ALBERTA TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC CORRIDORS GEOHAZARD ASSESSMENT PROGRAM PEACE REGION (PEACE RIVER DISTRICT) **2024 INSPECTION**



Site Number	Location	Name	Hwy	km	
PH043	Daishowa East Hill	Diashowa Retaining Wall – Site A / Site B	986:01	33.45 – 33.74	
Legal Description		UTM Co-ordinates (NAD 83)			
NE7/NW8-85-20 W5M		11V E 491380	N 6246	6075	

	Date	PF	CF	Total	
	May 18, 2023	6	4	24 (Slide Risk Rating)	
Previous Inspection:	Site A – Pile Wall Site B	11	5	55 (Slide Risk Rating)	
	May 29, 2024	8	3	24 (Slide Risk Rating)	
Current Inspection:	Site A – Pile Wall Site B	11	5	55 (Slide Risk Rating)	
Road WAADT:	870		Year:	2023	
Inspected By:	Don Proudfoot, Tyler Clay, Cole Szakacs (Thurber). Rocky Wang, Robert Senior (TEC)				
Report Attachments:				☐ Maintenance	

	Site A – Pile Wall
Primary Site Issue:	Roadway constructed across major landslide. Embankment originally stabilized by diverting unnamed creek on north side of roadway through a culvert within toe berm constructed across valley bottom. Embankment failed up to roadway requiring installation of a cantilever pile wall in 2004. Shallow slumping has been ongoing below the wall subsequently. Culvert outlet also became unstable and was eroding/ 'head cutting' through toe berm.
Filliary Site issue.	Site B
	An unnamed creek was diverted through a culvert located under a toe berm downslope of the roadway embankment. The culvert was undersized to handle the spring runoff, which overflowed and eroded the west sideslope of the toe berm. Landslide movement in the natural creek valley severed the CPP downpipe near 33+850 which has since caused an erosion gully to form upslope of the culvert inlet area.
	Site A - Unstable roadway embankment was approximately 225 m in length. Distance from roadway to toe of slope approximately 110 m.
Dimensions:	Site B - Embankment is about 175 m long and extends 150 m below roadway to toe of slope
Date of any remediation:	2017-2019 - Mitigation measures involved construction of gabion drop structures and overflow channels at both sites to reduce rates of the creek erosion. At Site A the work also included the installation of a driven steel pile retaining wall to allow the construction of the drop structure; further regrading work across the embankment slope that slid during

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	construction; and the construction of an armored si erosion gully down the east edge (crotch) of the sideslope. At Site B the work also included construct repair an erosion gully down the east edge (crotch embankment sideslope and lining the highway ditch gabion mattress and ECM.	embank tion of a n) of the	ment fill swale to highway
Maintenance:			
Observations:	Description:	Worsened? Yes No	
☐ Pavement			
	During mitigation work in 2017/2018 a slide was initiated within the lower slope near the new drop structure that was mitigated via a driven steel pile wall. There is shallow slide activity with ongoing movement within the disturbed slide mass and minor retrogression and expansion downslope of the west end of the older buried tangent pile wall. (Photo 43-02) Previous cracking further east from this area have been graded during the mitigation work and appeared in good condition. No evidence of slope movement was observed upslope of the buried pile wall. (Photo 43-04) Tension cracks potentially related to sliding downslope and towards the east crotch riprap swale (near damaged section) had no change in offset between the installed lath stakes from the 2022 condition, measuring 1.16 m offset to the outside bottom of the stakes. This feature may be a result of erosion instead of slope movement. (Photo 43-08) Site B Sliding is ongoing within the erosion gully at the broken CPP down pipe near 33+850. (Photo 43-16) A new surficial slide developed near the upper slope adjacent to the swale (33+825) that was identified during the July 2024 callout.		
⊠ Erosion	Site A Rill erosion upslope from the steel pile wall was slightly deeper relative to the 2023 condition. (Photo 43-01) At the culvert inlet (33+500) the south channel bank erosion was slightly worse with expansion of the erosion and additional riprap fallen away. (Photo 43-06) The swale riprap at the east end of Site A with erosion damage from a 2019/2020 high flow event		

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	had increased damage, gullying was deeper and wider. (Photo 43-07) Site B Rills were slightly worse between the road and north ditch gabion armour at km 34+000 (Photo 43-20). South ditch erosion has an expanded gully (1.2 m wide, 0.7 m deep) in area with previous erosion that vegetated between approximately 34+150 and 33+900. (Photo 43-19) Previous area of erosion rills at top of embankment at the east end of the site has been graded and TRM installed. TRM appears effective in reducing rill erosion development. Limited vegetation growth within the upper road embankment likely due to sand and salt runoff from winter road maintenance. At end of TRM section at west end of site rill erosion looked similar to the 2023 condition. (Photos 43-09 and 43-14) Increased gully erosion was noted near the outlet of the CPP down pipe (33+800) due to a leaking joint caused by a local landslide movement. Further upslope from the CPP down pipe outlet is an additional break in the pipe that has resulted in large erosion gully developing (2 m wide, 1.4 m deep) offset approximately 200 m from the highway.	
50	(Photo 43-16)	
□Seepage	Site A Gabion drop structure had minor increase in silt buildup at the base within the dissipation bowl (Photo 43-03). Culvert inlet is damaged and eroded causing water to flow under the base and come in at a joint (Photo 43-06).	
⊠ Bridge/Culvert	Site B Culvert inlet at 33+800 is still damaged from high flow event and has severely reduced flow capacity. Additional riprap above the inlet had collapsed above it and slid down burying it (Photos 43-15). Piping erosion has formed a void in the previously damaged area and location where culvert joint and grouting repairs were made, at the gabion drop structure. The gabion baskets and mattresses in the bottom part of the drop structure have settled and tilted around the area of damage. There was an expansion of the erosion damage around the north	

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	side of the drop structure and baskets were slightly more deformed (Photos 43-10 and 43-11).	
	No significant beaver activity noted at the creek between Sites A and B.	
⊠ Other	Additional woody debris buildup upslope of the Site B culvert inlet, indicative of flooding during high flow conditions. (Photo 43-15)	

Instrumentation:

Site A Spring 2024 measurements:

Slope inclinometers SI-4, SI-5 and SI-6 are located east of the wall and the main slide block. All three SI's have shown a consistent rate of movement trend, however the shallow movement zones in SI-5 and SI-6 show some acceleration in movement since the spring of 2023 readings. Current movement rates are between 5 to 10 mm/yr in the upper 6 m. Cumulative resultant movements range between approximately 30 mm and 200 mm.

Buried Tangent Pile Wall

- SI04-1 7.0 mm/yr between 0.1 m to 2.6 m (136 mm cumulative above wall), 3.1 mm/yr over the length of pile (66 mm cumulative within wall).
- SI04-3 showed a rate of movement of 16.1 mm/yr over 0.1 to 1.4 m depth since the spring of 2023 readings and a rate of movement of 4.1 mm/yr over the length of the pile (110 mm cumulative within wall).
- There has been an increased movement rate trend within the upper 2 m of the wall since a landslide occurred downslope of the wall during erosion mitigation construction in 2017/2018.

Upslope of roadway

SI03-6 - Creep (< 1.0 mm/yr) over 4.7 m to 6.0 m depth.

Groundwater

Groundwater elevation trend has been consistent since 2008 between 4 m and 7 m depth.

Site B Spring 2024 measurements:

- SI-7 No discernible movement measured.
- SI-8 –5.7 mm/yr over 0.3 m to 1.5 m depth (approximately 80 mm of cumulative moment since 1996), creep (< 1.0 mm/yr) over 1.5 m to 4.0 m depth.
- SI-9 –10.9 mm/yr over 0.3 m to 2.7 m depth (approximately 130 mm of cumulative moment since 1996).
- An accelerating movement trend has been observed in the last 3 reading sets for SI's 8 and 9.

Assessment (Refer to Drawings PH043-1 to PH043-3):

Note that following the May 29, 2024 site inspection a high-flow event occurred in July 2024 that resulted in significant erosion damage within the valley bottom (primarily at the Site B drop structure). Thurber performed a callout inspection on July 18, 2024 to document the damage from the high flow event that was submitted to TEC on September 30, 2024. The callout report should be referenced for updated site conditions and, maintenance and repair recommendations.

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Site A - Pile Wall:

Pile wall appears to be limiting sliding of area upslope of the wall and is protecting the west portion of Site A embankment. The erosion repair work has reinforced the embankment toe and is expected to reduce the rate of soil loss from this area and the potential of destabilizing the upper embankment slope.

Slide activity in the lower part of the valley slope that was initiated during construction was mitigated via driven steel piles which appear effective in limiting new slide development. Instruments at the existing buried tangent pile wall indicated a trend of increased movement rates since construction. There is ongoing slide activity directly below the west end of the old wall, but it appears relatively shallow and not currently a direct threat to the highway. The embankment above the old pile wall has not exhibited signs of slide movement and slide related pavement damage has not been observed. The apparent tension slide crack adjacent to the swale should be monitored for movement; however, the feature may also be due to erosion.

Erosion and sedimentation buildup was observed around the new erosion mitigation structures. Maintenance work is required around the culvert inlet. The east crotch swale riprap is no longer effective and should be rebuilt to prevent expansion of the erosion damage. Due to the gradient in this area, either angular riprap or anchored gabion mattress will be required.

Site B:

The culvert and erosion control mitigation work should reinforce the embankment toe and reduce rates of soil loss from this area and the potential of destabilizing the upper embankment slope. Current erosion control measures appear mostly effective in controlling drainage at the site with the exception of the lower embankment culvert inlet (33+800) which has become damaged apparently during a high flow event. The culvert inlet requires repairs to restore full drain capacity. The end slope of the inlet should be cut steeper and shorter and lined with a stronger SWSP (with concrete collar) to resist hydraulic uplift forces. The riprap around the culvert needs to be reconfigured and should be "benched" into the slope as is practical to reduce displacement and sliding. The CPP downpipe requires replacement and realignment, which was caused by a local landslide in the lower valley slope. The gully erosion upslope occurring downslope from the break will continue to retrogress upslope towards the highway and could initiate deeper instabilities.

During the spring of 2018 a sinkhole developed beside the lower portion of the drop structure, caused by water flowing under pressure from a separated joint in the underlying C.S.P. culvert creating a subsurface void. The void was grouted, and the sinkhole backfilled, however distortions to the overlying gabion baskets/mattresses remain. It is believed the outlet of the C.S.P., which sits in the flow dissipation bowl, froze underwater and that the pressurized water eroded the sinkhole out the side of the pipe and drop structure. During the 2023 inspection further void formation as a result of piping erosion was observed to occur and cause displacement of the gabion drop structure and ongoing erosion damage. Repair of this area is required to prevent further damage to the drop structure and proper culvert function. The disturbed soils could be removed and then the sink hole and related erosion gully beside the gabion wall could be backfilled with Class 1M riprap over geotextile and armoured at the top with Class 1 riprap. The side of the gabion drop structure wall could be pushed back into vertical orientation as is practically possible during the riprap backfill activity. Maintenance and cleaning of the outlet to limit sediment and ice buildup prior to spring thaw will be critical to limit potential water backup and further damage. Consideration should be given to bypassing the compromised culvert joint by inserting a new internal reline pipe (e.g., expandable "slipline" or similar) and grouting the annulus between the pipes. Alternatively, an internal band could be applied across the damaged joint using a combination of gaskets and sealing materials. Further pressure grouting would also be beneficial to reinforce the void area around the joint and limit further disturbance to the drop structure.

The current instrumentation indicates shallow movement (less than 3 m depth) at slow and steady rates (<10 mm/yr). No visual indicators of landslide movement are apparent on the slope. The SI closest to the highway (SI-7) has not measured movement.

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Recommendations:

Monitoring:

Annual inspections should continue with the next inspection occurring in the Spring of 2025. Biannual instrument readings should continue.

Maintenance:

- Sediment buildup within the dissipation bowls of both drop structures should be cleaned out.
- The outlet of the Site B drop structure should be carefully cleared of excess ice and the outlet of the CSP steamed open in early Spring to limit further sinkhole expansion and damage.
- Remove sand accumulation from side of roadway which is causing channelization of surface runoff on embankments and highway ditch.

Short-term Measures (repair work is prioritized in terms of urgency with "1" being lowest priority and "5" as the highest priority):

- •
- (4) Site B- drop structure erosion repair. The disturbed soils outside the drop structure wall should be excavated and backfilled with Class 1M riprap placed over non-woven geotextile. Class 1 rock should be placed as armour cover and to reinforce the toe of the backfilled zone. (\$150k)
- (4) Site A repair of the armored swale. Existing rock should be salvaged and used with additional imported material to line the armored swale with gabion mattress anchored at intervals to the slope. Swale alignment improvements should also be made (reduction of super elevation in the upper curve) and a cross berm should be added near the top to divert highway runoff into the swale. (\$45k)
- (4) Site B replace culvert inlet at km 33+800 within valley bottom. Replace with concrete faced headwall and rebuild embankment slope. The new inlet should comprise a liner with SWSP. Additional rip should be added and shaped around the reinforced headwall. (\$85k)
- (4) Site A replacement of the damaged culvert inlet with a stronger SWSP with steeper end bevel. The new culvert should be grouted into the existing CSP. Additional Class 2 riprap should be added and shaped to better funnel water into the inlet. (\$30k)
- (3) Site B replace CPP down pipe severed by landslide. Replace with welded HDPE pipe seated below ground to new Big-O jointed pipe and regrade slope. Run a new Big-O pipe at surface to the creek along a shifted alignment outside of unstable slope area. (\$125k)
- (3) Site A repair south channel bank erosion near the culvert inlet and toe of the armored swale.
 The disturbed soils should be excavated and backfilled with gravel over non-woven geotextile.
 Additional Class 2 riprap should be added over the bank and blended into the toe of the armored drainage swale. (\$25k)
- (2) Site B repair erosion in south ditch and armor similar to north ditch with TRM and gabion mattress in section with gradient above 5%. Backslope could be used as borrow source to fill gullies. Estimate length of repair section is between 250 m to 300 m in order to extend the armoured section to the culvert inlet. (\$85k)
- (1) Site B -repair erosion rills on north sideslopes above gabion mattress in ditch. Grade and line with TRM and composite rolls. (\$15k)
- (1) Site A fill erosion gully with rock above pile wall at outlet drop structure. (\$5k)

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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.

Don Proudfoot, P.Eng. Principal | Senior Geotechnical Engineer

Tyler Clay, P.Eng. Geological Engineer

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2. COMPLETE REPORT

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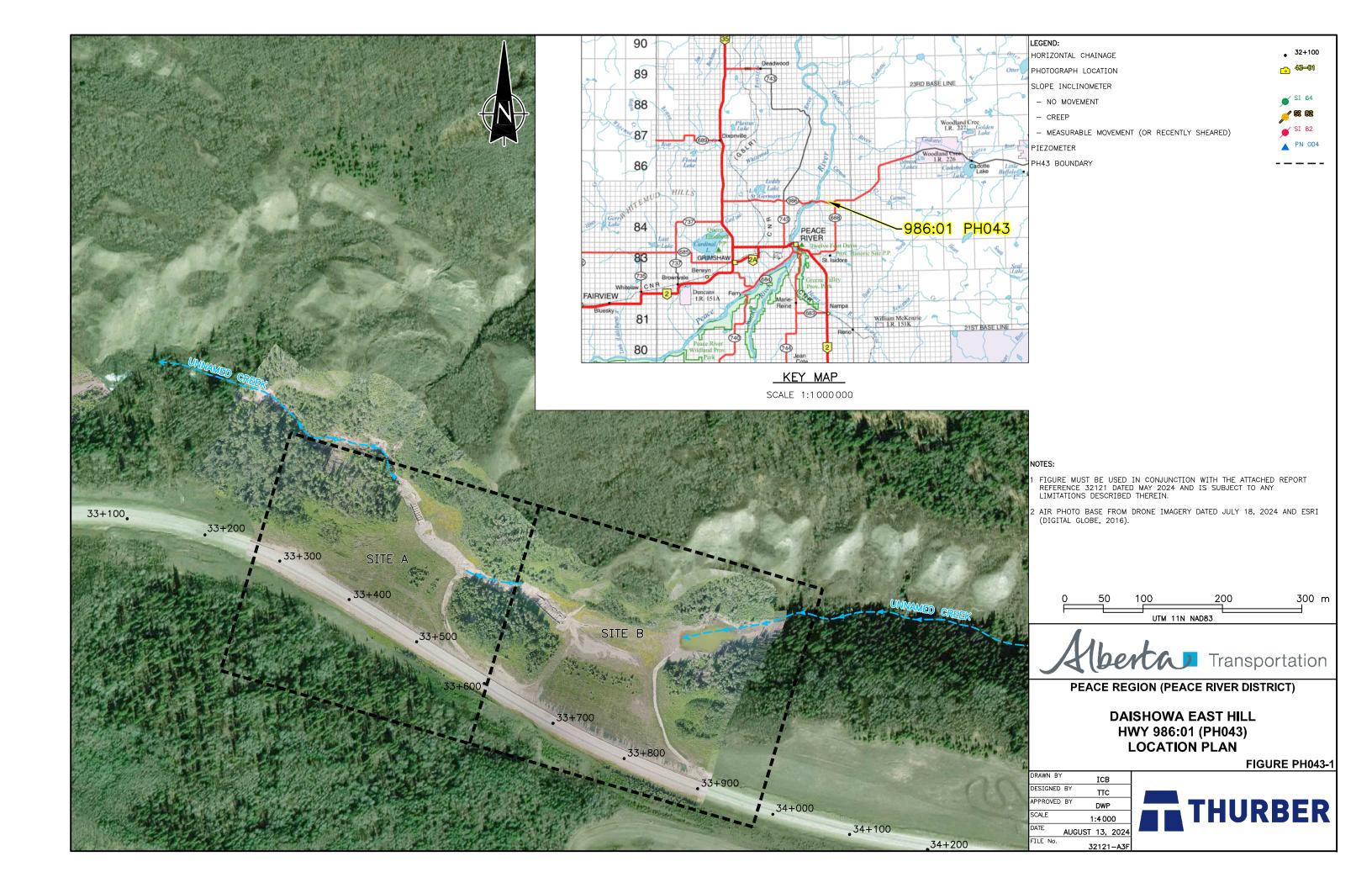
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- b) Reliance on Provided Information: The evaluation and conclusions contained in the Report have been prepared on the basis of conditions in evidence at the time of site inspections and on the basis of information provided to Thurber. Thurber has relied in good faith upon representations, information and instructions provided by the Client and others concerning the site. Accordingly, Thurber does not accept responsibility for any deficiency, misstatement or inaccuracy contained in the Report as a result of misstatements, omissions, misrepresentations, or fraudulent acts of the Client or other persons providing information relied on by Thurber. Thurber is entitled to rely on such representations, information and instructions and is not required to carry out investigations to determine the truth or accuracy of such representations, information and instructions.
- c) Design Services: The Report may form part of design and construction documents for information purposes even though it may have been issued prior to final design being completed. Thurber should be retained to review final design, project plans and related documents prior to construction to confirm that they are consistent with the intent of the Report. Any differences that may exist between the Report's recommendations and the final design detailed in the contract documents should be reported to Thurber immediately so that Thurber can address potential conflicts.
- d) Construction Services: During construction Thurber should be retained to provide field reviews. Field reviews consist of performing sufficient and timely observations of encountered conditions in order to confirm and document that the site conditions do not materially differ from those interpreted conditions considered in the preparation of the report. Adequate field reviews are necessary for Thurber to provide letters of assurance, in accordance with the requirements of many regulatory authorities.

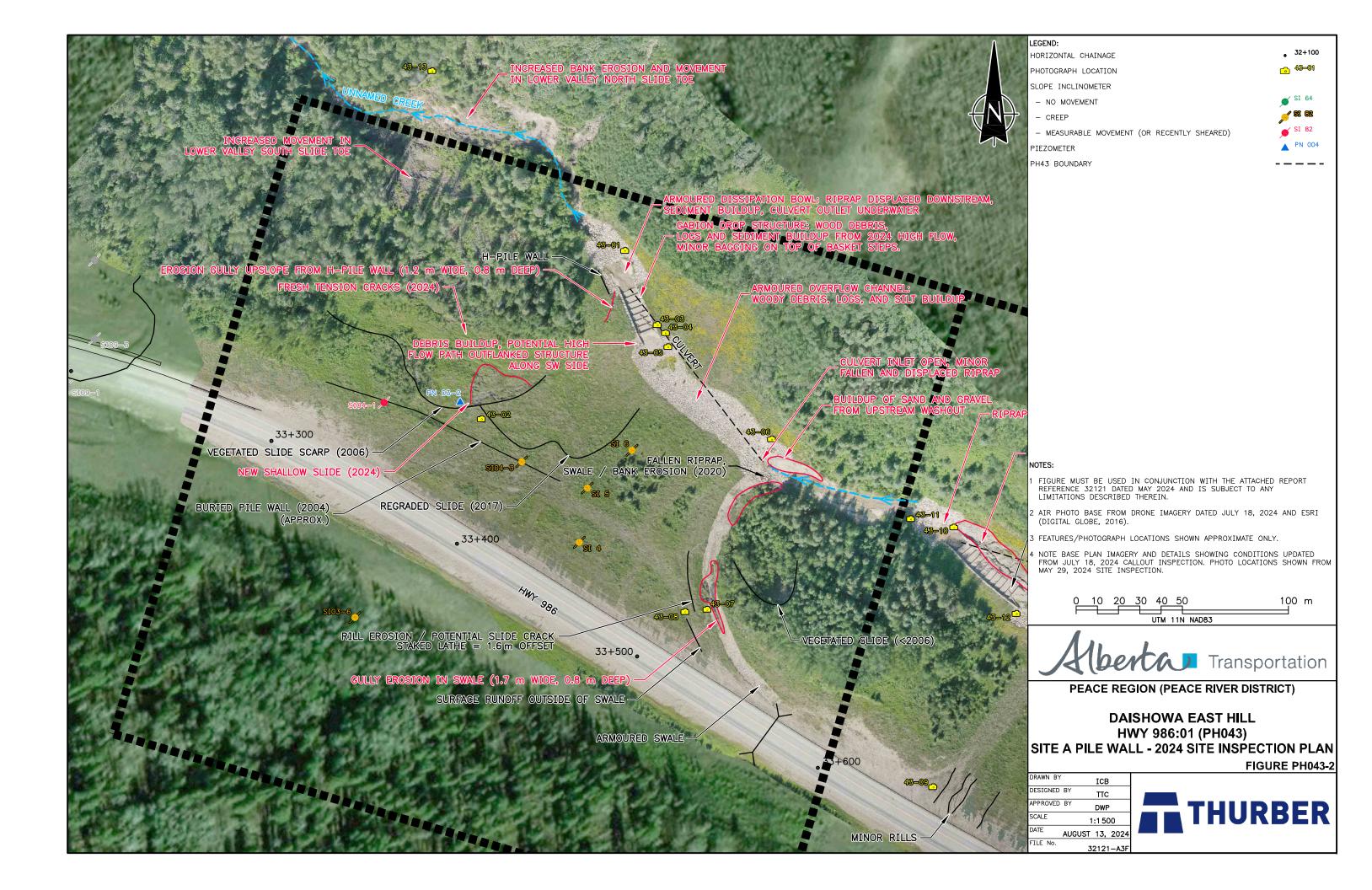
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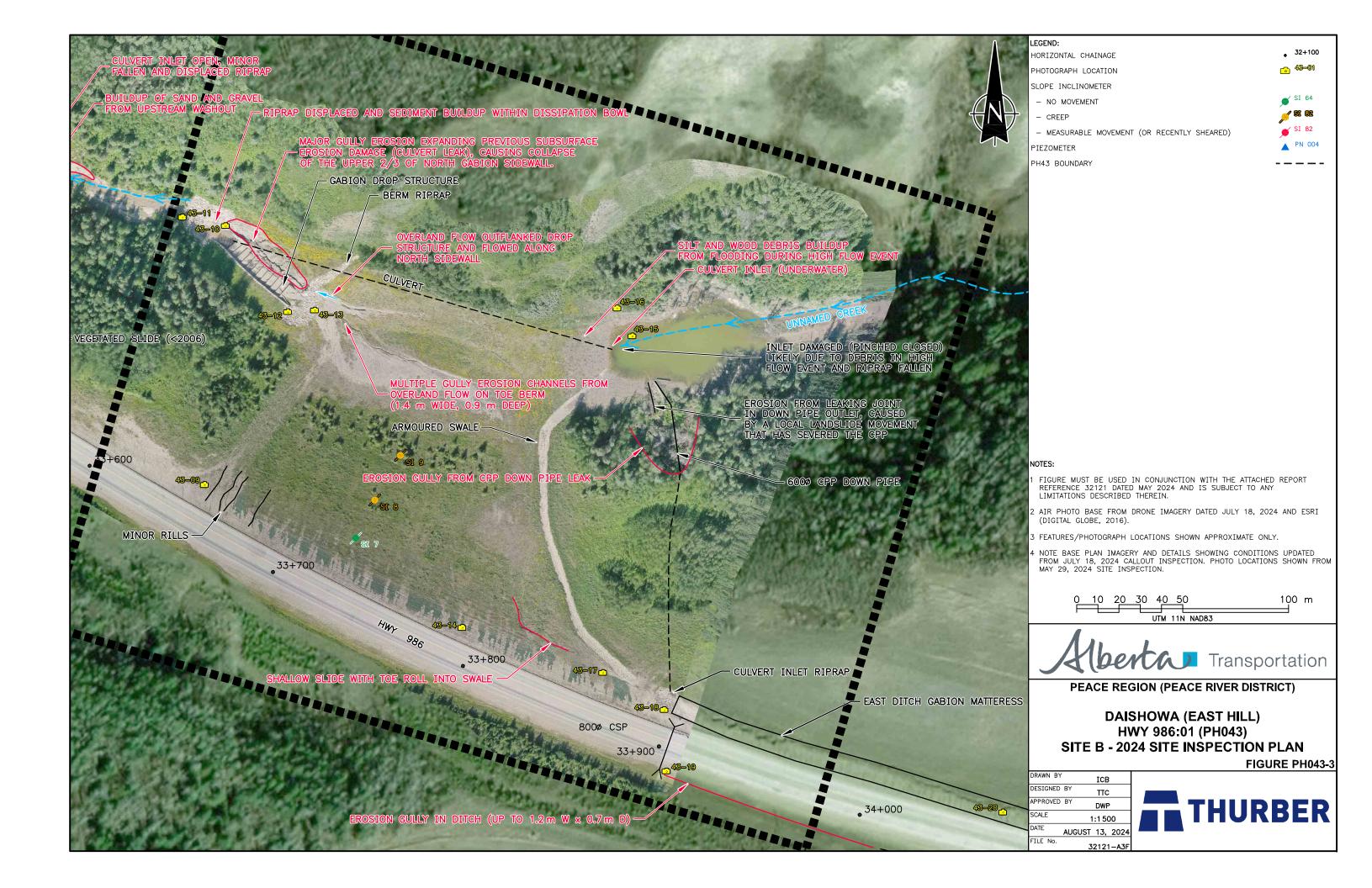








Photo 43-01. Looking towards the southeast (upstream) at the Site A gabion drop structure. No major change from 2023 condition. Rill erosion on the right side of the photo above the steel pile wall was slightly worse.



Photo 43-02. Main slide scarp of active shallow failure downslope of the buried pile wall (33+325) first observed in 2017. Area is vegetated but appears there is active movement within the disturbed slide mass. No scarp retrogression since 2023.







Photo 43-03.

Overflow gabion drop structure and dissipation bowl at the previous culvert outlet that had extensive erosion and gullying below Site A (33+430). Some rill erosion was noted within the fill areas that were still vegetating.
Dissipation bowl at base of drop structure had a large amount of silt buildup. Minor change from 2023 condition.



Photo 43-04.

Looking south at the area of previous slumping associated with culvert erosion below pile wall and regraded slide during construction in 2017 (33+430). Area has since revegetated following grading of the construction access. No change from 2023 condition.

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Photo 43-05. Site A - Standing at the top of the gabion drop structure looking southeast towards the rock washout and gully erosion in the armoured swale near 33+525. Erosion was worse from 2023. Armoured overflow channel in the valley bottom was in good condition.



Photo 43-06.

Site A - Looking south towards the culvert inlet riprap, riprap swale, and debris deflector (33+500). Note south channel bank erosion and fallen riprap. Slightly worse from the 2023 condition. Culvert inlet was damaged and eroded, causing water to flow under the base and come in at a joint.



PHOTOS



Photo 43-07.
Site A - looking north, downslope towards washed out riprap and extensive erosion damage within the riprap swale at the east side of Site A (33+500), likely the result of a high-flow event in 2019/2020. Deeper and expanded erosion damage since 2023.



PHOTOS



Photo 43-08. Looking towards the north at survey lath stakes installed in 2023 to monitor a potential tension crack related to potential downslope movement towards the swale washout and erosion area (km 33+500). The offset between the outside base of the stakes measured 1.16 m and did not increase relative to the previous measurement. Feature could be result of erosion.







Photo 43-09. Looking east from the top of the Site B highway embankment. Minor rill erosion within top of embankment where TRM ends. No significant change from the 2023 condition.



Photo 43-10. Site B- view east from the base of the gabion drop structure and riprap dissipation bowl at the culvert outlet (33+600). Additional erosion expansion and gabion deformation due to piping erosion from leak in the culvert joint (left

side).







Photo 43-11.
Site B- view of the gabion drop structure and riprap dissipation bowl at the culvert outlet (33+600).
Additional sediment buildup in dissipation bowl.



Photo 43-12.
Site B- view
northeast from the
top of the gabion
drop structure the
culvert outlet in the
valley bottom
(33+600). Top of
structure appeared in
good condition with
no major change
from the 2023
condition.







Photo 43-13.
Site B- view east at upstream of the gabion drop structure with riprap berm at west end of overland flow toe berm (33+625). No change from 2023 condition.



Photo 43-14.
Looking east towards the TRM installation on the upper portion of the slope north of the road (33+800). Limited vegetation growth within the upper road embankment likely due to sand and salt runoff from winter road maintenance.







Photo 43-15.

Damage around culvert inlet due to a high flow event in 2021/2022. Culvert pipe at the inlet was effectively pinched and twisted shut and was filled with woody debris. Additional riprap above the inlet has collapsed and buried it. Additional woody debris buildup. Repairs required in this area (33+800).



Photo 43-16.

Looking south towards the outlet of the CPP down pipe near the culvert inlet (33+850). Gully erosion was noted to be occurring upslope from the pipe outlet due to a leaking joint that requires repair. Increased gully erosion was noted on the right side of the pipe. Large gully erosion headwall developing upslope in the trees and sliding of gully sidewalls. Expanded erosion since 2023.



PHOTOS



Photo 43-17. Looking northwest from the top of Site B towards the armored swale and overland flow area (33+875). No changes from the 2023 condition.



Photo 43-18. View of culvert inlet and riprap protection near 33+900 on north side of road. No visible changes from the 2023 condition.

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Photo 43-19.
Looking upslope
(east) at the south
ditch erosion where a
gully has developed
(up to 1.2 m wide,
0.7 m deep) between
approximately
33+900 and 34+150.
Erosion has become
deeper and wider
since 2023.



Photo 43-20.
Rill erosion between the road and north ditch gabion armour (km 34+000) was slightly worse compared to the 2023 condition. TRM should be added to reduce rates of

erosion.