

# Weber River Pre-Disaster Mitigation Study

-South Weber City-

## Presented by: Current Solutions

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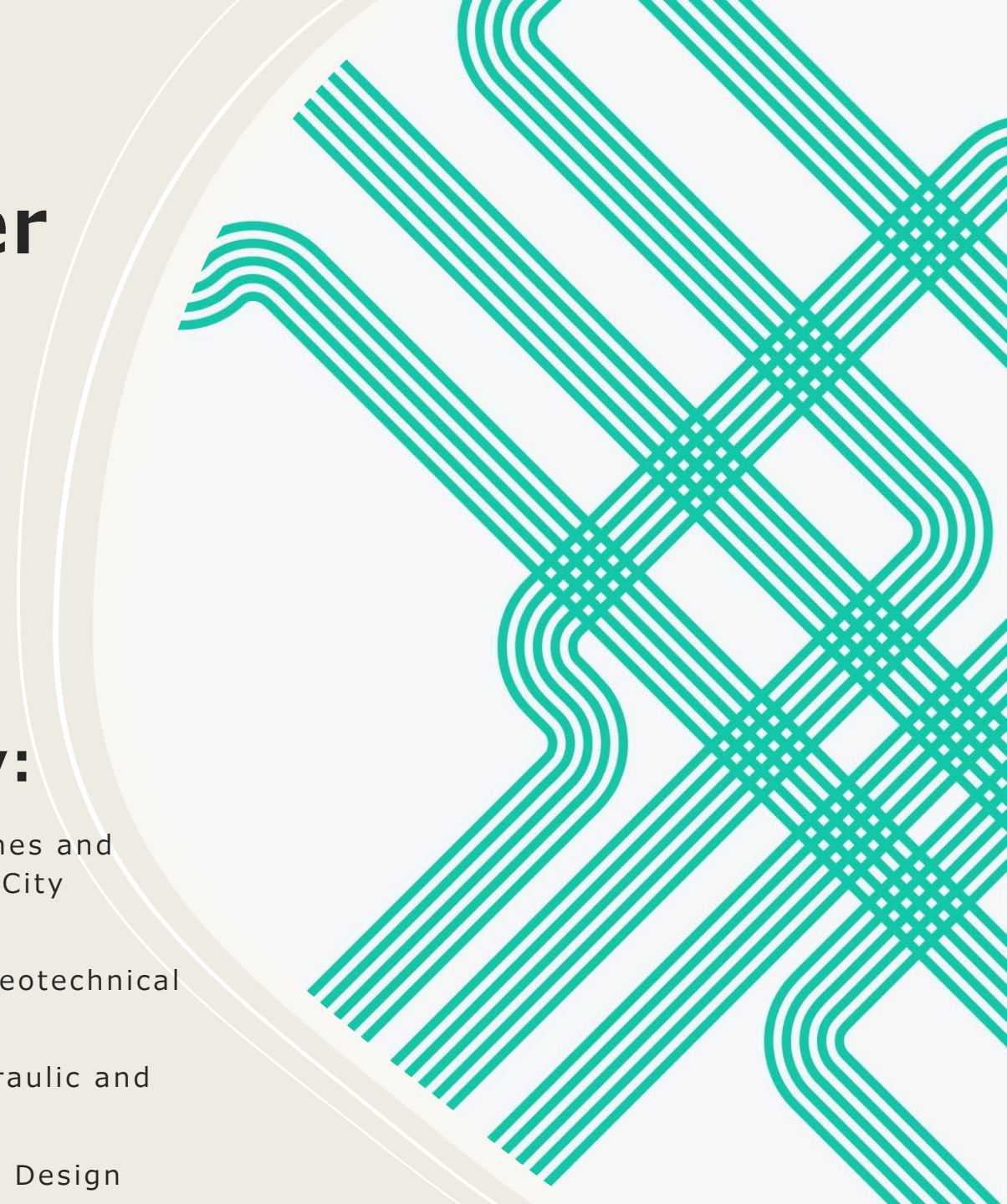
## Supported by:

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Engineer

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Advisor

Colin Phillips, PhD - Hydraulic and  
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# Site Introduction

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- 200± ft elevation difference between Weber River and bottom of pit



# Hydrologic History

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- In 2011, the river saw flows 20 times greater than average
- Gravel pit employees observed water seeping through the ground
- Fortunately, seepage was encountered and stopped before the river rerouted into the pit

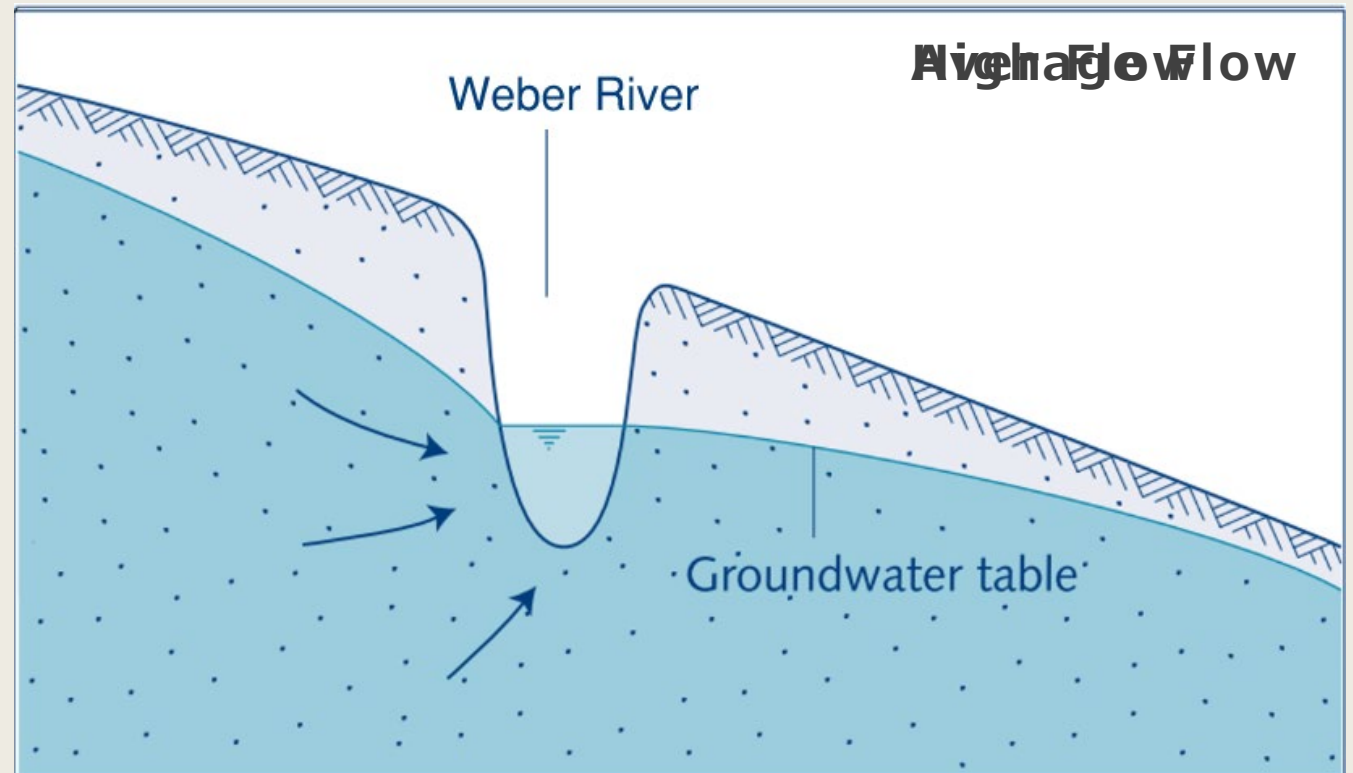


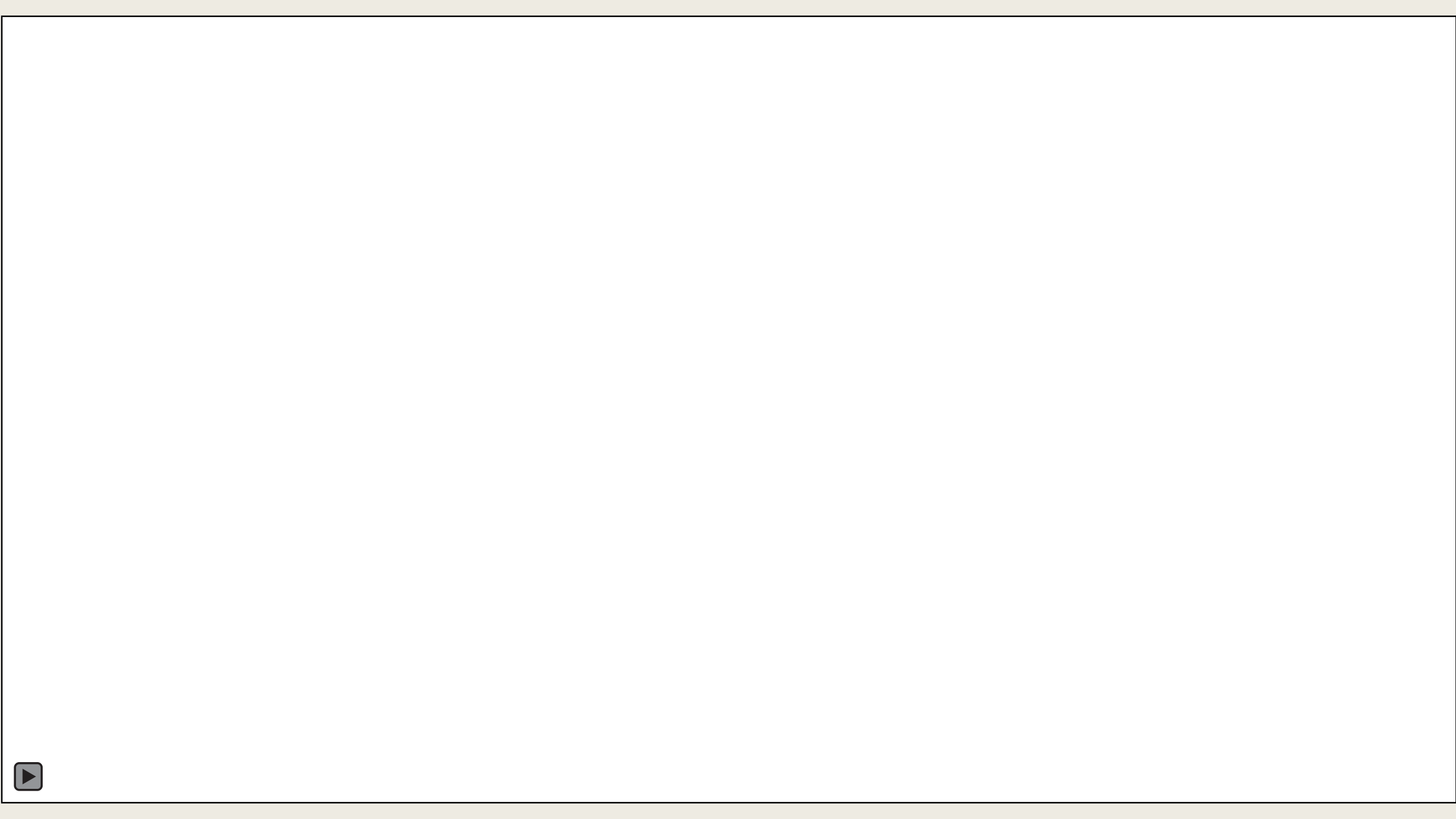
Staker Parson gravel pit north bank seepage and sluffing circa June 8, 2011.  
Provided by Jones and Associates: Consulting Engineers

# Groundwater Flow

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- These graphics explain how water moves underground
- River flows greater than 2011 flowrate will cause seepage and potential for the river to reroute into the pit
- A geotechnical report may be required to investigate groundwater flow paths

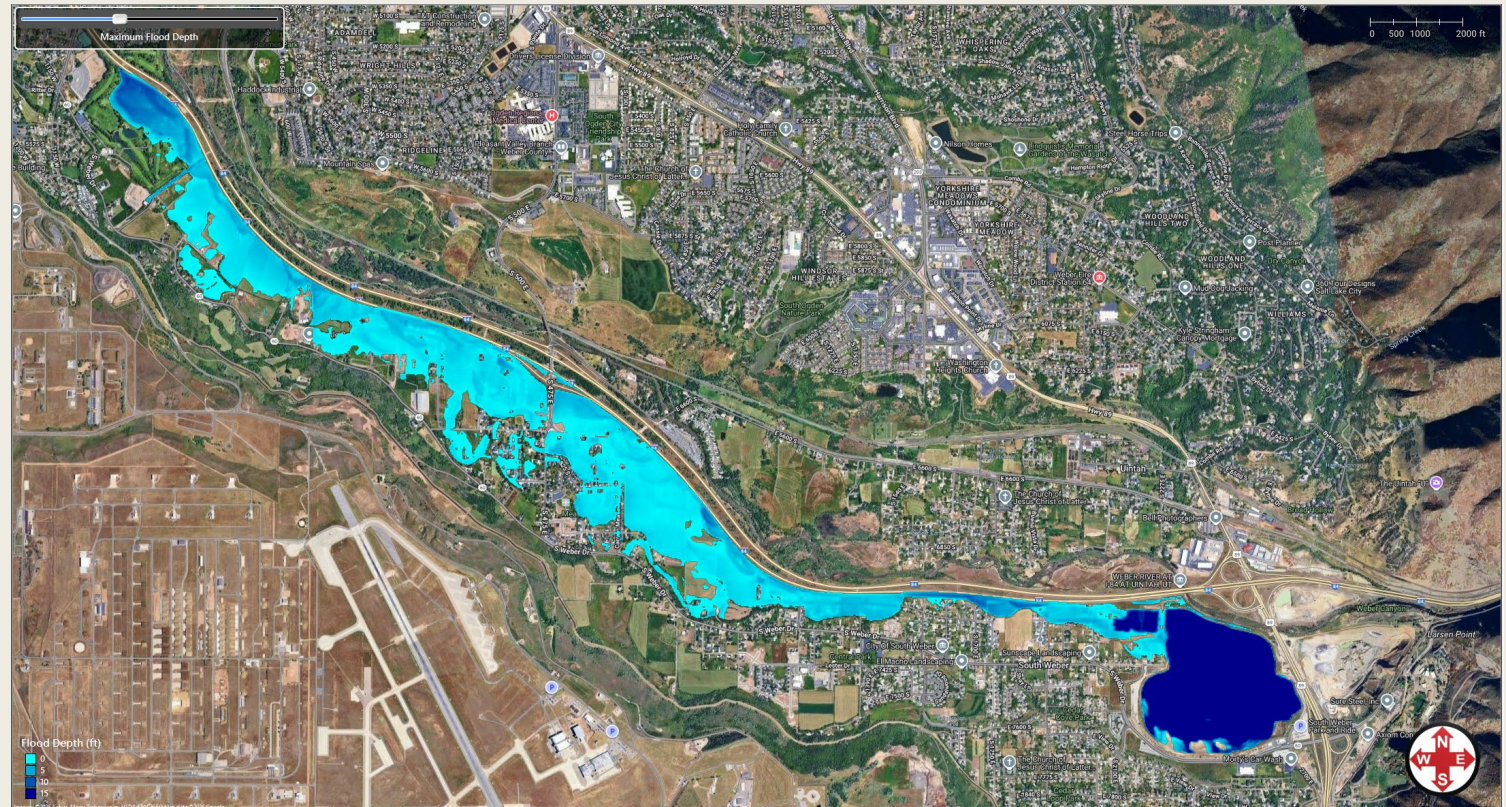




# Flood Inundation Risk

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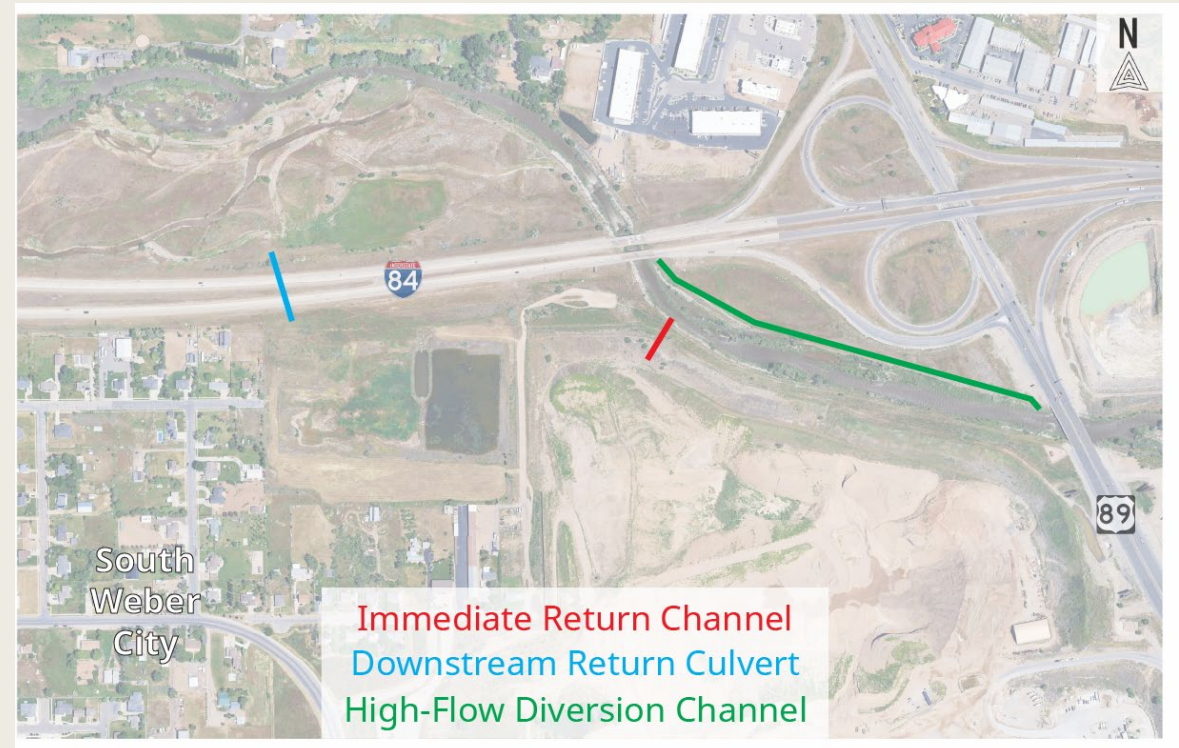
1. Between 400-600 homes located within the flood path
2. Potential sewer main backup
3. Erosion of riverbank upstream and likely destruction of HWY 89 bridge



# Alternative #1: Alternate Flow Channels

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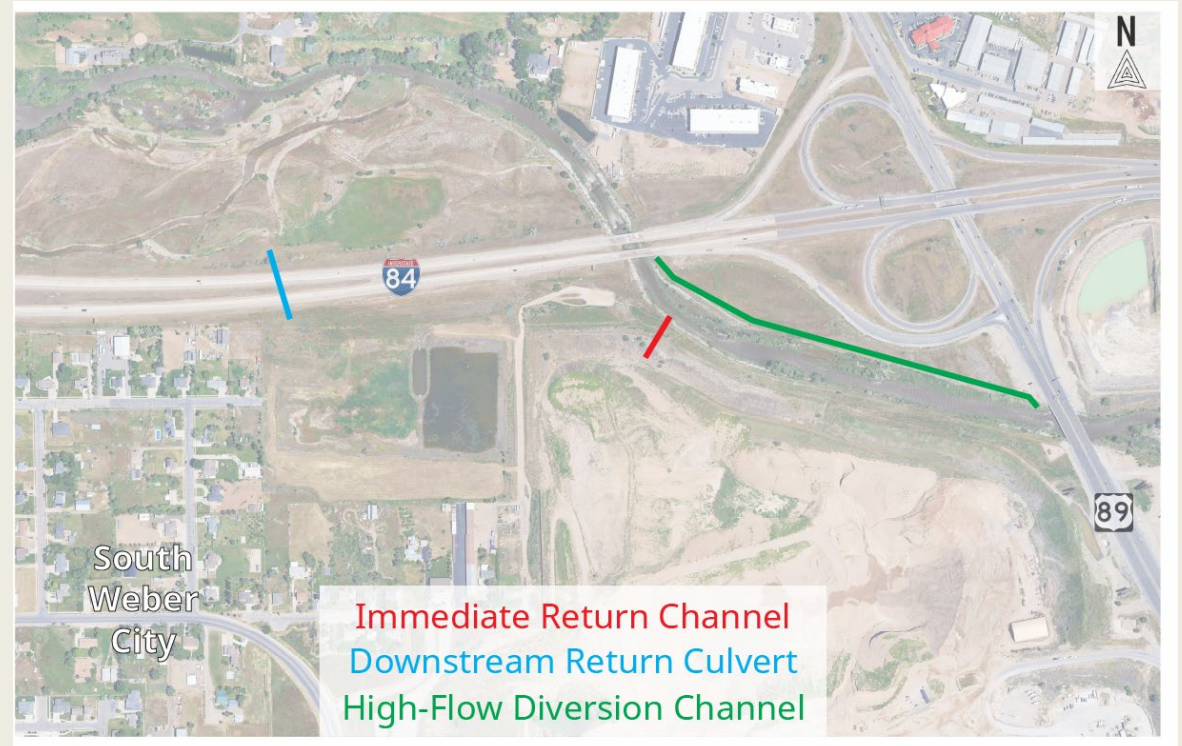
- Different alignments
- Prevents flooding in South Weber
- Proposed structures would not affect normal flow
- \$2-2.8 million



# Alternative #1: Alternate Flow Channels

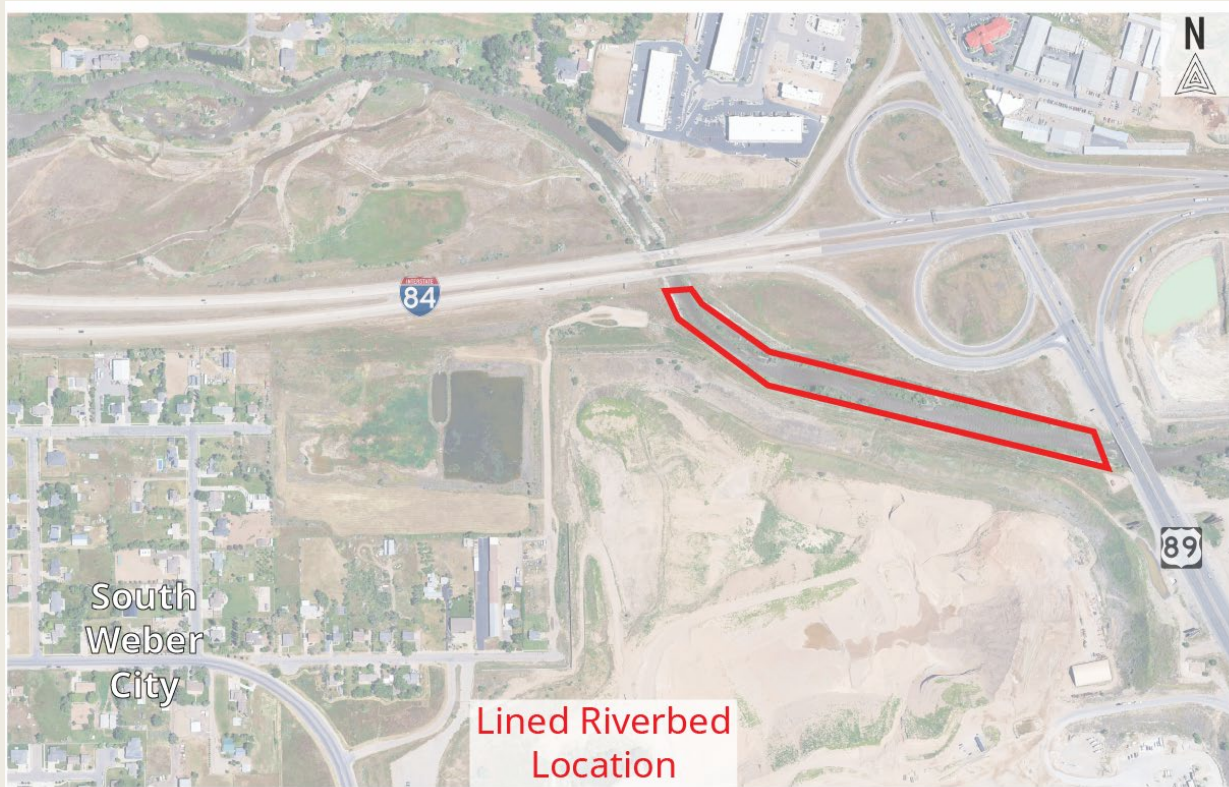
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- Takes 1/3 of the river's flow
- Puts water in places other than original channel to prevent failure
- Relieves stress on the main channel



# Alternative #2: Lined Riverbed

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- Prevent erosion and seepage
- Proactive prevention of bank failure, not an emergency solution
- Ideal for long-term stability
- \$2-2.4 million
- Cost potentially doubles with environmental studies and permitting

# Alternative #2: Lined Riverbed

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- Two approaches:
  - Traditional Open Channel: A designed channel lined with cast-in-place or precast concrete
  - Fabric-Lined: Geotextile fabric underneath existing material

# Alternative #3: Berm and Diversion Channel

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- Assumes complete failure of riverbank & flooding of Gravel Pit
- Berm on northwest side of pit at lowest rim elevations
- Channel elevation requirements
- \$700k-800k



# Alternative #3: Berm and Diversion Channel

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- Maintenance issues
- Environmental effects
  - Stop flow of river (Up to 2 days)
  - Kill fish
  - Pollute water
- Erosion issues



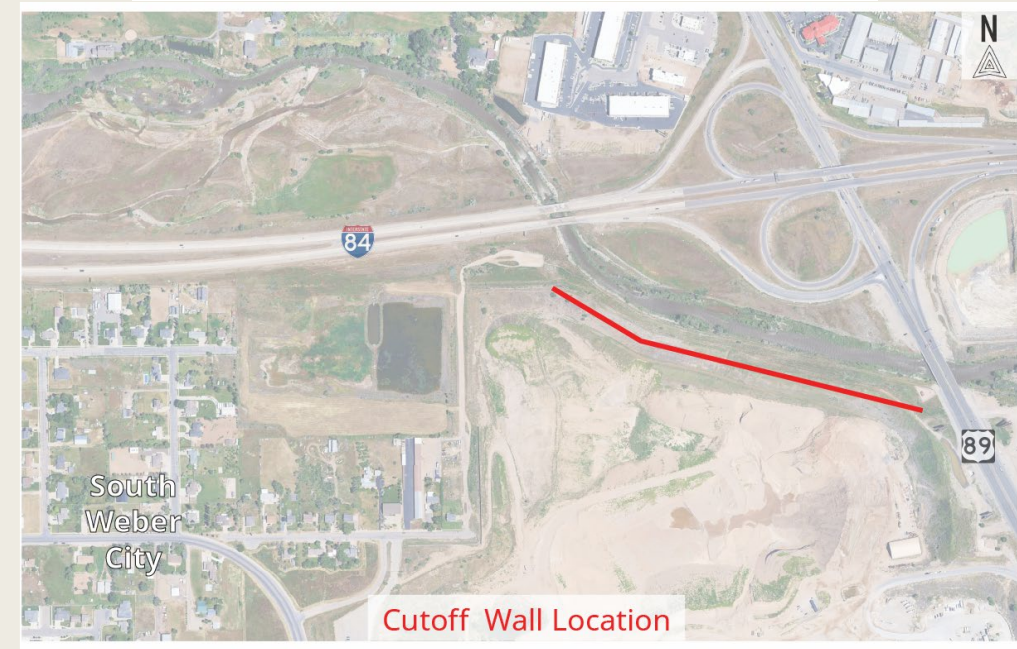
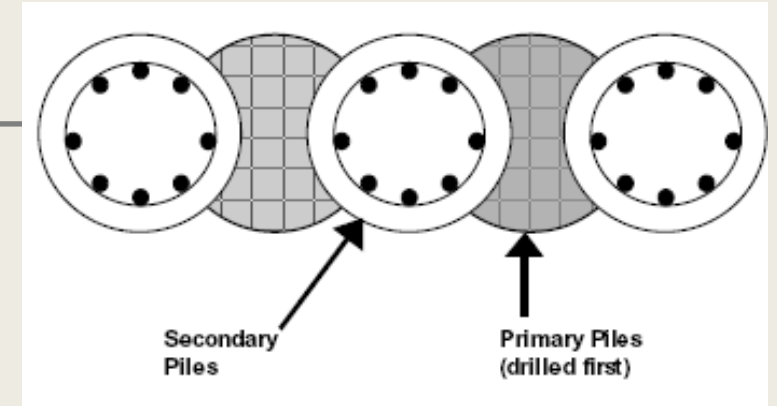
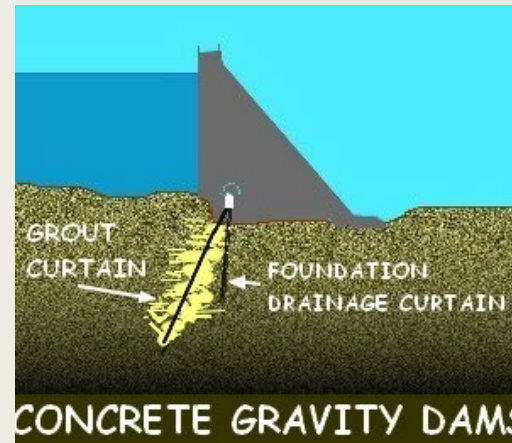
# Alternative #4: Cutoff Wall

## Purpose

- Cutoff water flow
- Reinforce ground

## Three options

- Sheet Piles
- Grout Curtain
- Secant Pile Wall



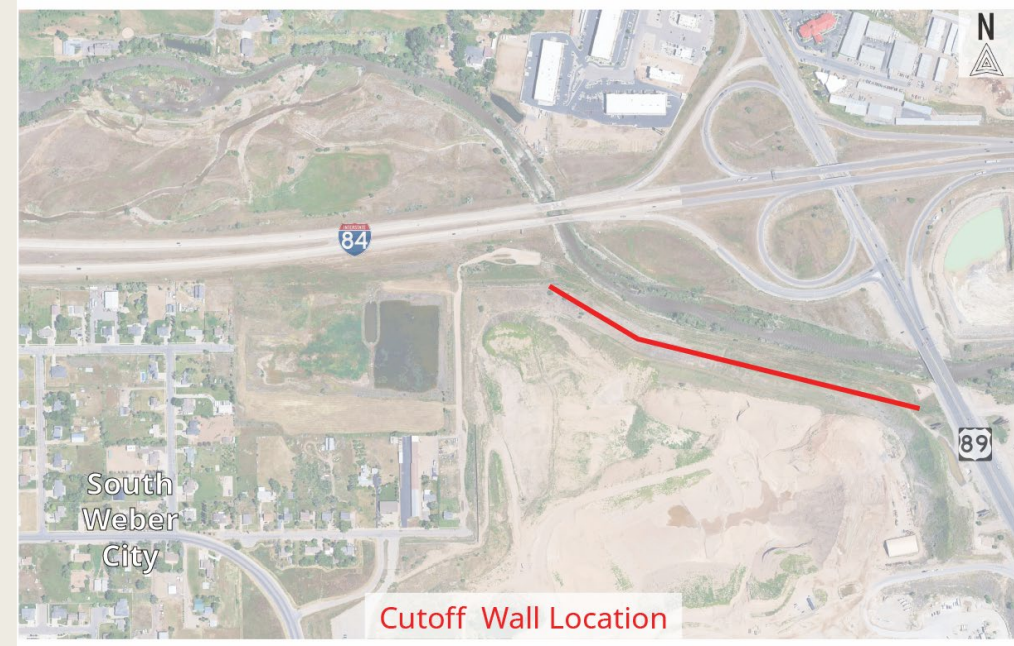
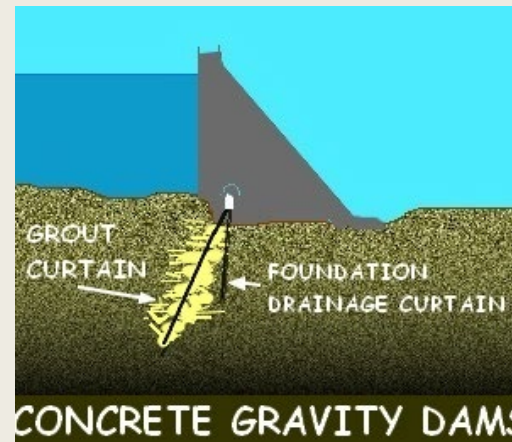
# Alternative #4: Cutoff Wall

## Advantages

- Near complete cutoff of groundwater infiltration
- Earth stabilization

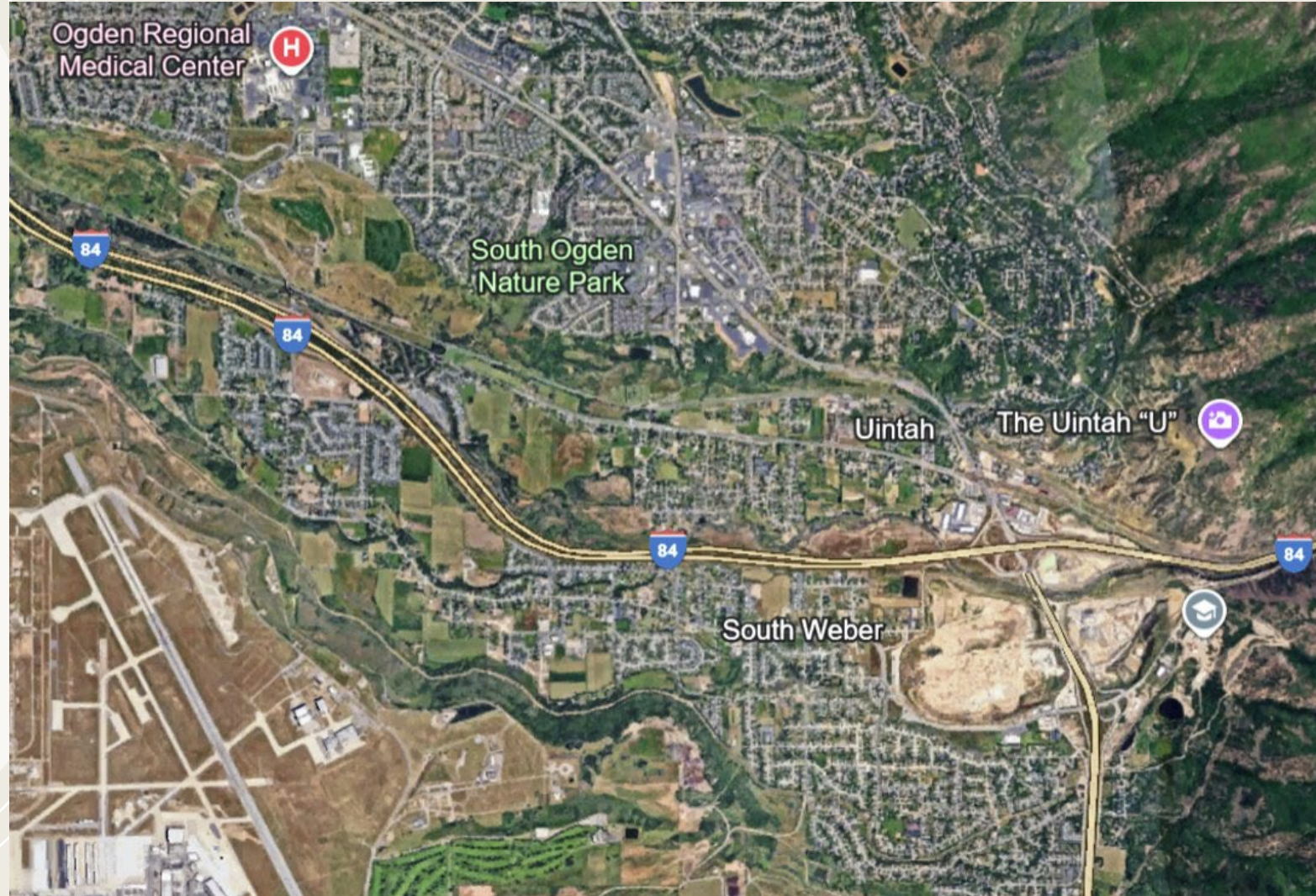
## Disadvantages

- High cost (\$3-4 million)
- Geotechnical uncertainty – would require in depth report before design and construction
- Potential groundwater cutoff



# Evaluation Process

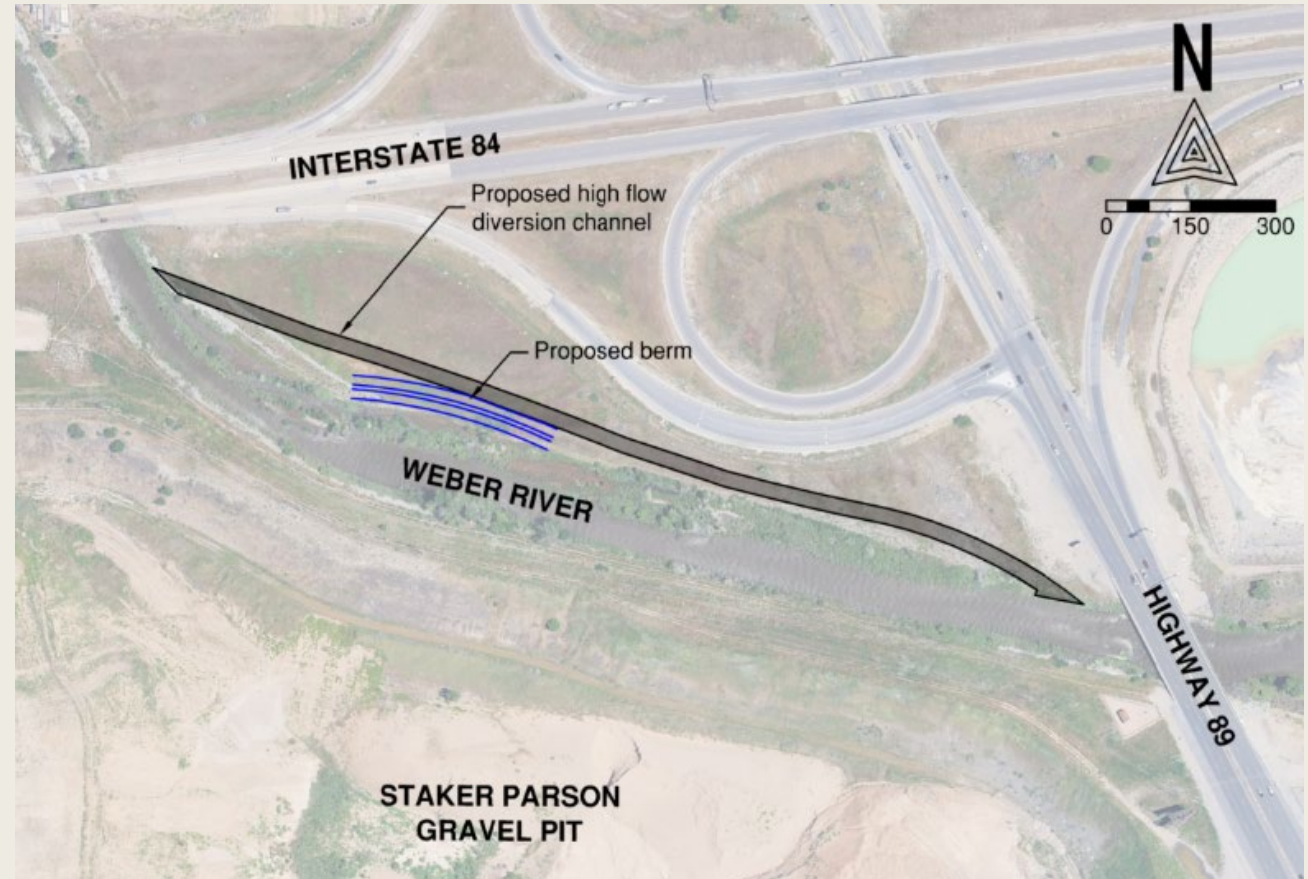
1. Human Safety is Priority
2. Cost to the City
3. Environmental Impacts
4. Permitting Ease
5. Maintainability or Longevity
6. Risk to Staker Parson Pit
7. Other Economic Impacts
8. Social and Cultural Effects



# Recommended Alternative – Alternative #1

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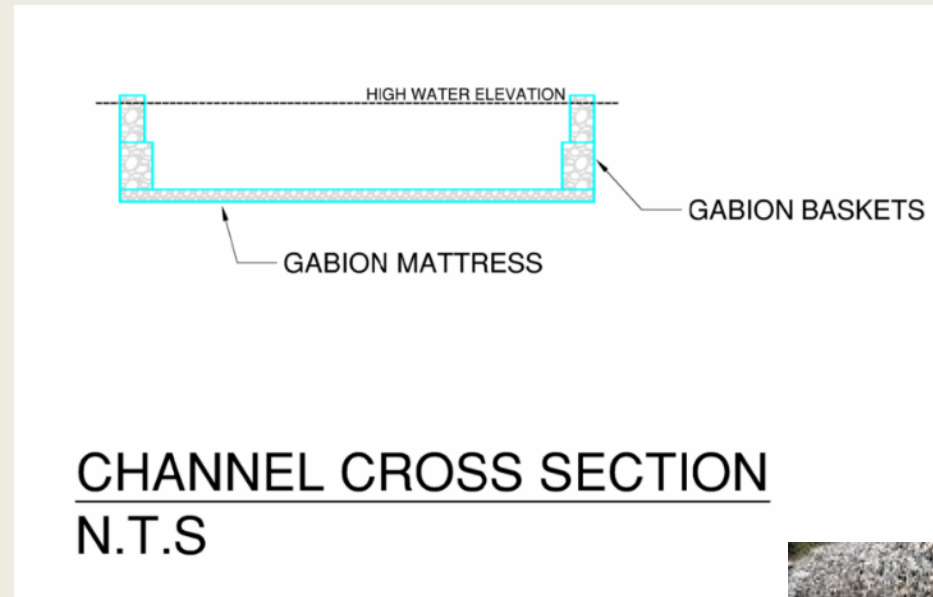
- High flow diversion channel
- Assumes that seepage was caused by high flows
- Includes repairing the existing berm



# Recommended Alternative

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- Cons
  - Based on studied assumptions
- Pros
  - Practical
  - Avoids high construction cost
  - Reduces environmental impacts
    - Does not stop flow of river
    - Minimal effect on wildlife
    - Reduce possible permitting issues
- Channel Dimensions
  - Accounts for a part of flood flow ( $\sim 1/3$ )
  - Gabions



# Conclusion

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- We have limited resources and information
- Our recommendation was made to the best of our current ability
- We encourage a more in-depth geotechnical and flood analysis of the site
- Come to senior design night April 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm-8:00pm



# Sources

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- <https://www.ayresassociates.com/culverts-the-essential-infrastructure-you-never-knew-you-needed/>
- [https://www.reddit.com/r/HalfLife/comments/h8qpcl/new\\_real\\_life\\_locations\\_city\\_17\\_route\\_canals\\_in/](https://www.reddit.com/r/HalfLife/comments/h8qpcl/new_real_life_locations_city_17_route_canals_in/)
- <https://www.kevinszabojrplumbing.net/blog/2024/4/23/a-deep-dive-into-sheet-pile-retaining-walls>
- <https://rockgrout.sweets.au/use.php>
- <https://www.schnabel.com/services/secant-piles/>
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