



SOURCE FOR STREAM

2023 Conference

Canada's Premier
Stormwater and Erosion
and Sediment Control
Conference

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50 Years in the Making

Rehabilitation of the Royal Oak Municipal Drain



Contents



Location



History & Background



Problem



Design Objective



Solution



Challenges



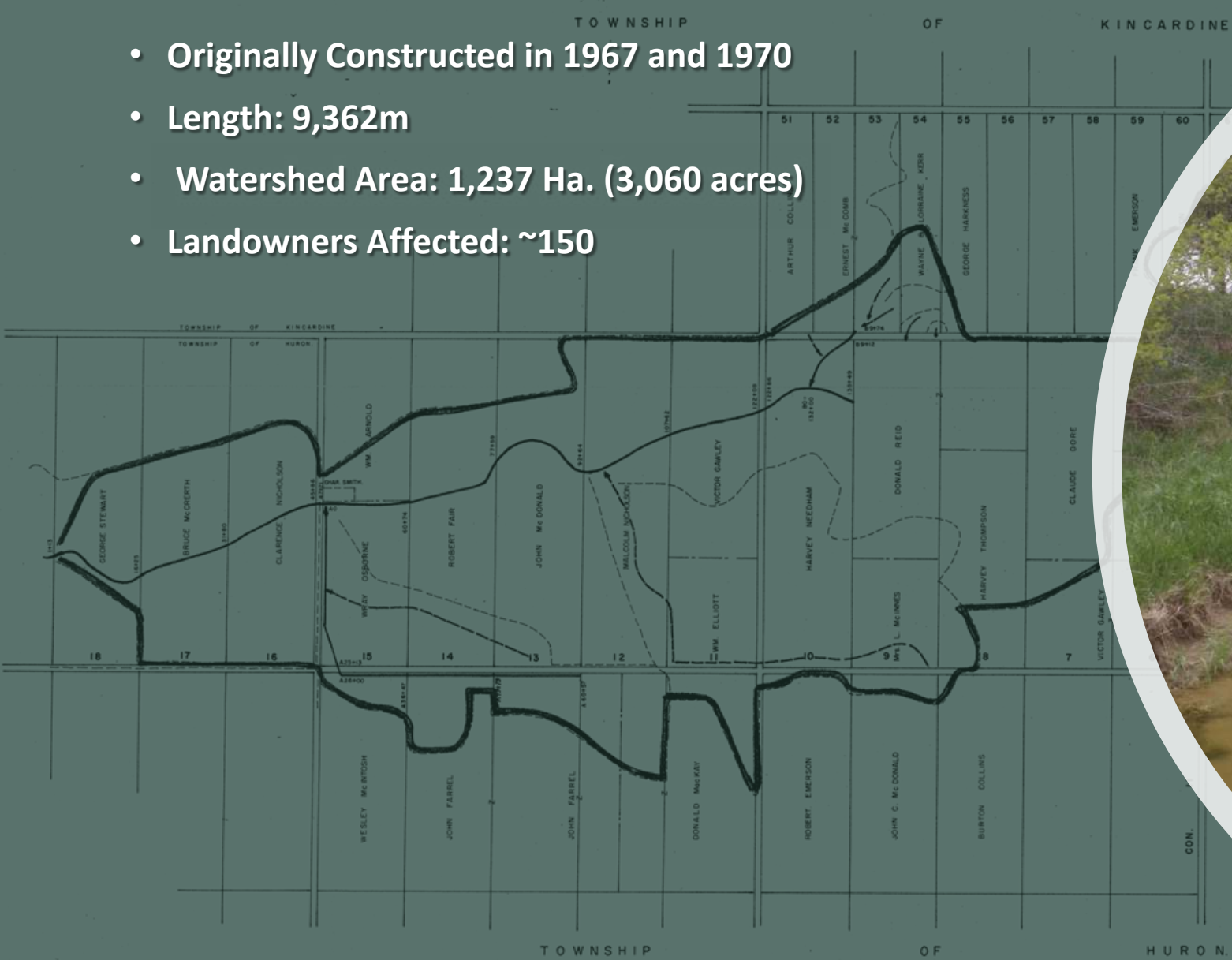
Construction

Location



History & Background

- Originally Constructed in 1967 and 1970
- Length: 9,362m
- Watershed Area: 1,237 Ha. (3,060 acres)
- Landowners Affected: ~150

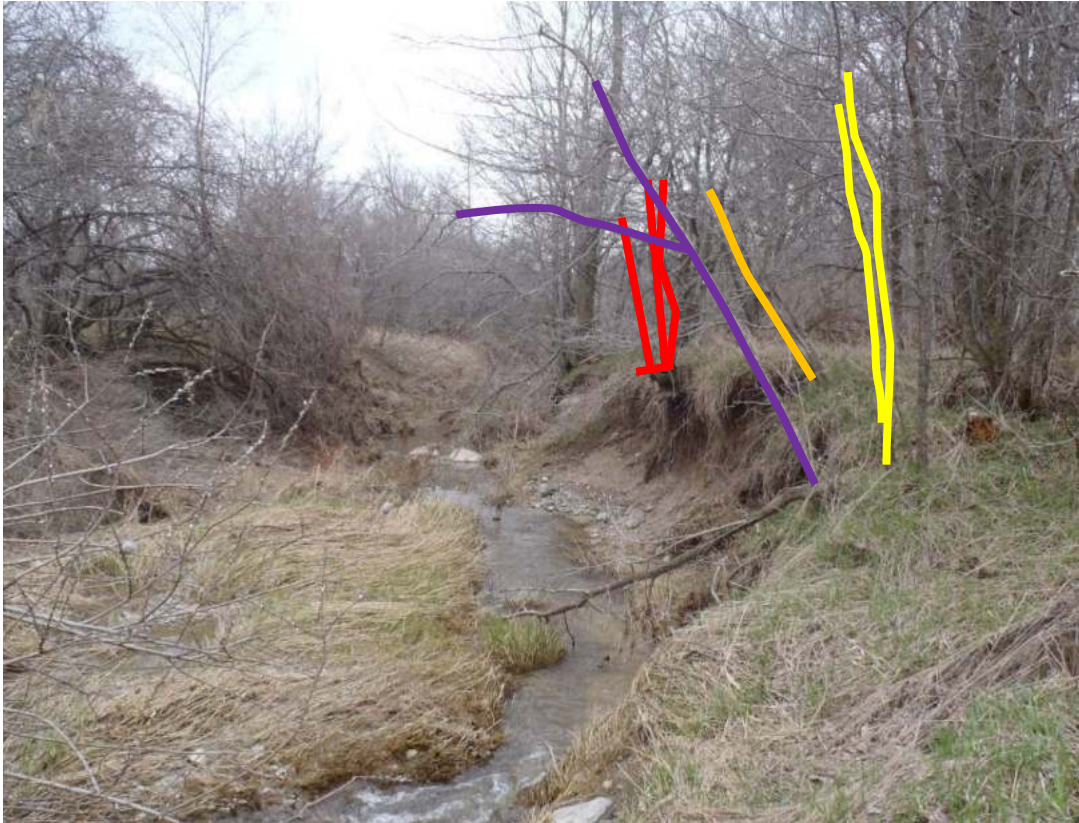




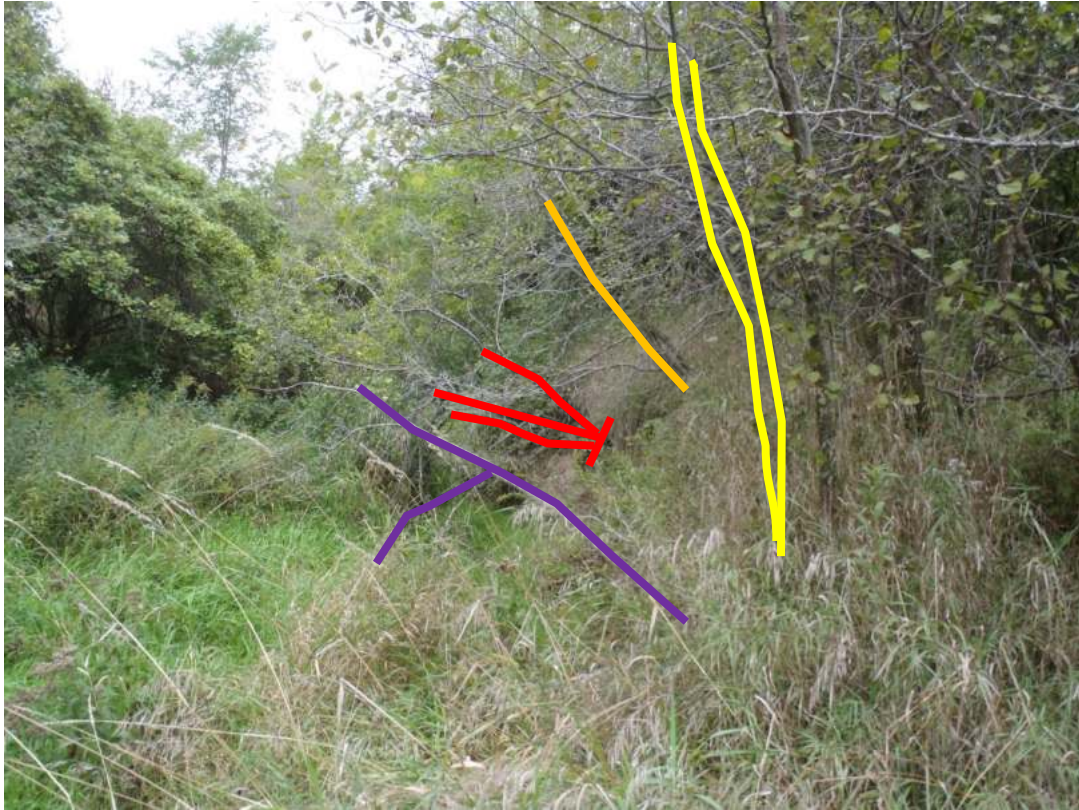




Comparison



April 21, 2015



September 27, 2016
One Year – 5 Months Later

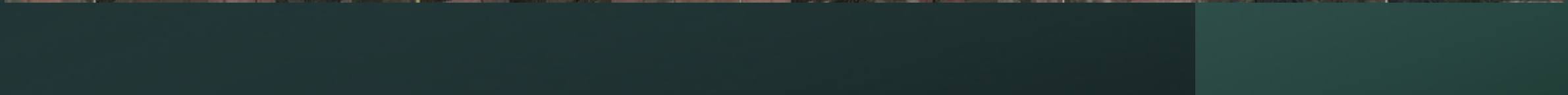
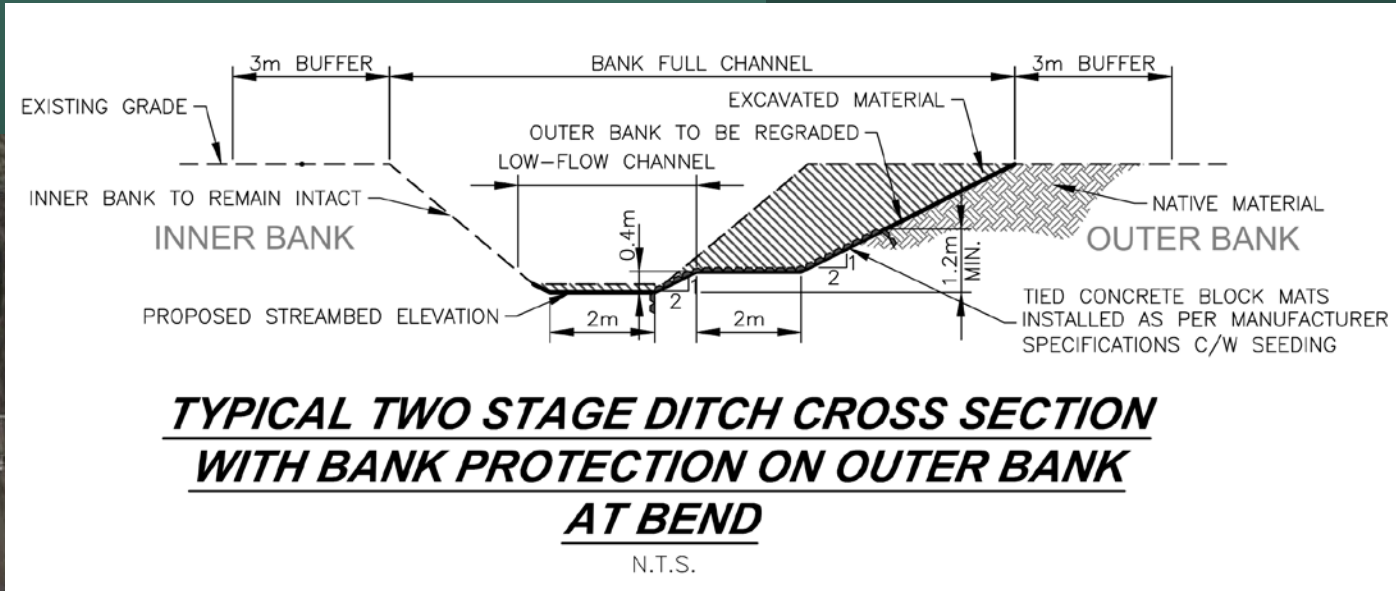
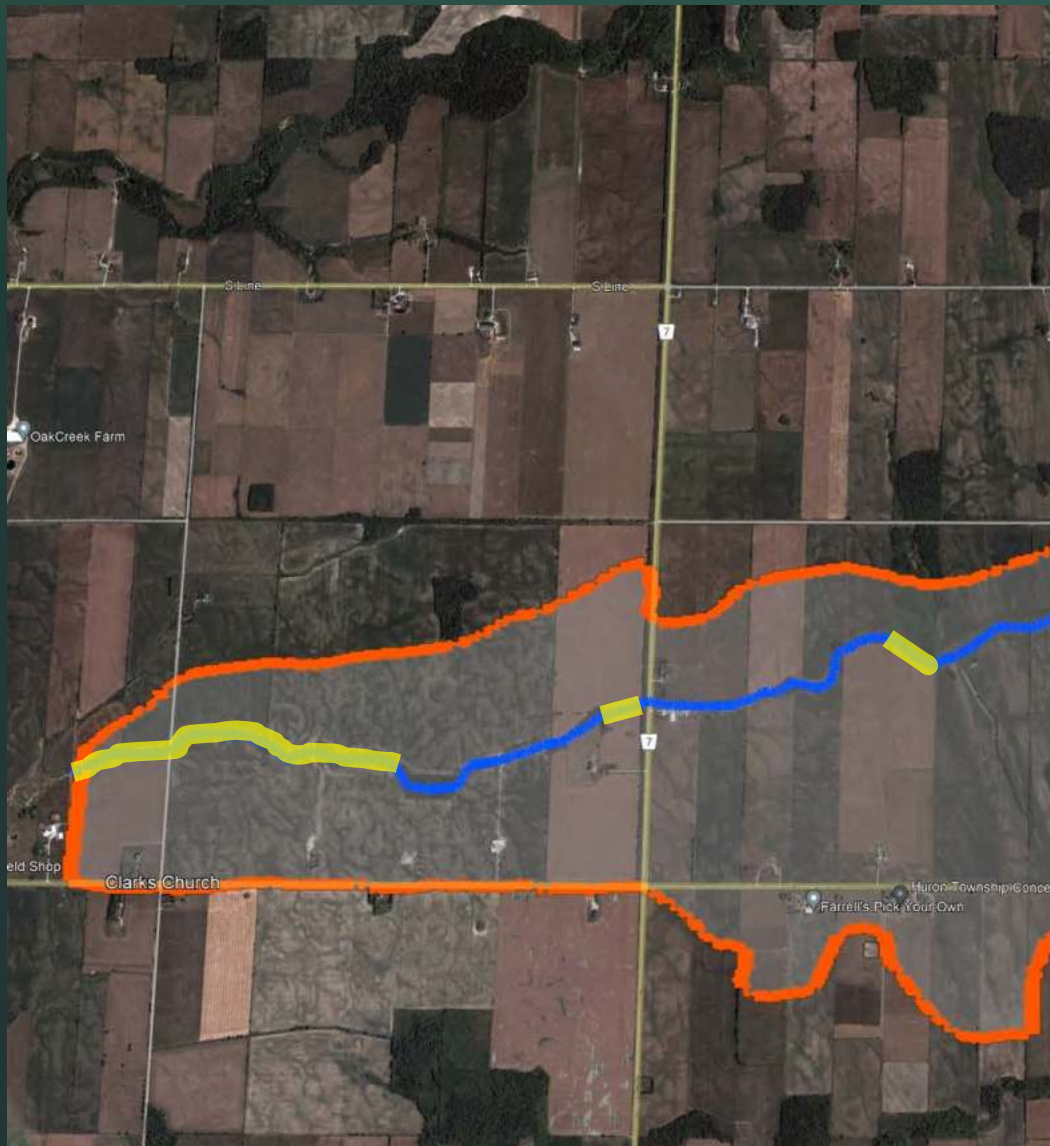


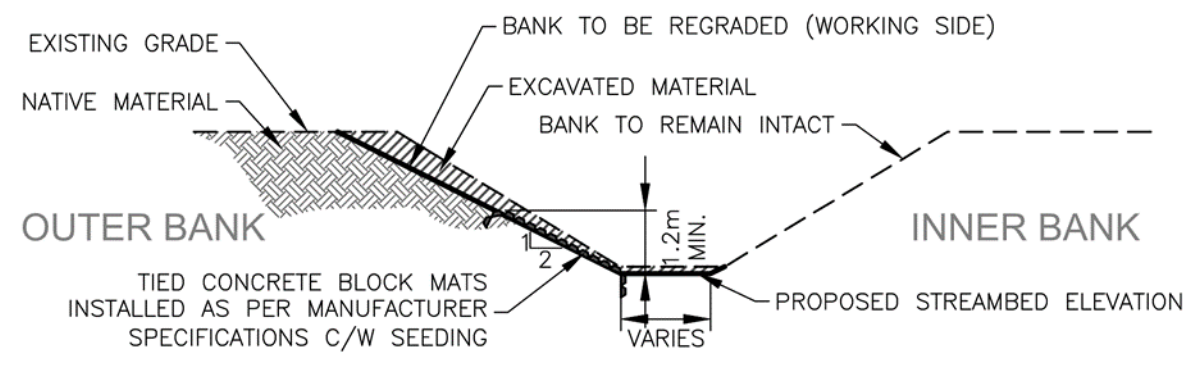
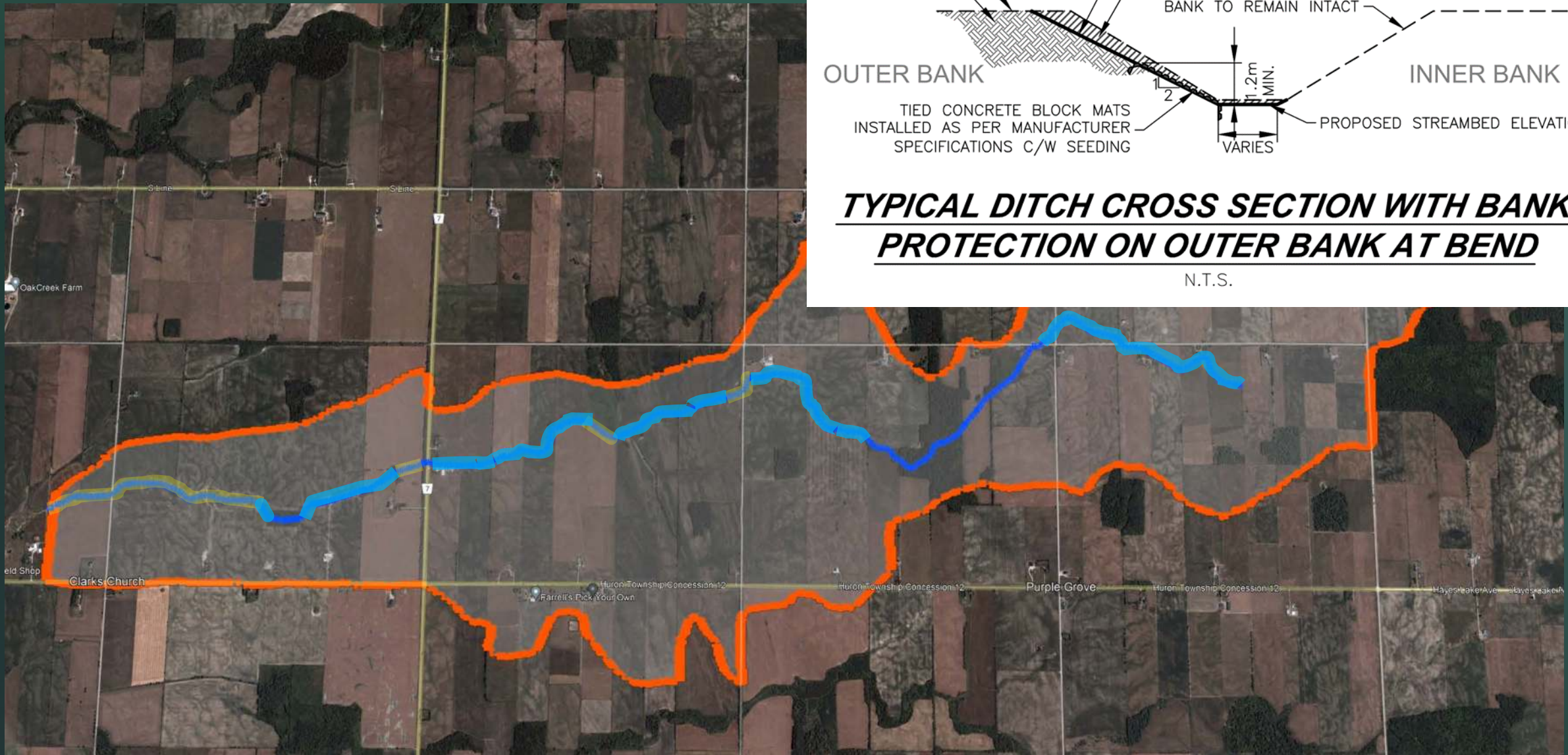




Objective:

To establish a stable agricultural drainage channel in the most affordable fashion possible, while also satisfying Fisheries Act.





TYPICAL DITCH CROSS SECTION WITH BANK PROTECTION ON OUTER BANK AT BEND

N.T.S.



Erosion Control Design Methods

Reduce Shear from Flow

- Shear Threshold is very low
- Requires Significant Real Estate

Increase the Resistance to Shear

- Location Specific
- Simplistic
- Plenty of Product Options





Erosion Control Products

- Vegetation
- Tied Concrete Block Mat
- Rolled Erosion Control Products
- Turf Reinforcement
- Rock Rip-Rap



Tied Concrete Block Mat

Shear Reinforcement (Long Term Erosion Control)

Partnership between Armour & Vegetation (Ecological value)

Constructability

Cost





Flexamat Composition of Materials

Blocks: 35 MPa
Wet-Cast Portland
Cement

Interlocking Grid:
Biaxial Geogrid 30
KN/m (MD &
CMD)

Underlying
Options: Curlex II,
TRM, non-woven
geotextile



Flexamat Manufacturing Values

- Roll Width: 1.22m - 4.88m
- Roll Length: 0.3m increments
- Material weight: 48.8 kg/sqm
- Block size: 165mm x 165mm x 57mm

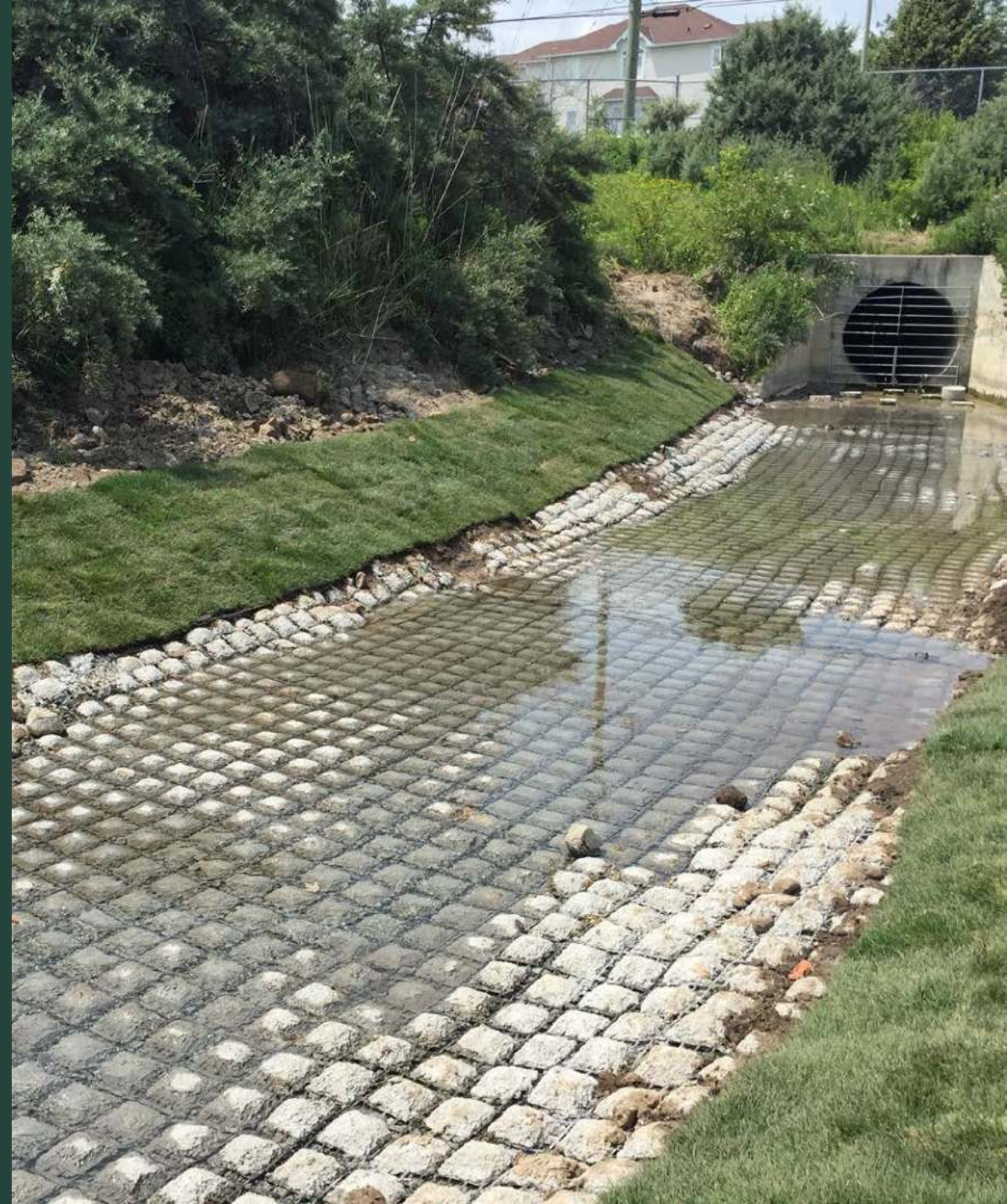


Flexamat Performance Design Criteria

Percentage Open Area: 30%

Shear Tolerance: 1,150 Pa

Velocity Tolerance: 9.1 m/s





Flexamat Large Scale Testing

ASTM D 6460 (Standard Test Method For Determination of Rolled Erosion Control Product Performance in Protecting Earthen Channels From Stormwater-Induced Erosion)

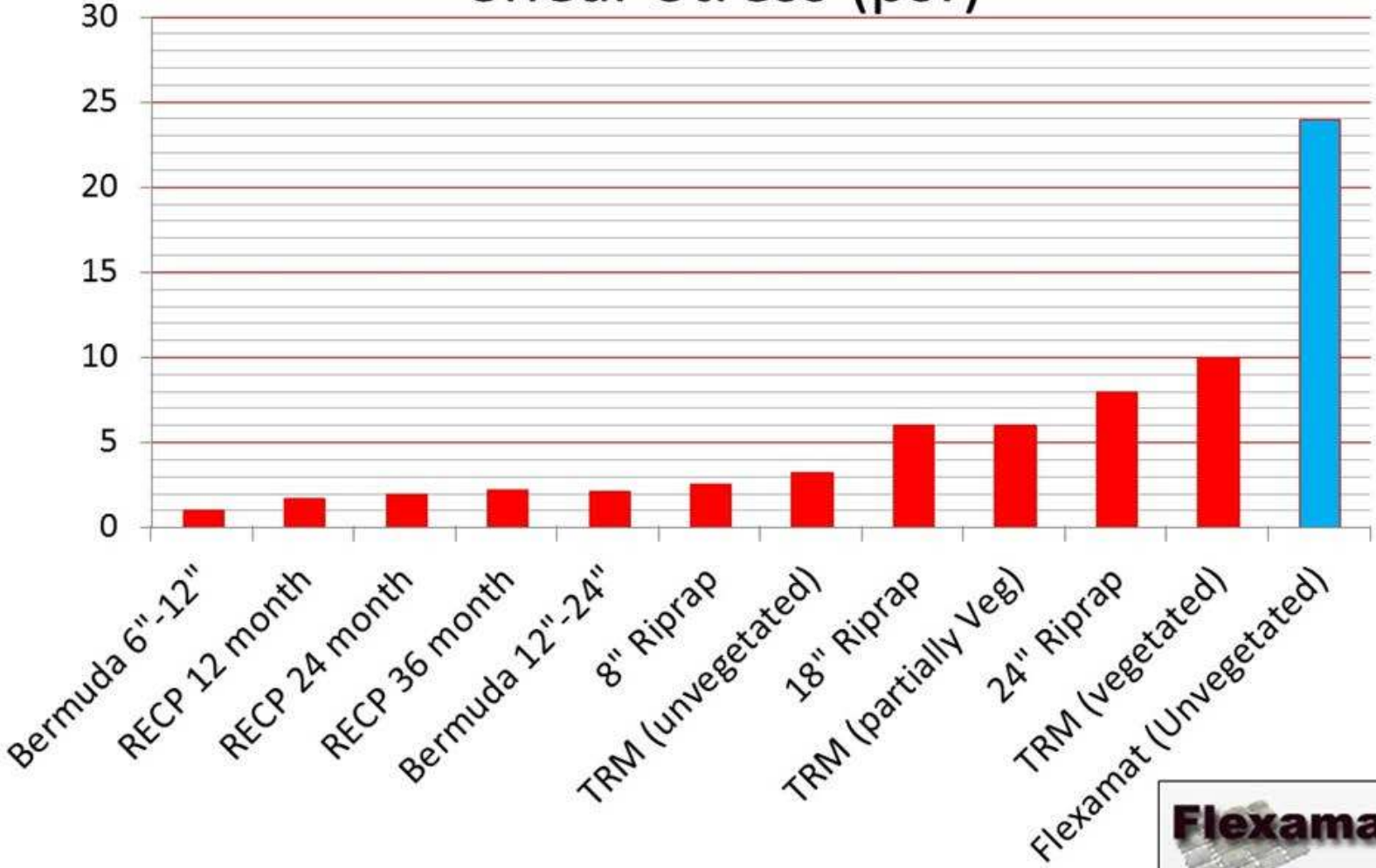
ASTM: D6460 Large Scale Flume



| Limiting Shear | Limiting Velocity |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 24+ psf | 30+ ft./sec |



Shear Stress (psf)



Flexamat Benefits

Interconnecting
block system vs
individual rocks

Will not crack
under freeze/thaw
cycles

Blends in with the
surrounding
landscape

High installation
rate

Can be maintained
by commercial
mowers






Tribunal



Issue:

- The Engineer proposes using a material commercially known as “Flexamat”, which is a mat of linked concrete blocks used on the slopes of a waterway to prevent or minimize erosion; the Appellants argue that there are less expensive methods (such as stone riprap) to control erosion. *Issue: Is Flexamat a proper erosion solution in the circumstances?*
- 

Decision

- Flexamat vs. rip-rap (stone): The difference in the pricing of these two options as presented by the Appellants is significant, although when comparing a properly designed rip-rap stone erosion protection system as outlined by the Engineer, the costs become much more competitive. However, as the saying goes, ‘you get what you pay for’. The evidence is clear that a Flexamat-like option provides greater protection against erosive forces caused by shear stresses. Over time, the Flexamat-like option makes for a better functioning drain with reduced maintenance costs in the future.

Statements of Assessed Landowners

Two assessed landowners wished to make statements to the Tribunal regarding the Drain. The Tribunal advised these landowners that, as their statements would not be subject to cross-examination, the Tribunal would hear what they had to say but could not consider their statements as evidence.

Herbert Van Westerlo was one such landowner, whose property is located at the lower end of the Drain. His statement to the Tribunal was that he experienced a significant amount of flooding of the lands in the Drain's watershed and that he was in favour of the improvements to the Drain.

Don Reid was the second assessed landowner who wished to make a statement. It was his position that it does not make "business sense" to use Flexamat because of the cost when stone has worked well in the past. Further, he advised that he had paid for his own culvert in the past.

Findings

There can be no arguing that, at a cost of over \$1 million, this is an expensive drainage works and perhaps more than the landowners anticipated or wish to fund. However, the Report quite properly identifies measures that must be taken to enable the Drain to meet current standards, and absent the issues raised by the Appellants, no one has suggested the Report is flawed or that the work overall is not required.

Therefore, dealing with the five specific issues that have been raised, the Tribunal makes the following findings and comments:

- Hydro seeding vs. hand seeding:** While there appears to be no disagreement that hand seeding is a significantly cheaper alternative to hydro seeding, hydro seeding on sloped ground provides benefits that, in the long run, may make this method of seeding certain areas more cost-effective as the vegetation establishes itself quicker and reduces erosion on those sloped areas. Therefore, the Tribunal finds that hydro seeding on sloped areas is acceptable; however, the Report should require that hand seeding be considered as an alternative for flat areas such as buffer strips.
- Riffles:** Given that the local Conservation Authority and the DFO require riffles for fish habitat, given that the riffles provide some erosion control benefits, and given the minimal cost of construction of the riffles, the Tribunal sees no basis to interfere with this aspect of the Report.

Flexamat vs. rip-rap (stone): The difference in the pricing of these two systems as presented by the Appellants is significant, although when comparing a properly designed rip-rap stone erosion protection system as outlined by the Engineer, the costs become much more competitive. However, as the saying goes, 'you get what you pay for'. The evidence is clear that a Flexamat-like option provides greater protection against erosive forces caused by shear stresses. Over time, the Flexamat-like option makes for a better functioning drain with reduced maintenance costs in the future. Given Mr. Brickman's evidence that there is

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AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS APPEAL TRIBUNAL

APPEAL: Royal Oak Municipal Drain (RE)
Township of Huron-Kinloss

CITATION: Royal Oak Municipal Drain (RE)
Township of Huron-Kinloss
2016ONAFRAAT23

STATUTE: Drainage Act

HEARING: October 25, 2016

DATE OF DECISION: November 29, 2016

FILE NUMBER: 008RoyalOak16

NEUTRAL CITATION: 2016ONAFRAAT23

2016 ONAFRAAT 23 (2016)



Construction



Construction



Construction





Construction





Construction

Approx. 3,000 sqm installed
Project completed in 5 1/2 weeks





Before Vegetation



2 Months after Construction



2 Months after Construction





2 Months after Construction





1 Year after Construction





Thank-You

J.J. Breede, P.Eng.

Product Manager

Terrafix Geosynthetics Inc.



Stephen Brickman, P.Eng.

Project Manager/Engineer

Headway Engineering



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