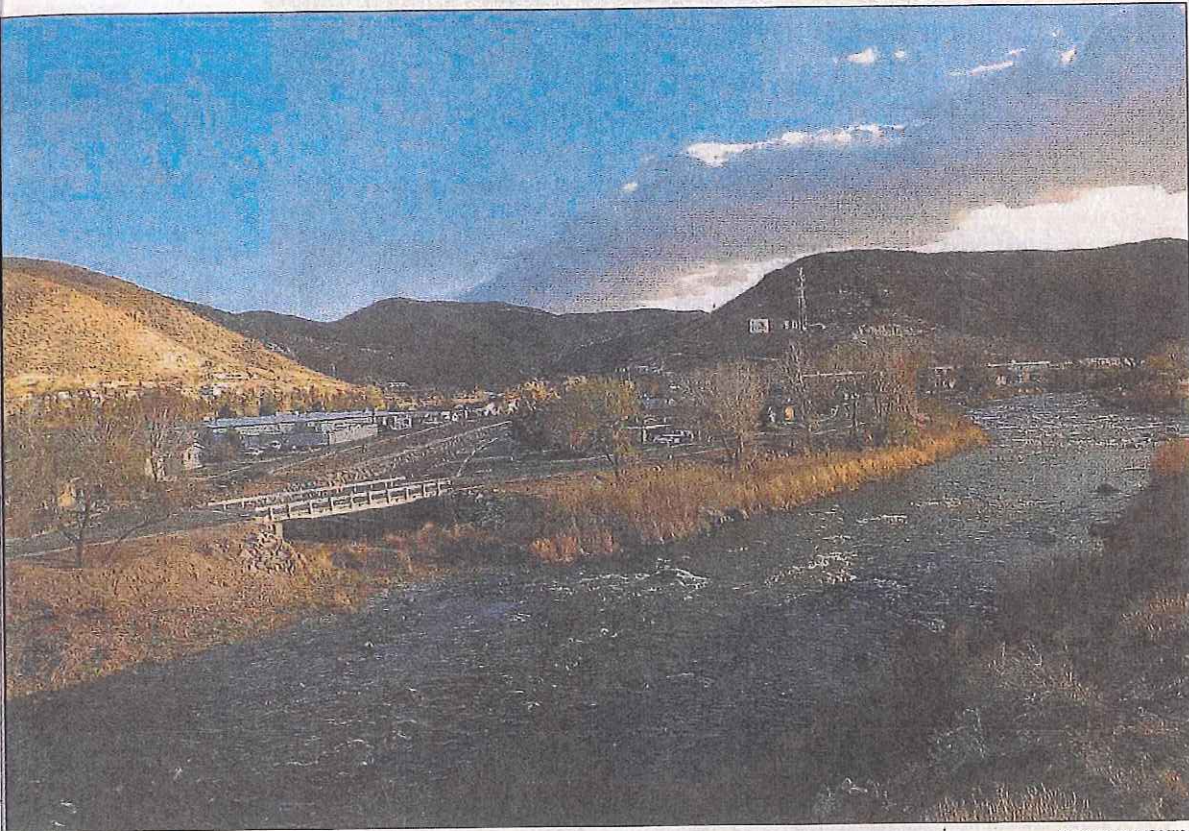


STOREY COUNTY



TIM DUNN/RGJ FILE

The Truckee River flows past the Rainbow Bend community in Lockwood on April 23. The dry creek bed of Long Valley Creek bisects the community and is the source of the area's flood risk. Work could soon begin in Storey County to build up flood-control protection.

Flood-control work to begin

BY JEFF DELONG
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Work could begin soon to protect a Truckee River community of 400 homes from flooding.

The idea is to ensure planned flood-control improvements in the Reno-Sparks area don't raise the flood risk at Rainbow Bend in Storey County by sending more water downstream, officials said.

"We've got to build that protection, and we've got to do it on our own dime," said Naomi Duerr, director of the Truckee River Flood Project.

The \$1.5 million project is one of several efforts being pursued by local government in advance of the \$1.5 billion Truckee River Flood Project, largely federally funded.

Another early project, con-

'We've got to build that protection, and we've got to do it on our own dime.'

NAOMI DUERR ■ Director of the Truckee River Flood Project

struction of a \$5.8 million levee and flood wall on the river just east of U.S. 395, should be finished this summer. The levee, the first structure to be built as part of the flood project, will protect a Wal-Mart Supercenter on Reno-Sparks Indian Colony land. Grading for Wal-Mart's access area started last week.

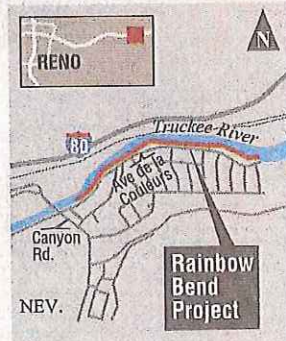
At Rainbow Bend, work involves building a half-mile-long walkway south of the river. The walkway, 18 inches to 2 feet high, could be completed this year and

provide protection for the riverbank neighborhood, said Jay Aldean, deputy flood director.

Subsequent work at Rainbow Bend in the larger federal project will include erection of a small flood wall, not visible from homes in the area, on the river's south bank.

Portions of the northern riverbank would be terraced to help floodwaters spread out during floods.

"All of those together should provide the kind of protection Rainbow Bend



S. REICH/RGJ

needs," Duerr said.

Rainbow Bend residents were briefed on the project during a town hall meeting in mid-May and were largely receptive, officials said.

"It really looks like it's developing into quite a good thing for the community down there and for the flood project," Rainbow Bend resident Dennis Miller said.