify the project team 5 days in advance at the contact information provided above. DN0028406

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Deseret News

Publication Name:
Deseret News

Publication URL:

Publication City and State:
Salt Lake City, UT

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Salt Lake

Notice Popular Keyword Category:

Notice Keywords:
Nebo

Notice Authentication Number:
202507071541598964596
2742324387

Notice URL:

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Notice Publish Date:
Friday, May 30, 2025

Notice Content

PUBLIC NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE – SCOPING PERIOD, PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES, AND OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE COMMENTS The Central Utah Water Conservancy District, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Department of the Interior – Central Utah Project Completion Act Office, and the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, as Joint Lead Agencies (JLAs), are preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 United States Code §§ 4321, et seq. for the Nebo Regional Water Project (Proposed Project). The Proposed Project is located in southern Utah County between Spanish Fork Canyon and the city of Genola and in eastern Juab County. The Proposed Project involves enclosing the Strawberry High Line Canal, conveying finished water from the proposed South Utah Valley Regional Water Treatment Plant, constructing interconnect pipes to and from the proposed treatment plant, and various administrative changes that would affect the water operations, timing, and use. The purpose of this notice is to offer an opportunity to comment on the Proposed Project. All comments received will be evaluated and considered in the EA. The JLAs will hold two public scoping open houses: on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at Payson City Center, 439 W. Utah Avenue in Payson and on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at Juab High School, 802 North 650 East in Nephi. Both meetings will be in an open-house format from 5 to 7 p.m. Comments will be accepted until June 27, 2025, and may be submitted by email (connect@nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov), by postal mail (Nebo Regional Water Project c/o HDR, 2825 E. Cottonwood Parkway, Suite 200, Salt Lake City, UT 84121-7077), or on the project website (nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov). An electronic map is available on the project website for recording comments. For more information, visit the project website or call the project phone number at 385-999-2212. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) or language translation services during these meetings should notify the project team 5 days in advance at the contact information provided above. DN0028406

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Daily Herald

Publication Logo Unavailable

Publication Name:
Daily Herald

Publication URL:

Publication City and State:
Provo, UT

Publication County:
Utah

Notice Popular Keyword Category:

Notice Keywords:
Nebo

Notice Authentication Number:
202507071542460081155
2742324387

Notice URL:

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Notice Publish Date:
Wednesday, June 04, 2025

Notice Content

PUBLIC NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE - SCOPING PERIOD, PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES, AND OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE COMMENTS The Central Utah Water Conservancy District, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Department of the Interior - Central Utah Project Completion Act Office, and the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, as Joint Lead Agencies (JLAs), are preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 United States Code 4321, et seq. for the Nebo Regional Water Project (Proposed Project). The Proposed Project is located in southern Utah County between Spanish Fork Canyon and the city of Genola and in eastern Juab County. The Proposed Project involves enclosing the Strawberry High Line Canal, conveying finished water from the proposed South Utah Valley Regional Water Treatment Plant, constructing interconnect pipes to and from the proposed treatment plant, and various administrative changes that would affect the water operations, timing, and use. The purpose of this notice is to offer an opportunity to comment on the Proposed Project. All comments received will be evaluated and considered in the EA. The JLAs will hold two public scoping open houses: on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at Payson City Center, 439 W. Utah Avenue in Payson and on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at Juab High School, 802 North 650 East in Nephi. Both meetings will be in an open-house format from 5 to 7 p.m. Comments will be accepted until June 27, 2025, and may be submitted by email (connect@nebowaterproject.cuwcd.go v), by postal mail (Nebo Regional Water Project c/o HDR, 2825 E. Cottonwood Parkway, Suite 200, Salt Lake City, UT 84121-7077) , or on the project website (nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov). An electronic map is available on the project website for recording comments. For more information, visit the project website or call the project phone number at 385-999-2212. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) or language translation services during these meetings should notify the project team 5 days in advance at the contact information provided above. Legal Notice 14134 Published in the Daily Herald on May 28, June 4, 2025

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District Facebook Post, May 30, 2025

District Facebook Post, June 3, 2025

District Facebook Post, June 6, 2025

District Facebook Post, June 9, 2025

Genola Facebook Post, May 28, 2025

Nephi Facebook Post, June 12, 2025

Nephi Instagram Post, June 12, 2025

Salem Facebook Post, May 27, 2025

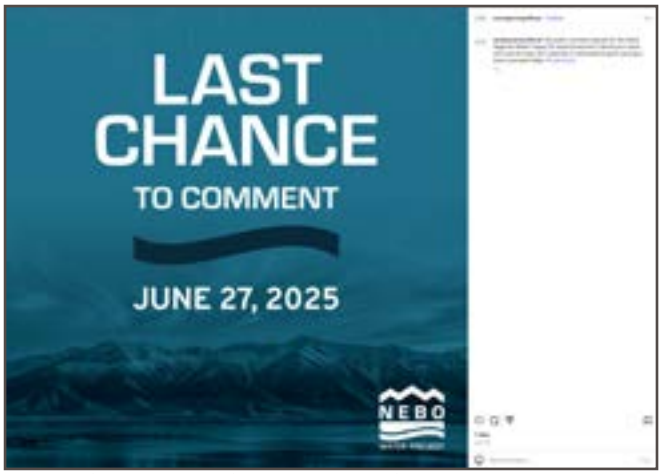
Santaquin Facebook Post, June 2, 2025

Salem Instagram Post, June 2, 2025

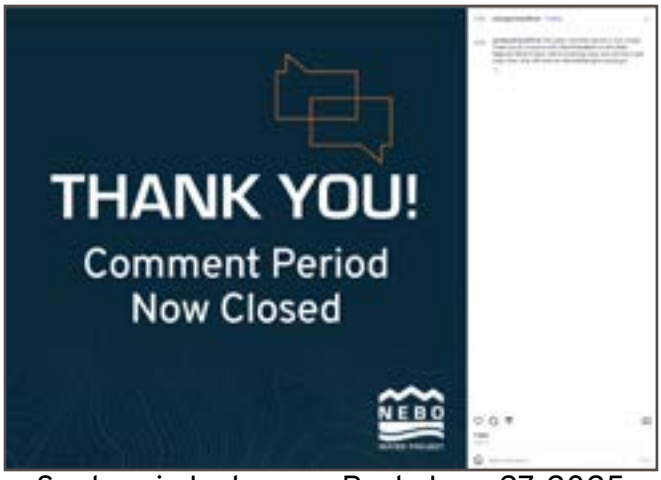
Santaquin Instagram Post, June 3, 2025

Santaquin Instagram Post, June 9, 2025

Santaquin Facebook Post, June 13, 2025



Santaquin Instagram Post, June 25, 2025



Santaquin Instagram Post, June 27, 2025

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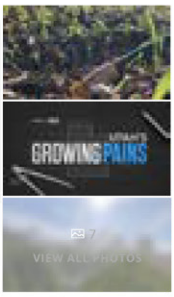
Utah County plans $1.6B water project to meet growing population demands

by Natalie Wadas, KUTV
Thu, May 29th 2025 at 6:23 PM
Updated Thu, May 29th 2025 at 7:05 PM



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Strawberry Reservoir in Wasatch County, Utah, is seen in this undated photo provided by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

TOPICS: UTAH COUNTY WATER PROJECT $1.6 BILLION POPULATION DEMANDS NEBO REGIONAL WATE

OREM, Utah (KUTV) — Utah County water officials are working on a $1.6 billion project to meet water demands as the county's population continues to grow.

The goal is to get more water to southern Utah County in an effort to keep up with the growing population's needs.

Roger Pearson with CUWCD said the plan has two parts: Enclose the Strawberry Highline Canal and build a new water treatment plant in Salem.

MORE | Utah's Growing Pains:

- Utah homeowners having problems with newly installed water meters
- Gov. Cox orders state agencies to coordinate on Utah's long-range growth challenges
- Three intersections in Joaquin neighborhood of Provo getting revamped over summer

Utahs Growing Pains (KUTV)

Pearson said the canal is a "more than 100-year-old water system," and enclosing it will reduce flood risk and increase the volume of clean water available. The pipeline will continue to be used for agricultural and residential irrigation.

KUTV Article, May 29, 2025

The second part of the plan is to build a drinking water treatment plant in Salem that draws from Strawberry Reservoir. However, the plan isn't far along yet, with Pearson saying they have a "concept-level design."

Officials are still working through the anticipated costs of carrying out the plan, with the rough estimate at about $1.6 billion. Pearson said the money would come from federal funding and local bond measures.

"Together, we're going to build a project that's going to meet the needs of the communities as they continue to grow and meet today's needs for the irrigators," Pearson said.

It may be a while before people start to see movement on this project, as conservancy district officials said they're hoping to have it completed by 2032.

There are two open house events to discuss the project — one at the Payson City Hall Banquet Room on June 10 from 5 to 7 p.m., and the other

KUTV Article (cont'd), May 29, 2025

Watering the future: How pioneer settler efforts provided basis for today's water needs in southern Utah County

By Jacob Nielson - | Jun 7, 2025

The Strawberry High Line Canal is pictured on Wednesday, June 4, 2025.

Jacob Nielson, Daily Herald

The assortment of fruit orchards that are scattered throughout Utah County's southern fields serve both as cultural pillars and cash crops that power the region's economy.

The county accounts for half of the state's entire fruit production and is a national leader is cherry production while also churning out large volumes of peaches and apples.

The existence and success of these farms isn't a product of happenstance or convenience but is a credit to the foresight and ingenuity of a group of Latter-day Saint pioneer settlers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Facing a limited supply of water from nearby streams to grow their crops, settlers in towns like Spanish Fork, Payson and Santaquin looked for a new source of water, and came up with the idea to turn Strawberry Valley into a reservoir that stored water from the Uintah Mountains.

To get the water to Utah Valley, workers blasted a 3.8-mile federally funded tunnel through the mountains that crossed the Wasatch Divide from the Colorado River Basin to the Bonneville Basin.

Completed in 1912, the water flowed from the tunnel into streams the led to the Spanish Fork River and into the valley.

In the century since, the reservoir has grown and new tunnels have been built, yet the settler's idea still serves as the basis of how much of Utah Valley and the Wasatch Front receives its water.

Now a new plan is in the works to meet the water demands of a growing population of these once sparsely population southern Utah County towns.

The state-owned Central Utah Water Conservancy District, or CUWCD, is working on the Nebo Regional Water Project, a $1 billion-plus plan to turn the Strawberry High Line Canal into a pipeline and build a new water treatment plant in Salem by 2032.

CUWCD engineers believe these measures will service drinking water supply from Salem to Juab County while continuing to meet the needs of the region's agricultural land for years to come.

And the plan, CUWCD Special Programs Manager Roger Pearson said, is not possible without the assistance of the early settlers.

"(We acknowledge) the foresight of the early pioneers, those who went ahead and paved the way, dug the tunnels, punched through the mountain, so we could utilize the water for the last 100-plus years," Pearson said. "I'm hoping what we're doing is carrying on a legacy, a vision and foresight for what they did, because that's really what makes our project possible. We have no water supply for a water treatment plant if we don't have that water."

Building a pipeline

Built by the U.S. Reclamation Service and completed in 1917, the federally owned Strawberry High Line Canal begins at the base of Spanish Fork Canyon, winding southwest along the base of the mountain and providing irrigation water from Salem to Santaquin before jetting west to Goshen, CUWCD Project Engineer and Planner Derek Bruton explained.

Only 2,500 acre feet of the canal's allocated 35,000 acre feet of water actually comes from the Spanish Fork River, Pearson said, and by early June this year that water has already ran out. The rest comes from the Strawberry Reservoir, serving as a direct use of the early settler's Strawberry Valley Project.

But the canal is nearing the end of its lifespan.

Constructed with concrete and metal rods, the infrastructure is deteriorating. A drive along the canal shows chips in the concrete, exposed rods hanging out and in one spot a tiny leak.

As the urbanization creeps closer to the canal below, any canal breach would be catastrophic.

"There are risks to life and millions and millions of dollars of property damage, which an irrigation company can't afford, obviously, so then the irrigation company would go bankrupt," Pearson said. "Life is at risk. There's just a lot of challenges with running what used to be a rural canal in an urban area."

To solve the issue, High Line Canal is partnering with Central Utah Water Conservancy District to pipe the canal. CUWCD will transform the canal into a 72-inch, 18 mile-long pipe that will cost an estimated $300 million, Pearson said.

The new pipeline will be connected to an existing 96-inch CUWD pipeline that starts at Diamond Fork Canyon, Bruton added, meaning it will stay piped from the Strawberry Reservoir until it reaches its destination.

This makes the water free of sediments and debris that turn the current canal water dirty and murky, keeps the orchard's drip irrigation systems from plugging up due to sediment buildup, and pressurizes the water all the way to the farms, saving operational costs, Pearson explained.

"Instead of dumping it into the Spanish Fork River and mixing with all the rivers, we're going to bypass it, bring their water all the way down the pipeline and keep it piped all the way to here," he said. "It'll no longer go in this power canal. It'll stay piped clean, pressurized water that can be delivered to their users."

In exchange for building the pipeline, CUWCD will have rights to the water that is currently lost in the canal through evaporation, which accounts for approximately 15 percent.

It will be distributed to municipalities through the Salem Water Treatment Plant and other irrigation methods, providing efficient, clean water to fulfill both urban and agricultural needs, the engineers said.

“Our goal is to build a project that doesn’t price out the agricultural community,” Pearson said. “They’re our partners. Agriculture is going to continue to be an important part of this project for generations.”

Water treatment plant

While southern Utah County relies on the various offshoots of the Strawberry Valley Project for its agricultural production, every city in the county south of Provo is 100% reliant on springs and well water for its drinking water.

But as the population of the area balloons — Salem City, for instance, said it’s population will grow from its current 10,000 residents to over 60,000 people by 2035 — the demand for this water is soon to exceed the supply.

The way to supplement this issue is to build a surface water treatment plants.

There are already several plants in Salt Lake County and one at the mouth of Provo Canyon. Building a new one in Salem signifies this new era of urbanization.

“It’s taking water that’s coming down the river and treating it in a treatment plant to clean it for drinking water,” Pearson said. “We can take this water to the Salem Water treatment plant, treat it and then just distribute it as a regional facility to multiple cities and in the county.”

The CUWCD purchased a plot of land in Salem at the base of Water Canyon, perched just above the High Line Canal near the Three Bridges luxury development currently under construction.

The land will serve as CUWCD’s future surface water treatment plant, with water from the new pipeline flowing in and being distributed across the area.

“Taking advantage of elevation, it will be built in multiple phases,” Bruton said. “Initially, it would be delivering a fairly small amount of water but eventually delivering upwards of 100 million gallons

... We wouldn't have to pump to get here. We wouldn't have to pump to get to anywhere in south Utah County."

When completed, the pipeline and the treatment plant combined will have the capacity to service more water than is needed by 2032.

But the idea isn't to build out to 2032, but to plan for the century to come — and improve upon the efforts of the past.

"The fact is that this isn't replacing any of that," Bruton said. "It's building on it, taking that foundation and allowing us to be ready for the next 100 years. We're adjusting and adapting but not replacing."

Two open houses will discuss the project next week. The first one will be held from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday at the Payson City Hall Banquet Room, followed by a 5-7 p.m. meeting Thursday at the Juab High School Gym in Nephi.

NEWSLETTER

Today's breaking news and more in your inbox

Email Address

I'm interested in (please check all that apply) *(Required)*

☐ Daily Newsletter ☐ Breaking News

☐ Obituaries

Are you a paying subscriber to the newspaper? *(Required)*

○ Yes ○ No

SUBSCRIBE

Daily Herald Article (cont'd), June 7, 2025

Appendix B: Scoping Meeting Materials

Meeting photos

Information boards

Scroll plot maps

Fact sheet

Meeting sign-in sheets

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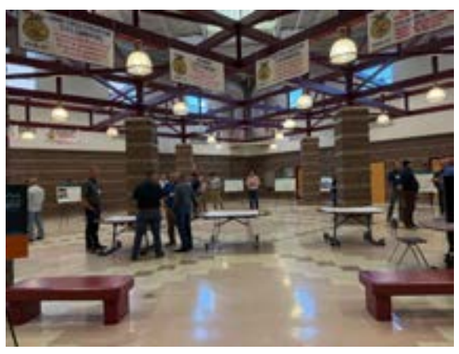
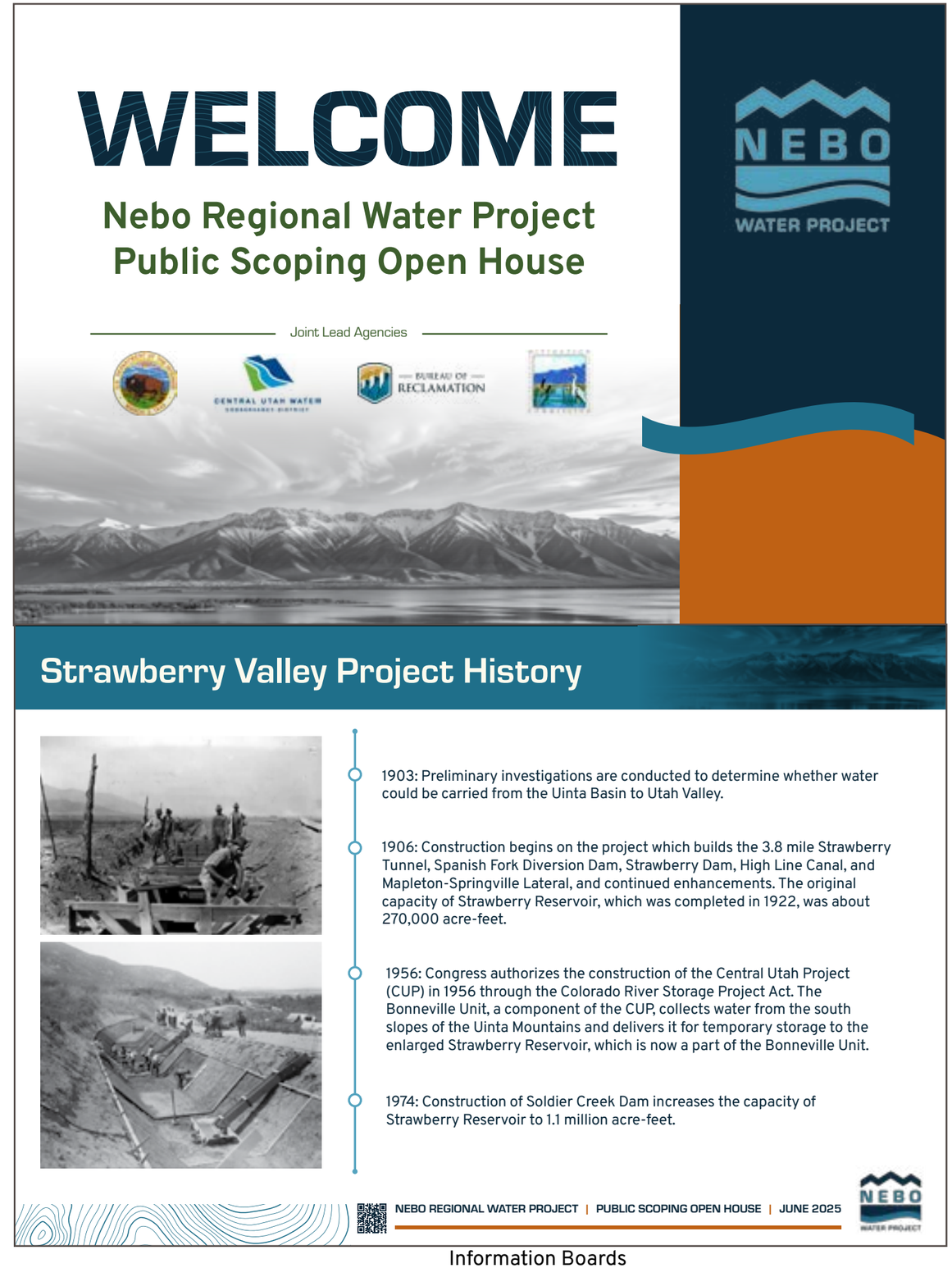
Payson City Meeting, June 10, 2025

Nephi City Meeting, June 10, 2025





Information Boards

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.

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.

Maximize Use of Limited Water Supply

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

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 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, potential breaches create 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

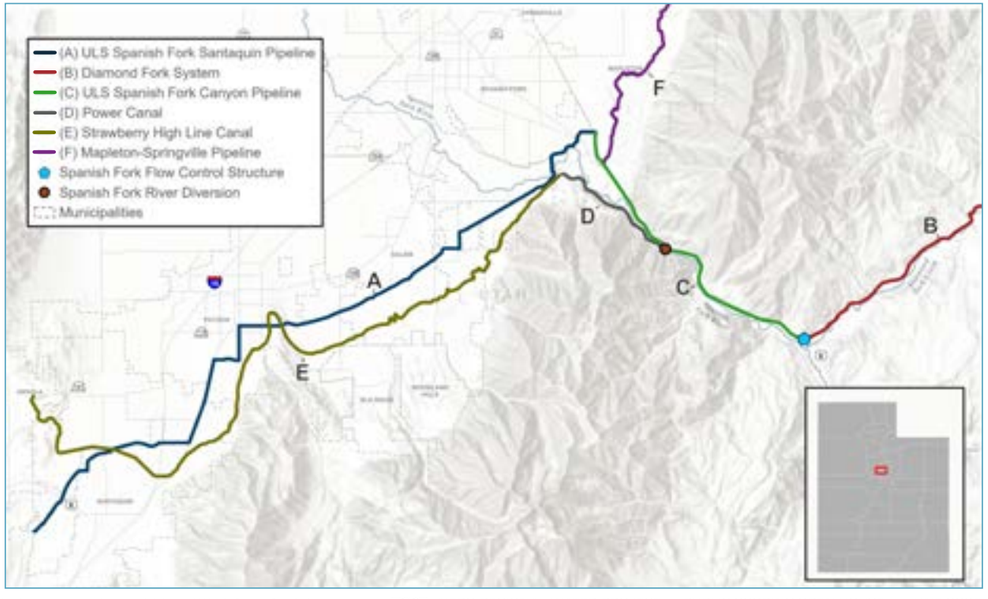
Operational Inefficiencies

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

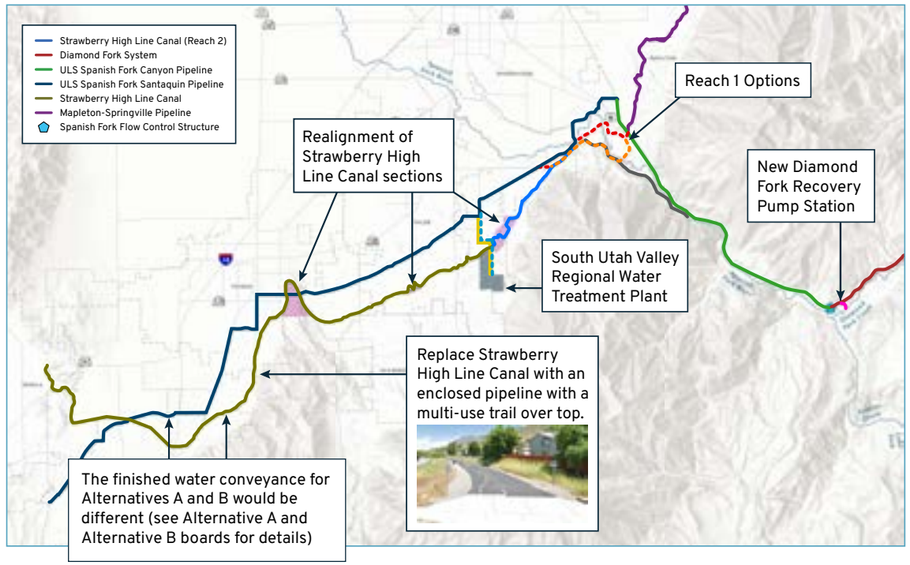
Lack of an Integrated, Redundant Water Delivery System

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



Key Improvement Features for Both Alternatives



Alternative B

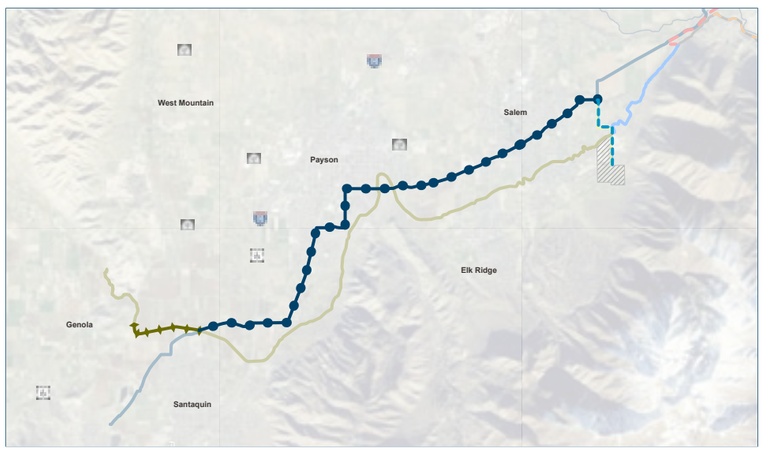
How finished water would be conveyed after treatment at the South Utah Valley Regional Water Treatment Plant.

Alternative B

From the South Utah Valley Regional WTP to Santaquin, Alternative B would convey finished water in a new District pipeline in the Strawberry High Line Canal right-of-way. Alternative B would also enclose the Strawberry High Line Canal in a pipe along the Strawberry High Line Canal right-of-way.

Alternative A

How finished water would be conveyed after treatment at the South Utah Valley Regional Water Treatment Plant.



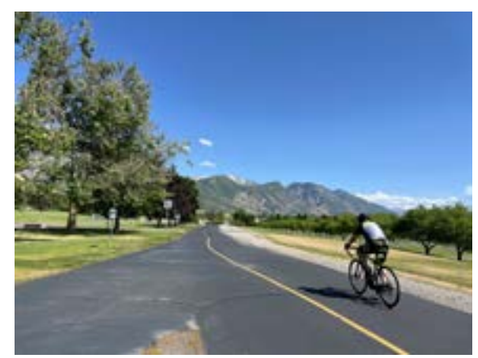
Alternative A

With Alternative A, the Utah Lake Drainage Basin Water Delivery System (ULS) Spanish Fork Santaquin Pipeline (and its turnouts) would be reconfigured to convey finished water (water treated for culinary and drinking purposes) from the proposed South Utah Valley Regional Water Treatment Plant (WTP).

Proposed 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 is installed.



Murdock Trail in Utah County

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

Study Process Timeline

Need for Improvements Identified → **Preliminary Studies** → **Environmental Assessment (EA)** (Current) → **Final Design 2026 – 2028 Completion: 2028** → **Construction: 2028 – 2031 Operational: 2032**

Early 2025 — Purpose and Need, Alternatives Development
- Define the purpose of the project based on the identified needs
- Develop alternatives for the project

Spring - Summer 2025 — Scoping
- Hold public open houses
- Provide 30-day public comment period

Spring - Summer 2025 — Environmental Analysis
- Conduct studies and evaluate potential impacts of the project to different resources in the study area

Fall 2025 - Early 2026 — Prepare Draft EA
- Compile information and prepare Draft EA

Spring 2026 — Publish Draft EA
- Publish Draft EA
- Provide 30-day public comment period

Summer 2026 — Final EA and Either FONSI or Notice of Intent
- Respond to comments on Draft EA and make updates to EA
- Publish Final EA
- Notify the public of the outcome (Finding of No Significant Impact or Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement)

Submit Comments

Provide your input on:
- Potential impacts to resources that will be evaluated during the NEPA process
- Project alternatives

Comment Form:
Submit a written comment

Comment on our website:
nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov

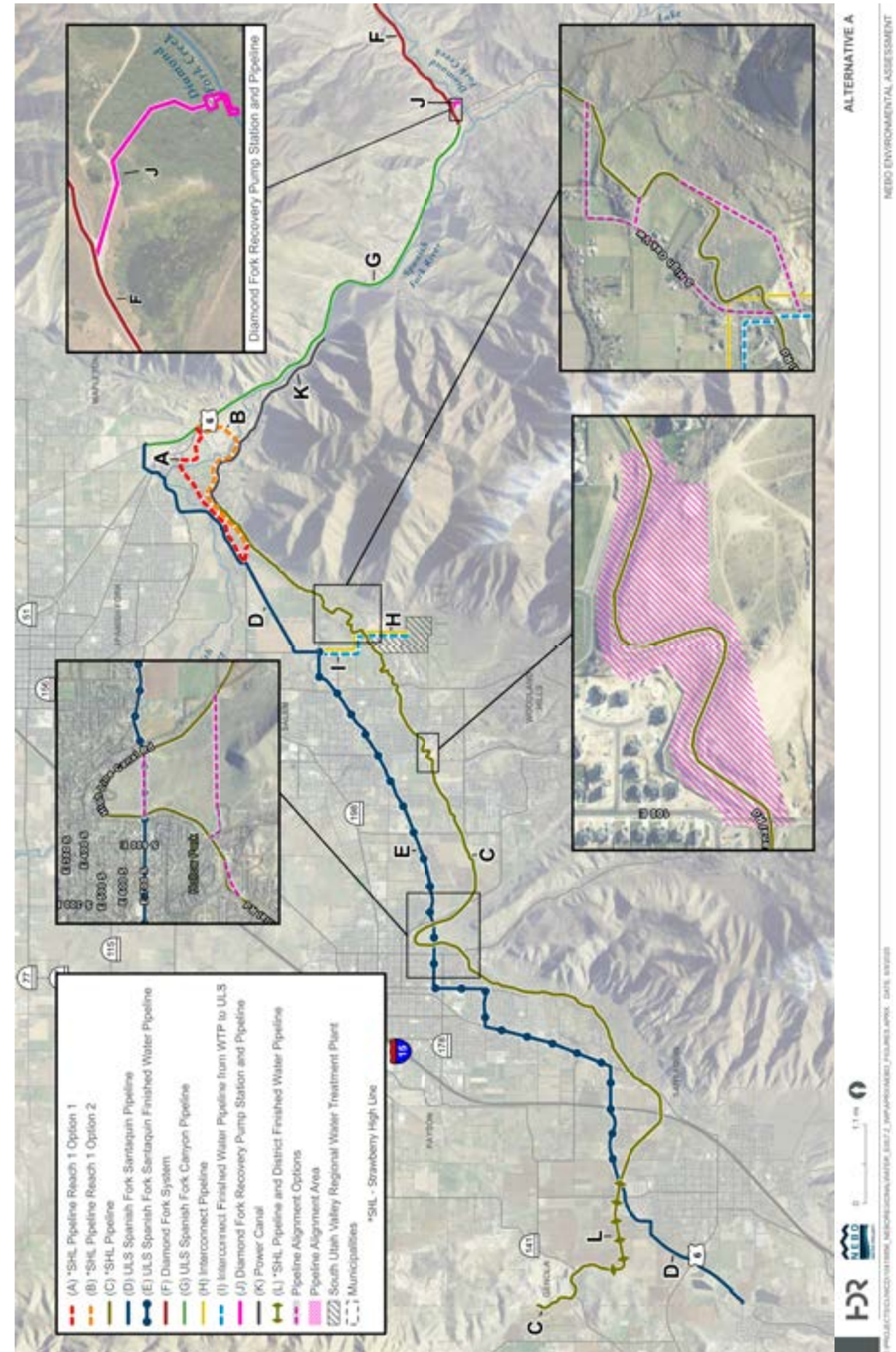
Email: connect@nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov

Call: 385-999-2212

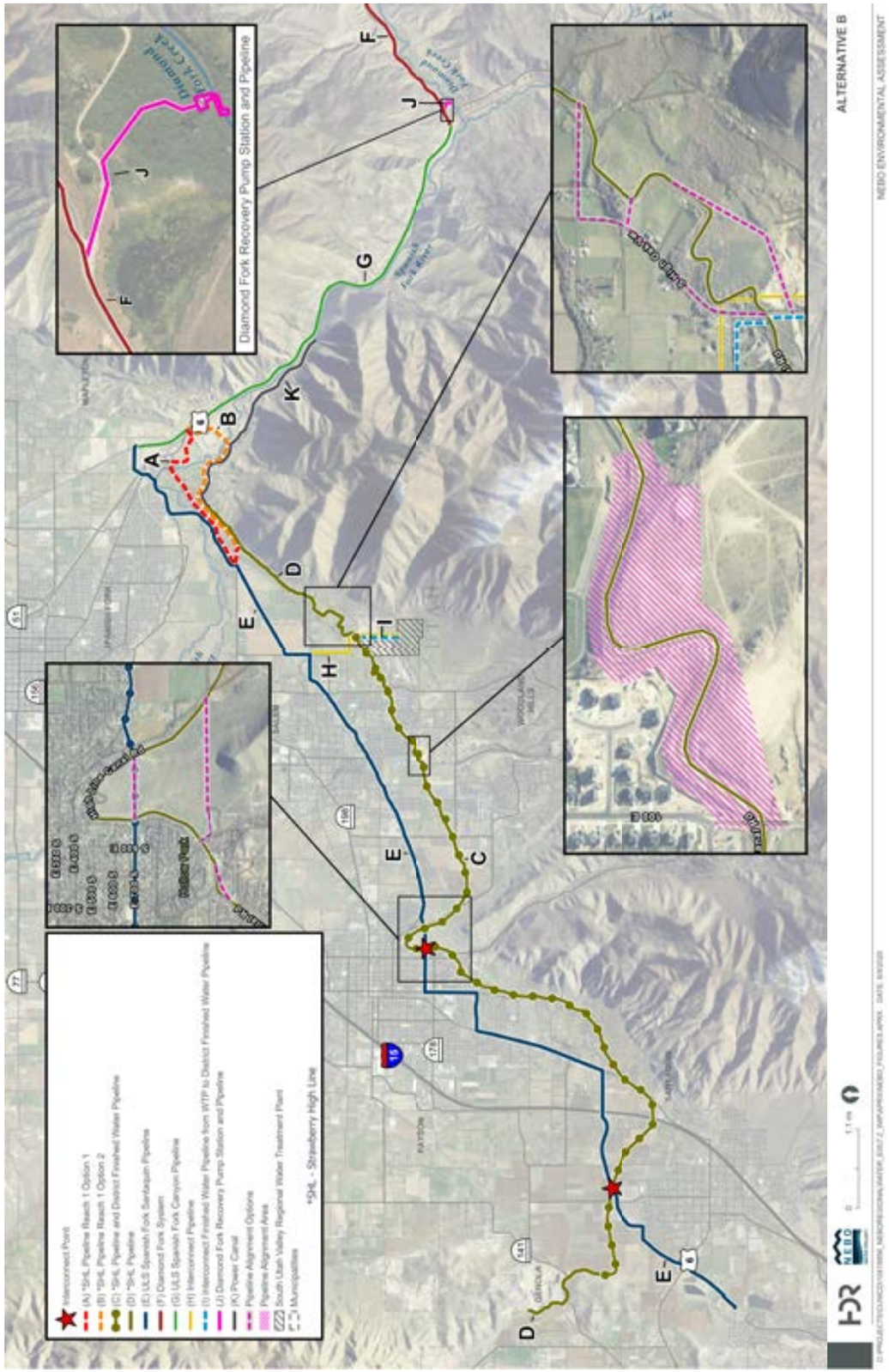
Mail your comments to:
Nebo Water Project
2825 E. Cottonwood Pkwy #200
Salt Lake City, UT 84121

Public comment period: May 23 – June 27, 2025

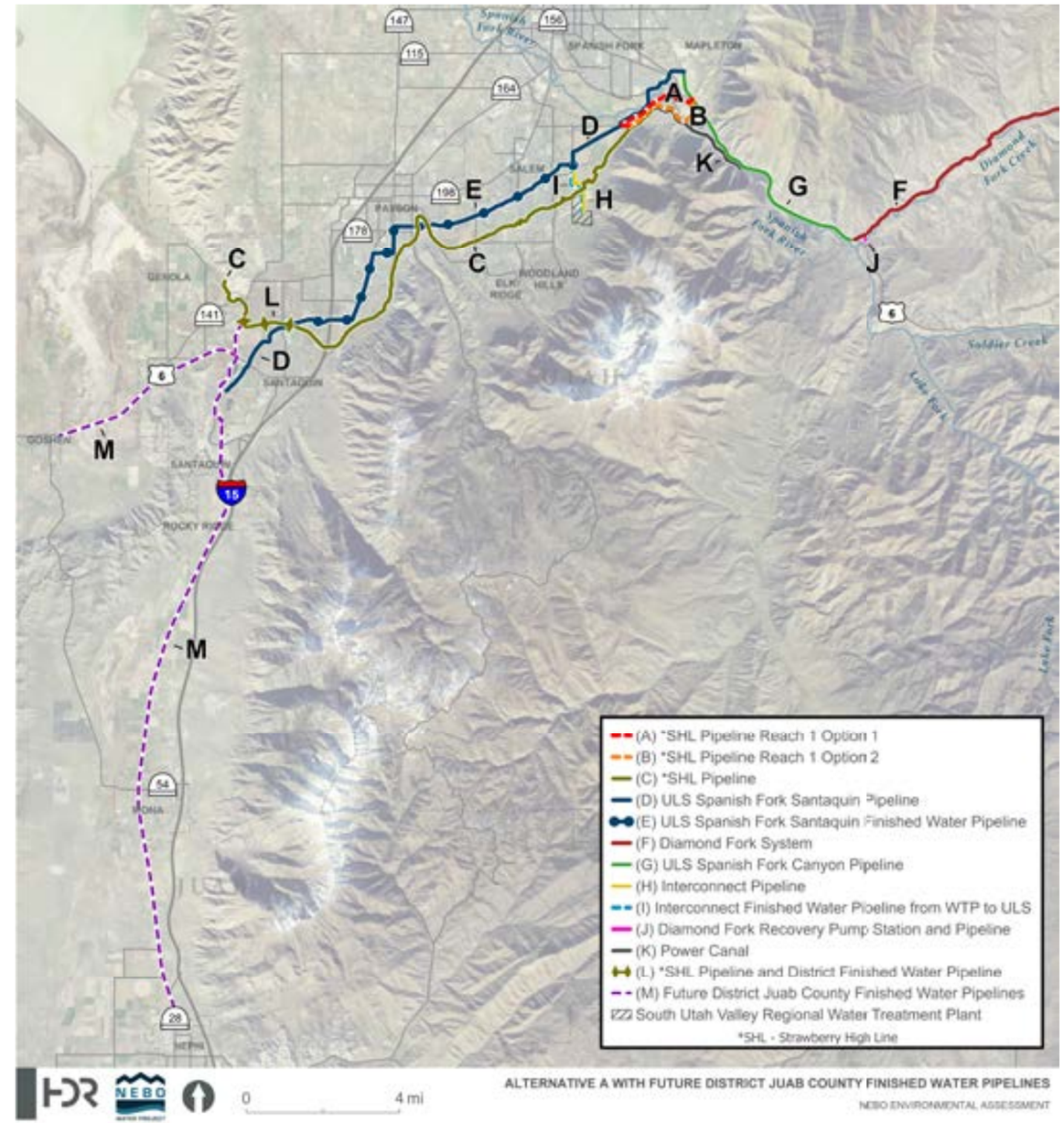
Information Boards



Scroll Plot: Alternative A



Scroll Plot: Alternative B



Scroll Plot: Supplemental Eastern Juab

Project Timeline

Need for Improvements Identified → Preliminary Studies → Current: Environmental Assessment (EA) → Final Design 2026 – 2028 Completion: 2028 → Construction: 2028 – 2031 Operational: 2032

EARLY 2025: Purpose and Need, Alternatives Development

Define the purpose of the project based on the identified needs

Develop alternatives for the project

SPRING – SUMMER 2025: Scoping

Hold public open houses

Provide 30-day public comment period

SPRING – SUMMER 2025: Environmental Analysis

Conduct studies and evaluate potential impacts of the project to different resources in the study area

FALL 2025 – EARLY 2026: Prepare Draft EA

Compile information and prepare Draft EA

SPRING 2026: Publish Draft EA

Publish Draft EA

Provide 30-day public comment period

SUMMER 2026: Final EA and Either FONSI or Notice of Intent

Respond to comments on Draft EA and make updates to EA

Publish Final EA

Notify the public of the outcome (Finding of No Significant Impact or Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

Submit Comments

Provide your input on:

- Potential impacts to resources that will be evaluated during the NEPA process
- Project alternatives

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:
May 23 – June 27, 2025

Joint Lead Agencies

NEBO WATER PROJECT

Fact Sheet Back Page

Nebo Regional Water Project

Overview

The Central Utah Water Conservancy District, the U.S. Department of the Interior, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, as joint lead agencies (JLA), are preparing an environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed Nebo Regional Water Project (NWP). The improvements proposed as part of the NWP would meet current and anticipated future water demands in southern Utah County and eastern Juab County.

Purpose

Improve Safety

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

Maximize Use of Limited Water Supply

Replacing the canal with a pipeline 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 use in southern Utah County and eastern Juab County.

Proposed Improvements

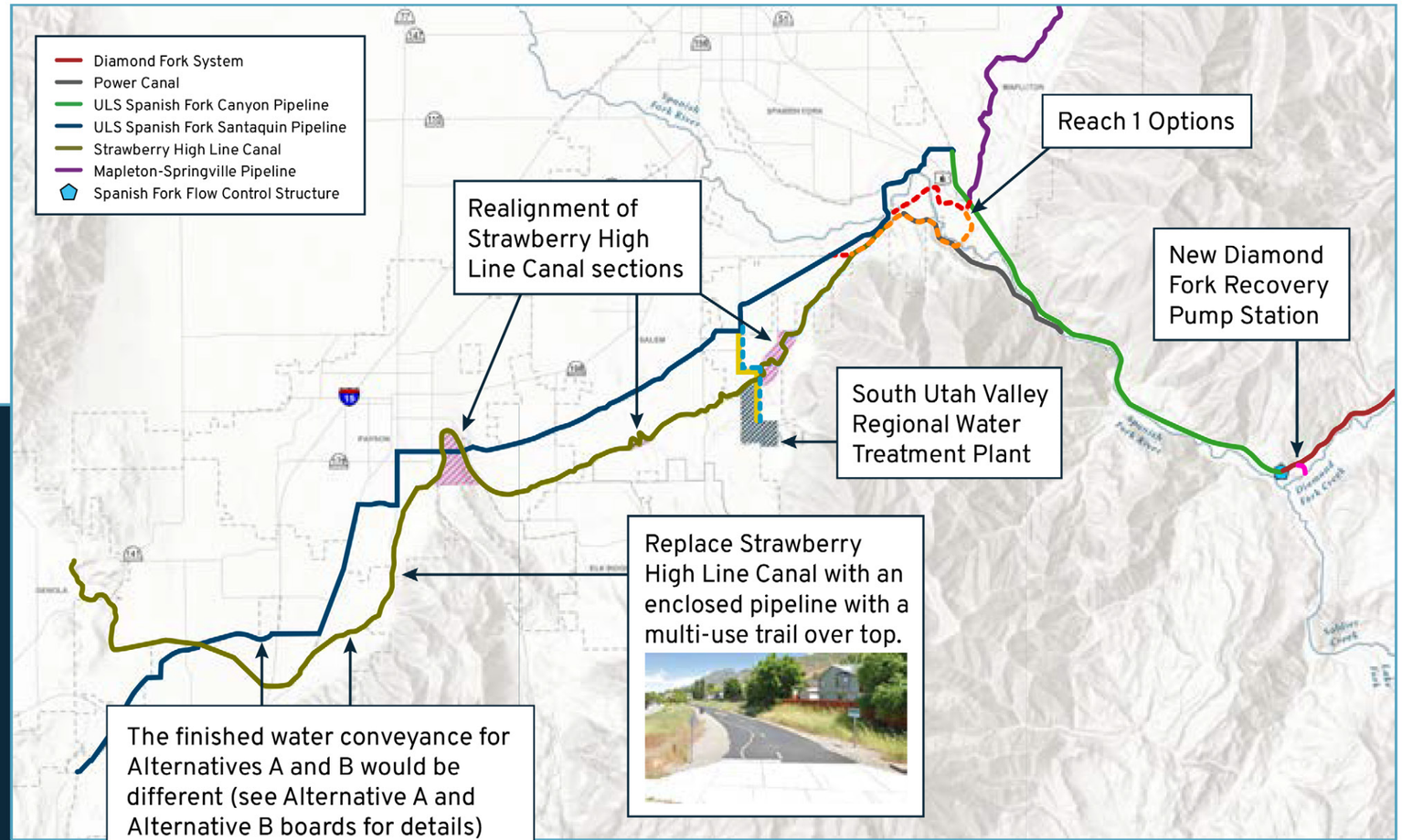
The proposed NWP includes:

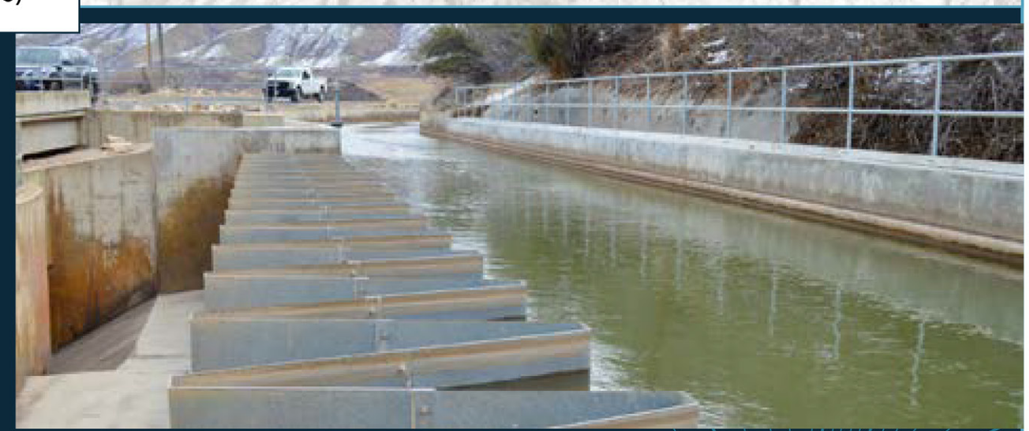
- Enclosing the Strawberry High Line Canal in a buried pipeline
- Establishing a public trail over this pipeline
- Modifying the Spanish Fork Santaquin Pipeline
- Constructing the South Utah Valley Regional Water Treatment Plant
- Constructing a Diamond Fork Recovery Pump Station
- Constructing interconnect pipelines
- Making changes to operations and water use
- Potentially making changes to the Strawberry Water Users Association's infrastructure
- Making changes to administrative responsibilities

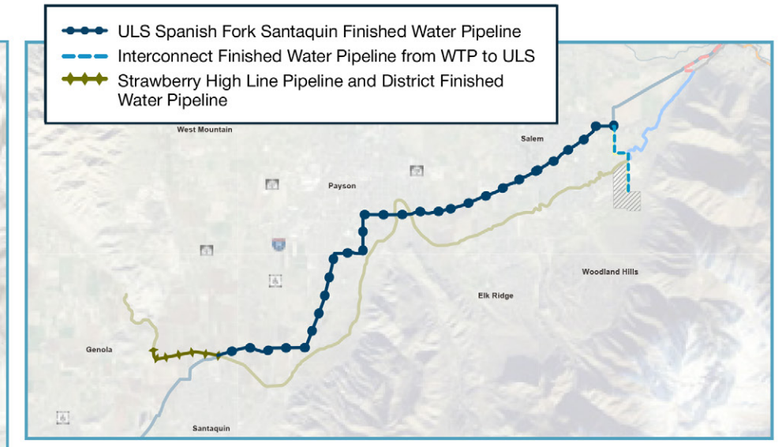
NEBO WATER PROJECT

Fact Sheet Front Page

Proposed Improvements

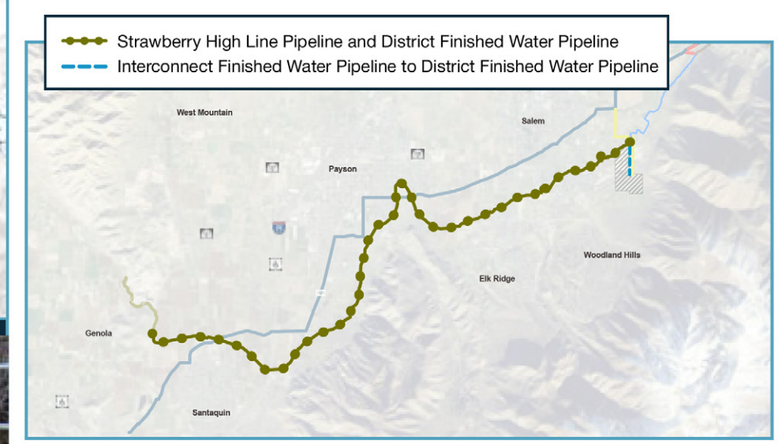






Alternative A

With Alternative A, the Utah Lake Drainage Basin Water Delivery System (ULS) Spanish Fork Santaquin Pipeline (and its turnouts) would be reconfigured to convey finished water (water treated for culinary and drinking purposes) from the proposed South Utah Valley Regional Water Treatment Plant (WTP).



Alternative B

From the South Utah Valley Regional WTP to Santaquin, Alternative B would convey finished water in a new District pipeline in the Strawberry High Line Canal right-of-way. Alternative B would also enclose the Strawberry High Line Canal in a pipe along the Strawberry High Line Canal right-of-way.

Fact Sheet Center Layout

NEBO WATER PROJECT

PUBLIC SCOPING OPEN HOUSE

TUESDAY, JUNE 10 | 5 – 7 PM | PAYSON CITY HALL | 439 W. UTAH AVE.

[redacted]

	Name	Organization (if applicable)	Address, City, Zip Code	Phone Number	Email	How did you hear about this meeting?	Add me to your email list	
1	Cory Pierce	SF city	[redacted]			Invited	yes	no
2	John Waters	SF City				invited	yes	no
3	Dan Thomas					Invited from	yes	no
4	Don Lundell	Santaquin				Invite	yes	no
5	Robert Mills	Payson				INVITE	yes	no
6	Melinda Harris Jim Harris	Spring Lake				Mailing	yes	no
7	Ric Cantrell	CUWCD					yes	no
8	Bruce Ward	CUWCD				N/A	yes	no
9							yes	no
10							yes	no

NEBO WATER PROJECT

PUBLIC SCOPING OPEN HOUSE

TUESDAY, JUNE 10 | 5 – 7 PM | PAYSON CITY HALL | 439 W. UTAH AVE.

[redacted]

	Name	Organization (if applicable)	Address, City, Zip Code	Phone Number	Email	How did you hear about this meeting?	Add me to your email list	
1	Ashley Peay	wwclyde		[redacted]		Industry	yes	no
2	Boyd Barney						yes	no
3	Mike Kay						yes	no
4	Joshua Davis						yes	no
5	Dan Fechner	Jones and Demille					yes	no
6	Duff Shelley					Postcard	yes	no
7	Robert Shelley					Postcard	yes	no
8	Duane Frisby					post card	yes	no
9	Kathy Alvey						yes	no
10	Wade E. Garner	CUWCD Trustee			7.com		yes	no

NEBO WATER PROJECT

PUBLIC SCOPING OPEN HOUSE

TUESDAY, JUNE 10 | 5 – 7 PM | PAYSON CITY HALL | 439 W. UTAH AVE.

[redacted]

	Name	Organization (if applicable)	Address, City, Zip Code	Phone Number	Email	How did you hear about this meeting?	Add me to your email list	
1	Shaunry Lee		[redacted]			friend	yes	no
2	J. Robert Green	Water For The West non-profit W.F.T.W				m Ka	yes	no
3	Brian Hulet	Payson City					yes	no
4	Eldon Chestnut	[redacted] W.W. Clyde					yes	no
5	Triffine [illegible]	Mona City					yes	no
6	Tara Howard	Mona					yes	no
7	Matt Laurendeau	Jones & DeMille					yes	no
8	Kim Lewis					Salem City Instagram	yes	no
9	Zack Steele	Brown & Caldwell				CUWCD	yes	no
10	Gordon Alvey	Mona					yes	no

NEBO WATER PROJECT

PUBLIC SCOPING OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY, JUNE 12 | 5 - 7 PM | JUAB HIGH SCHOOL | 802 N. 650 E.

[redacted]

	Name	Organization (if applicable)	Address, City, Zip Code	Phone Number	Email	How did you hear about this meeting?	Add me to your email list	
1	Lynn Bailey	East Juab Co water conservancy			[redacted]	[illegible]	yes	no
2	Ron Allred	Rocky Ridge City				[illegible]	yes	no
3	Justin Seely	Nephi City	[redacted]				yes	no
4	Brian Trick	U.S. Forest Service					yes	no
5	Michael Gross, III					Facebook	yes	no
6	Tiffinie Mettge	Citizen					yes	no
7	Joanna Covington	Rocky Ridge City				email	yes	no
8	Tyler Keyte	East Juab water conservancy					yes	no
9							yes	no
10							yes	no

Nephi meeting Sign In

NEBO WATER PROJECT

PUBLIC SCOPING OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY, JUNE 12 | 5 – 7 PM | JUAB HIGH SCHOOL | 802 N. 650 E.

[redacted]

Name	Organization (if applicable)	Address, City, Zip Code	Phone Number	Email	How did you hear about this meeting?	Add me to your email list	
1 Andy Allred	Rocky Ridge Town	[redacted]			Town notice	yes	no
2 Joshua Davis						yes	no
3 Kyle Marchant	Nephi City				City	yes	no
4 Jonatha Johns	Mona City				City	yes	no
5 Marty Palmer	Juab county					yes	no
6 Marvin Kenison	Juab County CUWCD					yes	no
7						yes	no
8						yes	no
9						yes	no
10						yes	no

NEBO WATER PROJECT

PUBLIC SCOPING OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY, JUNE 12 | 5 – 7 PM | JUAB HIGH SCHOOL | 802 N. 650 E.

[redacted]

Name	Organization (if applicable)	Address, City, Zip Code	Phone Number	Email	How did you hear about this meeting?	Add me to your email list	
1 Seth Atkinson	Nephi City	[redacted]				yes	no
2 Shenna Christiansen	Ames Construction					yes	no
3 Dean Blackhurst	EJWCD					yes	no
4 Barbara Bradford	EJCWCD					yes	no
5 Amy Stanley	mona city council					yes	no
6 Kyle Stanley	mona city					yes	no
7 Myrna (Nephi Times News)	Trauntrein					yes	no
8 Leonard	Trauntrein					yes	no
9						yes	no
10						yes	no

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Appendix C: Scoping Notification Letters

Agency Mailing List

Tribal Mailing List

Example of Scoping Notification Letters

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Contact Type	Name	Organization	Address	City	State	Zip
Federal	Agency Representative	U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office	440 West 200 South, Ste. 500	Salt Lake City	UT	84101
Federal	Jason Gipson, Chief	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bountiful Regulatory Office	533 West 2600 South, Ste 150	Bountiful	UT	84101-7744
Federal	George Weekley, State Supervisor	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Utah Ecological Services Field Office	2369 West Orton Circle, Ste 50	West Valley City	UT	84119-7603
Federal	Agency Representative	U.S. Forest Service, Spanish Fork Ranger District	44 West 400 North	Spanish Fork	UT	84660
Federal	Jenny Cox	Natural Resources Conservation Service - Provo Field Office	302 E. Lakeview Parkway	Provo	UT	84606-6154
Federal	Melissa McCoy, NEPA Branch Manager	US Environmental Protection Agency - Region 8	1595 Wynkoop Street	Denver	CO	80202-1129
Cities and Counties	Mayor Matt Packard	Springville City	110 South Main Street	Springville	UT	84663
Cities and Counties	Mayor Dallas Hakes	Mapleton City	125 W Community Center Way	Mapleton	UT	84664
Cities and Counties	Mayor Mike Mendenhall	Spanish Fork City	40 S Main St	Spanish Fork	UT	84660
Cities and Counties	Mayor Kurt Christensen	Salem City	30 W 100 S	Salem	UT	84653
Cities and Counties	Mayor Robert Hadddock	Elk Ridge City	80 E Park Drive	Elk Ridge	UT	84651
Cities and Counties	Mayor Brent Winder	Woodland Hills City	690 S Woodland Hills Dr.	Woodland Hills	UT	84653
Cities and Counties	Mayor Bill Wright	Payson City	439 W Utah Avenue	Payson	UT	84651
Cities and Counties	Mayor Dan Olson	Santaquin City	110 S Center Street	Santaquin	UT	84655
Cities and Counties	Richard Nielsen	Utah County Public Works Director	2855 South State Street	Provo	UT	84606
Cities and Counties	Mayor Steven Staheli	Goshen	10 West Main PO Box 197	Goshen	UT	84633
Cities and Counties	Mayor Neil Brown	Genola Town	74 W 800 S	Genola	UT	84655
Cities and Counties	Mayor Ronald Allred	Rocky Ridge	195 E. Mountain Ridge Road	Rocky Ridge	UT	84645
Cities and Counties	Mayor Randy Christensen	Mona	20 West Center Street	Mona	UT	84645
Cities and Counties	Mayor Justin Seely	Nephi	21 E 100 N	Nephi	UT	84648
Cities and Counties	Brandon Gordon, Chair	Utah County Commission Chair	100 E Center Street Suite 2300	Provo	UT	84606
Cities and Counties	Amelia Powers Gardner	Utah County Commissioner	100 E Center Street Suite 2300	Provo	UT	84606
Cities and Counties	Skyler Beltran	Utah County Commissioner	100 E Center Street Suite 2300	Provo	UT	84606
Cities and Counties	Marty Palmer, Chair	Juab County Commission	160 N Main Street	Nephi	UT	84648
Cities and Counties	Clinton Painter	Juab County Commissioner	160 N Main Street	Nephi	UT	84648
Cities and Counties	Marvin Kenison	Juab County Commissioner	160 N Main Street	Nephi	UT	84648
Elected officials	Congressman Blake Moore	U.S. House of Representatives - Congressman Blake Moore (District 1)	324 25th Street	Ogden	UT	84401
Elected officials	Congressman Celeste Maloy	U.S. House of Representatives - Congressman Celeste Maloy (District 2)	585 West 500 South #230	Bountiful	UT	84010
Elected officials	Congressman Mike Kennedy	U.S. House of Representatives - Congressman Mike Kennedy (District 3)	3549 N University Parkway Suite 275	Provo	UT	84604
Elected officials	Congressman Burgess Owens	U.S. House of Representatives - Congressman Burgess Owens (District 4)	9067 South 1300 West Suite 101	West Jordan	UT	84088
Elected officials	Senator Mike Lee	Senator Mike S. Lee	125 South State Street Suite #4225	Salt Lake City	UT	84138
Elected officials	Senator John Curtis	Senator John Curtis	125 South State Street Suite #8402	Salt Lake City	UT	84138
Elected officials	Rep. Stephanie Gricius	Utah House District 50	350 N State Street, Ste 350	Salt Lake City	UT	84114
Elected officials	Rep. Norman Thurston	Utah House District 62	965 E Center Street	Provo	UT	84606
Elected officials	Rep. Stephen Whyte	Utah House District 63	913 S Iris Lane	Mapleton	UT	84664
Elected officials	Rep. Jefferson Burton	Utah House District 64	350 N State Street, Ste 350	Salt Lake City	UT	84114
Elected officials	Rep. Douglas Welton	Utah House District 65	350 N State Street, Ste 350	Salt Lake City	UT	84114
Elected officials	Rep. Troy Shelley	Utah House District 66	PO Box 393	Ephraim	UT	84627
Elected officials	Senator Michael McKell	Utah Senate District 25	642 Kirby Lane, Ste 105	Spanish Fork	UT	84660
Elected officials	Senator David Hinkins	Utah Senate District 26	PO Box 383	Ferron	UT	84523
Elected officials	Senator Derrin Owens	Utah Senate District 27	PO Box 127	Fountain Green	UT	84632
State agencies	Candice Hasenyager, Director	Utah Division of Water Resources	1549 W North Temple Suite 310	Salt Lake City	UT	84114-6201
State agencies	Jamie Barnes, Director	Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands	PO Box 145703	Salt Lake City	UT	84114-5703
State agencies	Teresa Wilhelmsen, State Engineer	Utah Division of Water Rights	1594 West North Temple, Suite 220	Salt Lake City	UT	84114-6300
State agencies	Scott Strong, Director	Utah State Parks & Recreation	1594 West North Temple, Suite 116	Salt Lake City	UT	84116
State agencies	Riley Peck, Director	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	1594 W. North Temple Suite 2110	Salt Lake City	UT	84116
State agencies	Sarah Seegert	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	1594 W. North Temple Suite 2110	Salt Lake City	UT	84116
State agencies	Eric Anderson	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	1594 W. North Temple Suite 2110	Salt Lake City	UT	84116
State agencies	Chris Crockett	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	1115 N Main Street	Springville	UT	84663
State agencies	Mike Slater	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	1115 N Main Street	Springville	UT	84663
State agencies	Redge Johnson, Director	Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office	1594 W North Temple, Suite 320	Salt Lake City	UT	84116
State agencies	Joel Ferry, Executive Director	Utah Department of Natural Resources	1596 W. North Temple	Salt Lake City	UT	84114-5610
State agencies	Sophia DiCaro, Executive Director	Governor's Office of Planning & Budget	350 N State Street #150	Salt Lake City	UT	84114-2210
State agencies	John Mackey, Director	Utah Division of Water Quality	PO Box 144870	Salt Lake City	UT	84114-4870
State agencies	Nathan Lunstad, Director	Utah Division of Drinking Water	PO Box 144830	Salt Lake City	UT	84114-4830
State agencies	Chris Merritt, SHPO	Utah Division of State History	300 South Rio Grande Street	Salt Lake City	UT	84101
State agencies	Rob Clayton, Director	Utah Department of Transportation, Region 3	658 N 1500 W	Orem	UT	84057
State agencies	Kelly Pehrson, Commissioner	Utah Department of Agriculture and Food	P.O. Box #146500	Salt Lake City	UT	84114-6500
State agencies	Tim Davis, Executive Director	Utah Department of Environmental Quality	P.O. Box #144810	Salt Lake City	UT	84114-4810
Local agencies	LaNiece Davenport, Planning Director	Mountainland Association of Governments	586 E 800 N	Orem	UT	84097
Local agencies	Calvin Clark, Transportation Project Manager	Mountainland Association of Governments	586 E 800 N	Orem	UT	84097
Local agencies	Travis Kyhl, Executive Director	R6 Regional Council/Six County Association of Governments	82 E 600 N	Richfield	UT	84701
Local agencies	Luke Peterson, Executive Director	Utah Lake Authority	51 South University Ave, Suite 109	Provo	UT	84601
Water Districts	Scott Paxman, General Manager	Weber Basin Water Conservancy District	2837 East Highway 193	Layton	UT	84040
Water Districts	Alan Packard	Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District	8215 South 1300 West	West Jordan	UT	84088
Water Districts	Shazelle Terry	Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District	8215 South 1300 West	West Jordan	UT	84088
Water Districts	Kevin Rubow	Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District	8215 South 1300 West	West Jordan	UT	84088
Water Districts	Wade Tuft	Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District	8215 South 1300 West	West Jordan	UT	84088
Water Districts	Annalee Munsey	Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake & Sandy	3430 East Danish Road	Cottonwood Heights	UT	84093
Water Districts	Jeff Budge	Provo River Water Users Association	285 West 1100 North	Pleasant Grove	UT	84062
Water Districts	Richard Nielsen	Mt. Nebo Water Agency	30 W 100 S	Salem	UT	84653
Water Districts	Marty Larson	Strawberry High Line Canal Company	1608 American Way	Payson	UT	84651
Water Districts	Sterling Brown	Strawberry Water Users Association	745 N 500 E	Payson	UT	84651
Water Districts	Lani Bonnett	South Utah Valley Municipal Water Association	1405 W 1600 N	Mapleton	UT	84664
Water Districts	Duran Kay	East Juab Water Conservancy District	P.O. Box 199	Nephi	UT	84648
Water Districts	Mike Miner	Mapleton Irrigation District	125 W Community Center Way	Mapleton	UT	84664
Water Districts	Albert Harmer	Springville Irrigation District	PO Box 745	Springville	UT	84663
Water Districts	Wade Tuft	Utah Lake Water Users Association	P O Box 571440	Midvale	UT	84157
Water Districts	John Larsen	Utah Lake/Jordan River	2399 East 10265 South	Sandy	UT	84092
Water Districts	Ed Vidmar	Spanish Fork River Commissioner	1218 S 480 W	Salem	UT	84653
Water Districts	Scott Bergendorf	Provo River Commissioner	717 North Main Street, Ste 201	Springville	UT	84663
NGOs/Stakeholders	Jordan Nielson	Trout Unlimited	1104 S River Ridge Ln	Spanish Fork	UT	84660
NGOs/Stakeholders	Marcelle Shoop	Audubon	PO Box 520867	Salt Lake City	UT	84152-0867
NGOs/Stakeholders	Adam Wickline	Audubon	PO Box 520867	Salt Lake City	UT	84152-0867
NGOs/Stakeholders	Max Malmquist	Audubon	PO Box 520867	Salt Lake City	UT	84152-0867
NGOs/Stakeholders	Ann Neville	The Nature Conservancy	559 E South Temple	Salt Lake City	UT	84102
NGOs/Stakeholders	Jay Buckley	Utah Valley Historical Society	550 N University Avenue, Provo Library Ste 201	Provo	UT	84601
NGOs/Stakeholders	David Robbins	Utah County Farm Bureau	9865 S. State Street	Sandy	UT	84070
NGOs/Stakeholders	Gary Herbert, Executive Chair	Utah Valley Chamber of Commerce	2696 N University Avenue Ste 220	Provo	UT	84604
NGOs/Stakeholders	Kathleen Leavitt, President/CEO	Spanish Fork Salem Chamber of Commerce	67 E 100 N	Spanish Fork	UT	84660
NGOs/Stakeholders	Jim Rowland, President/CEO	Payson Santaquin Chamber of Commerce	87 N Main St.	Payson	UT	84651
NGOs/Stakeholders	Melanie Bott, President/CEO	Springville-Mapleton Chamber of Commerce	110 S Main St.	Springville	UT	84663-5741
NGOs/Stakeholders	Agency Representative	Greater Nephi Chamber of Commerce	PO Box 219	Nephi	UT	84648
NGOs/Stakeholders	Tribly Cox, Co-Executive Director	Bike Utah	960 S Main Street	Salt Lake City	UT	84101
NGOs/Stakeholders	Wendy Fisher, Executive Director	Utah Open Lands	1488 Main Street	Salt Lake City	UT	84115
CUWCD Trustees	G. Wayne Andersen	CUWCD Trustee	957 South 1700 West	Spanish Fork	UT	84660
CUWCD Trustees	Shelley Brennan	CUWCD Trustee	PO Box 916	Duchesne	UT	84021
CUWCD Trustees	Jon Bronson	CUWCD Trustee	10085 Silver Streak Dr	South Jordan	UT	84095
CUWCD Trustees	Kirk L. Christensen	CUWCD Trustee	24493 W 4000 N	Talmage	UT	84073
CUWCD Trustees	Steve Farrell	CUWCD Trustee	325 West 500 South	Midway	UT	84049
CUWCD Trustees	Wade E. Garner	CUWCD Trustee	PO Box 85	Elberta	UT	84626
CUWCD Trustees	Steve Hanberg	CUWCD Trustee	HC 69 Box 129	Randlett	UT	84063
CUWCD Trustees	Max Haslem	CUWCD Trustee	3150 N Vernal Ave	Vernal	UT	84078
CUWCD Trustees	Marvin Kenison	CUWCD Trustee	1239 W Powell Lane PO Box 203	Levan	UT	84639
CUWCD Trustees	Kathy Loveless	CUWCD Trustee	198 E Ensign Vista Dr	Salt Lake City	UT	84103
CUWCD Trustees	Al Mansell	CUWCD Trustee	2547 Granite Pass Court	Sandy	UT	84092
CUWCD Trustees	Greg McPhie	CUWCD Trustee	690 South 4800 East	Heber City	UT	84032
CUWCD Trustees	Eldon Neves	CUWCD Trustee	PO Box 727	Spanish Fork	UT	84660
CUWCD Trustees	Jim Riding	CUWCD Trustee	3273 Freedom Lane	West Jordan	UT	84084
CUWCD Trustees	Jennifer Scott	CUWCD Trustee	1486 Fox Pointe Dr	West Jordan	UT	84088
CUWCD Trustees	Randy Vincent	CUWCD Trustee	PO Box 203	Jensen	UT	84035
CUWCD Trustees	Brad Wells	CUWCD Trustee	1086 N 2250 W	Roosevelt	UT	84066

Name	Organization	Address	City	State	Zip
Honorable Luke Duncan	Chairman Ute Tribe Business Committee	PO Box 190	Fort Duchesne	Utah	84026-0190
Antonio Pingree	Acting Superintendent, Uintah and Ouray	PO Box 130	Fort Duchesne	Utah	84026-0190
Honorable Harold Cuthair	Chairman, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe	PO Box JJ	Towaoc	Colorado	81334
Terry Knight	Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Cultural Preservation Program	PO Box 468	Towaoc	Colorado	81334
Honorable Pami Borchardt Slayton	Paiute Indian Tribe	440 North Paiute Drive	Cedar City	Utah	84720
Dorena Martineau	Paiute Indian Tribe, Cultural Resources Director	440 North Paiute Drive	Cedar City	Utah	84720
James Williams	Superintendent, Southern Piaute Tribe Agency	PO Box 720	St. George	Utah	84771
Honorable Ona Segunda	Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians of the Kaibab Indian Reservation	HC 65 Box 2, Tribal Affairs Building	Fredonia	Arizona	86022
Charley Bullets	Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians of the Paiute Indian Reservation	HC 65 Box 2, Tribal Affairs Building	Fredonia	Arizona	86022
Honorable Curtis Anderson	Las Vegas Tribe of Paiute Indian of the Las Vegas Indian Colony, Nevada	1 Paiute Drive	Las Vegas	Neveda	89106
Kenny Anderson	Las Vegas Tribe of Paiute Indian of the Las Vegas Indian Colony, Nevada	1 Paiute Drive	Las Vegas	Neveda	89106
Honorable Vickie Simmons	Moapa Band of Paiute Indians of the Moapa River Indian Reservation, Nevada	PO Box 340	Moapa	Neveda	89025
Honorable Candice Bear	Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians	407 Skull Valley Road	Skull Valley	Utah	84029
Antonio Pingree	Acting Superintendent, Uintah and Ouray	PO Box 130	Fort Duchesne	Utah	84026-0190
Honorable Rupert Steele	Confederate Tribes of the Goshute Reservation	PO Box 6104	Ibapah	Utah	84034
Melissa Oppenhein	Confederate Tribes of the Goshute Reservation	PO Box 6104	Ibapah	Utah	84034
Antonio Pingree	Acting Superintendent, Uintah and Ouray	PO Box 130	Fort Duchesne	Utah	84026-0190
Honarable Darren Parry	Northwestern Band of Shoshoni Nation of Utah	707 North Main Street	Brigham City	Utah	84302
Patty Timbimboo-Madsen	Cultural and Natural Resources of the Northwestern Band of Shoshoni Nation of Utah	707 North Main Street	Brigham City	Utah	84302
Randy Thompson	Fort Hall Agency BIA	PO Box 220	Fort Hall	Idaho	83203
Honorable Nathan Small	Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho	PO Box 306	Fort Hall	Idaho	83203
Louise Dixie	Cultural Resource Coordinator Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho	PO Box 306	Fort Hall	Idaho	83203
Randy Thompson	Fort Hall Agency BIA	PO Box 220	Fort Hall	Idaho	83203
Honorable Vernon Hill	Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation of Wyoming	PO Box 538	Fort Washakie	Wyoming	82514-0538
Joshua Mann	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Eastern Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation	PO Box 538	Fort Washakie	Wyoming	82514-0538
Mike Addy	Wind River Agency, BIA	PO Box 158	Fort Washakie	Wyoming	82514
Honorable Timoth Nuvangyaoma	Hopi Tribe of Arizona	PO Box 123	Kyotsmovi,	Arizona	86039
Leigh Kuwanwisiwma	Hopi Tribe of Arizona Cultural Preservation Office	PO Box 123	Kyotsmovi,	Arizona	86039
Honorable Lee Spoonhunter	Northern Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, Wyoming	PO Box 396	Fort Washakie	Wyoming	82514-0396
Yufina Soldier Wolf	Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Norther Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Reservatoin	PO Box 67	St Stevens	Wyoming	82524
Jonathan Nez	Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah, Navajo Nation Tribal Council	PO Box 7440	Window Rock	Arizona	86515
Timothy Begay	Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah, Historic Preservation Office	PO Box 4950	Window Rock	Arizona	86515
Honorable Val Panteah Sr.	Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Reservation, New Mexico, Pueblo of Zuni Tribal Council	PO Box 339	Zuni	New Mexico	87327-0339
Dr. Kurt Dongoske	THPO, Acting Director, Historic Preservation Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Reservation, New Mexico	PO Box 1140	Zuni	New Mexico	87327

May 21, 2025

Agency Representative
U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office
440 West 200 South, Ste. 500
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Subject: Nebo Regional Water Project Environmental Assessment Scoping Notification

Dear Agency Representative:

The Central Utah Water Conservancy District (District), the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), the U.S. Department of the Interior – Central Utah Project Completion Act Office (Interior), and the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission (Mitigation Commission), as Joint Lead Agencies (JLAs), are preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 United States Code §§ 4321, *et seq.*, and applicable regulations, for the proposed Nebo Regional Water Project (Proposed Project).

The Proposed Project is located in southern Utah County generally between Spanish Fork Canyon and the city of Genola, Utah, and in eastern Juab County. The Proposed Project includes enclosing the Strawberry High Line Canal with a buried pipeline, establishing a public trail over this pipeline, modifications to the Spanish Fork Santaquin Pipeline, construction of the South Utah Valley Regional Water Treatment Plant, construction of a Diamond Fork Recovery Pump Station, construction of interconnect pipelines, changes to operations and water use, potential changes to the Strawberry Water Users Association's infrastructure, and changes to administrative responsibilities.

More details regarding the Proposed Project, the purpose of and need for the project, and the list of anticipated resources to be analyzed in the Environmental Assessment can be found in the scoping notice and materials on the project website (nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov).

The JLAs are seeking comments and input from the public and agencies regarding the Proposed Project during the 30-day comment period between May 23 and June 27, 2025. Comments may be submitted by email (connect@nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov), on the project website (nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov), or by postal mail to Nebo Regional Water Project c/o HDR, 2825 E. Cottonwood Parkway, Suite 200, Salt Lake City, UT 84121-7077. A geographic information systems (GIS) map is also available on the project website for recording comments.

Two public scoping open houses will be held, at the following locations:

- June 10, 2025, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Payson City Center, 439 W. Utah Avenue in Payson
- June 12, 2025, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Juab High School, 802 North 650 East in Nephi

If you or your agency would like to meet with the project team, please let us know dates, times, and preference regarding in-person or virtual meetings, and we will work to get this set up.

Thank you for your participation and interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Sarah Sutherland

Sarah Sutherland
Central Utah Water Conservancy District
Environmental Programs Manager

cc: Rick Baxter, Reclamation
Paul Christensen, Interior
Michael Mills, Mitigation Commission

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Central Utah Project Completion Act Office
302 East Lakeview Parkway
Provo, Utah 84606

CA-1300
2.1.4.17

Honorable Chairman
Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians
407 Skull Valley Road
Skull Valley, Utah 84029

Subject: Nebo Regional Water Project Environmental Assessment Scoping Notification – Tribal Consultation – Section 202(a)(1) – Central Utah Project Completion Act

Dear Chairman:

The U.S. Department of the Interior – Central Utah Project Completion Act Office (Interior), the Central Utah Water Conservancy District (District), the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), and the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission (Mitigation Commission), as Joint Lead Agencies (JLAs), are preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 United States Code §§ 4321, *et seq.*, and applicable regulations, for the proposed Nebo Regional Water Project (Proposed Project).

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More details regarding the Proposed Project, the purpose of and need for the project, and the list of anticipated resources to be analyzed in the Environmental Assessment can be found in the scoping notice and materials on the project website (nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov).

Interior is seeking your comments and input regarding the Proposed Project during a 30-day comment period ending June 27, 2025. Please provide this information to Mr. W. Russ Findlay, 302 East Lakeview Parkway, Provo, Utah 84606-7317, or by email to wfindlay@usbr.gov. Mr. Findlay may also be reached at (801) 379-1084. For the deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired, please dial 7-1-1 to access the telecommunication relay system.

Two public scoping open houses will be held, at the following locations:

- June 10, 2025, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Payson City Center, 439 W. Utah Avenue in Payson, Utah
- June 12, 2025, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Juab High School, 802 North 650 East in Nephi, Utah

If you would like to meet in person, please let us know dates, times, and location preferences. Thank you for your participation and interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Paul Christensen
Program Director

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Antonio Pingree
Superintendent, Uintah and Ouray
Agency Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 130
Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026
(w/encl)

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pchristensen@usbr.gov
wfindlay@usbr.gov
lapratt@usbr.gov
(w/encl to each)

Appendix D: Scoping Comments

Scoping Comments

DNR Scoping Comment Attachment

EPA Scoping Comment Attachment

Written Comments

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Nebo Regional Water Project Scoping Public Comments

#	Name	Date	Method	Comment
1	Adam Cowie	5/30/2025	Email	I tried to send a comment through the web link but it said the 'Subject Line' needed to be filled in, but gave no field for a Subject Line. Please include this message in your public comments on the piping of the Highline Canal. I believe there's strong public interest to see the canal corridor turn into a publicly accessible trail. Something similar to the Murdock Canal trail system would be of significant interest and value to the communities that the canal traverses through. Please consider this as part of the piping project. Please also protect public access to the "P" mountain during and after construction. Thank you
2	Dan Thomas	6/4/2025	Comment Map	Reach 1 option 1 destroys my home, why is this necessary? (This comment was resolved at Payson open house (Brady Cervetti - 06/12/2025)
3	Jeff Lewis	6/10/2025	Comment Map	The Transportation Commission has approved funding to add an additional lane on I-15 in each direction, likely in the median. Freeway project and water project will need to coordinate with each other. Exact timeline of I-15 project unknown.
4	Jeff Lewis	6/10/2025	Comment Map	Impacts to I-15 of the improved pipeline and trail crossing will need to be coordinated and permitted through UDOT Region 3.

5	Jeff Lewis	6/10/2025	Comment Map	Impacts to State Route 198 of the improved canal and trail crossing will need to be coordinated and permitted through UDOT Region 3.
6	Jeff Lewis	6/10/2025	Comment Map	UDOT is working with Union Pacific in a long-term planning/environmental effort to eliminate this rail line that parallels US-6 through Spanish Fork.
7	Jeff Lewis	6/10/2025	Comment Map	UDOT is working with Spanish Fork and Mapleton to connect the Mapleton Lateral Canal trail across US-6 and the railroad to connect to the existing trail system. Project is moving forward.
8	Jeff Lewis	6/10/2025	Comment Map	The Utah Legislature allocated funding to Spanish Fork City to construct a new bridge over the railroad to access a new residential development. Timeline of project unknown, but it could happen around the same time as the Nebo Water project.
9	Ashley Peay	6/10/2025	Written Comment	As a person in the industry as well as a local citizen, tonight's event was well thought out and easy for the public to understand. I liked the boards and large showing of CUWCD staff. Naturally, I am pro project as a science major. I understand the importance of the project. I know it comes with a large price tag but am happy to see the project finally proceed forward. Great job so far.
10	Kim Lewis	6/12/2025	Written Comment	Our property on Utah County maps show we own high line canal property. We are wondering how property ownership will be addressed, easement questions, etc? If someone is hurt on a portion of the canal that shows up under our name, who is held liable for that?

				We have animals grazing in the fields bordering the canal. If existing fences are removed during construction, will we be reimbursed for costs to reinstall?
11	Seth Atkinson	6/12/2025	Written Comment	Nephi is experiencing significant growth and this project can help with providing critical water supply for that growth. I want to point out that part of this growth is Agri-Park project from the R6 Regional Council that will most likely have several water-intensive uses. Juab County is also involved with this project. Nephi City is involved by providing utilities, including water.
12	Kyle Stanley	6/25/2025	Web Comment	I suggest bringing in the water to Juab as raw water and trading that water with the farmers and irrigation company in Mona for well water shares. The well water could be used as the culinary water source for Mona and Nephi city's. It would save a lot in building the project to not have to build a system to treat water to bring it to Juab, while there is water already available in town why not just find a way to work with both. The raw water that the farmers get in trade would be used to irrigate farm land keeping the agriculture industry alive in Juab County. Mona City needs water to support the continued growth in the community and this could be a good start to a water option.
13	Redge B. Johnson Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office Director DNR	6/25/2025	Email	**Division of Wildlife Resources** The proposed Diamond Fork recovery pump station may alter existing Spanish Fork River flows, potentially affecting several fish species, including June sucker. The June sucker is listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act and found only in Utah Lake and its lower tributaries. The June Sucker Recovery Implementation Program (JSRIP) was created in 2002 as a multi-agency effort to recover the species. The DWR and our

				partners with the JSRIP have invested significant resources in this effort for over 20 years. Water in this system provides ecological benefits to the Spanish Fork River, Utah Lake, Jordan River, and ultimately the Great Salt Lake. Severe drought conditions in recent years and record-low Great Salt Lake levels make conserving in-stream flows vital to maintaining ecosystem health. DWR recommends that any potential impacts from altered downstream flows be addressed in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during the development of the Environmental Assessment. DWR appreciates the opportunity to review and coordinate this project. If you have questions, please contact Josee Seamons, the DWR's Impact Analysis Biologist at DWR's Central Region office, at jseamons@utah.gov or 385-421-1277. **Division of Water Rights** DWRi asks that the project participants continue to coordinate with the Regional Engineer for the Utah Lake /Jordan River Region to address any necessary actions related to water rights associated with the project, including any changes that may be proposed to periods and types of uses or places of use. Also, if changes are made to the alignment of the Strawberry Highline Canal, please work with the DWRi's technical services section so it can update the statewide canal inventory map.

				Both the Utah Lake/Jordan River region office and technical services may be reached at (801) 538-7240. The State appreciates the opportunity to provide scoping comments. Please contact me if you have any further questions.
14	Melissa McCoy Nepa Branch Manager EPA	6/26/2025	Email	To whom this may concern: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reviewed the May 2025 scoping notice for the Central Utah Water Conservancy District, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of Interior – Central Utah Project Completion Act Office, and Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission's (collectively referred to as the Joint Lead Agencies, or JLA) proposed Nebo Regional Water Project (Project). In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the EPA is providing scoping comments for your consideration. The EPA's detailed comments are enclosed. Our comments focus on the following topics that we recommend the JLA consider in its NEPA document for the proposed Project: (1) aquatic resources; (2) water quality and quantity; and (3) air quality. The EPA appreciates the opportunity to provide comments at this stage of the NEPA process. If further explanation of our comments is desired, please contact me at (303) 312-6155 or mccoy.melissa@epa.gov, or Matt Hubner, lead reviewer, at (303) 312-6500 or hubner.matt@epa.gov. Sincerely, Melissa W. McCoy, Ph.D., J.D. NEPA Branch Manager **Detailed Scoping Comments for the Nebo Regional Water Project**

				Water Quality and Aquatic Resources *Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404* The Proposed Action includes major ground-disturbing activities (such as enclosing the Strawberry High Line Canal, constructing new raw and finished pipelines, and building the Diamond Fork Recovery Pump Station) that may result in a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States (WOTUS). The discharge of dredged or fill material into WOTUS is regulated under the CWA Section 404. We recommend that the NEPA document for this Project include details on the jurisdictional status, and the type, quantity, and quality of aquatic resources that could be impacted by the Project. We also recommend consulting with the Corps during the NEPA process to determine the applicability of CWA Section 404 permit requirements in the project area and to ensure appropriate avoidance and minimization of adverse impacts to wetlands and streams. Aligning the NEPA process and CWA Section 404 permitting allows the JLA to accurately assess environmental impacts, avoid future permittingrelated delays, and improve the project schedule's predictability. Further, if an individual CWA Section 404 permit is necessary, the EPA recommends that the NEPA document include information that would support a permitting decision, including sufficient information to evaluate compliance with the CWA Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (Guidelines, 40 C.F.R. Part 230). The Guidelines require, among other things, that a CWA Section 404 permit only be issued if the proposed project is the least

				environmentally damaging practicable alternative (LEDPA). Therefore, if an individual CWA Section 404 permit will be sought, the alternatives analysis must be focused on determining if the project purpose can be met with less damage to the aquatic ecosystem, including if it can be met without discharging into waters of the U.S. *Water Quality and Quantity* The Proposed Action includes shifting delivery of 1991 Contract Water from conveyance through the Spanish Fork River and Power Canal to a new enclosed pipeline system (Strawberry High Line Pipeline). This change may reduce instream flows in the Spanish Fork River markedly during the irrigation season. Reduced flows may degrade aquatic and riparian habitat, alter sediment transport dynamics, increase stream temperature and nutrient concentrations and impact recreation and visual resources. We recommend the NEPA document include a detailed hydrologic and water quality impact analysis for river reaches currently benefitting from 1991 Contract Water deliveries. The analysis should assess seasonal flow reductions, changes in water temperature and sediment loads, and implications for aquatic habitat, particularly downstream of the Spanish Fork River Diversion. The analysis should also evaluate mitigation options, such as maintaining minimum bypass flows or adjusting other upstream releases to support flows necessary for the maintenance of aquatic habitat and life cycles. Providing such an analysis will allow JLAs to identify current baseline conditions and protect or mitigate key environmental functions currently supported by instream water conveyance.

				Similarly, the Project proposes to install a pump station and pipeline to recapture Bonneville Unit water released to Diamond Fork and Sixth Water Creeks, which are currently used to meet instream flow requirements under the Central Utah Project Completion Act (CUPCA). It is unclear from the details in the scoping document how the recapture of water will avoid impairments to aquatic and riparian ecosystems that have come to rely on enhanced flow regimes. This is especially important considering these watersheds are recovering from wildfire (e.g., 2018 Pole Creek and Bald Mountain Fires) and subsequent sedimentation impacts. We recommend the NEPA document evaluate how the recapture of flows may affect streamflow variability, aquatic habitat, temperature, and channel stability in Diamond Fork and Sixth Water Creeks. The analysis should include baseline flow and water quality data, as well as modeled projections of post-project conditions. If recapture is expected to reduce ecological benefits of past CUPC instream flow commitments, the NEPA document should identify potential flow protection thresholds, seasonal release schedules or other mitigation strategies to offset the impacts. Including these analyses will help ensure that the Project is preserving and maintaining the ecological restoration progress made in these creeks. Further, project components, such as the Diamond Fork Recovery Pump Station and potential pipeline crossings, are proposed near sensitive aquatic zones like the Diamond Fork-Spanish Fork confluence and nearby riparian corridors. Construction and excavation in these areas could cause sedimentation, habitat disruption or changes in streamflow that affect downstream

				ecological conditions. We recommend that the NEPA document include site-specific analysis in hydrologically sensitive areas. These analyses should identify construction-related risks (e.g., sedimentation, habitat fragmentation, channel disturbance) and propose best management practices (BMPs), such as seasonal construction windows, erosion control, and streambank stabilization. The NEPA document should also assess the feasibility of siting or routing adjustments to reduce direct impacts. Addressing potential high-risk areas during planning also allows the Project to avoid or reduce post-hoc mitigation. The Project proposes to adjust both the timing (e.g., allowing year-round M&I use rather than just during irrigation season) and the delivery method of 1991 Contract Water and Bonneville Unit water. The changes may affect return flow volumes and timing of these flows to surface and groundwater systems, aquifer recharge patterns, surface water availability for downstream users, and cumulative loading and concentrations of pollutants to waterbodies with total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) or impaired status (e.g., the Spanish Fork River is listed as impaired for E. coli and downstream Lower Spanish Fork River and Utah Lake have TMDLs aimed at reducing microbial and nutrient loading). We recommend that the NEPA document include a regional water quantity and quality analysis that considers how altered delivery schedules and methods will impact return flows, groundwater recharge, and surface water conditions. This should include comparisons under the No Action Alternative and account for future land use conversion from agricultural to residential. The NEPA document should also evaluate the reasonably foreseeable effects of the Project on waterbodies in the region with 303(d) listings or TMDLs and identify monitoring or mitigation measures

				as needed to avoid further impacting them. Providing these details and evaluations in the NEPA document will help ensure the Proposed Action supports long-term water security, resource conservation, and compliance with state and federal water quality goals. **Air Quality** The Proposed Action involves large-scale construction activities across multiple sites, including canal enclosure, new pipeline alignments, the South Utah Valley Regional Water Treatment Plant and the Diamond Fork Recovery Pump Station. These activities will generate fugitive dust (PM10 and PM2.5), diesel exhaust, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from equipment and vehicle emissions over several years. Given the large scale of the Project, there is the potential for exceedances of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), particularly during dry or windy periods, affecting nearby residents and sensitive populations. Further, much of the project area is in Nonattainment Areas for PM2.5, PM10 and Ozone (8-Hour). We recommend the NEPA document include a quantitative analysis of expected construction-related emissions (i.e., an emissions inventory), including criteria pollutants (such as particulate matter, ozone precursors, carbon monoxide, and nitrogen oxides [NOx]) and greenhouse gasses. The NEPA document should describe the methods used to analyze the impacts of these emissions (e.g. EPA's MOVES1) and include comparisons to the NAAQS and state implementation plans. Additionally, a fugitive dust and emissions control plan should be developed that includes BMPs, idling restrictions, use of Tier 4 or electric

				equipment where feasible, and phasing of activities to minimize overlapping high-emission activities. Quantifying emissions and including enforceable dust control measures will help ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act and local health regulations. The proposed project alignment and facilities pass near or through communities such as Salem, Payson, Santaquin, and Genola, all of which are experiencing high population growth. These areas include schools, residences, and public recreation areas that may be exposed to additive air pollution impacts, including elevated PM2.5, NOx, and ozone precursors. Extended construction and hauling near populated areas could increase risks for children, seniors, and those with respiratory conditions. We recommend that the NEPA document should identify and map sensitive receptors near major Project construction zones, haul routes, or staging areas and assess potential short-term and medium-term exposure (e.g., weeks to months) risks, including cases where construction activities may persist near receptors for extended durations. We recommend the Project include construction buffers or adjusted work hours near schools and healthcare facilities, community notification systems (e.g., flyers, text alerts, signage, etc.) for air quality sensitive populations, and consideration of high-emission activities when local meteorology favors dispersion. Identifying and mitigating the Project's risks to sensitive populations will be beneficial to the overall health of communities in the vicinity of the Project.
15	Jordan Nielson	6/27/2025	Web Comment	To whom it may concern, For decades, Trout Unlimited has been a leading Utah conservation organization developing collaborative projects

				intended to conserve, protect and restore important coldwater fisheries. Through time, we have completed hundreds of cooperative projects with private landowners, water users and government agencies ranging from irrigation diversion reconstruction, irrigation efficiency, culvert reconstruction, habitat restoration and water leases within many river basins in Utah, including the Spanish Fork River watershed. Through engagement in these projects, we have come to understand community water security needs. We are sympathetic to the challenges that a rapidly growing populace such as Utah County faces. However, water use in many locations is bumping up against the natural limitations of Utah's watersheds. We understand the expectation that water development for municipal and agricultural use should continue supporting economic development, but we also believe that development must occur responsibly, and with the importance of continued in-stream flows in mind. Expanding water supply sources must be adequately balanced with other issues important to public welfare and overall system values provided by healthy watersheds. Representing over 1500 anglers in the state of Utah, Trout Unlimited offers the following comments on the Nebo Water Project as it is currently put forward, as it would be detrimental to the Utah Lake watershed and public welfare and would instigate a wide range of conflicts including: • Degradation of June Sucker breeding habitat

				As it flows to Utah Lake, Spanish Fork River is one of the few tributaries the endemic June Sucker are known to spawn in. The state, federal programs, and non-profit agencies have worked diligently for many years to recover the June Sucker to the point it could be removed from the Endangered Species List. While not there yet, the downlisting of the June Sucker from Endangered to Threatened in 2021 shows we are moving in the right direction. Much of this success can be attributed to improved spawning habitat in the tributaries of Utah Lake. To prevent going backwards in this long road to recovery, we must ensure adequate flows remain in these few known spawning tributaries. • Negative effects to the riparian habitat Many large-scale restoration projects have been completed along the Spanish Fork River over the last several decades, for both stream health and the residents of Spanish Fork City. They include plantings, bank stabilization, protection, landscaping, and fire mitigation. As such, the riparian zone has developed into a corridor for wildlife movement because of patches of high-quality habitat. The mature cottonwoods shade the river and provide shelter to preserve water quality and provide habitat for many species of fish and wildlife. Lowering the volume of water that flows through the river consistently will lead to a lower water table, more easily eroded stream banks and stress on riparian plants, which would in turn make them more susceptible to disease and fire. • Disproportionate negative impacts on Spanish Fork River's fisheries

				Spanish Fork River boasts productive angling opportunities for recreational fisherman, including populations of brown trout and rainbow trout. Excitingly, despite the unusual urban setting, cutthroat trout also inhabit these waters. The need for cool, clean water to support these trout is critical. Deeper, flowing water maintains the cooler temperatures and oxygenated waters the fish need to thrive. Reducing flow, especially during the summer months, may prove lethal to the river's trout fishery, as we have seen in other Utah waters when water use goes unmitigated. • Limiting recreational opportunities for the residents of Spanish Fork The paved Spanish Fork River trail runs from I-15 to the mouth of Spanish Fork Canyon and is heavily used by walkers, runners, bikers, and recreation users. In 2020, Spanish Fork City developed a non-motorized boat ramp to access the lower Spanish Fork River to increase recreational opportunities in-stream. The river has become a favorite for local kayakers and tubers. Spanish Fork City's Urban Fishing Program runs weekly through summer, offering children a way to safely connect with the river and the outdoors. Disrupting the rivers flow and fishery will greatly diminish recreational opportunities currently available and loved by Spanish Fork residents. • Downstream Implications for Utah Lake and the Great Salt Lake The Spanish Fork River represents a large flow contribution to Utah Lake and in turn the Great Salt Lake. Recovery of CUPCA

				mandated flows in Diamond Fork that would have otherwise run through the Spanish Fork River represent a problematic reduction in potential for GSL recovery resulting in increased salinity, negatively impacting the brine shrimp industry (estimated to add up to $60 million annually to Utah's economy) and reduced water levels, contributing to public health concerns for aridification and toxic dust. Trout Unlimited welcomes open dialogue to explore potential solutions to keep some water flowing in the river channel including water leases, water banking, mitigation efforts, alternative supplemental water development options or a compensated demand reduction program to reduce the reliance on trans-basin water sources and ensure a sustainable agricultural economy while protecting valuable ecological resources. While the Nebo Water Project represents many positive community benefits, we encourage CUWCD and partners to fairly weigh the broad negative impacts of this proposal as it is currently presented. With Kind Regards, Jordan Nielson Utah State Director and Great Basin Director Trout Unlimited

State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY
Executive Director

Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office

REDGE B. JOHNSON
Director

June 25, 2025

Submitted electronically: connect@nebowaterproject.cuwcd.gov

Sarah Sutherland
Environmental Programs Manager
Central Utah Water Conservancy District
2825 E. Cottonwood Parkway, Suite 200
Salt Lake City, Utah 84121

Subject: **Nebo Regional Water Project EA Scoping Comments**
RDCC Project No. 86715

Dear Ms. Sutherland:

The State of Utah (State), through the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO), has reviewed the Nebo Regional Water Project scoping notification document and materials. The State supports the project, which involves enclosing the Strawberry High Line Canal with a buried pipeline, establishing a public trail over the Utah Valley Regional Water Treatment Plant, constructing the Diamond Fork Recovery Pump Station and related pipelines, modifying operations and water usage, and potentially altering the Strawberry Water User Association's infrastructure along with associated administrative responsibilities.

In collaboration with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) and the Division of Water Rights (DWRi), the State submits the following scoping comments for your consideration.

Division of Wildlife Resources

The proposed Diamond Fork recovery pump station may alter existing Spanish Fork River flows, potentially affecting several fish species, including June sucker. The June sucker is listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act and found only in Utah Lake and its lower tributaries. The June Sucker Recovery Implementation Program (JSRIP) was created in 2002 as a multi-agency effort to recover the species. The DWR and our partners with the JSRIP have invested significant resources in this effort for over 20 years.

Water in this system provides ecological benefits to the Spanish Fork River, Utah Lake, Jordan River, and ultimately the Great Salt Lake. Severe drought conditions in recent years and record-low Great Salt Lake levels make conserving in-stream flows vital to maintaining ecosystem health.

DWR recommends that any potential impacts from altered downstream flows be addressed in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during the development of the Environmental Assessment.

DWR appreciates the opportunity to review and coordinate this project. If you have questions, please contact Josee Seamons, the DWR's Impact Analysis Biologist at DWR's Central Region office, at jseamons@utah.gov or 385-421-1277.

Division of Water Rights

DWRi asks that the project participants continue to coordinate with the Regional Engineer for the Utah Lake /Jordan River Region to address any necessary actions related to water rights associated with the project, including any changes that may be proposed to periods and types of uses or places of use.

Also, if changes are made to the alignment of the Strawberry Highline Canal, please work with the DWRi's technical services section so it can update the statewide canal inventory map.

Both the Utah Lake/Jordan River region office and technical services may be reached at (801) 538-7240.

The State appreciates the opportunity to provide scoping comments. Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Redge B. Johnson
Director

REGION 8
DENVER, CO 80202

June 26, 2025

Ref: 8EJC-NE

Nebo Regional Water Project
c/o HDR
2825 E. Cottonwood Parkway, Suite 200
Salt Lake City, Utah 84121-7077

To whom this may concern:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reviewed the May 2025 scoping notice for the Central Utah Water Conservancy District, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of Interior – Central Utah Project Completion Act Office, and Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission's (collectively referred to as the Joint Lead Agencies, or JLA) proposed Nebo Regional Water Project (Project). In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the EPA is providing scoping comments for your consideration.

The EPA's detailed comments are enclosed. Our comments focus on the following topics that we recommend the JLA consider in its NEPA document for the proposed Project: (1) aquatic resources; (2) water quality and quantity; and (3) air quality.

The EPA appreciates the opportunity to provide comments at this stage of the NEPA process. If further explanation of our comments is desired, please contact me at (303) 312-6155 or mccoy.melissa@epa.gov, or Matt Hubner, lead reviewer, at (303) 312-6500 or hubner.matt@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Melissa W. McCoy, Ph.D., J.D.
NEPA Branch Manager

ENCLOSURE
1. Detailed Scoping Comments for the Nebo Regional Water Project

Detailed Scoping Comments for the Nebo Regional Water Project

Water Quality and Aquatic Resources

Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404
The Proposed Action includes major ground-disturbing activities (such as enclosing the Strawberry High Line Canal, constructing new raw and finished pipelines, and building the Diamond Fork Recovery Pump Station) that may result in a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States (WOTUS). The discharge of dredged or fill material into WOTUS is regulated under the CWA Section 404. We recommend that the NEPA document for this Project include details on the jurisdictional status, and the type, quantity, and quality of aquatic resources that could be impacted by the Project. We also recommend consulting with the Corps during the NEPA process to determine the applicability of CWA Section 404 permit requirements in the project area and to ensure appropriate avoidance and minimization of adverse impacts to wetlands and streams. Aligning the NEPA process and CWA Section 404 permitting allows the JLA to accurately assess environmental impacts, avoid future permitting-related delays, and improve the project schedule's predictability.

Further, if an individual CWA Section 404 permit is necessary, the EPA recommends that the NEPA document include information that would support a permitting decision, including sufficient information to evaluate compliance with the CWA Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (Guidelines, 40 C.F.R. Part 230). The Guidelines require, among other things, that a CWA Section 404 permit only be issued if the proposed project is the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative (LEDPA). Therefore, if an individual CWA Section 404 permit will be sought, the alternatives analysis must be focused on determining if the project purpose can be met with less damage to the aquatic ecosystem, including if it can be met without discharging into waters of the U.S.

Water Quality and Quantity
The Proposed Action includes shifting delivery of 1991 Contract Water from conveyance through the Spanish Fork River and Power Canal to a new enclosed pipeline system (Strawberry High Line Pipeline). This change may reduce instream flows in the Spanish Fork River markedly during the irrigation season. Reduced flows may degrade aquatic and riparian habitat, alter sediment transport dynamics, increase stream temperature and nutrient concentrations and impact recreation and visual resources. We recommend the NEPA document include a detailed hydrologic and water quality impact analysis for river reaches currently benefitting from 1991 Contract Water deliveries. The analysis should assess seasonal flow reductions, changes in water temperature and sediment loads, and implications for aquatic habitat, particularly downstream of the Spanish Fork River Diversion. The analysis should also evaluate mitigation options, such as maintaining minimum bypass flows or adjusting other upstream releases to support flows necessary for the maintenance of aquatic habitat and life cycles. Providing such an analysis will allow JLAs to identify current baseline conditions and protect or mitigate key environmental functions currently supported by instream water conveyance.

Similarly, the Project proposes to install a pump station and pipeline to recapture Bonneville Unit water released to Diamond Fork and Sixth Water Creeks, which are currently used to meet instream flow requirements under the Central Utah Project Completion Act (CUPCA). It is unclear from the details in the scoping document how the recapture of water will avoid impairments to aquatic and

riparian ecosystems that have come to rely on enhanced flow regimes. This is especially important considering these watersheds are recovering from wildfire (e.g., 2018 Pole Creek and Bald Mountain Fires) and subsequent sedimentation impacts. We recommend the NEPA document evaluate how the recapture of flows may affect streamflow variability, aquatic habitat, temperature, and channel stability in Diamond Fork and Sixth Water Creeks. The analysis should include baseline flow and water quality data, as well as modeled projections of post-project conditions. If recapture is expected to reduce ecological benefits of past CUPC instream flow commitments, the NEPA document should identify potential flow protection thresholds, seasonal release schedules or other mitigation strategies to offset the impacts. Including these analyses will help ensure that the Project is preserving and maintaining the ecological restoration progress made in these creeks.

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Air Quality

The Proposed Action involves large-scale construction activities across multiple sites, including canal enclosure, new pipeline alignments, the South Utah Valley Regional Water Treatment Plant and the Diamond Fork Recovery Pump Station. These activities will generate fugitive dust (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$), diesel exhaust, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from equipment and vehicle emissions over several years. Given the large scale of the Project, there is the potential for exceedances of National

Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), particularly during dry or windy periods, affecting nearby residents and sensitive populations. Further, much of the project area is in Nonattainment Areas for $PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10} and Ozone (8-Hour). We recommend the NEPA document include a quantitative analysis of expected construction-related emissions (i.e., an emissions inventory), including criteria pollutants (such as particulate matter, ozone precursors, carbon monoxide, and nitrogen oxides [NOx]) and greenhouse gasses. The NEPA document should describe the methods used to analyze the impacts of these emissions (e.g. EPA's MOVES[1]) and include comparisons to the NAAQS and state implementation plans. Additionally, a fugitive dust and emissions control plan should be developed that includes BMPs, idling restrictions, use of Tier 4 or electric equipment where feasible, and phasing of activities to minimize overlapping high-emission activities. Quantifying emissions and including enforceable dust control measures will help ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act and local health regulations.

The proposed project alignment and facilities pass near or through communities such as Salem, Payson, Santaquin, and Genola, all of which are experiencing high population growth. These areas include schools, residences, and public recreation areas that may be exposed to additive air pollution impacts, including elevated $PM_{2.5}$, NOx, and ozone precursors. Extended construction and hauling near populated areas could increase risks for children, seniors, and those with respiratory conditions. We recommend that the NEPA document should identify and map sensitive receptors near major Project construction zones, haul routes, or staging areas and assess potential short-term and medium-term exposure (e.g., weeks to months) risks, including cases where construction activities may persist near receptors for extended durations. We recommend the Project include construction buffers or adjusted work hours near schools and healthcare facilities, community notification systems (e.g., flyers, text alerts, signage, etc.) for air quality sensitive populations, and consideration of high-emission activities when local meteorology favors dispersion. Identifying and mitigating the Project's risks to sensitive populations will be beneficial to the overall health of communities in the vicinity of the Project.

[1] https://www.epa.gov/moves

NEBO WATER PROJECT

WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK

Public comments are an important part of this project and will be reviewed by the study team. Please comment in the space provided below. Print clearly.

As a person in The industry as well as a local Citizen, tonights event was well thought out and Easy for The public to understand. I liked The boards + large Showing of The CUWCD staff. Naturally I am pro The project as a science major I understand The importance of The project. I know it comes with a large pricetag but am happy to see The project finally proceed Forward

—Great Job so far

Ashley

Contact Information (optional)

Name Ashley Peay

Address

Phone

Email [redacted]

Thank You For Your Participation

For more information on this project:

www.nebowaterproject.cuwcd connect@nebowaterprojectcuwcd.gov 385.999.2212

NEBO WATER PROJECT

WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK

Public comments are an important part of this project and will be reviewed by the study team. Please comment in the space provided below. Print clearly.

Our property on Utah County maps shows we own high line canal property. We are wondering how property ownership will be addressed, easement questions, etc?

If someone is hurt on a portion of the canal that shows up under our name, who is held liable for that?

We have animals grazing in fields bordering the canal. If existing fences are removed during construction, will we be reimbursed for costs to reinstall?

Contact Information (optional)

Name Kim Lewis [redacted]

Address [redacted]

Phone [redacted]

Email [redacted]

Thank You For Your Participation

For more information on this project:

www.nebowaterproject.cuwcd connect@nebowaterprojectcuwcd.gov 385.999.2212

NEBO WATER PROJECT

WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK

Public comments are an important part of this project and will be reviewed by the study team. Please comment in the space provided below. Print clearly.

Nephi is experiencing significant growth and this project can help with providing critical water supply for that growth. I wanted to point out that part of this growth is an Agri-Park project from the R6 Regional Council that will most likely have several water-intensive uses. Juab County is also involved with this project. Nephi City is involved by providing utilities, including water.

Contact Information (optional)

Name Seth Atkinson

Address [redacted]

Phone

Email

Thank You For Your Participation

For more information on this project:

www.nebowaterproject.cuwcd connect@nebowaterprojectcuwcd.gov 385.999.2212