

STATE OF VERMONT  
AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION

**Scoping Report**

FOR  
**STATEWIDE NORTHWEST STP CULV(90):  
ESSEX VT ROUTE 2A BR #11**

**VT ROUTE 2A, BRIDGE 11 OVER UNNAMED BROOK**

August 30, 2023

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## I. Site Information

Bridge 11 is a State-owned bridge located on VT Route 2A in the Town of Essex approximately 0.3 miles northbound of the junction with VT-Route 289 W. The existing conditions were gathered from a combination of a Site Visit, the Inspection Report, the Route Log and the existing Survey. See correspondence in the Appendix for more detailed information.

Roadway Classification	Minor Arterial
Bridge Type	Single Span Reinforced Concrete box culvert
Culvert Span	6 feet
Culvert Length	63 feet
Year Built	1934
Ownership	State of Vermont

The existing structure is a “Frankenstein” culvert which is comprised of three separate structures connected and directing flow under TH-24 (Gentes Road), the railroad (owned by New England Central, NEC, RR), and VT – Route 2A.

1. Under TH-24 at the inlet are two 3.5-ft x 5-ft cast-in-place concrete boxes.
2. Under the NEC railroad is a slab bridge with old laid up stone abutments and a laid up stone pier. The overall dimensions are approximately 12-ft x 6-ft. The center pier is 4-ft wide limiting the structure to two 4-ft x 6-ft openings.
3. The last section under VT-2A is a 6-ft x 6-ft concrete box. This section is the only part of the structure that is owned by the State of Vermont.

Unless otherwise specified, this report takes into consideration the scope of only the third section of the structure which is under VT Route 2A and owned by VTrans.

### Need

Bridge 11 carries VT Route 2A across unnamed Brook. The following is a list of deficiencies of Bridge 11 and VT Route 2A in this location:

1. The culvert is in Poor condition:
  - a. There are areas of holes in the box exposing backfill and thinning rebar.
  - b. There are two areas of moderate cracking through both side walls and soffit with the largest crack measuring up to  $\frac{3}{4}$ ”.
  - c. The southwest wingwall has failed
  - d. The downstream channel has moderate erosion. The heaviest erosion is around the failed southwest wing wall.
2. The shoulders along VT Route 2A through the project area do not meet the minimum standard width for safety and service or shared use for the speed and traffic volumes present.

## Traffic

A traffic study of this site was performed by the Vermont Agency of Transportation. The traffic volumes are projected for the years 2027 and 2047.

TRAFFIC DATA	2027	2047
AADT	10,683	11,732
DHV	1,200	1,300
%T	4.9	6.8
%D	66	66
ADTT	702	1,067
Flexible ESALS:	2027~2047	2027~2067
	3,550,000	8,061,000

## Design Criteria

The design standards for this bridge project are the Vermont State Standards, dated October 22, 1997. Minimum standards are based on an ADT of 11,732, a DHV of 1,300, and a design speed of 50 mph for a Minor Arterial.

Design Criteria	Source	Existing Condition	Minimum Standard	Comment
Roadway Lane and Shoulder Widths	VSS Table 4.3	11'2' (26)	11'5' (32')	Does not meet Minimum Standards
Clear Zone Distance	VSS Table 4.4	Eastern bank: toe of slope of NEC Railroad <25ft from the edge of VT Route 2A pavement, aerial utilities Western bank: steep banks to forested area	24' fill (1:4 slope) / 14' cut (1:3 slope) 18' cut (1:4 slope)	
Banking	VSS Section 4.13	Superelevated 3.5% to 2.5%	8% (max)	Meets Minimum Standards, since the road is straight superelevation is not required
Speed	VSS Section 4.3	50 mph (posted)	50 mph (design)	
Horizontal Alignment	AASHTO Green book Table 3-10b	R = ∞ (road is straight)	R <sub>min</sub> = 8,150 ft @ e=NC	Meets Minimum Standards
Vertical Grade	VSS Table 4.5	-3.5% avg over culvert	4% (max) for level terrain	
K Values for Vertical Curves	AASHTO Table 3-37	K <sub>sag</sub> = 48.6	84 crest / 96 sag	
Vertical Clearance	VSS Section 4.8	No Issues Noted	14'-3" (min)	
Stopping Sight Distance	AASHTO Table 3-37	HSSD = 214ft	425'	
Bicycle/Pedestrian Criteria	VSS Table 4.8	2' shoulders	4' (min) paved shoulders	Does not meet Minimum Standards
Hydraulics	VTrans Hydraulics Section	HW/D @ 2% AEP = 0.77 HW/D @ 1% AEP = 0.85 Span: 6 feet	HW/D < 1.2 @ 2% AEP HW/D < 1.5 @ 1% AEP Minimum Bankfull Width: 6 feet	Meets Minimum Standards
Structural Capacity	SM, Ch. 3.4.1	Structurally Sufficient	Design Live Load: HL-93	

## Inspection Report Summary

Culvert Rating                      4 Poor  
Channel Rating                      5 Fair

12/22/2022 Downstream full perimeter crack is wider along the invert measuring ~1/4" in width stemming up to ~1/16" in width along the upper portion having severe spalling with multiple rusted through steel reinforcing bars along the southern box wall with backfill sediment spilling out. Void behind the spalling varies in size but a rod can penetrate up to ~3'-0". The upstream full perimeter crack varies in width of up to ~3/4" in width along the box walls. Slight roadway settlement is present along the downstream end of structure with bank slumping due to failed southern wing and large voided area along the box southern wall. Box is in need of a major rehabilitation or full replacement in near future to prevent further deterioration or roadway settlement.

11/17/2021 Box remains in poor condition with areas of holes exposing backfill and thinning rebar. Two areas of moderate cracking through both side walls and soffit largest crack measuring up to 3/4". Southwest wing has failed. The downstream channel has moderate erosion. The heaviest erosion is around failed southwest wing wall.

9/30/2019 Structure is in poor condition and should be repaired. The wingwall at outlet end should be replaced. MAC/JW

11/30/2018 Structure is in poor condition and needs to be replaced. Sustained full height vertical settlement and shrinkage cracks are scattered throughout. The cracks have areas of spalling long the base of the walls with exposed, rotted rebar. Southern wingwall has failed and is in the channel. MAC/JW

## Hydraulics

The existing structure meets the current hydraulic standards of the VTrans Hydraulic manual. Hydraulics has made several recommendations for a rehabilitation or replacement structure; these options are outlined in the preliminary hydraulics report in Appendix D.

## Utilities

The existing utilities are shown on the Existing Conditions Layout Sheet, and are as follows:

### Underground:

- Vermont Gas Systems
- Village of Essex Junction Water & Sewer

### Aerial:

- Consolidated Communications
- Green Mountain Power

The underground gas line runs parallel to VT Route 2A on the west side of the road. The aerial utilities run parallel to VT Route 2A on the eastern side of the road. Utility relocation or stabilization may be needed depending on the decided scope of the project.

## **Right Of Way**

The existing Right-of-Way (ROW) is plotted on the Existing Conditions Layout Sheet. Minimal ROW acquisition may be required for rehabilitation efforts to provide access to the outlet of the structure along the steep slopes.

## **Environmental and Cultural Resources**

The environmental resources present at this project are shown on the Existing Conditions Layout Sheet, and are as follows:

### ***Biological***

VTrans hired the consultant, Bear Creek Environmental, to perform a natural resource evaluation at this site.

### Wetlands/Floodplains

Wetlands were identified within the study area both up and downstream of the box culvert. The size of the upstream wetland within the study area is 0.16 acres. Based on the VSWI Wetland Class Layer, the upstream wetland is connected to a Class II wetland to the east of the study area. Approximately 0.05 acres of wetland was delineated downstream of the box culvert adjacent to the tributary. The entire Class II wetland complex is estimated to be about 3.4 acres. For additional information, see the Existing Conditions Layout Sheet and the Natural Resources Memo in Appendix G.

### Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species

There were six plant species of rare, threatened, or endangered classification documented within the vicinity of this project site based on the Vermont Natural Heritage database. The RTE plant species documented within the vicinity of Essex 2A BR 11 are:

- *Crocianthemum canadense* (Canada Frostweed) – S2S3
- *Lactuca hirsuta* (Hairy Lettuce) – S1S2 (SGCN)
- *Helianthus strumosus* (Harsh Sunflower) – S2S3 (SGCN)
- *Carex muehlenbergii* var. *muehlenbergii* (Muehlenberg's Sedge) – S2 (SGCN)
- *Cyperus houghtonii* (Houghton's Flatsedge) – S2 (SGCN)
- *Solidago squarrosa* (Squarrose Goldenrod) – S2S3 (SGCN)

*Lasmigona compressa* (Creek Heelsplitter), a rare (S2 state rank) freshwater mussel, is the only rare animal species that has been documented within the vicinity of project site according to the Vermont Natural Heritage database. A Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department expert was consulted and determined that there was no need to perform a formal mussel survey.

### Wildlife Habitat

Riparian and Wildlife Connectivity are rated as the highest priority within the study area. Residential development along Gentes Road and commercial development on Colchester Road contribute to fragmentation of Riparian and Wildlife Connectivity.

### *Archeological*

The VTrans Archaeology group conducted a resource identification study on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and found two areas of archaeological sensitivity. Both sites are located on a sandy outwash plain directly to the south of Bridge No. 11.

### *Historic*

Bridge 11 is not a historic structure. Although an early concrete culvert (c. 1930s), this structure does not appear to possess the historic significance necessary for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). If work is confined to the existing ROW, there will likely be no other buildings, structures, or objects within a project area of potential effect.

### *Hazardous Materials*

According to the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (VANR) Vermont Hazardous Sites List, there are no hazardous waste sites located in the project area.

### *Stormwater*

There are no stormwater concerns for this project.

### *Landscape Clearance*

The VTrans landscape architect conducted a resource identification study on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and determined that there are potentially minor buffer impacts occurring as a result of the proposed work. It is recommended that re-vegetating the area with native trees and shrubs for river buffers and a diverse pollinator seed mix be used.

## **II. Safety**

There have been 116 crashes along VT Route 2A in Essex in the last five-year period. 15 of those crashes were within a 0.5 mile of the structure. The structure is not located within a high crash location.





### III. Local Concerns

A local concerns questionnaire was sent to the town and the town of Essex sent back a reply on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022. There is a copy of the questionnaire in Appendix N.

### IV. Operations Concerns

An Operations questionnaire was sent to the VTrans maintenance District 5. No response has been received to date. There is a copy of the blank questionnaire in Appendix O.

### V. Maintenance of Traffic

The Vermont Agency of Transportation has created an Accelerated Bridge Program, which focuses on faster delivery of construction plans, permitting, and Right of Way, as well as faster construction of projects in the field. One practice that helps in this endeavor is closing bridges for portions of the construction period, rather than providing temporary bridges. In addition to saving money, the intention is to minimize the closure period with faster construction techniques and incentives to contractors to complete projects early. The Agency will consider the closure option on most projects where rapid reconstruction or rehabilitation is feasible. The use of prefabricated elements in new bridges will also expedite construction schedules. This can apply to decks, superstructures, and substructures. Accelerated Construction should provide enhanced safety for the workers and the travelling public while maintaining project quality. The following options have been considered:

#### Option 1: Off-Site Detour

This option would close the bridge and reroute VT Route 2A traffic onto a signed detour route. The regional detour route would detour traffic from VT Route 2A, to VT Route 15, US Route 2, back to VT Route 2A. This regional detour has an end-to-end distance of 13.9 miles and adds 7.1 miles to the through travel distance.

The most logical local bypass route available is 6.3 miles end-to-end and adds 1.3 miles to the through route. The local bypass routes available that local traffic will likely take if Bridge 11 is closed is as follows:

Local Bypass 1: VT Route 2A, to Mill Pond Road, Severance Road, Kellogg Road, and Susie Wilson Bypass, back to VT Route 2A (6.3 miles end-to-end)

Local Bypass 2: VT Route 2A, to East Road, to Depot Road, Colchester Pond Road, Sand Road and Gentes Road, back to VT Route 2A (5.0 miles end-to-end)

A map of the detour route and possible local bypass routes, which could see an increase in traffic, can be found in Appendix P.

*Advantages:* This option would not require the need to obtain rights from adjacent property owners for a temporary bridge. Also, this option would have minimal impacts to natural resources located up and downstream of the bridge. This option reduces the time and cost of the project both at the development stage and construction. This is the safest traffic control option since the traveling public is removed from the construction site.

*Disadvantages:* Traffic flow would not be maintained through the project corridor during construction.

### **Option 2: Phased Construction**

Phased construction is the maintenance of traffic on the existing bridge while building one lane at a time of the proposed structure. This allows keeping the road open during construction, while having minimal impacts to adjacent property owners and environmental resources.

While the time required to develop a phased construction project would remain the same, the time required to complete a phased construction project increases because some of the construction tasks have to be performed multiple times. In addition to the increased design and construction costs mentioned above, the costs also increase for phased construction because of the inconvenience of working around traffic and the effort involved in coordinating the joints between the phases. Another negative aspect of phased construction is the decreased safety of the workers and vehicular traffic, which is caused by increasing the proximity and extending the duration that workers and moving vehicles are operating in the same confined space. Phased construction is usually considered when the benefits include reduced impacts to resources and decreased costs and development time by not requiring the purchase of additional ROW.

Based on the current AADT and DHV of 10,683 and 1,200 veh/hr, 2-way traffic would need to be maintained. Maintaining two 12' lanes of traffic with jersey barrier separating the traffic from active construction work is not feasible because of the existing 11'<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>' lane and shoulder widths. Phased construction will not be considered further.

### **Option 3: Temporary Bridge**

From a constructability standpoint, a temporary bridge could only be placed downstream of the existing structure. On the eastern side of the road the New England Central Railroad is very close to the roadway corridor that a temporary bridge would be impossible to construct on that side. The culvert is located in a residential/urban area, and a temporary bridge on the wooded downstream

(western) side of the road would require tree clearing and may have impacts to wetlands. On the upstream (eastern) side of the culvert, there are aerial utilities that would need to be relocated for a temporary bridge. A downstream temporary bridge alignment would have limits outside the existing Right-of-Way.

Additional costs would be incurred to construct a temporary bridge, including the cost of fill for the approaches and the bridge itself, installation and removal of the temporary bridges and approaches, restoration of the disturbed area, and the time and money associated with the temporary Right-of-Way.

If a temporary bridge is chosen as the preferred method of traffic control, based on the traffic volumes, it should be a two-lane bridge. See the Temporary Bridge Layout Sheets in Appendix Q.

*Advantages:* Traffic flow can be maintained along the VT Route 2A corridor.

*Disadvantages:* This option would potentially require additional Right-of-Way acquisition. This option would have adverse impacts to surrounding resources including wetlands and archeologic sensitive areas. There would be decreased safety for the workers and vehicular traffic, because of cars driving near the construction site, and construction vehicles entering and exiting the construction site. This traffic control option would be more costly, and time consuming, than an offsite detour. A number of trees would need to be cut down for this temporary condition.

## **VI. Alternatives Discussion**

### **No Action**

This alternative is not recommended. The culvert is in poor condition and will continue to deteriorate if no action is taken. The reinforced concrete box has many large full depth spalls and cracks throughout. In the interest of safety to the traveling public, the No Action alternative is not recommended. No cost estimate has been provided for this alternative since there are no immediate costs.

### **Alternative 1: Rehabilitation**

This alternative involves the Class III concrete repair of the existing reinforced concrete box culvert in addition to slope stabilization work. The major areas of cracking and failed concrete and rebar should be removed and replaced in kind. Any voids behind cracks or spalling in the concrete box frame should be filled with grout via a pressure injection system. The existing wingwalls and headwall at the outlet end of the structure should be removed and replaced in kind as well. Other slope stabilization work like minimal tree clearing and stone fill armored banks should be implemented to prevent further erosion of banks over time.

This rehabilitation option would employ the use of hydroblasting or hydrodemolition to appropriately clean the existing box interior prior to rehabilitation. In addition to cleaning, some grouting would be needed to plug holes in the box and fill all voids on the outside of the box. Curing in dry conditions would be required in most cases, necessitating a re-routing of the stream flow during the work and for a prescribed curing period (usually 24 hours).

*Advantages:* A repair alternative would address the ongoing deterioration issues with the box without affecting traffic flow, and with minimum upfront costs. This alternative is the lowest risk as it would not require working with the railroad which could significantly extend the project timeline and risk the project not being built in a timely manner. The section of structure under VT Route 2A is in poor condition so rehabilitation would be a cost-effective option to fix this structure relatively quickly under a highly traveled road.

*Disadvantages:* The rehabilitation alternative is only a repair and not a new structure. The life span of the repair work is estimated to be 30 years. Aquatic Organism Passage and wildlife connectivity would not be improved. It is assumed that for any rehabilitation alternative, minor temporary right-of-way will be necessary for the contractor's access to the ends of the culvert and to set up staging areas and access roads for construction equipment.

*Maintenance of Traffic:* The rehabilitation alternative has minimal effect on traffic. Traffic will remain open during the duration of the project, except for intermittent lane closures for some construction activities.

### **Alternative 2: Partial Structure Replacement (VT Route 2A Section)**

This option involves removing the existing concrete box culvert section under VT Route 2A and replacing it with a new precast box culvert with a minimum span of 8-ft and rise of 8-ft. The new structure should have headwalls and flared wingwalls at the outlet to make a smooth transition between the channel and the culvert. If this alternative is considered the existing roadway width and alignment would be reconstructed to meet minimum standards of 11-ft travel lanes and 5-ft shoulders, with a total roadway width of 32-ft.

This alternative just considers replacement of one of the three sections making up the entire "Frankenstein" culvert. The work that this alternative outlines would be taking place at the connection point of the State owned VT Route 2A structure and the NEC railroad owned stone box structure. This option is higher risk as construction activities could potentially adversely affect the stone structure under the Railroad. Because of this, there may be negotiations with the railroad on performing this work so close to their structure.

*Advantages:* This alternative would address the structural deficiencies of the existing structure within our State ROW, with a brand-new culvert with a 75-year design life. This option would meet the minimum hydraulic standards and provide adequate AOP. This option would have minimal future maintenance costs.

*Disadvantages:* This option does not improve the structure as a whole; it would only improve one of the three sections. By doing work so close to the railroad's structure, negotiations may be needed which could slow down the project delivery process substantially and would risk the structure under VT Route 2A failing before the project is awarded. This option has higher upfront costs compared to the rehabilitation option.

*Maintenance of Traffic:* Either an off-site detour or a temporary bridge would be appropriate measures for traffic control at this site.

### **Alternative 3: Full Structure Replacement (TH24, NEC RR, and VT Route 2A Sections)**

This option involves removing all three sections of the existing Frankenstein structure under TH-24, NEC RR, and VT Route 2A and replacing it with a new precast box culvert with a minimum span of 8-ft and rise of 8-ft. The new structure should have headwalls and flared wingwalls at the outlet to make a smooth transition between the channel and the culvert. If this alternative is considered the existing roadway width and alignment would be reconstructed to meet minimum standards of 11-ft travel lanes and 5-ft shoulders, with a total roadway width of 32-ft.

This alternative is the highest risk option as it would require negotiations with the Town of Essex and the New England Central Railroad to replace their respective sections of the structure. The potential negotiations with the railroad would slow down the project delivery process significantly. This alternative would increase the cost of the project with the additional material costs, ROW acquisitions, and the challenge of maintaining traffic for both the roads and the railroad.

*Advantages:* This alternative would address the structural and hydraulic deficiencies of the entire existing structure, with a brand-new culvert with a 75-year design life. This option would meet the minimum hydraulic standards and provide adequate AOP. This option would have minimal future maintenance costs.

*Disadvantages:* This option is the most expensive and would most likely have the longest project delivery timeline out of all alternatives considered. This option would require a railroad closure to perform the replacement work which would be challenging to negotiate. The section of structure under VT Route 2A is in poor condition and requires repair or replacement likely sooner than this project timeline accommodates.

*Maintenance of Traffic:* Either an off-site detour or a temporary bridge would be appropriate measures for traffic control at this site. VT Route 2A is a highly traveled road in this area and maintenance of traffic for that route in addition to TH-24 may be a challenge. Railroad closures are costly and challenging to negotiate and may be required for this alternative.

## **VII. Alternatives Summary**

Based on the existing site conditions, culvert condition, and recommendations from hydraulics and others, the following alternatives are offered:

- Alternative 1: Culvert Rehabilitation with Traffic Maintained on Existing Culvert
- Alternative 2a: Partial Structure Replacement (VT Route 2A Section) with Traffic Maintained on Offsite Detour
- Alternative 2b: Partial Structure Replacement (VT Route 2A Section) with Traffic Maintained on a Temporary Bridge
- Alternative 3a: Full Structure Replacement (TH24, NEC RR, and VT Route 2A Sections) with Traffic Maintained on Offsite Detour
- Alternative 3b: Full Structure Replacement (TH24, NEC RR, and VT Route 2A Sections) with Traffic Maintained on a Temporary Bridge

A cost evaluation for each of the alternatives is shown below.

**VIII. Cost Matrix<sup>1</sup>**

Essex VT2A Br11		Do Nothing	Alternative 1	Alternative 2		Alternative 3	
			Culvert Rehabilitation	Partial Structure Replacement (VT2A Section)		Full Structure Replacement (TH24, NEC RR, and VT2A Sections)	
			On-Alignment	On-Alignment		On-Alignment	
			Concrete Repair & Slope Stabilization	a. Off-site Detour	b. Temporary Bridge	a. Off-site Detour	b. Temporary Bridge
COST	Structure Cost	\$0	\$176,100	\$351,728	\$351,728	\$836,126	\$904,162
	Removal of Structure	\$0	\$0	\$37,800	\$37,800	\$110,400	\$128,800
	Roadway	\$0	\$71,000	\$215,633	\$215,633	\$259,083	\$269,288
	Maintenance of Traffic	\$0	\$29,040	\$119,300	\$404,040	\$269,300	\$554,040
	Construction Costs	\$0	\$276,140	\$724,460	\$1,009,200	\$1,474,909	\$1,856,290
	Construction Engineering & Contingencies	\$0	\$82,842	\$217,338	\$252,300	\$368,727	\$464,073
	Accelerated Premium	\$0	\$0	\$28,978	\$0	\$58,996	\$0
	Total Construction Costs w CEC	\$0	\$358,982	\$970,777	\$1,261,500	\$1,902,632	\$2,320,363
	Preliminary Engineering	\$0	\$82,842	\$253,561	\$252,300	\$368,727	\$464,073
	Right of Way	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$35,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
	Total Project Costs	\$0	\$446,824	\$1,229,338	\$1,548,801	\$2,296,360	\$2,834,435
Annualized Costs	\$0	\$14,900	\$16,400	\$20,700	\$30,700	\$37,800	
TOWN SHARE	No Local Share						
TOWN %							
SCHEDULEING	Project Development Duration	N/A	2 years	2 years	4 years	4 years	4 years
	Construction Duration	N/A	4 months	8 months	8 months	18 months	18 months
	Closure Duration (If Applicable)	N/A	NA	Construction Season	NA	Construction Season	NA
ENGINEERING	Typical Section - Roadway (feet)	No Change	26	32	32	32	32
	Geometric Design Criteria	No Change	Does Not Meet Minimum Standard	Meets Minimum Standard		Meets Minimum Standard	
	Traffic Safety	No Change	No Change	Improved	Improved	Improved	Improved
	Alignment Change	No Change	No Change	No Change	No Change	No Change	No Change
	Bicycle Access	No Change	No Change	Bicycle Access Provided with 5' shoulders		Bicycle Access Provided with 5' shoulders	
	Pedestrian Access	No Change	No Change	No Change	No Change	No Change	No Change
	Hydraulics	No Change	Meets Minimum Standards	Exceeds Minimum Standards		Meets Minimum BFW and improves VTrans Hydraulic Standards	
	Utilities	No Change	No Change	Aerial relocation and possible underground relocation		Aerial relocation and possible underground relocation	
OTHER	ROW Acquisition	No Change	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Road Closure	No Change	Temporary Lane closures	Yes	No	Yes	No
	Design Life (years)	No Change	30	75	75	75	75

<sup>1</sup> Costs are estimates only, used for comparison purposes.

## IX. Conclusion

**Alternative 1** is recommended; to rehabilitate the existing culvert with Class III concrete repair and slope stabilization work while traffic is maintained on the existing culvert during construction.

### Structure:

The existing culvert is almost 90 years old and is rated in a poor condition due to numerous cracks and severe spalling throughout the box walls. The option would not change the headwater to depth ratios or headwater depths of the design or check storms from existing conditions. The existing structure meets the required standards of the VTrans Hydraulic Manual and the requirements of bankfull width. The existing structure does not provide AOP but through discussions with ANR, AOP is not required for this structure as the sections under the railroad and town highway are a barrier to AOP. Therefore, a rehabilitation of this structure is recommended.

Either partial or full replacement of this structure increases the risk of the project as it would involve negotiations with the NEC Railroad which owns the middle section of the Frankenstein structure. The replacement options have higher costs and longer project delivery timelines associated because of this.

The Class III concrete repair process will remove any failed concrete or rebar and re-tie and re-pour new rebar and concrete in kind. Any voids behind cracks or spalling in the concrete box frame should be filled with grout via a pressure injection system. The wingwalls and existing headwall will be removed and new wingwalls and a headwall will be replaced at the outlet of the structure. Slopes at the outlet should have minimal tree clearing and be armored with Stone Fill Type II to prevent further erosion and help stabilize the slopes.

### Traffic Control:

Traffic will be maintained on the existing culvert and will not be significantly affected by the construction activities with the rehabilitation of this culvert. There may be temporary lane or shoulder closures in order to mobilize or demobilize construction equipment and manage truck traffic.

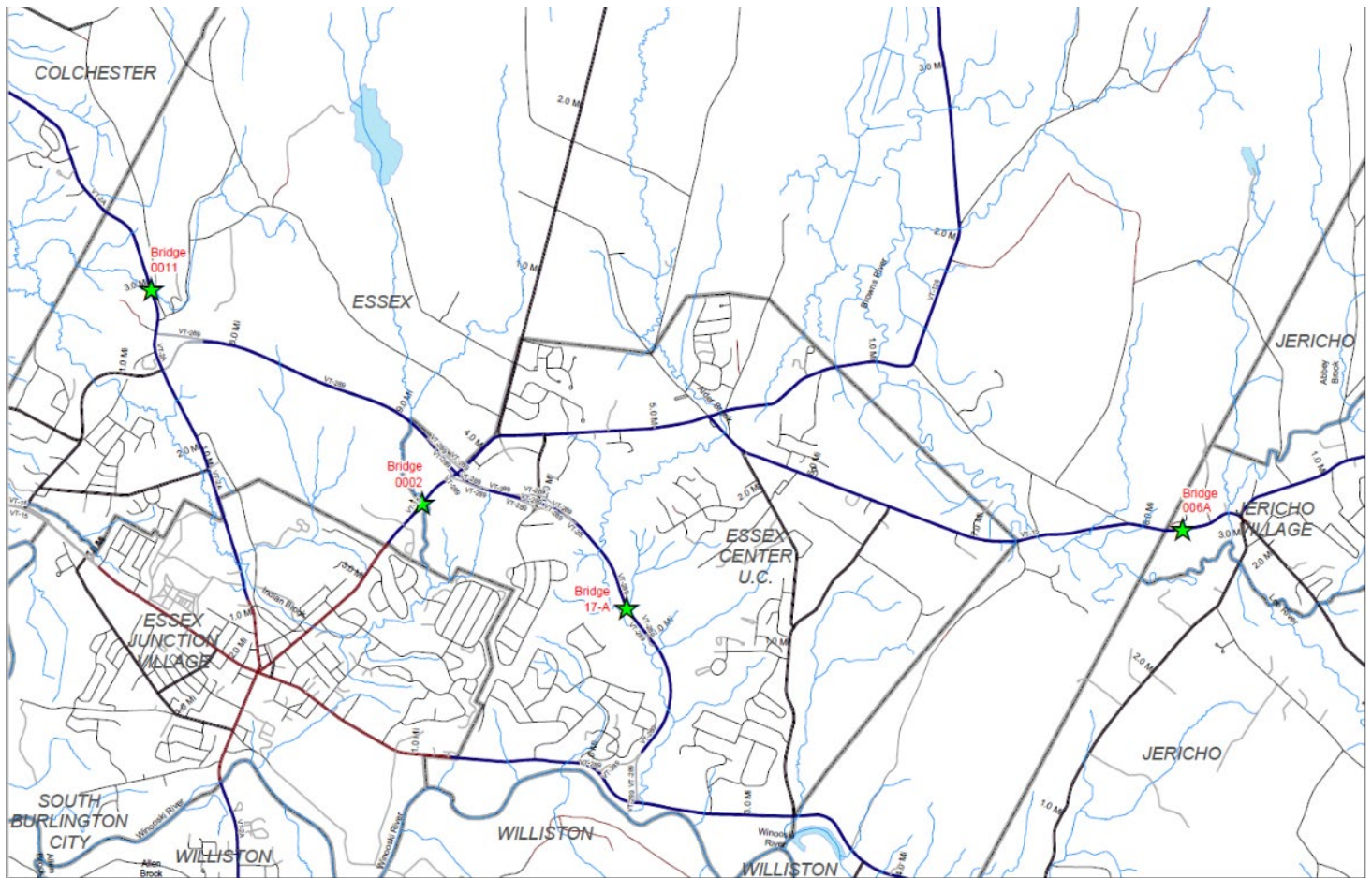


*Statewide Northwest STP CULV(90) Bundle Bridge Locations:*

There are several structures within the Statewide Northwest STP CULV(90) project bundle. The structures are as follows:

- ESSEX VT-2A Bridge 11 over unnamed brook.
- ESSEX VT-15 Bridge 2 over Indian brook.
- ESSEX VT-289 Bridge 17-A over unnamed brook.
- JERICO VT-15 Bridge 6A over unnamed brook.

These bridges are being bundled together for the scoping process.



## **X. Appendices**

- Appendix A: Site Pictures
- Appendix B: Town Map
- Appendix C: Bridge Inspection Report
- Appendix D: Hydraulics Memo
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- Appendix N: Local Input
- Appendix O: Operations Input
- Appendix P: Detour Map
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## Appendix A: Site Pictures



Looking North on VT Route 2A over Bridge 11 (Inspection photo 2021)



Looking South on VT Route 2A over Bridge 11 (Inspection photo 2021)



Outlet of box culvert, failed southwest wingwall (Inspection photo 2021)



Northwest wingwall of outlet (Inspection photo 2021)



Facing upstream through culvert from downstream with full perimeter cracks over spalled areas (Inspection photo 11/28/2022)



Downstream End of Culvert (Inspection photo 11/28/2022)



Upstream End of Box Culvert, connection point of laid up stone box culvert section underneath the New England Central Railroad (Inspection photo 11/28/2022)



Spalling and cracking on Southern Side of Culvert between downstream and Midspan (Inspection photo 11/28/2022)



Spalling and full perimeter crack on northern side of culvert between downstream and Midspan (Inspection photo 11/28/2022)



7/8 in crack near downstream end, southern side (Inspection photo 11/28/2022)



Spalling on Southern Side of culvert upstream end (Inspection photo 11/28/2022)



3 feet of backfill sediment loss in spalled area on downstream end southern side (Inspection photo 11/28/2022)





Severe Spalling with Severed Steel Reinforcing along Southern Box Wall (Inspection photo 11/28/2022)



Downstream Channel (Inspection photo 11/28/2022)



Full Perimeter Crack Below Roadway measuring ~3/4" Wide (Inspection photo 11/28/2022)



Southern Box Walls Leakage / Spalling (Inspection photo 11/28/2022)



Northern Box Walls Leakage / Spalling (Inspection photo 11/28/2022)



Drop inlet from median between NEC RR and VT Route 2A visible at connection point (circled in yellow)



Drop Inlet into structure in median of VT Route 2A and NEC RR



Frankenstein structure inlet from TH-24 (true inlet, first section, of 3-part structure) (red arrows show direction of flow)



**SECTION 1 OF STRUCTURE**  
Looking downstream through  
first section of structure (TH-24)  
cast in place structure inlets

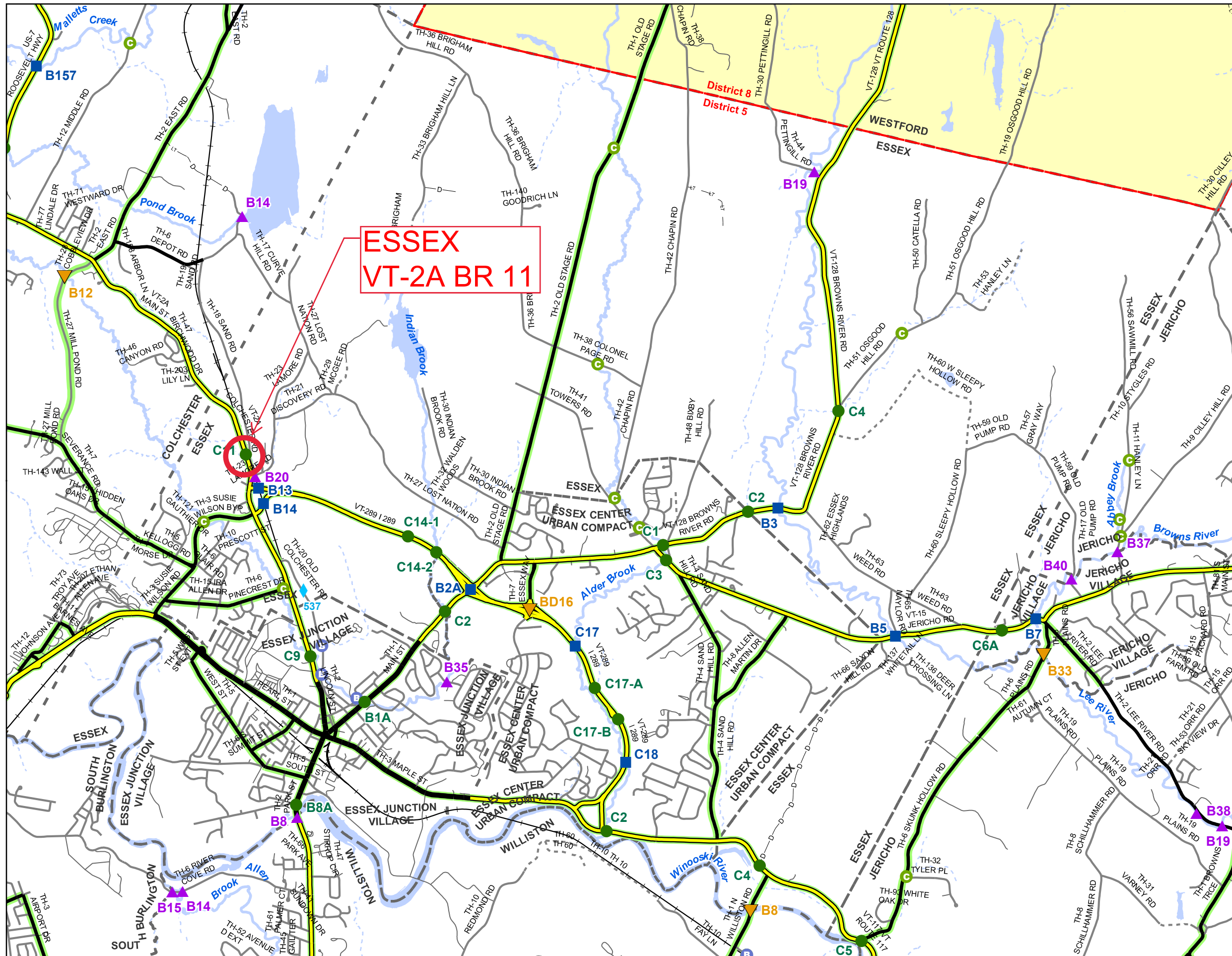
(Red arrows show direction of flow)



**SECTION 2 OF STRUCTURE**  
Looking upstream through  
second section of structures  
underneath NEC RR from the  
beginning of Br11 (third section,  
under VT Route 2A)

(Red arrows show direction of flow)

## Appendix B: Town Map



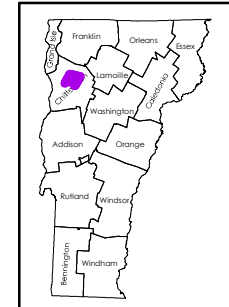
Scale: 1:46,980



- ★ INTERSTATE
- STATE LONG
- STATE SHORT
- ▲ TOWN LONG
- ▼ FEDERAL AID
- ◆ BIKE PATH
- INTERSTATE
- STATE HIGHWAY
- CLASS 1
- CLASS 2
- CLASS 3
- - - CLASS 4
- - - - LEGAL TRAIL
- PRIVATE
- - - - DISCONTINUED
- FEDERAL AID
- [ ] MAINTENANCE DISTRICT
- [ ] NEIGHBORING DISTRICT (WITH BUFFERED EXTENSION)
- [ ] 8 - St. Albans
- [ ] POLITICAL BOUNDARY
- [ ] VTRANS REGION BOUNDARY
- NAMED RIVER-STREAM
- - - UNNAMED RIVER-STREAM
- B Point from Local Bridge Data \*
- C Point from Local Culvert Data \*

\* Points are from local town bridge and culvert inventories. Some points may overlap where VTrans has also conducted an inventory on the Town highway.  
Data source: VOBCT aka VTCulverts

Produced by:  
Mapping Section  
Division of Policy, Planning and  
Intermodal Development  
Vermont Agency of Transportation  
March 2021



**ESSEX**  
COUNTY-TOWN CODE: 0406-0  
CHITTENDEN COUNTY  
DISTRICT # 5  
District Long Name: Colchester District  
VTrans Four Region: Northwest

This map was funded in part through grants from the Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. The representation of the authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U. S. Department of Transportation.



## **Appendix C: Bridge Inspection Report**

**STRUCTURE INSPECTION, INVENTORY and APPRAISAL SHEET**

Vermont Agency of Transportation ~ Structures Section ~ Bridge Management and Inspection Unit

Inspection Report for :ESSEX

Bridge No.: 0011

District: 5

Located on: VT2A over BROOK

approximately 2.3 MI N VT 15

Maintained By: STATE-OWNED

**CONDITION**

Deck Rating: N NOT APPLICABLE  
Superstructure Rating: N NOT APPLICABLE  
Substructure Rating: N NOT APPLICABLE  
Channel Rating: 5 FAIR  
Culvert Rating: 4 POOR  
Federal Str. Number: 300207001104061

**STRUCTURE TYPE and MATERIALS**

Bridge Type: RC BOX  
Number of Main Spans: 1  
Kind of Material and/or Design: 1 CONCRETE  
Deck Structure Type: N NOT APPLICABLE  
Type of Wearing Surface: N NOT APPLICABLE  
Type of Membrane: N NOT APPLICABLE  
Deck Protection: N NOT APPLICABLE

**AGE and SERVICE**

Year Built: 1934 Year Reconstructed: \_\_\_\_  
Type of Service On: 1 HIGHWAY  
Type of Service Under: 5 WATERWAY  
Lanes On the Structure: 02  
Lanes Under the Structure: 00  
Bypass, Detour Length (miles): 4  
ADT: 9700 Year of ADT: 1996

**CULVERT GEOMETRIC DATA and INDICATORS**

Culvert Barrel Length (ft): 64  
Average Cover Over Culvert (ft): 13  
Waterway Area Through Culvert (sq.ft.): 36  
Wingwall/Headwall Rating: 3 SERIOUS

**GEOMETRIC DATA**

Length of Maximum Span (ft): 6  
Structure Length (ft): 8  
Lt Curb/Sidewalk Width (ft): 0  
Rt Curb/Sidewalk Width (ft): 0  
Bridge Rdwy Width Curb-to-Curb (ft): 0  
Deck Width Out-to-Out (ft): 0  
Appr. Roadway Width (ft): 26  
Skew: 15  
Bridge Median: 0 NO MEDIAN  
Feature Under: FEATURE NOT A HIGHWAY OR RAILROAD  
Min Vertical Underclr (ft): 06 FT 00 IN

**APPRAISAL**

Appr. Rdwy. Alignment: 8 EQUAL TO DESIRABLE CRITERIA

**INSPECTION**

Inspection Date: 122020 Inspection Frequency (months): 12

**INSPECTION SUMMARY and NEEDS**

*9/30/2019 Structure is in poor condition and should be repaired. Wingwall at outlet end should be replaced. MAC/JW*

*11/30/2018 Structure is in poor condition and needs to be replaced. Sustained full height vertical settlement and shrinkage cracks are scattered throughout. The cracks have areas of spalling long the base of the walls with exposed, rotted rebar. Southern wingwall has failed and is in the channel. MAC/JW*

*12/13/2017 Structure is in poor condition with two full perimeter cracks with the one in the center being 3/4" wide with exposed broken rebar. Sediment covers invert due to failed wingwall blocking outlet end on southwest corner. Structure needs extensive repairs fixing the southwest wing, armoring the channel and cleaning and patching the void along the southern wall of barrel. SMP & MAC*

*12/06/2016 Culvert is in poor condition with multiple large settlement cracks throughout barrel with the largest being approximately 3/4" at top. Large spalls towards outlet end along channel line with sediment spilling through and rusted through rebar. Culvert needs replacement or major repairs. Southwest wingwall needs to be reset or replaced as it has failed. Channel needs large riprap in place to stop bank erosion and small scour hole needs to be filled in. SMP & ABC*

*11/20/2015 Voids in the box on the walls should be cleaned and patched. Wing on the outlet needs to be repaired to help stop the erosion of the slope behind the wing. Channel should be repaired with riprap. ~FRE/TJB*

*10/27/2014 Settlement crack has not changed from last inspection. Spalling in the walls should be cleaned and patched. Wing on the outlet should be anchored. ~FRE/TJB*

*11/4/2013 Settlement crack and spalling and voids should be leaned and patched along with the wings on the outlet end. Riprap should be added on the outlet. Scour hole on the outlet should be filled. ~FRE/SJH*

*10/13/2011 Voids in the walls should be cleaned and patched. ~FRE/DCP*

*06/26/2009 The large hole in abutment #2 should be cleaned and patched. ~FRE~*

## Appendix D: Hydraulics Memo

State of Vermont  
Structures and Hydraulics Section  
Barre City Place  
219 North Main Street, Barre, VT 05641  
[vtrans.vermont.gov](http://vtrans.vermont.gov)

Agency of Transportation

[phone] 802-595-6493

**TO:** Laura Stone, P.E., Scoping Engineer /AOT Project Manager

**CC:** Patrick Ross, Hydraulics Engineer

**FROM:** Madeline Glow, Hydraulics/Scoping Project Engineer

**DATE:** March 31, 2023

**SUBJECT:** STATEWIDE - NORTHWEST STP CULV(90), pin#22b044  
Essex, VT-2A, Br 11, MM 2.95, unnamed tributary to Indian Brook  
Coordinates: [44.522065, -73.123860](#)

We have completed our hydraulic study for the above referenced site, and offer the following for your use:

The VTrans Hydraulics unit and Scoping project manager visited the site with ANR on 10/10/2022. In the field, ANR indicated a minimum span of 6-ft should be used to span BFW if a new structure is installed. From our site visit with ANR it was discussed that if only the section of structure under VT-2A is being replaced, then no AOP is required as the sections under the railroad and town highway are a barrier to AOP. However, if the entire system is replaced, then AOP will likely be needed.

Design Storm Flow is 2% AEP (Q50).

The following was analyzed:

**Existing Conditions:** RC Box with 6-ft clear span and 6-ft clear height, providing 36-sqft waterway opening

- The existing structure is a “Frankenstein” culvert which comprises of three separate structures connected and directing flow under TH-24, the railroad (owned by New England Central, NEC, RR), and VT-2A.
  1. Under TH-24 at the inlet are two 3.5-ft x 5-ft cast-in-place concrete boxes.
  2. Under the NEC railroad is an old laid up stone box with overall dimensions of approximately 12-ft x 6-ft. There are 4-ft wide columns in the middle of the box limiting the structure to two 4-ft x 6-ft boxes on either side of the middle support.
  3. The last section under VT-2A is a 6-ft x 6-ft concrete box.
- The existing structure was modeled using the most limiting waterway opening which was the two 3.5-ft x 5-ft cast-in-place concrete boxes at the inlet of the structure under TH-24.
- The structure results in a headwater depth of 3.9-ft at 2% AEP and 4.2-ft at 1% AEP.
  - *The headwater to depth ratio (HW/D) is 0.77 at 2% AEP and 0.85 at 1% AEP.*
- The existing culvert meets the current standards of the VTrans Hydraulics Manual.

## Proposed Structures

### **Option 1:** Basic Concrete Box Rehabilitation with new wingwalls and slope work

- This option would not change headwater to depth ratios or headwater depths of the design or check storms from existing conditions.
- Proposed repair work:
  - The major areas of cracking and failed concrete and rebar should be removed and replaced in kind.
  - Removal of old outlet wingwalls and replacement with new wingwalls poured and doveled into the existing box.
  - Slope stabilization work (minimal tree clearing and added stone fill to reinforce banks) to prevent further erosion.
- This option would meet the current standards of the VTrans Hydraulics Manual.

### **Option 2:** Partial Replacement of structure under VT-2A ONLY

- This analysis assumed that the section of structure under VT-2A is to be replaced with a concrete box, 8-ft span x 8-ft rise, embedded 2ft.
  - The box invert should be buried 2-ft and filled with E-stone Type II, resulting in a minimum clear height of 6-ft above the streambed, providing a waterway area of 48-sqft.
- Since only one section of the three-part existing “Frankenstein” culvert would be replaced with a larger structure, this option was modeled using the most limiting waterway opening which was the two 3.5-ft x 5-ft cast-in-place concrete boxes at the inlet of the structure under TH-24.
- This structure results in similar headwater depths as existing of approximately 3.9-ft at 2% AEP and 4.3-ft at 1% AEP.
  - *The HW/D ratio is 0.78 at 2% AEP and 0.85 at 1% AEP.*

### **Option 3:** FULL Replacement of structure with concrete box 8-ft span x 8-ft rise, embedded 2ft

- This analyzed a full replacement of all three sections of the structure under VT-2A, NEC railroad, and TH-24.
- The box invert should be buried 2-ft and filled with E-stone Type II, resulting in a minimum clear height of 6-ft above the streambed, providing a waterway area of 48-sqft.
- This structure results in a headwater depth of approximately 3.6 feet at 2% AEP and 3.9 feet at 1% AEP.
  - *The HW/D ratio is 0.59 at 2% AEP and 0.65 at 1% AEP.*
- Assumes a similar structure slope, alignment, and length as the existing pipe.

### Additional Comments:

Stone Fill, Type II should be used to protect any disturbed channel banks or roadway slopes at the structure’s inlet and outlet, up to a height of at least one-foot above the top of the opening. The stone fill should not constrict the channel or structure opening.

For Option 3, bed sills should be added in the bottom of the new structure. Sills should be 12 inches high at the edges of the box and 6 inches high in the center, creating a V-shape across the full width of the box. Sills should be spaced no more than 8-feet apart throughout the structure with one sill placed at both the inlet and the outlet.

It is always desirable for a new structure to have flared wingwalls, matched into the channel banks at the inlet and outlet, to smoothly transition flow and protect the structure and roadway approaches from erosion.

It is also recommended that full-height concrete headwalls be constructed at the inlet and outlet. E-stone thickness plus the bottom of the structure thickness should be included when determining the total cutoff wall depth.

The proposed structures meet the requirements of the VTrans Hydraulics Manual. Other similar sized structures could be considered for this site. If another alternative is considered, coordinate with the Hydraulics Unit to perform additional analyses.

Please contact us with any questions, or to check substructure configuration scenarios.

## **Appendix E: Preliminary Geotechnical Information**



**To:** Laura Stone, P.E., Scoping Engineer  
SPM

**From:** Stephen Madden, Geotechnical Engineer

**Date:** October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Subject:** Statewide-Northwest STP CULV(90) – Essex VT-2A, Br. 11, Preliminary Geotechnical Information

---

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

As requested, we have completed our preliminary geotechnical investigation of Bridge 11 on VT Route 2A over an unnamed brook in the town of Essex, VT. Bridge 11 is a reinforced concrete box culvert located approximately 0.3 miles north of the intersection of VT-2A and VT-289 WB off-ramp. This review included a subsurface investigation, hazardous site information on file at the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR), as well as published geologic maps relating to surficial and bedrock data. This project is currently in the scoping phase.

## 2.0 SUBSURFACE INFORMATION

### 2.1 Published Geologic Data

Mapping conducted in 1970 for the Surficial Geologic Map of Vermont shows the project site consists of Champlain Sea deposits described as ‘pebbly marine sand’ (Doll, 1970).

According to the Bedrock Map of Vermont from 2011, published by the USGS and State of Vermont, the project site is underlain with bedrock consisting of Slate and Dolostone of the Skeels Corners Slate Formation (Ratliffe, et. al, 2011).

### 2.2 Hazardous Materials and Underground Storage Tanks

The Vermont ANR Atlas maintains a database of all known hazardous waste sites and underground storage tanks. Their records show the location of the project is not on the Hazardous Site List. There are underground storage tanks, hazardous sites, and hazardous waste generators (two of each) within a 0.5-mile radius of the project. These sites are not anticipated to impact construction for this project.

### 2.3 Record Plans

Historic record plans for the existing culvert were not found.

## 3.0 FIELD INVESTIGATION

A field investigation was conducted between September 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022. One standard penetration boring, B-102, was advanced in the shoulder of the northbound lane of VT-2A (near the inlet of the culvert) to evaluate the subsurface profile and aid in design and construction of a replacement structure. Boring B-101 was marked out in the shoulder of the southbound lane VT-2A (near the outlet of the culvert); however, during utility locating prior to drilling there was uncertainty in the exact location of a natural gas pipeline in the SB shoulder of VT-2A and it was

determined that it was unsafe to advance a boring in this area. B-101 was therefore not performed as part of this investigation.

A summary of the final location of B-102 with corresponding ground surface elevation can be found in Table 3.1 below. The values for Northing and Easting as well as ground surface elevation are based on the Vermont State Plane Grid Coordinate System NAD 83 and North American Vertical Datum, NAVD 88, and were located by a VTrans survey crew following the completion of drilling. The location and elevation of the boring should be considered accurate only to the degree implied by the method used to determine them.

During drilling operations, split spoon samples and standard penetration tests (SPT) were taken continuously until a depth of approximately 10.6 feet (ft) below ground surface (bgs), then every 5 ft until bedrock was encountered. Bedrock was confirmed in B-102 with two five-foot BX cores.

Soil samples were visually identified in the field and SPT blow counts were recorded on the boring logs. Soil and rock samples were preserved and returned to the Construction and Materials Bureau Central Laboratory for testing and further evaluation. Upon completion of the laboratory testing, the boring log was revised to reflect the results of the laboratory classification results.

**Table 3.1** *Boring Locations and Elevations*

<b>Boring No.</b>	<b>Northing (ft)</b>	<b>Easting (ft)</b>	<b>Station</b>	<b>Offset (ft)</b>	<b>Approx. Ground Surface Elevation (ft)</b>	<b>Approx. Top of Bedrock Elevation (ft)</b>
B-102	737563.6	1477751.0	N.A.	14.9' NB	342.4	316.4

#### **4.0 SOIL PROFILE**

The field investigation indicates that the soil strata of the project site generally consist of very loose to medium dense granular soils (primarily sand) from below the roadway to a depth of 18 ft bgs, over very dense sand and silt to top of bedrock. The thickness of asphalt pavement was measured at 0.6 ft (B-102). Broken and weathered rock was encountered directly above bedrock. Bedrock was encountered at a depth of 26.0 ft bgs in B-102, corresponding to approximate elevation of 316.4 ft. Bedrock present at the project site consists of Dolostone. The two recovered bedrock cores from B-102 had an RQD of 0%.

Groundwater was measured in B-102 after drilling on September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at a depth of 16.2 ft bgs, corresponding to an approximate elevation of 326.2 ft. It should be noted that groundwater elevations are subject to change given the fact that the boreholes were generally left open for a short period of time. Because groundwater elevations can fluctuate seasonally and are affected by temperature and precipitation, groundwater conditions encountered during construction may vary.

#### **5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Based on this information, possible foundation options for bridge replacement at a similar elevation as the existing structure include the following:

- Reinforced concrete box with new wingwalls and headwalls with spread footings founded on soil or bedrock.

- Concrete rigid frame or buried structure supported on H-piles, micropiles, or spread footings on soil/bedrock.

When a design alternative, as well as a preliminary alignment has been chosen, the Geotechnical Engineering Section can review the preferred alternative and assist with any further geotechnical analyses and review of foundation elements required. Based on the elevation of the bedrock encountered in B-102, additional borings or bedrock probes will likely be required to profile the bedrock elevation across the footprint of any proposed replacement structure.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this report, please contact us via email.

## 6.0 REFERENCES

Doll, C. G., 1970, Surficial Geologic Map of Vermont, Vermont Geological Survey, Montpelier, VT.

Ratcliffe, N. M., Stanley, R. S., Gale, M. H., Thompson, P. J., Walsh, G. J., 2011, Bedrock Geologic Map of Vermont, Vermont Geological Survey, Montpelier, VT.

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Department of Environmental Conservation, Natural Resources Atlas, [www.anr.vermont.gov/maps/nr-atlas%20](http://www.anr.vermont.gov/maps/nr-atlas%20), accessed 10/10/2022.

Enclosures: Boring Logs (2 Pages)

Reviewed by: August Arles, Geotechnical Engineer *AAA*

cc: Electronic Read File/MG  
Project File/CEE  
SPM

[Z:\Highways\CMB\GeotechEngineering\Projects\Statewide-Northwest STP CULV\(90\)\REPORTS\Statewide-Northwest STP CULV\(90\) Essex VT-2A\\_Br 11 - Preliminary Geotechnical Information.docx](Z:\Highways\CMB\GeotechEngineering\Projects\Statewide-Northwest STP CULV(90)\REPORTS\Statewide-Northwest STP CULV(90) Essex VT-2A_Br 11 - Preliminary Geotechnical Information.docx)

## **Appendix F: Resource ID Completion Memo**



**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**  
**AOT - PDB - ENVIRONMENTAL SECTION**

**RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION COMPLETION MEMO**

**TO:** Daniel Beard, Project Manager  
**FROM:** Julie Ann Held, Environmental Specialist (802)917-4319  
**DATE:** December 14, 2022  
**Project:** Statewide – Northwest STP CULV(90)

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES:**

Archaeological Site:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>See Archaeological Resource ID Memo Issued: 12/14/2022</u>
Historic/Historic District:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>See Historic Resource ID Memo Issued: 05/26/2022</u>
4(f) Property:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Wetlands:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>See Natural Resource ID Memo Issued: 08/08/2022</u>
Agricultural Land:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>See Natural Resource ID Memo Issued: 08/08/2022</u>
Fish & Wildlife Habitat:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>See Natural Resource ID Memo Issued: 08/08/2022</u>
Wildlife Habitat Connectivity:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Endangered Species:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Stormwater:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____
6(f) Property:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Hazardous Waste:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____
VTrans Limited Reuse Soils:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>See ES Resource ID</u>
USDA-Forest Service Lands:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Scenic Highway/Byway:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Act 250 Permits:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>See ES Resource ID</u>
FEMA Floodplains:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>Flood Hazard Area/River Corridor Permit may be required</u>
Flood Hazard Area/ River Corridor:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>Potential Flood Hazard area, may need permits depending on the scope of work.</u>
US Coast Guard:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Lakes and Ponds:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Environmental Justice:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____
303D List/ Class A Water/ Outstanding Resource Water:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Source Protection Area:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Public Water Sources/ Private Wells:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	_____

cc:  
 Project File

## Appendix G: Natural Resources Memo

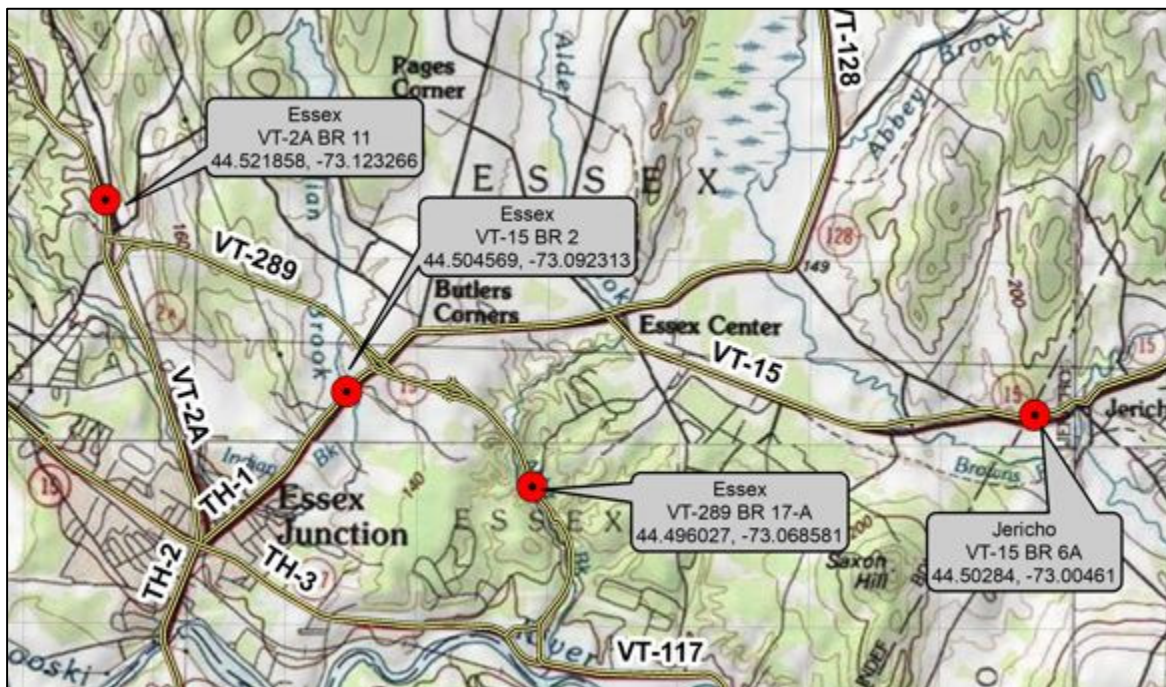
# Natural Resource Evaluation

## Vermont Agency of Transportation

### Northwest STP CULV (90)

- Essex VT-2A BR 11
- Essex VT-15 BR 2
- Essex VT-289 BR 17-A
- Jericho VT-15 BR 6A

September 6, 2022  
Revised February 8, 2023



Prepared for:  
Vermont Agency of Transportation  
219 North Main Street  
Barre, VT 05641



**Bear Creek** Environmental

Prepared by:  
Bear Creek Environmental, LLC  
Natural Resource Services Team  
131 Elm Street, Suite 1  
Montpelier, VT 05602

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## **I.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- During summer 2022, the Bear Creek Environmental (BCE) Natural Resource Services Team conducted a scoping level natural resource assessment of four stream crossing sites included under the project Northwest CULV (90). Three of the stream crossing sites are located in Essex, and the fourth is in Jericho. This Natural Resource evaluation was revised in February 2023 to correct the location of the Jericho structure, which was originally evaluated as a bridge on the Browns River, rather than a 6-foot diameter structure near Mountain View Road.
- The study area included 75 feet upstream and downstream of the structure and 100 feet on both approaches to the culvert.
- The BCE team conducted mapping exercises to identify pertinent natural resources within and surrounding the study area at each site. In addition to these desktop analyses, the team also conducted field surveys to evaluate wetlands and botanical resources.
- Rare, threatened, and endangered species occurrence reports were reviewed for the project sites. There are several RTE plants that have reported occurrences near the Essex VT-2A BR 11 site. Many of these RTE plants are associated with the Dry Pine-Oak-Heath Sandplain Forest. A botanical survey was performed of the Essex VT-2A BR 11 and the Essex VT-15 BR 2 sites. No RTE plant species were observed.
- The Creek Heelsplitter, a Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) with a State protection status of S2, has an element occurrence report for locations in Indian Brook below the Essex VT-15 BR 2 study area. Mark Ferguson, a biologist with the VT Department of Fish and Wildlife Department was consulted for guidance regarding this rare mussel. Mr. Ferguson requested that he be contacted four weeks prior to commencement of construction activities to allow time for him to search for and relocate any Creek Heelsplitters from the project area.
- The Bear Creek Environmental team delineated wetlands within the study areas of Essex VT-2A BR 11, Essex VT-15 BR 2, Essex VT-289 BR 17-A sites. A site visit with District Wetland Ecologist, Elijah Schumacher, was completed on July 28, 2022 to confirm the wetland boundaries at the three Essex sites.
- Remote sensing was utilized to identify potential wetlands with the Jericho VT 15 BR 6A study area during winter 2022/2023. Based on imagery, Streetview, Hillshade, and LiDAR contours, the extent of a Class 2 wetland within the study area downstream of the culvert was determined based on best professional judgment. A wetland delineation within the growing season is recommended to verify the extent and class.
- The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department (VDFW) was consulted regarding requirements of aquatic organism passage (AOP) for the three Essex structures that are culvert crossings during summer 2022. Based on email correspondence from September 1, 2022, full aquatic organism passage will be required for replacement of structures at all three sites. In the event the VT-2A BR 11 and VT-15 BR 2 structures were modified, retrofits of the structures would be required to allow full AOP. Given the close proximity of the structure outlet to Alder Brook, and the long

culvert length, AOP would not be required for modifications to the Essex VT-289 BR 17-A structure.

- During February 2023, the VDFW was contacted regarding AOP recommendations for the Jericho VT-15 BR 6A culvert. Given the small watershed size, the Department has opted to wait until electrofishing can be conducted during the spring or summer to make a determination regarding AOP.
- The project area was not evaluated for RTE bat presence nor was potential habitat quantified; however, it is possible that the Little Brown Bat (state-endangered) and/or Northern Long-eared Bat (state-endangered, federally threatened) could be found in the vicinity of the project sites.

## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

The Bear Creek Environmental Natural Resource Services Team was retained by the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) to evaluate wetland and wildlife resources in the vicinity of four VTrans stream crossing sites that are included in the Northwest CULV (90) project. The project, which currently is at a scoping level, includes sites:

- VT-2A BR 11 in Essex
- VT-15 BR 2 in Essex
- VT-289 BR 17-A in Essex, and
- VT-15 BR 6A in Jericho.

The sites are located in Essex and Jericho, as shown on the map on page I of Appendix A.

Assessment work included remote sensing analysis to evaluate resources at and in the vicinity of the project site. A desktop analysis of wildlife connectivity was also performed.

## **3.0 REMOTE SENSING**

A remote sensing review of natural resources was performed by Bear Creek Environmental for the four study sites. The study involved a review of historic occurrences of rare, threatened, and endangered (RTE) plant and animal species in the vicinity of the project site, as well as an assessment of wildlife connectivity. Ecological Resource maps of the four project sites are provided on pages 2 through 5 of Appendix A.

### **RTE Plants**

The Essex 2A BR 11 was the only site with rare, threatened, and endangered (RTE) plants documented within the vicinity of the project site, based on the Vermont Natural Heritage database. The ecological map on page 2 of the Appendix A includes six RTE plant species, most of which are associated with the Dry Pine-Oak-Heath Sandplain Forest natural community. The RTE plant species documented within the vicinity of Essex 2A BR 11 are:

- *Crocantemum canadense* (Canada Frostweed) – S2S3
- *Lactuca hirsuta* (Hairy Lettuce) – S1S2 (SGCN)
- *Helianthus strumosus* (Harsh Sunflower) – S2S3 (SGCN)
- *Carex muehlenbergii* var. *muehlenbergii* (Muehlenberg’s Sedge) – S2 (SGCN)
- *Cyperus houghtonii* (Houghton’s Flatsedge) – S2 (SGCN)
- *Solidago squarrosa* (Squarrose Goldenrod) – S2S3 (SGCN)

## **RTE Animals**

*Lasmigona compressa* (Creek Heelsplitter), a rare (S2 state rank) freshwater mussel, is the only rare animal species that has been documented within the vicinity of the four project sites according to the Vermont Natural Heritage database. Occurrences of Creek Heelsplitter from 2002 and 2006 were recorded several tenths of a mile downstream of the VT-15 BR 2 study area in Indian Brook, as shown on the map on page 3 of the Appendix A.

Mark Ferguson of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department was contacted for a determination of whether a mussel survey of Indian Brook would be required if instream work for a culvert project were needed. In an email response dated Thursday, August 11, 2022 (Appendix A, page 6), Mr. Ferguson stated the following:

“Since there is little chance of any threatened or endangered mussel species occurring in this stream section, I don’t see a need for a formal mussel survey. Since there is some potential for Creek Heelsplitter bring there, I request that I be contacted within four weeks prior to commencement of construction/prep activities so that I can search for and relocate any Creek Heelsplitters from within the project area.”

## **Wildlife Habitat**

The Vermont Conservation Design database on the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources BioFinder Mapping Tool was reviewed to assess landscape scale wildlife habitat. A narrative and maps of the results are provided by Alexandra Marcucci of SLR on pages 1 through 6 of Appendix B. A brief summary of the landscape scale wildlife habitat in the vicinity of each study area is provided below:

- VT Route 2A BR 11 – Within the study area, Surface Water and Riparian Areas and Physical Landscape Diversity are rated as highest priority. Residential development along Gentes Road and commercial development on Colchester Road contribute to fragmentation of Riparian and Wildlife Connectivity.
- VT Route 15 BR 2 – Surface Water and Riparian Areas and Physical Landscape Diversity are rated as highest priority adjacent to Indian Brook within the study area.

- VT Route 289 BR 17A – Riparian and Wildlife Connectivity are rated as highest priority both upstream of the culvert under Route 289 and upstream and downstream on the culvert outlet within the Alder Brook corridor.
- VT Route 15 BR 6A – None of the wildlife habitat components were identified as priority or highest priority within the study area.

#### **4.0 FIELD OBSERVATION OF RTE SPECIES**

##### **Plants**

A site visit was conducted by botanist Elizabeth McLane on July 4, 2022 to investigate the presence of rare plant species within the VT Route 2A BR 11 and the VT Route 15 BR 2 study areas. These two sites were recommended for an RTE plant survey for the following reasons:

- Area dominated by sand and sea-bed soils that can lead to unusual natural community types and associated RTE species;
- Located in vicinity of remnant Dry Pine-Oak-Heath Sandplain Forest Natural Community;
- Not uncommon for rare plant species to be associated with road and stream edges;
- Rare plant species occurrences have been reported within the vicinity of the VT Route 2A BR 11 study area.

**No rare or significant Natural Communities were noted at either site during the plant survey.** A memorandum summarizing the botanical findings is provided in Appendix C.

##### **Bats**

The project area was not evaluated for RTE bat presence nor was potential habitat quantified; however, it is possible that the Little Brown Bat (state-endangered) and/or Northern Long-eared Bat (state-endangered, federally threatened) could be found in the vicinity of the project sites.

#### **5.0 WETLANDS AND STREAMS**

##### **Methods**

Mary Nealon of Bear Creek Environmental and Alex Marcucci of SLR visited the three Northwest CULV (90) study areas in Essex during July 2022 to delineate jurisdictional wetlands and to perform a functional evaluation of the wetlands. The delineation was performed in accordance with the methods described in the manual prepared by the US Army Corps of Engineers dated 2012 and titled “Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland

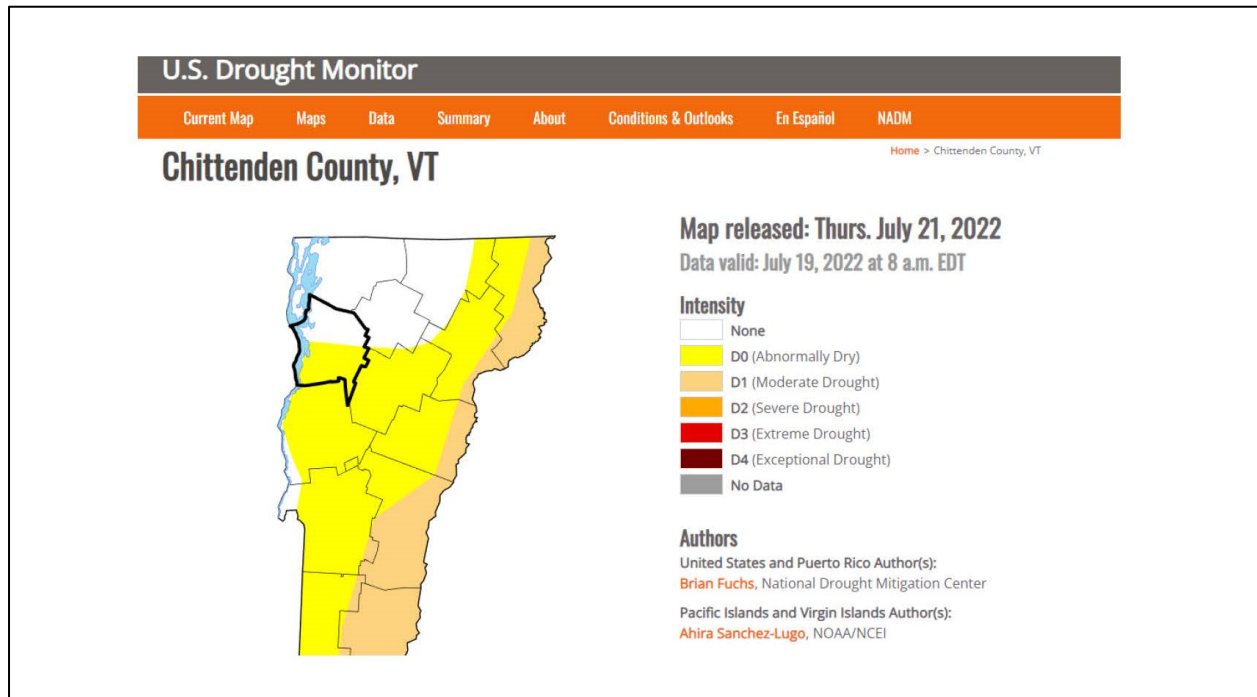
Delineation Manual: Northcentral and Northeast Region”. The locations of wetlands were documented in the field using a submeter GPS unit, and functional evaluations were performed. Wetlands were delineated through field observations of soils, vegetation, and hydrology.

The wetlands were identified using the codes of wetland cover types in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service document titled Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States 2nd Edition (1.4MB PDF), 2013, by Cowardin, Lewis M. et al. (FGDC, 2013). In the Cowardin system, wetlands are categorized first by landscape position (tidal, riverine, lacustrine, and palustrine), followed by cover type (cover types described below), and then by hydrologic regime (ranging from saturated or temporarily-flooded to permanently flooded).

Class II wetlands are protected under the Vermont Wetland Rules. As such, impacts to Class II wetlands and their 50-foot buffer zones should be avoided whenever possible, in accordance with the rules. If impacts cannot be avoided, they should be minimized. Mitigation may be required for unavoidable wetland impacts to replace impacted functions and values (VANR, 2018).

## Results

Maps showing the wetland delineations that were verified by Elijah Schumacher, Vermont Wetland Ecologist on July 28, 2022, are provided on pages I through 4 of Appendix D. Climatic / hydrologic conditions at the time of the wetland delineation field work was normal to Abnormally Dry, based on the U.S. Drought Monitor data for Chittenden County.



*The U.S. Drought Monitor is jointly produced by the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Map courtesy of NDMC.*

The Wetland Determination Forms are provided on pages 5 through 25 of Appendix D, with the Functions and Values following on pages 26 through 58. All the wetlands at the three Essex project sites are palustrine. Palustrine wetlands are defined as nontidal wetlands dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergent, emergent mosses or lichens. No wetlands were found at the Jericho site (VT Route 15 BR 6A).

Available stream crossing inventory data was acquired from the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department link on the Vermont Natural Resources Atlas. Methods for data collection and analysis of the stream crossing data followed the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (VANR 2009, Milone & MacBrook 2008 and 2009). The stream crossing reports are provided on pages 59 and 60 of Appendix D and are summarized below in Table I. No report is available for the Route 289 BR17A or the Route 15 BR 6A structure.

The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department was contacted by Bear Creek Environmental regarding requirements for aquatic organism passage (AOP), should the structure be replaced or retrofitted. Recommendations from the VFWD are included in Appendix D on pages 61 through 67.

<b>Table I. Stream Crossing Inventory Data from Vermont Agency of Natural Resources</b>						
<b>Type and Structure No.</b>	<b>Stream</b>	<b>Road</b>	<b>AOP Coarse Screen</b>	<b>AOP Geomorphic Compatibility</b>	<b>Percent Bankfull Width</b>	<b>Assessment Date</b>
Culvert 2A BR 11  SgalD 400024000004061	Unnamed Tributary to Indian Brook	VT Route 2A, Railroad, Gentes Road	No AOP including Adult Salmonids	Partially Compatible	54%	11/23/2015
Culvert 15 BR 2  SgalD 300015000004062	Indian Brook	VT Route 15 (Upper Main St.)	Reduced AOP	Mostly Compatible	48%	11/23/2015
NA – not applicable AOP – aquatic organism passage						

## **VT Route 2A BR 11**

### Wetlands

Wetlands were identified within the VT Route 2A BR 11 study area boundary (page I of Appendix D) both above and below the concrete box culvert, which conveys a tributary to Indian Brook.

The size of the upstream wetland within the study area is 0.16 acres. Based on the VSWI Wetland Class Layer, the upstream wetland is connected to a Class II wetland to the east of the study area. Approximately 0.05 acres of wetland was delineated downstream of the box culvert adjacent to the tributary. The entire Class II wetland complex is estimated to be about 3.4 acres.

Wetland above the culvert is classified as Palustrine, dominantly Scrub-Shrub, broadleaved deciduous (PSS1C) and is seasonally flooded. This exhibited saturation and water-stained leaves as primary hydrology indicators and geomorphic position and FAC-neutral test as secondary indicators. Vegetation was dominated by American Elm, Box Elder, Speckled Alder, Sensitive Fern, and Tall Meadowrue (Figure 1).

Wetland below the culvert is Palustrine, dominantly Scrub-Shrub, broadleaved deciduous, mixed with emergent, non-persistent and is seasonally flooded (PSS1/EM2C). Primary indicators of hydrology include: surface water, high water table, saturation, and water-stained leaves. Geomorphic position and FAC-neutral test are secondary hydrology indicators. The wetland below the culvert is dominated by herbaceous vegetation including: Sensitive Fern and Spotted Joe Pyeweed. Speckled Alder is present in the shrub layer (Figure 2).

The wetland complex was found to have the following functions and values: water storage for flood water and storm runoff, surface and groundwater protection, fish habitat, wildlife habitat, and erosion control through binding and stabilizing the soil.

### Stream Crossing

The drainage area at the concrete box culvert (7 ft wide and 5 ft high) under Route 2A is 0.79 sq. miles. A culvert assessment was completed on 11/23/2015 of the 100-foot-long stream crossing. Based on the assessment report, there is “no aquatic organism passage (AOP) including adult salmonids” and the structure has partial geomorphic compatibility. A free fall drop of 0.3 was reported at the outlet.

The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is requiring full AOP for both culvert retrofit and replacement of this structure.



**Figure 1.** VT Route 2A BR II Wetland above box culvert



**Figure 2.** VT Route 2A BR II Wetland below box culvert



## REFERENCES

Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC). 2013. Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States. Second Edition. Available at:

<https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/documents/Classification-of-Wetlands-and-Deepwater-Habitats-of-the-United-States-2013.pdf>

Milone & MacBroom, Inc. 2008. The Vermont Culvert Geomorphic Compatibility Screening Tool. South Burlington, VT. 43 pp.

Milone & MacBroom, Inc. 2009. The Vermont Culvert Aquatic Organism Passage Screening Tool. South Burlington, VT 120 pp.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. 2012. Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Northcentral and Northeast Region. Available at:

<https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utis/getfile/collection/p266001coll1/id/7640>

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (VANR). 2018. Department of Environmental Conservation, Watershed Management Division – Wetlands Program. Guidance for Determining Wetland Jurisdiction. Available at:

[http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/wetlands/docs/wl\\_ClassificationGuidance.pdf](http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/wetlands/docs/wl_ClassificationGuidance.pdf)

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (VANR). 2009. Bridge and Culvert Assessment, Appendix B, Stream Geomorphic Assessment Handbooks. 22 pp.

Vermont Agency of Transportation. 2021. Route VT15, Bridge #006A (Routine), VT15 over Brook, Inspection Date: November 29, 2021. 9 pp.

*Geospatial and remote sensing data sources include:*

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (VANR). 2022. BioFinder Mapping Tool. Available at:

<https://anrmaps.vermont.gov/websites/BioFinder/>

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (VANR). 2022. Natural Resources Atlas. Available at:

<http://anrmaps.vermont.gov/websites/anra5/>

Vermont Center for Geographic Information (VCGI). Data available at:

<http://gis.vtanr.opendata.arcgis.com/>

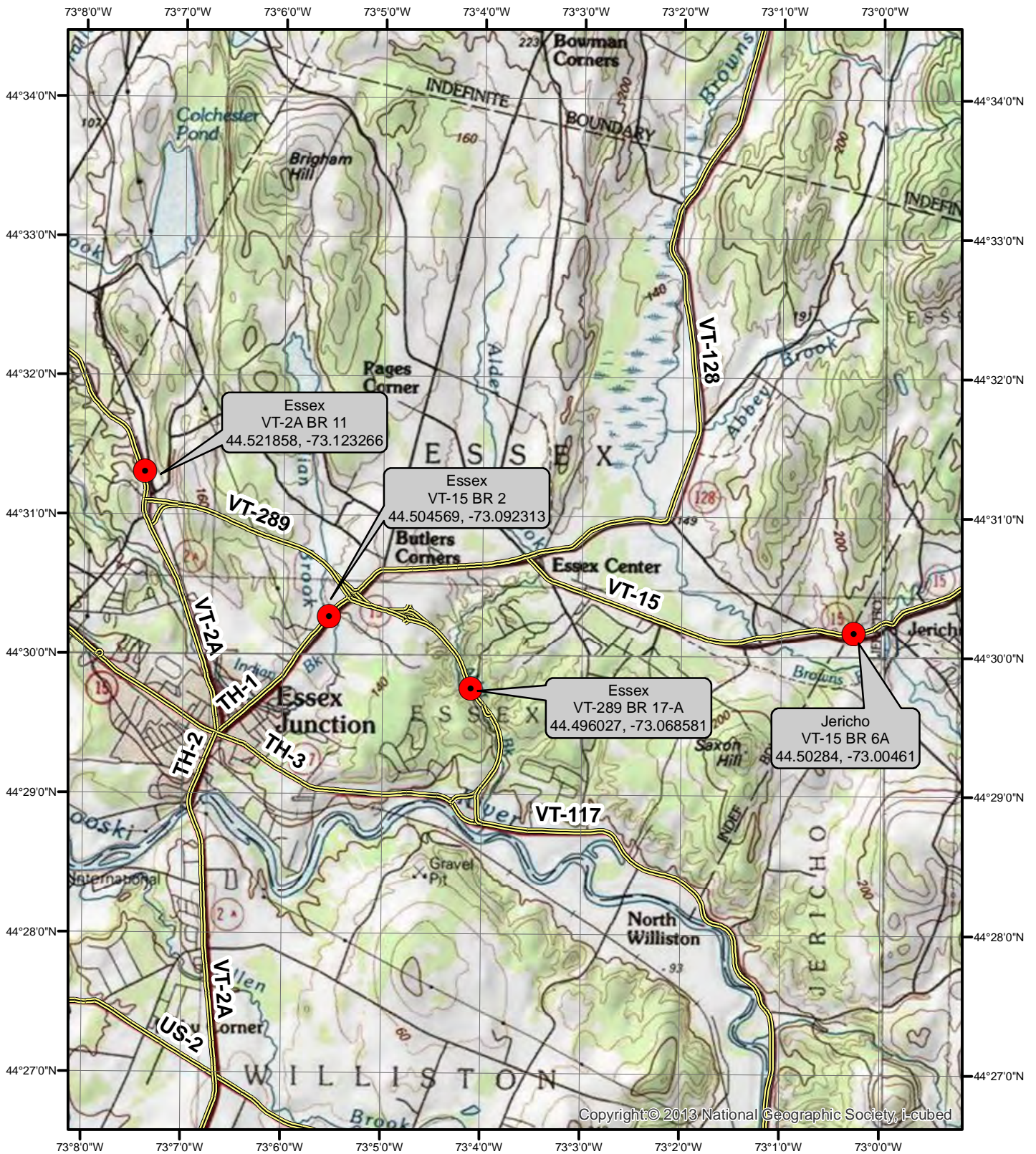
# Appendix A

Site Location, Ecological Resource  
Maps and Correspondence

# Project Location Map for Northwest STP CULV (90)



## Vermont Routes 2A, 15, and 289

### Essex and Jericho, Vermont



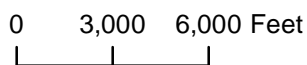
Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed

#### Legend

-  Culvert
-  Major Road

Data sources include:  
Vermont Center for Geographic Information (VCGI)

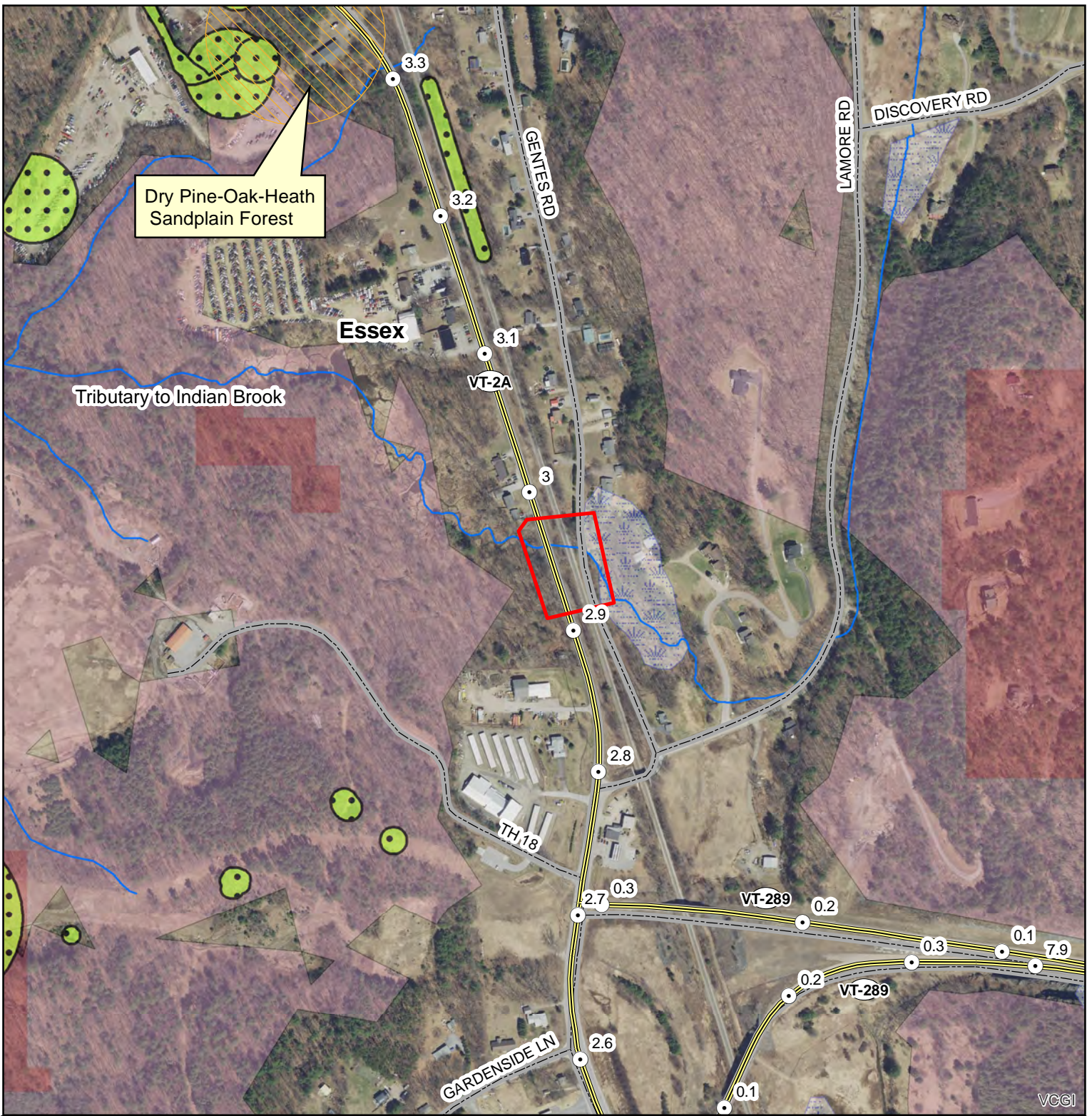
Map composed on June 27, 2022, Revised on January 5, 2023.



1 inch = 6,000 feet



**Bear Creek**  
Environmental



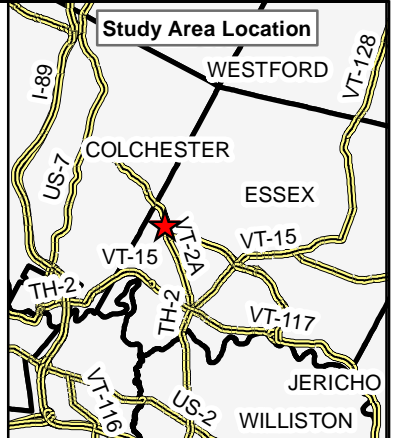
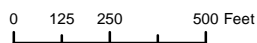
VCCI

### Resource Map - Ecological

Vermont Agency of Transportation  
 Northwest STP CULV (90)  
 Vermont Route 2A BR 11  
 Essex, VT  
 Chittenden County

#### Legend

- Study Area
- Mile Marker - Tenths
- Major Road
- Road
- VHD Stream
- Significant Natural Community
- VSWI Class Layer
- RTE Animal Species
- RTE Plant Species
- Deer Wintering Area
- Core Habitat
- Habitat Block



Bear Creek Environmental

Data sources include Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and Bear Creek Environmental. Map composed on July 7, 2022

**From:** [Ferguson, Mark](#)  
**To:** [mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com](mailto:mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com)  
**Subject:** RE: Mussel Survey Required?  
**Date:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 12:11:38 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

---

Hi Mary,

Since there is little chance of any threatened or endangered mussel species occurring in this stream section, I don't see a need for a formal mussel survey. Since there is some potential for Creek Heelsplitter being there, I request that I be contacted within four weeks prior to commencement of construction/prep activities so that I can search for and relocate any Creek Heelsplitters from within the project area. Thanks.



---

Mark Ferguson  
Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife  
Wildlife Division, Wildlife Diversity Program  
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2 | Montpelier, VT 05620-3702  
802-279-3422 cell  
<https://vtfishandwildlife.com/>

---

**From:** mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com <mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 5:04 PM  
**To:** Ferguson, Mark <Mark.Ferguson@vermont.gov>  
**Subject:** Mussel Survey Required?

**EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.**

Good Afternoon Mark:

I am emailing about a VTrans project stream crossing project on Indian Brook in Essex, Vermont. Bear Creek Environmental is working on a scoping level natural resource assessment of the site (Essex VT-15 BR2). I have attached an ecological resource map that BCE prepared for the site to this email.

There are documented occurrences of the Creek Heelsplitter (*Lasmigona compressa*) approximately 0.3 miles downstream of the VT-15 BR 2 site. My question for you is as follows: if instream work for the culvert project were needed, would a mussel survey of Indian Brook be required?

I appreciate any information you can provide.

Thanks so much,

Mary

**Mary Nealon**

Principal / River Scientist  
Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control  
Certified Floodplain Manager



131 Elm Street, Suite 1  
Montpelier, Vermont 05602  
Phone: (802) 223-5140  
Email: [Mary@BearCreekEnvironmental.com](mailto:Mary@BearCreekEnvironmental.com)  
Website: <http://www.bearcreekenvironmental.com>

# Appendix B

## Wildlife Habitat

## **Wildlife Habitat**

A desktop analysis was performed to review wildlife habitat in the vicinity of the four project sites. The BioFinder tool published by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department and available at <https://anrmaps.vermont.gov/websites/BioFinder/> was used to evaluate landscape-scale wildlife habitat. The mapping tool contains two primary datasets – a Landscape Scale layer and a Community and Species Scale layer. The Landscape Scale layer is a composite of six components – Interior Forest Blocks, Connectivity Blocks, Riparian Wildlife Connectivity, Surface Water and Riparian Areas, Physical Landscape Blocks, and Physical Landscape Diversity. The components are ranked as highest priority, priority, or not a priority by geographic area. BioFinder also displays Communities and Species Scale data, which contains the following components: Natural Communities, Aquatic Habitats, Wetlands, Terrestrial Wildlife Crossings, Riparian Wildlife Crossings, and Rare and Uncommon Species.

### Essex VT-2A BR 11

The Essex Vermont Route 2A BR 11 site was reviewed using the BioFinder tool. Wildlife habitat data are portrayed on a map on page 3 of Appendix B. The site is the location of a culvert underneath Gentes Road, the railroad, and Vermont Route 2A. The culvert conveys flow from an unnamed tributary to Indian Brook, which is a direct tributary to Lake Champlain. Lands surrounding the project study area are primarily residential, with small areas of forest interspersed. There are numerous houses along Gentes Road and several businesses on Route 2A. Class II wetlands were found at the site during the wetland delineation performed by BCE and SLR on the floodplain of the unnamed tributary both upstream and downstream of the culvert. The riparian area of the brook has received a ranking of highest priority for the following landscape habitat components: Surface Water and Riparian Areas, Riparian and Wildlife Connectivity, and Physical Landscape Diversity. Lands to the west of Route 2A (downstream of the culvert) have been identified as highest priority for the following landscape scale components: Interior Forest Blocks, Connectivity Blocks, and Physical Landscape Diversity. Forested lands to the east of Gentes Road (upstream side of the culvert) have been identified as highest priority for the following components: Connectivity Blocks and Physical Landscape Diversity. There is also a forest block present east of Lamore Road that is noted as highest priority for Connectivity Blocks and Physical Landscape Diversity.

### Essex VT-15 BR 2

The Essex Vermont Route 15 BR 2 site was also evaluated for wildlife habitat. The project site centers around a culvert under Route 15 that conveys flow from Indian Brook beneath the road. Lands surrounding the project site are a mix of residential and commercial, with a large meadow and a small amount of forested land present. Lands to the west of Route 15 (upstream side of the culvert) are noted in the BioFinder tool as highest priority for Surface Water and Riparian Areas and Physical Landscape Diversity. Lands to the east of the road (downstream of the culvert) are also highest priority for the same components. Open lands to the northeast of the culvert on the Lang Farm property are designated as priority for Surface Water and Riparian Areas. Sections of the corridor along Indian Brook are also



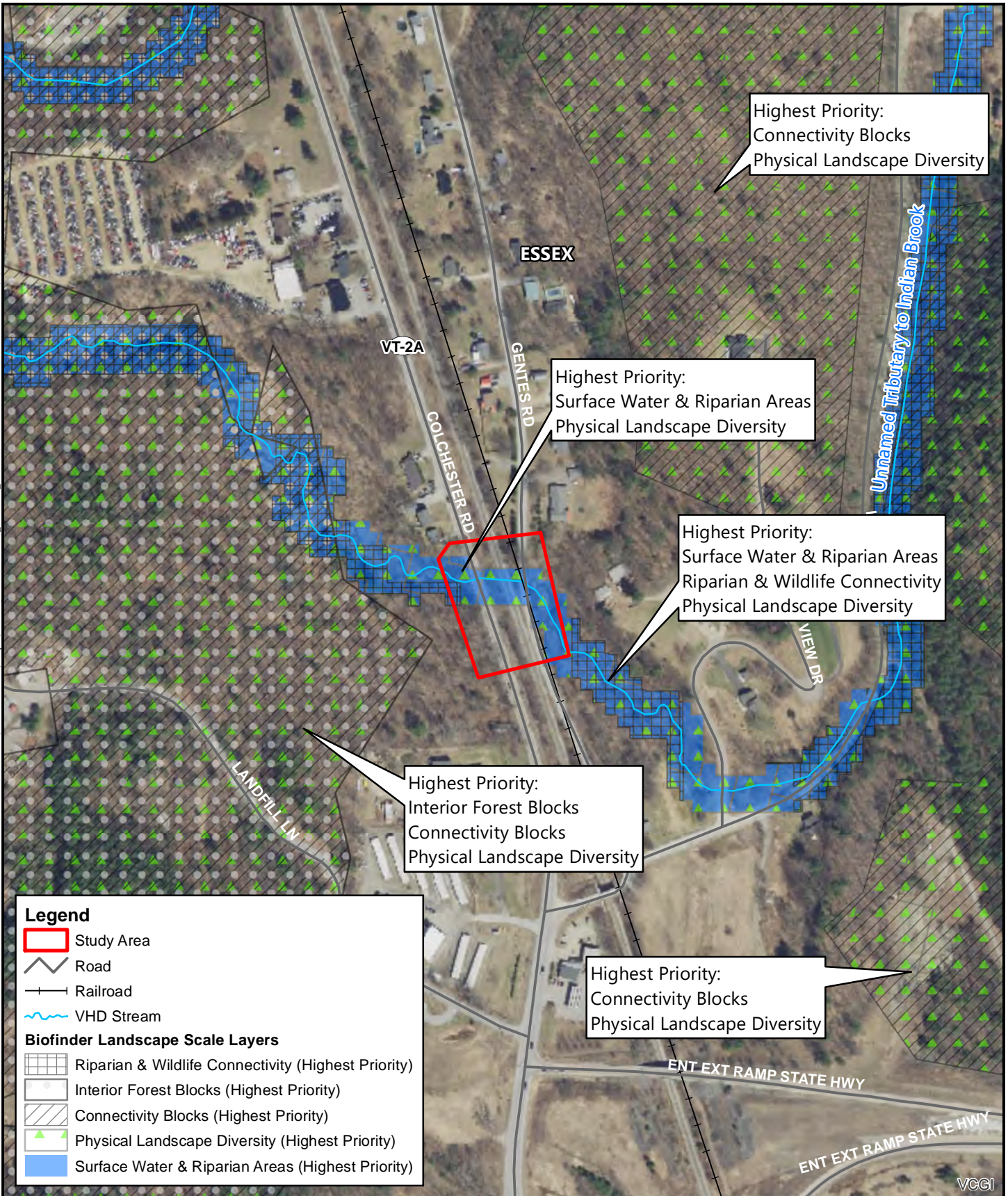
designated as highest priority for Riparian and Wildlife Connectivity. Landscape scale habitat features for the Essex Route 15 site are shown on a map on page 4 of Appendix B.

#### Essex VT-289 BR 17A

The Interstate 289 BR 17A site is a culvert that conveys flow from an unnamed tributary to Alder Brook beneath Interstate 289. The site is surrounded primarily by forested land and has Class II wetlands both east and west of the road. Forested lands to the east of the road (upstream of the culvert) have been identified as highest priority for the following landscape scale components: Physical Landscape Diversity and Physical Landscape Blocks. They are also priority for Interior Forest Blocks. Alder Brook flows parallel to Interstate 289 to the west of the road through forested land and shrub-sapling wetlands. Beyond the forested land to the west is a residential development. The swath of land along Alder Brook has been identified as highest priority for the following components: Surface Water and Riparian Areas, Riparian and Wildlife Connectivity, and Physical Habitat Diversity, as well as priority for Interior Forest Blocks. Lands to the west in the vicinity of the residential development are priority for Interior Forest Blocks. There is also a narrow band of priority Surface Water and Riparian Areas identified between Alder Brook and I-289, as shown on the map on page 5 of Appendix B.

#### Jericho VT-15 BR 6A (Revised February 7, 2023)

The Vermont Route 15 BR 6A site is located at a culvert under Route 15 near the intersection with Mountain View Road. Lands within the study area boundary are not identified as priority or highest priority for any of the BioFinder wildlife habitat components. Lands immediately along Route 15 are residential and agricultural. Forested lands are present north of the project site at the edge of a residential development. These forested lands have been identified as priority for the BioFinder landscape component Connectivity Blocks. The Browns River flows through agricultural lands south of the project site. A large area encompassing the corridor of the Browns River has been identified as highest priority for Surface Water and Riparian Areas and Physical Landscape Diversity. A narrower band of land immediately adjacent to the river is also identified as highest priority for Riparian and Wildlife Connectivity.



Highest Priority:  
Connectivity Blocks  
Physical Landscape Diversity

Highest Priority:  
Surface Water & Riparian Areas  
Physical Landscape Diversity

Highest Priority:  
Surface Water & Riparian Areas  
Riparian & Wildlife Connectivity  
Physical Landscape Diversity

Highest Priority:  
Interior Forest Blocks  
Connectivity Blocks  
Physical Landscape Diversity

Highest Priority:  
Connectivity Blocks  
Physical Landscape Diversity

**Legend**

- Study Area
- Road
- Railroad
- VHD Stream
- Biofinder Landscape Scale Layers**
- Riparian & Wildlife Connectivity (Highest Priority)
- Interior Forest Blocks (Highest Priority)
- Connectivity Blocks (Highest Priority)
- Physical Landscape Diversity (Highest Priority)
- Surface Water & Riparian Areas (Highest Priority)

**SLR**  
1 SOUTH MAIN ST  
WATERBURY, VT 05676  
802.882.8335

**Wildlife Landscape Habitat Map**

Vermont Agency of Transportation  
Northwest STP CULV (90)  
Vermont Route 2A BR 11  
Essex, VT  
Chittenden County



SCALE	1" = 500'
DATE	8/5/2022
PROJ. NO.	146.15507.00003

Biofinder data from Vermont Conservation Design Landscape Scale Components layer published by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (last updated March 24, 2022).

**WILDLIFE MAP**

# Appendix C

## Botanical Resources

Elisabeth McLane, Ecological Consulting.  
22 Blue Moon Road  
South Strafford, VT 05070  
802 765-4745, [tii.mclane0123@gmail.com](mailto:tii.mclane0123@gmail.com)

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Nealon, Bear Creek Environmental; VTRANS  
FROM: Elisabeth McLane  
SUBJECT: VTRANS PROJECT: Statewide – Northwest STP CULV (90).  
RTE Plants Evaluation of Rte 2A BR 11, and Rte 15 BR 2.  
DATE: July 8, 2022

A site visit for these VRANS-designated culvert projects took place on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022. These two culvert areas were chosen out of the group of 4 named in the project description because they are located in the vicinity of remnant Dry Pine-Oak-Heath Sandplain Forest Natural Communities where many rare plant species have been found. For the Rte 2A culvert, the east side of Gentes Road and the west side of Rte 2A were included. The central area, between those two roads, is the railroad right-of-way and was not surveyed (although a remote evaluation of the area was made). The area surveyed included 100 ft to the east of Gentes Road and 100 ft to the west of Rte 2A, extending for approximately 350 feet along the road edge. The culvert is located in the northern half of the survey area. For the Rte 15 culvert, the survey area was roughly square and centered over the culvert, extending along the road approximately 220 feet and 100 ft to the east and west of the road edge. The site visit to these two culvert areas was designed to determine if Rare, Threatened, or Endangered (RTE) plants or natural communities are present within the site boundaries.

No RTE plants were noted at the Rte 2A-BR 11 and Rte 15-BR 2 sites.

### **Route 2A BR 11**

The Rte 2A site is a complex of wetland, streamside, and moderate to steep wooded slopes bordering a moderately-wide stream valley. Soil maps show this area to be underlain by Munson-Raynham silt loams, with Adams-Windsor loamy sands found just out of the survey area. The latter soil is commonly the substrate underlying the Dry Pine-Oak-Heath Sandplain Forest community, a community that frequently supports RTE plants.

Most of this survey site has been fairly heavily disturbed through road, railroad, and housing development. Throughout most of the survey area, vegetation is dense, with a mix of native and non-native plants. Non-native *Robinia pseudo-acacia* (black locust) is common in the overstory, and *Rhamnus cathartica* (common buckthorn), *rosa multiflora* (multiflora rose), *Alliaria petiolata* (garlic mustard), and *Lonicera morrowii* (Morrow's honeysuckle) are all found in the understory, concentrated most heavily on the steep banks to the stream. *Phalaris arundinaceae* (reed canary grass) is common in the wet stream valley and *Lythrum salicarium* (purple loosestrife) was noted more occasionally there. Dominant and common native trees include: *Acer negundo* (box-elder), *Fraxinus americana* (white ash), *Populus deltoides* (cottonwood), *Quercus rubra* (red oak), *Ulmus americana* (American elm), *Rhus typhina* (stag-horn sumac), and occasional *Carpinus caroliniana* (musclewood). Dominant or common native plants include *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* (Virginia creeper), *Solidago canadensis* (Canada goldenrod), *Solidago gigantea* (smooth goldenrod), *Circaea canadensis* (enchanter's nightshade), *Ribes Americanum* (American gooseberry), *Solanum dulcamara* (deadly nightshade), *Apios americana* (common ground

nut), and vitis spp (grape). The stream drainage floor has been less disturbed, generally, and supports a variety of wet-soil plants and small concentrated wetland areas. *Onoclea sensibilis* (sensitive fern) is generally a dominant plant throughout, and there are small patches dominated by a variety of different plant species including: *Impatiens capensis* (jewel-weed), *Glyceris grandis* (American manna grass), *Typha latifolia* and *T. angustifolia* (cattail), *Alnus incana* (speckled alder), *Eurochium maculatum* (spotted joe-pye weed), *Phalaris arundinacea* (reed canary grass), *Sambucus pubens* (common elder), and *Tussalago farfara* (coltsfoot). Green and black ash were occasionally found here. These small wetlands are best described as woodland seeps that grade occasionally into cattail marsh or alluvial shrub swamp in the flat floodplain areas next to the brook.

Heavy disturbed forest areas are hard to identify to Natural Community, but the mostly likely fit for this survey area is the Red Oak-Northern Hardwood Forest Natural Community. The southwest corner of this survey area appears significantly drier, with a rolling terrain, and slightly sparser vegetative cover. This area appeared likely to be transitioning to Adams-Windsor loamy sands, the soil type more likely to support the Dry Pine-Oak-Heath Sandplain Forest Natural Community type. The forest in this section is more intact than over the rest of the survey area, but is similarly second growth and is dominated by mid to early successional trees such as: red maple, cottonwood, American elm, white ash, red oak, basswood, and, closer to the stream, box elder. *Rhamnus cathartica* is a common plant in the mid to under-story. Plants present here and not seen elsewhere included: *Hamamelis virginiana* (witchhazel), *Diervilla lonicera* (Canada fly honeysuckle), *amphicarpa bracteata* (hog peanut), *carex leptoneuria* (nerve-less sedge), *solidago caesia* (blue-stemmed goldenrod), *equisetum hymenale* (scouring rush), *carex rosea* (rosy sedge), *carex prasina* (drooping sedge), and *Polystichum acrostichoides* (Christmas fern). Although the vegetation and soils differ somewhat here, the Natural Community Type is still best described by the Red Oak-Northern Hardwood Forest, and no RTE plants were noted here.

### **Route 15 BR 2**

The Rte 15 site divides more simply into distinct communities. Mowed-grass areas are found dominating much of the northeast quarter and very northwest corner. These areas are too heavily disturbed to evaluate effectively and are unlikely to support rare plants. The southeast quarter is dominated by herbaceous plants, with *Elymus repens* common along the road edge, grading into dense *Solidago canadensis* to the east. *Solidago* provides almost complete cover, except for scattered *Onoclea sensibilis* and *Impatiens capensis*. A shrub-dominated forest edge begins at the very eastern edge of the survey area. Invasive *Rhamnus cathartica* and *Lonicera morrowii* are common here along with native *Viburnum recognitum*, and *Cornus sericea*. In a narrow band on the south side of the stream, these species mix with *Alnus incana* to create a small area of alluvial shrub swamp. Typical wet-soil herbaceous plants are found here and include: *Onoclea sensibilis*, *Eurochium maculatum*, *Impatiens capensis*, *Thalictrum pubescens* (tall meadow-rue), and *Typha angustifolium*. The northside of the stream, south of the mowed grass-area, is dominated by a dense thicket of invasive *Phragmites australis* (common reed). The natural communities that would likely be identifiable here, if not for the dominant *Phragmites*, include Cattail Marsh or Shallow Emergent Marsh, or a combination of these.

The western side of Rte. 15 is old field that has regenerated to mixed shrubs and trees. *Pinus strobus* (white pine) is common, as is invasive *Robinia pseudo-acacia*. *Rhus typhina* sometimes dominates. Invasive plants are common and include: *Rhamnus cathartica*, *Lonicera morrowii*, *Alliaria petiolate*, and *Centauria jacea* (brown knapweed). The stream valley is not wide here, with old field re-growth extending almost to the stream edge. Evaluating natural community type in such a disturbed area is difficult, but the most likely choices for the non-wetland areas of this survey areas are Northern Hardwood Forest and Red Oak-Northern Hardwood Forest.

**Botanical Findings**

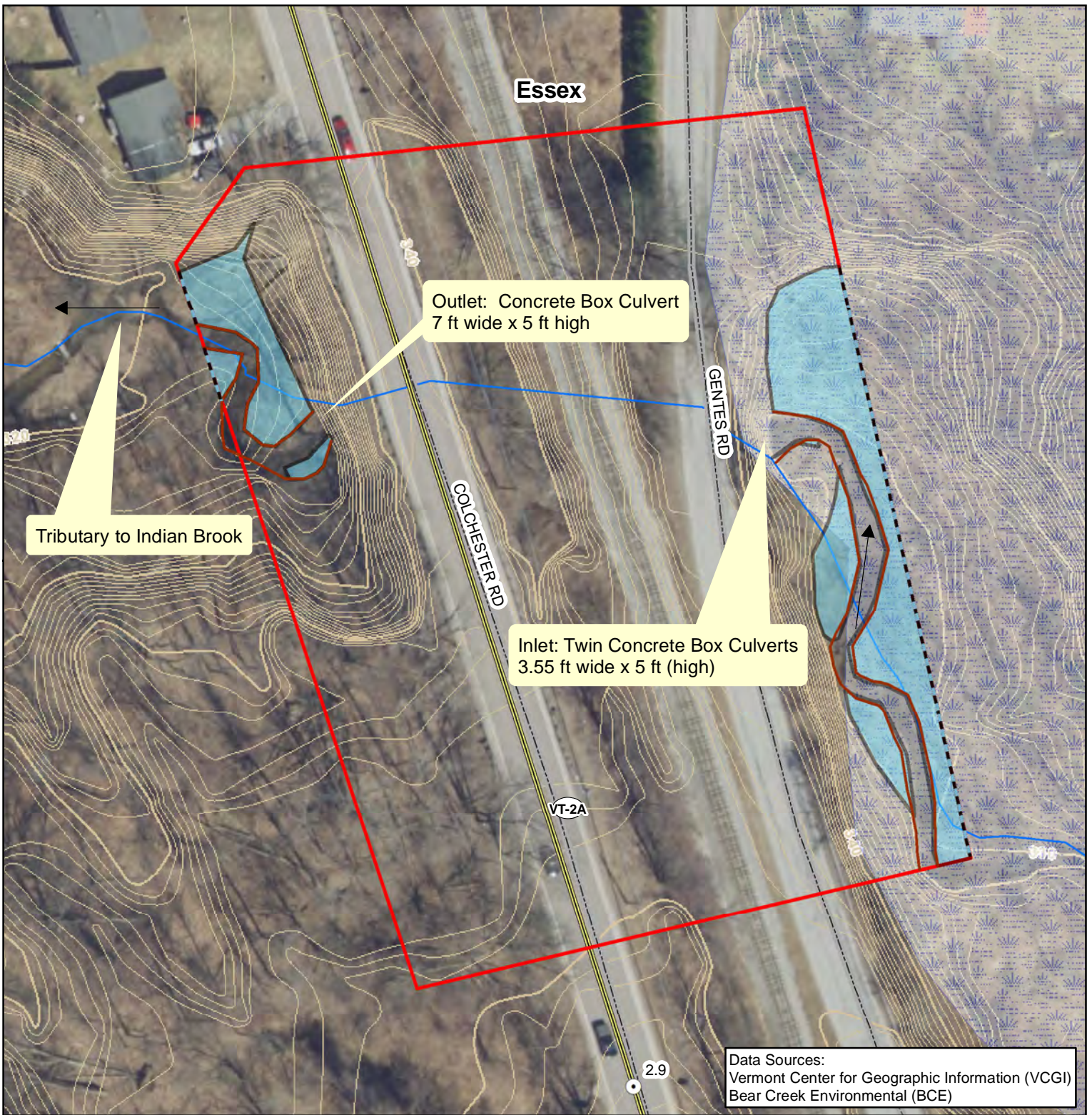
No RTE plants were noted at either the Rte 2A-BR11, or the Rte 15-BR 2 sites.

**Natural Community Findings**

No rare or significant Natural Communities were noted at either the Rte 2A-BR11, or the Rte 15-BR 2 sites. Invasive plants pose a threat to native plants at both sites.

# Appendix D

## Wetland and Stream Resources



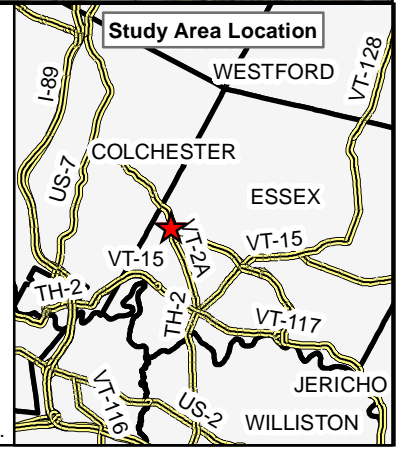
Data Sources:  
 Vermont Center for Geographic Information (VCGI)  
 Bear Creek Environmental (BCE)

**Field Delineated Wetlands**  
 Vermont Agency of Transportation  
 Northwest STP CULV (90)  
 Vermont Route 2A BR 11  
 Essex, VT  
 Chittenden County

**Legend**

Study Area	VHD Stream
Field Delineated Wetland Class 2	VSWI Class Layer
Wetland Open Boundary	Mile Marker - Tenths
OHW (approx.)	Major Road
	Road

0 15 30 60 Feet



A wetland delineation was performed in accordance with the methods described in the manual prepared by the US Army Corps of Engineers dated 2012 and titled "Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Northcentral and Northeast Region". Wetland delineation performed on July 14, 2022. Field delineated wetlands continue beyond the study area boundary, but mapping only occurred within the study area. Wetlands that extend farther are shown with an open boundary (dotted line). Map composed on July 19, 2022 (updated July 27). Delineation and class confirmed by Elijah Schumacher, VT District Wetland Ecologist, on July 28, 2022.





## WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Northcentral and Northeast Region

Project/Site: VTrans NW STP CULV (90) - VT 2A BR 11 City/County: Essex / Chittenden Sampling Date: 7/14/22  
 Applicant/Owner: VTrans State: VT Sampling Point: Aup  
 Investigator(s): Mary Nealon (BCE), Alex Marcuci (SLR) Section, Township, Range: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Hillside Local relief (concave, convex, none): none Slope (%): 50%  
 Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR R Lat: 44.521857 Long: -73.122842 Datum: WGS 1984  
 Soil Map Unit Name: Munson and Raynham silt loams, 2 to 6 percent NWI classification: NA

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes  No  (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology  significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes  No   
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology  naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, optional Wetland Site ID: _____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)			

### HYDROLOGY

<b>Wetland Hydrology Indicators:</b> <u>Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1) <input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9) <input type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2) <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Fauna (B13) <input type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3) <input type="checkbox"/> Marl Deposits (B15) <input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1) <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1) <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2) <input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3) <input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3) <input type="checkbox"/> Presence of Reduced Iron (C4) <input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4) <input type="checkbox"/> Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6) <input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5) <input type="checkbox"/> Thin Muck Surface (C7) <input type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks) <input type="checkbox"/> Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)	<u>Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Soil Cracks (B6) <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Patterns (B10) <input type="checkbox"/> Moss Trim Lines (B16) <input type="checkbox"/> Dry-Season Water Table (C2) <input type="checkbox"/> Crayfish Burrows (C8) <input type="checkbox"/> Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9) <input type="checkbox"/> Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) <input type="checkbox"/> Geomorphic Position (D2) <input type="checkbox"/> Shallow Aquitard (D3) <input type="checkbox"/> Microtopographic Relief (D4) <input type="checkbox"/> FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
<b>Field Observations:</b> Surface Water Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____ Water Table Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____ Saturation Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____ (includes capillary fringe)	<b>Wetland Hydrology Present?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:	
Remarks:	

**VEGETATION** – Use scientific names of plants.

Sampling Point:     Aup    

	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status																	
<b>Tree Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____ )				<p><b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b></p> <p>Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>    3    </u> (A)</p> <p>Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>    6    </u> (B)</p> <p>Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>    50.0%    </u> (A/B)</p> <p><b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b></p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:50%; text-align: center;">Total % Cover of:</td> <td style="width:50%; text-align: center;">Multiply by:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>OBL species <u>    0    </u></td> <td>x 1 = <u>    0    </u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FACW species <u>    5    </u></td> <td>x 2 = <u>    10    </u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FAC species <u>   110    </u></td> <td>x 3 = <u>   330    </u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FACU species <u>   117    </u></td> <td>x 4 = <u>   468    </u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>UPL species <u>    0    </u></td> <td>x 5 = <u>    0    </u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Column Totals: <u>   232    </u></td> <td>(A) <u>   808    </u> (B)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    3.48    </u></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b></p> <p><u>    </u> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation</p> <p><u>    </u> 2 - Dominance Test is &gt;50%</p> <p><u>    </u> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0<sup>1</sup></p> <p><u>    </u> 4 - Morphological Adaptations<sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)</p> <p><u>    </u> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation<sup>1</sup> (Explain)</p> <p><sup>1</sup>Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.</p> <p><b>Definitions of Vegetation Strata:</b></p> <p><b>Tree</b> – Woody plants 3 in. (7.6 cm) or more in diameter at breast height (DBH), regardless of height.</p> <p><b>Sapling/shrub</b> – Woody plants less than 3 in. DBH and greater than or equal to 3.28 ft (1 m) tall.</p> <p><b>Herb</b> – All herbaceous (non-woody) plants, regardless of size, and woody plants less than 3.28 ft tall.</p> <p><b>Woody vines</b> – All woody vines greater than 3.28 ft in height.</p> <p><b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b>      Yes <u>    </u>      No <u>  X  </u></p>	Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:	OBL species <u>    0    </u>	x 1 = <u>    0    </u>	FACW species <u>    5    </u>	x 2 = <u>    10    </u>	FAC species <u>   110    </u>	x 3 = <u>   330    </u>	FACU species <u>   117    </u>	x 4 = <u>   468    </u>	UPL species <u>    0    </u>	x 5 = <u>    0    </u>	Column Totals: <u>   232    </u>	(A) <u>   808    </u> (B)	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    3.48    </u>	
Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:																			
OBL species <u>    0    </u>	x 1 = <u>    0    </u>																			
FACW species <u>    5    </u>	x 2 = <u>    10    </u>																			
FAC species <u>   110    </u>	x 3 = <u>   330    </u>																			
FACU species <u>   117    </u>	x 4 = <u>   468    </u>																			
UPL species <u>    0    </u>	x 5 = <u>    0    </u>																			
Column Totals: <u>   232    </u>	(A) <u>   808    </u> (B)																			
Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>    3.48    </u>																				
1. <u>  Acer rubrum  </u>	<u>  50  </u>	<u>  Yes  </u>	<u>  FAC  </u>																	
2. <u>  Prunus serotina  </u>	<u>  20  </u>	<u>  Yes  </u>	<u>  FACU  </u>																	
3. <u>  Betula alleghaniensis  </u>	<u>  30  </u>	<u>  Yes  </u>	<u>  FAC  </u>																	
4. _____																				
5. _____																				
6. _____																				
7. _____																				
	<u>  100  </u> =Total Cover																			
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____ )																				
1. <u>  Hamamelis virginiana  </u>	<u>  60  </u>	<u>  Yes  </u>	<u>  FACU  </u>																	
2. _____																				
3. _____																				
4. _____																				
5. _____																				
6. _____																				
7. _____																				
	<u>  60  </u> =Total Cover																			
<b>Herb Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____ )																				
1. <u>  Maianthemum racemosum  </u>	<u>  30  </u>	<u>  Yes  </u>	<u>  FACU  </u>																	
2. <u>  Zizia aurea  </u>	<u>  30  </u>	<u>  Yes  </u>	<u>  FAC  </u>																	
3. <u>  Impatiens capensis  </u>	<u>    5  </u>	<u>  No  </u>	<u>  FACW  </u>																	
4. <u>  Hamamelis virginiana  </u>	<u>    2  </u>	<u>  No  </u>	<u>  FACU  </u>																	
5. <u>  Rubus idaeus  </u>	<u>    5  </u>	<u>  No  </u>	<u>  FACU  </u>																	
6. _____																				
7. _____																				
8. _____																				
9. _____																				
10. _____																				
11. _____																				
12. _____																				
	<u>  72  </u> =Total Cover																			
<b>Woody Vine Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____ )																				
1. _____																				
2. _____																				
3. _____																				
4. _____																				
	_____ =Total Cover																			

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)



## WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Northcentral and Northeast Region

Project/Site: VTrans NW STP CULV (90) - VT 2A BR 11 City/County: Essex / Chittenden Sampling Date: 7/14/22  
 Applicant/Owner: VTrans State: VT Sampling Point: Aweta  
 Investigator(s): Mary Nealon (BCE), Alex Marcuci (SLR) Section, Township, Range: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Floodplain Local relief (concave, convex, none): concave Slope (%): 2-3%  
 Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR R Lat: 44.521822 Long: -73.123007 Datum: WGS 1984  
 Soil Map Unit Name: Munson & Raynham Silt Loam 6-12% NWI classification: PSS

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____ Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____ Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____	<b>Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No _____ If yes, optional Wetland Site ID: _____
Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)	

### HYDROLOGY

<b>Wetland Hydrology Indicators:</b> <u>Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)</u> _____ Surface Water (A1) <u>X</u> Water-Stained Leaves (B9) _____ High Water Table (A2) _____ Aquatic Fauna (B13) <u>X</u> Saturation (A3) _____ Marl Deposits (B15) _____ Water Marks (B1) _____ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1) _____ Sediment Deposits (B2) _____ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3) _____ Drift Deposits (B3) _____ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4) _____ Algal Mat or Crust (B4) _____ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6) _____ Iron Deposits (B5) _____ Thin Muck Surface (C7) _____ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7) _____ Other (Explain in Remarks) _____ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)	<u>Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)</u> _____ Surface Soil Cracks (B6) _____ Drainage Patterns (B10) _____ Moss Trim Lines (B16) _____ Dry-Season Water Table (C2) _____ Crayfish Burrows (C8) _____ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9) _____ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) <u>X</u> Geomorphic Position (D2) _____ Shallow Aquitard (D3) _____ Microtopographic Relief (D4) <u>X</u> FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
---	---

<b>Field Observations:</b> Surface Water Present? Yes _____ No <u>X</u> Depth (inches): _____ Water Table Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____ Depth (inches): <u>13</u> Saturation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____ Depth (inches): <u>0</u> (includes capillary fringe)	<b>Wetland Hydrology Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No _____
---	---

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

**VEGETATION** – Use scientific names of plants.

Sampling Point: Aweta

	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
<b>Tree Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____)			
1. <u>Ulmus americana</u>	20	Yes	FACW
2. <u>Acer negundo</u>	10	Yes	FAC
3. _____			
4. _____			
5. _____			
6. _____			
7. _____			
	30	=Total Cover	
<b>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____)			
1. <u>Alnus incana</u>	60	Yes	FACW
2. <u>Prunus pensylvanica</u>	2	No	FACU
3. _____			
4. _____			
5. _____			
6. _____			
7. _____			
	62	=Total Cover	
<b>Herb Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____)			
1. <u>Onoclea sensibilis</u>	70	Yes	FACW
2. <u>Thalictrum dasycarpum</u>	30	Yes	FACW
3. <u>Caltha palustris</u>	20	No	OBL
4. <u>Rubus pubescens</u>	5	No	FACW
5. _____			
6. _____			
7. _____			
8. _____			
9. _____			
10. _____			
11. _____			
12. _____			
	125	=Total Cover	
<b>Woody Vine Stratum</b> (Plot size: _____)			
1. _____			
2. _____			
3. _____			
4. _____			
		=Total Cover	

**Dominance Test worksheet:**

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 5 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 5 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100.0% (A/B)

**Prevalence Index worksheet:**

Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:
OBL species <u>20</u>	x 1 = <u>20</u>
FACW species <u>185</u>	x 2 = <u>370</u>
FAC species <u>10</u>	x 3 = <u>30</u>
FACU species <u>2</u>	x 4 = <u>8</u>
UPL species <u>0</u>	x 5 = <u>0</u>
Column Totals: <u>217</u> (A)	<u>428</u> (B)
Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>1.97</u>	

- Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:**
- 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
  - 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
  - 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0<sup>1</sup>
  - 4 - Morphological Adaptations<sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
  - Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation<sup>1</sup> (Explain)
- <sup>1</sup>Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

**Definitions of Vegetation Strata:**

**Tree** – Woody plants 3 in. (7.6 cm) or more in diameter at breast height (DBH), regardless of height.

**Sapling/shrub** – Woody plants less than 3 in. DBH and greater than or equal to 3.28 ft (1 m) tall.

**Herb** – All herbaceous (non-woody) plants, regardless of size, and woody plants less than 3.28 ft tall.

**Woody vines** – All woody vines greater than 3.28 ft in height.

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?**      Yes       No

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

**SOIL**

Sampling Point: Aweta

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)								
Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features				Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type <sup>1</sup>	Loc <sup>2</sup>		
0-8	10YR 2/2	100					Loamy/Clayey	Silty loam
8-11	10YR 4/2	90	7.5YR 6/6	10	C	M	Sandy	Prominent redox concentrations
11-18	10YR 3/1	98	10YR 5/8	2	C	M	Loamy/Clayey	Prominent redox concentrations

<sup>1</sup>Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. <sup>2</sup>Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

**Hydric Soil Indicators:**

- Histosol (A1)
- Histic Epipedon (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- Stratified Layers (A5)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- Sandy Redox (S5)
- Stripped Matrix (S6)
- Dark Surface (S7)

- Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (LRR R, MLRA 149B)
- Thin Dark Surface (S9) (LRR R, MLRA 149B)
- High Chroma Sands (S11) (LRR K, L)
- Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (LRR K, L)
- Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- Depleted Matrix (F3)
- Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- Redox Depressions (F8)
- Marl (F10) (LRR K, L)

**Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils<sup>3</sup>:**

- 2 cm Muck (A10) (LRR K, L, MLRA 149B)
- Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (LRR K, L, R)
- 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (LRR K, L, R)
- Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (LRR K, L)
- Thin Dark Surface (S9) (LRR K, L)
- Iron-Manganese Masses (F12) (LRR K, L, R)
- Piedmont Floodplain Soils (F19) (MLRA 149B)
- Mesic Spodic (TA6) (MLRA 144A, 145, 149B)
- Red Parent Material (F21)
- Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

<sup>3</sup>Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

**Restrictive Layer (if observed):**

Type: Rock  
 Depth (inches): 18

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No     

**Remarks:**

This data form is revised from Northcentral and Northeast Regional Supplement Version 2.0 to reflect the NRCS Field Indicators of Hydric Soils version 7.0 March 2013 Errata. ([http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2\\_051293.docx](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2_051293.docx))

## WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Northcentral and Northeast Region

Project/Site: VTrans NW STP CULV (90) - VT 2A BR 11 City/County: Essex / Chittenden Sampling Date: 7/14/22  
 Applicant/Owner: VTrans State: VT Sampling Point: Awetb  
 Investigator(s): Mary Nealon (BCE), Alex Marcuci (SLR) Section, Township, Range: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Depression/Floodplain Local relief (concave, convex, none): concave Slope (%): 0  
 Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR R Lat: 44.522000 Long: -73.124111 Datum: WGS 1984  
 Soil Map Unit Name: Munson and Raynham silt loams, 6 to 12 percent NWI classification: PSS/PEM

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____ Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____ Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____	<b>Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No _____ If yes, optional Wetland Site ID: _____
Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)	

### HYDROLOGY

<b>Wetland Hydrology Indicators:</b> <b>Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2) <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Fauna (B13) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3) <input type="checkbox"/> Marl Deposits (B15) <input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1) <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1) <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2) <input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3) <input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3) <input type="checkbox"/> Presence of Reduced Iron (C4) <input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4) <input type="checkbox"/> Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6) <input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5) <input type="checkbox"/> Thin Muck Surface (C7) <input type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks) <input type="checkbox"/> Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)	<b>Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Soil Cracks (B6) <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Patterns (B10) <input type="checkbox"/> Moss Trim Lines (B16) <input type="checkbox"/> Dry-Season Water Table (C2) <input type="checkbox"/> Crayfish Burrows (C8) <input type="checkbox"/> Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9) <input type="checkbox"/> Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geomorphic Position (D2) <input type="checkbox"/> Shallow Aquitard (D3) <input type="checkbox"/> Microtopographic Relief (D4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
<b>Field Observations:</b> Surface Water Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____ Depth (inches): <u>0.5</u> Water Table Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____ Depth (inches): <u>0</u> Saturation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____ Depth (inches): <u>0</u> (includes capillary fringe)	<b>Wetland Hydrology Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No _____
Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:	
Remarks: No upland plot below culvert due to poison ivy. Culvert outlet is 6' x 6' concrete box culvert.	

**VEGETATION** – Use scientific names of plants.

Sampling Point: Awetb

<u>Tree Stratum</u> (Plot size: _____ )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
	=Total Cover		
<u>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</u> (Plot size: _____ )			
1. <u>Alnus incana</u>	10	Yes	FACW
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
	10 =Total Cover		
<u>Herb Stratum</u> (Plot size: _____ )			
1. <u>Onoclea sensibilis</u>	60	Yes	FACW
2. <u>Eutrochium maculatum</u>	30	Yes	OBL
3. <u>Symphyotrichum puniceum</u>	10	No	OBL
4. <u>Impatiens capensis</u>	20	No	FACW
5. <u>Solanum dulcamara</u>	5	No	FAC
6. <u>Mentha aquatica</u>	5	No	OBL
7. <u>Typha angustifolia</u>	2	No	OBL
8. <u>Barbarea vulgaris</u>	5	No	FAC
9. _____	_____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____	_____
11. _____	_____	_____	_____
12. _____	_____	_____	_____
	137 =Total Cover		
<u>Woody Vine Stratum</u> (Plot size: _____ )			
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
	_____ =Total Cover		

**Dominance Test worksheet:**

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 3 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 3 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100.0% (A/B)

**Prevalence Index worksheet:**

Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:
OBL species <u>47</u>	x 1 = <u>47</u>
FACW species <u>90</u>	x 2 = <u>180</u>
FAC species <u>10</u>	x 3 = <u>30</u>
FACU species <u>0</u>	x 4 = <u>0</u>
UPL species <u>0</u>	x 5 = <u>0</u>
Column Totals: <u>147</u> (A)	<u>257</u> (B)
Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>1.75</u>	

- Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:**
- 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
  - 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
  - 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0<sup>1</sup>
  - 4 - Morphological Adaptations<sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
  - Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation<sup>1</sup> (Explain)
- <sup>1</sup>Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

**Definitions of Vegetation Strata:**

**Tree** – Woody plants 3 in. (7.6 cm) or more in diameter at breast height (DBH), regardless of height.

**Sapling/shrub** – Woody plants less than 3 in. DBH and greater than or equal to 3.28 ft (1 m) tall.

**Herb** – All herbaceous (non-woody) plants, regardless of size, and woody plants less than 3.28 ft tall.

**Woody vines** – All woody vines greater than 3.28 ft in height.

**Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?**      Yes       No   

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)



**SOIL**

Sampling Point: Awetb

**Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)**

Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features				Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type <sup>1</sup>	Loc <sup>2</sup>		
0-18	10YR 3/1	100					Muck	Silty muck

<sup>1</sup>Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains.      <sup>2</sup>Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

<b>Hydric Soil Indicators:</b>		<b>Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils<sup>3</sup>:</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Histosol (A1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) ( <b>LRR R, MLRA 149B</b> )	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 cm Muck (A10) ( <b>LRR K, L, MLRA 149B</b> )	
<input type="checkbox"/> Histic Epipedon (A2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Thin Dark Surface (S9) ( <b>LRR R, MLRA 149B</b> )	<input type="checkbox"/> Coast Prairie Redox (A16) ( <b>LRR K, L, R</b> )	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black Histic (A3)	<input type="checkbox"/> High Chroma Sands (S11) ( <b>LRR K, L</b> )	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) ( <b>LRR K, L, R</b> )	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) ( <b>LRR K, L</b> )	<input type="checkbox"/> Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) ( <b>LRR K, L</b> )	
<input type="checkbox"/> Stratified Layers (A5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Thin Dark Surface (S9) ( <b>LRR K, L</b> )	
<input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)	<input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Matrix (F3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Iron-Manganese Masses (F12) ( <b>LRR K, L, R</b> )	
<input type="checkbox"/> Thick Dark Surface (A12)	<input type="checkbox"/> Redox Dark Surface (F6)	<input type="checkbox"/> Piedmont Floodplain Soils (F19) ( <b>MLRA 149B</b> )	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Dark Surface (F7)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mesic Spodic (TA6) ( <b>MLRA 144A, 145, 149B</b> )	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Redox Depressions (F8)	<input type="checkbox"/> Red Parent Material (F21)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Redox (S5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Marl (F10) ( <b>LRR K, L</b> )	<input type="checkbox"/> Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Stripped Matrix (S6)		<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark Surface (S7)			

<sup>3</sup>Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

<b>Restrictive Layer (if observed):</b> Type: _____ Depth (inches): _____	<b>Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____</b>
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Remarks:  
This data form is revised from Northcentral and Northeast Regional Supplement Version 2.0 to reflect the NRCS Field Indicators of Hydric Soils version 7.0 March 2013 Errata. ([http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2\\_051293.docx](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2_051293.docx))

**VERMONT WETLAND EVALUATION FORM**

Wetland ID#: VT-2A BR 11, Wetland A Project #: VTrans NW STP CULV (90)

Date: 8/8/22 Investigator: Mary Nealon (BCE), Alex Marcucci (SLR)

**SUMMARY OF FUNCTIONAL EVALUATION:**

Each function gets a score of 0= not present; L = Low; P = Present; or H = High.

<b>1. Water Storage for Flood Water and Storm Runoff</b> H	<b>6. Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species Habitat</b> 0
<b>2. Surface &amp; Ground Water Protection</b> H	<b>7. Education and Research in Natural Sciences</b> 0
<b>3. Fish Habitat</b> P	<b>8. Recreational Value and Economic Benefits</b> 0
<b>4. Wildlife Habitat</b> H	<b>9. Open Space and Aesthetics</b> 0
<b>5. Exemplary Wetland Natural Community</b> 0	<b>10. Erosion Control through Binding and Stabilizing the Soil</b> H

**Note:**

- **When to use this form:** This is a field form to help you compile data needed to evaluate the 10 possible functions and values of a wetland as described in the Vermont Wetland Rules. All information in this form is replicated in the applications for both wetland determinations and wetland permits.
- **Both a desktop review and field examination** should be employed to accurately determine surrounding land use, hydrology, hydroperiod, vegetation, position in the landscape, and physical attributes.
- **The entire wetland or wetland complex** in question must be evaluated to determine the level of function in all ten (10) categories for accurate classification. A wetland complex can be defined as a series of interconnected wetland types.
- **The surrounding upland and outflow area** of the wetland should be examined to determine land use, development, nearby natural resources, and hydrology. The surrounding land use, previous development, and cumulative impacts may play a role in the current function of the wetland. For best results please read all descriptions prior to scoring activity.
- **Evaluation:** The first portion in each section determines whether the wetland does or does not provide the function. If none of the conditions listed in the first section are met, proceed

to the next section. If any of these conditions are met, determine if the wetland provides this function at a higher or lower level based on the information listed in the subsequent sections.

- **Presumptions:** Please note that many wetlands are already presumed to be significant under the Vermont Wetland Rules. A wetland is presumed to be significant if:
  - The wetland is mapped on the VSWI map
  - The wetland is contiguous to a VSWI mapped wetland
  - The wetland meets the presumptions of significance under Section 4.6
  - The wetland has a preliminary determination that it is Class II

## 1. Water Storage for Flood Water and Storm Runoff

Function is present and likely to be significant: Any of the following physical and vegetative characteristics indicate the wetland provides this function.

- Constricted outlet or no outlet and an unconstricted inlet.
- Physical space for floodwater expansion and dense, persistent, emergent vegetation or dense woody vegetation that slows down flood waters or stormwater runoff during peak flows and facilitates water removal by evaporation and transpiration.
- If a stream is present, its course is sinuous and there is sufficient woody vegetation to intercept surface flows in the portion of the wetland that floods.
- Physical evidence of seasonal flooding or ponding such as water stained leaves, water marks on trees, drift rows, debris deposits, or standing water.
- Hydrologic or hydraulic study indicates wetland attenuates flooding.

If any of the above boxes are checked, the wetland provides this function. Complete the following to determine if the wetland provides this function above or below a moderate level:

- Check box if any of the following conditions apply that may indicate the wetland provides this function at a *lower* level.
  - Significant flood storage capacity upstream of the wetland, and the wetland in question provides this function at a negligible level in comparison to upstream storage (unless the upstream storage is temporary such as a beaver impoundment).
  - Wetland is contiguous to a major lake or pond that provides storage benefits independently of the wetland.
  - Wetland's storage capacity is created primarily by recent beaver dams or other temporary structures.
  - Wetland is very small in size, not contiguous to a stream, and not part of a collection of small wetlands in the landscape that provide this function cumulatively.
- Check box if any of the following conditions apply that may indicate the wetland provides this function at a *higher* level.
  - History of downstream flood damage to public or private property.
  - Any of the following conditions present downstream of the wetland, but upstream of a major lake or pond, could be impacted by a loss or reduction of the water storage function.
    - 1. Developed public or private property.
    - 2. Stream banks susceptible to scouring and erosion.
    - 3. Important habitat for aquatic life.
  - The wetland is large in size and naturally vegetated.

- Any of the following conditions present upstream of the wetland may indicate a large volume of runoff may reach the wetland.
  - 1. A large amount of impervious surface in urbanized areas.
  - 2. Relatively impervious soils.
  - 3. Steep slopes in the adjacent areas.

## 2. Surface and Ground Water Protection

Function is present and likely to be significant: Any of the following physical and vegetative characteristics indicate the wetland provides this function.

- Constricted or no outlets.
- Low water velocity through dense, persistent vegetation.
- Hydroperiod permanently flooded or saturated.
- Wetlands in depositional environments with persistent vegetation wider than 20 feet.
- Wetlands with persistent vegetation comprising a defined delta, island, bar or peninsula.
- Presence of seeps or springs.
- Wetland contains a high amount of microtopography that helps slow and filter surface water.
- Position in the landscape indicates the wetland is a headwaters area.
- Wetland is adjacent to surface waters.
- Wetland recharges a drinking water source.
- Water sampling indicates removal of pollutants or nutrients.
- Water sampling indicates retention of sediments or organic matter.
- Fine mineral soils and alkalinity not low.
- The wetland provides an obvious filter between surface water or ground water and land uses that may contribute point or nonpoint sources of sediments, toxic substances or nutrients to the wetland, such as: steep erodible slopes; row crops; dumps; areas of pesticide, herbicide or fertilizer application; feed lots; parking lots or heavily traveled road; and septic systems.

If any of the above boxes are checked, the wetland provides this function. Complete the following to determine if the wetland provides this function above or below a moderate level.

Check box if any of the following conditions apply that may indicate the wetland provides this function at a *lower* level.

- Presence of dead forest or shrub areas in sufficient amounts to result in diminished

nutrient uptake.

- Presence of ditches or channels that confine water and restrict contact of water with vegetation.
- Wetland is very small in size, not contiguous to a stream, and not part of a collection of small wetlands in the landscape that provide this function cumulatively.
- Current use in the wetland results in disturbance that compromises this function.
- Check box if any of the following conditions apply that may indicate the wetland provides this function at a *higher* level.
  - The wetland is adjacent to a well head or source protection area, and provides ground water recharge.
  - The wetland provides flows to Class A surface waters.
  - The wetland contributes to the protection or improvement of water quality of any impaired waters.
  - The wetland is large in size and naturally vegetated.

### 3. Fish Habitat

- Function is present and likely to be significant: Any of the following physical and vegetative characteristics indicate the wetland provides this function.
  - Contains woody vegetation that overhangs the banks of a stream or river and provides any of the following: shading that controls summer water temperature; cover including refuges created by overhanging branches or undercut banks; source of terrestrial insects as fish food; or streambank stability.
  - Provides spawning, nursery, feeding or cover habitat for fish (documented or professionally judged). Common habitat includes deep marsh and shallow marsh associates with lakes and streams, and seasonally flooded wetlands associated with streams and rivers.
  - Documented or professionally judged spawning habitat for northern pike.
  - Provides cold spring discharge that lowers the temperature of receiving waters and creates summer habitat for salmonoid species.
  - The wetland is located along a tributary that does not support fish, but contributes to a larger body of water that does support fish. The tributary supports downstream fish by providing cooler water, and food sources.

#### 4. Wildlife Habitat

- Function is present and likely to be significant: Any of the following physical and vegetative characteristics indicate the wetland provides this function.
  - Provides resting, feeding staging or roosting habitat to support waterfowl migration, and feeding habitat for wading birds. Good habitats for these species include open water wetlands.
  - Habitat to support one or more breeding pairs or broods of waterfowl including all species of ducks, geese, and swans. Good habitats for these species include open water habitats adjacent shallow marsh, deep marsh, shrub wetland, forested wetland, or naturally vegetated buffer zone.
  - Provides a nest site, a buffer for a nest site or feeding habitat for wading birds including but not limited to: great blue heron, black-crowned night heron, green-backed heron, cattle egret, or snowy egret. Good habitats for these species include open water or deep marsh adjacent to forested wetlands, or standing dead trees.
  - Supports or has the habitat to support one or more breeding pairs of any migratory bird that requires wetland habitat for breeding, nesting, rearing of young, feeding, staging roosting, or migration, including: Virginia rail, common snipe, marsh wren, American bittern, northern water thrush, northern harrier, spruce grouse, Cerulean warbler, and common loon.
  - Supports winter habitat for white-tailed deer. Good habitats for these species include softwood swamps. Evidence of use includes deer browsing, bark stripping, worn trails, or pellet piles.
  - Provides important feeding habitat for black bear, bobcat, or moose based on an assessment of use. Good habitat for these types of species includes wetlands located in a forested mosaic.
  - Has the habitat to support muskrat, otter or mink. Good habitats for these species include deep marshes, wetlands adjacent to bodies of water including lakes, ponds, rivers and streams.
  - Supports an active beaver dam, one or more lodges, or evidence of use in two or more consecutive years by an adult beaver population.
  - Provides the following habitats that support the reproduction of Uncommon Vermont amphibian species including:
    - 1. Wood Frog, Jefferson Salamander, Blue-spotted Salamander, or Spotted Salamander. Breeding habitat for these species includes vernal pools and small ponds.
    - 2. Northern Dusky Salamander and the Spring Salamander. Habitat for these species includes headwater seeps, springs, and streams.
    - 3. The Four-toed salamander; Fowler's Toad; Western or Boreal Chorus frog, or other amphibians found in Vermont of similar significance.

- Supports or has the habitat to support significant populations of Vermont amphibian species including, but not limited to Pickerel Frog, Northern Leopard Frog, Mink Frog, and others found in Vermont of similar significance. Good habitat for these types of species includes large marsh systems with open water components.
- Supports or has the habitat to support populations of uncommon Vermont reptile species including: Wood Turtle, Northern Map Turtle, Eastern Musk Turtle, Spotted Turtle, Spiny Softshell, Eastern Ribbonsnake, Northern Watersnake, and others found in Vermont of similar significance.
- Supports or has the habitat to support significant populations of Vermont reptile species, including Smooth Greensnake, DeKay's Brownsnake, or other more common wetland-associated species.
- Meets four or more of the following conditions indicative of wildlife habitat diversity:
  - 1. Three or more wetland vegetation classes (greater than 1/2 acre) present including but not limited to: open water contiguous to, but not necessarily part of, the wetland, deep marsh, shallow marsh, shrub swamp, forested swamp, fen, or bog;
  - 2. The dominant vegetation class is one of the following types: deep marsh, shallow marsh, shrub swamp or, forested swamp;
  - 3. Located adjacent to a lake, pond, river or stream;
  - 4. Fifty percent or more of surrounding habitat type is one or more of the following: forest, agricultural land, old field or open land;
  - 5. Emergent or woody vegetation occupies 26 to 75 percent of wetland, the rest is open water;
  - 6. One of the following:
    - i. hydrologically connected to other wetlands of different dominant classes or open water within 1 mile;
    - ii. hydrologically connected to other wetlands of same dominant class within 1/2 mile;
    - iii. within 1/4 mile of other wetlands of different dominant classes or open water, but not hydrologically connected;
- Wetland or wetland complex is owned in whole or in part by state or federal government and managed for wildlife and habitat conservation; and
- Contains evidence that it is used by wetland dependent wildlife species.

If any of the above boxes are checked, the wetland provides this function. Complete the following to determine if the wetland provides this function above or below a moderate level.

- Check box if any of the following conditions apply that may indicate the wetland provides this function at a *lower* level.
  - The wetland is small in size for its type and does not represent fugitive habitat in



developed areas (vernal pools and seeps are generally small in size, so this does not apply).

- The surrounding land use is densely developed enough to limit use by wildlife species (with the exception of wetlands with open water habitat). Can be negated by evidence of use.
- The current use in the wetland results in frequent cutting, mowing or other disturbance.
- The wetland hydrology and character is at a drier end of the scale and does not support wetland dependent species.
- Check box if any of the following conditions apply that may indicate the wetland provides this function at a *higher* level.
  - The wetland complex is large in size and high in quality.
  - The habitat has the potential to support several species based on the assessment above.
  - Wetland is associated with an important wildlife corridor.
  - The wetland has been identified by ANR-F&W as important habitat.

## 5. Exemplary Wetland Natural Community

- Function is present and likely to be significant: Any of the following physical and vegetative characteristics indicate the wetland provides this function.
  - Wetlands that are identified as high quality examples of Vermont's natural community types recognized by the Natural Heritage Information Project of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, including rare types such as dwarf shrub bogs, rich fens, alpine peatlands, red maple-black gum swamps and the more common types including deep bulrush marshes, cattail marshes, northern white cedar swamps, spruce-fir-tamarack swamps, and red maple-black ash seepage swamps are automatically significant for this function.

The wetland is also likely to be significant if any of the following conditions are met:

- Is an example of a wetland natural community type that has been identified and mapped by, or meets the ranking and mapping standards of, the Natural Heritage Information Project of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.
- Contains ecological features that contribute to Vermont's natural heritage, including, but not limited to:
  - Deep peat accumulation reflecting a long history of wetland formation;
  - Forested wetlands displaying very old trees and other old growth characteristics;
  - A wetland natural community that is at the edge of the normal range for that type;

- A wetland mosaic containing examples of several to many wetland community types; or
- A large wetland complex with examples of several wetland community types.

## 6. Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species Habitat

- Function is present and likely to be significant: Any of the following physical and vegetative characteristics indicate the wetland provides this function.
  - Wetlands that contain one or more species on the federal or state threatened or endangered lists, as well as species that are rare in Vermont, are automatically significant for this function.

The wetland is also likely to be significant if any of the following apply:

    - There is credible documentation that the wetland provides important habitat for any species on the federal or state threatened or endangered species lists;
    - There is credible documentation that threatened or endangered species have been present in past 10 years;
    - There is credible documentation that the wetland provides important habitat for any species listed as rare in Vermont (S1 or S2 ranks), state historic (SH rank), or rare to uncommon globally (G1, G2, or G3 ranks) by the Natural Heritage Information Project of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department;
    - There is credible documentation that the wetland provides habitat for multiple uncommon species of plants or animals (S3 rank).

List name of species and ranking:

## 7. Education and Research in Natural Sciences

- Function is present and likely to be significant: Any of the following characteristics indicate the wetland provides this function.
  - Owned by or leased to a public entity dedicated to education or research.
  - History of use for education or research.
  - Has one or more characteristics making it valuable for education or research.

### 8. Recreational Value and Economic Benefits

- Function is present and likely to be significant: Any of the following characteristics indicate the wetland provides this function.
  - Used for, or contributes to, recreational activities.
  - Provides economic benefits.
  - Provides important habitat for fish or wildlife which can be fished, hunted or trapped under applicable state law.
  - Used for harvesting of wild foods.

Comments:

### 9. Open Space and Aesthetics

- Function is present and likely to be significant: Any of the following physical and vegetative characteristics indicate the wetland provides this function.
  - Can be readily observed by the public; and
    - Possesses special or unique aesthetic qualities; or
    - Has prominence as a distinct feature in the surrounding landscape;
  - Has been identified as important open space in a municipal, regional or state plan.

### 10. Erosion Control through Binding and Stabilizing the Soil

- Function is present and likely to be significant: Any of the following physical and vegetative characteristics indicate the wetland provides this function.
  - Erosive forces such as wave or current energy are present and any of the following are present as well:
    - Dense, persistent vegetation along a shoreline or stream bank that reduces an adjacent erosive force.
    - Good interspersion of persistent emergent vegetation and water along course of water flow.
    - Studies show that wetlands of similar size, vegetation type, and hydrology are important for erosion control.

What type of erosive forces are present?

- Lake fetch and waves
- High current velocities
- Water level influenced by upstream impoundment

If any of the above boxes are checked, the wetland provides this function. Complete the following to determine if the wetland provides this function above or below a moderate level.

- Check box if any of the following conditions apply that may indicate the wetland provides this function at a *lower* level.
  - The stream is artificially channelized and/or lacks vegetation that contributes to controlling the erosive force.
- Check box if any of the following conditions apply that may indicate the wetland provides this function at a *higher* level.
  - The stream contains high sinuosity.
  - Has been identified through fluvial geomorphic assessment to be important in maintaining the natural condition of the stream or river corridor.

**SGAID:** 400024000004061

**Stream:** Unnamed

**Location:** Just N Lamore Rd.

**Assessment:** 11/23/2015

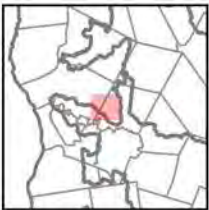
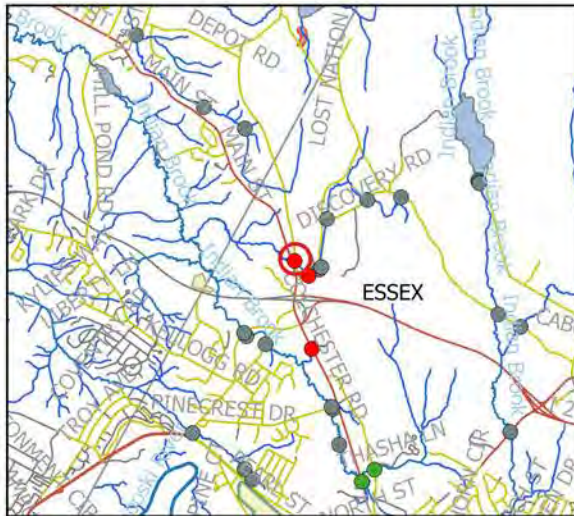
**Latitude:** 44.52187

**Road:** GENTES RD,

**Town:** Essex

**Longitude:** -73.12328

**Surface:** Paved



**Upstream**



**Inlet**



**Structure**

Structure (overflow): Culvert (No)  
 Material: Concrete  
 Width: 7 ft  
 Height: 5 ft  
 Length: 100 ft  
 Footers:

**Stream**

Structure skewed: Yes  
 Floodplain filled: Entirely  
 Avulsion (distance): Unsure ()  
 U/S bed (bedrock): Gravel (No)  
 Struct. bed (bedrock): Gravel (No)  
 D/S bed (bedrock): Gravel (No)

**Aquatic Organism Passage**

Coarse screen	Red	Pool present:	No
Outlet (drop):	Free Fall (0.3 ft)	Pool depth (at outlet):	0 ft
Backwater length:	0 ft	Pool depth (max):	0 ft
Depth at outlet:	0.1 ft	Substrate throughout:	No
Number of culverts:	2	Inlet obstructions:	Wood Debris, Sediment
Retrofit potential:	MLL	High Flow Stage:	No

**Geomorphic Compatibility**

Coarse Screen (25 max)	12	Structure slope:	Same
BFW:	13 ft (Measured)	Break in slope:	No
% BFW:	53.8%	U/S erosion:	High
U/S deposits (>50% BFH):	Point (No)	D/S erosion:	Low
D/S scour:	None	U/S armoring:	None
D/S bank > U/S Bank:	No	D/S armoring:	None
Approach angle:	Sharp Bend	Steep riffle:	No

**Stream Network**

U/S Total:	2.3 mi	U/S Mainstem:	0 mi
U/S Net	0.2 mi	Net:	0.2 mi
U/S, D/S Barriers:	6, 0		

**Downstream**



**Outlet**



**Comment:** Turns to Stone then concrete again. Goes under R.R tracks and VT-2A. DS wing wall has fallen over, obstructs DS opening along with debris.

I would be interested in your thoughts and suggestions.

Thanks,

Mary

---

**From:** [mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com](mailto:mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com) <[mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com](mailto:mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 1:41 PM  
**To:** 'Eldridge, William' <[William.Eldridge@vermont.gov](mailto:William.Eldridge@vermont.gov)>  
**Cc:** 'Simard, Lee' <[Lee.Simard@vermont.gov](mailto:Lee.Simard@vermont.gov)>; 'Pientka, Bernie' <[Bernie.Pientka@vermont.gov](mailto:Bernie.Pientka@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: VTrans Northwest CULV (90) - stream crossings

Thanks Will

Yes, the VT-15 BR 6A site is a bridge in a gorge. The four stream crossings were part of the same project. I'm sorry if my request for AOP requirements was confusing. I should have noted it was a bridge when I sent you my request.

Thanks for the input from the District Biologists.

Mary

---

**From:** Eldridge, William <[William.Eldridge@vermont.gov](mailto:William.Eldridge@vermont.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 1:26 PM  
**To:** [mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com](mailto:mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com)  
**Cc:** Simard, Lee <[Lee.Simard@vermont.gov](mailto:Lee.Simard@vermont.gov)>; Pientka, Bernie <[Bernie.Pientka@vermont.gov](mailto:Bernie.Pientka@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: VTrans Northwest CULV (90) - stream crossings

Hi Mary,

Here's the feedback I got from the District Biologists.

VT-15 BR 6A: A little confused by the AOP request here as it's a bridge. It's a cascade/gorge area, that I'd assume is impassable (Bernie would you agree? I haven't spent a lot of time staring at it), so maybe that is part of it. But it's a bridge??

VT-289 BR 17-A: This a trib to Alder Brook which has many fish species present (DEC sampling station just downstream). Watershed size = 0.2835 square miles. AOP required.

VT-15 BR 2 (Bernie's area): Indian Brook, 3.63 square miles. AOP required

VT-2A BR 11 (Bernie's area): watershed = 0.786 square miles. AOP required

Let me know if you need more information.

Thanks,

Will



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**Will Eldridge** | Aquatic Habitat Biologist  
Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department  
3902 Roxbury Road | Roxbury, VT 05669  
802-585-4499 cell

<https://vtfishandwildlife.com/vthabitatstamp>

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19), the Agency of Natural Resources is taking additional safety measures to protect our employees, partners and customers. We are now working remotely and focused on keeping our normal business processes fully functional. We encourage you to communicate electronically or via phone to the greatest extent possible. Thank you for your patience and understanding that responses may occasionally be delayed.

---

**From:** [mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com](mailto:mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com) <[mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com](mailto:mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 18, 2022 9:31 AM

**To:** Eldridge, William <[William.Eldridge@vermont.gov](mailto:William.Eldridge@vermont.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: VTrans Northwest CULV (90) - stream crossings

**EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.**

Hi Will,

I'm writing to check in with you regarding the email I sent last week. Please let me know if you would like me to provide additional information for you to make a determination regarding AOP requirements for the three stream crossing locations in Essex.

Feel free to give me a call if you have questions (802-223-5140).

Thanks,

Mary

---

**From:** [mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com](mailto:mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com) <[mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com](mailto:mary@bearcreekenvironmental.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 5:00 PM

**To:** 'Eldridge, William' <[William.Eldridge@vermont.gov](mailto:William.Eldridge@vermont.gov)>

**Subject:** VTrans Northwest CULV (90) - stream crossings

Good Afternoon Will,

The Bear Creek Environmental Natural Resources Services Team has been retained by VTrans to conduct a scoping level study of four stream crossing projects. I have attached a topo map showing the four locations.

Glenn Gingras has asked me to reach out to you and inquire if AOP will be required for these sites. I'm happy to send along Ecological maps of each site, if that would be helpful. I also have some photographs of the structures and the channels in the vicinity of the structures, if you would like that information.

I appreciate any input you may have.

Best regards,

Mary

**Mary Nealon**

Principal / River Scientist

Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control

Certified Floodplain Manager



131 Elm Street, Suite 1

Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Phone: (802) 223-5140

Email: [Mary@BearCreekEnvironmental.com](mailto:Mary@BearCreekEnvironmental.com)

Website: <http://www.bearcreekenvironmental.com>



## **Appendix H: Archeology Memo**

**Brennan Gauthier**  
VTrans Senior Archaeologist  
Vermont Agency of Transportation  
Project Delivery Bureau  
Environmental Section  
tel. 802-279-1460  
Brennan.Gauthier@Vermont.gov

To: Julie Ann Held, VTrans Environmental Specialist  
From: Brennan Gauthier, VTrans Senior Archaeologist  
Date: 12/14/2022  
Subject: Statewide Northwest STP CULV(90) Archaeological Resource Identification

Dear Julie Ann,

I have completed my background research and field inspection of the four separate locations requested as part of this resource ID request in the northwest part of the state. I will explain each in an individual section below and add any areas of archaeological sensitivity into the archaeology geodatabase for inclusion in future plan sets.

Bridge No.11, VT-2A, Essex, Chittenden County, Vermont

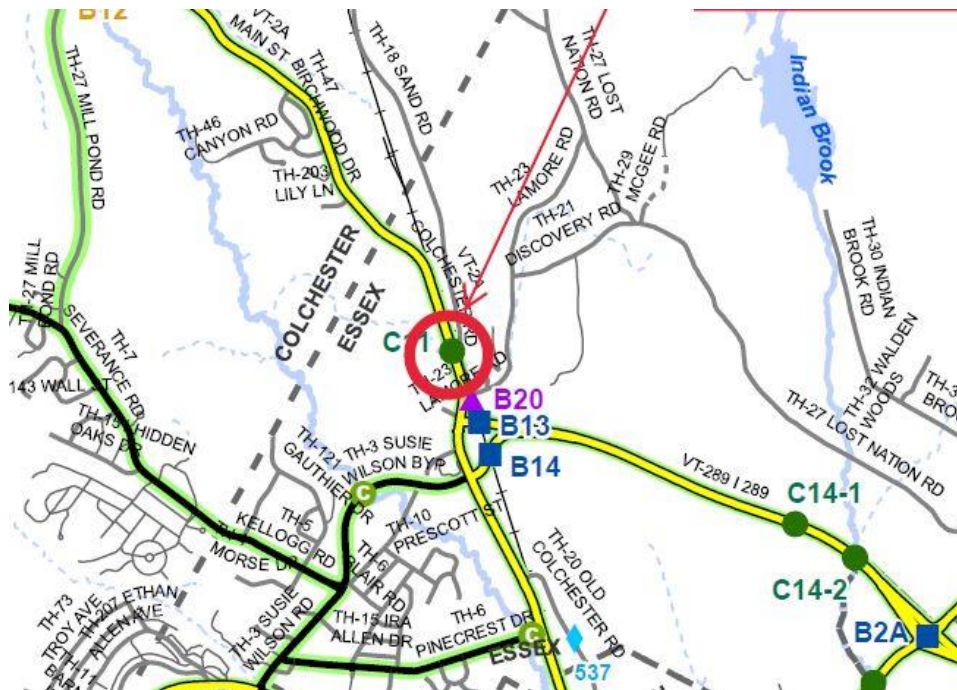


Figure 1: Bridge Location.

A review of known archaeological sites in the VAI database shows several known VAI archaeological sites within a half kilometer of the project site. These sites are Native American in origin and were discovered during the 1990s Circumferential Highway archaeological survey. Both sites, VT-CH-0613 and VT-CH-0622, are located on a sandy outwash plain directly to the south of Bridge No. 11. Due to the close proximity and being situated near/on the same geologic feature, any undisturbed areas outside of the culvert, roadway and railroad prism are considered sensitive for precontact archaeological site presence. Additionally, the median between the rail and the roadway appears to be disturbed.

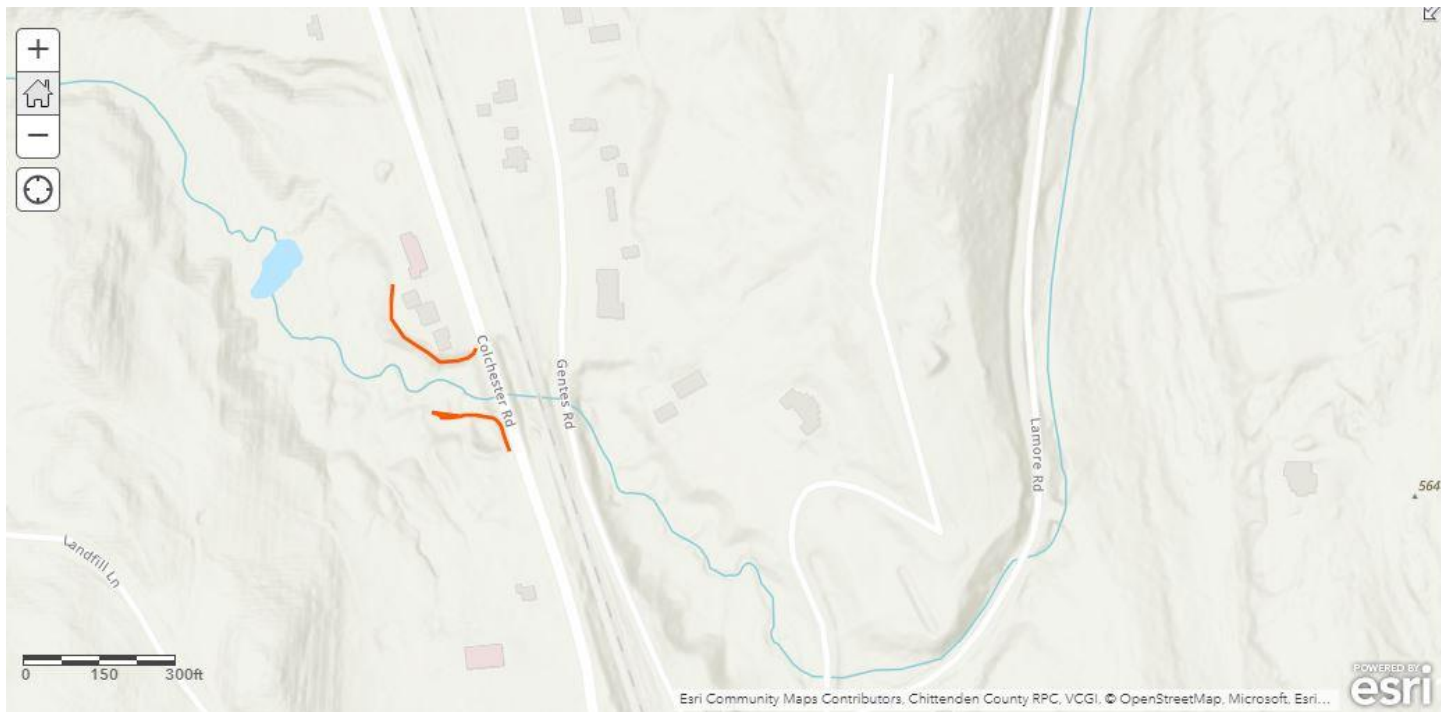


**Figure 2: Project Location.**

A review of the Beers and Walling map series show no industrial activity at the bridge location, but there may be older sites not represented. However, the archaeological sensitivity mapped for precontact sites covers the potential for histories. See **Figure 4** below for a view of the sensitive areas as mapped using LiDAR hillshade.



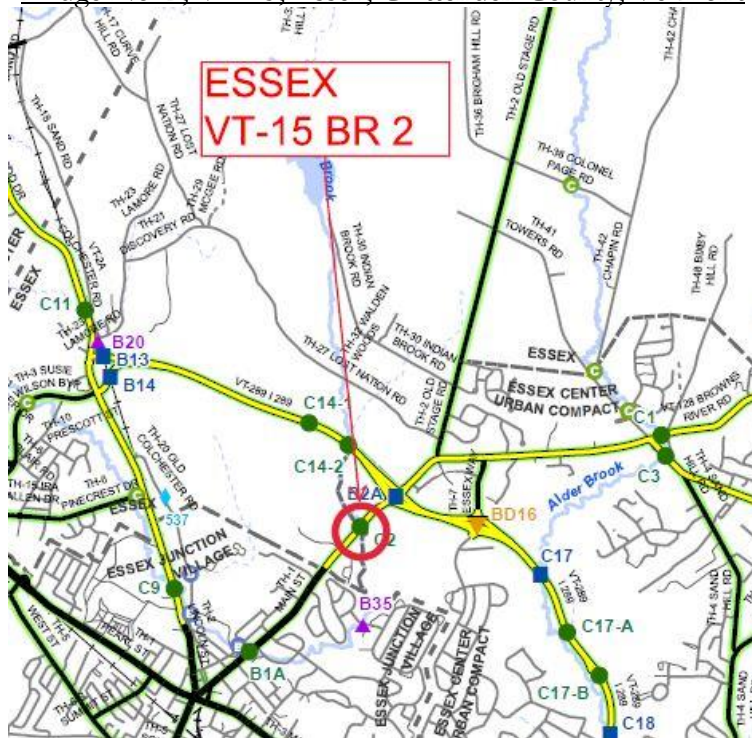
**Figure 3: Project LiDAR View and VAI Site Location.**



**Figure 4: Arch Sensitive Areas.**

In conclusion, there are two mappable archaeologically sensitive areas related to rehabilitation of Bridge No. 11 that have been added to the archaeology geodatabase for inclusion in future plans.

Bridge No. 2, VT-15, Essex, Chittenden County, Vermont



**Figure 5: Bridge Location.**

A review of known archaeological sites in the VAI database shows one known VAI archaeological site (VT-CH-9191) within a half kilometer of Bridge No. 2 over Indian Brook on Vermont Route 15 in Essex. This site is Native American in origin and were discovered during a field walkover of the farm to the east of the project location. Due to the close proximity of the site to the bridge, it is advisable to mark all undisturbed areas as archaeologically sensitive. Roadway prism disturbance is obvious at this location, so any area outside of the prism and/or utilities is deemed archaeologically sensitive. A field review was conducted during the 2022 field season and the areas of sensitivity were drawn using LiDAR hillshade. Please refer to *Figure 7* for a visual representation of the archaeologically sensitive areas.



**Figure 6: Bridge Location.**



**Figure 7: Archaeologically Sensitive Areas.**

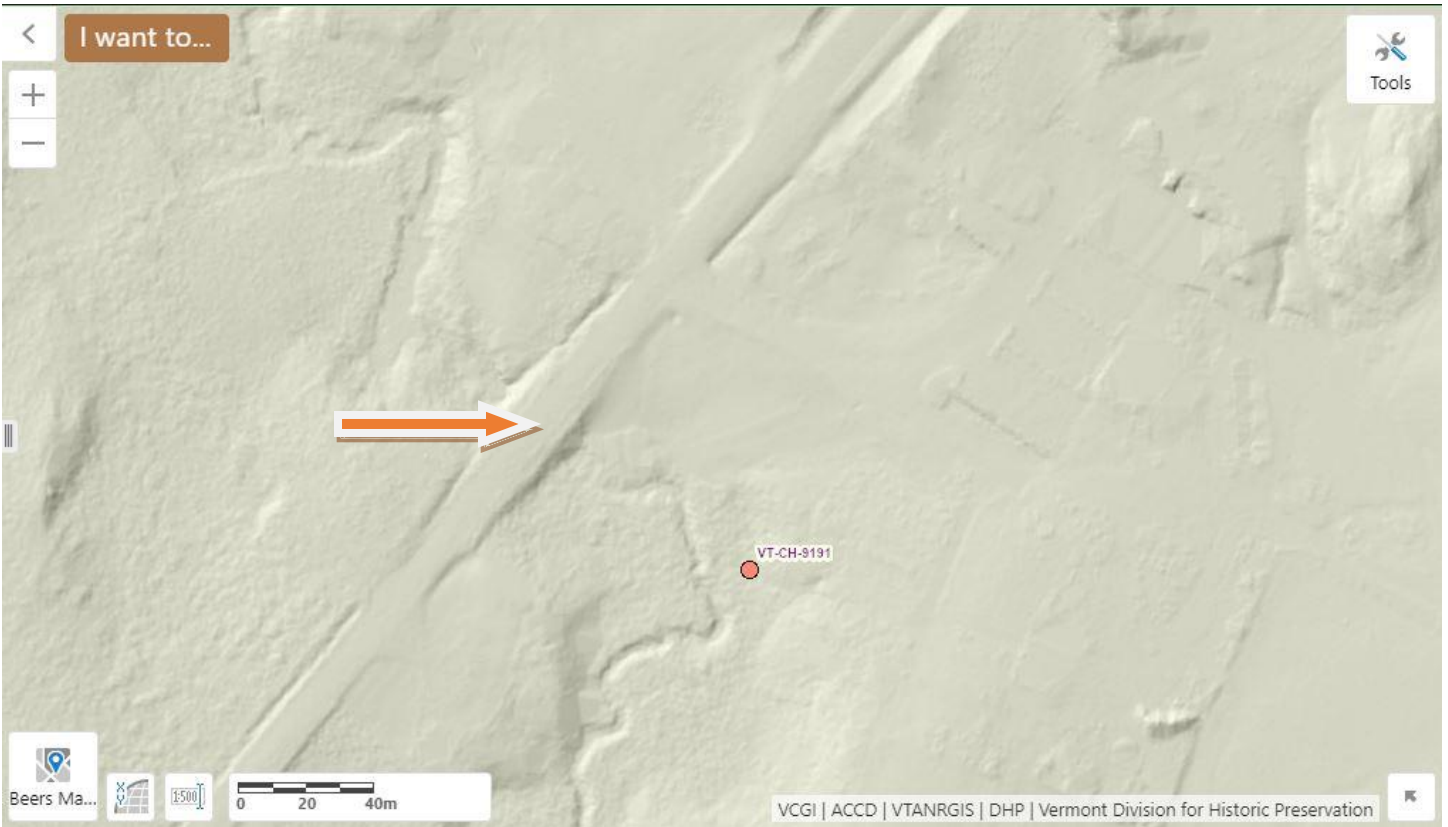


Figure 8: LiDAR View of Project Location.

Bridge No.17A, Vermont Route 289, Essex, Chittenden County, Vermont



Figure 9: Project Location.

A review of known archaeological sites in the VAI database shows one known VAI archaeological site (VT-CH-0207) within a half kilometer of Bridge No.17A on Vermont Route 289 in Essex. This site is Native American in origin and were discovered during review work for the Circumferential Highway in the 1980s. Although located in a general location to Bridge No. 17A, the site is located well outside any work likely to take place during project construction. Additionally, the bridge (really a small culvert) is located completely within the previously disturbed roadway prism of Vermont Route 289. There are no archaeologically sensitive areas to map as part of this project.



Bridge No.6A, Vermont Route 15, Jericho, Chittenden County, Vermont

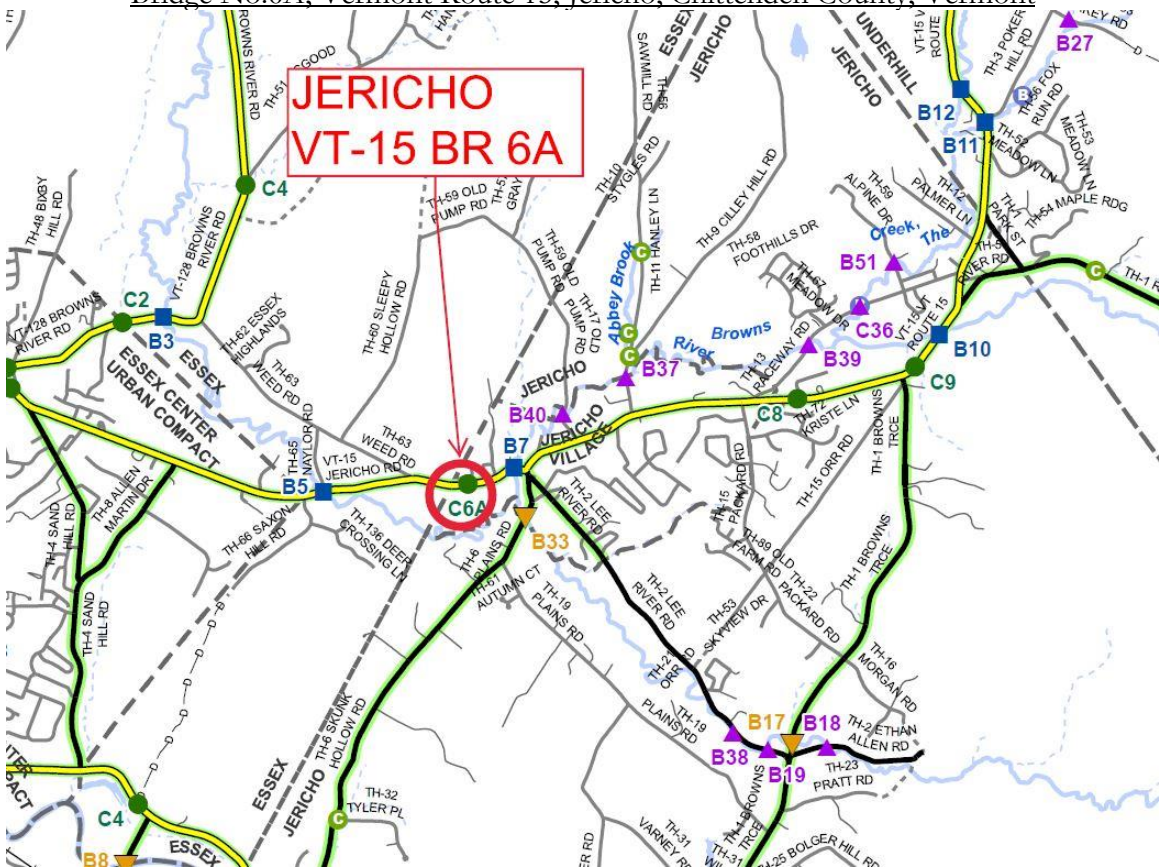


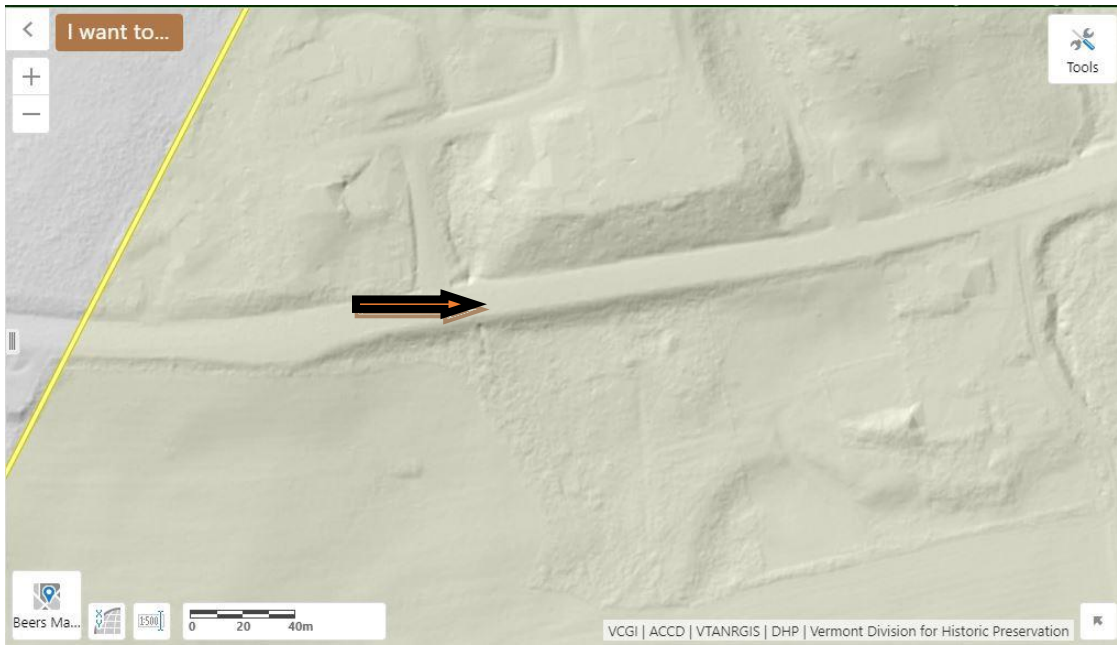
Figure 10: Project Location.

A review of known archaeological sites in the VAI database shows no known archaeological sites within a half kilometer of Bridge No.6A on Vermont Route 15 in Jericho. A site visit conducted in the summer of 2022 was adequate to identify the area to the south as archaeologically sensitive based on its location on an outwash plain above a floodplain of the Winooski River. This area seems as though it could be easily avoided during construction and has been added to the archaeological geodatabase (*Figure 13*) for inclusion in project plans.



Figure 11: Project View.





**Figure 12: LiDAR View.**



**Figure 13: Archaeological Sensitivity.**

## **Appendix I: Historic Memo**



**Kyle Obenauer**  
*Senior Architectural Historian*

**Vermont Agency of Transportation**

Project Delivery Bureau - Environmental Section  
219 N. Main Street  
Barre, VT 05641

kyle.obenauer@vermont.gov  
(802) 279-7040  
www.vtrans.vermont.gov

## **Re: Statewide STP CULV(90) – Above Ground Resource ID**

Date: 05/26/2022

This Resource Identification effort is being undertaken to identify cultural resources within broad preliminary survey areas that could be potentially impacted by future culvert projects at the locations below in Essex and Jericho, Chittenden County, Vermont. Once a project has been defined at the conceptual design phase, VTTrans Cultural Resources staff will be able to determine a formal Area of Potential Effect (APE) for purposes of Section 106 and 22 VSA § 14, as well as more conclusively determine potential impacts to protected property types, including Section 4(f) properties.

Culvert locations:

### **Essex**

- Bridge No. 11, Vermont Route 2A
  - o Although an early concrete culvert (c. 1930s), this structure does not appear to possess the historic significance necessary for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). If work is confined to the existing ROW, there will likely be no other buildings, structures, or objects within a project APE.
- Bridge No. 2, Vermont Route 15/Upper Main Street
  - o **Historic property - see below**
- Bridge No. 17A, Vermont Route 289
  - o This structure is a common CMP from the 1990s that is not historically significant. No other buildings, structures, or objects within a likely APE.

### **Jericho**

- Bridge No. 6A, Vermont Route 15A
  - o This structure is also a common CMP that is not historically significant. If work is confined to the existing ROW, there will likely be no other buildings, structures, or objects within a project APE.

## Historic Property Identified

Of the four culvert locations above, a potentially NRHP-eligible property within a likely APE was identified at 38 Upper Main Street in Essex, at the northeastern quadrant of Bridge No. 2 (*Figures 1;3*). This vernacular Greek Revival-style two story eaves front brick house is listed in the Vermont State Register of Historic Places (Survey 0405-123; listed 1980; *Figure 2*). Although it's fenestration has been altered and associated outbuildings modified and/or removed, the NRHP-eligibility of the former Abbott House should be considered further since this building and the former Lang Farmhouse directly across the road (to the south) are two increasingly rare examples of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century brick architecture on the fringes of Essex.

The building at 38 Upper Main Street in Essex should also be considered a Section 4(f) property type.

Impacts to the former Abbott House at 38 Upper Main Street will most likely be avoided if work associated with replacing Bridge No. 2 is confined to the existing right of way.

Please, let me know if there are any questions.

## Images and Illustrations



*Figure 1. 38 Upper Main Street at northeastern corner of Bridge No. 2 in Essex.*



0405-123

Figure 2. 38 Upper Main Street, photographed in 1980s.



Figure 3. 38 Upper Main Street at northeastern quadrant showing adjacent parcel boundaries, with Bridge No. 2 at arrow.



Figure 4. Bridge No. 11, Essex



Figure 5. Bridge No. 17A, Essex



*Figure 6. Bridge No. 6A, Jericho*

## **Appendix J: Environmental Specialist resource ID**



Date: September 12, 2022

Project: Statewide – Northwest STP CULV(90)

**6(f) Properties:**

There aren't any 6(f) Properties within the project area.

**Hazardous Waste:**

There aren't any Hazardous Wastes Sites identified within the project area.

**Contaminated Soils:**

There aren't any Contaminated Soils within the project area.

**Contaminated Soils/ Urban Background Soils general language**

-Sections of the proposed project are located within Urban Background Soils areas as mapped on the ANR Atlas. Proposed project limits will determine if impacts are anticipated, and if coordination with the Hazard Waste Coordinator is required. Disturbed soils within this project should be expected to be kept on site, or follow Notice to bidders guidance.

**Wild Scenic Rivers:**

There aren't any designated Wild Scenic Rivers within the project area.

**Act 250 Permits:**

There are adjacent parcels that have Act 250 Permits and may need to be amended if impacted.

**FEMA Floodplains:**

There are FEMA Floodplains mapped within the project area and a Flood Hazard Area/ River Corridor Permit may be required if there are impacts.

**River Corridor:**

There are River Corridors mapped within the project area and a Flood Hazard Area/ River Corridor Permit may be required if there are impacts.

**Protected Lands:**

There aren't any Protected Lands within the project area.

**US Coast Guard:**

There aren't any US Coast Guard navigable waterways within the project area.

**Lakes and Ponds:**

There aren't any lakes or ponds within the project area.

**Scenic Highway/ Byway:**

There aren't any Scenic Highway/ Byways within the project area.

**Environmental Justice:**

There are no EJ populations present within the study area, therefore there is no potential to have a disproportionately high and adverse effect.

**Other:**


There aren't any other resources within the project area.

---

## **Appendix K: Hazardous Sites Map**



1: 6,503  
August 9, 2022



### LEGEND

- Landfills**
  - OPERATING
  - CLOSED
- Land Use Restrictions**
  - Class IV GW Reclass
  - Class VI GW Reclass
  - Deed Restriction
  - Easement
  - Land Record Notice
  - Other
- Hazardous Site
- Hazardous Waste Generators
- Brownfields
- Salvage Yard
- Aboveground Storage Tank
- Underground Storage Tank (w/)
- Dry Cleaner
- Urban Soil Background Areas
- Stream/River**
  - Stream
  - Intermittent Stream
- Town Boundary

### NOTES

Map created using ANR's Natural Resources Atlas

330.0      0      165.00      330.0 Meters

WGS\_1984\_Web\_Mercator\_Auxiliary\_Sphere      1" = 542 Ft.      1cm = 65 Meters

© Vermont Agency of Natural Resources      THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

**DISCLAIMER:** This map is for general reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable. ANR and the State of Vermont make no representations of any kind, including but not limited to, the warranties of merchantability, or fitness for a particular use, nor are any such warranties to be implied with respect to the data on this map.

## **Appendix L: Stormwater Resource ID**

State of Vermont  
Environmental Section  
219 North Main Street  
Barre, Vermont 05641  
[Vtrans.vermont.gov](http://Vtrans.vermont.gov)

Agency of Transportation

[phone] 802-498-5787

To: Julie Ann Held, VTrans Environmental Specialist  
From: Heather Voisin, VTrans Green Infrastructure Engineer  
Date: August 18, 2022  
Subject: Statewide – Northwest STP CULV(90) - Stormwater Resource ID Review

**Project Description:** I have reviewed the project area for Statewide – Northwest STP CULV(90) for stormwater related regulatory and water quality concerns. The project will involve repair or replacement to 4 different culverts in locations as follows:

- Essex VT-15 Br2
- Essex VT-2A Br 11
- Essex VT-289 Br 17
- Jericho VT-15 Br 6
- 

My evaluation has included the review of existing imagery and mapping (ANR Natural Resource Atlas, VTrans Operational Stormwater Permits) to capture existing stormwater features and existing drainage.

### Regulatory Considerations

Depending on how much impervious surface area is associated with repairing these culverts, an Operational Stormwater may be required, and, if any of the project work areas require greater than 1 acre of earth disturbance, the culverts would need to follow the GAP procedure considering opportunities for post-construction stormwater treatment.

For the Essex VT Route 15 culvert, several of the adjacent properties have existing operational stormwater permits, however it is not anticipated that repair or replacement of the culverts would impact those permits. This culvert conveys Indian Brook and is located within the Indian Brook watershed, which is considered impaired due to stormwater-related issues and is listed on EPA's 303(d) list. This designation is unlikely to affect the culvert projects, but it does elevate the need for a design that is sensitive to this context, as noted in the design considerations below.

The Essex VT Route 2A culvert carries an unnamed tributary of Indian Brook under the roadway and is located just outside of the stormwater-impaired portion of the Indian Brook watershed.

The culvert under VT Route 289 in Essex conveys an unnamed tributary of Alder Brook and is not located within a stormwater-impaired watershed. This location is within the limits of the historical stormwater permit that was obtained for VT Route 289. That permit is no longer in existence; however, the treatment features remain, including a grass swale running along the eastern side of the road at the culvert location.

For the Jericho culvert on VT Route 15, there do not appear to be any existing stormwater permits immediately adjacent to the project site and there are no noteworthy stormwater regulatory concerns at this time.

### Design Considerations

It is strongly encouraged that drainage work associated with this project, particularly around any ditching and culvert work, be aligned with the VTrans Phosphorus Control Highway Drainage Management Standards, as this may allow future credit toward achieving phosphorus reduction goals required by the Agency's TS4 permit.

## **Appendix M: Landscape Clearance Resource ID**



State of Vermont | Agency of Transportation  
Environmental Section  
219 North Main  
Barre, VT 05641  
[Vtrans.vermont.gov](http://Vtrans.vermont.gov)

To: Project File  
From: Bonnie Kirn Donahue, *VTrans Landscape Architect*  
Date: July 21, 2022  
Project: **STATEWIDE – NORTHWEST IM CULV(90) 22B044**  
Subject: Landscape (LA) Clearance for Resource ID

### SUMMARY

I have reviewed the locations for **STATEWIDE – NORTHWEST IM CULV(90) 22B044** dated 4/18/2022, and have determined that there are potentially minor riparian buffer impacts occurring as a result of the proposed work:

- This project includes 4 culverts:
  - Essex VT-2A Br 11
  - Essex VT-15 Br 2
  - Essex VT-289 Br 17-A
  - Jericho VT-15 Br 6A

### DESCRIPTION OF IMPACT

The repair or replacement of culverts may require construction impacts to the riparian buffer and/or tree clearing.

#### Riparian Buffer:

Riparian and wetland buffers serve an important purpose for the health of Vermont's water quality and wildlife. They prevent erosion on steep embankments, provide shade, food sources and woody debris for healthy aquatic habitat, and provide wildlife corridors along wetlands and streams. With a vegetated riparian buffer, sediment and pollutants like phosphorus are prevented from entering water bodies, keeping our rivers, ponds and lakes clear from algae and cool for fish and other aquatic species to thrive. Revegetating areas where riparian and wetland buffers are impacted establishes a connection between the newly completed project with the existing conditions. Selecting native plants that complement the character of the area will make projects more visually appealing and merge the transportation asset with its surroundings.

Using native trees and shrubs in addition to a seed mix speeds up natural succession, establishing an effective riparian buffer more quickly than using seed alone. Selecting plants that have already started to grow will also have a better chance of establishing before invasive plants have a chance to fill in.

#### Tree Clearing

Trees and forests play a critical role in maintaining a healthy planet. Trees convert carbon dioxide to oxygen, filtering pollutants from the air and providing clean air to breathe. Roots and leaves work together to prevent soil erosion and control movement of sediment. Roots hold soil in place and soak up water, while leaves catch and slow down rainwater. Providing shade and performing evapotranspiration, trees also cool air and surface temperatures. Additionally, trees provide habitat, food and shelter for countless species, including insects, birds, and mammals.

Clearing of trees and forested areas can result in a loss of these benefits. Minimizing tree clearing, and replanting after construction are excellent ways to maintaining these benefits and support a healthy ecosystem.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. I recommend re-vegetating the area with native trees and shrubs for river buffers, willow fascines or live stakes (depending on soil conditions at the waters' edge) and a diverse pollinator seed mix.
  - a. See the *2022 VTrans Riparian Planting Toolkit* for design guidelines and species ([link](#)).

#### **NOTES**

1. I would be glad to assist with a plant list and plan ([bonnie.donahue@vermont.gov](mailto:bonnie.donahue@vermont.gov)).



## **Appendix N: Local Input**

## Local & Regional Input Questionnaire

---

### Project Summary

This project, **PROJ #**, focuses on Bridge **11** on **Route 2A** in **Essex**, Vermont. The culvert is deteriorating and is in need of either a major maintenance action or replacement. Potential options being considered for this project include a new liner applied to the interior of the existing culvert pipe, removal of the existing pipe and replacement with a new culvert placed in the same location, or removal of the existing pipe and replacement in a new location. It is possible that VTrans will recommend a road closure and detour traffic away from the project site for the duration of the work. Efforts will be made to limit the detour to State roads.

### Community Considerations

1. Are there regularly scheduled public events in the community that will generate increased traffic (e.g. vehicular, bicycles and/or pedestrians), or may be difficult to stage if the culvert is closed during construction? Examples include annual bike races, festivals, parades, cultural events, weekly farmers market, concerts, etc. that could be impacted? If yes, please provide approximate date, location and event organizers' contact info.
  - a. The Champlain Valley Fair runs August 26, 2022 - September 4, 2022 and generates significant traffic in the region, typically on the two weekends and PM peak hours.
  - b. There are regular weekday evening (typically Wednesday or Thursday) events at the Essex Experience (21 Essex Way) which may pull traffic from this location.
  - c. The Town is planning a new weekend festival for Sept. 29-Oct. 2, 2022 primarily based at the Essex Experience but also at other locations throughout the community. Unlikely to generate significant traffic at this location, but possible.
  - d. There are no regularly scheduled events on Gentes Road.
2. Is there a "slow season" or period of time from May through October where traffic is less or no events are scheduled?
  - a. Apart from the events noted above, there is typically much less background traffic during non-school months (mid-June through end of August)
3. Please describe the location of the Town garage, emergency responders (fire, police, ambulance) and emergency response routes that might be affected by the closure of the culvert, one-way traffic, or lane closures and provide contact information (names, address, email addresses, and phone numbers).
  - a. Closure of this bridge will affect response to all of Lamore Road and Lost Nation Road, but Essex-based responders can use an alternate route via Lost Nation Road from Old Stage Road. Please coordinate with the following:
    - i. Essex Police: 145 Maple Street, primary contact Chief Ron Hoague, [rhoague@essex.org](mailto:rhoague@essex.org), dispatch #: 802-878-8331

## Local & Regional Input Questionnaire

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- ii. Town Fire: 188 Sand Hill Road, primary contact Chief Charlie Cole, [ccole@essex.org](mailto:ccole@essex.org), cell: 802-578-5302, office: 802-229-7170
    - iii. Essex Rescue: 1 Educational Drive, primary contact Colleen Nesto, [cnesto@essexrescue.org](mailto:cnesto@essexrescue.org), 802-878-4859 ext 2
  - b. Town Public Works Garage is located at 190 Sand Hill Road. Primary contact will be the Administration Office at 802-878-1344. Operations at the garage will not be affected by the closure.
- 4. Are there businesses (including agricultural operations and industrial parks) or delivery services (fuel or goods) that would be adversely impacted either by a detour or due to work zone proximity?
  - a. The bridge crosses the New England Central Railroad, which is used by Amtrak for passenger rail as well as for delivery of goods (primarily fuel in the form of wood chips for the McNeil plant and occasional fuel oil / liquid propane transport). Please [coordinate with NECR](#) and associated rail users.
  - b. Apart from NECR, no known agricultural operations or industrial parks are in the vicinity; road-based delivery services would be primarily for residential purposes.
- 5. Are there important public buildings (town hall, community center, senior center, library) or community facilities (recreational fields, town green, etc.) close to the project?
  - a. The Essex Drop-Off Center for the Chittenden Solid Waste District is located across from the project site; this should not be significantly affected except for required detours for residents of Gentes / Lamore / Lost Nation Road as noted above. Contact Info: 802.872.8100
- 6. What other municipal operations could be adversely affected by a road/culvert closure or detour?
  - a. Please coordinate with [Essex Public Works](#) on possible highway maintenance operations. Gravel road maintenance operations will be impacted by a road closure.
- 7. Are there any town highways that might be adversely impacted by traffic bypassing the construction on other local roads? Please indicate which roads may be affected and their condition (paved/unpaved, narrow, weight-limited culverts, etc), including those that may be or go into other towns.
  - a. As noted above, there is an alternate road route via Lost Nation Road at Old Stage Road, but it is a significant detour. Lost Nation Road and Lamore Road are unpaved but well-maintained, only weight-limited during mud season. The increase in traffic will have an impact on gravel road maintenance operations.

## Local & Regional Input Questionnaire

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- b. Another alternate route is via Gentes Road / Depot Road / East Road / VT-2A through Colchester Village. Please contact the Town of Colchester for information on these roads.
  
8. Is there a local business association, chamber of commerce, regional development corporation, or other downtown group that we should be working with? If known, please provide name, organization, email, and phone number.
  - a. No such organization exists for the Town; the Community Development Department supports the Town's Economic Development Commission and will coordinate with them.
  
9. Are there any public transit services or stops that use the culvert or transit routes in the vicinity that may be affected if they become the detour route?
  - a. Yes – Amtrak uses the New England Central Railroad that this bridge spans; there is no alternate route for this service.
  - b. Town Senior Van Services - <https://www.essexvt.org/263/Senior-Van>, phone contact: 802-878-6940
  - c. No other public transit services should be significantly affected by this project.

### **Schools**

1. Where are the schools in your community and what are their yearly schedules (example: first week in September to third week in June)?
  - a. Essex Westford School District; school is in session from first week in September to third week in June, but there are also many summer programs in schools and parks.

2. Is this project on specific routes that school buses or students use to walk to and from school?

There are no students who walk to school in this area for Essex. For information regarding specific bus routes contact Essex Westford school district at 802-878-8168.

3. Are there recreational facilities associated with the schools nearby (other than at the school)?

No, there are no school recreational facilities located nearby.

### **Pedestrians and Bicyclists**

1. What is the current level of bicycle and pedestrian use on the culvert?

## Local & Regional Input Questionnaire

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Cyclists and pedestrians use Route 2A and Gentes Road. We are unsure of the current level of use, but it is not high.

2. Are the current lane and shoulder widths adequate for pedestrian and bicycle use?

No, the current lane and shoulder widths are not adequate for pedestrian and bicycle use. There are no designated bike lanes.

3. Does the community feel there is a need for a sidewalk or bike lane over the culvert?

There isn't a need for a sidewalk or a designated bike lane. Pedestrian use is not high.

4. Is pedestrian and bicycle traffic heavy enough that it should be accommodated during construction?

No pedestrian and bicycle traffic is not heavy enough to be accommodated.

5. Does the Town have plans to construct either pedestrian or bicycle facilities leading up to the culvert? Please provide any planning documents demonstrating this (scoping study, master plan, corridor study, town or regional plan).

No, the Town doesn't have plans to construct pedestrian or bicycle facilities.

6. In the vicinity of the culvert, is there a land use pattern, existing generators of pedestrian and/or bicycle traffic, or zoning that will support development that is likely to lead to significant levels of walking and bicycling?

No, the area is zoned as Industrial with some medium density residential.

### **Design Considerations**

1. Are there any concerns with the alignment of the existing culvert? For example, if the culvert is located on a curve, has this created any problems that we should be aware of?

No, there are no concerns regarding the alignment.

2. Are there any concerns with the width of the existing culvert?

No, the existing width is sufficient. The Town has concerns if the State upsizes the culvert on the State side and what impact that will have on the culvert on the Gentes road side.

## Local & Regional Input Questionnaire

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3. Are there any special aesthetic considerations we should be aware of?

No, there are no special aesthetic considerations to be aware of.

4. Does the location have a history of flooding? If yes, please explain.

No, there is no history of flooding.

5. Are there any known Hazardous Material Sites near the project site?

No, there are no known Hazardous Materials sites.

6. Are there any known historic, archeological and/or other environmental resource issues near the project site?

No, there are no known historic, archeological, or other environmental resource issues.

7. Are there any existing, pending, or planned municipal utility projects (communications, lighting, drainage, water, wastewater, etc.) near the project that should be considered?

No, there are not.

8. Are there any other issues that are important for us to understand and consider?

The Town would like to know what the plan is for this culvert. No information was provided, so it is difficult to make an assessment on what impact it will have on the Town's portion of the culvert on Gentes Road. The State should make every effort to not impact the Town's drainage.

### **Land Use & Zoning**

1. Please provide a copy of your existing and future land use map or zoning map, if applicable.

See attached.

2. Are there any existing, pending or planned development proposal that would impact future transportation patterns near the culvert? If so, please explain.

- a. There is an 8-unit townhouse project under review for 1 LeClerc Woods (directly adjacent to the project site). Contact landowner Patrick LeClerc ([no.9alaskan@yahoo.com](mailto:no.9alaskan@yahoo.com)) or project engineer Shawn Cunningham

## Local & Regional Input Questionnaire

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([scunningham@olearyburke.com](mailto:scunningham@olearyburke.com), (802) 878-9990) to coordinate / understand concerns.

3. Is there any planned expansion of public transit or intercity transit service in the project area? Please provide the name and contact information for the relevant public transit provider.
  - a. Amtrak / New England Central Railroad may be expanding passenger rail service on this route in the coming years. This shouldn't affect railroad width or ROW, just rail gauge, but contact [VTrans Rail](#), Essex Junction Community Development Director Robin Pierce ([robin@essexjunction.org](mailto:robin@essexjunction.org), 802-878-6950), and [NECR](#) for details.

### **Communications**

1. Please identify any local communication outlets that are available for us to use in communicating with the local population. Include weekly or daily newspapers, blogs, radio, public access TV, Facebook, Front Page Forum, etc. Also include any unconventional means such as local low-power FM.
  - a. [Essex Reporter](#)
  - b. [Essex ReTorter](#)
  - c. [Town Meeting TV](#)
  - d. Front Porch Forum
  - e. [Town of Essex Facebook page](#) (contact Tammy Getchell, [tgetchell@essex.org](mailto:tgetchell@essex.org), (802) 876-5773)
2. Other than people/organizations already referenced in this questionnaire, are there any others who should be kept in the loop as the project moves forward?  
Town of Essex Community Development Department:
  - Katherine Sonnick, Director of Community Development – [ksonnick@essex.org](mailto:ksonnick@essex.org)
  - Darren Schibler, Town Planner – [dschibler@essex.org](mailto:dschibler@essex.org)

## Appendix O: Operations Input



## Bridge Scoping Project PROJ### Operations Input Questionnaire

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The Structures Section has begun the scoping process for PROJ###, ROUTE ##, Bridge ##, over the FEATURE. This is a BRIDGE TYPE bridge constructed in YEAR. The Structure Inspection, Inventory, and Appraisal Sheet (attached) rates the deck as # (RATING), the superstructure as # (RATING), and the substructure as # (RATING). We are interested in hearing your thoughts regarding the items listed below. Leave it blank if you don't wish to comment on a particular item.

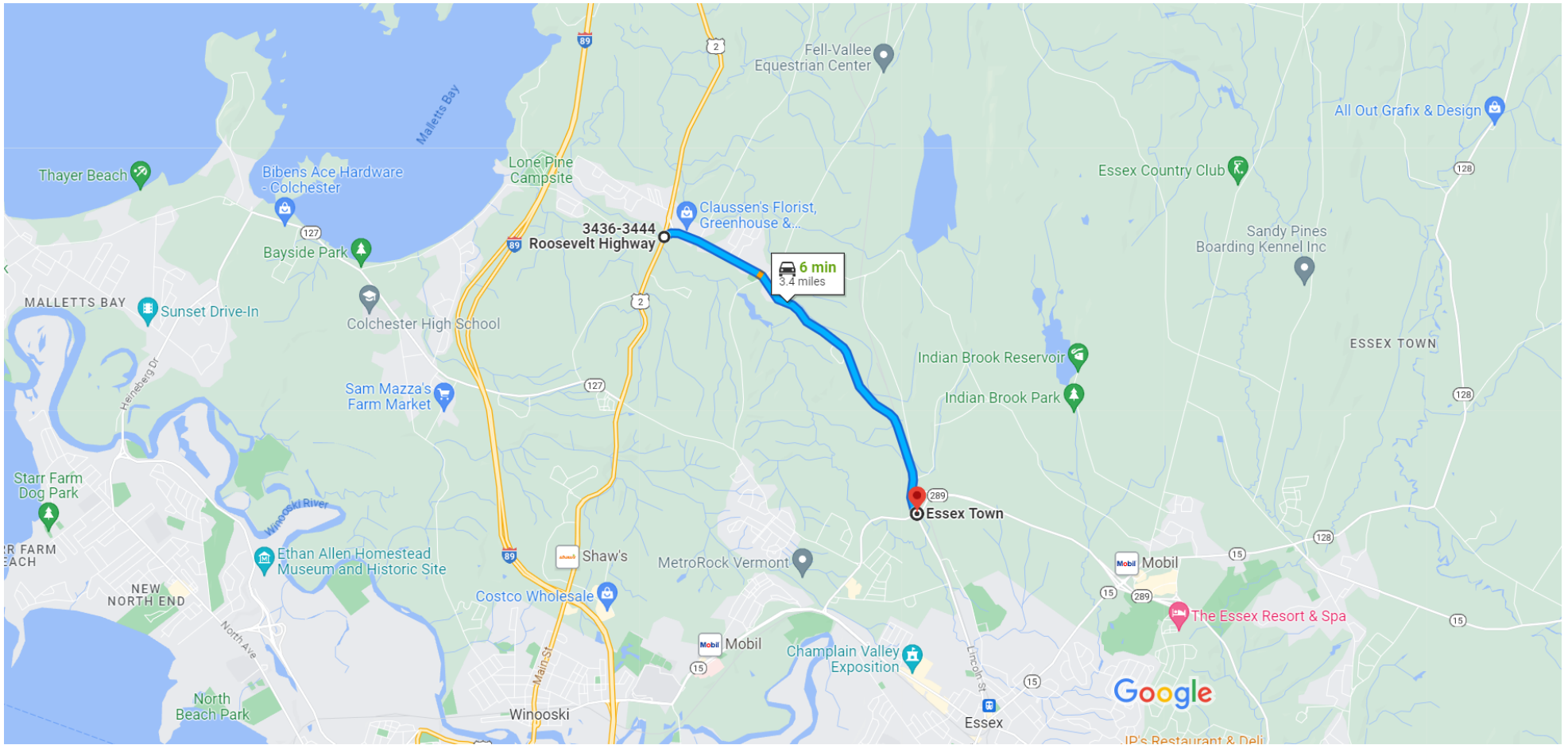
1. What are your thoughts on the general condition of this culvert and the general maintenance effort required to keep it in service?
2. What are your comments on the current geometry and alignment of the road overt the culvert (curve, sag, banking, sight distance)?
3. Do you feel that the posted speed limit is appropriate?
4. Is the current roadway width adequate for winter maintenance including snow plowing?
5. Are the railings constantly in need of repair or replacement? What type of railing works best for your district?
6. Are you aware of any unpermitted driveways within close proximity to the culvert? We frequently encounter driveways that prevent us from meeting railing and safety standards.
7. Are you aware of abutting property owners that are likely to need special attention during the planning and construction phases? These could be people with disabilities, elderly, or simply folks who feel they have been unfairly treated in the past.
8. Do you find that extra effort is required to keep the slopes and river banks around the culvert in a stable condition? Is there frequent flood damage that requires repair?

**Bridge Scoping Project PROJ###**  
**Operations Input Questionnaire**

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9. Does this culvert seem to catch an unusual amount of debris from the waterway?
  
10. Are you familiar with traffic volumes in the area of this project?
  
11. Do you think a closure with off-site detour and accelerated construction would be appropriate?  
Do you have any opinion about a possible detour route, assuming that we use State route for State projects and any route for Town projects? Are there locations on a potential detour that are already congested that we should consider avoiding?
  
12. Please describe any larger projects that you have completed that may not be reflected on the attached Appraisal sheet, such as deck patches, paving patches, railing replacement with new type, steel coating, etc.
  
13. Are there any drainage issues that we should address on this project?
  
14. Are you aware of any complaints that the public has about issues that we can address on this project?
  
15. Is there anything else we should be aware of?

## Appendix P: Detour Map

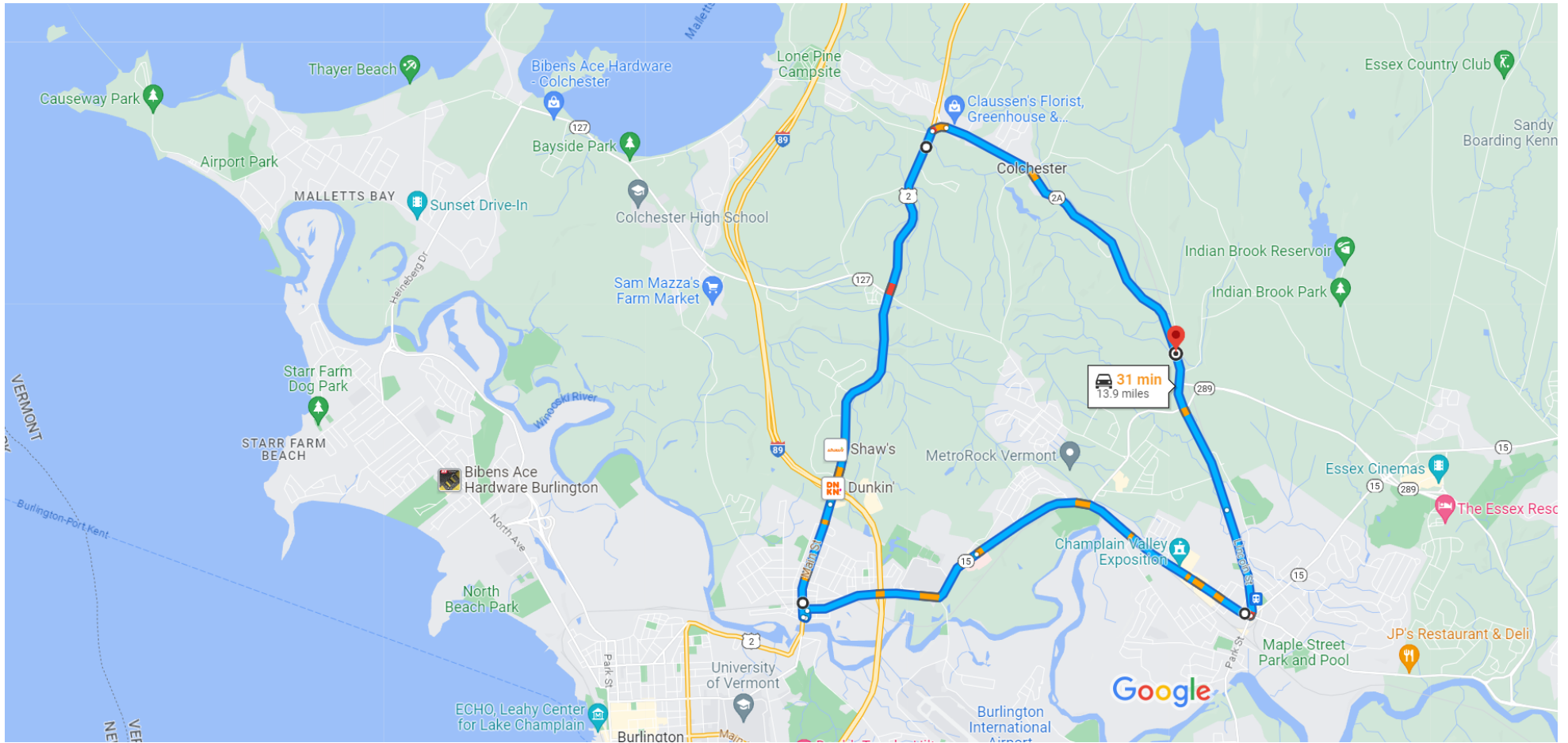


Map data ©2023 Google 5000 ft

3436-3444 Roosevelt Hwy  
Colchester, VT 05446

- ↑ 1. Head northeast on VT-2A S toward Briar Ln
- ⓘ Destination will be on the left

3.4 mi



Map data ©2023 Google 5000 ft

249-259 Colchester Rd  
Essex Junction, VT 05452

Follow VT-2A N to US-7 S/U.S. Rte 2 E in Colchester

5 min (2.9 mi)

↑ 1. Head north on VT-2A N toward Lily Ln

2.8 mi

- ↶ 2. Slight left to stay on VT-2A N  
0.1 mi

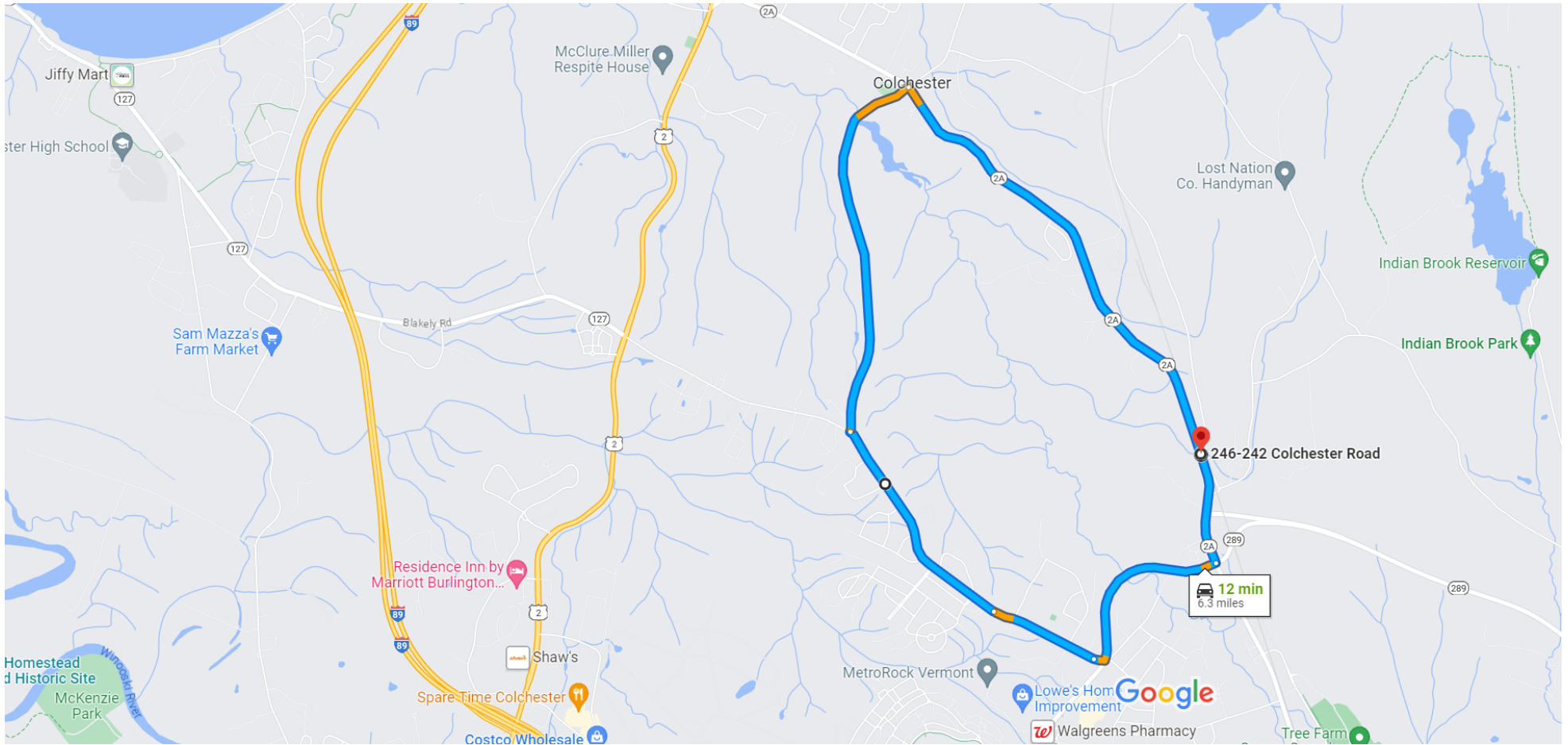
**Follow US-7 S/U.S. Rte 2 E to VT-15 E/E Allen St in Winooski**

- 10 min (4.4 mi)
- ↶ 3. Turn left onto US-7 S/U.S. Rte 2 E  
3.4 mi
- ↑ 4. Continue straight to stay on US-7 S/U.S. Rte 2 E  
1.0 mi
- ↶ 5. Turn left onto Main St/Winooski Falls Way  
154 ft
- ↶ 6. Slight left onto Main St  
325 ft

**Continue on VT-15 E. Drive to VT-2A N/Colchester Rd in Essex**

- 15 min (6.6 mi)
- ↗ 7. Slight right onto VT-15 E/E Allen St  
[Continue to follow VT-15 E](#)  
1.6 mi
- ↑ 8. Continue straight to stay on VT-15 E  
2.7 mi
- ↶ 9. Turn left onto Lincoln St  
0.9 mi
- ↑ 10. Continue onto VT-2A N/Colchester Rd  
1.4 mi

Chittenden County  
Vermont



Map data ©2023 Google 2000 ft

Chittenden County

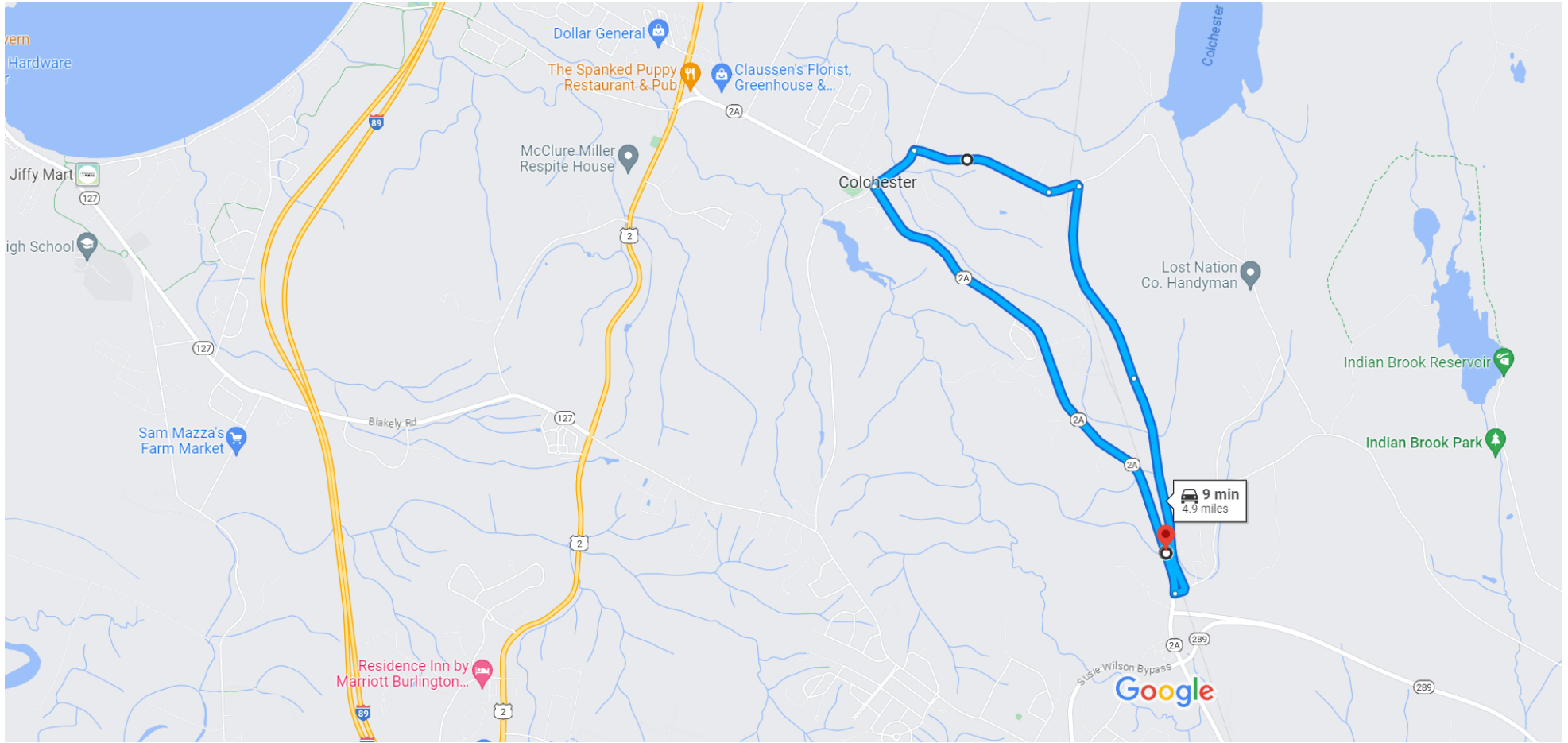
Vermont

- ↑ 1. Head north on VT-2A N toward Lily Ln  
\_\_\_\_\_ 2.0 mi
- ↶ 2. Turn left onto Mill Pond Rd  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1.6 mi

- ↩ 3. Turn left onto Severance Rd  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1.0 mi
- ↑ 4. Continue onto Kellogg Rd  
\_\_\_\_\_ 0.5 mi
- ↩ 5. Turn left onto Susie Wilson Bypass  
\_\_\_\_\_ 0.8 mi
- ↩ 6. Turn left onto VT-2A N  
\_\_\_\_\_ 0.5 mi

246-242 Colchester Rd  
Essex Junction, VT 05452






Map data ©2023 Google 2000 ft


Chittenden County

Vermont


- ↑ 1. Head south on VT-2A S toward Gentes Rd  
\_\_\_\_\_ 0.2 mi
- ← 2. Turn left onto Gentes Rd  
\_\_\_\_\_ 0.9 mi

-  3. Continue onto Sand Rd  


---

 0.9 mi
-  4. Turn left onto Colchester Pond Rd  



---

 0.1 mi
-  5. Slight right onto Depot Rd  

---

 0.6 mi
-  6. Turn left onto E Rd  

---

 0.2 mi
-  7. Turn left at the 1st cross street onto VT-2A S/Main St  
 [Continue to follow VT-2A S](#)  

---

 2.0 mi

249-259 Colchester Rd  
Essex Junction, VT 05452

## Appendix Q: Plans

N/F  
**SCANLON, LAURENCE V.;**  
**SCANLON, KYLE C. & AMIE M.**

N/F  
**RAY'S MOTOR SALES;**  
**C/O LAKE CHAMPLAIN TRANS CO.**

N/F  
**DANIS, BRETT;**  
**CHURCHILL-DANIS, JESSICA**

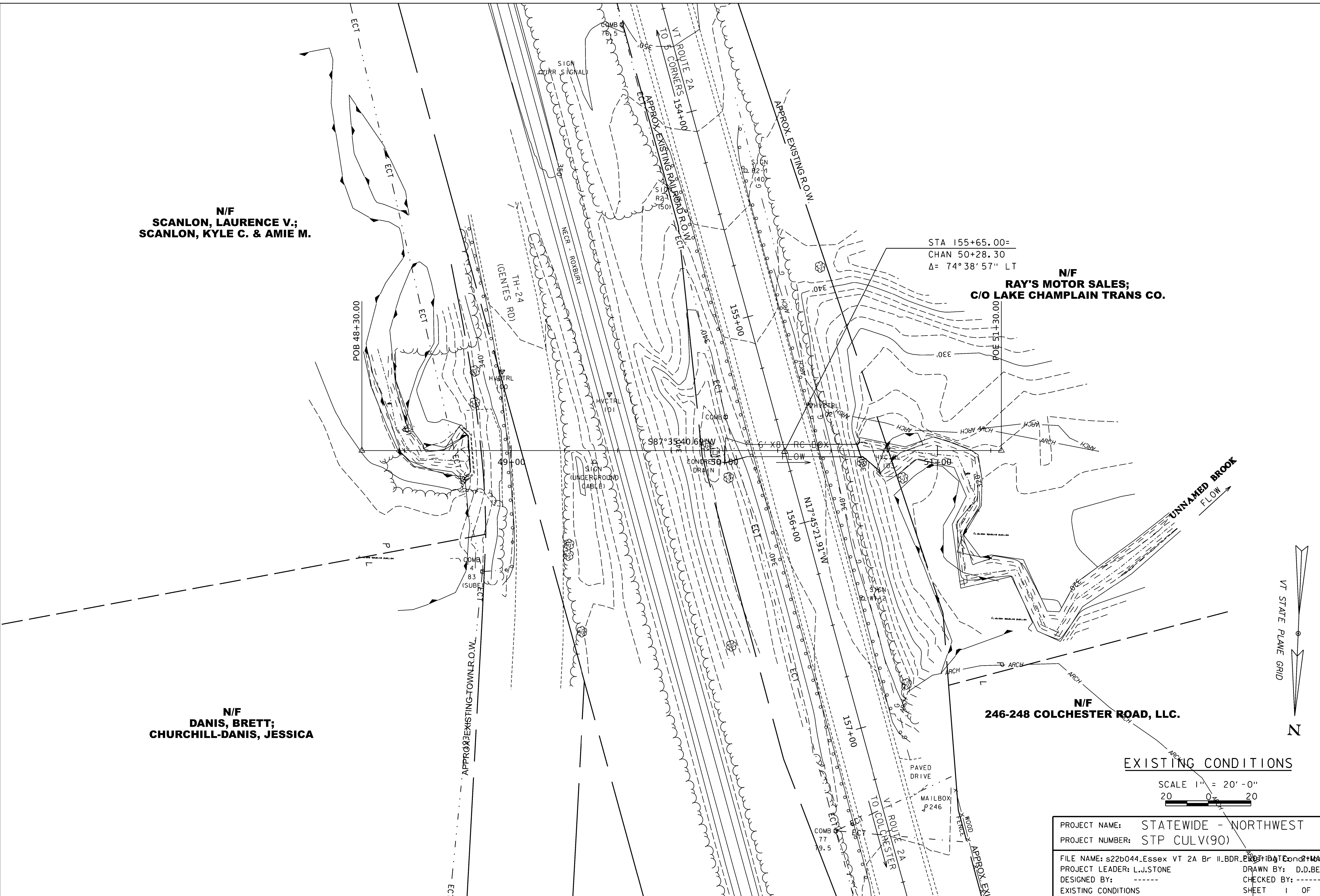
N/F  
**246-248 COLCHESTER ROAD, LLC.**

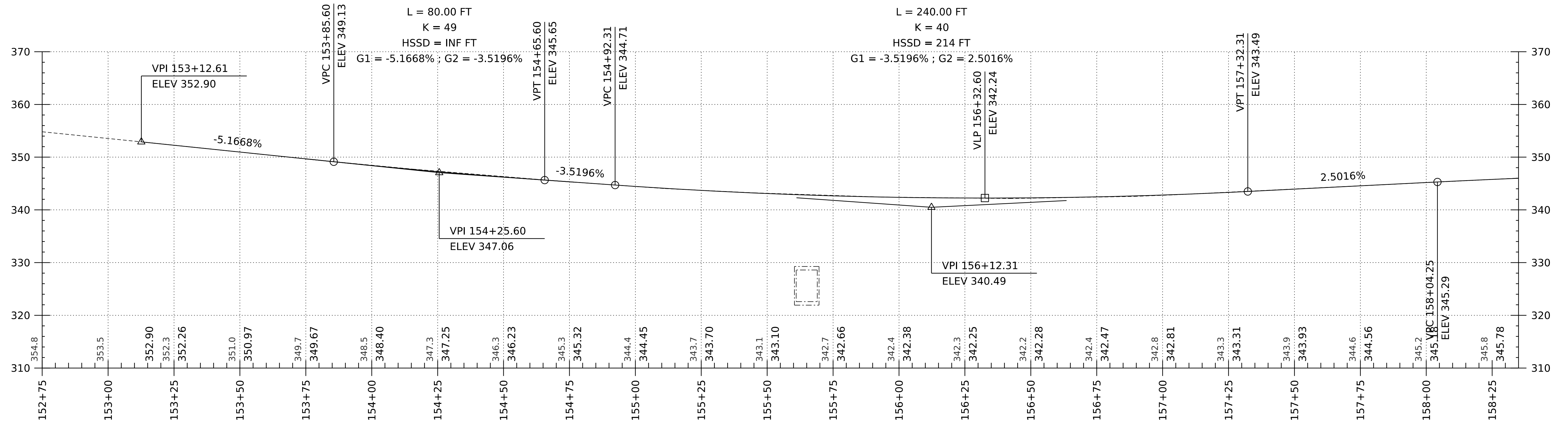
STA 155+65.00=  
 CHAN 50+28.30  
 Δ= 74°38'57" LT

**EXISTING CONDITIONS**

SCALE 1" = 20' - 0"  
 20 0 20

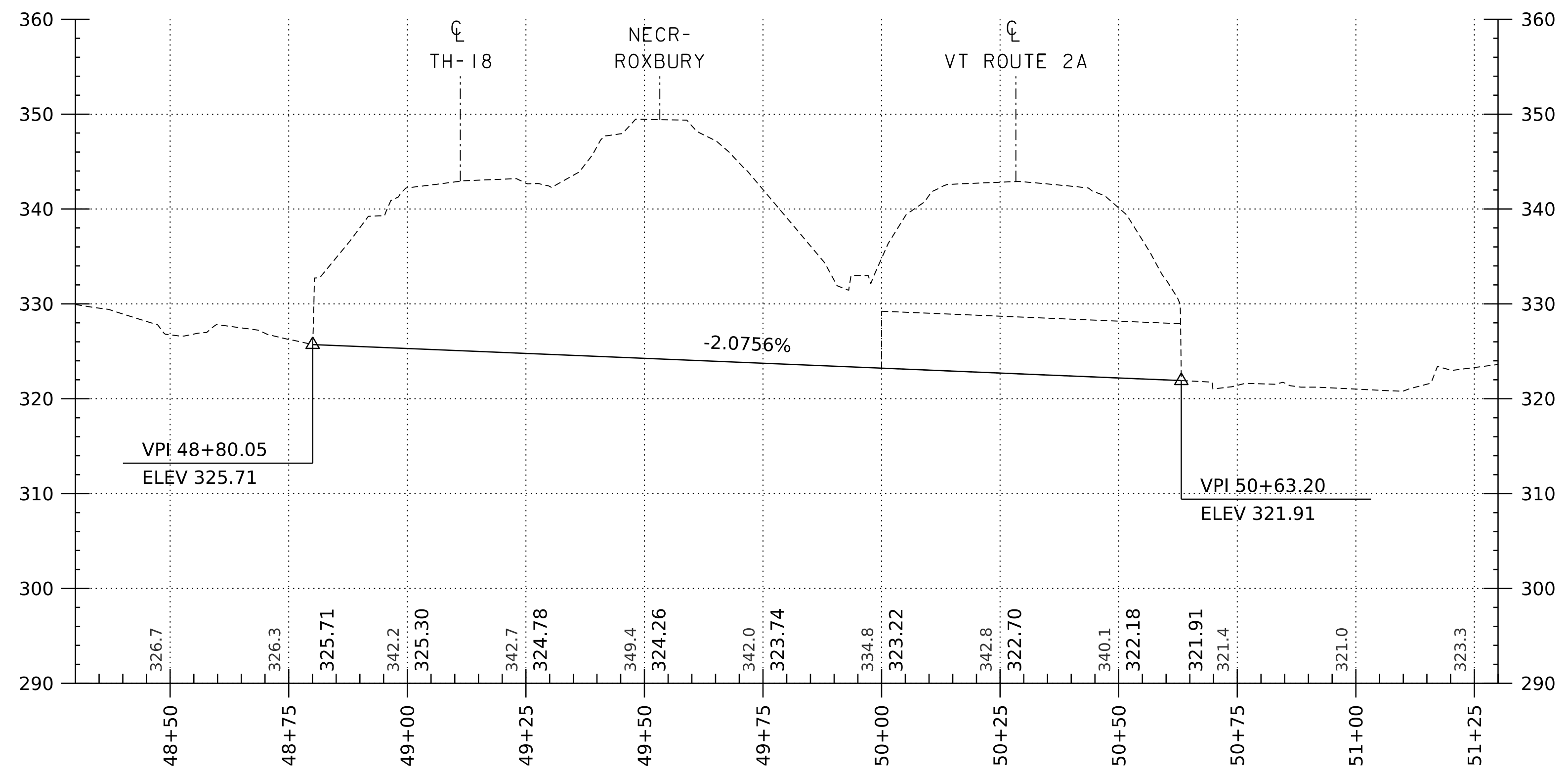
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PROJECT NUMBER:	STP CULV(90)
FILE NAME:	s22b044.Essex VT 2A Br II.BDR.20251024Tcond+MA's.2025
PROJECT LEADER:	L.J.STONE
DESIGNED BY:	-----
EXISTING CONDITIONS	
DRAWN BY:	D.D.BEARD
CHECKED BY:	-----
SHEET	1 OF 12





**VT ROUTE 2A EXISTING PROFILE**

SCALE: HORIZONTAL 1" = 20' - 0"  
VERTICAL 1" = 10' - 0"



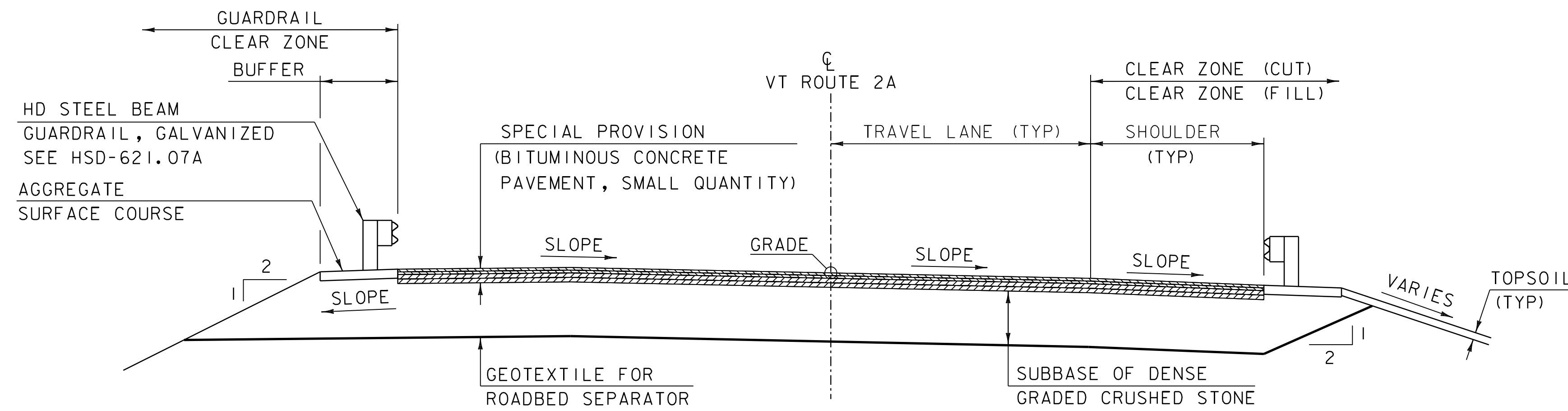
**BRIDGE II EXISTING CHANNEL PROFILE**

SCALE: HORIZONTAL 1" = 20' - 0"  
VERTICAL 1" = 10' - 0"

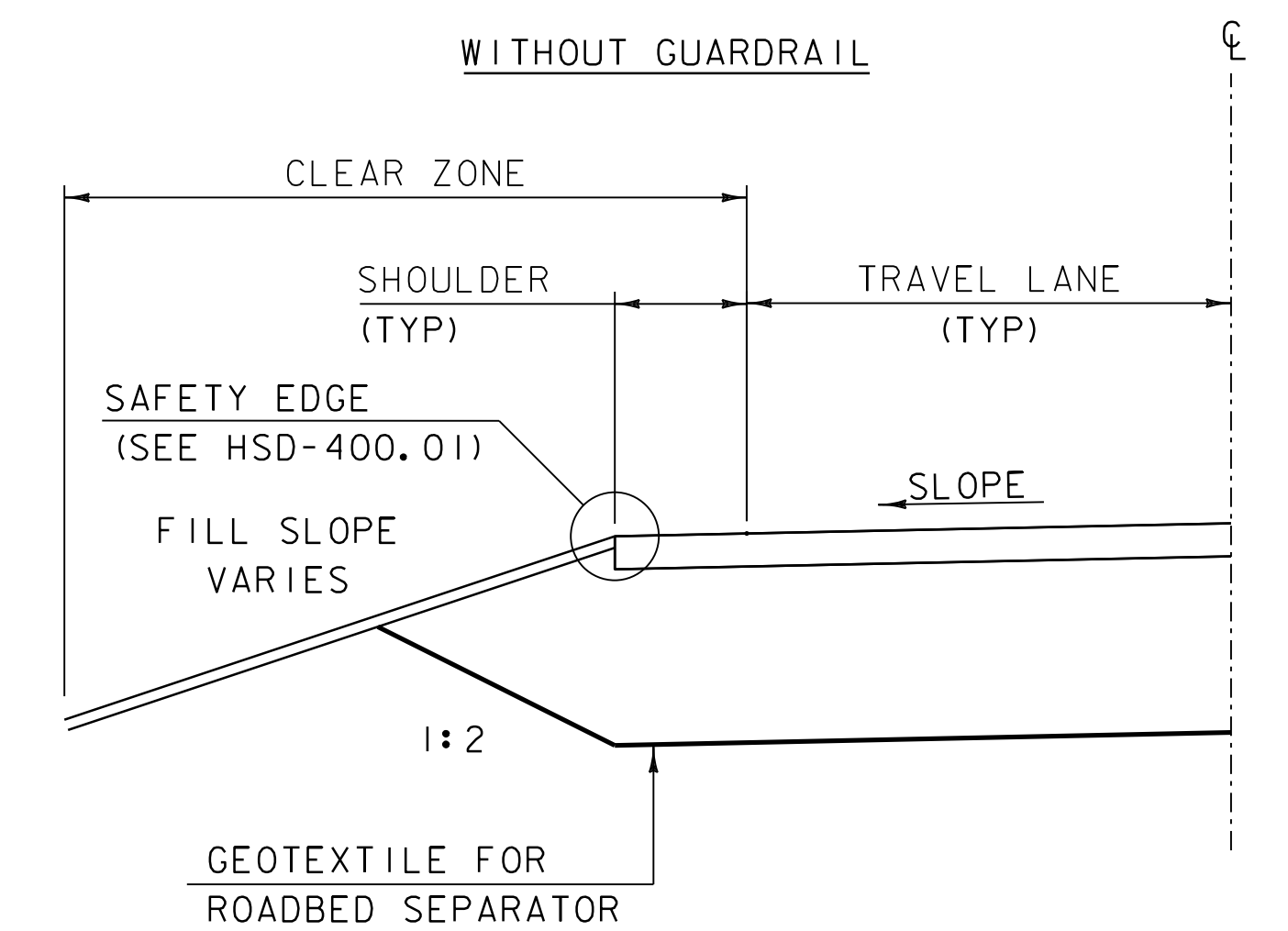
NOTE:  
GRADES SHOWN TO THE NEAREST TENTH ARE EXISTING GROUND ALONG  $\phi$   
GRADES SHOWN TO THE NEAREST HUNDREDTH ARE FINISH GRADE ALONG  $\phi$

PROJECT NAME: STATEWIDE - NORTHWEST  
PROJECT NUMBER: STP CULV(90)

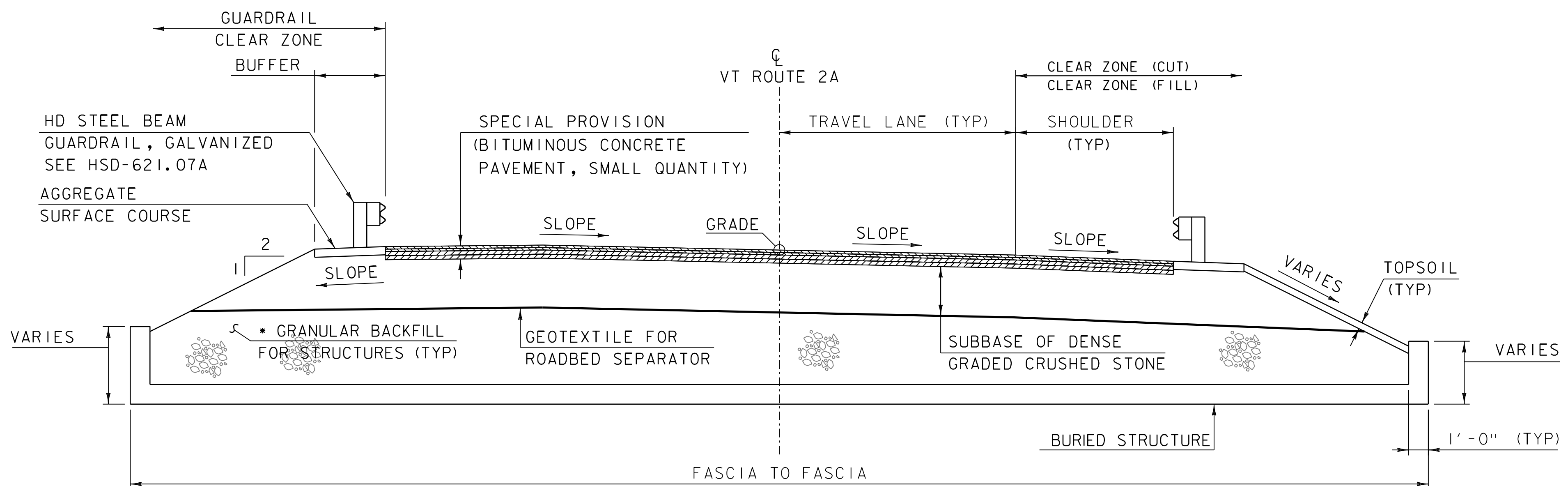
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PROJECT LEADER: L.J.STONE DRAWN BY: D.D.BEARD  
DESIGNED BY: ----- CHECKED BY: -----  
EXISTING PROFILE SHEET SHEET 2 OF 12



**VT ROUTE 2A TYPICAL SECTION**  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



**ROADWAY TYPICAL SECTION**  
NOT TO SCALE



**VT ROUTE 2A BURIED STRUCTURE TYPICAL SECTION**  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

**ROAD TYPICAL INFORMATION**

	LEFT		RIGHT	
	WIDTH	SLOPE	WIDTH	SLOPE
TRAVEL LANE	11'-0"	VARIES	11'-0"	VARIES
SHOULDER	5'-0"	VARIES	5'-0"	VARIES
BUFFER	3'-7"	-0.060	3'-7"	-0.060
FILL SLOPE	---	VARIES	---	VARIES
CLEAR ZONE (CUT)	18'-0"	---	18'-0"	---
CLEAR ZONE (FILL)	24'-0"	---	24'-0"	---
CLEAR ZONE (GUARDRAIL)	4'-9"	---	4'-9"	---

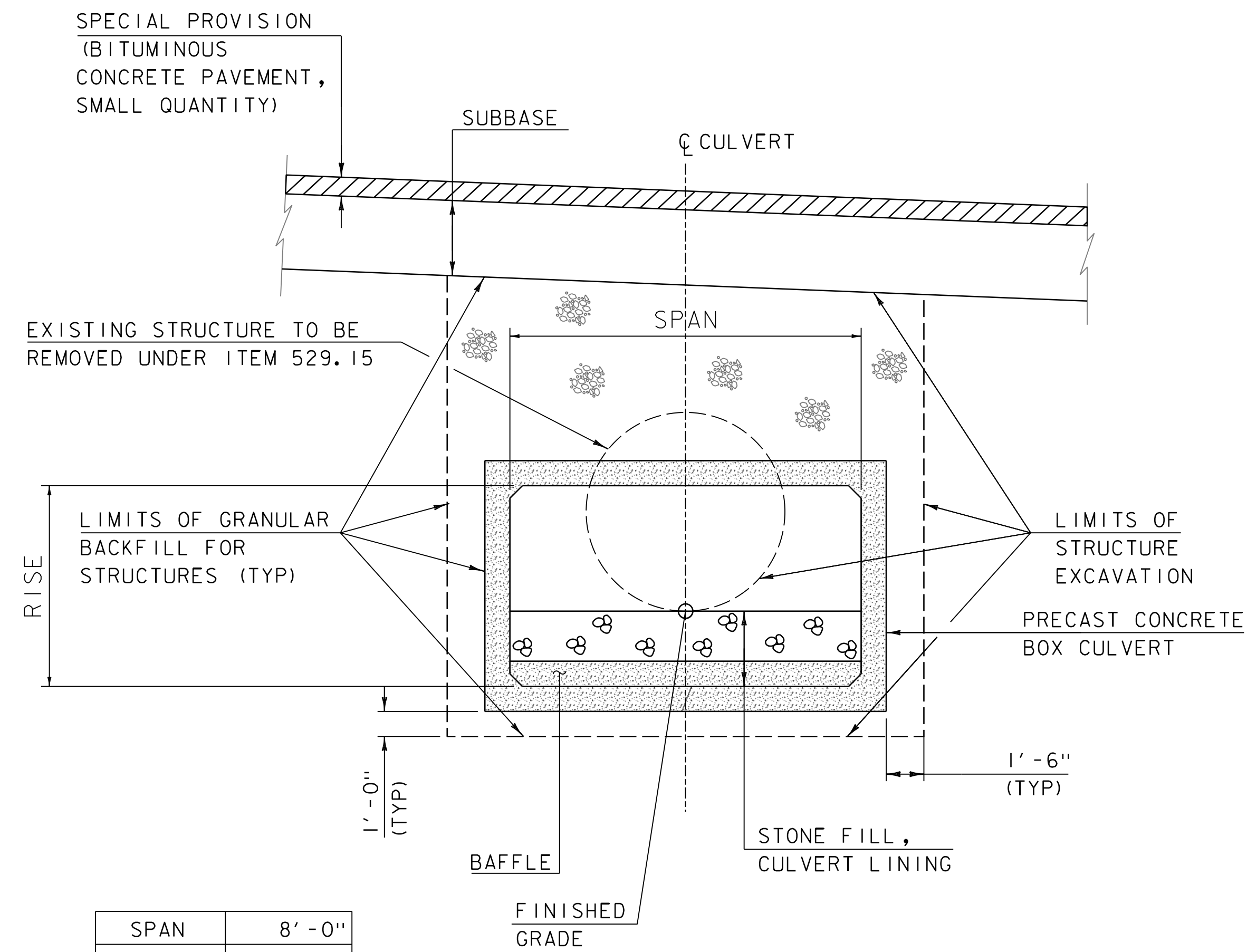
**MATERIAL INFORMATION**

	THICKNESS	TYPE
WEARING COURSE	1 1/2"	SPECIAL PROVISION (BITUMINOUS CONCRETE PAVEMENT, SMALL QUANTITY) (TYPE IVS)
BINDER COURSE	1 1/2"	SPECIAL PROVISION (BITUMINOUS CONCRETE PAVEMENT, SMALL QUANTITY) (TYPE IVS)
BASE COURSE #2	2 1/2"	SPECIAL PROVISION (BITUMINOUS CONCRETE PAVEMENT, SMALL QUANTITY) (TYPE IIS)
BASE COURSE #1	2 1/2"	SPECIAL PROVISION (BITUMINOUS CONCRETE PAVEMENT, SMALL QUANTITY) (TYPE IIS)
BUFFER	8"	AGGREGATE SURFACE COURSE
SUBBASE	XX"	SUBBASE OF DENSE GRADED CRUSHED STONE
TOPSOIL	4"	TOPSOIL

TACK COAT: EMULSIFIED ASPHALT IS TO BE APPLIED AT A RATE OF 0.025 GAL/SY BETWEEN SUCCESSIVE COURSES OF PAVEMENT AND 0.080 GAL/SY ON COLD PLANED SURFACES AS DIRECTED BY THE ENGINEER.

MATERIAL TOLERANCES (IF USED ON PROJECT)	
SURFACE	
- PAVEMENT (TOTAL THICKNESS)	+/- 1/4"
- AGGREGATE SURFACE COURSE	+/- 1/2"
SUBBASE	+/- 1"
SAND BORROW	+/- 1"

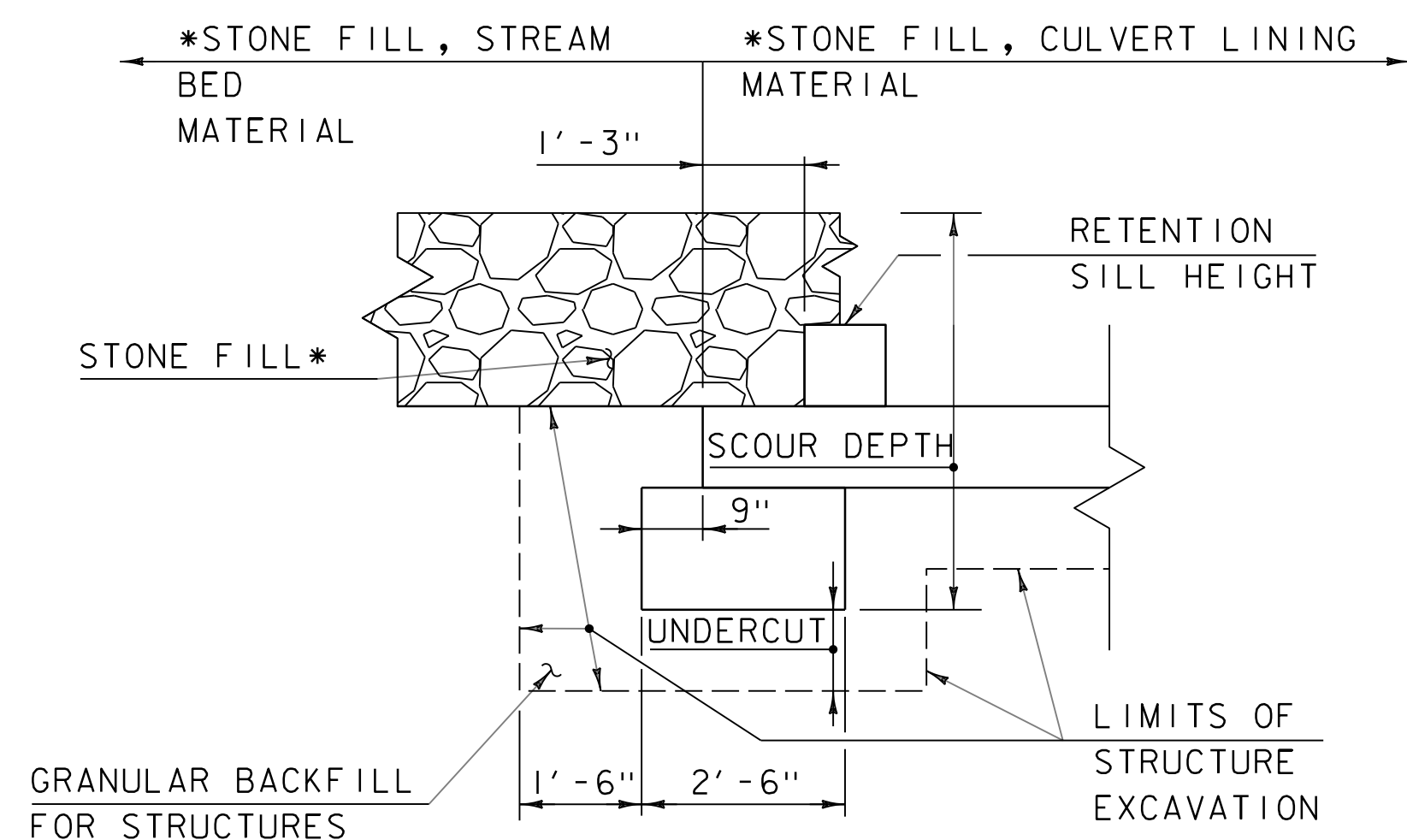
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PROJECT NUMBER:	STP CULV(90)
FILE NAME:	Essex VT 2A Br II.typ.dgn
PROJECT LEADER:	L.J.STONE
DESIGNED BY:	-----
ROADWAY TYPICAL SECTION SHEET	
PLOT DATE:	2-MAY-2023
DRAWN BY:	D.D.BEARD
CHECKED BY:	-----
SHEET	3 OF 12



SPAN	8' - 0"
RISE	8' - 0"
LENGTH	VARIABLE

**CULVERT TYPICAL SECTION**

NOT TO SCALE



**CUTOFF WALL TYPICAL SECTION**

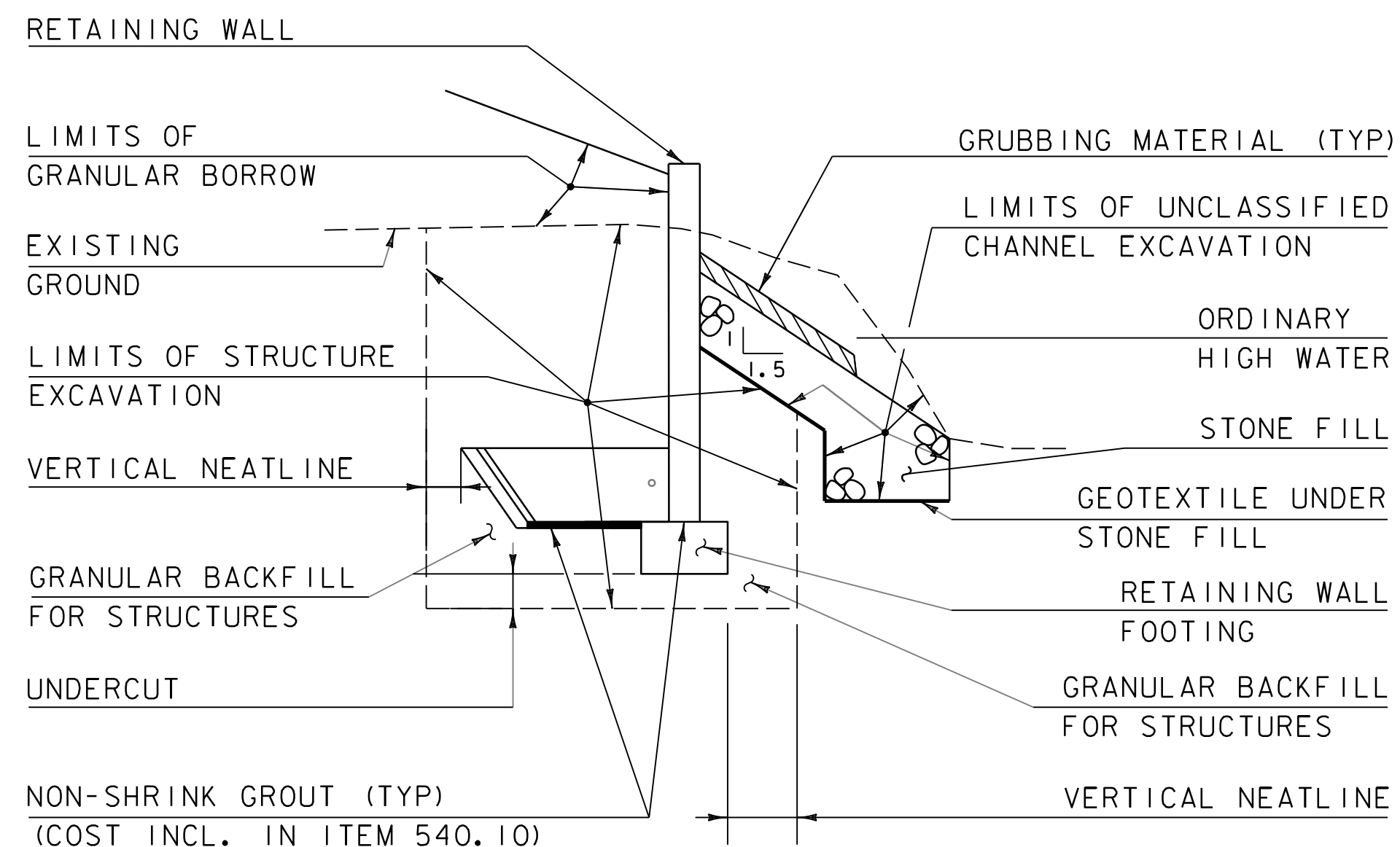
NOT TO SCALE

NOTE:

THE CUTOFF WALL MAY BE OMITTED IF THE DEPTH OF CULVERT LINING MATERIAL PLUS THE THICKNESS TO THE BOTTOM OF THE BOX MEETS OR EXCEEDS THE LISTED SCOUR DEPTH.

**CUTOFF WALL - CRITICAL DIMENSIONS**

	DIMENSION
SCOUR DEPTH	4' - 0"
RETENTION SILL HEIGHT	1' - 0"
UNDERCUT	1' - 0"

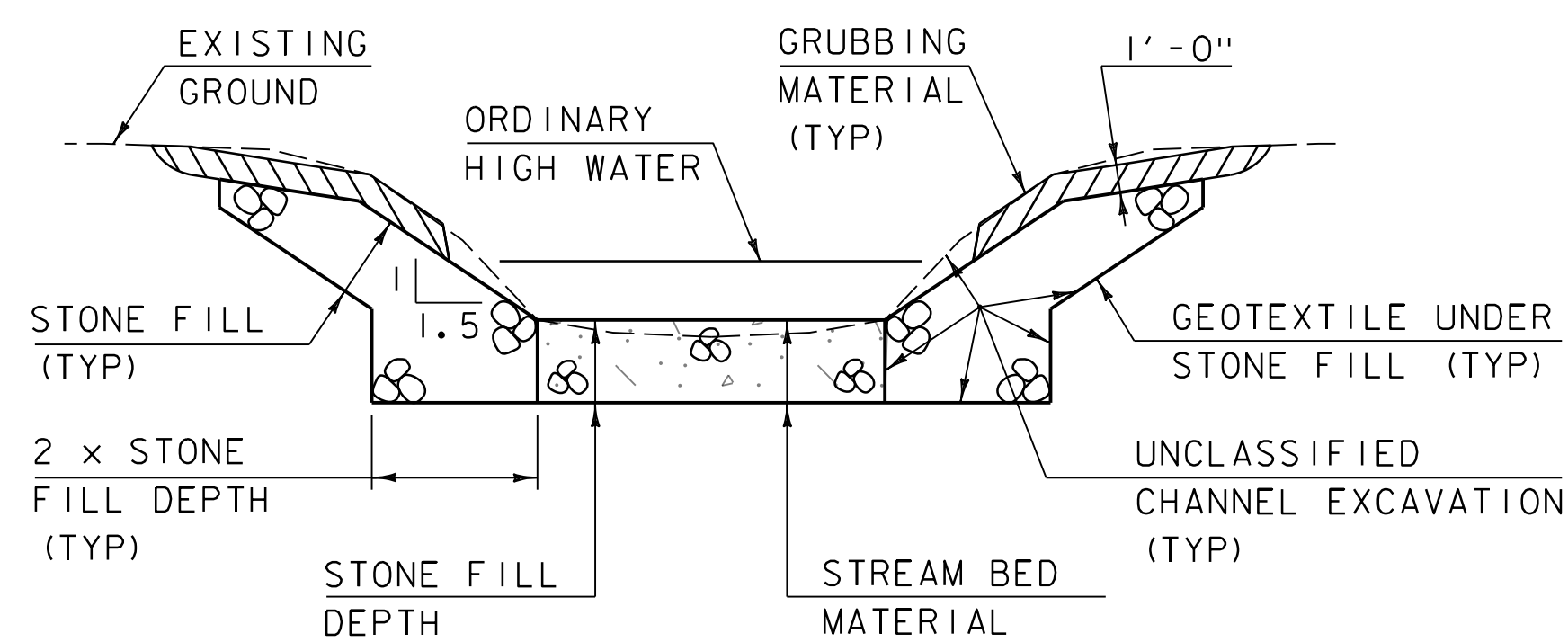


**RETAINING WALL EARTHWORK TYPICAL SECTION**

NOT TO SCALE

NOTE:

TOP OF RETAINING WALL FOOTING SHALL BE AT OR BELOW BOTTOM OF BOX CULVERT.



**TYPICAL CHANNEL SECTION**

(NOT TO SCALE)

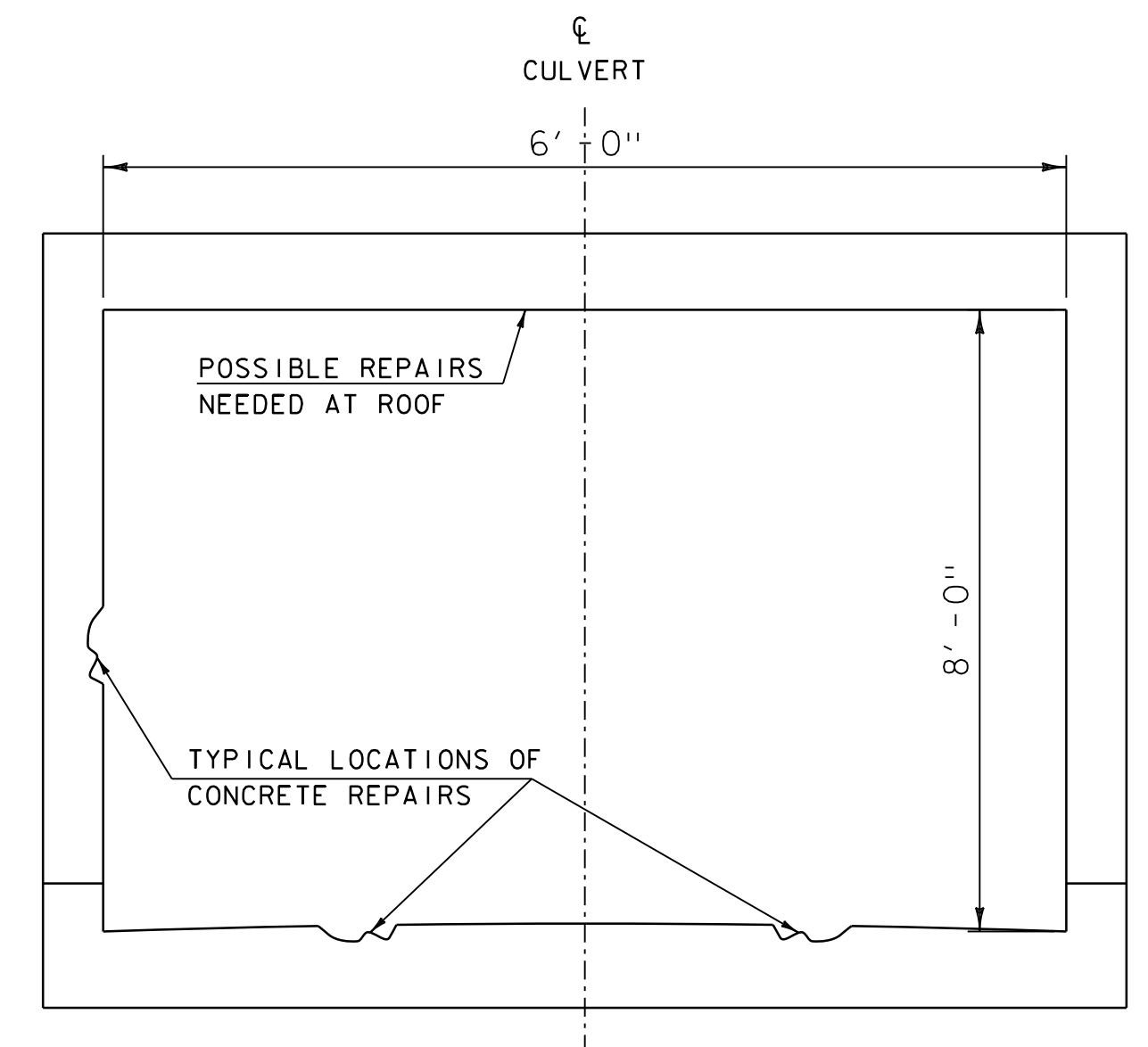
- 1) WHENEVER CHANNEL SLOPE INTERSECTS ROADWAY SUBBASE, GRUBBING MATERIAL SHALL BEGIN AT THE BOTTOM OF SUBBASE.
- 2) THE CONTRACTOR SHALL CREATE A LOW FLOW CHANNEL IN THE STREAM BED MATERIAL AS DIRECTED BY THE ENGINEER.
- 3) GRUBBING MATERIAL SHALL BE PLACED UNDERNEATH STRUCTURES WHERE THERE IS MORE THAN 6 FEET VERTICALLY FROM ORDINARY HIGH WATER (OHW) TO THE BOTTOM OF SUPERSTRUCTURE AND MORE THAN 6 FEET HORIZONTALLY FROM OHW LINE TO FRONT FACE OF ABUTMENT. THIS MATERIAL SHALL START JUST ABOVE THE OHW ELEVATION AND TERMINATE 3 FEET HORIZONTALLY FROM THE FRONT FACE OF THE ABUTMENT. THIS MATERIAL SHALL NOT BE PLACED UNDERNEATH DOWNSPOUTS. SEE THE CHANNEL SECTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILING.

**MATERIAL INFORMATION**

	THICKNESS	TYPE
STONE FILL	2' - 0"	TYPE II
STONE FILL, CULVERT LINING	2' - 0"	E-STONE TYPE II
STONE FILL, STREAM BED MATERIAL	2' - 0"	E-STONE TYPE II

**RETAINING WALL - ASSUMED DIMENSIONS**

LEVELING PAD	
WIDTH	DIMENSION
WIDTH	2' - 6"
TOE	0' - 9"
HEEL	0' - 9"
THICKNESS	1' - 0"
UNDERCUT	1' - 0"
WALL	
THICKNESS	1' - 0"
HEIGHT	VARIABLE
EXCAVATION LIMITS	
VERTICAL NEATLINE	1' - 6"
UNDERCUT	1' - 0"

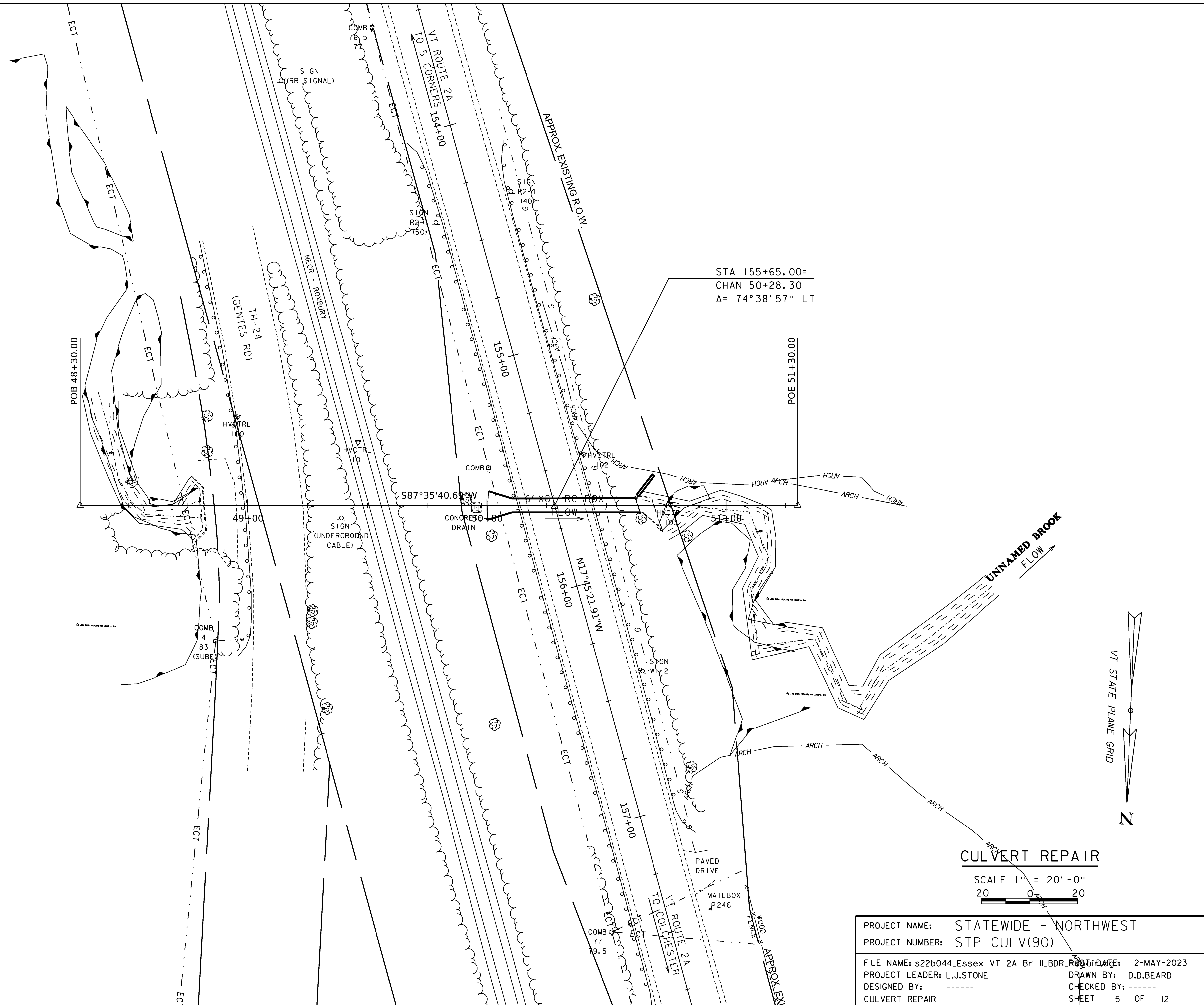


**CULVERT REHABILITATION**

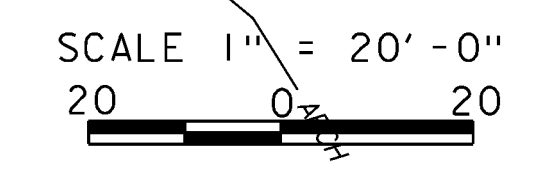
N. T. S.

PROJECT NAME: STATEWIDE- NORTHWEST  
PROJECT NUMBER: STP CULV(90)

FILE NAME: Essex VT 2A Br II.typ.dgn PLOT DATE: 2-MAY-2023  
PROJECT LEADER: L.J.STONE DRAWN BY: D.D.BEARD  
DESIGNED BY: ----- CHECKED BY: -----  
CULVERT TYPICAL SECTION SHEET SHEET 4 OF 12

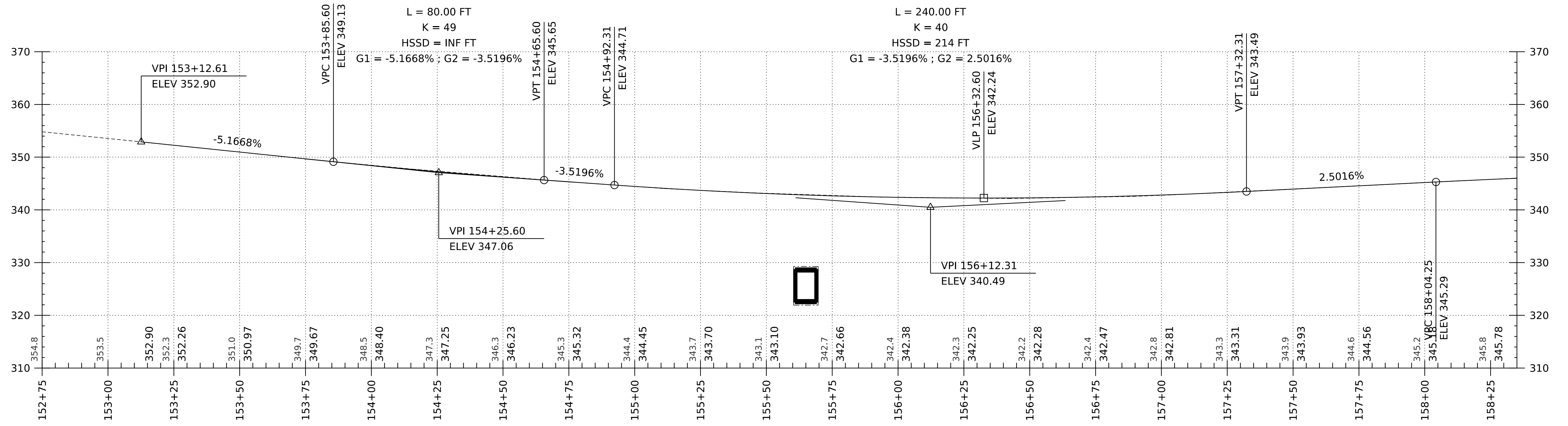


**CULVERT REPAIR**



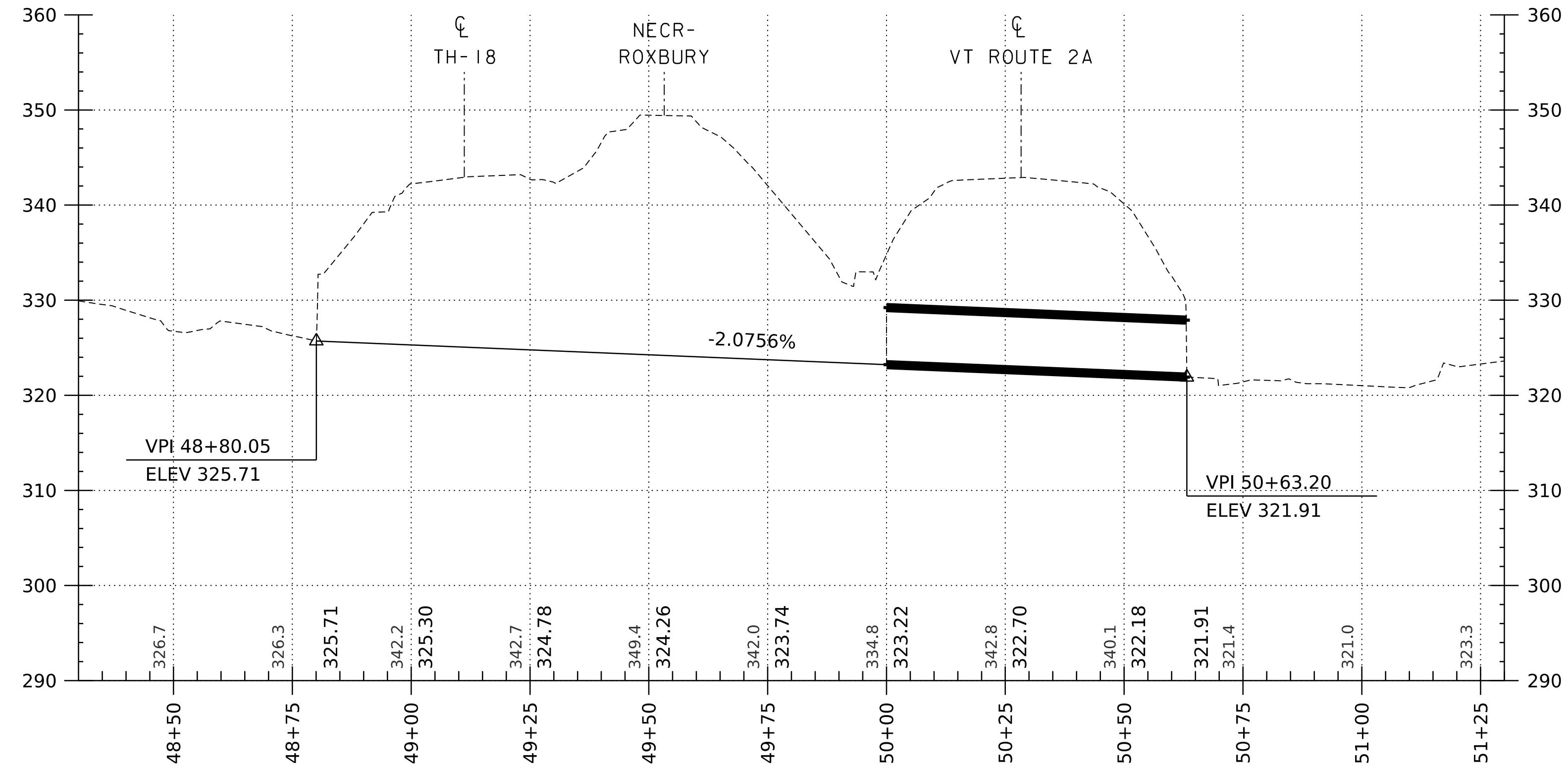
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PROJECT NUMBER:	STP CULV(90)	DRAWN BY:	D.D.BEARD
FILE NAME:	s22b044.Essex VT 2A Br II.BDR.Plan	CHECKED BY:	-----
PROJECT LEADER:	L.J.STONE	SHEET	5 OF 12
DESIGNED BY:	-----		
CULVERT REPAIR			





**VT ROUTE 2A REPAIR PROFILE**

SCALE: HORIZONTAL 1"=20'-0"  
VERTICAL 1"=10'-0"

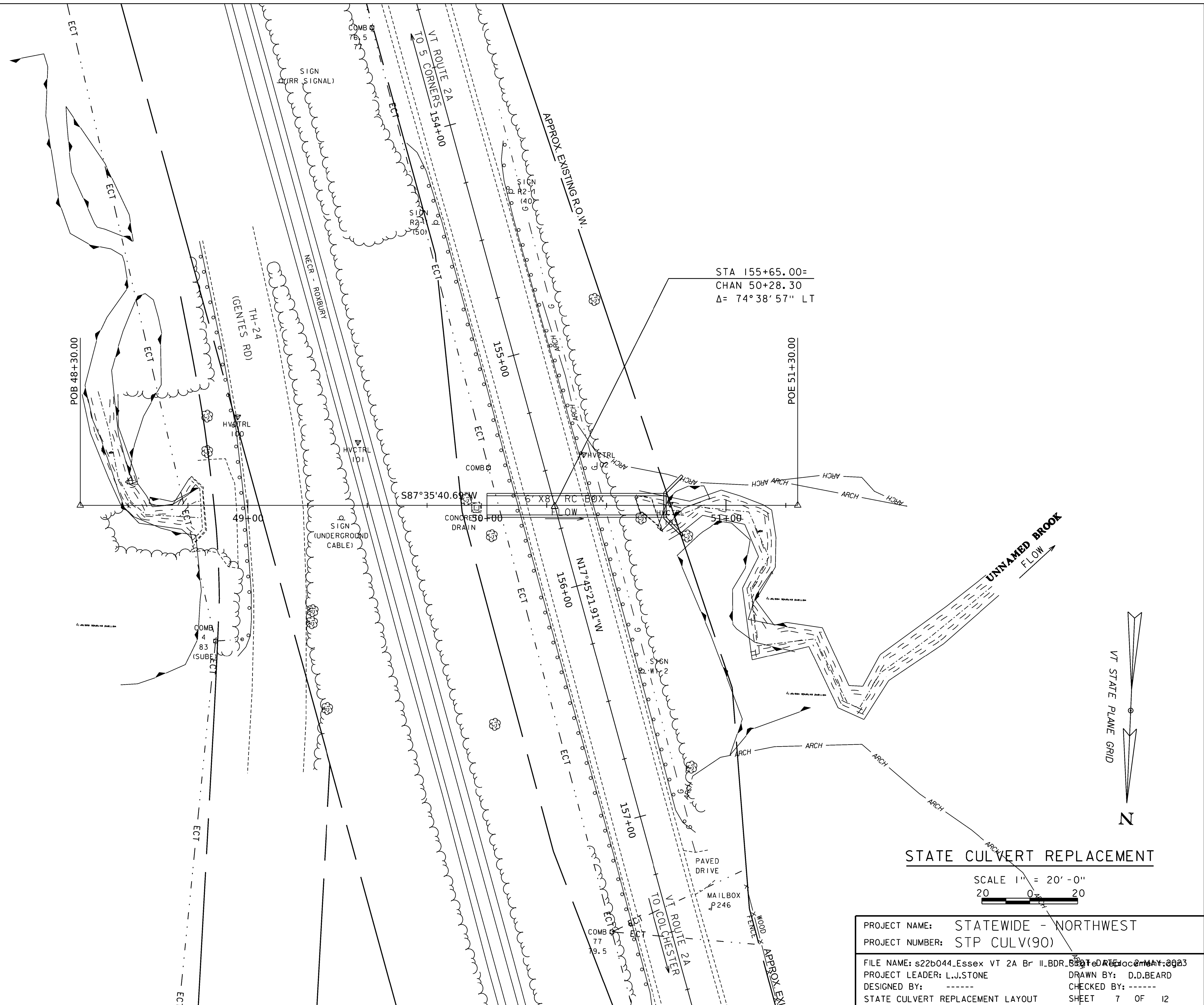


**BRIDGE II REPAIR CHANNEL PROFILE**

SCALE: HORIZONTAL 1"=20'-0"  
VERTICAL 1"=10'-0"

NOTE:  
GRADES SHOWN TO THE NEAREST TENTH ARE EXISTING GROUND ALONG  $\phi$   
GRADES SHOWN TO THE NEAREST HUNDREDTH ARE FINISH GRADE ALONG  $\phi$

PROJECT NAME:	STATEWIDE - NORTHWEST
PROJECT NUMBER:	STP CULV(90)
FILE NAME:	s22b044.Essex VT 2A Br II.profil1603.gdb
DATE:	2-MAY-2023
PROJECT LEADER:	L.J.STONE
DRAWN BY:	D.D.BEARD
DESIGNED BY:	-----
CHECKED BY:	-----
CULVERT REPAIR PROFILE SHEET	SHEET 6 OF 12

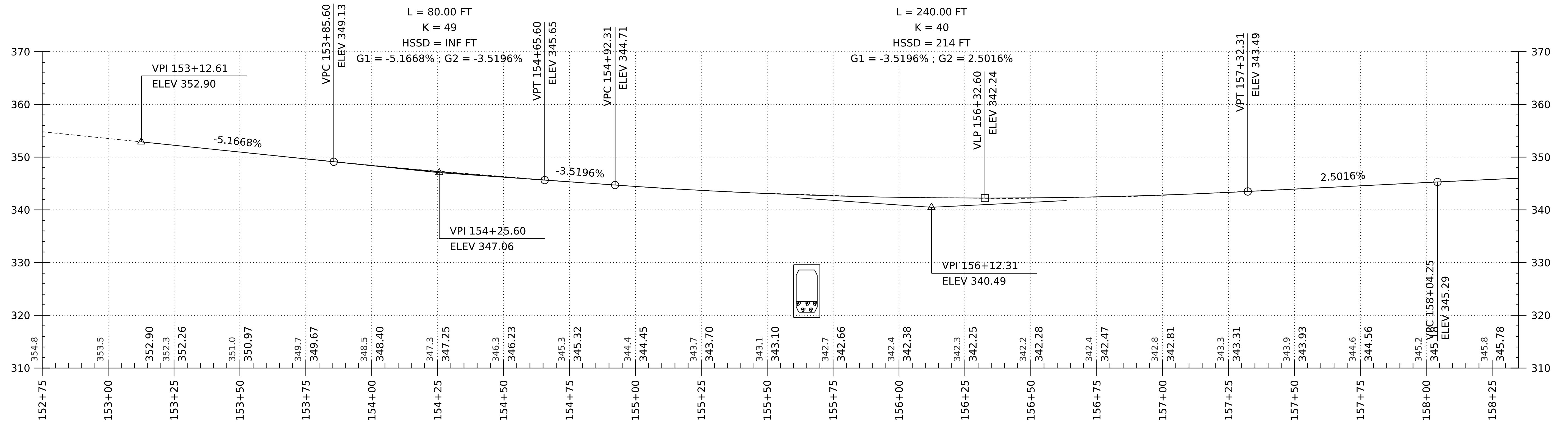


STA 155+65.00=  
 CHAN 50+28.30  
 $\Delta = 74^\circ 38' 57''$  LT

**STATE CULVERT REPLACEMENT**

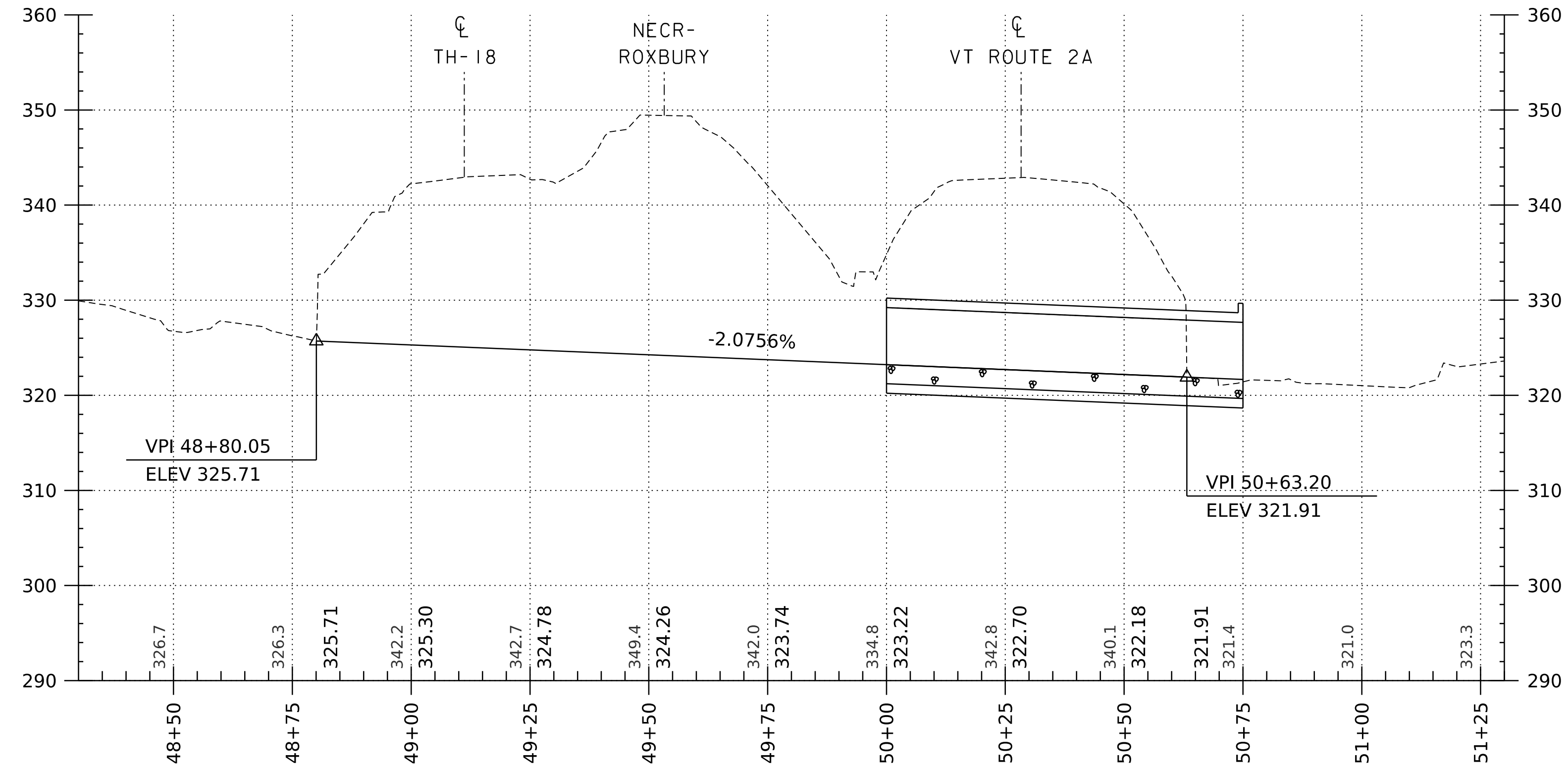
SCALE 1" = 20'-0"  
 20 0 20

PROJECT NAME:	STATEWIDE - NORTHWEST
PROJECT NUMBER:	STP CULV(90)
FILE NAME:	s22b044.Essex VT 2A Br II.BDR.BDR.DRAWING.MAY.2003
PROJECT LEADER:	L.J.STONE
DESIGNED BY:	-----
STATE CULVERT REPLACEMENT LAYOUT	SHEET 7 OF 12
DRAWN BY:	D.D.BEARD
CHECKED BY:	-----



**VT ROUTE 2A NEW STATE CULVERT PROFILE**

SCALE: HORIZONTAL 1" = 20' - 0"  
VERTICAL 1" = 10' - 0"

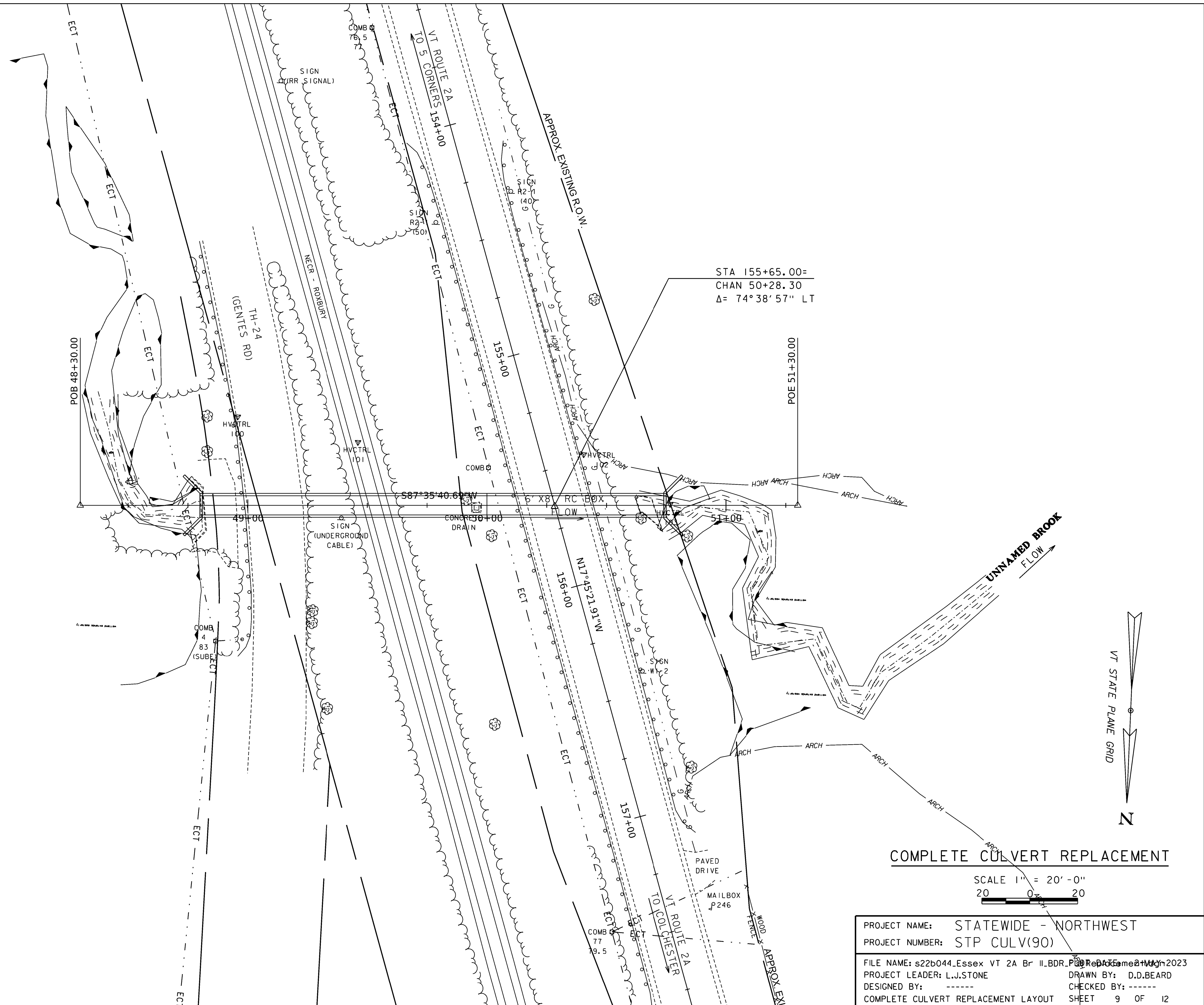


**BRIDGE II NEW STATE CULVERT CHANNEL PROFILE**

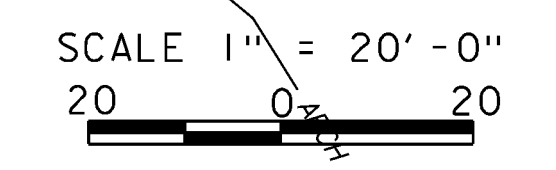
SCALE: HORIZONTAL 1" = 20' - 0"  
VERTICAL 1" = 10' - 0"

NOTE:  
GRADES SHOWN TO THE NEAREST TENTH ARE EXISTING GROUND ALONG  $\phi$   
GRADES SHOWN TO THE NEAREST HUNDREDTH ARE FINISH GRADE ALONG  $\phi$

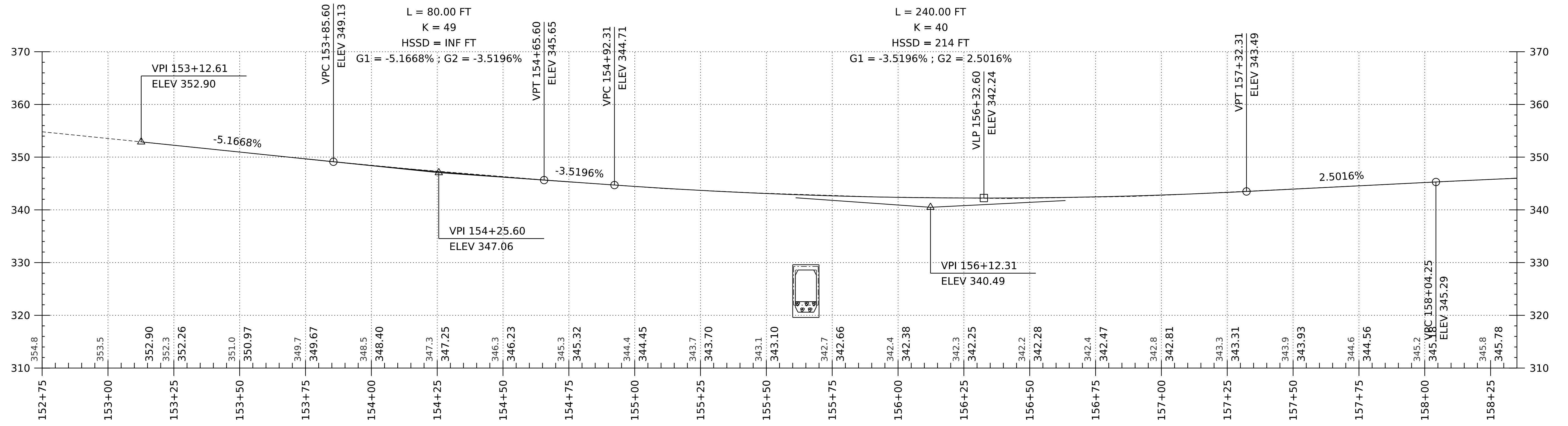
PROJECT NAME:	STATEWIDE - NORTHWEST
PROJECT NUMBER:	STP CULV(90)
FILE NAME:	s22b044.Essex VT 2A Br II.profit
DATE:	2-MAY-2023
PROJECT LEADER:	L.J.STONE
DRAWN BY:	D.D.BEARD
DESIGNED BY:	-----
CHECKED BY:	-----
STATE NEW CULVERT PROFILE SHEET	SHEET 8 OF 12



**COMPLETE CULVERT REPLACEMENT**

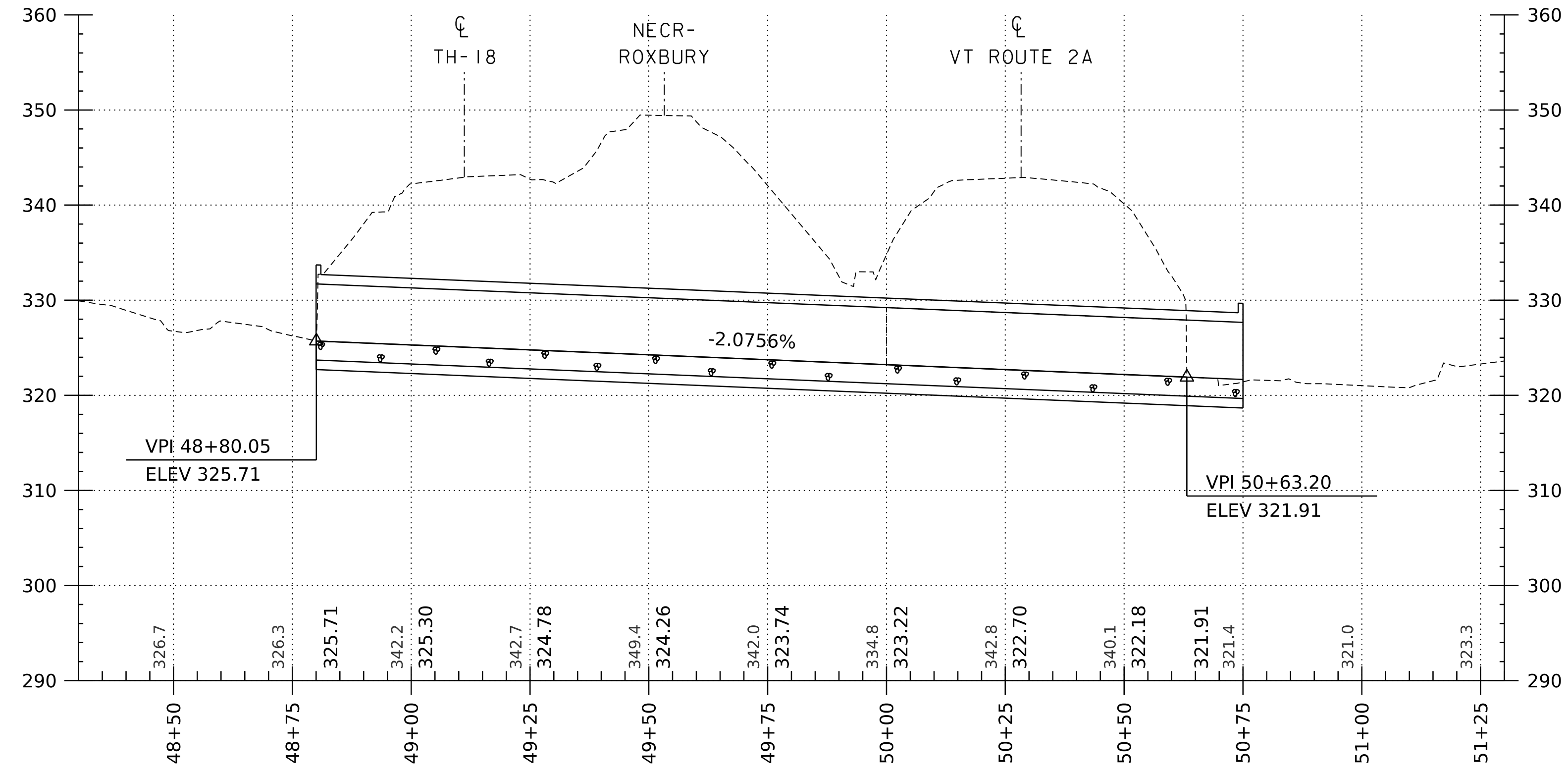


PROJECT NAME:	STATEWIDE - NORTHWEST
PROJECT NUMBER:	STP CULV(90)
FILE NAME:	s22b044.Essex VT 2A Br II.BDR.Plan 90
PROJECT LEADER:	L.J.STONE
DESIGNED BY:	-----
COMPLETE CULVERT REPLACEMENT LAYOUT	SHEET 9 OF 12
DRAWN BY:	D.D.BEARD
CHECKED BY:	-----



VT ROUTE 2A NEW CULVERT PROFILE

SCALE: HORIZONTAL 1"=20'-0"  
VERTICAL 1"=10'-0"

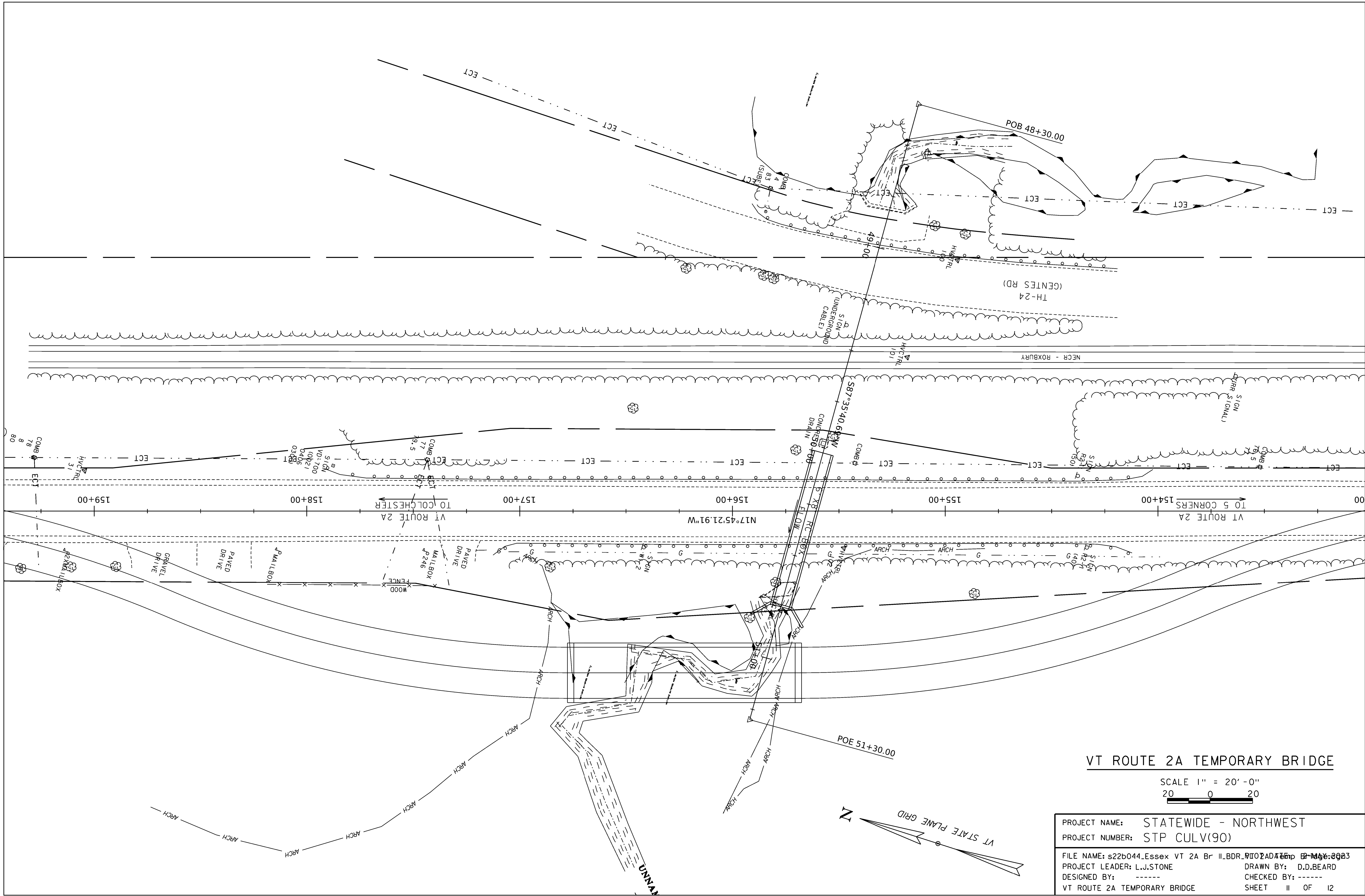


BRIDGE II NEW CULVERT CHANNEL PROFILE

SCALE: HORIZONTAL 1"=20'-0"  
VERTICAL 1"=10'-0"

NOTE:  
GRADES SHOWN TO THE NEAREST TENTH ARE EXISTING GROUND ALONG  $\phi$   
GRADES SHOWN TO THE NEAREST HUNDREDTH ARE FINISH GRADE ALONG  $\phi$

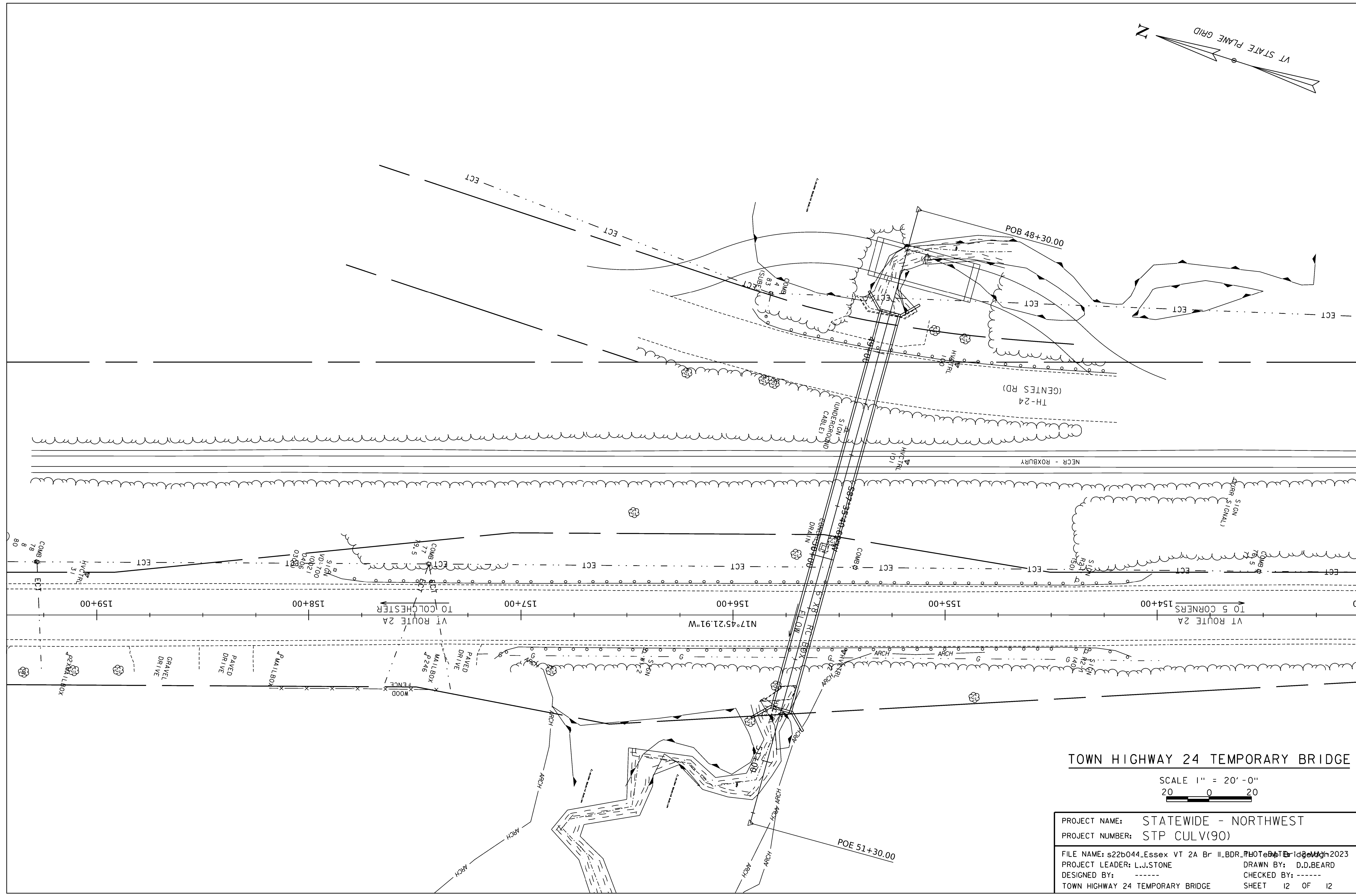
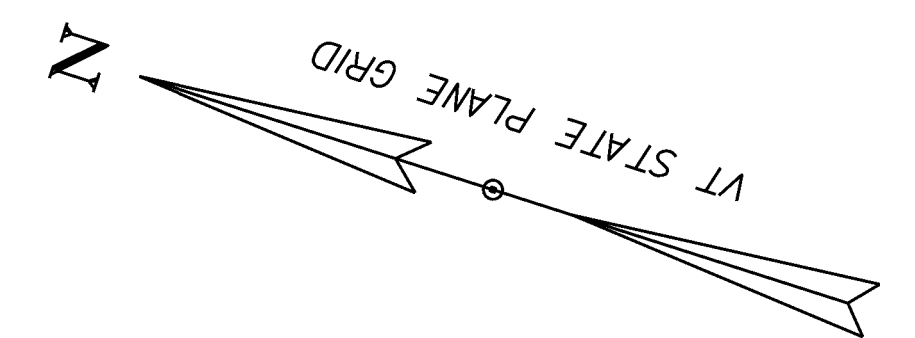
PROJECT NAME:	STATEWIDE - NORTHWEST
PROJECT NUMBER:	STP CULV(90)
FILE NAME:	s22b044.Essex VT 2A Br II.profiles.dwg
DATE:	2-MAY-2023
PROJECT LEADER:	L.J.STONE
DRAWN BY:	D.D.BEARD
DESIGNED BY:	-----
CHECKED BY:	-----
NEW CULVERT PROFILE SHEET	SHEET 10 OF 12



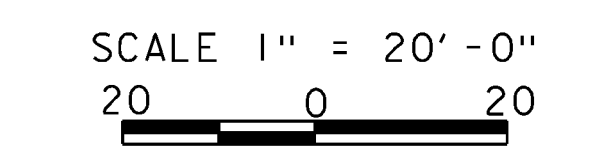
**VT ROUTE 2A TEMPORARY BRIDGE**

SCALE 1" = 20'-0"  
 20 0 20

PROJECT NAME:	STATEWIDE - NORTHWEST		
PROJECT NUMBER:	STP CULV(90)		
FILE NAME:	s22b044.Essex VT 2A Br II.BDR. RIT02ADA Temp B-Map:0003		
PROJECT LEADER:	L.J.STONE	DRAWN BY:	D.D.BEARD
DESIGNED BY:	-----	CHECKED BY:	-----
VT ROUTE 2A TEMPORARY BRIDGE	SHEET		II OF 12



TOWN HIGHWAY 24 TEMPORARY BRIDGE



PROJECT NAME:	STATEWIDE - NORTHWEST		
PROJECT NUMBER:	STP CULV(90)		
FILE NAME:	s22b044.Essex VT 2A Br II.BDR	PHOTO DATE:	10/17/2023
PROJECT LEADER:	L.J.STONE	DRAWN BY:	D.D.BEARD
DESIGNED BY:	-----	CHECKED BY:	-----
TOWN HIGHWAY 24 TEMPORARY BRIDGE	SHEET	12	OF 12