



Pipeline West Flood Area

November 2, 2022

Welcome to the City of Flagstaff's Pipeline West flood area eNews. Please email info@pipelinewestflooding.com with any questions. These eNews will be released regularly to provide updates as information becomes available.

BACKGROUND

The Pipeline Fire was reported on June 12, 2022, approximately 6 miles north of Flagstaff within the Coconino National Forest. The fire burned 26,532 acres, including portions of the Schultz Creek and Chimney watersheds. A burn scar assessment and flood modeling subsequently showed potential post-wildfire flood risk to neighborhoods on the west side of Flagstaff. Both the City of Flagstaff and the Coconino County Flood Control District are collaborating with public and private partners and taking extensive measures and precautions to mitigate damage from future potential flood events.

SCHULTZ CREEK DETENTION BASINS ARE COMPLETE!

The City of Flagstaff is happy to announce that the Schultz Creek Sediment and Flood Mitigation Detention Basins are complete and functional. The basins were completed incredibly quickly, with the project being designed, planned, bid and constructed in less than three months, including significant rain delays. The dedication and hard work of the City's Stormwater and Public Works divisions, as well as the expertise of Shephard Wesnitzner, Inc, and the commitment of Fann Contracting made such a swift delivery possible. The project was delivered with \$2.4M in funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Emergency Watershed Protection Program and a match of over \$700,000 from the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management.

During a rain event, water and debris from the Pipeline Fire burn scar enter the city just north of the Coconino Estates neighborhood. The Schultz Creek watershed will now flow into the detention basins, which can hold over 56-acre feet of water. That means that the basins can hold almost 2 billion golf balls or 28 Olympic size swimming pools!

It is important to note that the basins will drain over a 24-hour period. The risk of post-wildfire flooding in neighborhoods downstream of the detention basins remains. Water draining from the basins will follow its natural path and drain towards the main channel of the Rio de Flag. During a large rain event over the burn scar, the basins could be overwhelmed. Residents in the area are encouraged to keep their temporary mitigations, such as sandbags, in place.



Electronic Newsletters

The City will send out electronic newsletters (such as these) on a regular basis as updates become available. To receive eNewsletters and other updates, please visit flagstaff.az.gov/PipelineWest and fill out the contact form.

Additional questions?

Please email:
info@pipelinewestflooding.com
Sarah Langley
Public Affairs Director
(928) 853-5596
City of Flagstaff



Visit flagstaff.az.gov/PipelineWest for more information on property-specific flood risks, flood insurance and sandbagging.