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Stormwater and Erosion
and Sediment Control
Conference

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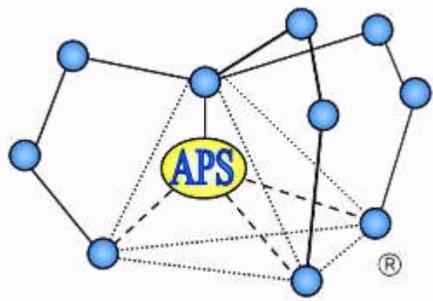
In association with:



Using Anionic Polymer Gels To Achieve Maximum Turbidity Reduction From Construction Projects



Eddie Snell
Source To Stream 2025



**APPLIED POLYMER
SYSTEMS, INC.**





Presentation Outline

- 1 Introduction**
- 2 Project Case Histories**



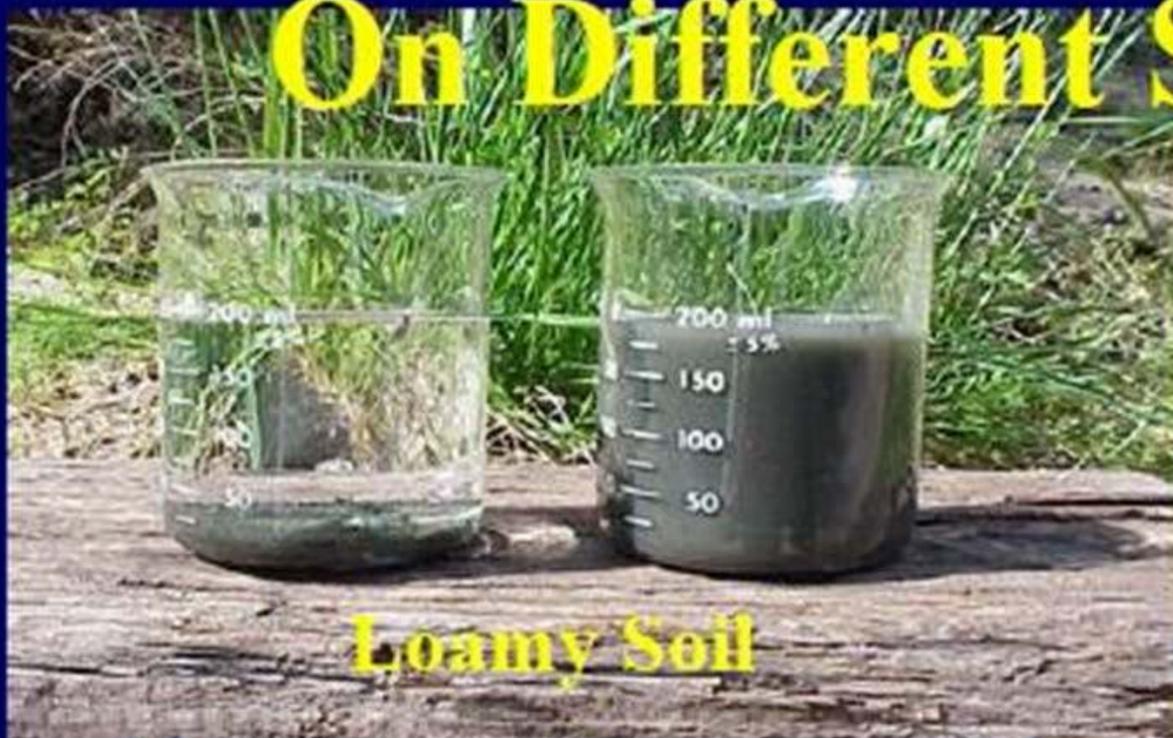
INTRODUCTION⁴

PAM (Anionic polyacrylamide)

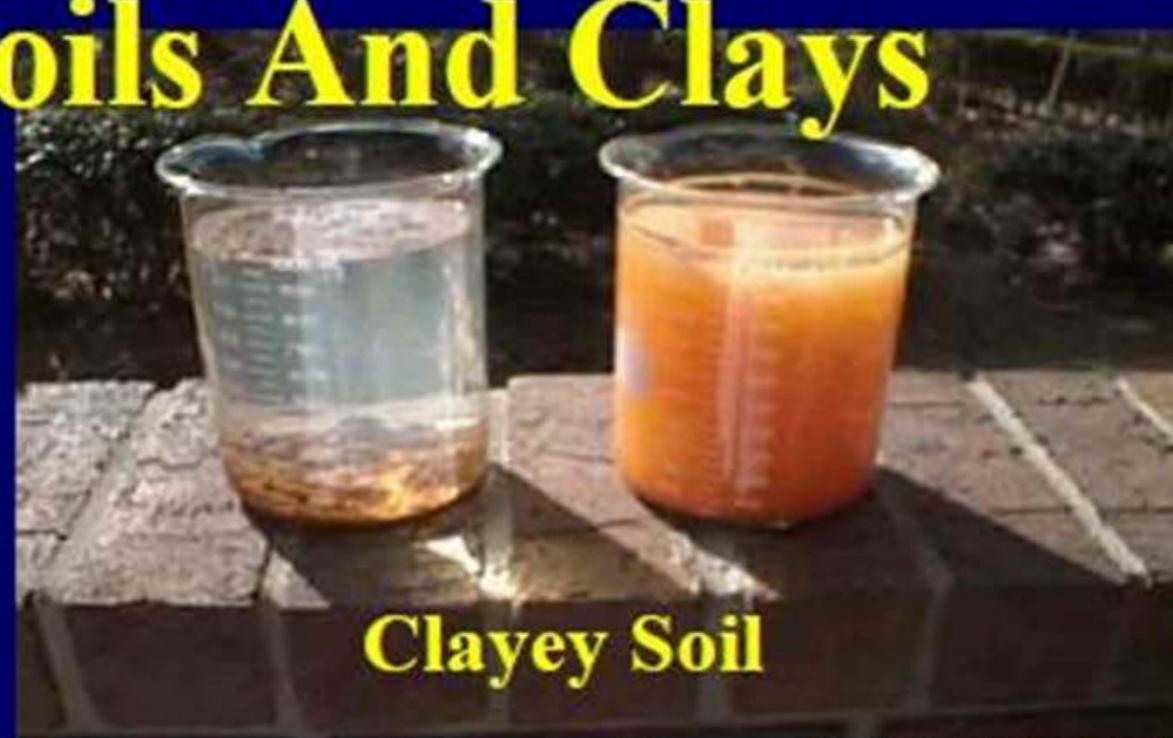
- Very low toxicity
- Allowed per 2022 USEPA CGP
- Lab test used to determine PAM blend
- Granular Silt Stop used for stabilization
- Floc Log form used in water treatment



Different Blended PAMs Are Used On Different Soils And Clays



Loamy Soil



Clayey Soil



Phosphate Soil



Organic Dredge Soil



**Generic PAMs are not lab tested to match soil.
This often results in poor performance**

Polymer Matched To Soil/Water



No Polymer

Non-Optimized
Polymer

Optimized
Polymer



Performance Based
Lab Results

Determine PAM-Blend

Smith Samples

Sample Location 2/15/2013	Description Sample Type	APS Application Floc Log Type	Results and Special Instructions Reaction Time / NTU Reading
Smithville, Inc. 1111 One Way Drive Anyplace, FL 12345 321-867-5309 jsmith@aol.com	Water Sample pH: 8.88 NTU: 3400 Hardness: 120 CaCO3	706b Powder 712	40 - 45 sec. with stirring / 24.9
	Soil Sample pH: 7.21 NTU: 2742 Hardness: 60 CaCO3	706b Powder 712	40 - 45 sec with stirring / 9.20

Note: For detailed instructions and application rates, please refer to the Polymer Enhanced Best Management (PEBMP) Application Guide which is located on the bottom right hand corner of our website at www.SiltStop.com.

Floc Logs are designed to work in flowing water conditions. Mixing / reaction times will be very important when using the Floc Log listed above. **Mixing must be continuous and in contact with the Floc Logs for the time stated to obtain the best results.** A mixing ditch, pipe or flume system may be used with either a pump or gravity flow to meet this requirement. Particulate formed may be captured by filtering through or across a series of jute matting after the mixing and reaction has been completed. (Please see page 42 of the PEBMP for more on Particle Collection.) The dosage rate should be 50 to 90 gpm per Floc Log placed in series or row.

Stabilization of the soil at the source may be obtained by spreading the site-specific Silt Stop powder onto the soil surface (can be mixed with other additives such as seed, fertilizer, etc.), then covering the soil with open-weave jute, coconut matting, mulch, or straw. This will perform as a stabilizer for reducing soil and clay movement into the runoff water, as a tackifier to hold the soil/organic matter in place, as well as providing surface area for attachment of flocculated sediment. For detailed application rates and instructions, please see the Soil Stabilization section beginning on page 5 of the PEBMP.

Areas where high water velocity may occur (ditch lines, swales, etc.) should be "soft armored" by placing jute or coconut matting flush to the ground surface then spreading powder (dry) over the jute or coconut matting (please refer to PEBMP page 5-10). This will greatly reduce erosion in these areas. When used with the Silt Stop powder, soft armoring binds the soil particles to the matting, stopping them from eroding and entering the water system.

We recommend using both systems for best results.

Applied Polymer Systems, Inc. 519 Industrial Drive Woodstock, GA 30189 www.siltstop.com

Written Guidelines



Toxicity Test Results

PAM Types

- Emulsions
- Silt Stop Powders
- Floc Log

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The 5 Fundamentals For Effective Flocculation

- 1. Formulation
- 2. Dosage
- 3. Reaction Time
- 4. Mixing
- 5. Floc Capture



Treatment Train Design Variables

- Volume of water
- Peak flows
- Storage capacity
- Terrain
- Available space



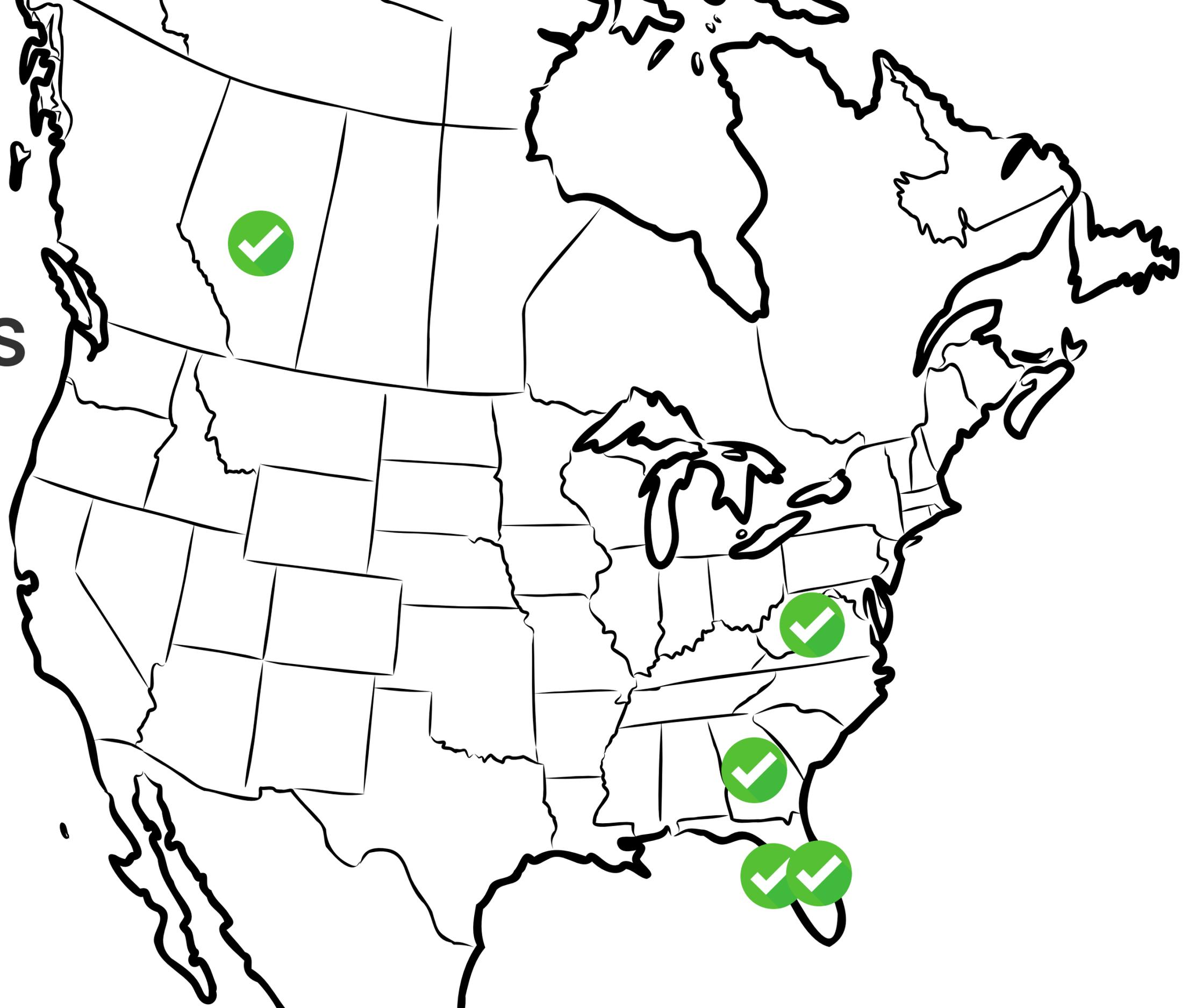
5 Projects Using Polymer Gel

Treatment Systems:

- Gwinnett, Georgia, USA
- Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
- West Virginia, USA
- Central Florida, USA (2)



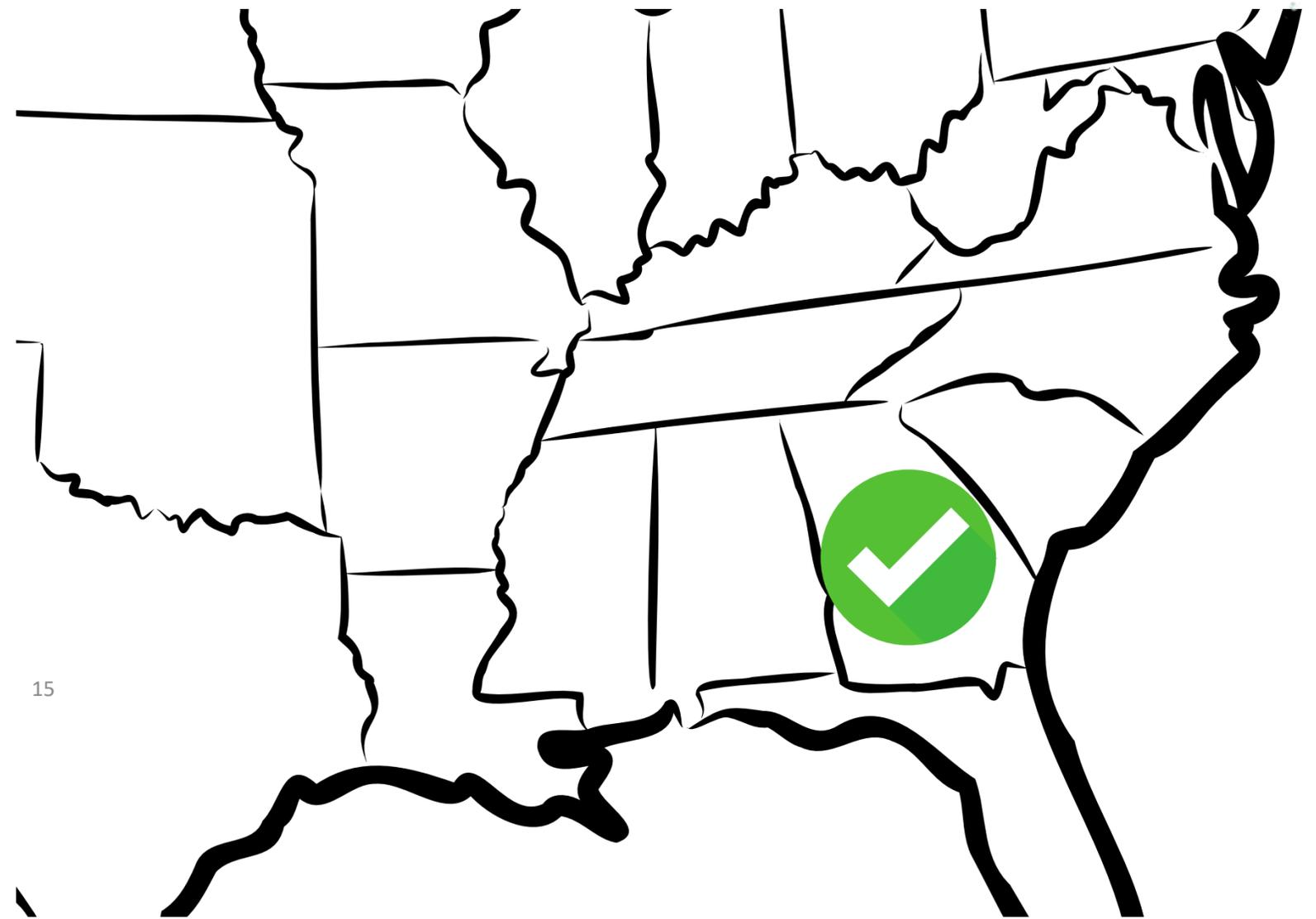
Project Examples



Project Examples

Gwinnett,
GA, USA

Tunnel construction
length = 4,853 m
(15,922 ft.)



Process water
required
treatment before
discharge to trout
stream.





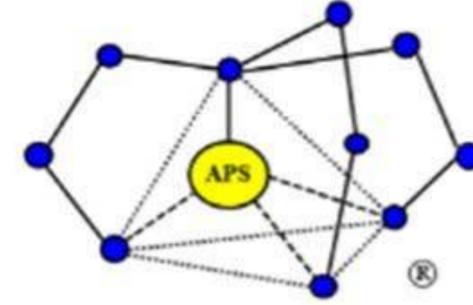
Pollutants of concern:

- Turbidity
- pH
- Treatment system footprint

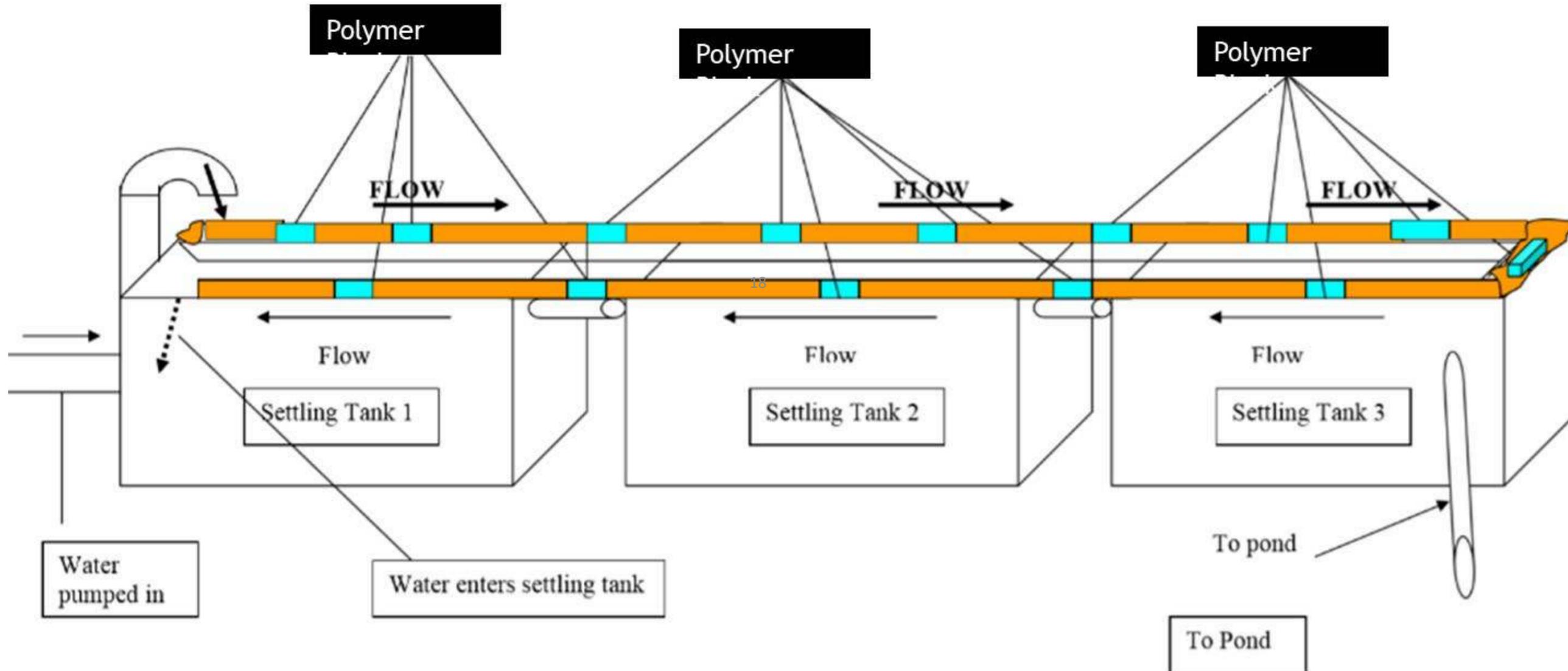
Water Clarification Treatment Split Pipe For use with baker tank

Applied Polymer Systems, Inc.™

519 Industrial Drive Woodstock, GA 30189
678-494-5998 Phone 678-494-5298 Fax info@siltstop.com



Example Only –
Modify design to fit site conditions



Mixing laundry system using three tanks in series

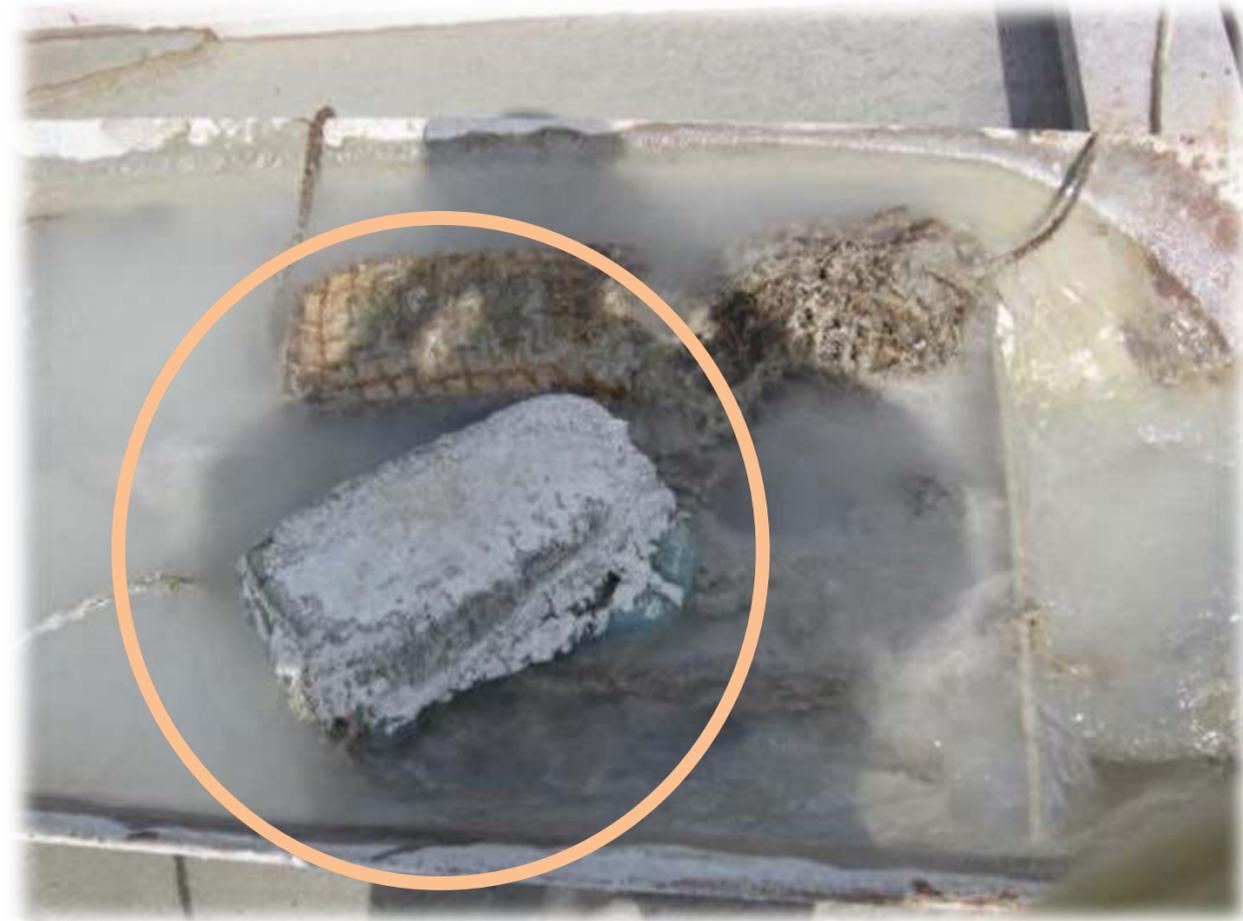




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A mixing launder is a split pipe that sits on top of the tanks and passes water over the polymer floc logs

Floc Logs were matched to dewatering discharge water and included a pH Log (between tanks 2-3) to lower it to match receiving waterbody



Tank one acts as a settling basin and captures large particulate



Tanks 2-3 use particle curtains to capture fine particulate



Tank 3 discharged to a pond where additional Floc Logs treated the final product water

Discharge water was monitored regularly to maintain turbidity reduction target goals.



Turbidity Reduction (log scale)





Summary:

- Turbidity reduced to target goals
 - pH issue adjusted in treatment system
 - Small footprint of treatment system
-

Project Examples

Edmonton,
Alberta, Canada

Industrial
stormwater runoff



Pollutants of Concern:

- Turbidity
- TSS
- Metals



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Treatment Train Design:



- Capture metal bound particulate
- Fit within stream channel footprint
- No pumps or tanks for chemical dosing
- System must survive winter with minimal maintenance in spring
- Materials must be non-toxic to aquatic life



A passive treatment system selected:

- Soft armoring along stream channel
- Granular PAM applied to create particle capture system
- Duplex polymer block treatment of water column
(703d#3 & 706b)
- Sandbags with Floc Logs at 3-meter (10 ft.) intervals for mixing

Soft armoring applied in stream channel and along embankment



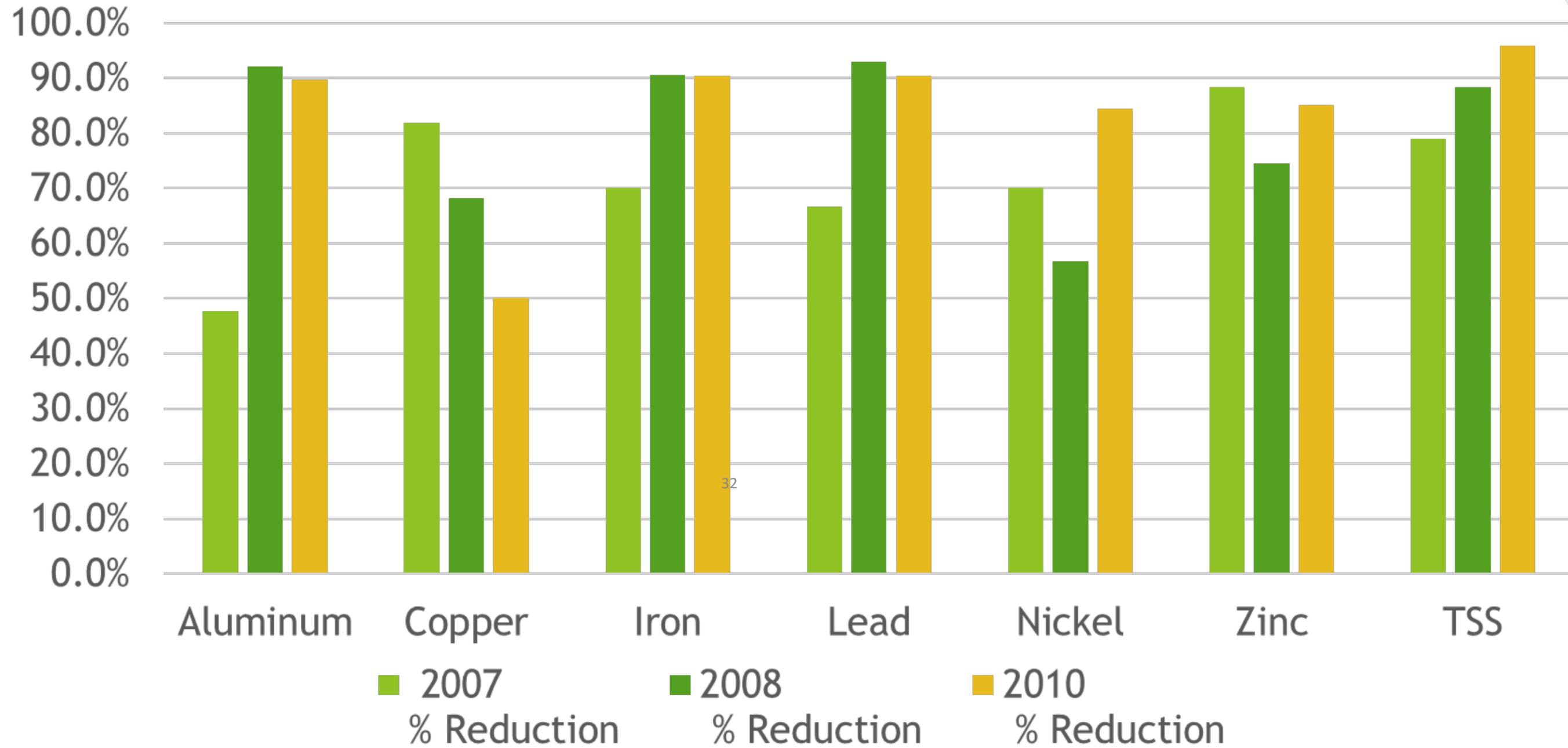
Floc Logs installed in duplex at 3-m intervals



Particulate containing metals captured on jute. Clear water discharge downstream.



Metals Reduction by Year





Summary:

- Metals significantly reduced
- Passive treatment system fit in footprint
- PAMs performed well in cold weather and survived ice/snow
- Future design could harvest metal particulate from discharge

Project Examples

Roadway Project,
San Antonio, FL, USA

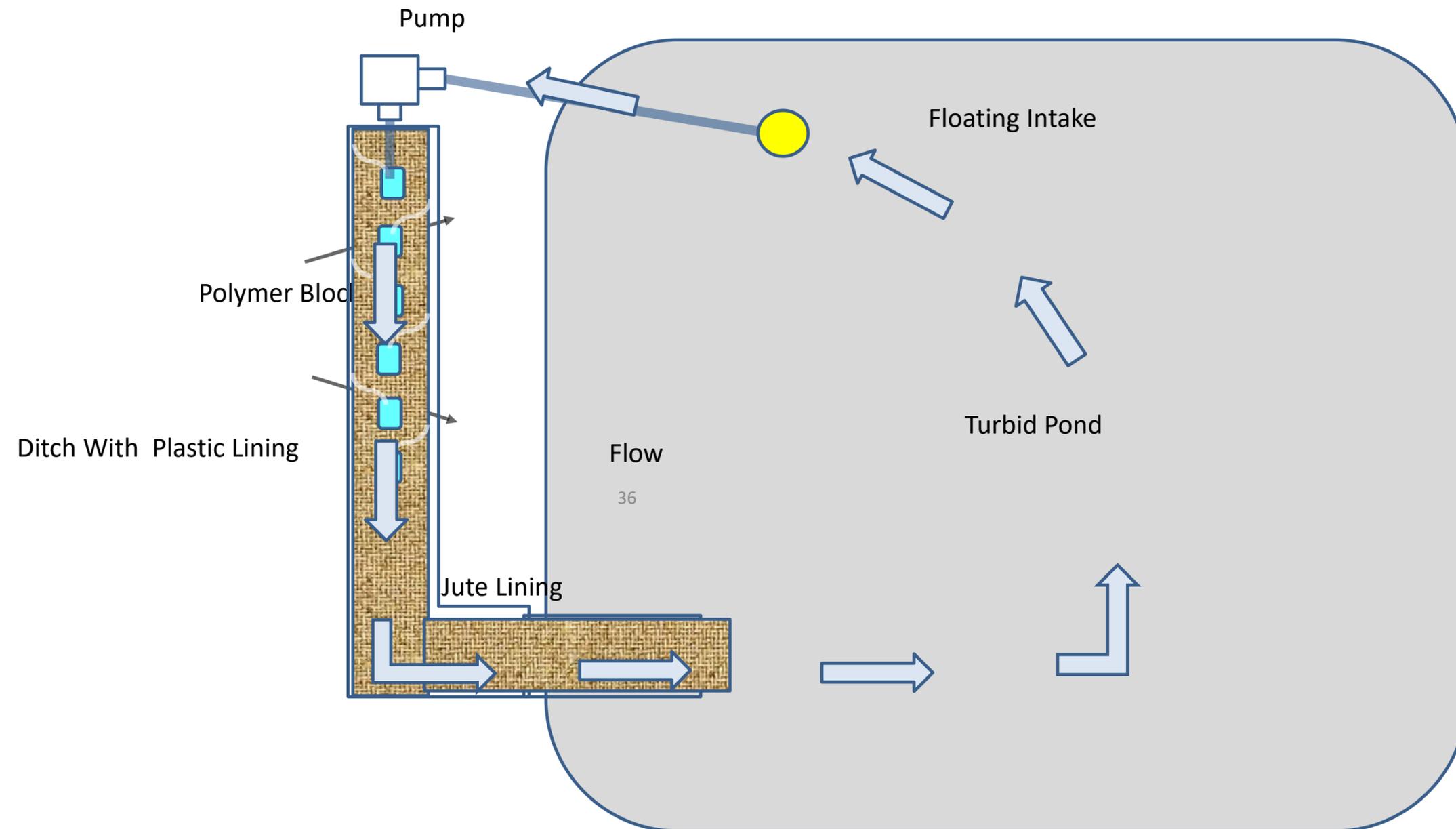
Road infrastructure
project with turbid
stormwater pond
discharging to wetlands

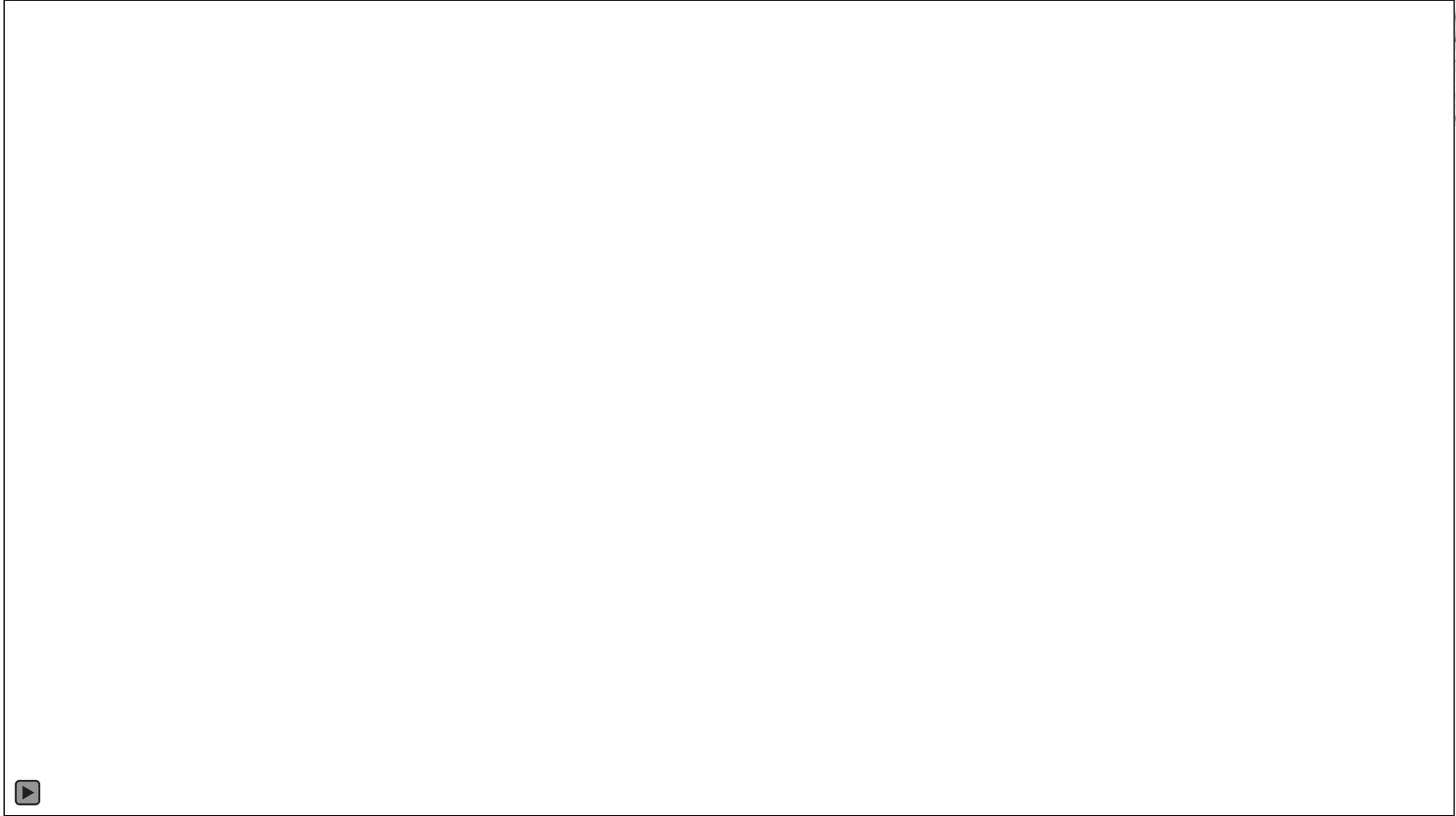


Project Location



Recirculating PAM Treatment Ditch System







Performance:

- ▶ Pond size = 1 acre
 - ▶ Volume = 2.6 million gallons
 - ▶ 3-inch trash pump ran at 300 gpm for 6 days
 - ▶ 2,592,000 gallons water treated
 - ▶ Final receiving water = 8 NTUs, background = 3 NTUs
 - ▶ 85-91% turbidity reduction
-

Project Examples

Pipeline Project, West Virginia, USA

Natural gas pipeline
through heavily forested
mountains



Pipeline cut through 300 + miles of pristine Appalachian forest ecosystems. Numerous threatened and endangered species. Very steep slopes with silty and clay soils. Standard sediment controls repeatedly failed.

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Steep Slopes!





- Turbid water discharge exceeded limits
- Standard BMPs and Dewatering bag⁴² did not reduce turbidity
- Numerous water quality violations by Federal/State agencies
- Protests by National/local environmental groups
- Federal government shutdown project



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Field Jar Testing



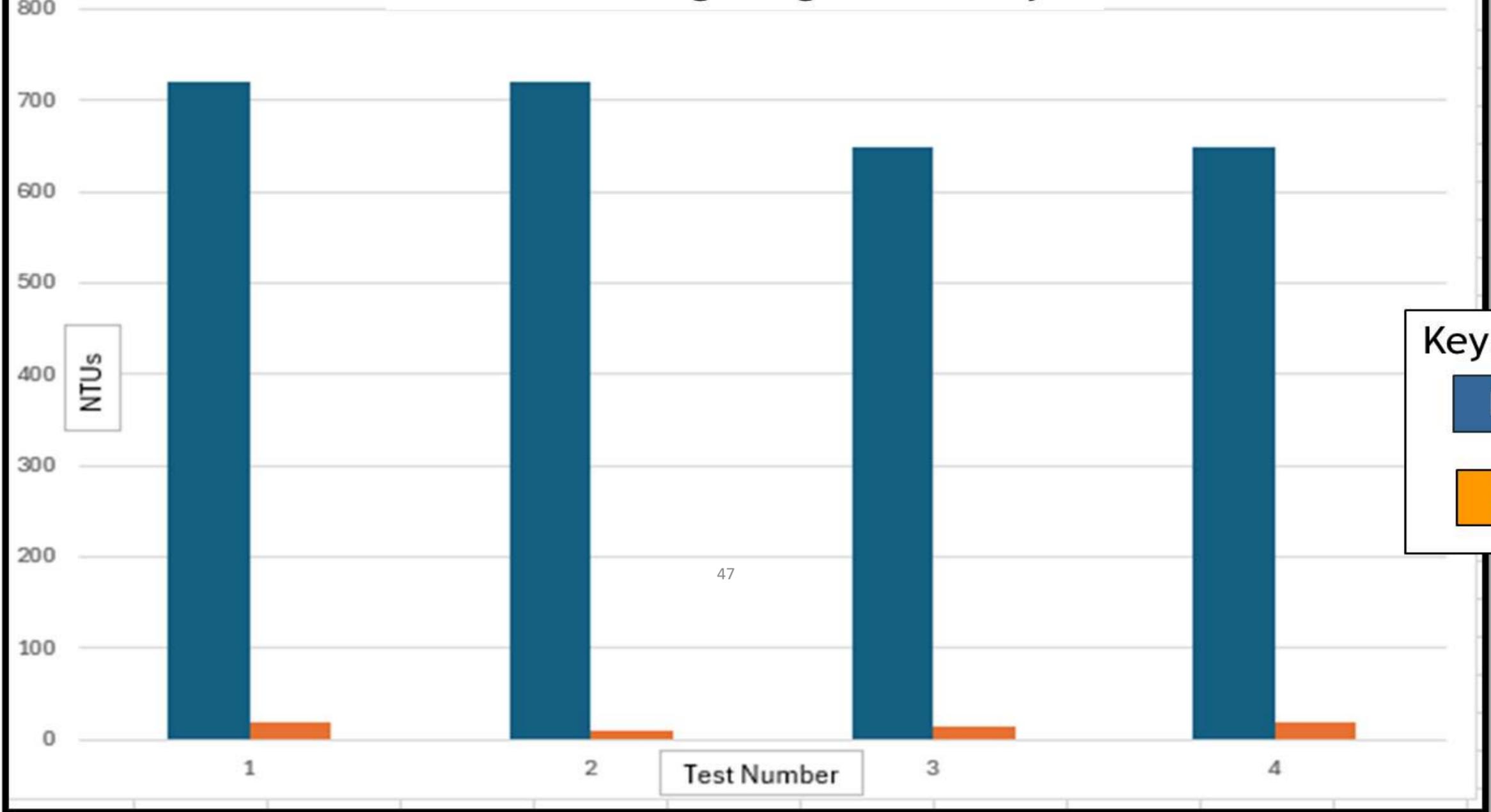


Best Jar Test Results, Measure Turbidity, Record



Permit requirement to use dewatering bag
(problem)

Dewatering Bag Turbidity



Key:

- Initial
- Final

Test Number

47

Dewatering Bag Testing:

Test	Test 1 with polymer inside containment
Discharge	Clear discharge over jute/polymer
Test	Test 2 no polymer inside containment
Discharge	Clear discharge over jute/polymer





Dewatering
Bag Within
Containment



Mixing/Dosing
With Floc Logs

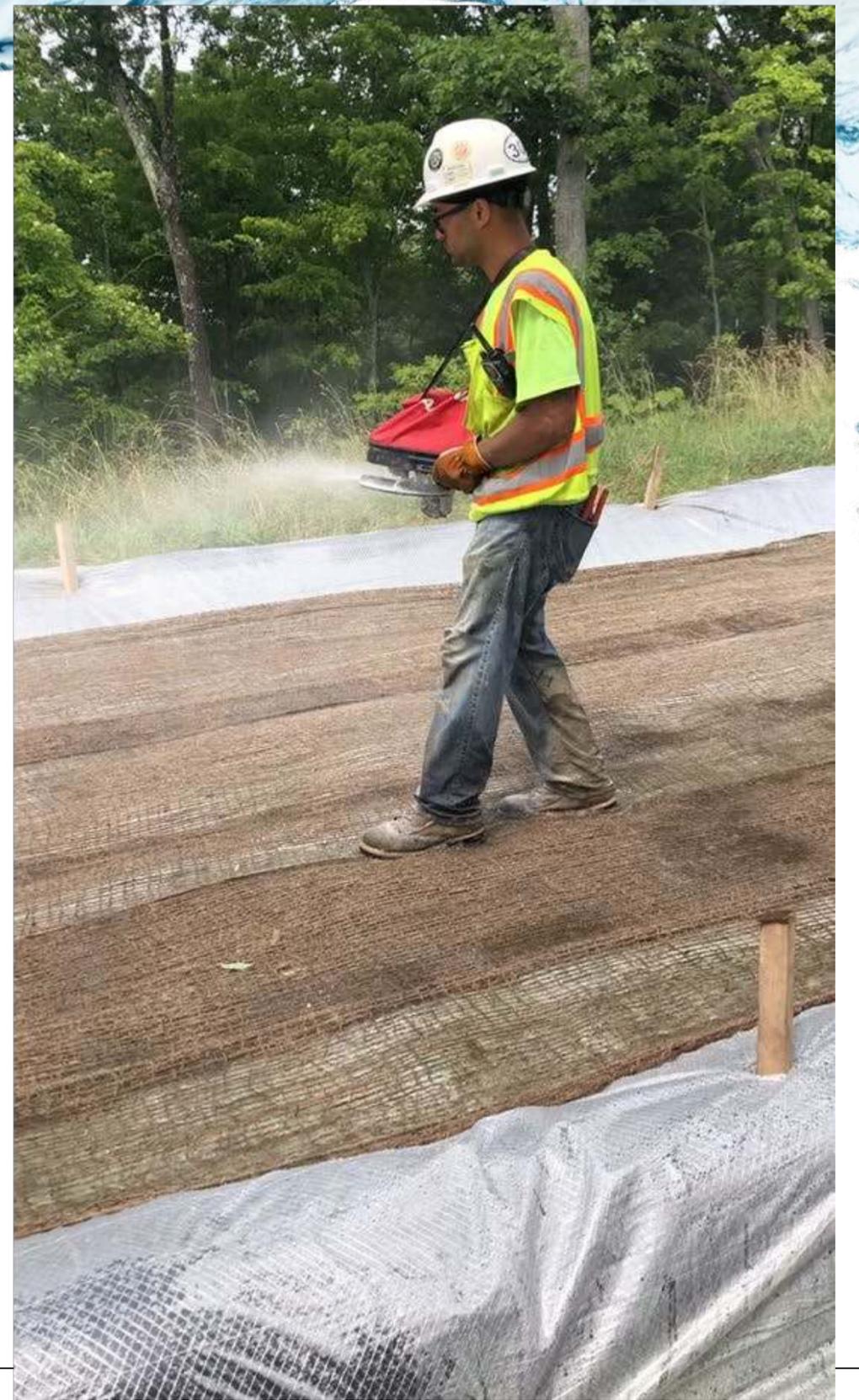


Particle
Capture On
Jute Matting





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200-300
Polymer
Treatment
Systems
Constructed
Along
Pipeline
Route



Polymer treated water discharge

54



Conclusions:

- Bags convert concentrated flow to sheet flow
- Polymers downstream of bag work
- No compliance issues/ No bag failures
- Water treatment team highly skilled in matching polymer blends
- Water treatment discharges were single digit NTUs
- Success!

Project Examples

Orlando, Florida,
USA

Three-phase apartment
project with surrounding
wetlands, intensely
monitored





Grande Pines Apartments

Protected
Wetlands

57

4418 ft

Google Earth

Image Date: 11/4/2022 28822'24.01" N 81825'56.21" W elev: 0 ft sea alt: 10058 ft



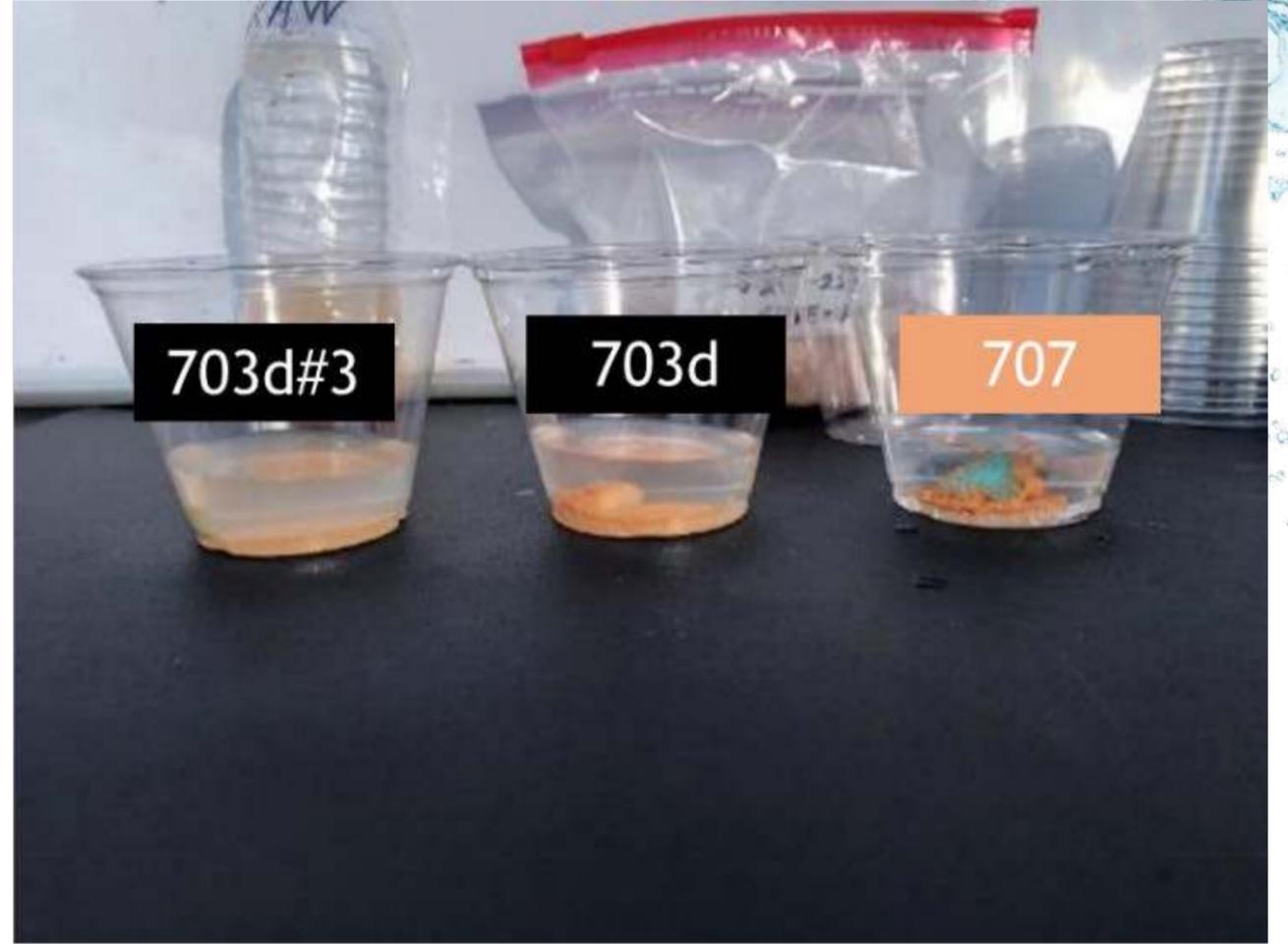
Wellpoint System Usually Produces Clear Water Discharge. Site Groundwater Contained High Turbidity (82 NTUs).



Site Discharged To Existing Stormwater Ponds And Then To Sensitive Wetlands That Were Highly Protected And Monitored By Orange County EPD.



60



Needed to Create a Soil-Matched 707 TurboFloc Log



Custom Logs Installed Within TurboFloc System And Pumps Turned On To Start Dewatering Operation.



62



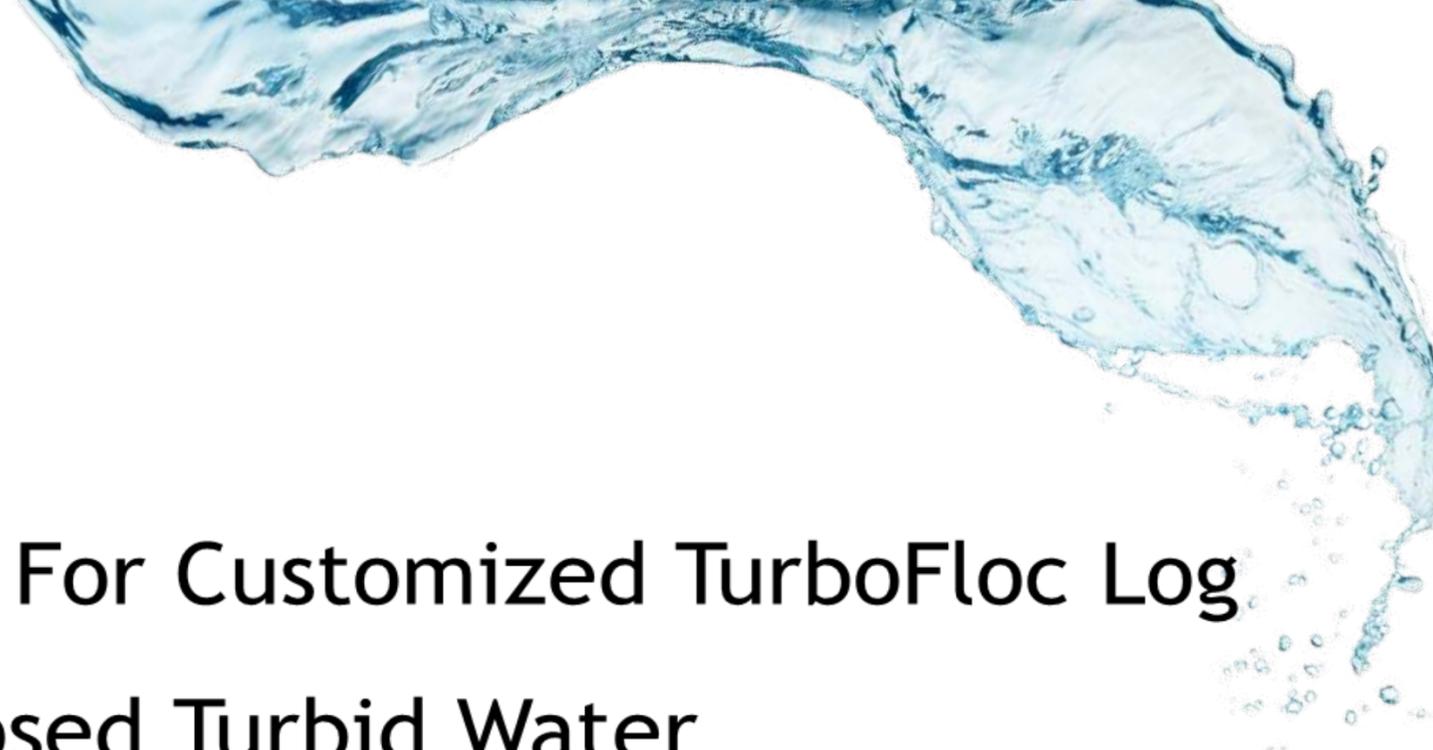
Initial Discharge 13 NTUs





Final Discharge 6 NTUs





Conclusions:

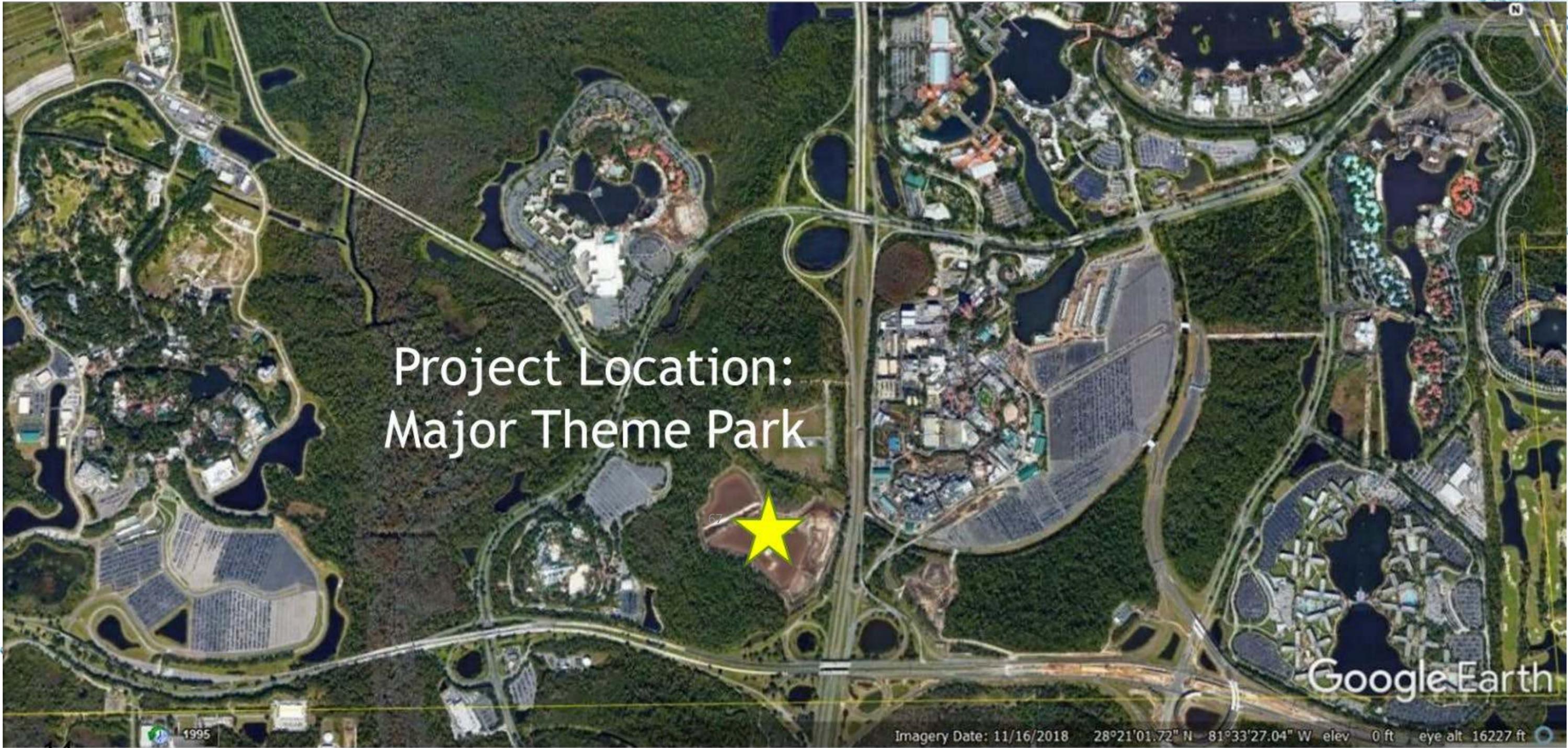
- Soil/Water Testing Determined Need For Customized TurboFloc Log
- TurboFloc PAM System Adequately Dosed Turbid Water
- Jute Particle Capture Added Another Layer Of Treatment
- Final Discharge 6 NTUs, 93% Reduction
- Wetlands Protected
- Client Happy

Project Examples

Orlando, Florida,
USA

Excavation of fill material
for new ride project with
surrounding wetlands,
intensely monitored





Project Location:
Major Theme Park

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Google Earth

Imagery Date: 11/16/2018 28°21'01.72" N 81°33'27.04" W elev 0 ft eye alt 16227 ft

1995



Sand Mine Pit For New Attraction

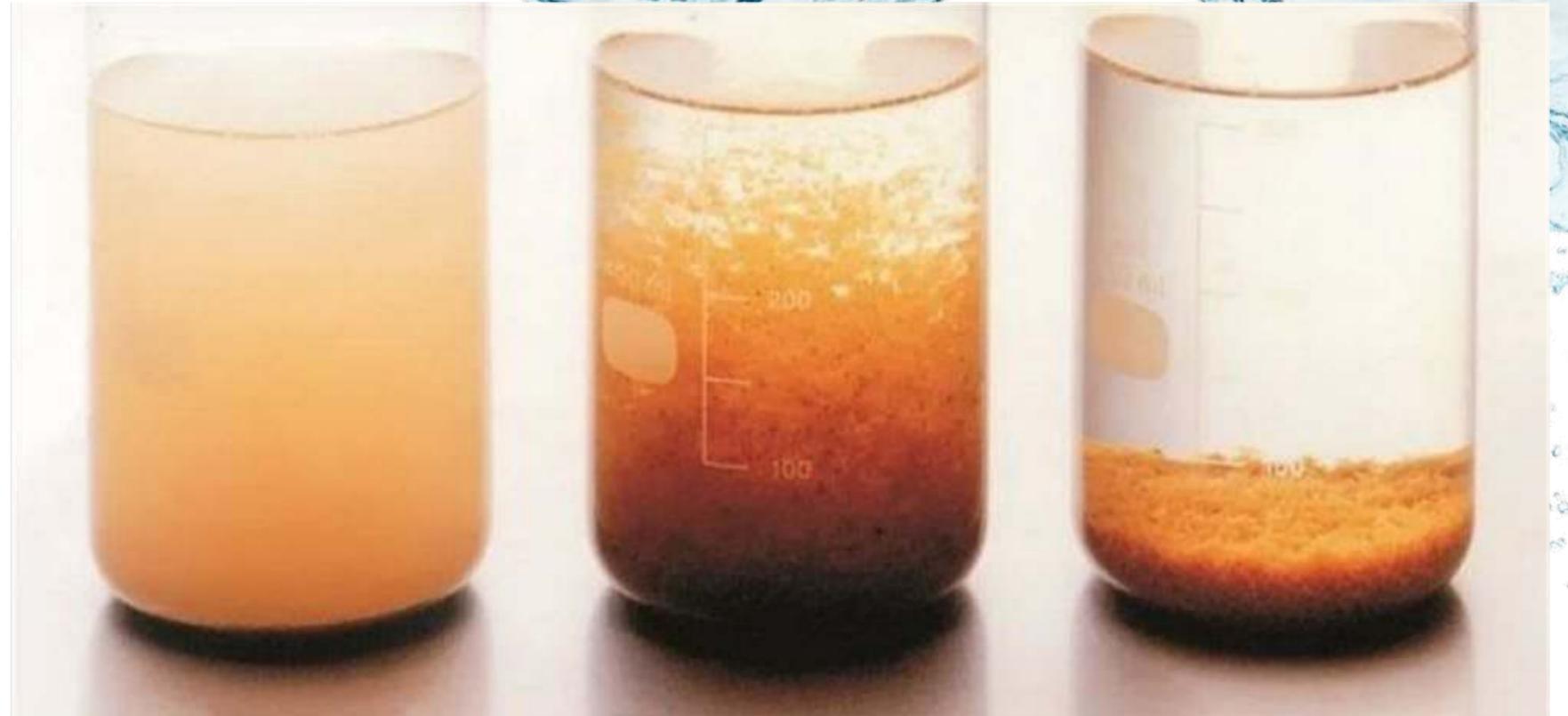
Area 21.62 acres.
Pit depth 30-40 feet





Turbid water (300-400 NTUs)
Volume approximately 300 million gallons

ALUM TREATMENT PERFORMED ON POND



Hurricane Irma Sep. 2017





12-inch rain event flooded the pit and shut down work

Turbid water (300-400 NTUs)

Volume approximately 300 million gallons



Pond Flooded. Containment Lost. Alum Ineffective Due To Loss Of Settling Area.

Polymer Mixing Inside Of Pipe



500-1,200 GPM Flow Rates per unit

Pipe Mixing Systems

Advanced Treatment



Treatment systems were connected in a series for higher flow rates

Modular Particulate Capture System



Floc Pit Installation



Final discharge 12 NTUs
97% Turbidity Reduction



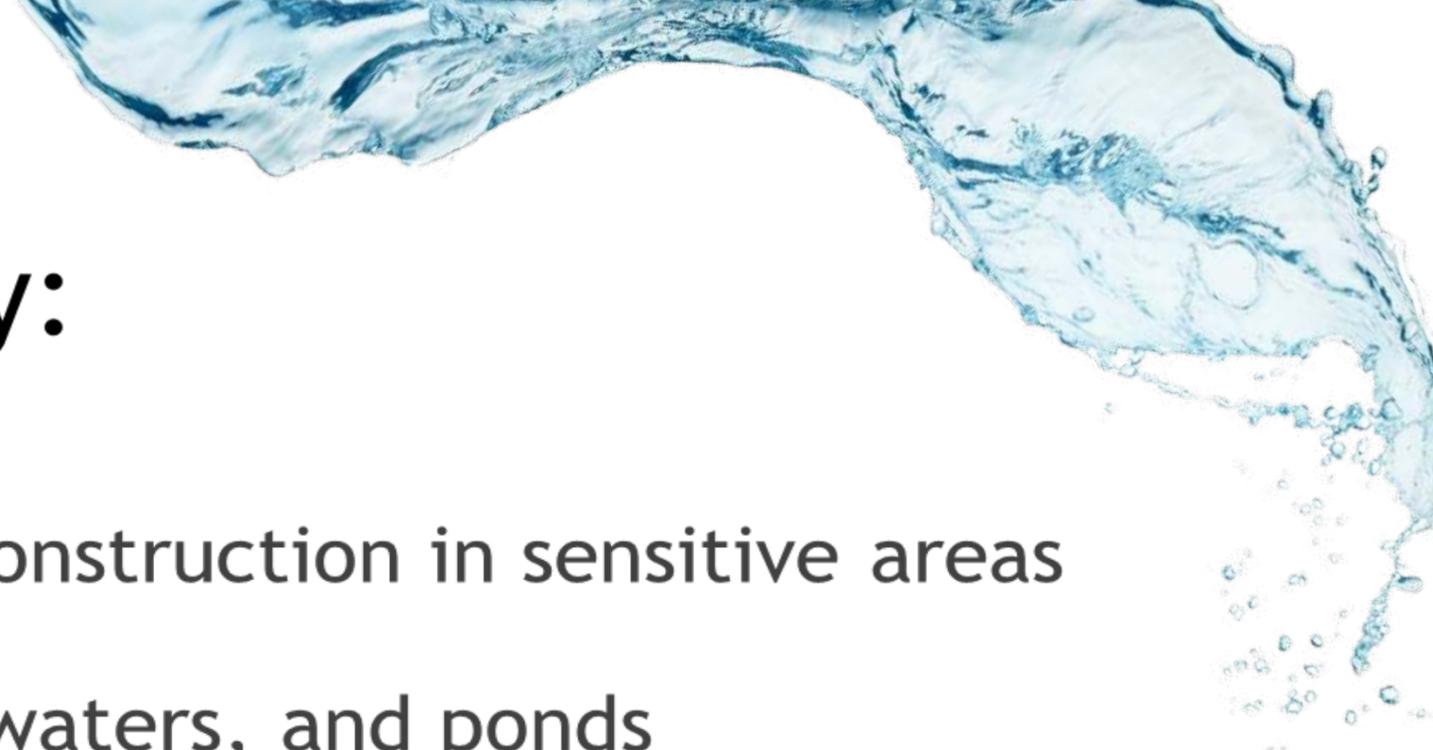
Finished pond

DETAILS:

- 540,000 gph x 24 hours =12,960,000 gpd
- 12,960,000 x 180 days =2.3 billion gallons pumped
- Final discharge 12 NTUs (target limit 32 NTUs)
- 97% Turbidity Reduction



Highly
successful
project!

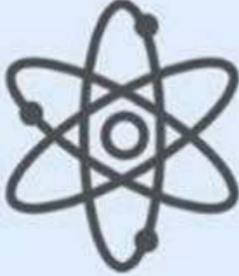


Anionic PAM Blends Summary:

- ▶ Versatile, adaptable, scalable, allowing construction in sensitive areas
- ▶ Applied directly to soil, static or flowing waters, and ponds
- ▶ Performance testing assures best results
- ▶ Training enhances success
- ▶ Toxicity testing protects aquatic life⁸²
- ▶ Reduce metals, TSS, and turbidity in extreme and remote areas



All APS products meet or exceed the requirements of the EPA Construction General Permit for chemical treatment of stormwater from construction activities using anionic polyacrylamide (Effective 2022).

			
NSF/ANSI/CAN STANDARD 60	ANIONIC PAM SAFE FOR FISH	TOXICITY TESTED PER EPA STANDARDS	SITE SPECIFIC TAILORED FORMULAS



A scenic sunset over a lake with a wooden dock and trees in the foreground. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow over the water and trees. The sky is a mix of blue and orange. The foreground shows a grassy bank with several trees, including birches. A wooden dock extends into the water, and a small boat is visible on the right side.

OUR VISION IS CLEAR!

APPLIED POLYMER SYSTEMS

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