Streamside Tailings Operable Unit Silver Bow Creek Remedial Action Subarea 3, Durant Canyon

Lessons Learned in Design and Construction

Pierre LeMieux





Scope

- 1. Silver Bow Creek History
- 2. Characterization and Design Challenges
- 3. Piped Stream Diversions
- 4. Preparing and Flexible Contract
- 5. Stream & Embankment Design Approach
- 6. Floodplain Regrading Design Approach
- 7. Fish Barrier (Briefly)
- 8. Lessons Learned
- 9. Before and After Photos





Department of Environmental Quality Remediation Division 1225 Cedar Street Helena, MT 59601 Design Engineers



Pioneer Technical Services 1101 S. Montana Butte, MT 59701

Contractor



Helena Sand & Gravel 2209 Airport Road Helena, MT 59601



Cooperating Agencies





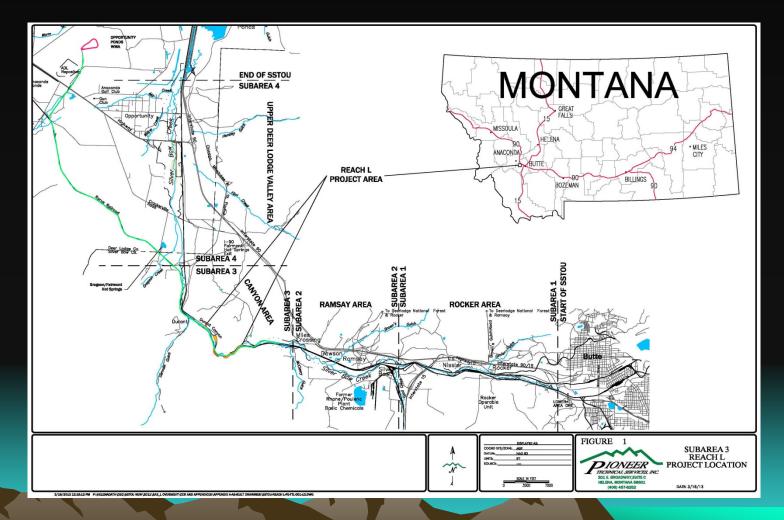


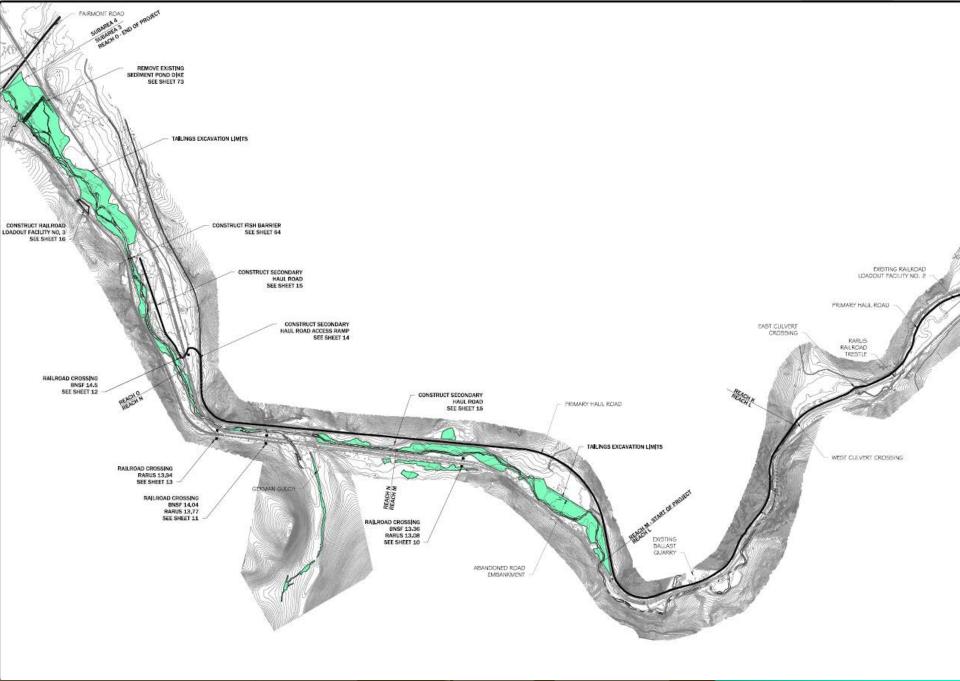
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

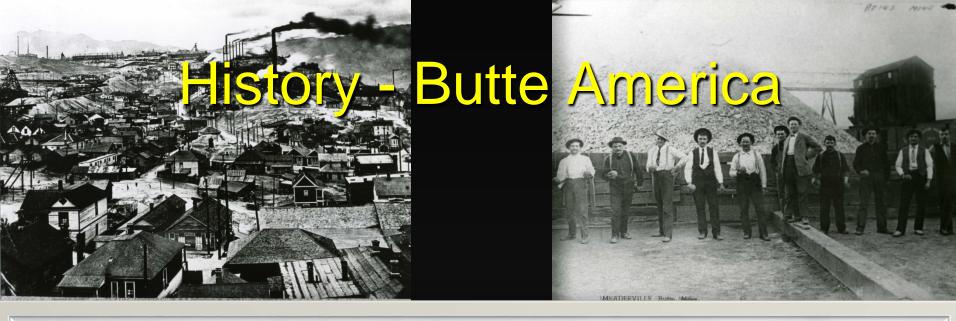




Site Location

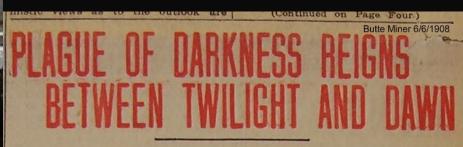




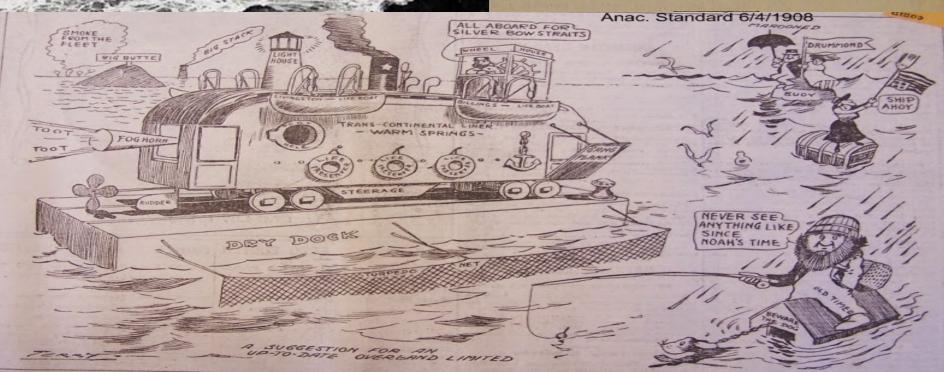




Historic Flood of 1908



Butte Is Without Electric Light and Street Car Service Until Tangle of Wires Can Be Cleared. Fears Are Held That Flood Situation Has Not Yet Reached Climax— Mining Operations Are Greatly Curtailed.

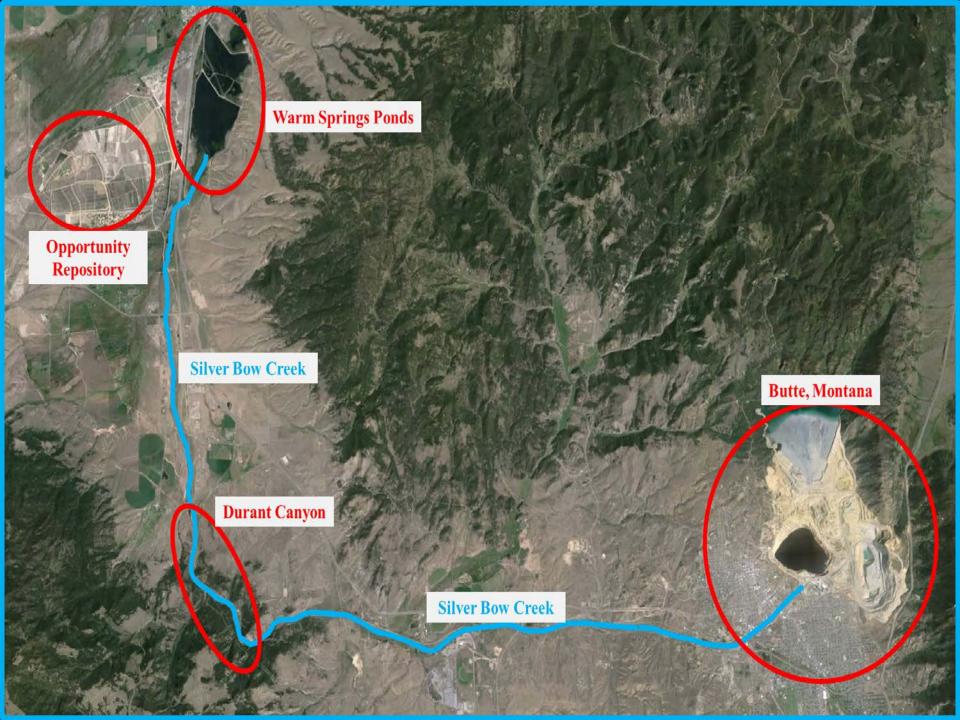


Project History



- In 1983, Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area was placed on EPA's National Priorities List.
- The 26-miles of stream side tailings along Silver Bow Creek was designated as the Stream Side Tailings Operable Unit (SSTOU)
- In 1995, a Record of Decision was issued for remedial action for SSTOU. The ROD requires tailings removal within the 100year floodplain.
- In 1999, a settlement was reached between the State of Montana and ARCO. From the settlement amount, \$80 million plus interest was set aside for DEQ and EPA to remediate Silver Bow Creek.







BALANCE BETWEEN CHARACTERIZATION, DESIGN, AND FIELD MODIFICATIONS

- Limited access in the confines of the canyon limited the scale and scope of characterization efforts
- Design focus was to prepare a flexible contract to account for actual conditions encountered in the field





WASTE EXCAVATION & VERIFICATION

- Lessons Learned
 - Would have been great to have better survey data, more (& better) characterization data, and more field time.
 - Be conservative in building design surfaces with at least 9" over-excavation built in.
 - Paying by rail car or truckload can be fairly accurate and is helpful in making sure removal goals are met without slowing down the process by waiting for surveys, paperwork, etc.
 - GPS-Controlled Equipment can be a time/money saver.



Volume Measurement and Payment





- All tailings volume measured and paid by the train cars
- Limited time and budget associated with post-excavation surveys
- Easy to make field calls for additional removals without accounting for every cubic yard via survey or truck counts





CONTRACTING & CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT – LESSONS LEARNED

- Dealing with "Low-Bid" Environment.
- Better to design for worst case and then back off in the field.
- Write your bid items to account for Murphy's Law try to predict shortcuts.
- Be flexible where possible but keep the "No" Card on hand. It's always easier to start with No and work your way to Yes.

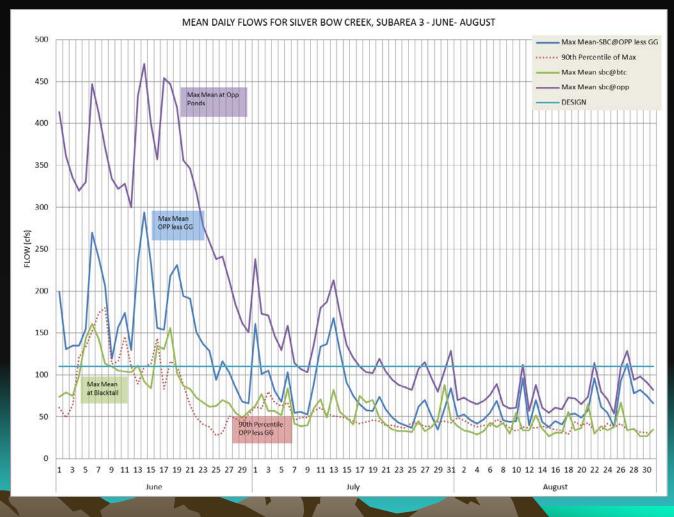
CONTRACTING & CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

- Define a minimum depth and measure in square yards and/or acres where possible.
- Better to design and pay for diversions than expect the Contractor to do it.
- This goes for any engineering-related item design up front then consider Contractor alternate ideas if necessary.

Durant Canyon



STREAM DIVERSION DESIGN



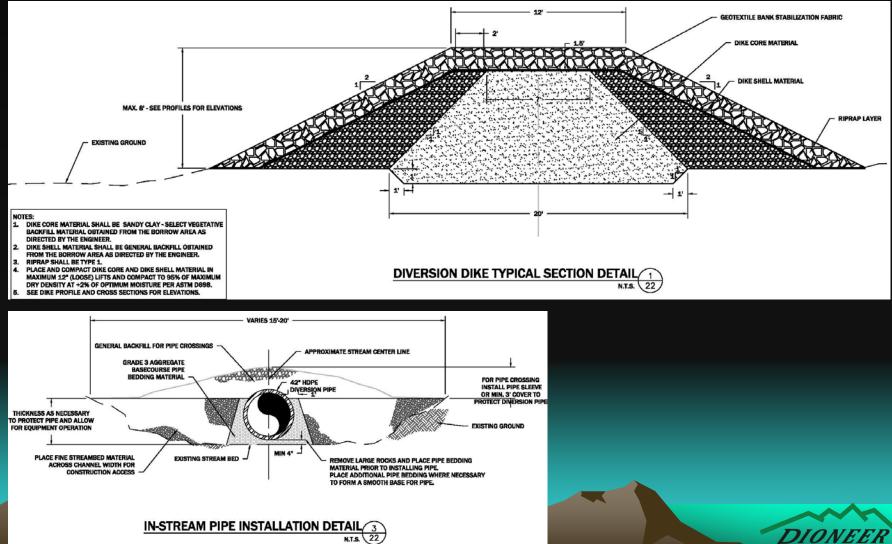
DIVERSION PIPE PROCUREMENT





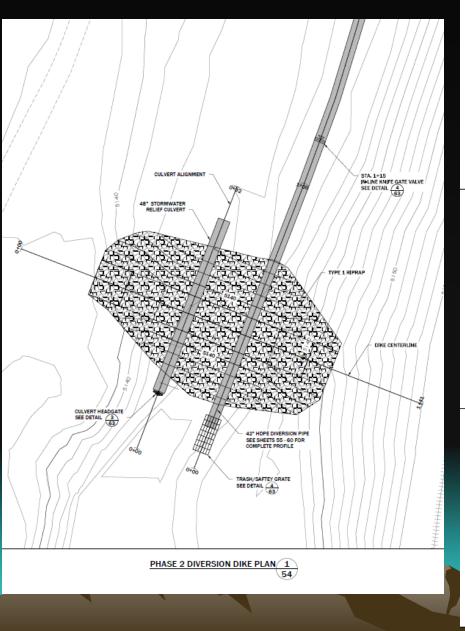


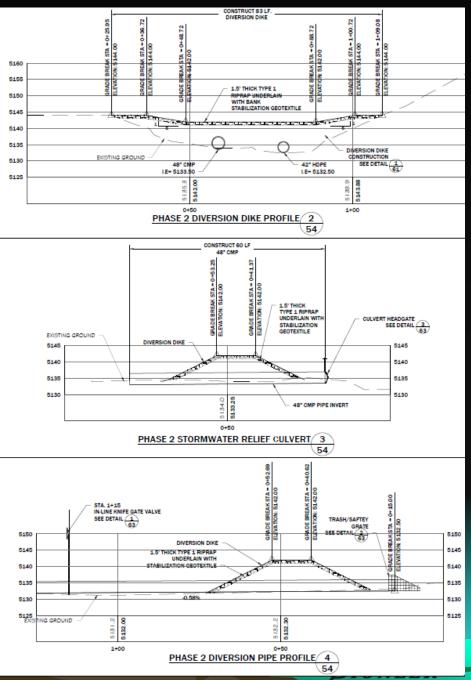
STREAM DIVERSION DETAILS



TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC.

Diversion Details





Typical Diversion Dike Installation Sequence



Setting Stormwater Relief Culvert



Setting HDPE Diversion Pipe



Compacting around Culverts



Compacted Earthen Core



Riprap Shell



Typical Diversion Dike

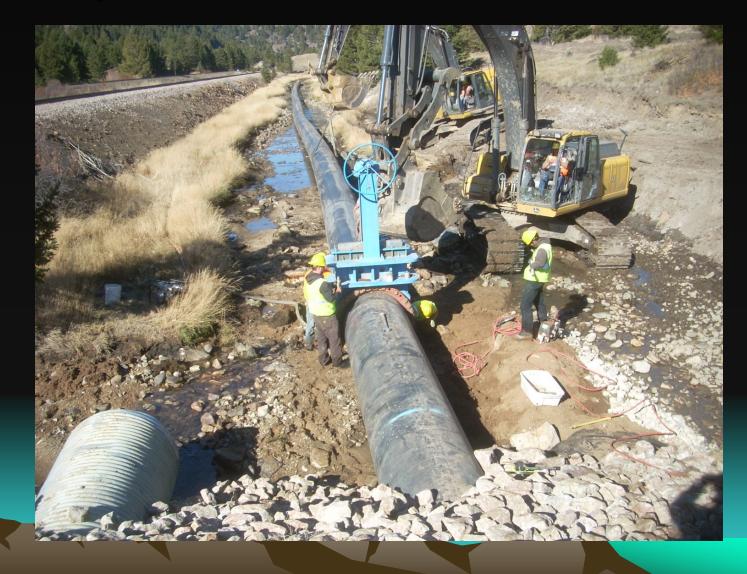


Piped Stream Diversion – Install Pipe @ Centerline of Existing Channel

 Gabion Mattresses on one slope and earthen fill/e-mat opposite slope



Piped-Diversion Installation





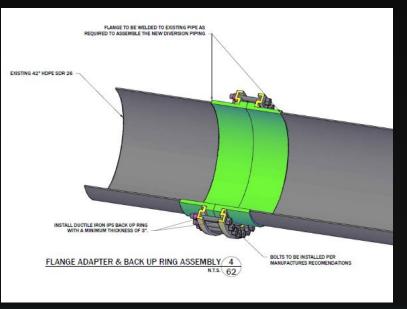


Lesson Learned on Contractor Substitutions



Required pipe joint = flange with back-up ring assembly.









Phase 2 – Diversion Alignment

- Sediment Pond Dike
- Open Channel Diversion
- Tie-in Dike (install at end of 2014 Construction Season)
 - Fish Barrier Location
 - Diversion Pipe (in trench or on slope)
- Diversion Pipe (in existing channel)
 - Phase 2 Diversion Dike

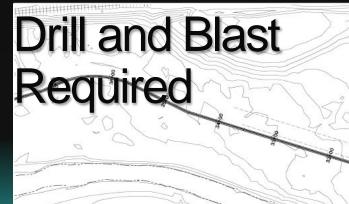


Pipe in Trench / Pipe on Slope

SEE SHEET &









Typical Pipe Trench

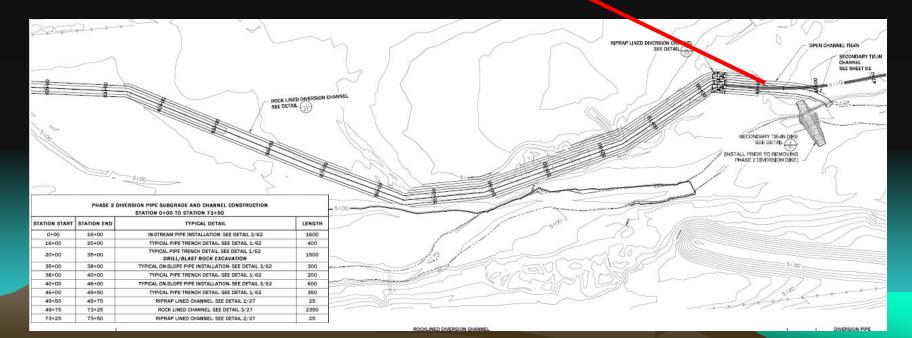


Open Channel Diversion Area



Approximate Location for transition to open-channel diversion

Floodplain opened-up and allowed for Transition to open-channel



Design Lesson – Remember to Account for Ice in Capacity Calculations

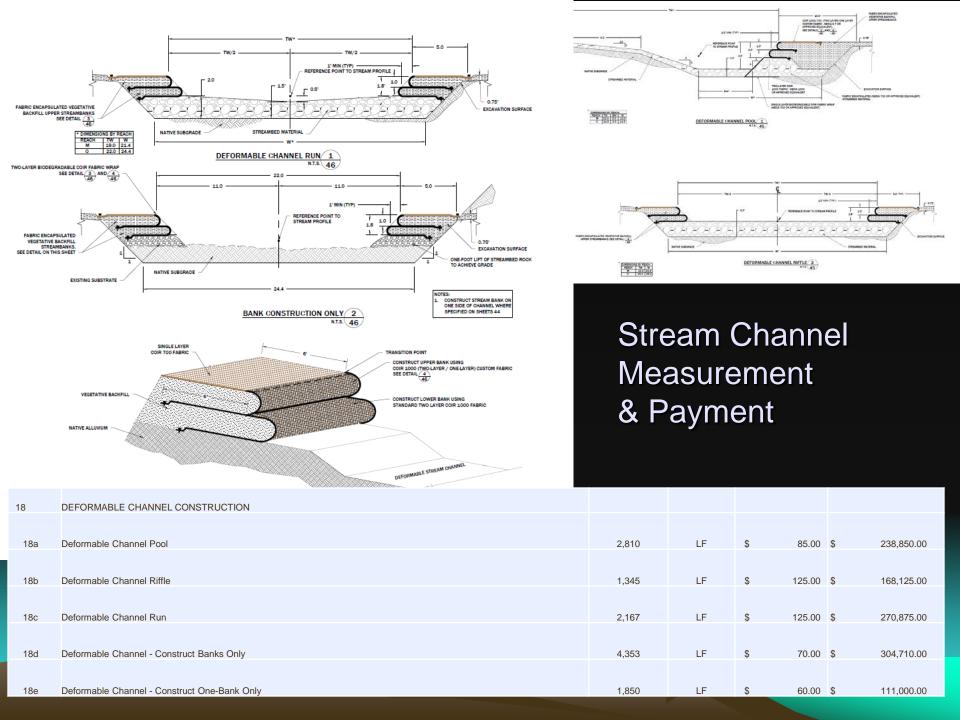




STREAM CONSTRUCTION

- Lessons Learned:
 - Have multiple tools/treatments to apply to changing conditions in the field.
 - Preserve existing streambed where possible.
 - For Streambed rock and other aggregates, try to simplify and limit gradations to something that considers local availability, cost to import, crushing, etc., in addition to design requirements.



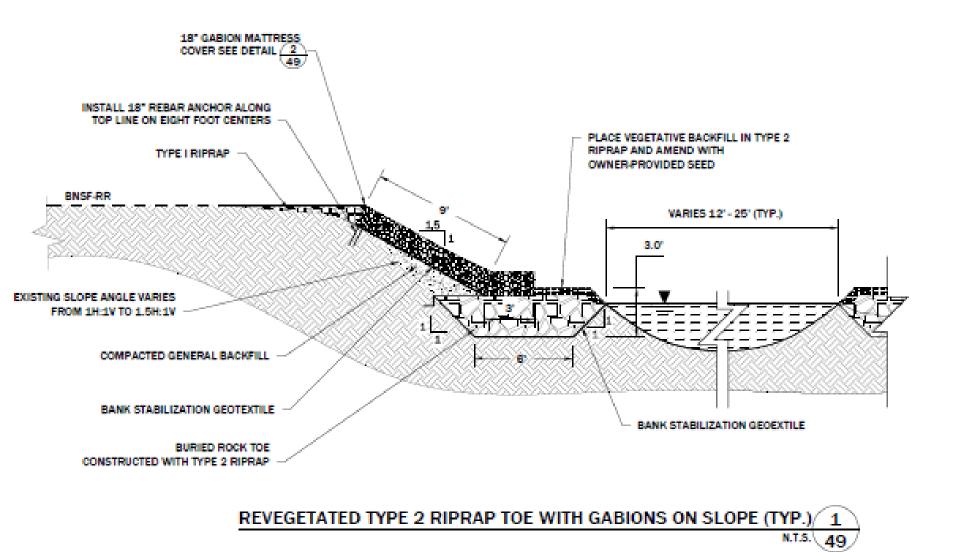








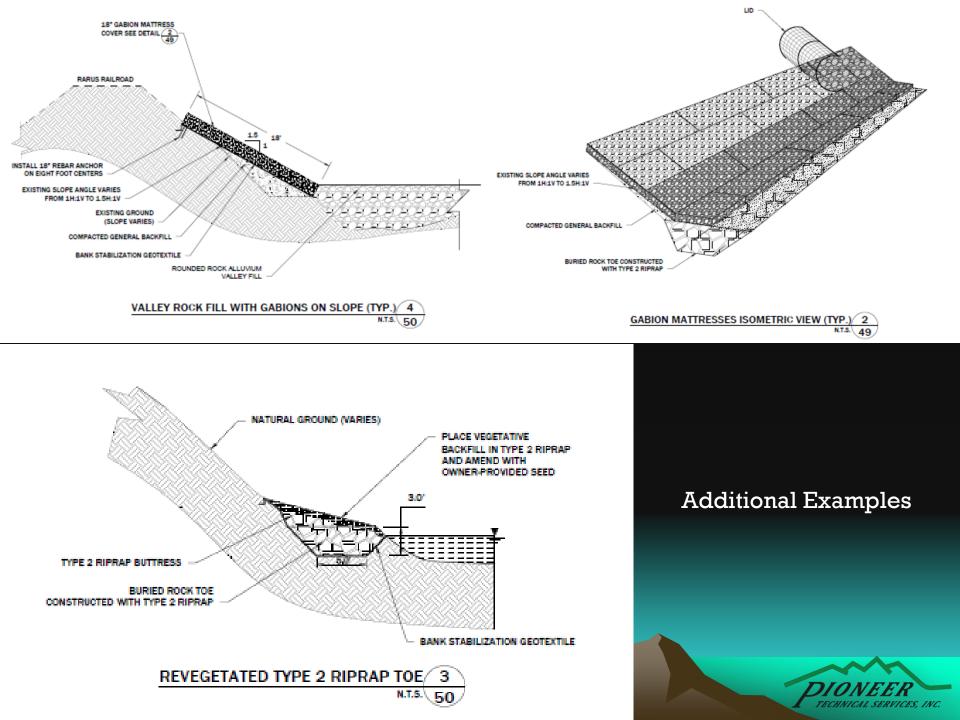
Embankment Treatment Measurement & Payment

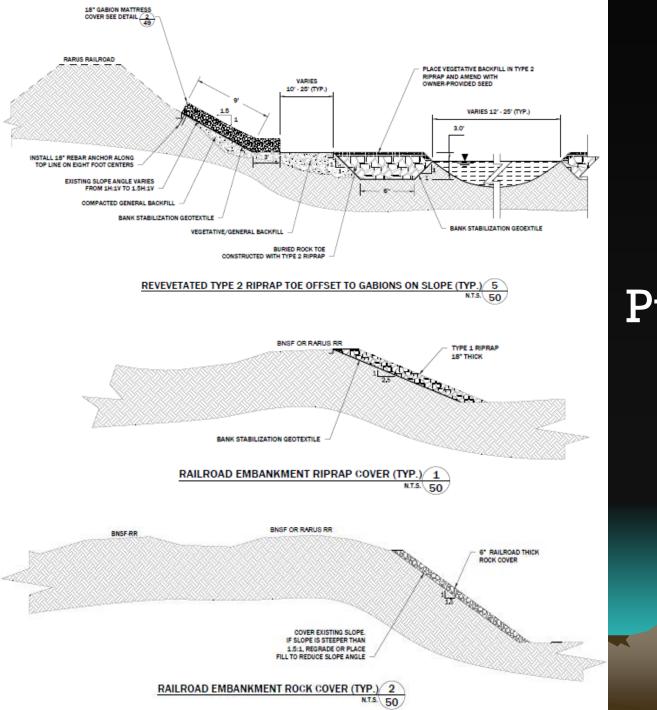


Pay on the "Plan" Area

19	RAILROAD EMBANKMENT TREATMENT				
19a	Type 1 Riprap	1,800	SY	\$ 19.00	\$ 34,200.00
19b	Type 2 Riprap	8,600	SY	\$ 42.00	\$ 361,200.00
19c	Revegetated Type 2 Riprap Toe	5,400	SY	\$ 55.00	\$ 297,000.00
19d	Bank Stabilization Geotextile	6,200	SY	\$ 2.00	\$ 12,400.00
19e	Install Owner-Provided 18-Inch Gabion Mattress with Fill	2,000	SY	\$ 42.00	\$ 84,000.00
19f	Procure and Install 18-Inch Gabion Mattresses with Fill	1,105	SY	\$ 60.00	\$ 66,300.00
19g	Compacted General Backfill	5,000	SY	\$ 12.00	\$ 60,000.00
19h	Railroad Embankment Rock Cover	5,500	SY	\$ 5.00	\$ 27,500.00
19i	Erosion Control Mat	2,170	SY	\$ 2.25	\$ 4,882.50

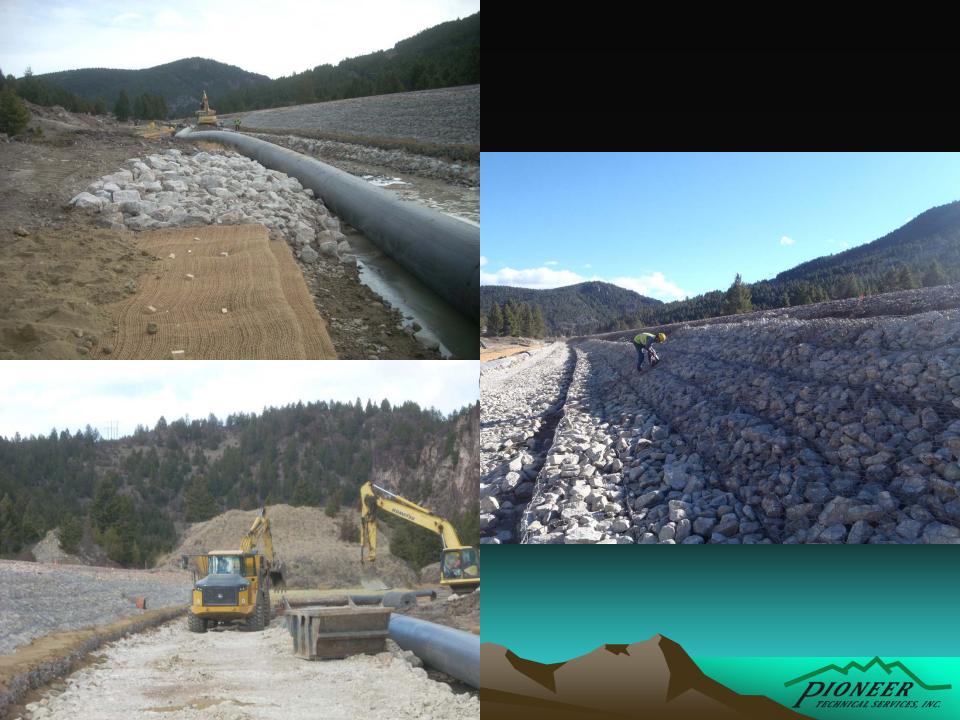




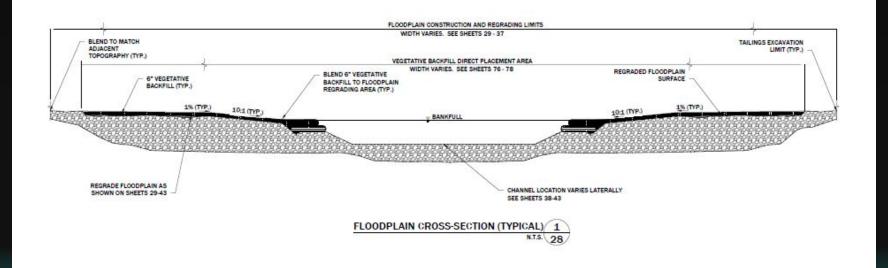


Puzzle Pieces





Lesson Learned – Floodplain Regrading

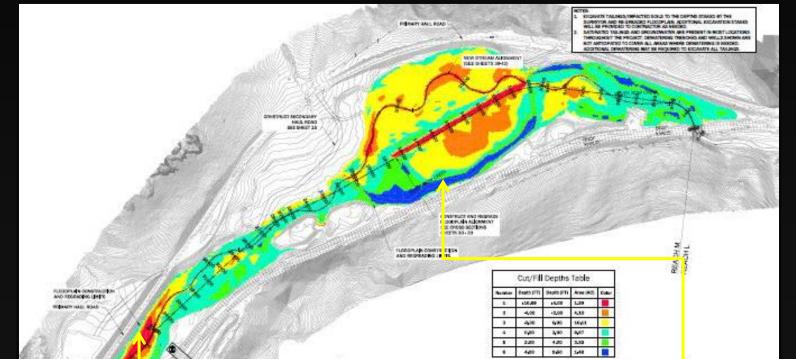


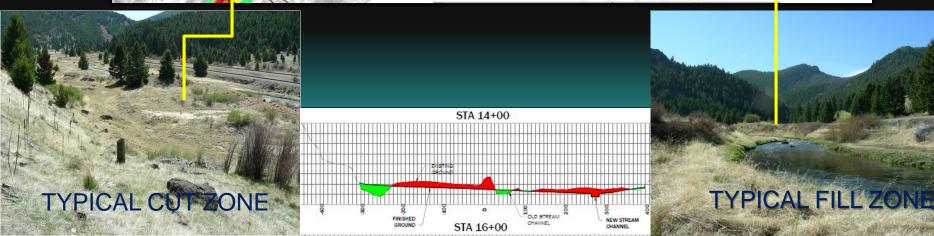


Reach M Tailings Area



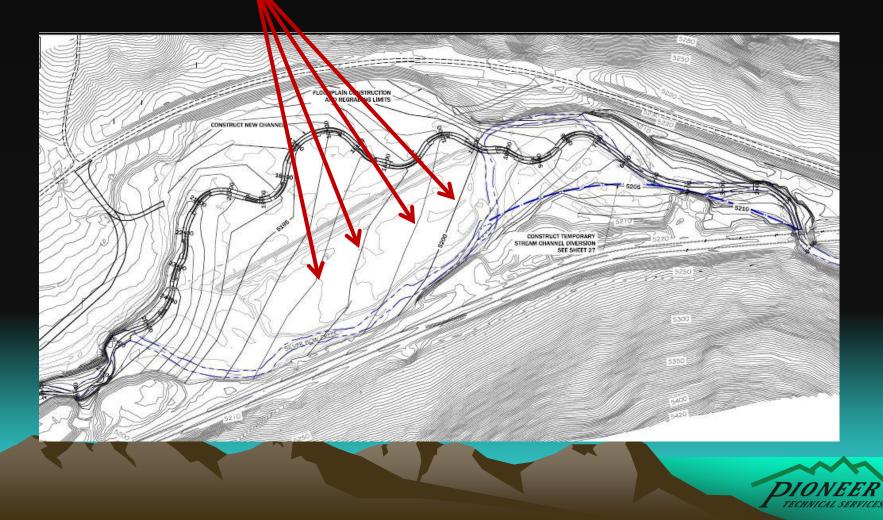
Floodplain Construction and Regrading (design approach)





Floodplain Construction

Note final contours and the objective to build topography



Floodplain Construction & Regrading With GPS Operations



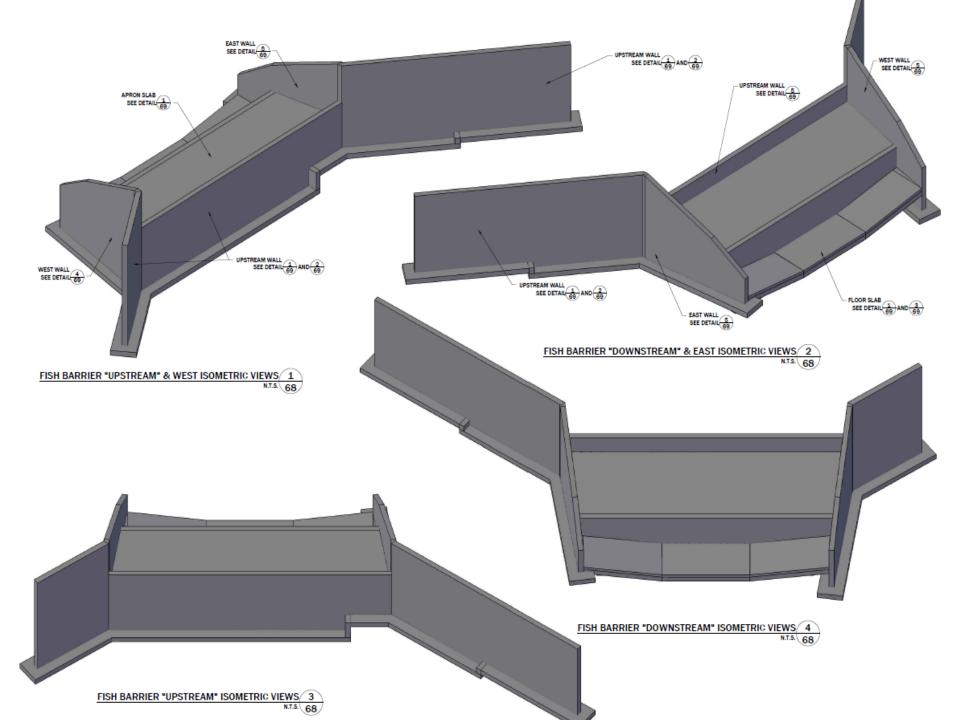
Fish Barrier Installation

- 55' Wide X 22' High
- Isolate Native Cutthroat Trout
- Maintain Sediment Transport
- Rock Fill volume 11,000 CY















Before, During, & After





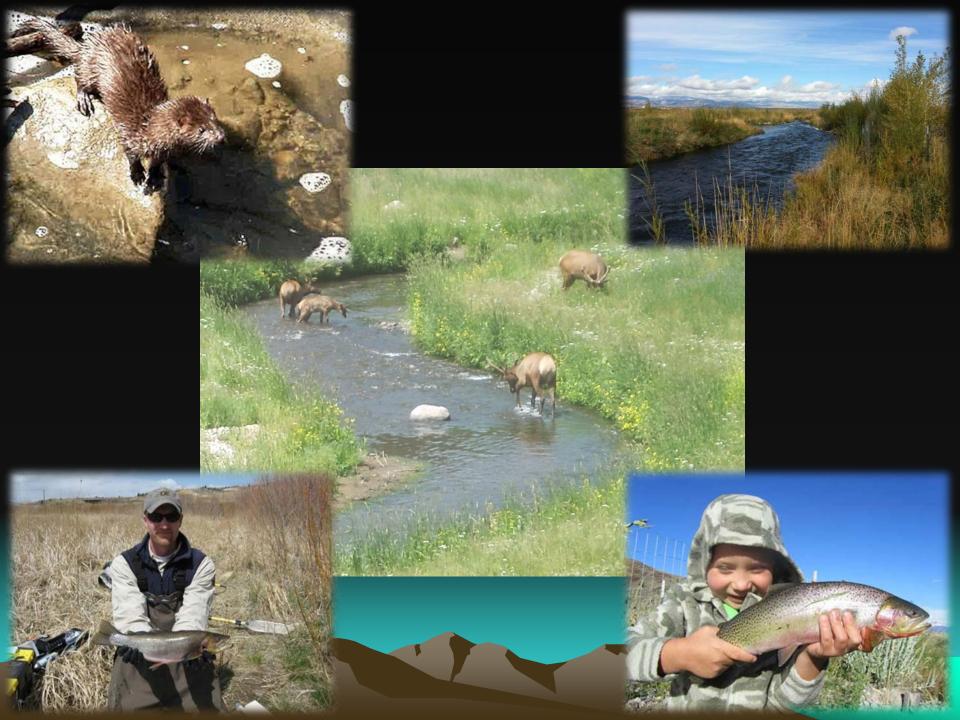












CONCLUSIONS

• TEAMWORK AMONGST ALL PARTIES IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS

YouTube – Pioneer Technical Services

