ALBERTA TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC CORRIDORS GEOHAZARD ASSESSMENT PROGRAM PEACE REGION – GRANDE PRAIRIE DISTRICT - NORTH 2024 INSPECTION



Site Number	Location	Name			H١	vy	km	
PH029	Grimms Creek	Old Site #4		68	2:02	13.54		
Legal Description		UTM Co-ordinates (NAD83)						
NW36-81-5-W6		11	Ν	6214740	Ε	397620)	

	Date	PF	CF	Total		
Previous Inspection:	May 30, 2023	12	5	60		
Current Inspection:	May 7, 2024	12	5	60		
Road AADT:	330		Year:	2023		
Inspected By:	Robert Senior, TECDon Proudfoot, ThurberRocky Wang, TECNicole Wilder, ThurberKen Szmata, TEC					
Report Prepared By:	Nicole Wilder, Don Proudfoot (Review)					
Report Attachments:	Photographs	⊠P	lans	□ Maintenance		

Primary Site Issue:	rimary Site Issue: On-going movement of the downstream embankment overtop of old (former) culvert location. Subsidence of the road requires contin patching, milling and paving.					
Dimensions:	Slide was about 60 m long by 100 m wide.					
Date of any remediation:Culvert was rerouted in 2009 by jack and drill. The old cul abandoned with partial grouting.						
Maintenance:	Semi-continuous milling, patching and crack sealing. Patched last in 2022 and milled on either end of patch and then placed a thin ACP overlay in 2023 and a new guardrail but left the old wooden posts in place.					
Observations:	Description	Worse?				
⊠ Pavement Distress	The old crack delineating the east edge of the slide scarp crossing the highway was not yet reflecting through the 2023 overlay but subsidence and dips are still noticeable in new guardrail as well . A large scarp crack previously appeared to be developing north of the highway (crossing the highway in two areas), and possibly joining the active slide area. There were no signs of this crack in the 2024 overlay but the road surface appeared to be undulating.					
⊠ Slope Movement	The downstream embankment over the old culvert continues to move slowly and more local slumping/retrogression appeared to be coalescing with the larger slide, which has retrogressed towards the highway. On the upstream side of the highway, the west hill is actively squeezing into the creek upstream of the culvert inlet.					
⊠ Erosion	NE ditch crotch erosion – detailed in PH067. SE ditch crotch - ~18m long x 0.5m deep x 0.5m wide There were 3 sinkholes observed south of the landslides south flank which were mostly unchanged in 2024.					
⊠ Seepage	The soil appeared to be slightly moist but mostly dry in the backscarp.					
Bridge/Culvert	Culvert outlet is still 2/3 full of sediment					

Instrumentation:

Last Read on May 25, 2024

Slope Inclinometers: SI-1: Sheared off at 14m depth in 2009 (Prev. movement zones at 11.5 to 16m). SI-2: 1.6 mm/yr over 2m to 14m; SI-3: No discernible movement; and SI-4: 8.1 mm/yr over 2 to 8m and 1.7 mm/yr @ 14m [between the old and new culvert alignments].

Piezometers: Water levels in PN-1 at 9.81 m BGS; PN-1A not operational; PN-2 at 9.22 m BGS; PN-2A at 4.88 m BGS; PN-3 at 0.85 m BGS; and PN-4 at 4.98 m BGS.

Assessment:

Movements were previously observed in the downstream embankment slope along the old culvert alignment. In 2024 they mainly appeared in similar condition as in 2023, and the rate of movement appears to have slightly decreased at SI-2 this year. Of the three remaining inclinometers, SI-2 near the west end of the site nearer to the highway is showing a decreased rate of movement, SI-3 in the flat area past the sideslope has never measured movement, and SI-4 between the new and old culverts near the highway is currently showing a very slight increase in movement rate.

The cracking and settlements previously observed have not yet reflected through the 2023 overlay. Three dips exist on or near the pavement at this site which appeared to be the same or slightly worse, giving the road its undulating appearance. One dip is over top of the new culvert and is anticipated to be due to settlement of the soil since it's installation in 2009. Two other dips exist about 70 m apart on the highway. The east dip previously contained a diagonal crack across the highway which has not reflected through the 2023 overlay but could be coincident with each end of a large scarp that is developing north of the highway, directly above the subsidence and connected to active sliding observed further downslope on the south embankment.

Upstream of the culvert inlet, a large active hillside slide is squeezing into the creek channel from the west side, which contained a shallower active block that has slid into the creek.

Recommendations:

Maintenance:

Continue to monitor, and seal/patch/mill the pavement crack and dips as required.

Clean the silt out of the new culvert outlet bowl to retain culvert capacity and to enhance water energy dissipation.

Long Term:

In order to curtail the increasing movements on the downstream embankment, it was proposed to flatten the slope further downslope into the old channel and construct a toe berm across it. Common fill for this repair could possibly be obtained from the ridge on the west side of the old channel.

Estimated Cost \$300,000.

During the 2023 geohazards year end meeting, it was emphasized that buttressing the valley should be the focus, while avoiding digging out/replacing the slumps. Perhaps a wall could be considered down in the narrow part of the gully that allows drainage to pass through.

Client: Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors File No.: 32123

Closure

It is a condition of this letter report that Thurber's performance of its professional services will be subject to the attached Statement of Limitations and Conditions.

Yours very truly, Thurber Engineering Ltd. Don Proudfoot, P.Eng. Principal | Senior Geotechnical Engineer

Nicole Wilder, M.Eng., P.Eng. Geotechnical Engineer



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PHOTOS



Photo 1. Looking west along the highway at where the highway was overlayed, note the dip in the guardrail. Photo credit: Don Proudfoot.



Photo 2. View of where the slide scarp crack was located looking east along the highway from near the west end of the north guardrail. Photo credit: Nicole Wilder.







Photo 3. Looking east along the highway at the west end of where the scarp crack was located but was overlayed. Photo credit: Nicole Wilder.



Photo 4. Looking east along the highway at where it was paved but you can see the dip in the guardrail. Photo credit: Don Proudfoot.



PHOTOS



Photo 5. Looking northwest towards the landslide and backscarp. Photo Credit: Don Proudfoot.



Photo 6. Looking north at slumping above the old culvert alignment on the south highway embankment. Photo Credit: Don Proudfoot.



PHOTOS



Photo 7. Looking southwest down at landslide mass. Photo Credit: Don Proudfoot.



Photo 8. Looking southeast up at the backscarp and flank of the landslide. Photo Credit: Don Proudfoot.