US Army Corps of Engineers®

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

Public Notice/Application No.: SPL-2005-389-RJD
Comment Period: October 14, 2011 through October 28, 2011

Applicant

Ruth A. Valencia
Salt River Project (SRP)
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Location

The proposed project is located in the Salt River (33.48735°N 111.75194°W; Sections 28 and 29, T2N, R6E) approximately two miles upstream of Gilbert Road. The project occurs on land owned by the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community in Maricopa County, Arizona.

Activity

To discharge dredged and/or fill material over 3.87 acres of the Salt River to repair the damaged water delivery channel that is part of the Granite Reef Underground Storage Project (GRUSP). The GRUSP repairs include 2.10 acres of temporary impacts caused by temporary construction access, borrowing material used in reconstruction activities, and grading to facilitate the proper functioning of the 10 10-foot diameter culverts that were originally permitted on August 28, 1991. The GRUSP repairs also include 1.77 acres of permanent impacts from reconstruction of the embankments for the water delivery channel and construction of the two new upstream training walls. Project impact details are shown in the enclosed figures.

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). Interested parties are invited to provide their views on the proposed work, which would become a part of the record and would be considered in the decision. This permit application would be issued or denied under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

Comments can be e-mailed to: robert.j.dummer@usace.army.mil or mailed to:

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTENTION: Regulatory Division (SPL-2005-389-RJD)
3636 North Central Avenue, Suite 900
Phoenix, Arizona 85012-1939

For additional information please call Robert J. Dummer at 602-230-6952 or send an e-mail to robert.j.dummer@usace.army.mil. This public notice is issued by the Arizona Regulatory Branch of the Los Angeles District of the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Evaluation Factors

The decision whether to issue a permit would be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision would 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 would be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Factors that would 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 would include application of the EPA Guidelines (40 CFR 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 would 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 has applied for a water quality certification, under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for this project located within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Reservation. Section 401 of the Clean Water Act requires that any applicant for an individual Section 404 permit provide proof of water quality certification to the Corps of Engineers.

Cultural Resources- The proposed project would not affect any sites listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places.

The project area has already been surveyed and the results are documented in the following reports: "*Cultural Resource Survey of the Proposed Granite Reef Recharge Project, Salt River Pima and Maricopa Indian Community, Maricopa County, Arizona*" (Motsinger and Greenwald 1990) and "*Archaeological Survey of the Proposed 2,500-foot Long Reclaimed Waterline Connection from Val Vista Drive to Granite Reef Underground Storage in the City of Mesa, Maricopa County, Arizona*" (Lindly and Foster 2005). These two surveys covered the current project area and a much larger area out outside of the current project area. In both surveys the active channel of the Salt River was not surveyed since no historic properties are anticipated to be located within the constantly changing substrate in the Salt River. These two survey reports identified nine sites and 25 of the isolated occurrences that may be eligible for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The remaining 12 isolated occurrences were determined to be not eligible for inclusion to the NRHP. The 2005 survey identified one additional site that is considered eligible for the NRHP.

However, none of the potentially eligible sites are located within the area of potential effect (APE) or permit area for this project. The permit area for this project is approximately 9.2 acres and is located mostly within the active channel of the Salt River. As such, the project should proceed with a determination of "no effect" to historic properties. As no construction-related activities are planned in areas containing sites, no flagging or monitoring of sites is necessary. If previously unrecorded cultural resources are encountered during ground-disturbing activities, project construction would be discontinued in the immediate vicinity of the discovery, and work would not resume until notified to do so by the Corps of Engineers.

Endangered Species- Under the Endangered Species Act no proposed/listed species or their proposed/designated critical habitat occurs within the project area. Therefore, the Corps of Engineer's proposed determination is that the project would have no effect to any proposed/listed species or their proposed/designated critical habitat.

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. The basic project purpose for the proposed project is to recharge groundwater.

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 recharge up to 93,000 acre-feet of groundwater per year within the Phoenix Active Management Area. The Phoenix Active Management Area was established in the 1980 Arizona Ground Water Code.

Overall Proposed Project Description - Reconstruction of the water delivery channel and construction of two upstream training walls to restore the functional capabilities of the GRUSP. Dimensions and location of these activities are shown in the enclosed figures.

Additional Project Information

SRP is proposing to repair damages to the GRUSP water delivery channel that occurred during an

early 2010 flood event. The GRUSP water delivery channel was originally permitted by the Corps of Engineers on August 25, 1991 (SPL-1990-403900). SRP is now proposing to add two upstream training walls that were not part of the project permitted in 1991. The reconstruction of the GRUSP delivery channel and construction of the two new training walls would permanently impact 1.77 acres and temporarily impact 2.10 acres of the Salt River.

The proposed project includes the following:

- Reconstruction of approximately 860 feet of the GRUSP delivery channel as it crosses the Salt River, incorporating the existing ten 10-foot-diameter CMPs;
- Construction of a new training wall along the northern bank immediately upstream of the delivery channel;
- Construction of a new training wall along the southern bank immediately upstream of the delivery channel; and
- Continued maintenance of the delivery channel and associated features, including grading of areas upstream and downstream of the CMPs to facilitate proper functioning.

Within the Salt River, the damaged GRUSP delivery channel and new training walls would be constructed and/or repaired to specifications consistent with the previously permitted structure. The delivery channel would be 30 feet wide, with a minimum depth of 4 feet. In addition, 16-foot-wide permanent unpaved access roads would be constructed along both banks of the channel. The access roads would have a 2:1 slope from the inner edge of the roads to the bottom of the delivery channel and a 2:1 slope from the outer edges of the roads to the river bottom. The existing ten 10-foot-diameter CMPs would be left in place and would be incorporated into the reconstructed delivery channel. The existing CMPs would allow 10,000 cfs flows to pass under the water delivery channel which would be adequate to pass all but the larger flood events under the structure with minimal damage to the structure. Granite Reef Dam, located approximately 4 miles upstream of the project area, prevents most flows within the Salt River from flowing downstream to the project area. During high flow events, flows overtop the dam and travel downstream through the project area. Within the last 65 years, 78.5% of flows that pass over the Granite Reef Dam were less than 10,000 cfs and would be within the capacity of the existing CMPs.

In order to guide flows through the CMPs and to protect the reconstructed delivery channel from erosion damage the new training walls would be constructed upstream of the delivery channel. The southern training wall would be approximately 300 feet long, and the northern training wall would be approximately 260 feet long. The training walls would have a 10-foot top width, with a 1:1 slope along both sides.

As part of the reconstruction activities, the placement of dredged and fill material within the jurisdictional limits of the Salt River would be required. Project activities would cause permanent impacts to 1.77 acres and temporary impacts to 2.10 acres in the Salt River. The portions of the channel bottom being temporarily impacted would be graded the minimum amount necessary to facilitate proper functioning of the CMPs. Only the minimum area within the Salt River required for the reconstruction of the delivery channel and training walls proposed under this project would be impacted. The construction of the delivery channel and training walls would require approximately 15,000 CY of earthen material; approximately 6,000 CY of earthen material was left in place following the 2010 flood event, so 9,000 CY of additional earthen material would be placed as fill within the Salt River. If additional fill material is required it would be obtained from the various recharges basins within the GRUSP facility.

It is anticipated that future maintenance may be necessary in the vicinity of the proposed delivery channel cause by future flood events. If necessary, sediment build-up would be removed immediately

upstream and downstream of the delivery channel to facilitate proper functioning of the CMPs.

There is no public access to the project site; however safety measures such as barricades and warning signs would be used as appropriate during construction to provide adequate protection for the public and construction personnel. Construction site access for the project would be available from the south using an existing unpaved access roadway, eliminating the need for temporary access roads. No fill material or dewatering efforts would be required for construction access purposes, and substantial grading is not anticipated to be required for construction access. Equipment and material storage would occur outside of the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of the river, and would be limited to areas that would not affect the passage of normal and high flows. All areas within the Salt River that would be temporarily disturbed would be the minimum area necessary would be graded/regraded to facilitate proper functioning of the CMPs.

There usually are no surface water flows through the project area because of the upstream diversion of flows by Granite Reef Dam. The project area is unvegetated or sparsely vegetated river cobbles, gravels, and sand. There would be only limited clearing of desert scrubland vegetation outside of the OHWM and limited removal of vegetation within the Salt River. Vegetation removal would be only the minimum amount necessary to provide an adequate work zone and construction access.

Proposed Special Conditions

None are proposed at this time.

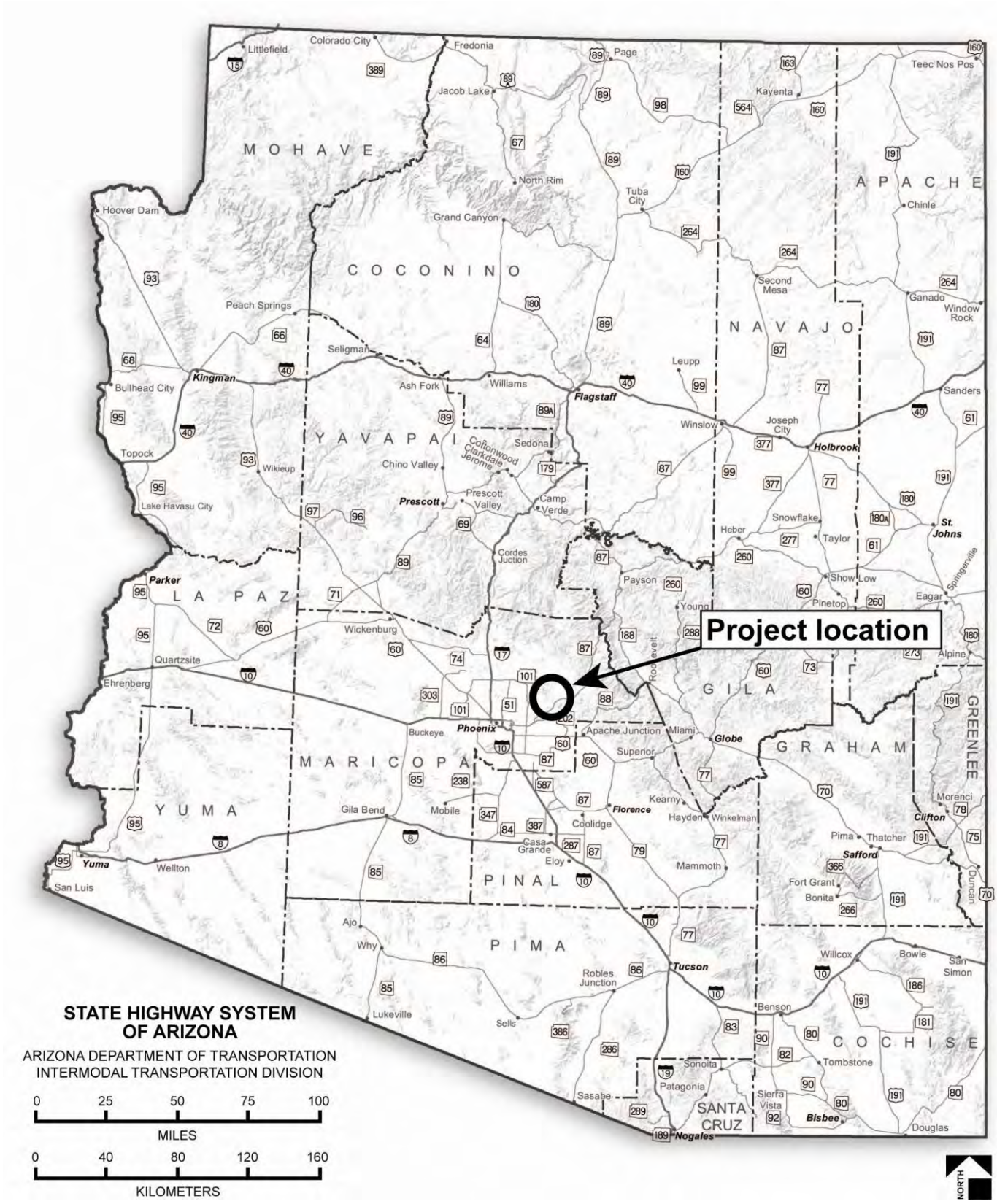
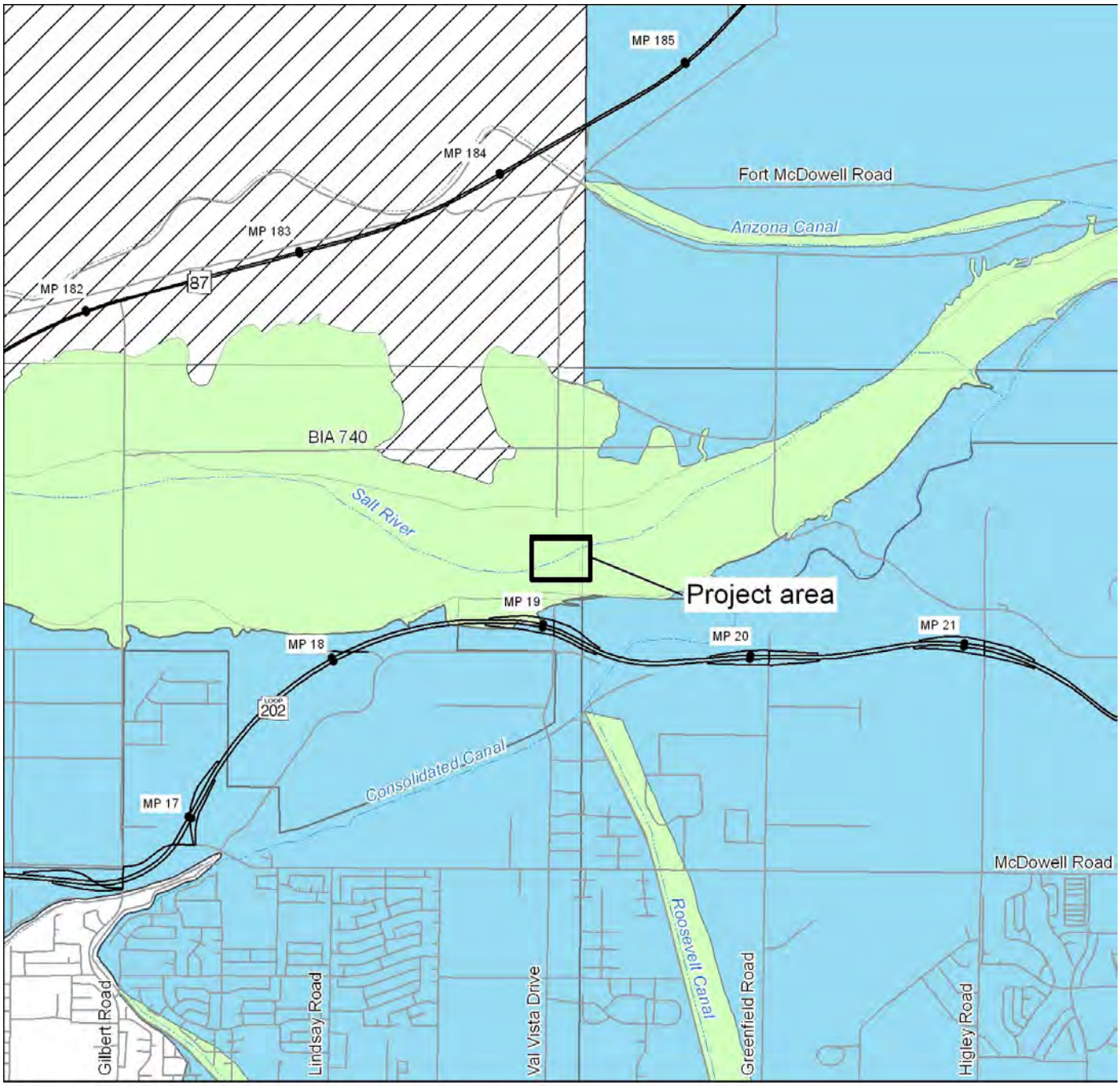


Figure 1 of 4. State Location Map

SPL-2005-389-RJD
Granite Reef Underground Storage Project
Section 404 Individual Permit Application



Source: Q3 flood data, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 1997

Key

- Project area
- 100-Year floodplain
- 500-Year floodplain
- >500-Year floodplain
- No data

Miles

0 1

NORTH

Figure 2 of 4. Floodplain Map

Access Roads

33.489°, -111.755°

New Training Wall

1.77 Acres

1.02 Acres

New Delivery Channel

100'

1.08 Acres

Fill Slope

Basin # 6

Existing 10-120" cmps

1

Centerline

Basin # 5

GRUSP Delivery Channel

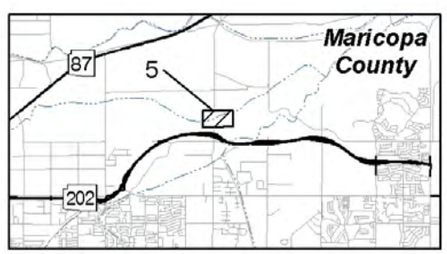
Salt River

33.486°, -111.755°

Aerial Date: 2011

Key

#	Wash number
	Flow direction
	Waters of the US
	Temporary Disturbance (2.1 Acres)
	Permanent Impacts (1.77 Acres)



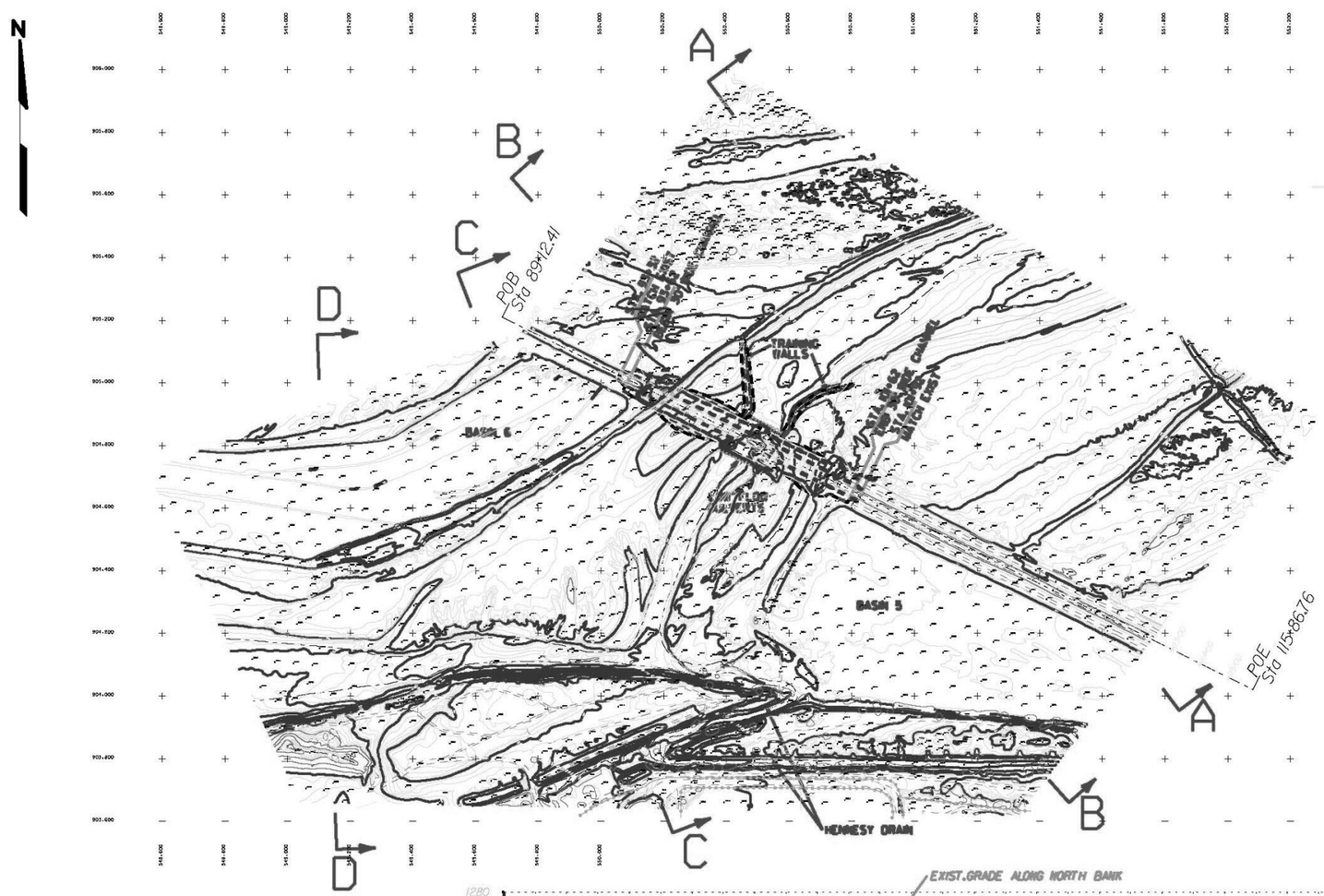
Section 404 Individual Permit
Granite Reef Underground Storage Project
SPL-2005-389-RJD

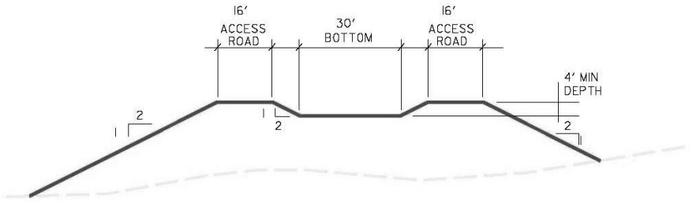
Source: USGS 7.5' Quadrangle Mesa Ariz. (1982) and Buckhorn Ariz. (1987); Township 2N, Range 6E, Sections 28 and 29; UTM 1983 Zone 12N 430145.6mE, 3705565.4mN

Feet
0 200
1" = 200'

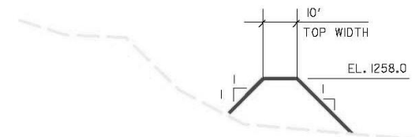
June 2011

Figure 3 of 4

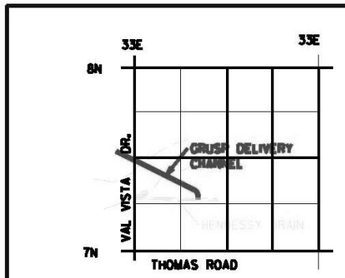




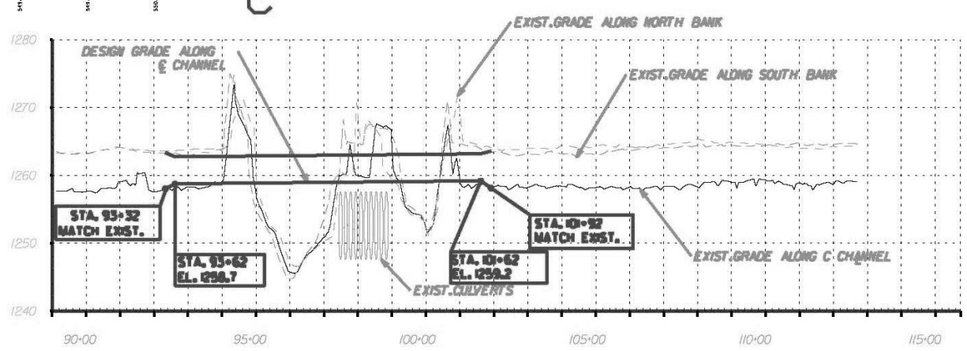
TYPICAL SECTION OF DELIVERY CHANNEL



TYPICAL SECTION TRAINING WALL



B.M:
SW COR. SEC. 28, T2N, R5E, BCM4, EL. 1288.80
COORD: 902489.30N, 550.00JOE



PROFILE ALONG C ℄ GRUSP DELIVERY CHANNEL

						/ /
DRAWN FROM SURVEY FILES DESIGN STA TO STA						
0	RR-00002	SBT	SBT	HJB	SBT	/ /
REV NO.	JOB NO.	DFTR	DSGN	ENGR CHK	ISSUE AUTH	DATE

SALT RIVER PROJECT
WATER ENGINEERING ◇ PHOENIX, ARIZONA

GRUSP
SEC. 28, T2N, R5E
CHANNEL RECONSTRUCTION
STA 93+32 TO STA 101+92

SCALE: 1"=200' PROFILE HOR: 1"=200' VERT: 1"=10' P02:(120112) .DGN

SUBJ CODE	DIST CODE	DWG SIZE		SHEET NO.
PP	Y-2	22X34	A-808-35	

Figure 4 of 4
SPL-2005-389-RJD