

# **Effective Planning and Installation:** Sediment and Erosion Control, **Bioengineering and River Training**

Dr. Paul Villard Toronto and Region International Erosion Control Association March 27, 2012

GEOMORPHOLOGICAL CHARACTERIZATION | CREEK AND SHORELINE RESTORATION | FLUVIAL AND COASTAL HAZARD ASSESSMENT | HYDRAULIC AND MORPHOLOGICAL MODELLING | GEOMATICS



AMERICAN FORESTS

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August, 1935 .

ROOKED STREAMS are a menace to life and crops in the areas bordering on their banks. The twisting and turning of the channel retards the flow and reduces the capacity of the stream to handle large volumes of water. Floods result. Crops are ruined. Lives are lost. Banks are undermined, causing cave-ins that steal valuable acreage.

In many instances straightening out a stream has doubled its capacity for disposing of run-off water.

DYNAMITE may be used most efficiently and economically in taking the kinks out of a crooked stream. The dynamite is loaded along the length of "cut-off" channel. When fired, the dirt and other debris is heaved high in the air and is scattered over the adjoining territory-leaving practically no spoil-banks. In addition to the material actually thrown out, much dirt is loosened and is later scoured out by the water which rushes swiftly through the straightened channel.

# **Presentation Outline**



- Project cycle
- Mitigation
  - Isolating the work area
  - Construction phasing
  - Erosion and sediment control
- Bioengineering and river training examples
- How things fail what should we look for and how should it be addressed?

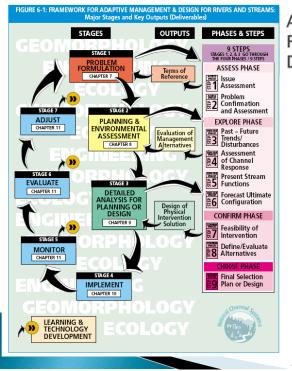


# Key Points of the Talk...



- Success is in the details
- A good design will not work with poor implementation
- Proper implementation requires co-operation between the designer, inspector, contractor and Agency staff
- Monitoring and willingness/ability to address minor deficiencies is essential for successful erosion control and bioengineering





Adaptive Management Framework for River Design



MNR, 2002 Adaptive Management of Stream Corridors in Ontario

# Mitigation



Defined as: "Actions taken during the planning, design, construction and operation of works and undertakings to alleviate potential adverse effects"



# The Easy Solution



# Isolating the Work Area and Construction Phasing







**During construction** 





#### Post-construction

- Corrugated steel plate
- Small stream
- Limited access
- Sand bed

















- Long deployment
- Large creek
- Potential for ice damage







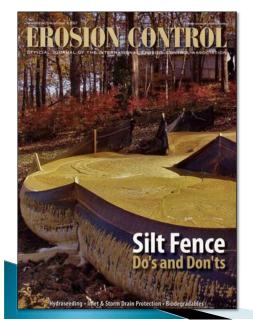




### Plan your phasing, including access carefully



# Sediment and Erosion Control







- Isolating the works from the creek
- Multiple barriers
- Expect the unexpected
- Monitor and maintain

# Sediment and Erosion Control



- Appropriate method for the site and soil
- Must be installed correctly
- Key is to stop entrainment and erosion
- Leave as much vegetation standing as possible
- Minimize disturbance to the site
- > Mitigation once materials are entrained is difficult
- Needs to function as anticipated
- Needs to be monitored and maintained
- Needs to be modified when it isn't working
- Needs to be removed when job is complete

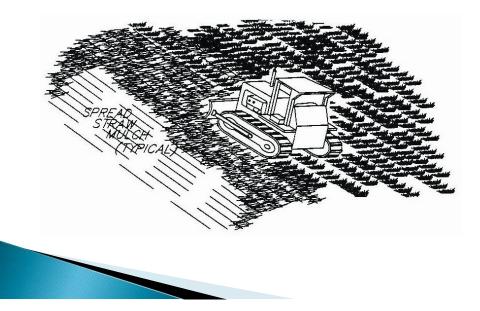






# Crimped Straw









Vegetation can establish under bridges



GEOMORPHIC SOLUTIONS

















Expect the unexpected

# Bioengineering and River Training







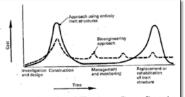


Figure 43. Illustrations of different expenditure profiles and maintenance (implied) of inert structures and bioengineering treatments. (from Coppin and Richards, 1990)

#### Cascades/Vortex Rock Weirs/ Rocky Ramps/Riffles

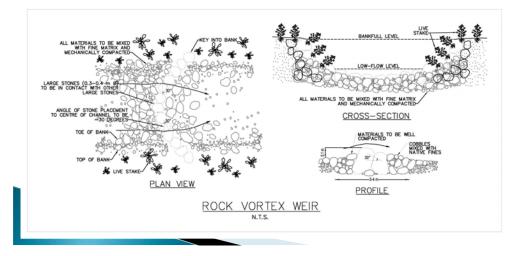


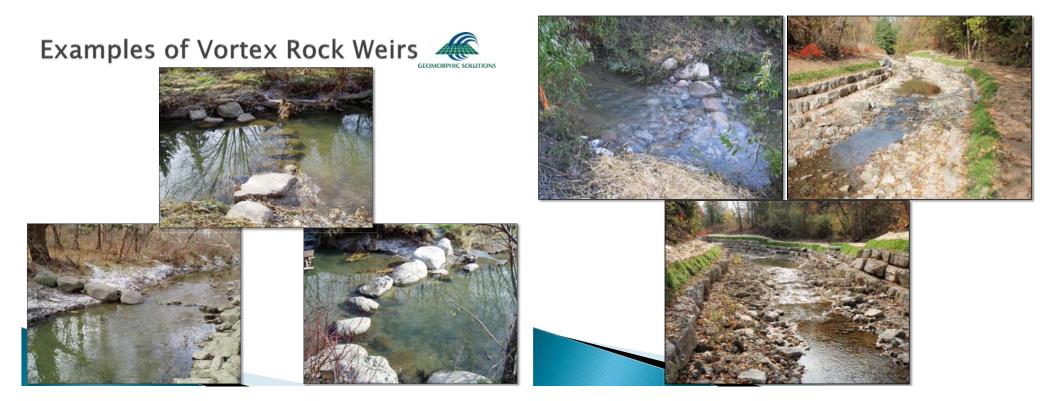


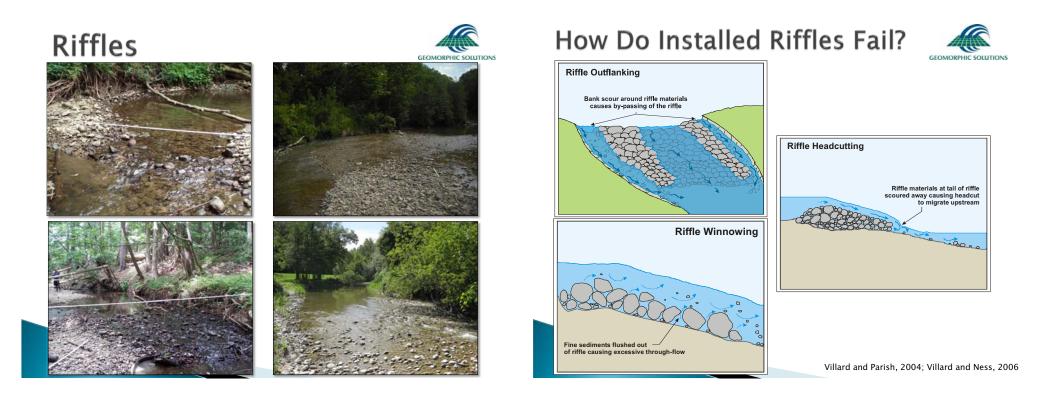
- Grade control features
- Locally dissipate energy
- Create pools and backwater
- Mimics naturally occurring features in relatively stable channels
- > Riffles in lower gradient and moderate energy systems
- Cascades/vortex rock weirs in higher energy, steeper systems
- Usually integrated with bank treatments/bioengineering



# Vortex Rock Weir









# **Vegetation Encroachment**







## **Bioengineering**



- Hard solution with ecological advantages
- > Usually involves inert and vegetation components
- Relies on strength of vegetation, as well as inert components
  Stronger together
- > Vegetation also provides roughness and resistance to flow
- > Vegetation success is integral to stability of the bioengineering
- Does not reach maximum stability until vegetation has been established
- Needs monitoring and maintenance initially
- Examples:
  - Brush mattressing
  - Vegetated stone mattressing
  - Cribwall









# When and How Will Bioengineering Fail?



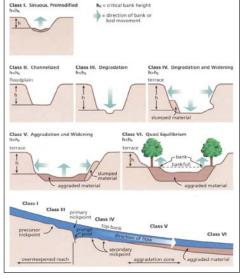
- There are numerous factors that can affect the life span of a bioengineering
- One of the most important factor is stream stability, if the creek is moving/adjusting more rapidly, it can outflank or undercut these treatments will have shorter life spans





# **Downs Model**

 Downs classifies based on adjustment processes and changes in channel form



# More Quantitative Methods to Estimate Lifespan



- Life span can also be calculated as a probability of survival over a given period (such as the bioengineering has an 80 percent chance of lasting 20 years)
- This is calculated on the structures survivability of a given return storm event
- We assess this based on the resisting strength of the structure or materials compared to the force associated with a given return event
- > It is easily tied to available hydraulic modeling
- This is the starting point for predicting the life span of bank structures





#### What Do We Miss?



- Unfortunately it would not address other factors in failure such as:
  - Loss of vegetation
  - Undermining or outflanking
  - Mechanical failure
  - Chemical and mechanical weathering

This is where monitoring comes in...



# **Vegetated Cribwall**





Lynde Creek at Taunton Road





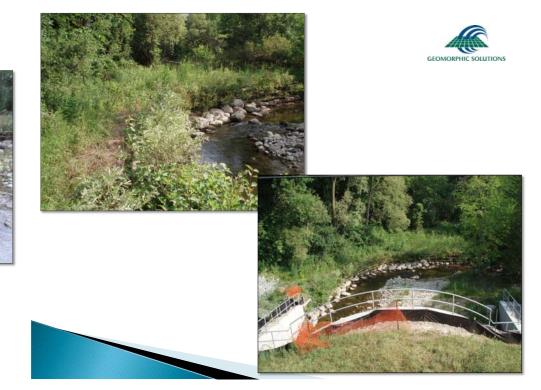


# Vegetated Cribwall





Lynde Creek at Taunton Road

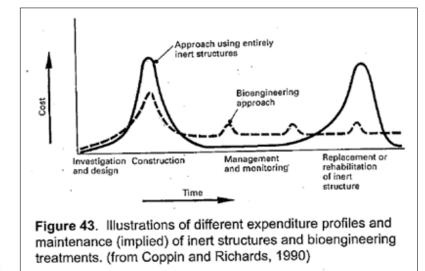




## Compromised Vegetated Cribwall







Reiterating the Key Points of the Talk...



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