Request for Proposals – Construction Services:
Moss Road Culvert Removal and River Channel Restoration

Town of Lewis, Essex County, New York

Released:	April 28, 2026
Responses Due:	May 15, 2026
Construction Slated For:	Summer 2026

1. Overview

The Ausable Freshwater Center (AFC) is soliciting proposals from qualified contractors to remove the existing culvert pipes at the crossing of Moss Road over the North Branch Boquet River in the Town of Lewis, New York, and to restore the river channel through the crossing area in accordance with the attached plan set. This work will prepare the site for a new bridge to be installed by the Essex County Department of Public Works (ECDPW) at this location.

Installation of the new bridge by ECDPW will follow under a separate contract after channel restoration is complete. Bridge installation is **not** part of this Request for Proposals.

2. Project Description

Construction Summary:

This project is funded by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the US Environmental Protection Agency under agreement with NEIWPCC in partnership with the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP), and construction is slated for summer 2026. Under the oversight of AFC and USFWS staff, the contractor will follow the plan set (attached as Appendix A) to remove the existing culvert pipes from the Moss Road crossing over the North Branch Boquet River and to restore the river channel through the crossing in preparation for future bridge installation by ECDPW. The contractor will perform all work in accordance with all applicable permits, which have already been issued by the relevant agencies.

Moss Road will be closed for the duration of construction. The contractor is responsible for coordinating with AFC and ECDPW regarding road closure logistics, access for construction equipment, and staging areas.

3. Project Roles

AFC serves as project manager, coordinating planning, construction oversight, budgets, and permitting. AFC staff will oversee all construction activities under this contract. The hired contractor will remove the existing culvert pipes and restore the river channel per the plan set and AFC specifications. The contractor shall coordinate with AFC on all aspects of the work, including sequencing, material staging, and site stabilization. ECDPW will assist with hauling away the existing culvert pipes and excess spoils material from the culvert removal.

Following completion of the work under this contract, ECDPW will install a new bridge at the crossing under a separate contract managed by ECDPW.

4. Scope of Work

Objective: Following the attached plan set, the construction contractor will secure and dewater the stream reach, remove the existing culvert pipes and associated road fill material over the pipes, and restore the river channel through the crossing area to the lines and grades shown in the plan set. The work will leave the channel in a stable, restored condition suitable for subsequent bridge installation by ECDPW.

Work required includes:

- Contractor will assist in pre-construction planning, working with AFC, USFWS, and ECDPW to prepare the site for construction and stage materials. Moss Road will be closed for the duration of the project.
- Contractor will install necessary dewatering systems and work with AFC and USFWS to properly secure the stream to minimize risk of harm to aquatic resources and downstream water quality.
- Contractor will remove the existing culvert pipes and associated road fill material above and around the pipes in accordance with the plan set. Material disposal will be coordinated with AFC and ECDPW.
- Contractor will excavate and grade the channel area as shown in the plan set to restore the river channel to the design lines, grades, and cross-section.
- Contractor will work with AFC and USFWS to reconstruct the streambed and banks through the crossing, including placement of grade controls, bed material, or bank protection specified in the plan set.
- Contractor will regrade site access areas in a condition suitable for subsequent bridge installation and approach work by ECDPW.
- Contractor will perform all site stabilization and remove temporary erosion and sediment controls upon project completion.
- Contractor will prioritize, to the degree possible, the safety and water quality of the stream, its bed, banks and adjacent habitat, and its aquatic wildlife, consulting with AFC, USFWS, and permit authorities as necessary.
- See Appendix A (plan set) for construction details and specifications.

Note: Installation of the new bridge at this location will be performed by ECDPW under a separate contract following completion of the channel restoration work and is not included in this scope of work.

5. Prevailing Wage Requirement

This project is subject to New York State prevailing wage requirements pursuant to Article 8 of the New York State Labor Law. The selected contractor and any subcontractors shall:

- Pay no less than the applicable prevailing wage rates for Essex County, New York.
- Comply with all reporting and documentation requirements under NYS Labor Law.
- Be responsible for ensuring all subcontractors comply with prevailing wage requirements.

6. Payment Terms

Payment for construction services will be made upon completion of construction activities in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. Upon satisfactory completion of the work:

- The contractor shall submit a final invoice to the Ausable Freshwater Center.
- The Ausable Freshwater Center will immediately invoice the granting agency.
- Payment to the contractor will be issued upon receipt of grant funds.

Contractors should account for this reimbursement-based payment structure in their proposals.

7. Insurance Requirements

The selected contractor shall provide proof of the following insurance coverage prior to execution of a construction contract:

- Commercial General Liability Insurance:
  - $2,000,000 per occurrence
  - $4,000,000 general aggregate
- Personal Injury Liability: $2,000,000
- Comprehensive Business Automobile Liability & Property Damage Liability: $2,000,000

Certificates of insurance must be provided prior to commencement of work.

8. Timeline

The start date is subject to the relocation of Eastern pearlshell mussels that need to be moved out of the work area prior to construction. We anticipate that construction could start as early as mid-June, but river flows may dictate a later start in July. Generally, lower flows are necessary for instream work due to safety and ease of excavation.

9. Submittal Content – Qualifications

Respondents/Contractor shall submit information that addresses the following. Please answer each point fully; brevity is appreciated.

- Respondent's legal structure, areas of expertise, length of time in business, description of insurance, number of employees, and contact information for the person authorized to contractually obligate the Respondent.

- Separate lump sum cost estimates for services and materials to complete each of the following components of the project:
  - Lump Sum 1 – Culvert Removal: All work associated with dewatering, removal of the existing culvert pipes, and removal of associated road fill material above and around the pipes.
  - Lump Sum 2 – River Channel Restoration: All work associated with excavation, grading, streambed and bank reconstruction, grade control placement, site regrading, stabilization, and removal of temporary controls.
  - **NOTE:** Upon the award to the prospective contract, a complete schedule of values and cost breakdown shall be submitted in accordance with the scope of work items identified in the contract documents.
- Staffing Plan: Respondent's capacity to provide services in the required timeframe, key personnel who will provide services, and the proposed staffing plan.
- Identification of any Subconsultants, including a summary of their experience and technical skills.
- Contractor shall describe relevant experience with stream channel restoration, culvert removal, and related earthwork – preferably projects overseen or designed by AFC, USFWS, or similar organizations.
- Contractor shall indicate whether they have experience with and capacity to perform precision streambed, stonework, and bank reconstruction efficiently.
- Contractor shall indicate their availability to schedule work in consultation with AFC, USFWS, and ECDPW.

10. RFP Response Deadline and Selection Process

Responses to this RFP are due by close of business on May 15, 2026.

Proposals should be sent by electronic mail, as a PDF file, to Gary Henry at gary@ausablecenter.org with "Moss Road Culvert Removal and Channel Restoration" in the subject line. Questions about the project should be emailed with a phone number included for quick response.

The Ausable Freshwater Center reserves the right to:

- Accept or reject any or all submissions.
- Request qualified respondents to consider contracting only for certain elements of the project.
- Waive or modify minor irregularities in the proposals received.
- Negotiate with respondents, within the proposal requirements, to best serve the interests of the project partners.
- Amend specifications after their release, with due notice to all respondents to modify their submission to reflect those amendments.
- Consider every offer or response as firm and not revocable for a period of 30 days unless the offer is withdrawn in writing.
- Award a contract for any or all parts of a proposal.

Responses may be shared with USFWS and ECDPW. The selected contractor will be notified on or before May 22, 2026. Bids will be evaluated in general conformance, at minimum, with the following criteria: cost, experience, ability to complete the work in accordance with the project schedule, and proximity to the construction site.

Appendix A – Design Plan Set

CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS
FOR
NORTH BRANCH BOQUET @ MOSS ROAD

Know what's **below.**
Call before you dig.

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION NOTES

1. All work must be accomplished according to the plans and specification of the project. Any changes must be with prior written approval by the design/project approver(s).

2. All construction practices must be in accordance with O.S.H.A standards and regulations part 1910 and 1926. All trench excavations in unstable soils or in trenches greater than five feet deep shall be sloped, shored, or shielded according to O.S.H.A. part 1926.

3. All work must comply with all associated federal, state, and local permits. All permits, zoning variances, easements, and rights of way are the responsibility of the landowner.

4. At least two full working days prior to excavation, the contractor must notify the underground facilities protection organization (UFPO; UDIG-NY) at https://udigny.org or 811 and any other local utilities that may be in the area.

5. The contractor or an individual who represents the contractor, and who is responsible for the work, must attend the pre-construction meeting, which will be scheduled prior to the start of work.

6. The contractor must give the designer, project inspector and/or engineer as well as the landowner/operator a minimum of two full working days notice prior to construction.

7. The contractor will be familiar with the nature and location of the work, and investigate the general and local conditions that can effect the work or its costs.

8. The contractor will clean up the area throughout the project, returning the site to original or better condition

9. The contractor must coordinate construction work with the landowner to accommodate animal traffic and daily routine activities throughout the duration of the project and to best protect water quality.

10. The contractor must report any findings of historical, cultural, or environmental concerns to the project inspector immediately.

11. The contractor will preserve and protect all structures, equipment, and vegetation on or adjacent to the work site, that are not to be removed and do not interfere with required work.

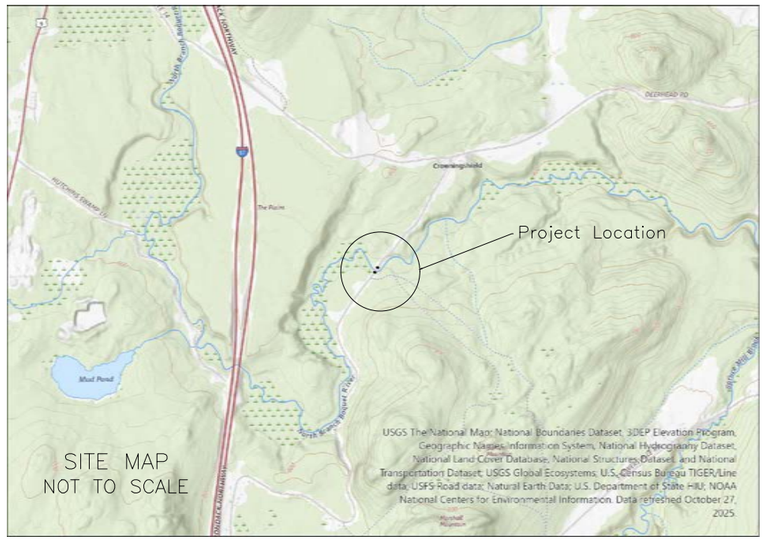
12. Any required sediment and erosion control practices will implemented according to the "New York State Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control". The contractor is responsible for site dewatering, both surface and subsurface, for the entirety of the project.

EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL NOTES

1. FOLLOW THE SEQUENCE OF CONSTRUCTION SHOWN ON PLAN TO PREVENT EROSION AND SEDIMENT LOSS.
2. INSTALL EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES ACCORDING TO SPECIFICATIONS SHOWN ON THE PLAN.
3. INSTALL STRAW BALE DITCH CHECK DAM DOWNSTREAM OF EACH PLUG TO PREVENT SEDIMENT FROM LEAVING THE SITE.
4. DISTURBED AREAS THAT DO NOT UTILIZE SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL MEASURES SUCH AS SILT FENCE SHALL BE MULCHED IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CONSTRUCTION.

Total Area of Facility:	0.67 Acres	Total Cut: 471 Cubic Yards
Total Area of Project Size:	0.67Acres	Total Fill: 120 Cubic Yards
Area Disturbed:	0.22 Acres	Total Spoil: 471 Cubic Yards
Receiving Watershed:	North Branch Boquet R	Spoil Disposed On Site: 0 Cubic Yards
Stream Impacts:	123 Linear Feet	Spoil Disposed Off Site: 471 Cubic Yards

SHEET	TITLE
COVER	THIS SHEET
300	EXISTING CONDITIONS
301	PLAN VIEW, PROFILE VIEW, XS VIEWS -DESIGN
302	STRUCTURE DETAILS, CHANNEL DIMENSIONS
303	SOIL LIFT DETAILS
304	EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL



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Partners for Fish & Wildlife

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
New York Field Office
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3817 Luker Road
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Tel. (607) 753-9334

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NORTH BRANCH BOQUET @ MOSS ROAD
EXISTING CONDITIONS

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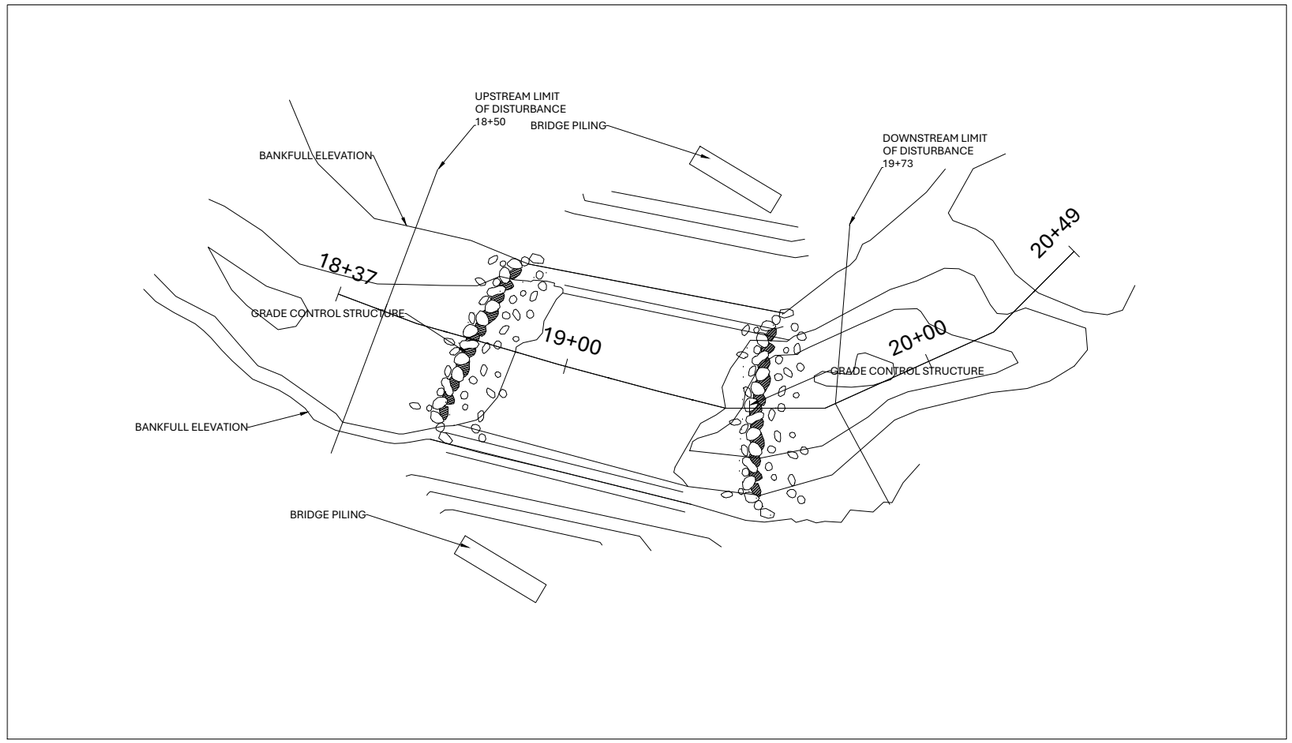

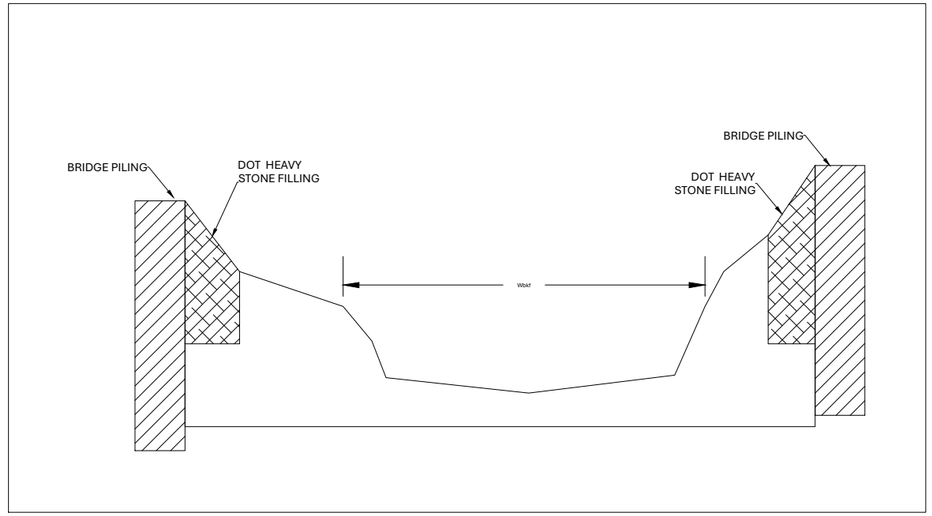

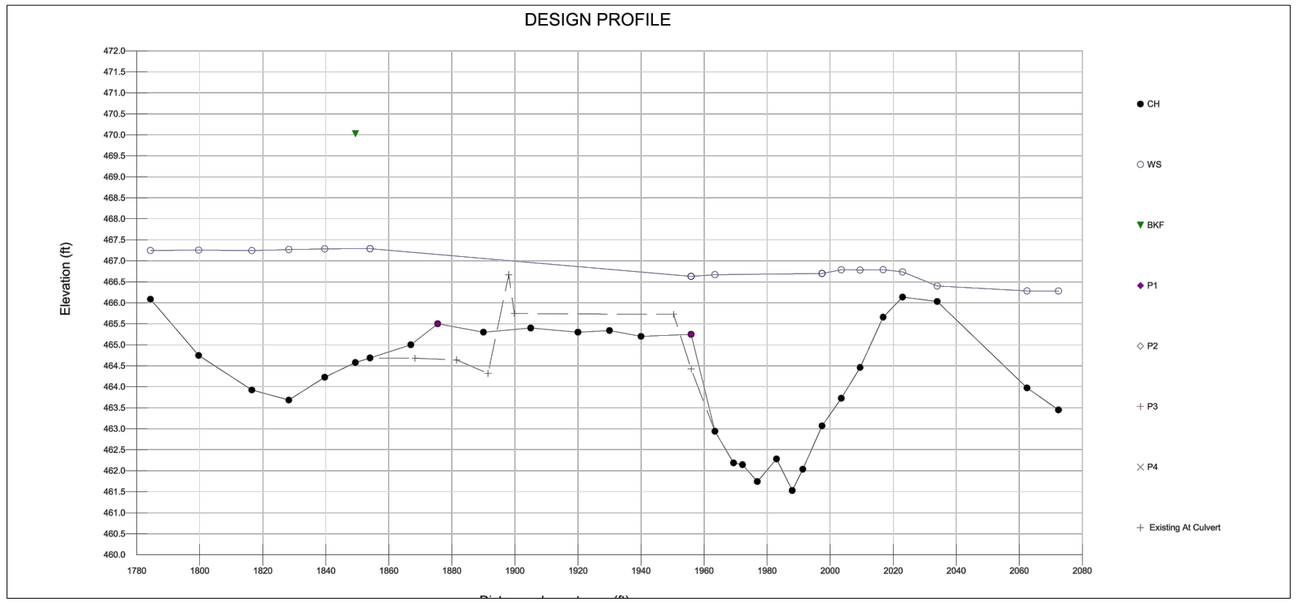

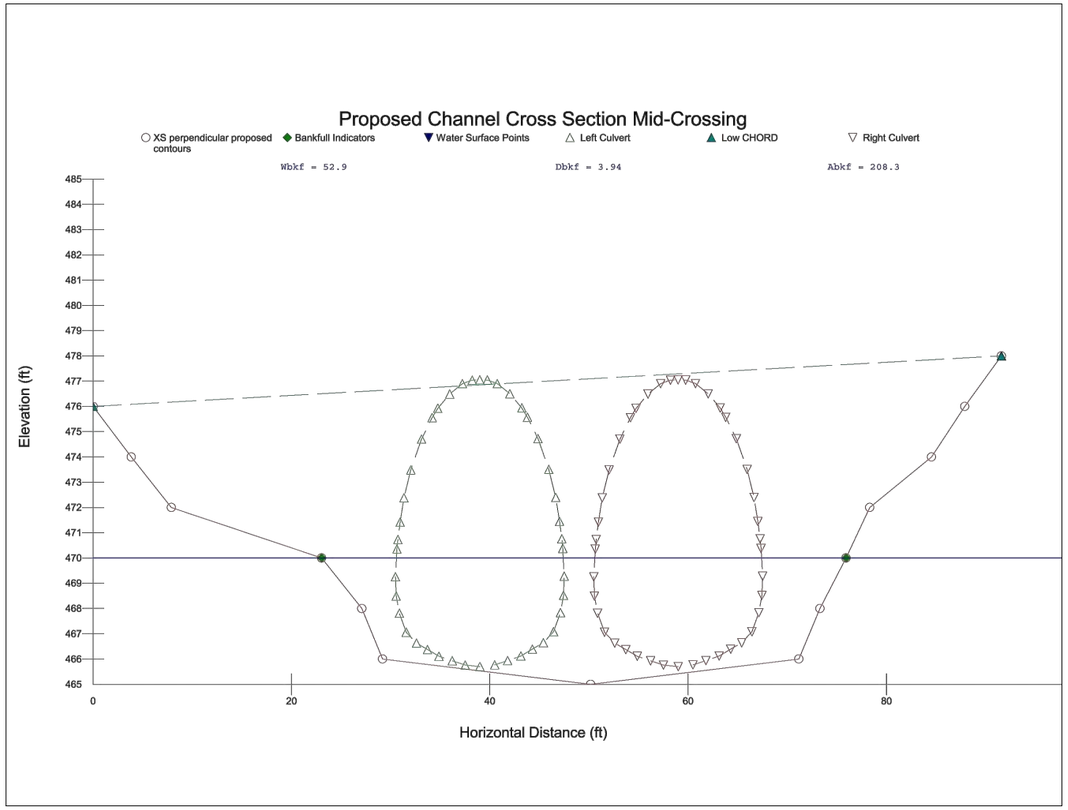

NORTH BRANCH BOQUET @ MOSS ROAD
PLAN VIEW, PROFILE VIEW, XS VIEWS –DESIGN

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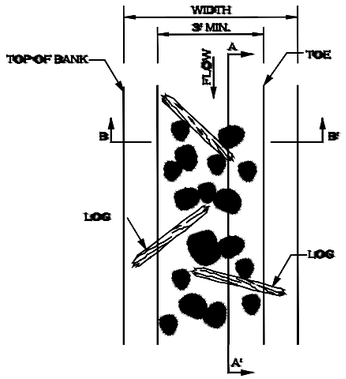
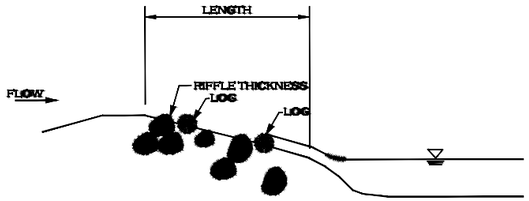
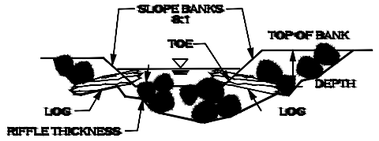
CONSTRUCTED RIFFLE



PLAN VIEW



PROFILE A - A'



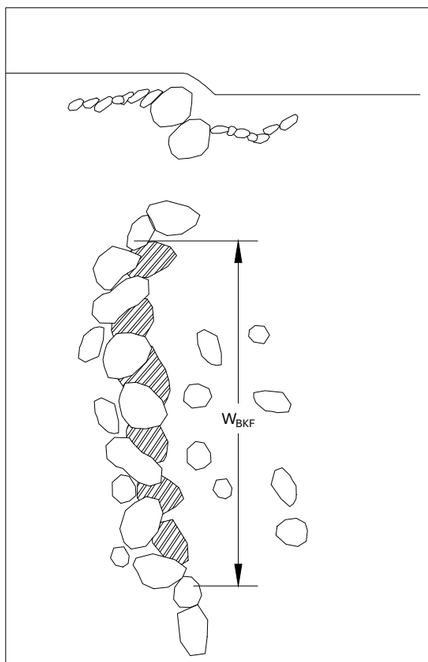
SECTION B - B'

CONSTRUCTED RIFFLE SPECIFICATIONS	
MATERIALS:	SPECIFICATIONS:
LOGS	TYPE: HARDWOOD OR SOFTWOOD SIZE: TOTAL LENGTH: 4FT - 7 FT DIAMETER: 3"-8"
RIFFLE MIX	TYPE: NATIVE, UNBLASTED MATERIAL FROM ONSITE OR CONTIGUOUS AREAS CONSISTING PRIMARILY OF LOCAL GLACIAL TILL (E.G. GNEISS, GRANITE, AND ANORTHOSITE) MIN. SIZE NATIVE ALLUVIUM THICKNESS: 1" INCHES MIN.
BOULDERS / COBBLE	TYPE: NATIVE, UNBLASTED MATERIAL FROM ONSITE OR CONTIGUOUS AREAS CONSISTING PRIMARILY OF LOCAL GLACIAL TILL (E.G. GNEISS, GRANITE, AND ANORTHOSITE) MIN. SIZE 3"-10" COBBLE TO 10" TO 24" BOULDERS
COIR	SEE DETAIL

NOTES
TO BE CONSTRUCTED INSTREAM BETWEEN STA 18+75 AND 19+55

1. COMBINATION OF CONSTRUCTED RIFFLE MIX, BOULDERS, AND LOGS SHALL BE PLACED THROUGHOUT THE INNER BERM AND BOTTOM WIDTH OF RIFFLE FEATURES AND ALONG THE INNER BERM FEATURE
2. GRADE STREAMBED AND BANKS TO PROPOSED DIMENSIONS
3. LOGS TO BE DRIVEN INTO GROUND AT LEAST 10 FEET.
4. LOGS HAVE NO ORIENTATION TO FLOW REQUIREMENT.
5. ANGLE OF LOG SHALL NOT BE GREATER THAN 10 DEGREES FROM CHANNEL BOTTOM.
6. INSTALL SOIL LIFTS ALONG STREAMBANKS.
7. FILL TRENCH WITH STONE TO FINAL DESIGN PROPOSED GRADE.

PLACEMENT OF BOULDERS AND LARGE WOODY MATERIAL TO BE DIRECTED ON SITE BY PROJECT ENGINEER



GRADE CONTROL STRUCTURE SPECIFICATIONS	
MATERIALS:	SPECIFICATIONS:
HEADER & FOOTER ROCK	TYPE: NATIVE BOULDERS & COBBLES COLLECTED ON-SITE OR IMPORTED SIZE: W 18" x 30" x 30" MINIMUM
COBBLE / BOULDERS	TYPE: NATIVE, UNBLASTED MATERIAL FROM ONSITE OR CONTIGUOUS AREAS CONSISTING PRIMARILY OF LOCAL GLACIAL TILL (E.G. GNEISS, GRANITE, AND ANORTHOSITE)
BACKFILL	
SOIL LIFTS	SEE DETAIL

NOTES

1. FOOTER ROCKS SHALL BE INSTALLED SUCH THAT 1 /4 TO 1 /3 OF THE LENGTH IS DOWNSTREAM OF THE HEADER ROCKS
2. SOIL SHALL BE WELL COMPACTED AROUND BURIED PORTION OF FOOTER ROCKS WITH BUCKET OF TRACK HOE
3. FINAL CHANNEL BED SHAPE SHOULD BE ROUNDED, COMPACTED, AND CONCAVE, WITH THE ELEVATION OF THE BED DEEPER IN THE CENTER THAN AT THE EDGES.
4. STEP HEIGHT (H) SHALL NOT EXCEED 1.0 FT

NORTH BRANCH BOQUET @ MOSS ROAD
STRUCTURE DETAILS

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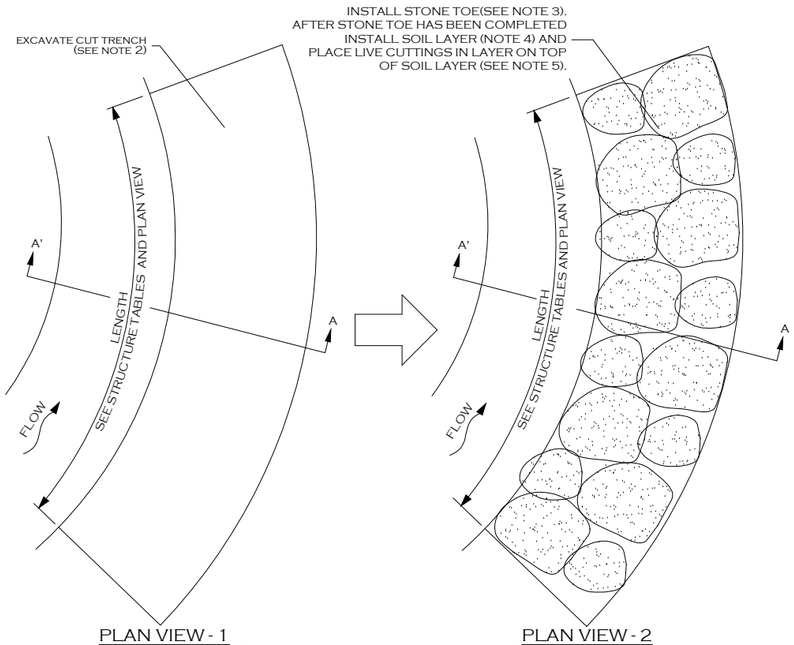
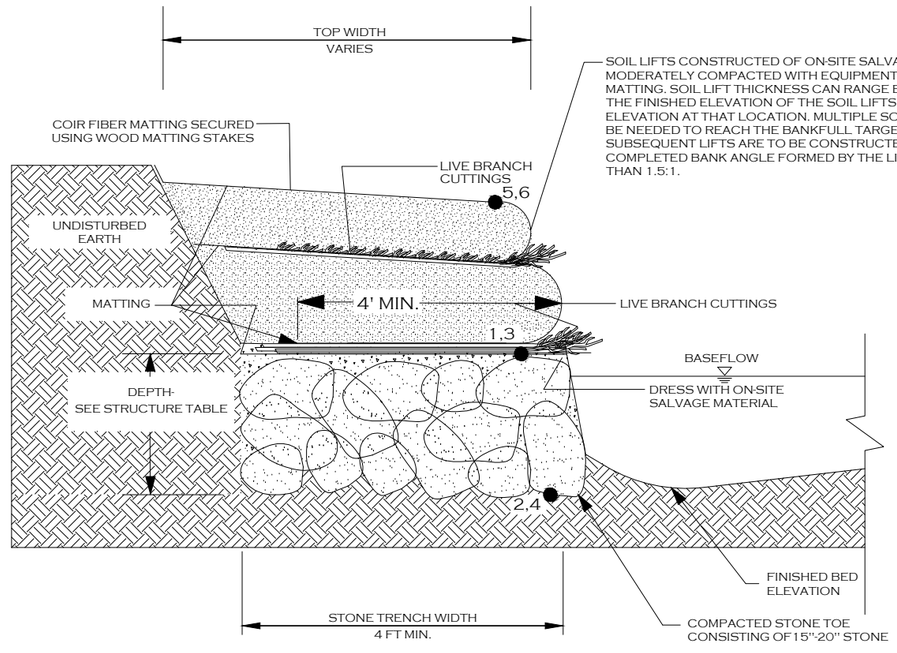
SOIL LIFT WITH STONE TOE PROTECTION



PLAN VIEW - 1
TRENCH EXCAVATION

PLAN VIEW - 2
STONE INSTALLATION



SECTION VIEW

● - ELEVATION POINT (SEE STRUCTURE TABLES)

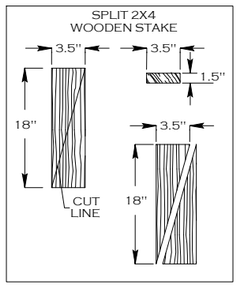
SOIL LIFT WITH STONE TOE SPECIFICATIONS

MATERIALS:	SPECIFICATIONS:
STONE TOE MATERIAL	TYPE: NATIVE, UNBLASTED MATERIAL FROM ONSITE OR CONTIGUOUS AREAS CONSISTING PRIMARILY OF LOCAL GLACIAL TILL (E.G. GNEISS, GRANITE, AND ANORTHOSITE) SIZE: w 18" x 24" x 24" MINIMUM
COIR FIBER MATTING	TYPE: GSM 700

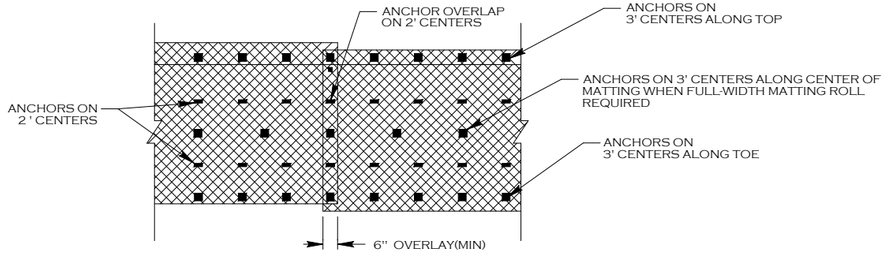
NOTES:

TO BE CONSTRUCTED BETWEEN STA 18+75 AND 19+55

1. STRUCTURE DIMENSIONS AND MEASUREMENTS ARE SHOWN ON THE STRUCTURE TABLE SHEET.
2. DIG A TRENCH ALONG BANK WHERE TOE WOOD IS TO BE INSTALLED, TO THE DEPTH AND WIDTH SPECIFIED IN THE DETAILS AND STRUCTURE TABLE. IF STONE TOE IS BEING PLACED IN A LOCATION WHERE THERE IS NOT EXISTING GROUND, PLACE FILL MATERIAL AND COMPACT TO FORM THE TRENCH FOR THE FOUNDATION MATERIALS.
3. INSTALL STONE TOE FOUNDATION TO THE DEPTH SPECIFIED IN THE STRUCTURE TABLE.
4. PLACE AN UNCONSOLIDATED LAYER OF SOIL AND COBBLE ON TOP OF STONE TOE. STONE TOE FOUNDATION/SOIL COBBLE LAYER SHOULD EXTEND APPROXIMATELY 0.5 FT ABOVE THE TYPICAL BASEFLOW ELEVATION.
5. INSTALL LIVE CUTTINGS AT LEAST 5 FEET IN LENGTH, AND AT LEAST 1 INCH IN DIAMETER. OMIT CUTTINGS UNDER BRIDGE DECK
6. CONSTRUCT GEOLIFTS TO REBUILD THE STREAMBANK ABOVE THE STONE TOE.



ANCHOR OPTIONS



SOIL LIFT STAKE LAYOUT

NORTH BRANCH BOQUET @ MOSS ROAD
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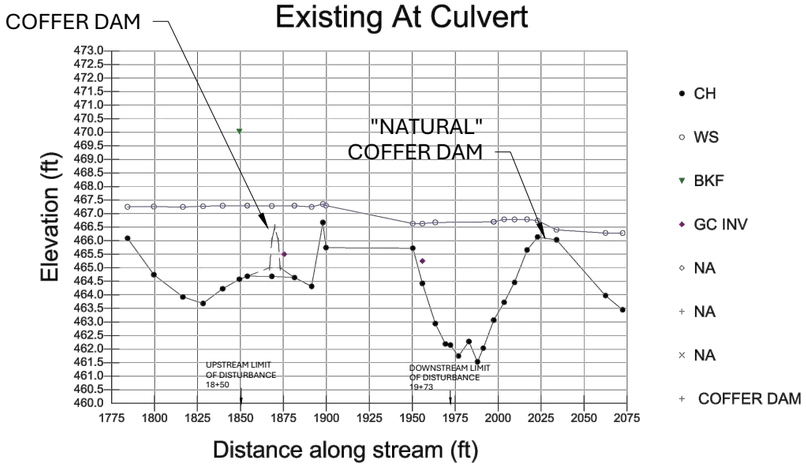

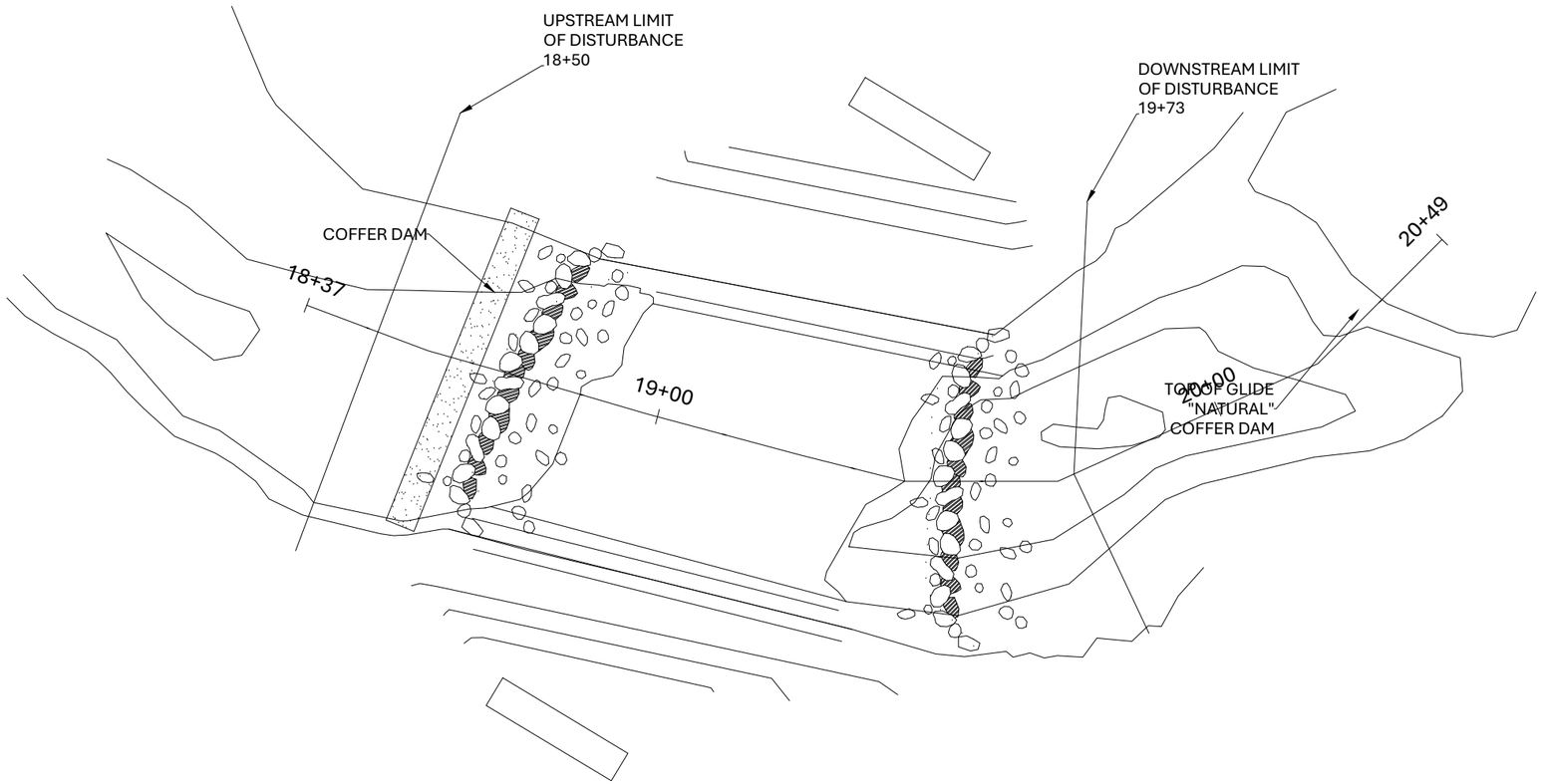

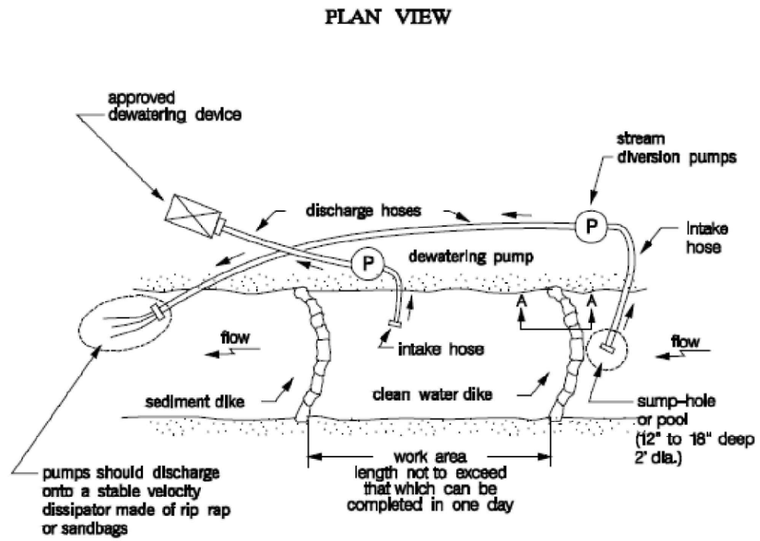

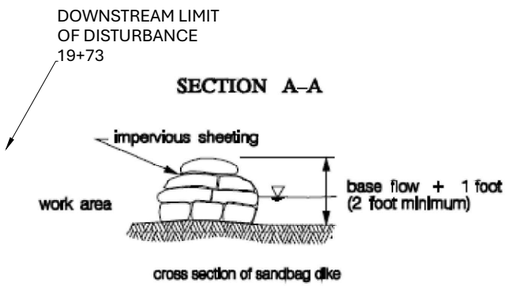

NORTH BRANCH BOQUET @ MOSS ROAD
EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL

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