

Change in Alignment and Jurisdiction of US Highway 189, Summit County, Utah

Category 1 high quality waters include all waters within U.S. Forest Service outer boundaries (Section R317-2-12 in R317-2 Standards of Quality for Waters of the State). In addition, other waters are specifically named (e.g. Chalk Creek and tributaries from U.S. Highway 189 to headwaters). Since the construction of Interstate 80 (I-80) in Summit County, the alignment of U.S. Highway 189 (US-189) changed so that US-189 and Chalk Creek no longer intersect.

Prior to 1967, US-189 ran from Provo, Utah, up Provo Canyon to Heber City where it joined U.S. Highway 40 (US-40). From Heber City, US-189 followed on top of, or coincident with, US-40 north to Hailstone Junction. At Hailstone Junction, now inundated by Jordanelle Reservoir, US-189 diverted from US-40 and traveled east to Francis, north to Oakley, and northwest around Rockport Reservoir to Wanship. From Wanship, US-189 was aligned on top of State Route 2 (which name replaced SR4) to Coalville, across Chalk Creek as Coalville's Main Street, north to Echo Canyon, and on to Evanston, Wyoming. State Route 2 was a forerunner to I-80 which followed the same general route except I-80 bypassed small towns along the way.

Thus, prior to the completion of I-80, US-189 is shown on many maps as the road from Wanship crossing over the Weber River and heading north to Coalville on the east side of the valley. US-189 formed the main street through Coalville (fig. 1 and fig. 2, see also U.S. Geological Survey, 1967, 1:24,000 scale 7.5 minute quadrangle map) and crossed Chalk Creek at 200 North. In the state road numbering system, US-189 later became known as State Route 189 (SR189).

The completion of I-80 in the 1960s and the construction of Jordanelle Reservoir Dam in the early 1980s changed the alignment and maintenance jurisdiction of US-189. The US-189 (SR189) routing changed to "piggy-back" US-40 from Heber City past Jordanelle Reservoir to I-80 so that it skips Francis and Oakley, then continues on top of I-80 to Evanston. Written correspondences between the State of Utah Department of Transportation, Summit County, and Coalville City in late 1967 and early 1968 indicate that the jurisdiction and maintenance of SR189 (US-189) located from Wanship to Coalville, was transferred from the State to Coalville City and Summit County (figs. 3 and 4) after road damage, caused by heavy trucks hauling material for I-80 construction, was repaired.

In summary, what used to be called US-189, re-named SR189 and piggy-backed on the old SR2 prior to I-80, was also main street through Coalville. Now US-189 piggy-backs on US-40 and I-80 and never crosses Chalk Creek.

Internet references:

State Roads resolutions (history) list: <http://www.udot.utah.gov/main/f?p=100:pg:0:::1:T,V:1348>,

Specific highway resolutions:

Route 2 (SR2): <http://www.udot.utah.gov/main/uconowner.gf?n=200609121731373>

Route 189 (US 189): <http://www.udot.utah.gov/main/uconowner.gf?n=200609121729253>

Summary of U.S. Route 189: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U.S._Route_189

Utah State Route 280: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Utah_State_Route_280 (lists US189 junction as Main Street in Coalville).

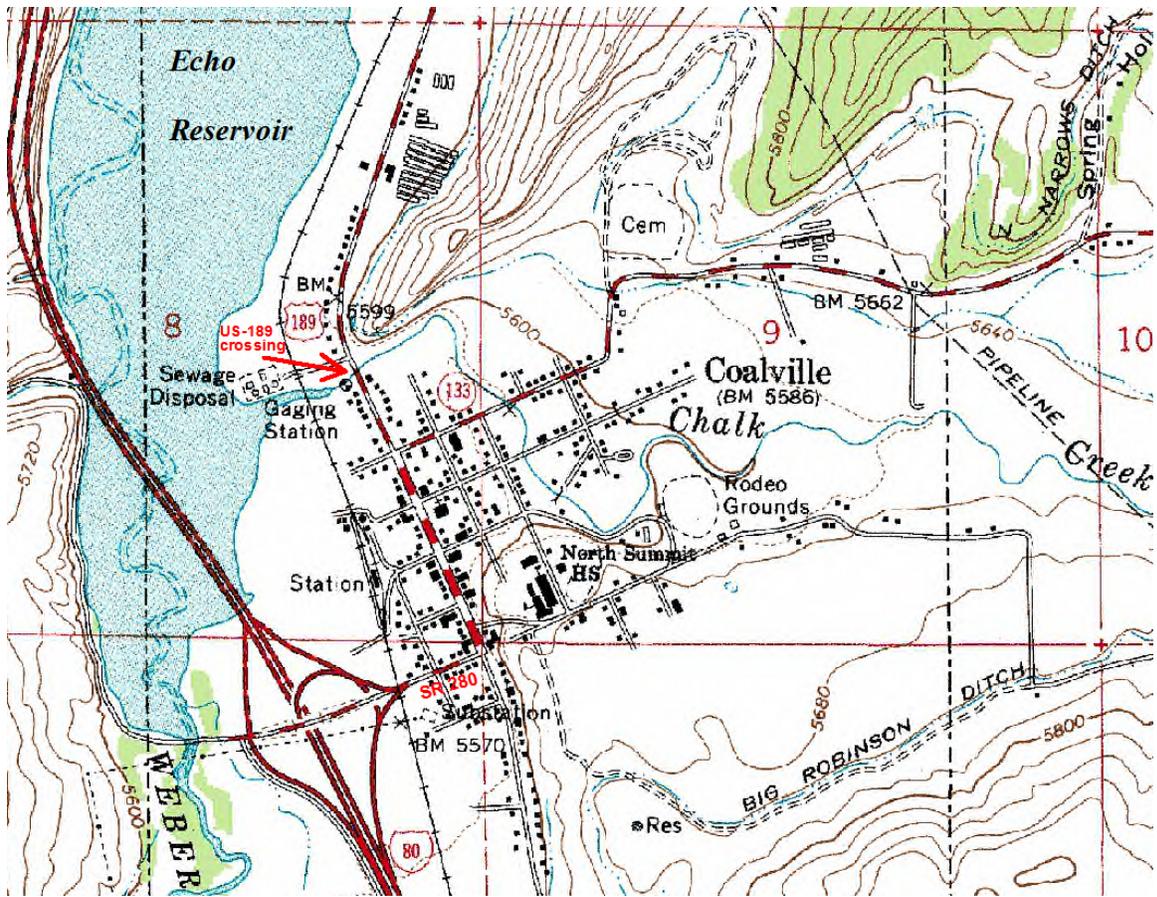


Figure 1. Pre-1967 location of Chalk Creek and US-189 crossing in Coalville, Summit County, Utah prior to alignment changes associated with the construction of Interstate 80.

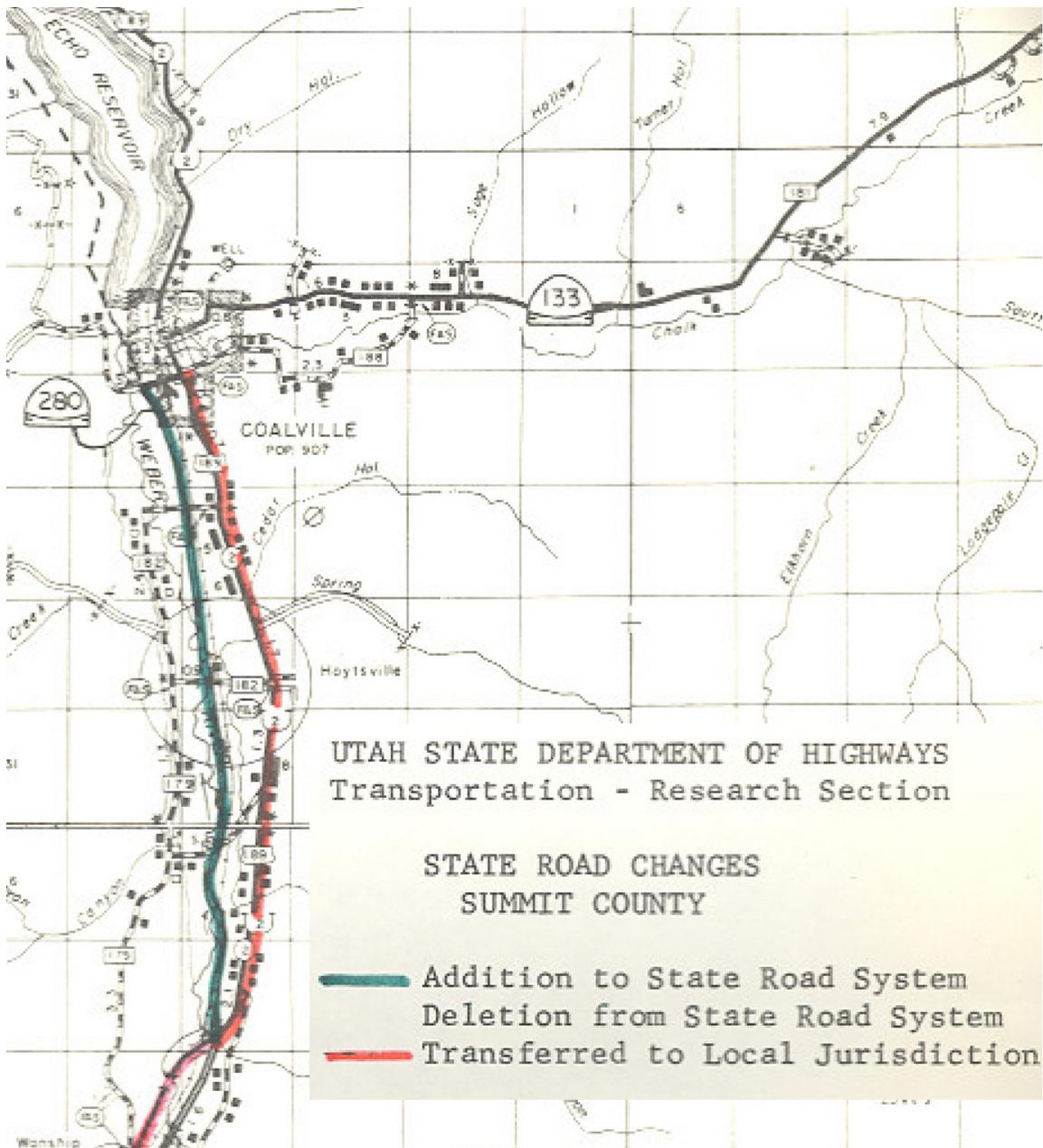


Figure 2. Location of State Route 2 and US-189 from Wanship to Coalville, Summit County, Utah prior to 1967 changes in alignment and jurisdiction.

District Engineer's Office
525 West 13th South
Salt Lake City, Utah

Attention: Quenten Adair, District Engineer

Gentlemen:

This is to advise you that Summit County will accept as a county road State Road 189 from the South Coalville city limits to Wanship where said State Road 189 joins Interstate 80, the same being approximately 7 miles in length, only upon the condition that the State Highway Commission resurface said road with road mix or plant mix to a thickness of 1½" to 2" and a width of 24' by no later than the spring of 1968.

If you have any questions with reference to anything discussed herein please feel free to contact us at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

SUMMIT COUNTY COMMISSION

By R. W. Durrant
R. W. Durrant, Chairman

cc: Summit County Clerk

Figure 3. Conditional acceptance of State Road 189 (US-189) by Summit County officials.

COMMISSIONERS
EDWARD W. DURRANT
CARLOS L. PORTER
KENNETH E. WOOLSTENHULME

Summit County
State of Utah
COALVILLE, UTAH

REED D. PAGE COUNTY CLERK
BLANCHE R. YOUNG TREASURER
WANDA Y. SPRIGGS RECORDER
ROBERT F. ORTON ATTORNEY
RONALD R. ROBINSON SHERIFF
DAIL R. BIDDWAY ASSESSOR

October 18, 1967

Mr. David R. Greenwood
Class "B" & "C" Road Administrator
State Office Bldg.
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Mr. Greenwood;

On February 13, 1967, the State of Utah turned over to Summit County a portion of highway 189, from Wanship to Coalville.

Summit County will formally accept this road for maintenance and snow removal, but we feel that the State of Utah should keep their promise to us, that of resurfacing this portion of highway.

A great part of this highway was broken up during construction of the freeway-nearly all of the gravel was heeled from the Harvey Pace gravel pit in Wanship and the heavy loads caused considerable amount of damage to nearly all of this section.

We also urge you to have this section of highway placed on our Class "B" System, as we removed the snow from it after February 13, 1967.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

Summit County Commission
R.W. Durrant
Chairman

R.W. Durrant

Figure 4