



# PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT

BUILDING STRONG®

## APPLICATION FOR PERMIT Havasupi Wash Flood Control Improvements

**Public Notice/Application No.:** SPL-2013-00267-WHM

**Project:** Havasupi Wash Flood Control Improvements

**Comment Period:** April 24, 2013 – May 24, 2013

**Project Manager:** William Miller; 602-230-6954; [William.H.Miller@usace.army.mil](mailto:William.H.Miller@usace.army.mil)

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### Applicant

Pawan Agrawal  
Director of Public Works, City of Bullhead City  
2355 Trane Road  
Bullhead City, AZ 86442  
(928) 763-0128

### Contact

Jill Himes  
Himes Consulting LLC  
3301 West Genoa Way  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
(480) 899-5708

### Location

The proposed project site is located within portions of Section 29, Township 20 North, Range 22 West, Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian, within the City of Bullhead City, Mohave County, AZ. Figures 1 and 2 show the project location. The site lies approximately 0.5 miles west of State Route 95, just north and east of Chaparral Drive (between Mohave Drive and Riverside Drive).

### Activity

The City of Bullhead City proposes to construct flood control improvements in Havasupai Wash at the Stonebridge development to protect the property from flooding and to protect downstream neighborhoods from significant sediment deposits. A drainage channel and two sedimentation basins are proposed within the lower portion of Havasupai Wash, an ephemeral wash. The Stonebridge development on the adjacent upland area is a proposed 147-lot subdivision that the city acquired through a foreclosure process. For more information, see page 3 of this notice and attached figures.

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Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for the activity described herein and shown on the attached drawing(s). We invite you to review today's public notice and provide views on the proposed work. By providing substantive, site-specific comments to the Corps Regulatory Division, you provide information that support the Corps' decision-making process. All comments received during the comment period become part of the record and will be considered in the decision. This permit will be issued, issued with special

conditions, or denied under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Comments should be mailed to:

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
ATTENTION: Regulatory Branch (SPL-2012-00267-WHM)  
3636 N. Central Ave., Suite 900  
Phoenix, Arizona 85012**

Alternatively, comments can be sent electronically to: [William.H.Miller@usace.army.mil](mailto:William.H.Miller@usace.army.mil)

The mission of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program is to protect the Nation's aquatic resources, while allowing reasonable development through fair, flexible and balanced permit decisions. The Corps evaluates permit applications for essentially all construction activities that occur in the Nation's waters, including wetlands. The Regulatory Program in the Los Angeles District is executed to protect aquatic resources by developing and implementing short- and long-term initiatives to improve regulatory products, processes, program transparency, and customer feedback considering current staffing levels and historical funding trends.

Corps permits are necessary for any work, including construction and dredging, in the Nation's navigable water and their tributary waters. The Corps balances the reasonably foreseeable benefits and detriments of proposed projects, and makes permit decisions that recognize the essential values of the Nation's aquatic ecosystems to the general public, as well as the property rights of private citizens who want to use their land. The Corps strives to make its permit decisions in a timely manner that minimizes impacts to the regulated public.

During the permit process, the Corps considers the views of other Federal, state and local agencies, interest groups, and the general public. The results of this careful public interest review are fair and equitable decisions that allow reasonable use of private property, infrastructure development, and growth of the economy, while offsetting the authorized impacts to the waters of the United States. The permit review process serves to first avoid and then minimize adverse effects of projects on aquatic resources to the maximum practicable extent. Any remaining unavoidable adverse impacts to the aquatic environment are offset by compensatory mitigation requirements, which may include restoration, enhancement, establishment, and/or preservation of aquatic ecosystem system functions and services.

### **Evaluation Factors**

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Factors that will be considered include conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. In addition, if the proposal would discharge dredged or fill material, the evaluation of the activity will include application of the EPA Guidelines (40 CFR Part 230) as required by Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

### **Preliminary Review of Selected Factors**

**EIS Determination**- A preliminary determination has been made that an environmental impact statement is not required for the proposed work.

**Water Quality**- The applicant is required to obtain water quality certification, under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, from the California Regional Water Quality Control Board. Section 401 requires that any applicant for an individual Section 404 permit provide proof of water quality certification to the Corps of Engineers prior to permit issuance. For any proposed activity on Tribal land that is subject to Section 404 jurisdiction, the applicant will be required to obtain water quality certification from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**Essential Fish Habitat**- Preliminary determinations indicate the proposed activity would not adversely affect essential Fish Habitat. Therefore, formal consultation under Section 305(b)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) is not required at this time.

**Cultural Resources**- The latest version of the National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and this site is not listed. This review constitutes the extent of cultural resources investigations by the District Engineer, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources.

**Endangered Species**- Preliminary determinations indicate that the proposed activity would not affect federally-listed endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat. Therefore, formal consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act does not appear to be required at this time.

**Public Hearing**- Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearing shall state with particularity the reasons for holding a public hearing.

### **Proposed Activity for Which a Permit is Required**

**Basic Project Purpose**- The basic project purpose comprises the fundamental, essential, or irreducible purpose of the proposed project, and is used by the Corps to determine whether the applicant's project is water dependent (i.e., requires access or proximity to or siting within the special aquatic site to fulfill its basic purpose). Establishment of the basic project purpose is necessary only when the proposed activity would discharge dredged or fill material in to a special aquatic site (e.g., wetlands, pool and riffle complex, mudflats, coral reefs). Because no fills are proposed within special

aquatic sites, identification of the basic project purpose is not necessary. The project is not water dependent.

Overall Project Purpose- The overall project purpose serves as the basis for the Corps' 404(b)(1) alternatives analysis and is determined by further defining the basic project purpose in a manner that more specifically describes the applicant's goals for the project, and which allows a reasonable range of alternatives to be analyzed. The overall project purpose for the proposed project is to improve flood control in Havasupai Wash at the Stonebridge development to protect the adjacent property from flooding and downstream neighborhoods from significant sediment deposits.

Specifically the City of Bullhead City proposes to construct a drainage channel and two sedimentation basins within the lower portion of Havasupai Wash. The proposed Stonebridge development on the adjacent upland area is a 147-lot subdivision that the city acquired through a foreclosure process. The proposed drainage channel and two sediment basins are described in detail below. Figures 3 through 5 show plan views and cross-sections of the proposed activities.

1. Drainage Channel. A drainage channel is proposed along the eastern side of the property to provide flood management of Havasupai Wash. The channel is designed to carry a flow of 1,319 cfs with 4:1 side slopes and a 10-foot wide base. The majority of the channel side slopes and bottom will be lined with 2 foot thick rip rap. The portion of the channel upstream of the upstream sediment basin is proposed with rip rap side slopes and a 6 inch thick reinforced concrete bottom. The concrete bottom will allow maintenance access for approximately 330 ft to the upstream sediment basin.
2. Upstream Sedimentation Basin. The upstream sedimentation basin is proposed at the northeast corner of the property, at the confluence of two minor washes that comprise Havasupai Wash. The basin will reduce velocities to allow settling time for sediments to minimize downstream sediment transport onto Chaparral Drive. The upstream basin is proposed to be approximately 300 feet in length, a maximum of 250 feet wide, at an average depth of 3 feet with 13 inch thick rip rap side slopes and a natural earthen bottom.
3. Downstream Sediment Basin. The downstream sediment basin is proposed to further reduce overall stormwater velocities and minimize sediments from being transported to Chaparral Drive and into the Colorado River downstream. The downstream basin is proposed to be approximately 400 feet in length, a maximum of 125 feet wide, at an average depth of 3 feet with 13 inch thick rip rap side slopes and a natural earthen bottom.

### **Additional Project Information**

The project site currently floods regularly from Havasupai Wash upstream flows. In addition, the Havasupai watershed area consists of alluvial fans and channelized areas which carry large amounts of sediment, including mud and silt to downstream Chaparral Drive neighborhoods which requires significant clean-up and maintenance. The City of Bullhead City acquired the Stonebridge property as a foreclosed property from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) in 2011. The basic project purpose for the proposed project is flood control management for the adjacent and downstream properties.

Havasupai Wash is located within a residential area of Bullhead City. Existing single-family residential areas occur immediately east, north, and south of Havasupai Wash. The proposed Stonebridge development occurs immediately west of the project site. Havasupai Wash discharges to Chaparral Drive where storm water travels along the road drainage ditches into an engineered ditch to the Colorado River. A concrete lined channel with rip rap occurs within a tributary to Havasupai Wash just east of the project site. Existing land use within Havasupai Wash includes pedestrian use (walking), off-road vehicle use, and storm water management (flow).

Vegetation communities in the project vicinity are characterized as Lower Colorado River Subdivision of Sonoran desertscrub by Brown (1994). Vegetation observed along and adjacent to Havasupai wash is characterized by creosotebush (*Larrea tridentata*), smoke tree (*Psoralea arguta*), paloverde (*Cercidium floridum*), brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*), and Sahara mustard (*Brassica tournefortii*). No federally-listed species occur within the project vicinity. Wildlife and/or wildlife sign observed in the project area includes desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus auduboni*), mourning dove (*Zenaidura macroura*), rock dove (*Columba livia*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), and roadrunner (*Geococcyx californicus*).

Jurisdictional waters within the project area include Havasupai Wash and its tributaries. These desert washes are ephemeral and flow only in direct response to significant rainfall events. There are no intermittent or perennial streams or wetlands within or near the project area. Offsite runoff originates approximately three miles east of the project site.

The proposed project would permanently impact approximately 1.52 acres of ephemeral washes (Havasupai Wash) from construction of a drainage channel and two sedimentation basins, which are jurisdictional under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The applicant proposes to contribute to an in-lieu fee mitigation fund. The WUS in the project area consists of Havasupai Wash, which is not a navigable water of the U.S. as defined by 33 CFR 329.

### **Proposed Special Conditions**

No special conditions have been proposed at this time.

For additional information please call William Miller of my staff at 602-230-6954 or via e-mail at [William.H.Miller@usace.army.mil](mailto:William.H.Miller@usace.army.mil). This public notice is issued by the Chief, Regulatory Division.



#### *Regulatory Program Goals:*

- To provide strong protection of the nation's aquatic environment, including wetlands.
- To ensure the Corps provides the regulated public with fair and reasonable decisions.
- To enhance the efficiency of the Corps' administration of its regulatory program.

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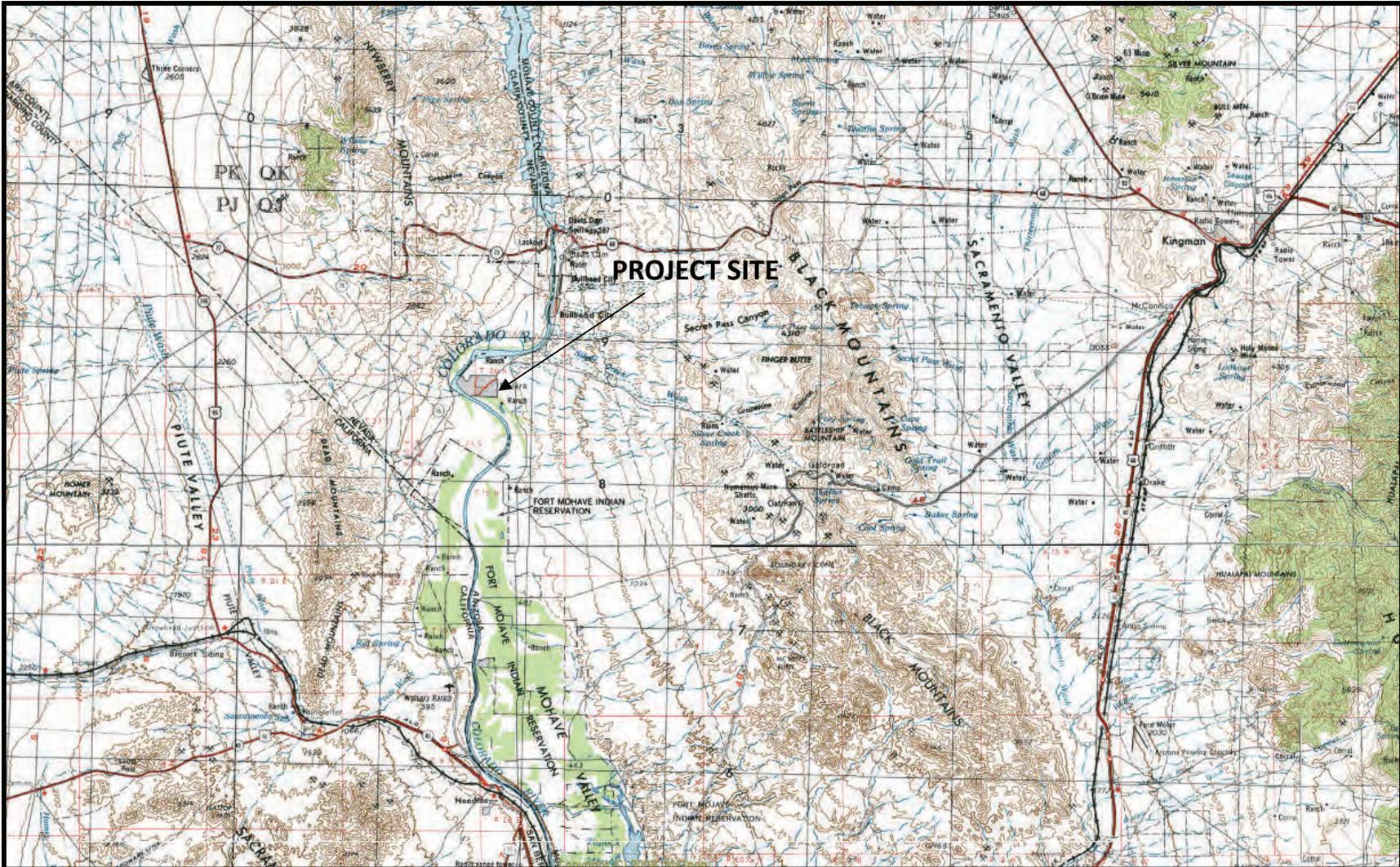
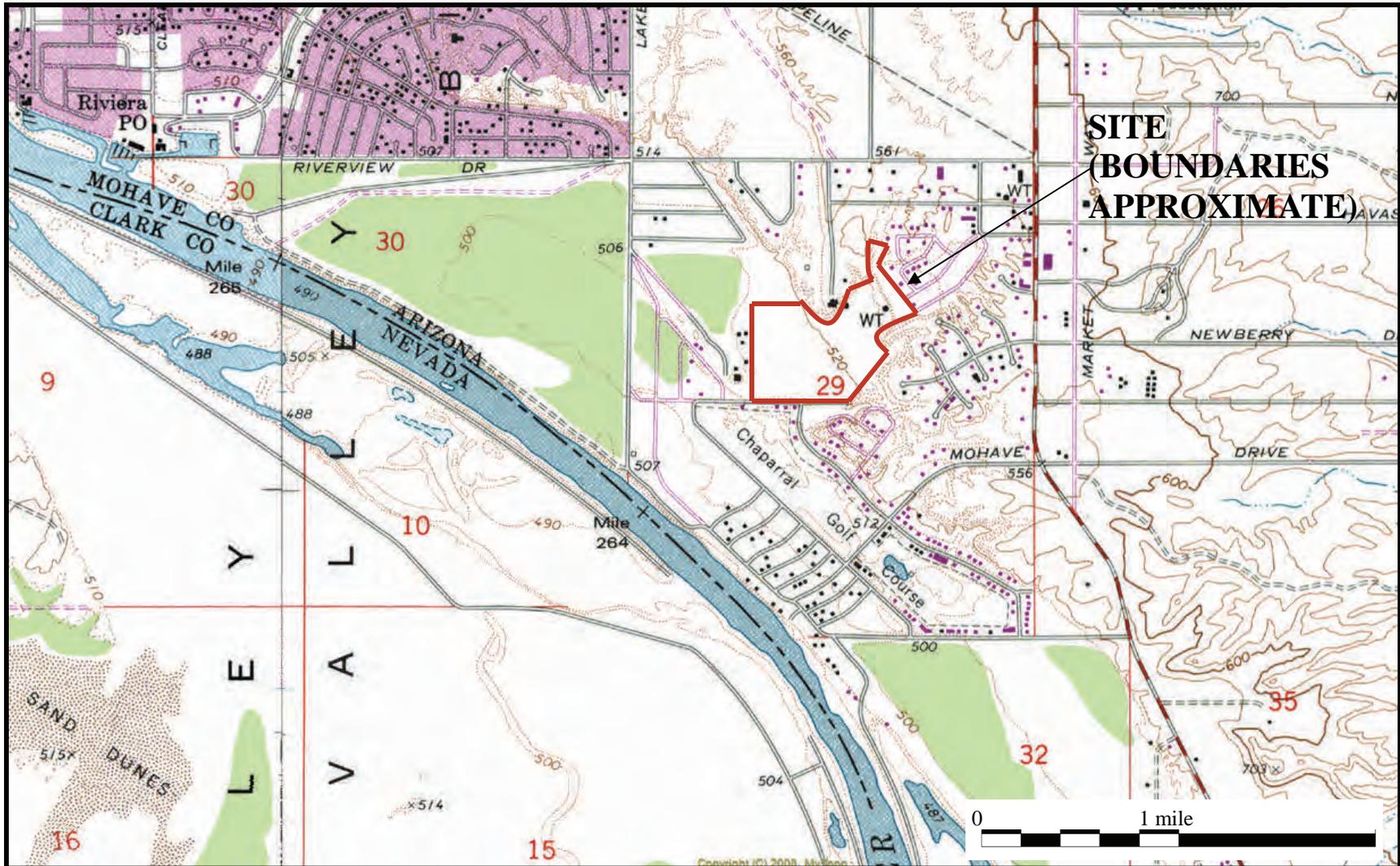


Figure 1. City of Bullhead City Havasupai Wash Flood Control Improvements at Stonebridge. Site Vicinity Map. USGS 1:250,000 Scale Map: Kingman, Arizona; Nevada; California (1969).



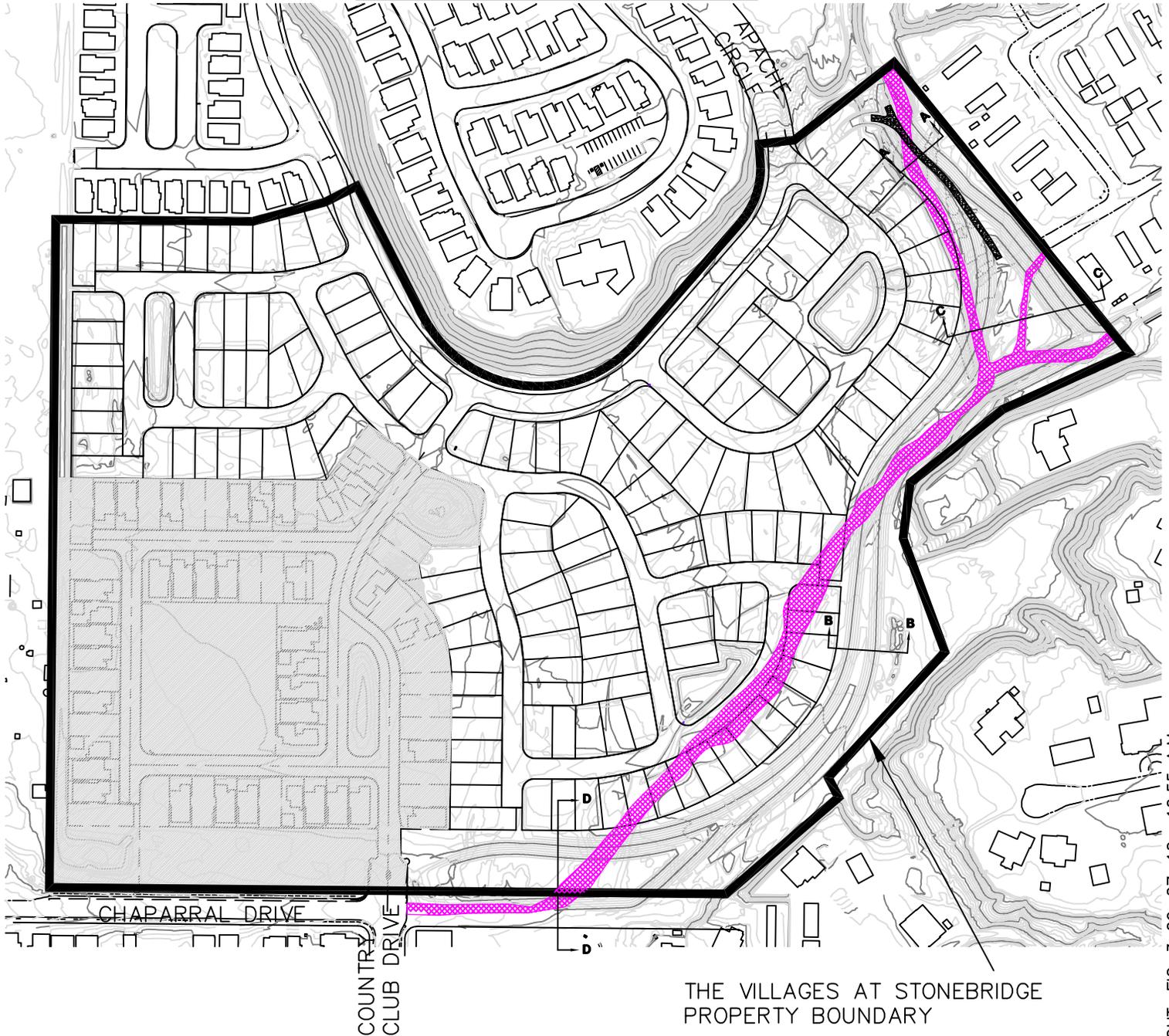


**Figure 2. Project Site Location. Havasupai Wash Flood Control Improvements at Stonebridge. City of Bullhead City. USGS 7.5-Minute Quad Map: Davis Dam SE, Ariz.-Calif. (1983).**



# HAVASUPAI WASH FLOOD CONTROL IMPROVEMENTS AT STONEBRIDGE

## FIGURE 3 - PLAN VIEW



### LEGEND

- PROPOSED DISTURBED WASH 
- PROPERTY BOUNDARY 
- EXISTING DEVELOPMENT 



SCALE: 1" = 250'



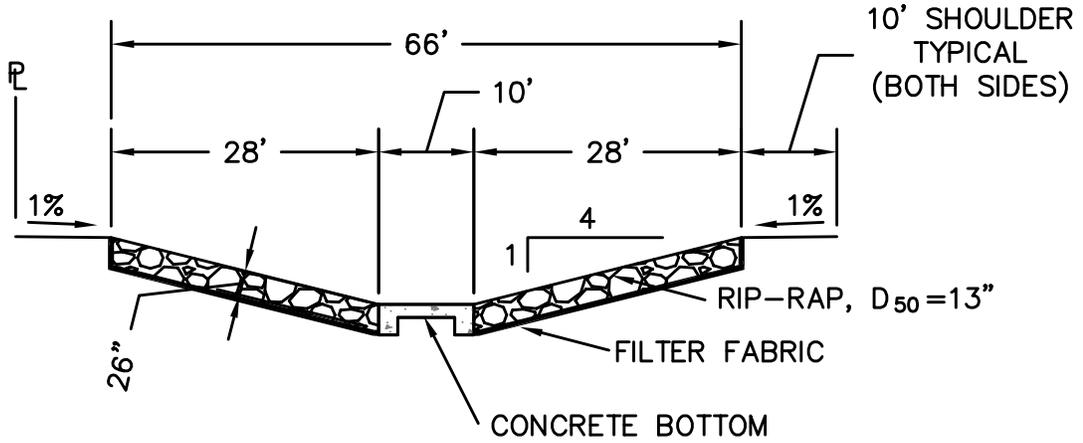
# Anderson-Nelson, Inc.

4143 N. 12th Street, Suite 200, Phoenix, AZ 85014  
(602) 273-1850 FAX (602) 273-0264

**HAVASUPAI WASH FLOOD CONTROL IMPROVEMENTS  
AT STONEBRIDGE**

**FIGURE 4**

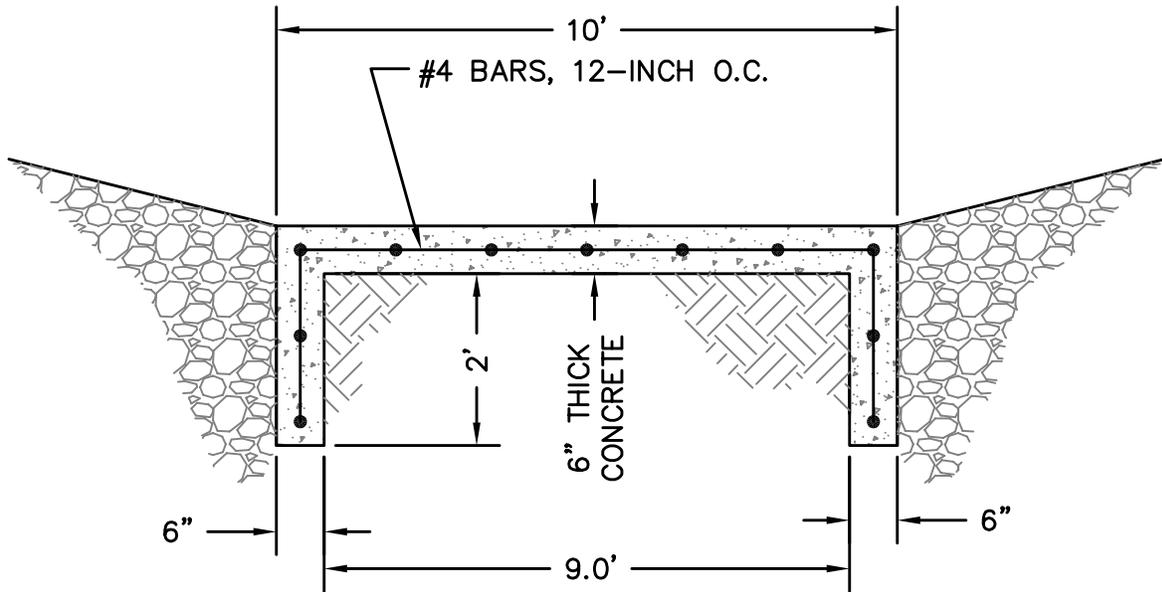
**DRAINAGE EASEMENT CHANNEL WITH CONCRETE BOTTOM  
CROSS-SECTION**



**SECTION A-A**

**DRAINAGE EASEMENT CHANNEL WITH CONCRETE BOTTOM**

N.T.S.



**10' WIDE CONCRETE CHANNEL BOTTOM (TYP.)**

N.T.S.

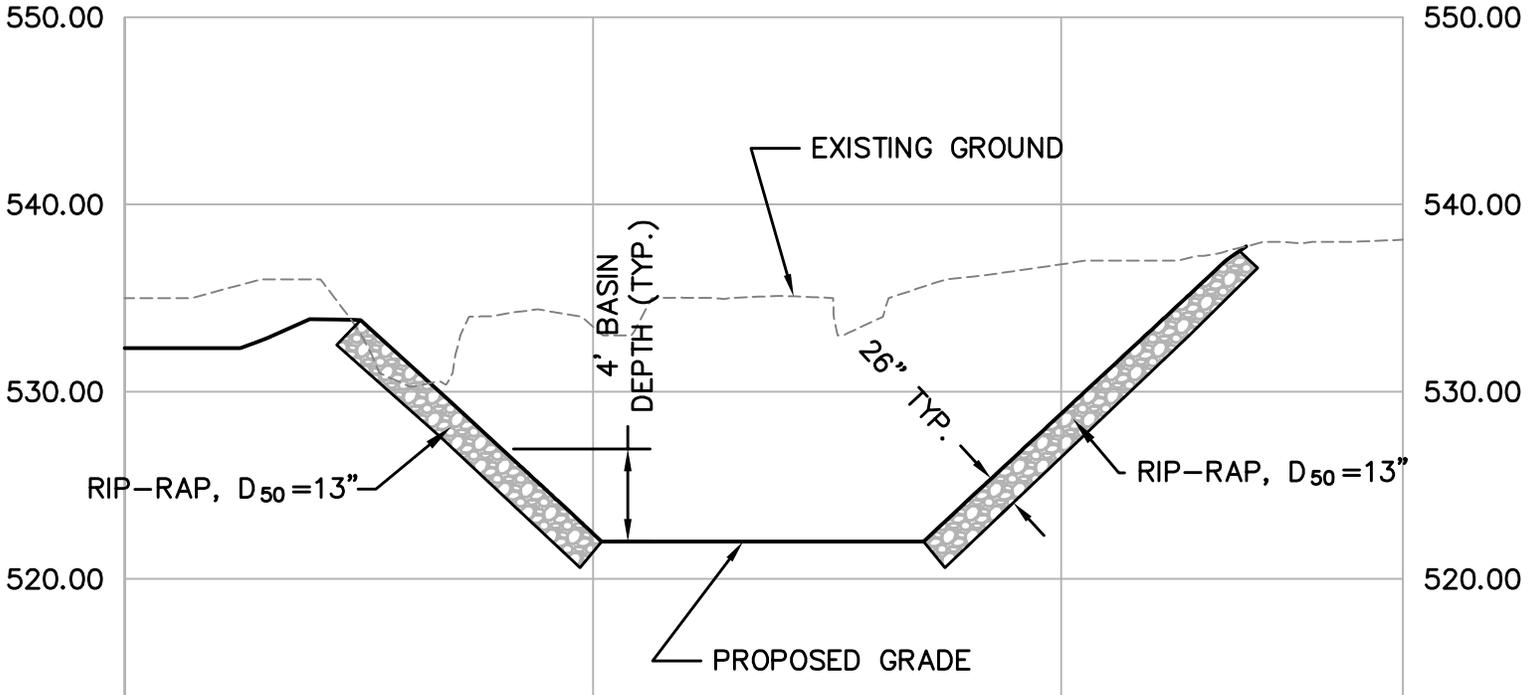
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**HAVASUPAI WASH FLOOD CONTROL IMPROVEMENTS  
AT STONEBRIDGE**

**FIGURE 6  
SEDIMENTATION BASIN  
CROSS-SECTION C-C**



**CROSS-SECTION C-C  
SEDIMENTATION BASIN**

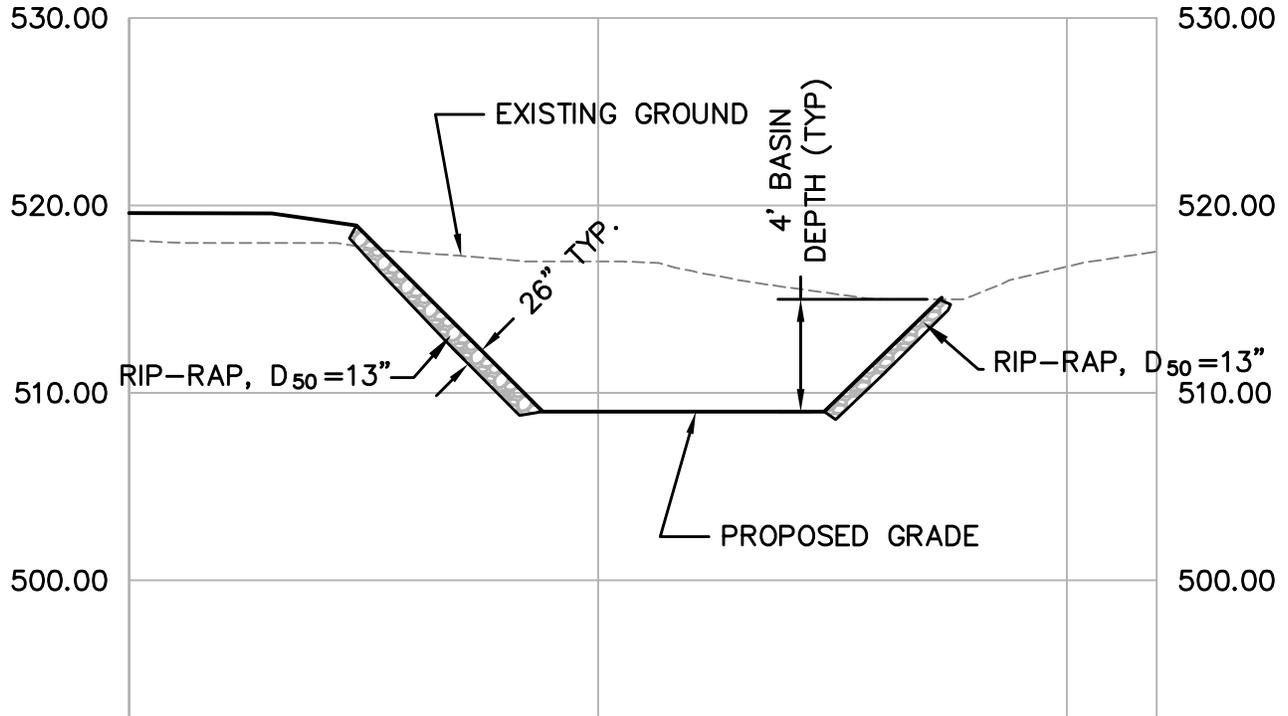
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**HAVASUPAI WASH FLOOD CONTROL IMPROVEMENTS  
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**FIGURE 7  
SEDIMENTATION BASIN  
CROSS-SECTION D-D**



**CROSS-SECTION D-D  
SEDIMENTATION BASIN**

N.T.S.

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