

NAVAJO MOUNTAIN WATER SETTLEMENT | CONCEPT PLAN UPDATE May 18, 2021




Background:


The Utah Navajo Water Settlement is still in the process of working its way through the federal funding process. It was approved by the US Senate and is awaiting approval by the House of Representatives. The settlement includes \$220 million and approximately 85,000 acre-feet of water right.

Initial studies were completed by the Navajo Nation and State of Utah in 2010 to define the need. The study is over 10 years old and should be updated based on current needs and construction market conditions. The outline listed below identifies the steps required to update.



Concept Planning Scope of Work:

1. **Gather Existing Information and Studies**
 - a. US BOR Regional Water Supply Studies
 - b. Review existing Brown & Caldwell report and prepare list of projects for Utah Chapters
 - c. Navajo Utah Chapters Water Plan
 - d. Gather information from UNTF, UNDC
2. **Review Water Settlement Project Type Eligibility**
 - a. Research and develop agricultural projects
3. **Stakeholder Coordination**
 - a. **Identify Stakeholders**
 - State
 - County
 - Navajo Nation
 - SCIC
 - Other
 - b. Chapter coordination
 - c. Roles and responsibilities
 - d. Monthly stakeholder meetings
 - e. Communication Plan
 - f. Outreach and public involvement planning
4. **Evaluate Potential Projects**
 - a. All chapters addressed in the 2010 study
 - b. Navajo Mountain Chapter projects (excluded from 2010 study)
 - c. Engineering modeling and analyses
 - d. Updated probable costs

5. Right-of-Way Planning
 - a. Evaluation of right-of-way (ROW) status
 - b. Outline of processes to receive ROW for all corridors
 - c. Corridor efficiency considerations (accommodate other utilities, etc.)
 6. Environmental Planning
 - a. Outline of environmental processes
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7. Strategic Communications
 - a. Tell the project's story, provide correct information, and educate the public and stakeholders
 - b. Legislative outreach
 8. Prioritize Projects
 - a. Begin with existing studies
 - b. Preliminary analysis to understand conceptual scopes
 - c. Identify highest priority projects for each Chapter
 9. Probable Costs
 10. Schedule Considerations
 11. Executive Summary and Action Plan



Estimated Cost:

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The scope of work is extensive. It will provide decision makers the information necessary to be educated and confident in their decisions. The estimated cost of the planning effort is **\$500,000**.

