



Some TB Ponding Area Canal Field Notes

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Of all the **Gila Valley Prehistoric Hanging Bajada Canals**, the **TB Ponding Area** centered on **32.76621 -109.73602** would seem quite significant.

Because...

- (1) The **TB Ponding Area** appears to be an obvious end use area with several associated habitation sites to the southwest and some rock alignments combined with ag artifacts to the north. Such proven destinations remain quite uncommon to date in the study area.
- (2) The **TB Ponding Area** is fed by a **pair** (!) of feeder canals, namely the **TB East Canal** that has been presently researched from **32.76066 -109.73487** to **32.76350 -109.73461**, and the **TB West Canal** studied from **32.76191 -109.74414** to **32.76755 -109.73766**.
- (3) Evidence of prehistoric origins are exceptionally strong in that the **TB East Canal** clearly underlies a historic cemetery. Low construction energy combines with zero historic rework evidence.
- (4) The ponding area is far more obvious on **satellite imaegry** than any other known canal known segment in the **bajada** system to date.
- (5) The ponding area might be further threatened in that portions of it have been obliterated by a town water project.
- (6) The area appears to be single walled unlike the double walled spoil banks typical of most delivery canals in the study area. There also are branching distribution channels typical of end delivery use.
- (7) Intermediate **TB East** and **TB West** delivery routes remain in need of additional study. Candidate water sources might include Marijilda dvia Lebanon at **32.74621 -109.74392**, Marijilda via Rincon Canyon, via **32.73426 -109.76319**, or Deadman East at **32.75617 -109.77791**.
- (8) Significant engineering skills are reflected in a short counterflow segment that **descends** into rising terrain.



Outliers shown above are the possible still unresolved water sources of Marijilda via Lebanon, Marijilda via Rincon, and Deadman East. Ownership is a mix of **CNF**, state and private lands, with heavy modern ag development mid route.

Total studied distance is three kilometers with a projected total from takeins of up to ten kilometers. Present western study elevations range from 3251 to 3199 feet with an average slope of 1.5 percent. Comparable eastern study elevations seem similar.

An artesian source for the TB East canal has not yet been ruled out, although elevations presently seem to make this unlikely. A more credible intermediate source would be an extension of the Marijilda Canal via a Lebanon Reservoir routing, perhaps going through **32.74915 -109.74031**.

Preliminary access is via graded dirt roads and very rough 4wd tracks, followed by moderate brushy hikes. Portions of the area are posted. The paved town water road is usually locked.

The principle ponding area is found from **32.76740 -109.73756 to 32.76486 -109.73415**. As noted, retainment is single walled and quite obvious on satellite images. Multiple diversion channels are present and sometimes appear redundant.

Here are some noteworthy TB Ponding Area features and locations...

- 32.76740 -109.73756** Single walled main TB Ponding area.
- 32.76486 -109.73415**
- 32.76057 -109.73461** Presently studied PB East Canal.
- 32.76486 -109.73415**
- 32.74339 -109.83972** Presently studied PB West Canal.
- 32.76740 -109.73756**
- 32.76293 -109.74347** Approximate cultural features area.
- 32.76116 -109.74360** Approximate habitation area.
- 32.76761 -109.73542** Approximate rock alignment ag area.
- 32.76670 -109.73633** Barrel cacti suggests non-modern features.
- 32.76571 -109.73427** Crossing obliterated by town water project.
- 32.76320 -109.73406** Short counterflow segment for wash crossing.
- 32.76397 -109.73242** Bizarre historical rework north of canal routing.
- 32.76200 -109.73285** TB East canal underlies pioneer cemetery.
- 32.76128 -109.73378** Single TB East slope measurement made here.
- 32.75966 -109.73295** Possible artesian area likely too low to source.
- 32.74034 -109.76228** Possible Rincon Canyon linking route.
- 32.70620 -109.77740** Marijilda Lebanon Canals takein.
- 32.73623 -109.81439** Deadman canal takein.
- 32.75664 -109.77970** Possigle Deadman linking route.

Further TB Ponding Area work might include...

- 1 — Verify the "north = down" slope of TB East Canal.
- 2 — Exclude TB East artesian source due to altitude.
- 3 — Determine TB East route northward to its water source.
- 4 — Improve TB East survey in the cemetery maint area.
- 5 — Do a detailed mapping of the main TB ponding area.
- 6 — Further explore ag artifacts to the north.
- 7 — Determine relationship with southwest habitations.
- 8 — Significantly improve photography of entire canal complex.
- 9 — Determine whether TB West source is Rincon or Deadman East.
- 10 — Evaluate relationship of TB West canal with other Rincon features.
- 12 — Attempt to mitigate future city water project damage.
- 12 — Determine flood survivability of Rincon Canyon artifacts..
- 13 — Do fly over drone and videotape survey.
- 14 — Mentor students and create field camps.

More Hanging Canal Resources: <http://www.tinaja.com/tinsamp1.shtml>

New Hanging Canal Discoveries: <http://www.tinaja.com/whtnu17.shtml> , etc...



RINC1 – The end use destination TB Ponding area is much more obvious in aerial images than typical canal routing. It is fed by a pair of TB East and TB West canals. Obvious damage was caused by a town water project. The view is "north = up" and "straight down" from [32.76606 -109.73581](#).



RINC2 – The ponding area consists of single walled retaining structures highly atypical of the paired spoil banks of the related canals. Note the barrel cactus that adds credibility to its ancient age. View is to the north near [32.76583 -109.73482](#).