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WEPO WASH

This is a project to control the flood waters of Wepo Wash, which lies on the north side of the First Mesa, and is the site of the largest cultivated area of the Hopi Indians.

For generations the Indians had depended upon the waters to spread over the valley floor during flood periods which irrigated the crops. When the wash lower down the country commenced to cut deep into the ground, and continued to cut back up the valley it would be impossible to bring the water from the bottom of the wash to the land and much of their farming land was being lost. An effort was made to spread the water over the land by deflectors and to do some work to prevent further cutting. This was partly successful. Some work is indicated as being necessary in the future to further control this.

Plans: Some work should be done to stop the retrogression of grades in the stream or the entire area will be lost. Just what work should be done or can be done is rather problematical. Further studies should be made as the conditions have changed materially since the former work was done.