

FLOODING EVENTS 1966-1970

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0	Year	Title of Newspaper Article	x	Key Words
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0 - First Column is for the assigned newspaper article numbered in red

Year - Articles are all sorted by year

Title of Newspaper Article – Name of article

x – Separator between columns

Key Words – Key words in article

0	Ye	Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Word
1	January 1, 1967	Arizona - Cover Photo	x 1966, Roosevelt Lake, Reservoirs Full, Spillway's Opened, Salt River Project, Salt River, Equal to 1941
2	March 8, 1967	River Channel is Established	x Low-Flow Channel, Salt River, Phoenix, Tempe, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Future Development, Banks, Channelization, Resolution, 41st Street, 59th Avenue, Sky Harbor Jet Runway, Sand and Gravel Operators, Dig Channel
3	March 9, 1967	Channel Decision Unclogs Projects	x Salt River Low-Flow Channel, Proposed Bridge, 48th Street, Hohokam Route, 44th Street, Pima Interchange, Baseline, Washington, Sky Harbor Airport Access, Tempe, Maricopa County, 40th Street, Phoenix
4	March 13, 1967	But Does the River Know It?	x Phoenix, Tempe, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Salt River
5	July 17, 1967	Water Pours Across Indian Bend Road	x Indian Bend Wash, Indian Bend Road, Scottsdale Road, Arizona Canal
12	July 30, 1967	Salt River if Honest, Deceives No Man - Developers Will Gamble She Stays Within Assigned Boundaries	x Tempe, Salt River, Flood Plain, Dikes, 1965 Flood, Desert Streams, Flooding Stages, Underground, Underlying Quaternary Sand and Gravel, Meandered, Desert Stream Channels, Earliest Recorded Mapping of Salt Occurred in 1868, Map Contain Numerous Errors, Usery Mountains, Phoenix, Rio Salado Project
13	September 7, 1967	Vineyard Rd. Dam Contract Let by County	x Maricopa County Flood Control District, Ashton Co. Inc., Tucson, Vineyard Road Dam, Apache Junction, Powerline Floodway, Earthfill Dams, Maintenance, County Responsibility, Pinal County, Rittenhouse Dam, Williams Air Force Base-Chandler Watershed, General Motors Desert Proving Grounds Roosevelt Water Conservation District Canal
14	September 7, 1967	Flood-Dam Job Goes to Ashton	x Ashton Co. Inc., Maricopa County Flood Control District, Vineyard Road Dam, Pinal County, Pulice Cement Contractor
6	October 31, 1967	Flood Plains - Charter Proposal Opposed	x Vista del Camino, Floodways, Flood Plains, Proposition No. 1, Condemn Property, Indian Bend Wash, Scottsdale, Flow of Waters, McDowell, Moreland, 77th Street
6	November 3, 1967	In L.A. Meeting - U.S. to Hear City Plan for Flood Control - Earth Ditch Asked	x Scottsdale Officials, U.S. Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles, Flood Control Development, Indian Bend Wash, Construction, Control Flow in Wash, Arizona Canal, Flooding, Downstream, McDowell Mountains, Indian Bend Road, Salt River, 1962 Study, Recommended, Concrete Lined Channel, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Bond Proposal
10	November 4, 1967	Flood Plains Plan Defended	x Protect Future Homeowners, Scottsdale, Proposed Charter, Establish Flood Plains, Salvador Gonzales, South Scottsdale Homeowners Group, Indian Bend Wash,
9	November 7, 1967	Astro Wins City Zoning Suit	x Astro Development Company, Construct, Indian Bend Wash, Van Buren and Pierce, City Planning and Zoning, Denial
8	November 10, 1967	Indian Bend Wash - Flood Project Approval Seen	x Indian Bend Wash, U.S. Corps of Army Engineers, Los Angeles, Scottsdale, Three Retaining Structures, Arizona Canal, Flooding Downstream, Col. John Lowry, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Earth Filled Channel, Right of Way
7	November 11, 1967	Wash Project Would Up Valuation	x Indian Bend Wash, Scottsdale, Sen. Carl Hayden, Rep. John Rhodes, Three Retaining Structures, Arizona Canal, Danger of Flooding Downstream, Concrete-lined Channel, U.S. Corps of Engineers, Col. John Lowry
11	December 20, 1967	Indian Bend at it Again	x Indian Bend Wash, Running Full, Indian School Road, Hayden Road
22	January 20, 1968	Rainbow Valley Hoping to Clear Waterman Wash for Flood Control	x Waterman Wash, Rainbow Valley, Cleared, Realigned, Farmers, Federal Assistance, Soil Conservation Service, Gila River, 1965, 1966, 1967, Concrete Ditches, Wrecked, Leveled, Crops Destroyed, September Flood, Closure of Phreatoiphyte Research Station, Reclamation Bureau, Saltcedar Jungles, Big Siphon, Diverts Water, Gillespie Canal, Gila Bend, Washed Out, Bridges
16	January 25, 1968	Move Made to Build Flood Dam	x Cave Buttes Flood Control Dam, County Flood Control District, John C. Lowry, Dreamy Draw Flood Control Dam, Cave Creek Watershed, City of Phoenix, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Corps of Engineers

0	Ye	Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Word
18	January 25, 1968	County Ready to Begin Dam Land Appraisals	x Maricopa County, Cave Buttes Flood Control Dam, John C. Lowry, Dreamy Draw Dam, Cave Creek Watershed
15	March 16, 1968	Complete Control of Agua Fria and New River Floods in Sight	x New River, Skunk Creek, Agua Fria, Restoring Property of Individuals, Channel Straightening, Clearance, Norbert Abel, Maricopa County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Farmers, Soil Conservation Service, Corps of Engineers, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Grand Plan, New River Steering Committee, Col. John Lowry, Glen Smith, New River Soil Conservation District, Public Law 566, Safford Valley, Gila, Numerous Disasters, Dry Washes, Avondale Bridge, Sewage Disposal Plants, Detention Dams, Luke Field, Seabees Train in New River, Peoria, Santa Fe Southern Pacific Railroad
17	April 1, 1968	Two Cities Okay Flood Dam Plan	x Glendale, Tolleson, Cave Buttes and Dreamy Draw Flood Control Dams
23	April 6, 1968	Rainbow Flood Menace Lessened by New Work Along Waterman Wash	x Rainbow Valley, Soil Conservation Service, Flood-control Works, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Farmer-Ranchman, Rainbow Flood Sufferers, Waterman Wash, Channel, Diking, September Floods, 1966, 1967, Channel Clearing, Realigning, Gila River Bottomlands, Saltcedar Jungle, Trash, Divert, Right-of-way
24	April 6, 1968	Double Duty from Water, First Aim in Wickenburg SCD	x Irrigation Efficiency, Wickenburg Soil Conservation District, Desert, Farmland, Maricopa County, Yuma, Soil Conservation Service, Phoenix, Concreted, Pipelines, Leveled, Range Management, Flood-control Program
25	April 6, 1968	Just One Flood and then Another, That's Life Along Waterman Wash	x Three Floods, Fifteen Months, Beds of Sand, Destroyed Crop, Destroyed Concrete Ditch, Wrecked Improvements, Waterman Wash, Channeled, Sandy Loam, Eloy, Desert Arroyo, Rainbow Valley, Gila, Channel Clearing, Diking, Saltcedar Jungles, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Buckeye Soil Conservation District, Criss-crossed with Gullies, Catch Driftwood, Divert Current, Right-of-
21	August 3, 1968	Third Flood Dam Assured on Queen Creek Watershed	x Rittenhouse Dam, Queen Creek Watershed, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Retard Flood Waters, Queen Creek Drainage, Powerline Dam, Vineyard Road Dam, Buckhorn Mesa, Pinal County, Flood Damage, Maricopa, Williams Field, Higley, Gilbert, Chandler, Mesa, Roosevelt Water Conservation District, Salt River Project, East Maricopa County Soil
19	October 1, 1968	Riggs Announces Survey for Guadalupe Flood Control Dam to be Launched by Soil Conservation Service	x L. Alton Riggs, Board of Supervisors, Survey, Soil Conservation Service, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Guadalupe Dam, South Mountain, City of Phoenix, Interstate Highway 10, Lauro Garcia, Guadalupe Organization, Damaging Floods, Loss of Property
20	October 5, 1968	Freeway-Flood Plan OK Sought	x Phoenix City Council, Freeway and Flood Control Channel, Phoenix Mountains, 56th Street and Shea Boulevard, 32nd Street and Thunderbird, Indian Bend Wash, Minimum Elevation, Drainage Requirements, Indian Bend Freeway

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SPRR & RWCD Flood Canal

25-6



25-5



25-7



12/15/67

25

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Borrowed
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Rittenhouse Rd & RWCD Flood Canal
12/15/67

2A



Rittenhouse Rd & RWCD Flood Canal

12/15/67

Wayne Rawlings
Saw this water
within 2" of
the bottom of
bridge deck

2 hrs before
this photo
was taken.



Citrus Heights Road & RWCD Flood Canal

26.2

12/15/67



1.1



1.2



12/15/67

Citrus Hights Rd E of RWCD Floodway



26.3

100

Looking E

12/15/67

26 32

Higley Rd & RWCD Flood Canal

26.5



X

26.8



26.7

76

78

26.7

12/15/67

Higley Rd & RWCD Flood Canal

26.4



arizona

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Sunday

JAN. 1, 1967

THE YEAR
1966

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N. 1, 1967

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THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC



The year 1966 came to Arizona with a rush of water. Roosevelt Lake climbed the face of the sandstone and cement dam holding it back. For the first time in 25 years, the dam's spillways were opened to keep the water from going over the top.

The five other reservoirs of the Salt River Project were equally full, and it became necessary for the SRP to release billions of gallons of water into the Salt River. The Salt became a rumbling, churning, thrashing savage. Older residents last recalled seeing something equal to it in 1941, but to the newcomers who make up the bulk of the population in the Salt River Valley, the usually dry river as a potentially threatening, rampaging giant was a new and somewhat bewildering occurrence.

The running river became something to see, and on New Year's day it attracted thousands of Arizonans. They came on foot, by motor vehicle and in aircraft to observe the rioting liquid and to be awed by its destructive muscle.

Nature, then, wrote the first chapter of 1966. Most of the rest, however, were written by the people of the state. There was an election with its winners and losers, there were setbacks and strides ahead in business and building, there were surprises in cultural circles, hits and flops in drama, the reappearance of professional baseball in Phoenix and the disappearance of a football coach in Tucson.

Each was in its own way important — or unimportant — to each individual depending on from where he viewed them over the year.

To summarize events most significant to the greatest number of Arizonans in 1966, it was reasonable to turn to the experts, the men and women whose job it was to report and interpret the news.

This issue contains what those trained specialists say were the most significant events in their fields in 1966, along with an indication in some instances of what might be expected this year.

They dug into the tragic and the happy, took another look at business, home building, medicine, politics, art, theater, music, religion, sports, education, even the weather.

If it happened last year and if it was of significance it is in this, the first issue of ARIZONA 1967. □

Editor BUD DeWALD • Associate Editor JOSEPHINE DAVIDSON
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River Channel Is Established

Phoenix Gazette
3-8-67

A low-flow channel in the Salt River has been established after several months of study by Phoenix, Tempe, and the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

The channel will allow cities to plan for future development along the banks of the Salt River and begin channelization that would prevent future flooding.

THE CITY council passed a resolution yesterday approving location of the 500-foot-wide channel from 41st Street to 59th Avenue, the area within the city limits.

The Tempe City Council has passed a similar resolution extending the channel eastward.

Vice-Mayor Jarret Jarvis described the action as a "momentous occasion," because, with the route established, progress on the flood control program could be continued.

MUCH OF THE land in the Salt River bed is privately owned and channelization was a problem because at flood stage the river stretched nearly a mile across in some areas.

The channel route plan originally offered by the Maricopa County Flood Control group placed the main channel close to the north bank of the river.

"Because this route at 41st Street would cut across the proposed extension of a Sky Harbor jet runway we just couldn't live with it," City Manager Robert Coop said.

PHOENIX THEN proposed that the channel be placed near the south bank but the extension eastward would have cut through valuable property in Tempe.

The councils, at a joint meeting, worked out differences.

The route agreed upon by the two cities lies south of the center of the river bed but north of the Phoenix proposal.

The next step is to set in motion a plan to clean out the channel.

One suggestion made was that the cities acquire the land, either through purchase or through condemnation, then lease it to sand and gravel operators at a minimal fee and let them dig the channel.

Salt

Tombes Daily News 3-10-67

City Council Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

been carried out by robbers who had stolen cars in the city for the specific job and then abandoned them.

Saguaro Circle No. 2, a small subdivision plat submitted by Jalma Hunsinger, was up for approval but the matter was tabled. Hunsinger, who was late for the session and missed the early action, questioned the council regarding the delay of a routine matter. There was lengthy discussion and the council decided to hold an executive session to consider the matter early next week.

Robert Oakley, president of Timber Buildings, Inc., a general contracting firm, objected to city building department requirements — "or rule of thumb" procedures — in valuations on building permits and the fees. He cited two jobs, both warehouse projects, in which the permits issued were 27 percent higher than the signed contracts. He added another project, due in the immediate future, faced the same fate. He asked a refund.

At hand were \$243,929 in contracts, Oakley pointed out, that the city required \$309,000 in permits — and additional fees. The "excess" in each instance, he pointed out, was not on the same percentage basis.

The council ordered an investigation of the matter.

Francis Cocke questioned a

resolution passed a month ago by the council in which the city officially agreed to the Channel B alignment of Salt River in the vicinity of 48th street and Phoenix Sky Harbor. This, Cocke pointed out, moved the channel about 2,000 feet south of its present location and would permit extension of airport runways a half mile to the east. Such extension would be damaging to the city's westside areas, especially when the so-called super-jets come into use.

Previous councils had gone on record favoring a more northern alignment.

It was stated the action was taken to speed the Hohokam penetration route connecting with Interstate 10 near Double Buttes.

Channel Decision Unclogs Projects

The final decision establishing the location of the Salt River low-flow channel has cleared the way for several major developments in east Phoenix, Fred Glendening, Phoenix public works director, said yesterday.

Foremost among projects which now can go forward is the state highway department's proposed bridge over the river near 48th Street, he said. However, present plans call for completion two to three years from now.

THE BRIDGE will carry the proposed Hohokam Route of the Interstate Highway System north from Pima interchange at 48th Street and Baseline to 44th Street and Washington.

The new highway also will provide an eastern access to Sky Harbor Airport, and location of the low-flow channel now clears the way for the city to extend the airport's south runway when future large-scale jet transports require it, Glendening added.

The Phoenix City Council formally adopted the low-flow channel location Tuesday, joining Tempe and Maricopa County, both of which have endorsed the water route.

ALTHOUGH the low-flow channel of the Salt River west of 40th Street has been firmly established for many years, a long standing difference of opinion on its location between Tempe and Phoenix has kept the question open until now.

Glendening said the council's decision that pins down the principal water course will enable all the land near the river to be developed fully "and safely."

He emphasized that the state highway bridge across the Salt River "will add another badly needed way to cross the river when the high water threatens other passage places."

THE LOW-FLOW channel has been set at a width of 500 feet. Most of the land in the river bed is privately owned, and its valuation (estimated at about \$5,000 per acre) is based mainly on it being a sand and gravel source.

The controversy between Tempe and Phoenix reportedly hinged on Phoenix wanting a southernmost channel route to allow ample room for future airport runway extension, and Tempe insisting on a northern passage. The finally adopted channel lies between the two proposed routes.

But Does The River Know It?

It is comforting that the cities of Phoenix and Tempe and the Maricopa County Flood Control District have formally established the location of the channel of the Salt River in this area. Now all that is left to do is to make sure the river knows where the channel is officially located.

Presumably the flood control district will proceed to clear and, we hope, deepen the 500-foot-wide route that has been selected. In discussion of the action, however, there has been as much or more stress on the supposed fact that designation of the channel clears the way for greater commercial and other development on the "banks" of the river, meaning everything the 500-foot swath does not include. We only hope there has been close contact with good

lawyers in working out priorities.

When the river, in flood, selected its own channel, anything that got in the way was, one must assume, damaged by what the law describes as an act of God. But now that the channel has been officially decreed, would the governmental subdivisions be liable for damages if they had guessed wrong and somebody relied on their guess? It is a question for the attorneys, but it shouldn't be ignored.

We cite the question not out of a wish to be embarrassing, but to point up the need for an understanding among all concerned that anyone who builds in the old, natural waterway before the work of channelization has been successfully completed must do so at his own risk. Right now, the river can't read ordinances.

Phil Hayette
3-13-67

12/20/67

14th Ave at Salt River, about 4 p.m. Water crossed over, then cut road south of culvert. Looking south.



12/22/67

51st Ave. At Salt River
looking north. Shows under-
cutting due to flow.



7-17-67



Gazette Staff Photo

WATER POURS ACROSS INDIAN BEND ROAD

Water from Indian Bend Wash pours across Indian Bend Road in the northern section of Scottsdale, east of Scottsdale Road. Water released

from Arizona Canal and runoff from rains caused the minor flooding. Cars continued to splash through the water on roadway.

Charter proposal opposed

October 31, 1967

By JACK KARIE
Scottsdale Progress City Editor

The unofficial spokesman for 316 residents of the Vista del Camino area today attacked one of the provisions in the proposed amendment to the city charter which will be voted on Nov. 7.

Salvador Gonzales, a resident of the area and a political science major at Arizona State University, questioned the proposed amendment which gives the city right to establish floodways or flood plains within city boundaries.

"In our opinion, proposition No. 1 of the proposed city charter revisions not only affects adversely the development of the Vista del Camino area but also is unconstitutional," Gonzales said in a hand-written statement.

Gonzales said he has talked to several professors at ASU and they informed him the charter amendment as proposed would condemn most of the property in the area inasmuch as most of it is located in the flood plain of Indian Bend Wash.

"We are cognizant of the fact that our neighborhood is a sore spot for a progressively flourishing city of Scottsdale," Gonzales added. "But, we are determined at this time, more than ever, to upgrade conditions in the area."

Gonzales says charter revision would prevent homeowners in the area from improving their properties and prevent them from building on vacant lots under their ownership.

"The proposition on the city ballot gives the city the powers to designate and establish floodways or flood plain areas of land required to permit the flow of waters to prevent injury or loss of lives or property," he said.

"We do not question the good intentions of the city in the

formulation of this revision," Gonzales said. "We have found good friends in the mayor and city manager of Scottsdale. As a matter of fact, all officials at city hall have been most cooperative with us."

Gonzales said he doubts very much whether the present administration would apply the provision to the Vista del Camino area.

"But, it wouldn't be fair if the city applied the provision of the law to other neighborhoods in the wash without applying the same provisions on our properties," Gonzales said. Gonzales said that when and if the provision is applied to the neighborhood the area would enter into a period of stagnation "wherein we will not know whether to build or refrain from building."

"The designation or declaration of an area as floodway or flood plains is tantamount to condemnation of a large portion of land — an excessive condemnation," he said. "For those who already own properties the provision would prohibit them from developing their property," Gonzales claims.

Gonzales contends the provision is a gross violation of the 14th Amendment which stipulates "that no state (or city) shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law."

The Vista del Camino area is located between McDowell and Moreland on both sides of 77th St.

Scottsdale *Daily* Progress

YOUR AWARD-WINNING HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1967

Vol. VII, No. 208

In L. A. meeting

U.S. to hear city plan for flood control

Earth ditch asked

By JACK KARIE
Progress City Editor

Scottsdale officials and representatives of the U.S. Corps of Engineers will meet Wednesday in Los Angeles to discuss the feasibility of a \$9 million flood control development for Indian Bend Wash.

Public Works Director Marc Stragier will be accompanied by John Erickson, the city's flood control consultant, and Mack Cole of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Stragier said the city has been encouraged by federal officials to complete details on a plan for the construction of three retaining structures which would control the flow in the wash north of the Arizona Canal and head off danger of flooding in downstream areas which include the center of Scottsdale.

Erickson's suggestions will include the construction of two retaining structures built in the foothills of McDowell Mountains and another northwest of Scottsdale and Indian Bend Rds.

The study recommends the digging of an earthlined channel which would extend six miles south from the Arizona Canal to the Salt River with a mile of the channel extending through the city of Tempe.

Stragier estimated that it would cost \$3 million for acquisition of a right-of-way, \$2 million for the channel, and about \$4 million for construction of bridges and other projects including the moving of utility installations.

The proposed project would cost \$5 million less than the \$12 million estimated as the cost of construction of a concrete-lined channel through the wash.

In 1962 the U.S. Corps of Engineers conducted a study and recommended construction of the 140-foot-wide, concrete-lined channel with an estimated cost of \$12 million. This project was included in a \$23 million Maricopa County Flood Control bond proposal which was soundly defeated when it came to a vote of the people.

Stragier said financing for the complete project would have to be worked out with the flood control district before the amount of federal participation could be figured.

Erickson has suggested the projects be financed partially by persons who own property in the wash. It is estimated the wash property, at the completion of the project, will be increased in value from about \$2,500 an acre to more than \$10,000 an acre, according to Stragier.

Stragier estimates the new design would cut down the total flow to a trickle. He said the earth-lined channel would be designed to handle about 4,000 cubic feet per second of water flow compared to 40,000 cubic feet per second which could be handled by the concrete-lined channel.

Scottsdale *Daily* Progress

YOUR AWARD-WINNING HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1967

Vol. VII, No. 215

Wash project would up valuation

The development of flood control measures in Indian Bend Wash could increase the total valuation of taxable property in Scottsdale by some \$12 million.

City Manager Bill Donaldson made the estimate today as he extolled efforts of various governmental officials working toward start of the project at the earliest possible date.

Donaldson said interest in the project has been voiced

by both Sen. Carl Hayden and Rep. John Rhodes.

The city manager said Sen. Hayden has asked that all reports on the progress of the plans be sent to his office.

He said that Congressman Rhodes has agreed with general plans of the project and has assured Scottsdale officials his office will do everything possible to expedite construction on the project.

The city - devised project calls for the erection of three

retaining structures which would control the flow in the wash north of the Arizona Canal and head off danger of flooding downstream areas, including the center of Scottsdale.

Donaldson claims the completion of the project would reclaim lands which are now lying worthless in and on the edges of the wash.

The city manager said more than 1,200 acres would

be increased in value an average of about \$10,000 an acre.

"Simple mathematics show the project would increase the total valuation in Scottsdale as much as \$12 million," Donaldson said. "It could possibly lead to the lowering of our present tax rate of \$1.07 per hundred dollars of valuation."

John Erickson, the city's consultant on city flood con-

trol problems, has suggested the projects be financed partially by persons who own properties in the wash.

City Public Works Director Marc Stragier said the project could be constructed for about \$6 million — \$3 million less than it would cost for construction of a concrete-lined channel in the wash. The 140-foot wide concrete lined channel was suggested in a study by the U.S. Corps of Engineers in 1962.

Officials of the U.S. Corps of Engineers, according to Straiger, suggested plans be forwarded through the offices of Col. John Lowry, head of the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

Although Col. Lowry said he is committed to the concrete-lined channel plan, he said there are many merits to the plan developed by Erickson and Scottsdale officials.

Scottsdale Daily Progress

YOUR AWARD-WINNING HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1967

Vol. VII, No. 214

Indian Bend Wash

Flood project approval seen

By JACK KARIE
Progress City Editor

The city public works director predicted today that work would be started on flood control measures in Indian Bend Wash in the near future.

Returning here after a talk with officials of the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers in Los Angeles, Marc Stragier said he is sure the federal officials will do everything possible to get the work started at the earliest possible date.

Stragier said the U.S. officials encouraged Scottsdale to continue development of plans for the construction of three retaining structures which would control the flow in the wash north of the Arizona Canal and head off danger of flooding downstream areas including the center of Scottsdale.

John Erickson, the city's consultant on flood control problems, accompanied Stragier on the trip.

"They told us that if our proposed project is as good as we claim it is there is no doubt the federal government will be able to participate in construction costs," Stragier said.

Stragier said the federal officials have asked that complete plans be sent them through Col. John Lowry, head of the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

The public works director said Scottsdale's next job is to convince the federal officials the proposed project, developed by Erickson, can be built much cheaper than the construction of a 140-foot wide concrete-lined channel proposed in a federal engineering study released in 1962.

The new plan, according to Stragier, calls for a 100-foot-wide earth-filled channel running down the center of the wash.

The proposed project would cost \$3 million less than the \$19 million estimated as the cost of the concrete-lined channel proposed in the original study.

Stragier said he has been informed that financing for the complete project would have to be worked out with the flood control district before the amount of federal participation could be figured.

"We are getting wonderful cooperation from Col. Lowry and the federal officials," Stragier said. "If this cooperation continues we should be able to get work started in the near future."

Stragier estimates it will take about eight years to complete the project.

He said the city of Scottsdale will have to secure the right-of-way for the project after developing a plan which will handle a "standard project flood."

Stragier said from information he has acquired he believes the federal officials will start their studies into the feasibility of the project shortly after the first of the year.

Scottsdale Daily Progress

YOUR AWARD-WINNING HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1967

Vol. VII, No. 211

Astro wins city zoning suit

A superior court judge ruled today the city council acted without authority when that body denied Astro Development Company the right to construction in Indian Bend Wash and on adjacent property.

Judge Kenneth Chatwin ruled the city's action in preventing development by Astro in the wash was unconstitutional and invalid, accord-

ing to Jarrett Jarvis, Astro attorney.

The court ruled in a minute entry with the written opinion to follow.

The suit stemmed from council action on June 20 when Astro was denied approval of a plat for a controversial trailer park near Yavapai School.

Astro asked for approval to

build the park on 37 acres in the Indian Bend Wash area between Van Buren and Pierce.

The city planning and zoning commission had recommended denial of the zoning and tentative plat after hundreds of persons in the area signed petitions against the proposed Astro development.

City Attorney Dick Filler

said he will make a careful study of the minute entry before advising the city council on whether to appeal the case.

"If I feel the form of judgment is improper I'll advise the city council of the possibilities of an appeal," Filler said.

In effect, Judge Chatwin ruled the city has no subdi-

vision power or powers to prevent construction in Indian Bend Wash.

Chatwin ruled the council's rezoning ordinance and their resolution to deny Astro construction approval were both invalid.

"We will just have to continue with the litigation," Jarvis said when told of the possibility of the city appealing the case to a higher court.

SCRAM-LETS ANSWERS ON PAGE 19

PHOENIX GAZETTE Flood Plains Plan Defended

Nov. 4, '67

Gazette's Scottsdale Bureau
SCOTTSDALE — The city is trying to protect future homeowners of Scottsdale through the proposed charter change which allows the municipality to designate and establish flood plains, it was asserted today.

The statement was made by City Manager William D. Donaldson in answer to a charge by Salvadore Gonzales, officer of a South Scottsdale Homeowners group.

Gonzales had made the claim that the charter change would be damaging to owners of property in some areas of Scottsdale.

Donaldson said the city now prohibits building in these flood

plains, part of the Indian Bend Wash which courses through Scottsdale.

A charter change would more definitely establish the city's right to make such prohibitions.

At the same time, the city manager said that establishing flood plains would not preclude other uses of the property, pointing out there is a golf course, a dairy farm and a city park in the Indian Bend Wash.

Donaldson said the prohibition against building in those areas does not mean the city is relaxing its efforts to bring about flood control as a further protection for Scottsdale homeowners. In a flood last year, some homes bordering the wash were endangered.



Photo by Herb McLaughlin of Arizona Photographic Associates

INDIAN BEND AT IT AGAIN

Photo May 12-20-67

Indian Bend Wash, running full across intersection of Indian School Road and Hayden Road, put bend in plans of many motorists.

51st Ave 300' N of Baseline
12/15/67



83rd Ave & Skunk Cr.

12/20/67



2.6

Looking S

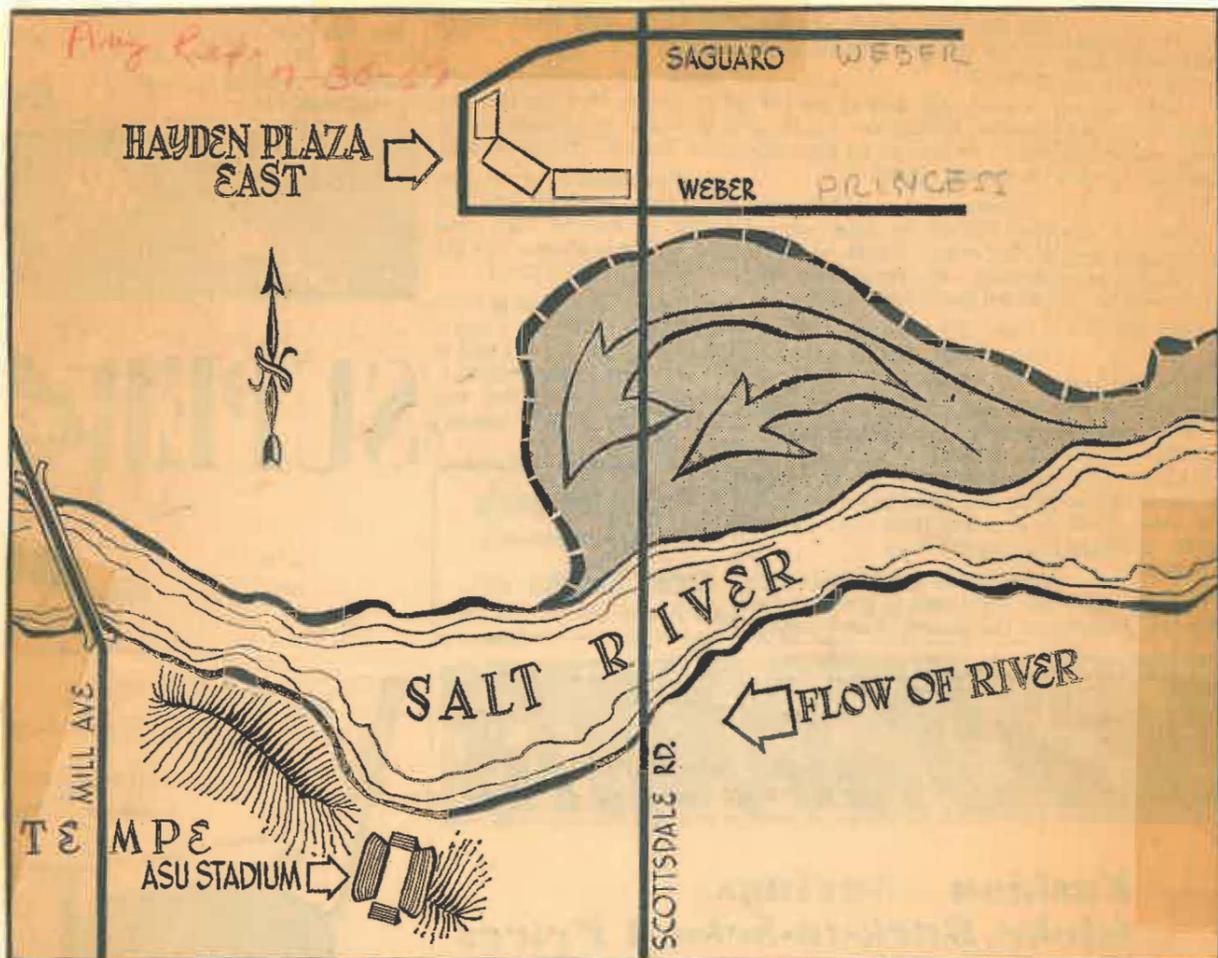


109

2.7

Looking S





OUTER LIMITS—Shaded portion of map indicates flood plain into which the Salt River overflowed on Dec. 31, 1965, inundating homes and businesses, blocking off Scottsdale Road and lapping at the

boundaries of Hayden Plaza East shopping center. According to an Arizona State University geologist, at no time did the river flood areas outside the known flood plain.

Salt River Is Honest, Deceives No Man

Developers Will Gamble She Stays Within Assigned Boundaries

By **JERRY EATON**

TEMPE — Commercial development of the dry Salt River bed will continue because flooding is infrequent, the chairman of the geology department at Arizona State University said yesterday.

Dr. Troy L. Pewe says the Salt River normally floods only once or twice every 25 years and commercial developers will be willing to take bigger risks as land becomes more scarce.

RECLAIMING gravel from the river bed has been a major industry for years, but more recently construction has increased on the Salt River, he said. New businesses, including a shopping center, now stand on land well within the Salt River's flood plain, he noted.

Dikes can contain the Salt River only during flooding, Pewe said. Without them, the river will follow its unalterable route and cause inevitable damage, he said.

Pewe says the Salt River is painfully honest and tries to deceive no man. She flows within the boundaries assigned to her by nature.

RESEARCH based on aerial photographs by Pewe and Peter G. Kokalis, a graduate student at ASU, shows the river never exceeded her flood plain in the 1965 flood.

Remarkably consistent, the Salt has not gone beyond the limits of her flood plain for hundreds, if not thousands, of years, according to Pewe.

The flood plain is designed by nature to be the overflow area for the stream. "It (the flood plain) is the domain of the river and the river was here long before man arrived to try to change the landscape," he said.

ACTUALLY, as is characteristic of desert streams, the flow of the Salt River, except during flooding stages, is generally underground through the underlying quaternary sand and gravel,"

Pewe said. "This held true even before construction of dams."

Although the Salt River hasn't ventured beyond her flood plain in years, she has meandered in a manner typical of desert stream channels.

"Rivers commonly shift channel positions laterally across their flood plains (low, relatively smooth strips of land

bordering the stream which are flooded during high water stages)," he said.

THE EARLIEST recorded mapping of the Salt occurred in 1868 and although cartographers applied the most accurate methods of their day, their maps contain numerous errors, Pewe said.

"Those first mapmakers on the Salt placed the river channel outside its flood plain in at least 12 places," he said. "At one locality, they located the river 30 feet up on bedrock in the Usery Mountains."

The research by Pewe and Kokalis follows the presentation last March of a plan to convert the Salt River bed into a 38-mile complex for recreation, industry, education and culture.

THE EDUCATORS and students envision a scenic drive, planned governmental and industrial building sites and junior colleges near population cores now existing or expected to develop.

With the Salt River made secure by a flood control channel, north and south Phoenix would be united and the downtown area would be strengthened, Elmore said.

Elmore said this development could be linked by a scenic drive and complemented by freeways and a rapid transit system using, in part, existing rail rights-of-way.

Robert E. McConnell, associate professor of architecture at ASU who supervised students in what was called the Rio Salado project, said:

"**PROBABLY** no city in all the world has the opportunity that lies before Phoenix today. A revitalized river can serve as a visual and functional axis of activity uniting and giving identity to all the communities in the Valley of the Sun and be to Phoenix what the Seine is to Paris and its canals are to Amsterdam."

ASU architecture professors and students estimate Rio Salado project, if implemented, would require 30 to 40 years to complete.

C

Vineyard Rd. Dam Contract Let by County

The Maricopa County Flood Control District has awarded a \$514,621 contract to Ashton Co. Inc. of Tucson for construction of the Vineyard Road Dam south of Apache Junction. The project is the third major structure to be undertaken by the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

The Tucson firm is general contractor on the \$785,000 Powerline Floodway now under construction in the same area.

District 1 Supervisor L. Alton Riggs, whose district comprises

the area that will gain protection, said construction should get under way by mid September.

The Vineyard Road Dam is the second in a series of three earthfill dams planned by the Maricopa County Flood Control District to protect property and installations in eastern Maricopa County.

Construction of the 4.5 mile dam is expected to take 300 calendar days. It will be financed with federal funds. Maintenance will be a county respon-

sibility, officials said.

The land on which the dam will be built lies in Pinal County 4.5 miles south of Apache Junction and east of Vineyard Road.

Maricopa County has been granted a permanent easement on the property by the state land department.

The dam will parallel Vineyard Road beginning approximately one quarter mile south of Powerline Dam, the first project in the series.

Both the Vineyard Road Dam

and the third in the series, the Rittenhouse Dam (planned for construction in 1968) are designed to protect land in the Williams AFB-Chandler watershed.

Powerline Dam protects property in the Apache Junction-Gilbert watershed.

In the immediate area are the multi-million dollar installations at General Motors Desert Proving Grounds and Williams Air Force Base, more than 34,000 acres of cultivated land and 127 miles of roads.

Construction is 15 per cent

complete on the Powerline Floodway, an associated project that will serve all three dams. Completion is scheduled late next spring.

The floodway is an 8.5 mile channel designed to carry flood waters from a spillway in the Powerline Dam south and west to the Roosevelt Water Conservation District Canal east of Williams Air Force Base.

Controlled outlets will feed waters from the Vineyard Road and Rittenhouse Dams into the floodway.

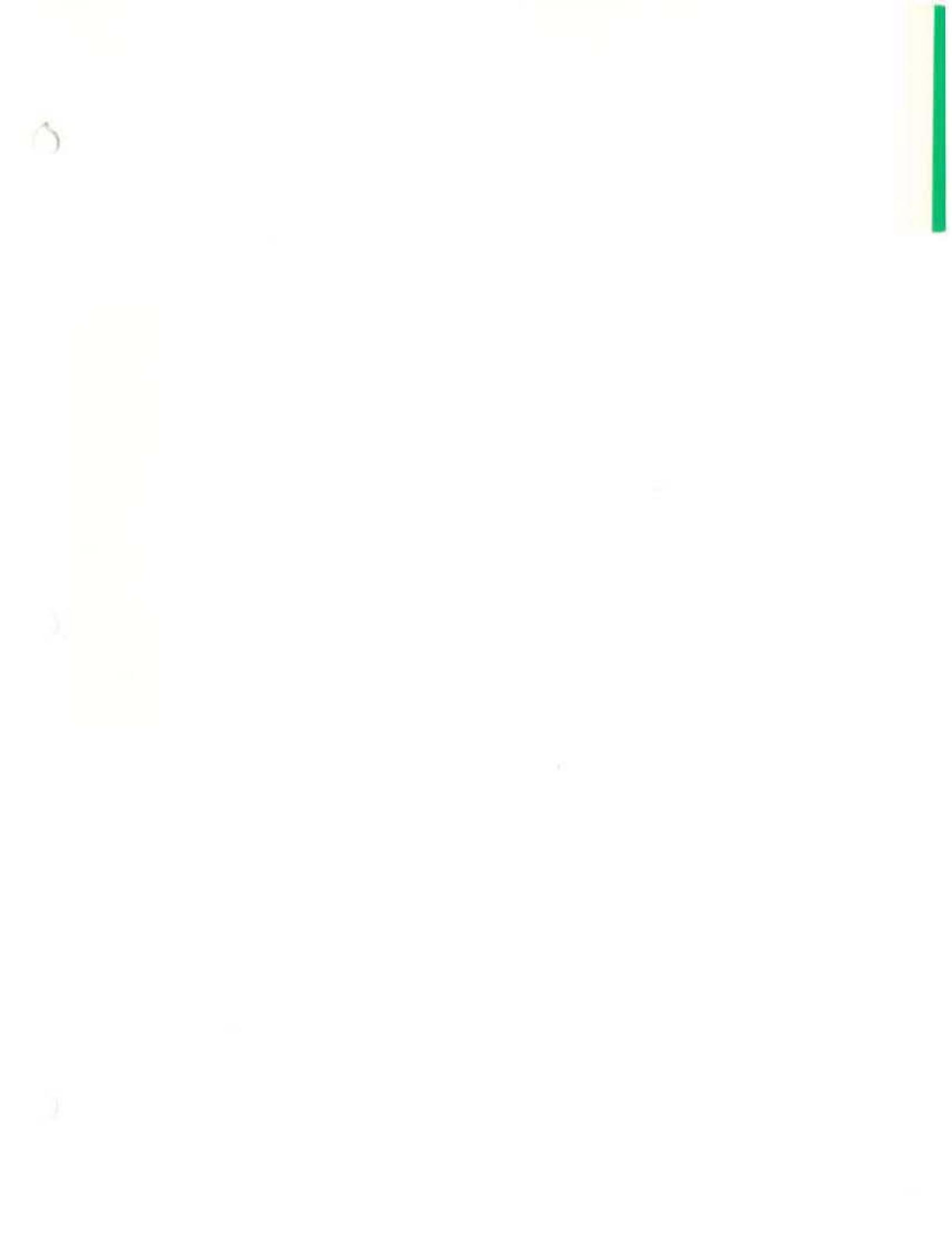
Mesa Tribune
9-7-67

Flood-Dam

Job Goes To Ashton

Despite the protests of the second-low bidder, Ashton Co. Inc. of Tucson has been awarded a \$514,621 Maricopa County flood control district contract to build Vineyard Road Dam south of Apache Junction in Pinal County.

The award was made yesterday on the basis of legal advice that there was no validity in the contention of the William Pulice Cement Contractor of 3801 N. 43rd Ave. that the contract should be awarded to that firm because Ashton did not attach plans and specifications to its lower bid.



Complete Control Of Agua Fria

Farmer - Ranchman March 16, 1968 And New River Floods In Sight

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A steering committee, a hundred or so farmers, and the citizens of towns on the west side of the Agua Fria are bent on preventing a recurrence of the disaster of last Dec. 19. (AFR, Feb. 3).

For immediate use in repairing that damage, an emergency fund of \$202,000 is available. A problem of the moment is how to expand the money so that it will fit in with an over-all plan.

At a meeting of the steering committee on Feb. 29, it was agreed that a 50-50 division between repairing or restoring property of individuals, and channel straightening or clearance would be about right. Norbert Abel, chairman of the Maricopa County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, indicated that this would be approved by his group.

Where individual aid is extended, it will cover 80% of the flood victim's expenditure. About 33 farmers have applied and several have already started work in accordance with plans arrived at with the advice of Soil Conservation Service technicians. They will receive their 80% as soon as the County ACP Committee can comply with all the legal requirements. (And most of the farmers will do considerably more work, beyond that for which they are to be partially compensated.)

Must Be Co-Ordinated

The channel work will be a little longer getting under way, after conferences with the Corps of Engineers and Maricopa County Flood Control District. Both those agencies are likely to have much to say about any over-all program finally adopted. Care is being taken to prevent the expenditure of emergency funds on dikes or channel straightening that will not be useful when the Grand Plan is in effect.

At the Feb. 29 meeting of the New River Steering Committee, a delegation was sent to ask Col. John Lowry of the County Flood Control District to join that organization.

Glenn Smith of the New River Soil Conservation District is committee chairman and Jim Ferrin, SCS Phoenix work unit leader, has been drafted as secretary. Other members: Mayor Cecil Palmateer of Goodyear, Mayor J. D. Wagoner of Peoria, Mayor William D. Allen of Avondale, Col. S. H. Runyan of Luke Field, Keith Jensen of Peoria, Jess C. Watt of Litchfield Park. ASCS and SCS personnel participate in deliberations.

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water menace to Safford Valley and saved that district millions of dollars.

Speaks From Experience

Jim Ferrin was SCS leader at Safford all through the nine weary years it took to get that project under way and completed. On Feb. 29 he gave a short history of that struggle, even showing blown-up pictures of the four dams and the floodways that carry runoff harmless to the Gila. Ferrin also had pictures taken along Skunk Creek, New River and the Agua Fria last December. He didn't have to remind his audience that there have been numerous other disasters along these normally dry washes.

Ferrin also remarked that the problem is not one that affects only the farms and communities subject to flood. High water can also shut off all traffic between Phoenix and that part of the county beyond the Agua Fria, except for the Avondale bridge.

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Farm irrigation systems can be built with the expectation that they'll last a normal length of time. Homes can be built without the constant threat of flood damage. Businesses can be established, ditto. Travel between metropolitan Phoenix and western towns

will never be threatened. Sewage disposal plants will be immune to flood damage. Additional bridges across the rivers can be designed to carry a certain maximum flow, since flow will be regulated by detention dams above.

A number of suggestions have been made that may reduce the total cost of whatever program may finally be arranged. From Luke Field has come a hint that the Seabees might be induced to train in the New River area, and their training includes operation of heavy equipment as well as surveying. The mayors of Avondale and Peoria have indicated that those towns may furnish labor and facilities. The county highway dept. may make contributions. The Santa Fe and Southern Pacific railroads should be contributors since flood damage to their tracks often occurs.

AFR

Agua

1-25-68

○ The Phoenix Gazette

Move Made To Build Flood Dam

Preparations for the construction of Cave Buttes flood control dam have progressed to the point where the county flood control district has identified the 275 acres of privately-owned land that is needed.

John C. Lowry, Maricopa County flood control district engineer, said appraising will now start with construction to begin in about three years.

The balance of the 700 acres needed for the dam is state land which Lowry, at a flood control advisory commission meeting, said could be obtained on an easement basis for a dollar or two an acre.

THE COUNTY, with government financing, also plans to build smaller Dreamy Draw flood control dam on the same (Cave Creek) watershed. This is on park land owned by the City of Phoenix hence there will be no expense to its acquisition by the county, Lowry said.

He suggested that the basin behind Cave Buttes Dam could be used as a park between floods, but its use would be limited to such things as riding trails.

ALSO, HE SAID, the basin could be designed to provide facilities to recharge the ground water.

Construction of the two dams, to protect north and west Phoenix from floods, is predicated on the county's raising the flood control tax rate from two cents to five cents per \$100 valuation.

The county is to buy the land for an estimated \$440,000. The federal government, through the Corps of Engineers, is to provide \$200,000 in design money and \$8.3 million for construction.

Two Cities Okay Flood Dam Plan

City councils of Glendale and Tolleson have passed resolutions endorsing design of the Cave Buttes and Dreamy Draw flood control dams north of Phoenix.

Maricopa County supervisors last October voted to commit county funds to buy rights of way for the two flood control projects. This freed federal funds to design the structures and activated an application for federal construction funds.

Earlier, Scottsdale and the Arizona Highway Commission passed resolutions praising the county's action.

Ariz. Rep.

4-1-68

Ariz. Rep.

1-25-68

County Ready to Begin Dam Land Appraisals

Maricopa County is ready to start appraising the value of 275 acres of privately owned land needed for construction of the Cave Buttes flood control dam north of Phoenix,

the county flood control engineer said yesterday.

Engineer John C. Lowry told the county flood control advisory committee that construction is expected to start in three years.

He said he believes permanent easement on 700 acres of state land could be acquired by the county for \$1 or \$2 an acre.

The county has agreed to spend an estimated \$440,000 to acquire land for the dam. The federal government is expected to provide \$200,000 for design and \$8.3 million for construction of Cave Buttes and the smaller Dreamy Draw dam. Both are on the Cave Creek watershed.

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And New River Floods In Sight

Farmer-Ranchman
March 16, 1968

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AFR

Gila

GILA RIVER 12/11/68

East of 115 Ave
Game & Fish Dept.
Building dike across
low point of river to
impound sewer water flow
for conservation purposes



○

○

○

Riggs Announces Survey For Guadalupe Flood Control Dam To Be Launched By Soil Conservation Service

L. Alton Riggs, chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Maricopa County, has announced the beginning of a survey by the Soil Conservation Service of the Department of Agriculture, for the Flood Control District of Maricopa County, for the con-

struction of Guadalupe Dam, to be constructed at the eastern end of the South Mountains on park land owned by the City of Phoenix. The survey will require approximately 60 days to complete.

This dam, when completed,

will protect the town of Guadalupe, the surrounding agricultural land, county roads and Interstate Highway 10.

The project was recommended some time ago by residents of Guadalupe.

—Turn To Page 14

TDN, 10-1-68

Riggs

—From Page 1

Lauro Garcia of the Guadalupe Organization, advised Riggs that the completion of this dam will provide protection for Guadalupe against damaging floods which have caused much loss of property in the past.

At the request of Riggs, Garcia recommended two young men from Guadalupe, John Salazar and Jose Gonzales, for employment as engineering aides to work with the SCS survey crew. These two young men were hired to begin work on October 7.

Phoenix Gazette 10-5-68

Freeway-Flood Plan OK Sought

The Phoenix City Council will be asked Monday night to approve plans for a future combined freeway and flood-control channel in a 4-mile corridor running north of Phoenix Mountains.

The corridor, from 400 to 500 feet wide, would run diagonally from 56th Street and Shea Boulevard to 32nd Street and Thunderbird Road.

THE AREA, known as Indian Bend Wash, is subject to flooding. Therefore, the resolution to be heard by council seeks construction controls on future subdivision developments.

They would be required to meet minimum elevation of the houses and drainage requirements specified by the city engineer.

The Indian Bend Wash is shown as a freeway corridor on the major street and highway plan jointly adopted seven years ago by the State Highway Commission, the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Phoenix City Council and five other cities and towns in the Valley.

EDWARD M. HALL, city streets improvement administrator, commented, "By combining a flood control channel and the proposed Indian Bend Freeway in Indian Bend Wash, these two projects can best be integrated into the community. The combination provides maximum economic and esthetic advantages and will promote orderly development of the area."

C

31

J



9/6/70
Car at 86th Street and Chaparral, Scottsdale



9/6/70
Repairing Arizona Canal break east of Pima Road

9/6/70
East at Camelback and Indian Bend Wash



9/6/70
At 8631 East Palo Verde, Scottsdale after break in
Arizona Canal east of Pima Road

9/6/70

South of Indian School Road in Indian Bend Wash



9/6/70

Repairing Arizona Canal break east of Pima Road

9/6/70
South of Thomas @ Indian Bend Wash



9/6/70
Indian School Road & Indian Bend Wash

INDIAN BEND WASH
9/13/70
(See ltr fr So. Pacific Div
C of E, 27 Mar 70)

Safari Hotel, east of
Scottsdale Road.



Safari Hotel in
background.



Looking up (NE) wash
from Hwy 80 road dip
crossing. Siphm
entrance on left side.



Looking at Siphm entrance
on canal. The 4 tubes
were worked out and
replaced with (2-48")
jupes.



Looking NW at dip crossing
of wash, old Hwy 80.



Looking NW across wash
along line of siphm of
Canal. Siphm heading
at far side of picture.



Looking N across wash
road crossing at section
line.



Looking NE (upstream)
at wash from N-S road
at section line East
of old Hwy 80.



LITTLE RAINBOW WASH 4/17/68

Looking SW down wash at
canal siphm and from
bridge site.



Looking SW down wash
from N-S road at Siet.
line east of old Hwy 80.



McMICKEN DAM
1/15/68

Dam #4 - Broken dike at Jackrabbit Trail. Looking across break from west to east. Break 90' wide, 4' from dike crown to bottom of break. Dike crown is 10' wide, slopes 1:2.



Dam #4 - Dike west of Jackrabbit Trail. Looking approximately north at end of dike. Water ordinarily flows to left of dike, thence through channel into retention area. Debris has been dumped into this channel.



Dam #4 & dike west of Jackrabbit Trail. Looking approx. south over end of dike (foreground) toward dam. Water flows to right of dike into retention area. Note dumping done behind the dam, in retention area.



McMICKEN DAM
1/15/68



Dam #4 from dike west of Jackrabbit Trail.
Looking to west at piles of dirt in retention
area. Potential source of material to re-
pair break in dike.

McMICKEN DAM
1/15/68

Dam #4 - Broken dike at
Jackrabbit Trail.
Looking toward northwest
through break. Flow con-
tinues downstream toward
camera. See other picture
for view toward upstream.



Dam #4 - Broken dike at
Jackrabbit Trail. Looking
upstream through break
toward channel. Flow toward
camera.



Dam #4 - Broken dike at
Jackrabbit Trail. Looking
downstream through break,
toward south. Dam #4 in
background; flow now goes
outside (east) of dam.



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AFP

New R.

2/6/70
NEW RIVER

New River south of Olive.
Channel constricted to
100'+ by sand & gravel
stockpiles.



New River south of Olive.
Dikes in foreground.
Stockpiles in background.



New River south of Olive.
Channel constricted to
100'+.



2/6/70
NEW RIVER

New River south of Olive.
Stockpiling in background.
Channel at pile 100'±.



New River south of Olive.
Piles in channel.



New River channel south
of Olive. Landfill debris
on east side of channel.



2/6/70
NEW RIVER

New River channel south
of Olive. Dikes in
channel.



New River channel
north of Olive.

SCRIPT FOR SLIDES

San Tan Indian Reservation

- 125 { 1. ^{ctr} Queen Creek south of Hunt Highway as enters San Tan Ranch. Showing eroded and gullied land, crossed by uncontrolled floodwater.
- 2. ^{bot} Queen Creek going west across Gilbert Road on the reservation. Note auto in center of picture in center of wash, washed off highway.
- 3. ^{top} Highway 87 and Southern Pacific Railroad, looking northwest toward Chandler - uncontrolled Queen Creek waters paralleling railroad and spreading over agricultural land, all on reservation land.
- 126 { 4. ^{Bottom} In center of picture Hunt Highway going west. RWCD Canal ends at Hunt Highway. Channel east of RWCD emptying inundated water onto reservation. Floodwater shown on upper right hand corner on private land.
- 5. ^{ctr} Hunt Highway top of picture. Private land in foreground. All lands covered with floodwater.
- 6. ^{top} Hunt Highway upper left, in foreground RWCD Canal broken by floodwater going west across private land. Other waters going south into reservation.
- 131 7. ^{Top} Otto Nealy farm, boundary the Indian Reservation. Floodwater from Queen Creek.
- 8. ^{Bottom} Showing flooding on private and Indian land.
- 127 { 9. ^{ctr} San Tan Ranch headquarters surrounded by floodwater.
- 129 10. ^{Bottom} Bottom 1/2 of picture on reservation just east of Casa Grande, Coolidge Highway.
- 128 { 11. ^{Top} Looking south at the intersection of Coolidge, Casa Grande Highway to Chandler. Area where floodwater is moving west, washed out highways and inundated land as it flowed on west
- 12. ^{ctr} Looking north at interchange. Old Hunt Highway in center of picture.
- 13. ^{Bottom} Looking southwest across Hunt Highway shows floodwater on reservation. Southern Pacific Railroad at bottom of picture.
- 127 14. ^{Top} On reservation looking west, Casa Grande Highway across the middle of picture, Goodyear Canal running west, showing floodwater.
- 130 15. ^{ctr} Same as above, showing floodwater inundating home.
- 131 16. ^{ctr} Highway 87, running south to left of picture. One of two Queen Creek crossings on this highway.

- 131 17. ^{Bot} High water at bottom of picture, reservation land under water. Mountains in background.
- 129 18. ^{Top} High pressure gas line running northwest, new Inter-State 10 Highway in upper left corner. All floodwater must pass through or over new highway. Old Goodyear farms in background.
- 130 { 19. ^{Top} Inter-State 10 on reservation, shows flood damage to Highway, dual road under construction.
- 20 ^{Bot} Interchange intersects Inter-State 10 and Riggs Road in an industrial area on the reservation showing remains of floodwater.

QUEEN CREEK

3



1

2



QUEEN CREEK

6



5

4



14



8



11



11A



12

13



QUEEN CREEK



19



15

20



QUEEN CREEK

7



16

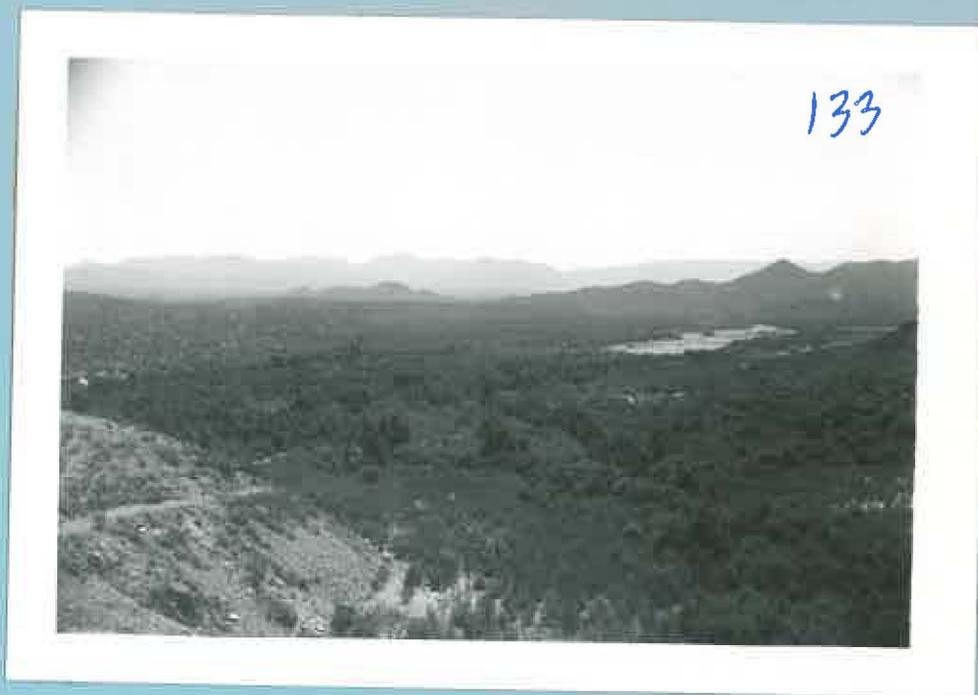
17





Downstream face of dam.





Reservoir Area of
Whitlow Ranch Dam.



QUEEN CREEK 7/8/68

Downstream from top of
Whitlow Ranch Dam.



Upstream face of dam.



Upstream from top of
Whitlow Ranch Dam.



Downstream face of
dam.



Asst. Finance - Rittenhouse
5-3-68

Third Flood Dam Assured On Queen Creek Watershed

RITTENHOUSE Dam, one of the most important structures planned for flood control on the Queen Creek watershed, is to be built.

An allocation to cover the cost, estimated at approximately \$480,000 by Soil Conservation Service engineers, was approved at Washington just before the end of the fiscal year. There had been some apprehension that this project might be postponed by executive order or a Budget Bureau decision.

As principal sponsor, the Maricopa County Flood Control District is now advertising for bids that will be opened Aug. 15. It's hoped that construction can start in September.

Rittenhouse Dam is designed to retard flood waters across one of the principal Queen Creek drainages. Two other dams, Power Line and Vineyard Road, have already been completed, as has a long floodway past Williams field.

Still to be planned in detail by the SCS are works on Buckhorn Mesa. Several small dams are necessary there.

Although part of the control works are across in Pinal County, most of the territory and property subject to Queen Creek flood damage is in Maricopa. Williams Field, Higley, Gilbert, Chandler, Mesa, portions of the Roosevelt Water Conservation District and Salt River Project, have all suffered severely in the past.

One of the sponsors of the over-all flood project is the East Maricopa County Soil Conservation District, which arranged for the planning by SCS technicians.

*Farmer - Kauchman
1-20-68*

RAINBOW VALLEY HOPING TO CLEAR WATERMAN WASH FOR FLOOD CONTROL

FIVE MILES of Waterman Wash, in the heart of Rainbow Valley, will be cleared and to some extent realigned, if a group of farmers who have suffer-

ed from Waterman floods can obtain federal assistance.

Plans for the clearing have been drawn by the Soil Conservation Serv-

ice Buckeye work unit. Estimated cost is \$32,000.

Richard McLeod, Leon Stout, Coleman McArthur, Luther Robbins and Charles Youngker are in the pooling group that is seeking federal flood-control aid to the extent of 80% of \$32,000. No response to their appli-

cation has yet been received. If the final answer is no, they may attempt to raise the money themselves. Under present conditions, however, this could be quite a drain.

None of these farmers have suffered anything like as much damage as Bill Franzmeir, several miles below them where Waterman empties into the Gila River. He is subject to floods from both Waterman and the Gila, and has been a victim in 1965, 1966 and 1967. His concrete ditches have been wrecked, leveled land unlevelled, and crops destroyed.

Franzmeir's last flood, Sept. 5 of 1967, cut a gully square across his farm.

Bob Tobin, unit leader for the SCS at Buckeye, has done a lot of scouting to see if some channel can't be dug to divert water past the Franzmeir place.

That September flood, incidentally, is the one that caused closure of the phreatophyte research station maintained by the Reclamation Bureau and other government agencies in the Gila saltcedar jungles adjoining the Franzmeir property.

Tobin reports that 16 applications have come in for emergency relief because of losses from the 1967 flood, and he expects more. After the flood of Sept. 12, 1966, he received 96 applications.

Quite a lot of 1967 damage remains unrepaired. For instance, there is a big siphon that diverts water from the Gillespie canal, west of Gila Bend, into the ditch that serves several Gila Bend Valley farms. The siphon was completely washed out, and so were several bridges in that vicinity.

RAINBOW FLOOD MENACE LESSENER BY NEW WORK ALONG WATERMAN WASH

RAINBOW VALLEY farmers work fast when they really make up their minds to do something about flood control. So does the Soil Conservation Service when it comes to drawing plans for flood-control works. So does the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service when it comes to providing funds.

In the Farmer-Ranchman for Jan. 20 it was stated that Rainbow flood sufferers had formed a pooling agreement and applied for aid, also that Bob Tobin and his aides at the Buckeye office of the SCS were completing the blueprints and specifications. Next time AFR inquired about progress, in late March, the contract had been awarded to Jack Kleck and he was just about through.

The estimated cost was \$31,750, 80% of which was furnished through the ASCS and 20% by farmers. In the pooling agreement were Richard McLeod, Hardesty Bros., Coleman McArthur, Charles Youngker and Leon Stout.

Kleck straightened part of a 4.9-mile stretch of Waterman Wash, did some channel and diking. That ought to keep Waterman floods in their proper channel through the greater part of Rainbow Valley, where severe damage was suffered in September floods of 1966 and 1967.

Private Enterprise

Farther up the wash, and out of Rainbow proper, Wallace Bales is doing some channel clearing and realign-

ing. At the north end of Rainbow, Phil Ladra has done some work on his own and first steps have been taken toward clearing 4,000 feet. Tobin promises a cost estimate shortly.

And then, several miles farther along where Waterman leaves the mesa for the Gila River bottomlands, \$7,000 has just been spent on another contract. Here the 20% participants were Bill Franzmeier, whose farm has about been wrecked by three floods, and Dave Swain, whose losses have been considerably lighter.

The trouble is that from Franzmeier's to the Gila, Waterman waters must find their way through a saltcedar jungle. A flood will bring down trash to lodge against saltcedars and divert the water hither and yon. Franzmeier and Swain have got most of the necessary right-of-way for a channel through those thickets, but how that is to be financed is an unanswered question at this juncture.

Double Duty From Water, First Aim In Wickenburg SCD

IRRIGATION efficiency is a primary goal of the Wickenburg Soil Conservation District, which embraces a tremendous expanse of desert and several smaller expanses of farmland in the northwest corner of Maricopa County, the northeast corner of Yuma.

In the annual report of the Wickenburg SCD it's mentioned that all the water, which has to be pumped, is "highly expensive," and that the cost cuts deep holes into potential profits. So the Soil Conservation Service technicians, operating out of the Phoenix work unit, have been "requested to emphasize irrigation water management while working in our district."

A list of accomplishment indicate that co-operators are taking full advantage of SCS advice. In the last year they concreted 10,713 feet of ditch, laid 6,817 feet of pipelines, and leveled 444 acres.

Range management gets attention, too. Operators of 1,272 acres are credited with "proper range use."

Recently the Wickenburg SCD obtained a grader for use of its co-operators, and it hopes to acquire a dump truck soon.

The district is co-operating with the town of Wickenburg in formulating an ambitious flood-control program.

Ben Hunter of Salome is chairman of the SCD board and Dana Burden of Wickenburg is secy-treas. Other members are Oral Hunter of Salome, Bill Cress of Aguila, and Harold Clause of Wickenburg. They meet by turns in those three towns and usually have a swarm of co-operators present.

Just One Flood And Then Another, That's Life Along Waterman Wash

By ERNIE DOUGLAS

THREE FLOODS within 15 months! Not piddling little overflows but mighty torrents that surged across every acre of the farm, deposited great beds of sand, destroyed every growing crop, undermined and broke every concrete ditch, laid fences flat, and wrecked all other improvements.

That's what Bill Franzmeier, Mrs. Franzmeier and their three sons have endured since Sept. 12, 1966.

They had barely got their 152 acres of farmland leveled and otherwise rehabilitated when their second flood, on Sept. 5, 1967, roared down Waterman Wash and inflicted still greater devastation. Whatever was left in the way of a workable farm was laid waste by the flood of Dec. 19.

But are the Franzmeiers downhearted? Three rousing noes! Waterman Wash is going to be channeled and they're going to have the prettiest, most productive farm in Arizona.

On first viewing the state of the Franzmeier place today, one is inclined to wonder why they don't just go away and try to forget it. But on closer examination he begins to understand their apparent stubbornness. The soil that is still visible is sandy loam unsurpassed anywhere unless by the black land of Eloy. And two shallow-lift wells produce cheap water of excellent quality. It's apparent that if that desert arroyo, which drains Rainbow Valley to the south and unites with the Gila less than a mile to the north — if it can only be tamed, all the Franzmeier dreams can come true.

Toward Flood Control

And Waterman is being tamed. Farther up, in Rainbow, five miles of straightening, channel clearing and diking is about completed. Right by Franzmeier's, a \$7,000 program is under way with Franzmeier and the neighbor just above him, Dave Swain, contributing 20%. If they can just get that channel extended through saltcedar jungles to the Gila, Waterman will not longer be a menace worth mentioning. Bill and Swain somehow seem to think they can handle that.

In the meantime Bill's just about out of production for this year, until he can relevel again and repair his ditches. He has been granted \$2,500 of flood disaster aid through the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, but the job is going to cost several times that much. He has been able to rent his Pima and upland allotments to recover part of what he hoped to profit from 1968 cotton. And maybe he can get some sorghum planted in time to con-

SMALLER DIVERSIONS ON ARIZONA'S COTTON FARMS

Just as was forecast, Arizona cotton growers have lost some of their enthusiasm for diverting acreage. Only 1,900 are participating in the diversion program this year. They have 293-726 of the 332,716 acres allotted for upland production in Arizona. Their diversions amount to 59,655 acres, a 20% score, as of March 14. A final report is promised for April.

Last year the Arizona signup was between 34 and 35%.

Nationally, 432,937 farms are participating in the diversion program. Their allotments come to 13,355,714 acres and they are diverting 2,989,027, or 22%.

In 1967, 467,225 farms diverted 4,589,100 acres out of 14,011,600. The maximum, then as now, was 35%.

—AFR—



Bill Franzmeier and Sam, the dog, look over what one flood — or maybe two of them — did to a section of ditch.

tinue with a cattle-feeding operation which is being conducted on a limited scale with hay baled in less disastrous years.

Hardest Of Hard Work

The Franzmeiers have been there since 1961. The former owner had his difficulties, one being lack of capital, and when his house burned down he threw up his hands. The Franzmeiers must have had a pioneering streak in them; anyway, their property in the west end of Salt River Valley was sold and they moved to the Waterman country.

First thing they did was to build a neat concrete home, up on high ground of course. The hay stacks and feed lots are close by. The arable, and floodable, land lies just under a sort of bluff.

Bill immediately became a Buckeye Soil Conservation District co-operator. He leveled every acre and put in a mile and a half of concrete ditches.

Well, the land isn't level any more. It's criss-crossed with gullies and only short sections of ditch are still usable. Any ditch that isn't lying in fractured and scattered pieces is probably undermined.

First thing Bill shows any visitor is that channelized section of wash bounding his erstwhile farm on the east. It's designed to handle a flood bigger than anything that ever came down Waterman, and probably will. But that \$7,000 will go only so far. Between channel's end and the Gila, there is a saltcedar jungle to catch driftwood and divert the current.

Great Place For Doves

Bill and others are working hard to get a right-of-way for further channelization. First he had to get permission from owners of 120 acres of undeveloped land and, believe it if able, they numbered over a dozen. Some of them lived in Washington, D.C., and Chicago. But Bill kept plugging and that hurdle has been passed. The next is the State Game and Fish Dept., which has a dove preserve between there and the river, and regards every saltcedar as indispensable for whitewing or turtle-dove nesting purposes. Bill and others are working hard and are confident of favorable action.

And this farm editor just hopes to be around to see what Franzmeier's Folly looks like four or five years from now.

—AFR—

Rubber-tired farm equipment permits rates of travel in the hayfield 180% faster than steel-wheeled equipment.