

**BIGHORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
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**RE: A Cultural Resource Inventory of the Proposed Tuacahn Wash Retention Basins,
Washington County, Utah (Bighorn Report 05-12)**

Mr. Holt:

Bighorn Archaeological Consultants, LLC has completed a Class III cultural resource inventory of the Tuacahn Wash Retention Basins for the City of Ivins in Washington County, Utah. Fieldwork was completed on 15 April 2005 by Dale R. Gourley under project authorization number U05-HO-0255p,s. Field conditions for the inventory were good and ground visibility was excellent.

Location

The proposed project includes two potential retention basins along Tuacahn Wash within T 41S, R 16W, Section 28. The northern most basin, or Tuacahn Detention Basin, is located just north of the Tuacahn Amphitheater and will cover approximately four acres. The dam for the basin will be constructed on private property and the majority of the area covered by high water will also be on private land, with a small area extending into Snow Canyon State Park on the north. Access to the Tuacahn Detention Basin will be via an existing dirt road within the wash on private property.

The southern most basin, or Snow Canyon Detention Basin, is located entirely on private land and is approximately 400 feet south of the Tuacahn property. This basin will cover about six acres. Access to the Snow Canyon Detention Basin will be via a new road, with two possible placement options.

Previous Research

A Class I file search for reported projects and previously recorded cultural sites was completed at the Utah State Historic Preservation Office in Salt Lake City, Utah on 13 April 2005. Results indicated four cultural resource inventories and six previously recorded archaeological sites had been recorded within one mile of the proposed project (Tables 1 and 2). None of the previous projects or sites are within the immediate vicinity of the proposed project.

Table 1. Previous Cultural Resource Inventories within One Mile of the Proposed Project.

Project Number	Reference
U94-IG-0279s	Frank 1984
U95-UD-0256s	Latady 1996
U98-UD-0331s	Latady 1998
U02-BC-0775b,p,s	Talbot and Nelson 2002

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Sites within One Mile of the Proposed Project.

Site Number	Site Type	Eligibility
42WS2357	Prehistoric Rock Art	Eligible
42WS3027	Historic Painted Names	Eligible
42WS3030	Prehistoric Rock Art and Historic Camp	Eligible
42WS3031	Prehistoric Campsite and Rock Art	Eligible
42WS3034	Prehistoric Rock Shelter and Rock Art	Eligible
42WS3035	Prehistoric Rock Art	Eligible

Inventory Methods

The area examined for the proposed Tuacahn Retention Basin covered approximately four acres, while the area covered for the Snow Canyon Retention Basin was about six acres. These areas were inventoried by walking multiple, parallel 15 m (50 ft.) wide pedestrian transects across the staked high water mark areas and proposed dam construction areas. The two proposed access road options into the Snow Canyon Retention Basin were inventoried by walking a single 15 m (50 ft.) wide pedestrian transect.

Inventory Results and Project Recommendations

Examination of the project corridor did not locate any new cultural properties and all previously recorded sites are located well beyond the area of potential effect. The proposed Tuacahn and Snow Canyon Detention Basins are unlikely to threaten any significant cultural resources. Bighorn Archaeological Consultants, LLC is recommending a determination of **no effect** for this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale R. Gourley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dale" being the most prominent.

Dale R. Gourley
Principal Investigator / Owner
Bighorn Archaeological Consultants, LLC

Attachments: Figure 1. Project Location Map

References Cited

Frank, Barbara

1994 *Ivins Bike Path Survey*. Intersearch, Cedar City.

Latady, William R.

1996 *Cultural Resource Inventory of Portions of Snow Canyon State Park, Washington County, Utah*. Anasazi State Park, Boulder.

1998 *Cultural Resource Inventory of Snow Canyon Hiking Trail, Snow Canyon State Park, Washington County, Utah*. Anasazi State Park, Boulder.

Talbot, Richard K., Janiece W. Nelson

2002 *An Archaeological Inventory of the Proposed Regional Water Pipeline Between Quail Creek and Snow Canyon State Park, Washington County, Utah*. Technical Series No. 02-11. Office of Public Archaeology, Brigham Young University, Provo.

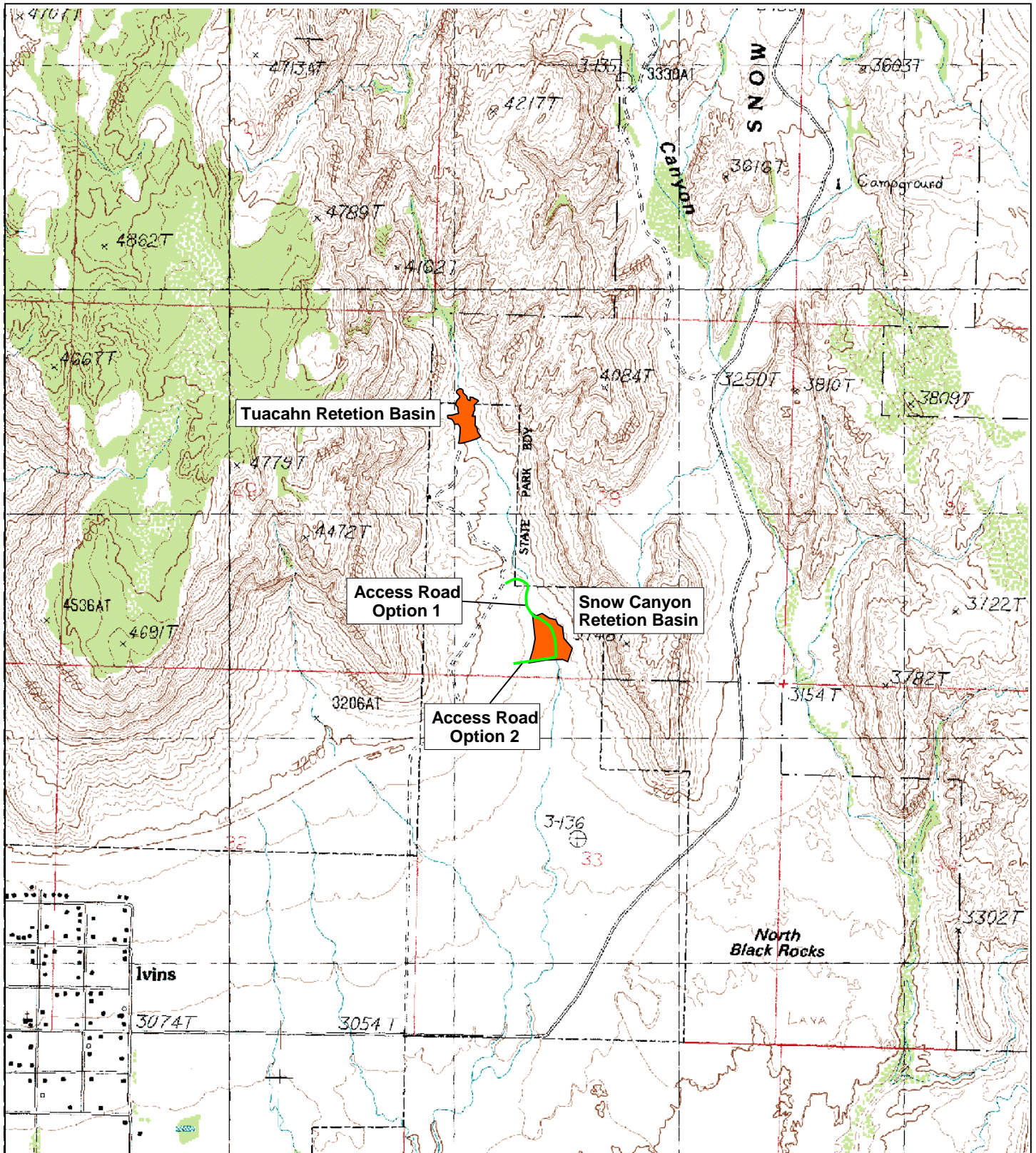
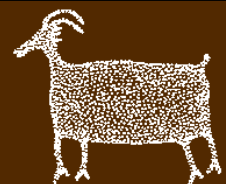
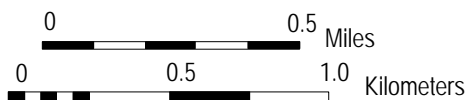
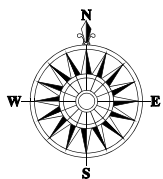


Figure 1. Project Location Map. USGS 7.5' Series Quadrangle: Santa Clara, Utah 1986, T 41S, R 16W



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