



Museum Fire Flood Projects

March 18, 2022

Welcome to the City of Flagstaff's Museum Fire Flood Projects eNews. Please email info@museumfloodprojects.com with any questions. These eNews will be released regularly to provide updates on all the City's Museum Fire Flood Projects.

BACKGROUND

On July 21, 2019, the Museum Fire broke out in the Dry Lake Hills area just north of Flagstaff within the Coconino National Forest. The fire ultimately charred 1,961 acres, including a significant portion of the Spruce Wash Watershed. Flood modeling subsequently showed potential flood risk to neighborhoods in Coconino County and the City of Flagstaff. Both the City of Flagstaff and Coconino County Flood Control District immediately took extensive measures and precautions to mitigate damage from flood events.

Throughout the summer of 2021, unprecedented rain events impacted the Museum Fire burn scar and caused multiple rounds of flash flooding in Flagstaff neighborhoods. The City of Flagstaff continues to collaborate with both the public and private partners to lessen the impact of flooding in the affected Flagstaff neighborhoods.

MUSEUM FLOOD CITY COUNCIL UPDATES

Tune in on **Tuesday, March 29**, for a Museum Flood Update during the Flagstaff City Council Meeting. This update will include information on mitigation efforts and projects within the Museum Flood Area and will start no earlier than 5:30 p.m. For more information or to participate in the meeting virtually, visit <https://www.flagstaff.az.gov/1461/Streaming-City-Council-Meetings>.

Can't make the meeting? All Museum Flood updates to the City Council are recorded and added to the City's Museum Flood Projects website (<https://www.museumfloodprojects.com/watch-city-council-updates>) for later viewing.

SPRUCE WASH - CEDAR TO DORTHA DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

The City of Flagstaff will begin construction of drainage improvements in the Spruce Wash from Cedar Avenue to Dortha Avenue the week of March 21, 2022.

The work includes improvements to the open drainage channel between Cedar and Dortha and reconstruction of the drainage inlet in Dortha to increase capacity. This project is part of the overall Spruce Wash improvements in response to the unprecedented Museum Fire flooding that the community experienced during the 2021 Monsoon season.

Dortha between Main Street and Rose Street will remain closed to traffic and construction vehicles will be present in the neighborhood. Pedestrian and bicycle traffic will be restricted from the construction zone. Mail, delivery services, and trash/recycle services will be maintained and will remain on their usual schedules.

Typical work hours are Monday – Thursday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., with work on Fridays or weekends as necessary.

The Project is anticipated to be complete by June 30, 2022. Property owners are advised to keep flood mitigation measures (including sandbags and barricades) in place.

Thank you for your patience as we make these critical improvements to the Sunnyside community. Questions can be directed to Christine Cameron, City of Flagstaff Project Manager at 928-213-2682 or ccameron@flagstaffaz.gov.

KILLIP SCHOOL REGIONAL DETENTION BASIN

Check out how the Killip School Regional Detention Basins Project is coming along by watching the video below!

Crews are working hard to complete this project before the 2022 monsoon season.



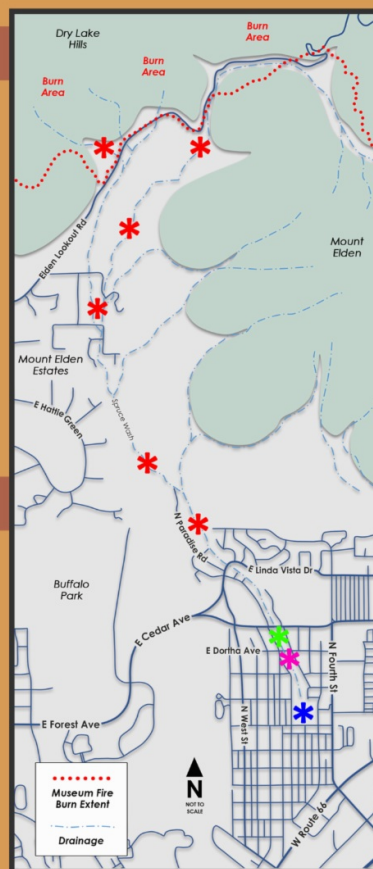
AN UPDATE FROM COCONINO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

The County's Flood Control District is currently designing critical sediment reduction measures to be constructed at the edge of and below the Museum Fire burn scar. These measures will reduce the production and transport of sediment by restoring and stabilizing the alluvial fans and channels, in effect advancing the natural watershed restoration of a portion of the flood damaged watershed. Without a reduction in these very high levels of sediment, any expansion of the floodwater conveyances within the city will not be effective at reducing the level of floodwater impacting homes.

The sediment reduction measures being designed include the **Museum Fire Sediment Reduction Project**, which will be located on USFS land above and below Mt. Elden Estates, and the **Emergency Watershed Protection Project (EWPP)** to reduce sediment production and transport on private and municipal lands. The Flood Control District and its engineering consultant, Natural Channel Design, are working long hours with the goal of completing the construction of the measures within Mt. Elden Estates, Lockett Ranches and on the United States Forest Service (USFS) land before the 2022 monsoon season. **However, the sediment basins element of the EWPP project located east of Linda Vista (also known as the Park Way Sediment Basins Project) will not be constructed until Fall 2022 at the earliest due to the many complexities associated with that element of the project.**

Furthermore, the construction timeline for these projects could be delayed by other factors. For the USFS project, these factors include permitting by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. For the EWPP project, the factors include ACE permitting, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) approval, and securing all necessary cooperator agreements from private property owners, which are necessary for the project to move forward. In addition, weather, cost, fire restrictions, and other factors may impact the construction timeline.

For more information about these and other projects please visit www.coconino.az.gov/MuseumFire/FloodArea.



Stay Connected

Electronic Newsletters

The City will send out electronic newsletters (such as these) on a regular basis as these projects progress.

To receive eNewsletters, as well as notifications of Museum Flood Project updates scheduled at City Council meetings, send a request to: info@museumfloodprojects.com.

Additional questions?

Please email: info@museumfloodprojects.com
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City of Flagstaff

Key Flood Projects

Key projects are identified by the corresponding colored asterisk on the map to the left:

- * Alluvial Fan Restoration and Sediment Reduction (Led by the Coconino County Flood Control District)
- * Spruce Wash Channel Improvements Project (Cedar Avenue to Dortha Avenue)
- * Spruce Wash Channel Improvements Project (Dortha Avenue Inlet)
- * Killip School Regional Detention Basins Project

[Click here to view a larger version of this map.](#)



For more information on these projects and important resources, visit museumfloodprojects.com