

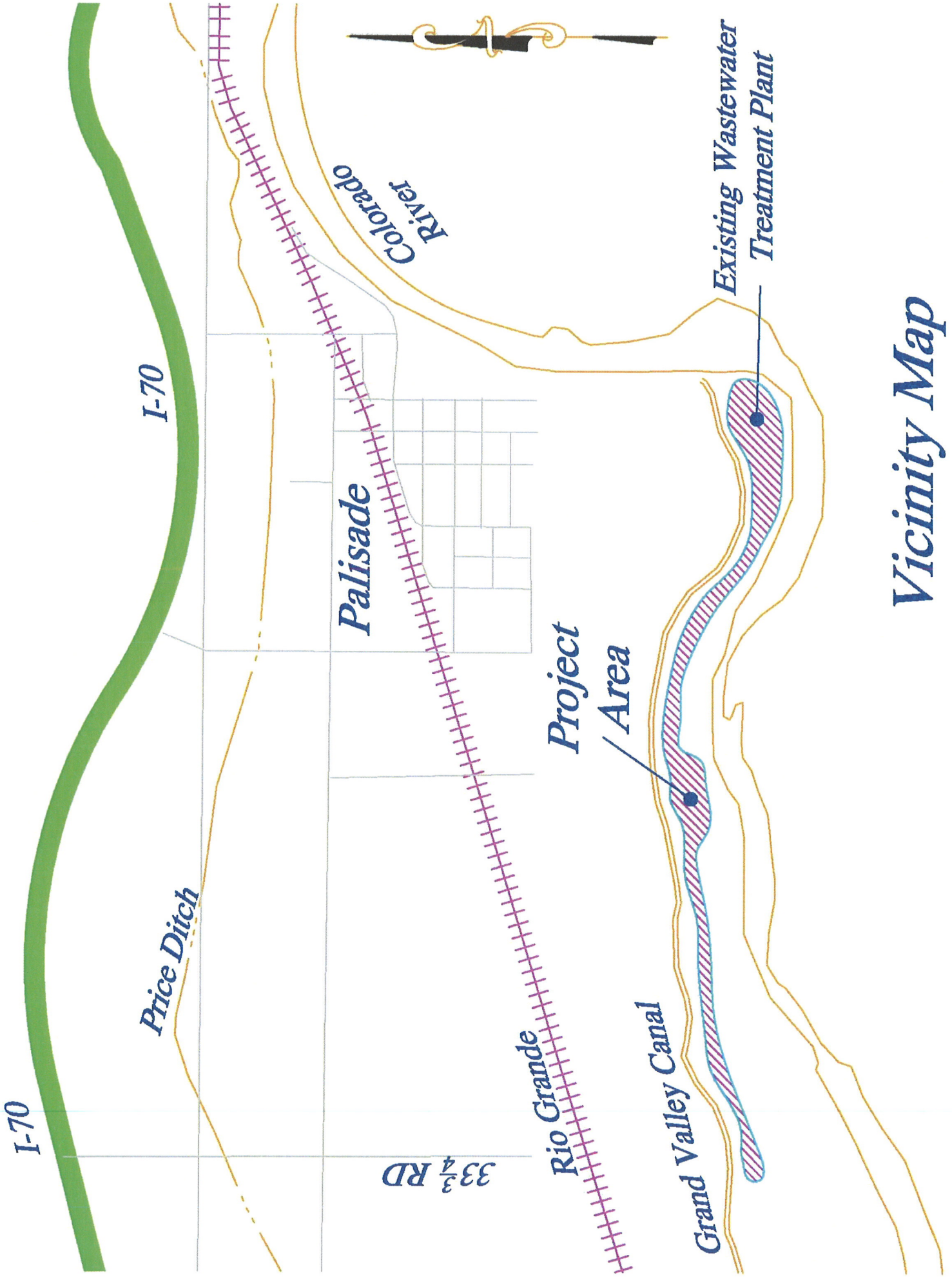
### **Notice of the Availability of an Environmental Assessment**

The USDA, Rural Utilities Service has received an application for financial assistance from the Town of Palisade. As required by the National Environmental Policy Act and agency regulations, the Rural Utilities Service has prepared an Environmental Assessment that evaluated the potential environmental effects and consequences of the proposal. This notice announces the availability of the Environmental Assessment for public review and comment.

The proposal consists of the installation of a pipeline and lift station to convey waste water from Palisade to the Clifton Sanitation District Facility, and reclamation of the existing lagoons in Palisade to provide additional riparian habitat and open space. Facilities will be located on town property in River Bend Park and along the Grand valley Canal, both considered as having historical significance. If implemented, a portion of the project will be located in the flood plain. The purpose of this notice is to inform the public of this proposed conversion or effect and request comments concerning the proposal, alternative sites or actions that would avoid these impacts, and methods that could be used to minimize these impacts. Mitigation measures will be implemented to ensure minimal impact, including appropriate permitting, storm water management during construction, adherence to Buffer Zone Agreement, location of all facility access points above flood plain levels, coordination with the State Historical Preservation Office, use of an archaeological consultant, should archeological resources be uncovered during construction, and project landscaping and revegetation to blend with the existing landscape. The alternatives considered to the proposal include: 1) Use of existing facilities, 2) Construction of a new treatment facility, and 3) Convey waste water to Clifton Sanitation District facility.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment are available for review at the USDA office in Delta at 690 Industrial Blvd., (970) 874-5735, Town of Palisade at 175 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> ST., (970) 464-5602, and SGM at 573 W. Crete Cir., #205 in Grand Junction, (970) 245-2571. For further information contact David Carter, USDA, (970) 874-5735. Any person interested in commenting on this proposal should submit comments to the USDA office in Delta by *[have newspaper insert a date that is 30 days from the first publication date]*.

A general location map of the proposal is shown below *[Insert general location map of the proposal]*.



*Vicinity Map*