San Tan West
Area Drainage Master Study
Flood Control for the Queen Creek Area

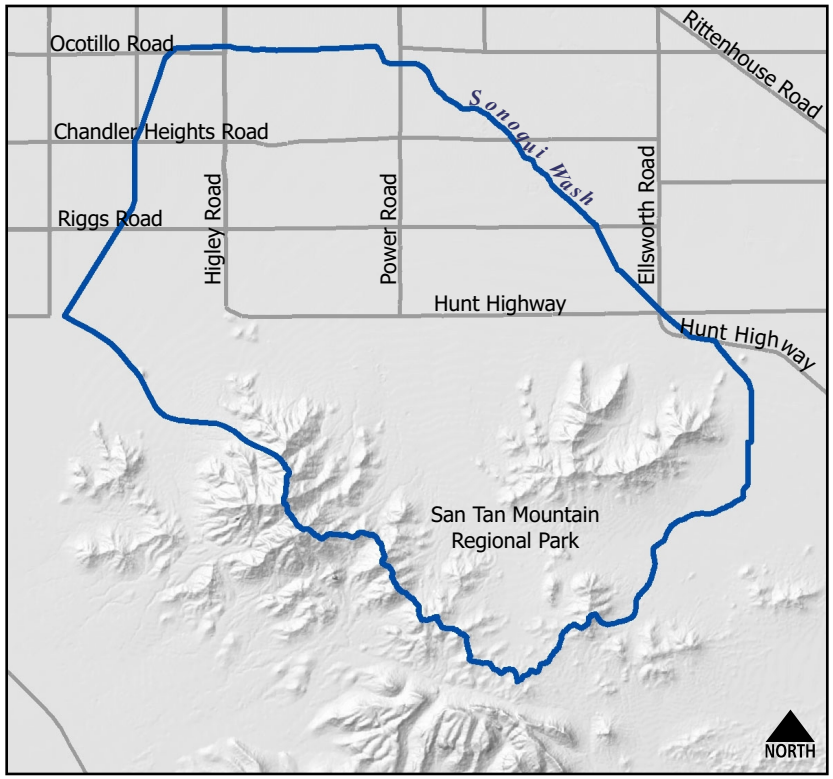
Project Overview

The San Tan West Area Drainage Master Study (ADMS) study area extends over 33 square miles and includes portions of Gilbert, Queen Creek, the Gila River Indian Community and unincorporated Maricopa and Pinal Counties (see map to the right). The ADMS is collecting and compiling information on drainage and flooding problems, developing a detailed existing conditions hydrology model using an advanced computer modeling technique called FLO-2D, and preparing a flood hazard assessment for the area.

This ADMS is one of many projects that the Flood Control District of Maricopa County (District) is conducting in order to protect existing and future development from flood damages during large storms.

Runoff originates in the San Tan Mountains and generally flows north and west. Because of the relatively steep grades in the watershed, the area is typically subject to flash flooding and high sediment loading. Sonoqui Wash is the major watercourse in the watershed and the northern boundary of the study area. The East Maricopa Floodway (EMF) is a major man-made feature and the western boundary of the watershed.

The principal existing land use in the watershed from Hunt Highway north is rural and suburban residential. South of Hunt Highway the area is mostly undeveloped. The future land use within the study area will continue to be mostly residential. It is expected, however, that in the next ten to fifteen years some commercial centers and large master planned communities will develop. Improvements to the transportation network are also planned to accommodate the growth.



Map not to scale.

The primary goals of the ADMS are: (1) Identify and quantify flooding and related hazards; and (2) establish guidance for future development that protects public safety and considers the unique natural and physical characteristics of the San Tan West watershed. Another study goal is to quantify and map flooding due to ponding along the EMF. This will include a submittal of Flood Insurance Rate Map revisions to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Project Partners

The District, the Towns of Queen Creek and Gilbert, Pinal County and the Gila River Indian Community are partners in the San Tan West ADMS. The District is also coordinating with other public agencies, landowners, developers, and residents on this project.

Schedule

The San Tan West ADMS began in June 2012 and is scheduled to be complete by November 2013.

How You Can Help

Two public meetings will be held for this project. Residents in the study area have firsthand knowledge of drainage conditions and flooding problems, so please plan to attend the first meeting and share your knowledge with us. This will help the District and our Partners to develop flooding mitigation projects for future implementation through the Capital Improvement Program. A second meeting will be scheduled in the fall to share the study findings and results.

First Public Meeting

Tuesday, May 7, 2013
6:00–7:30PM
(6:30PM presentation)
Newell Barney Junior High School
Cafeteria/Multi-Purpose Room
Northeast corner of Sossaman and Riggs Roads
24937 South Sossaman Road
Queen Creek, AZ 85142

Contact

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May 2013

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PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Maricopa County Supervisor:
Denny Barney, District 1

Town of Queen Creek:
Mayor Gail Barney

Town of Gilbert:
Mayor John Lewis

www.fcd.maricopa.gov