

Transportation

SOUTHERN REGION GRMP SITE INSPECTION FORM



SITE NUMBER AND NAME:	HIGHWAY & KM:	PREVIOUS	INSPECTION DATE:	
S052 Nelson Creek	22:08, 34.25	INSPECTION DATE:	July 7, 2020	
		June 1, 2017	oaly :, 2020	
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:	NAD 83 COORDINATES:	RISK ASSESMENT:		
10-14-013-02 W5M	UTM Northing Easting	PF: 5 CF: 2 TO	TAL: 10	
	11 5552067 702482			
AVERAGE ANNUAL DAILY TR	RAFFIC (AADT):	CONTRACTOR MAINTENANCE AREA (CMA):		
2,740 (north), 2,740 (south), (F	Ref. No. 77090)	27		

SUMMARY OF SITE INSTRUMENTATION:

None

INSPECTED BY: Chris Morgan (KCB) Margot Lederman (KCB) Kristen Tappenden (AT) Alex Frotten (AT)

LAST READING DATE: N/A

PRIMARY SITE ISSUE: Pavement deformation caused by bearing capacity failure of embankment with deformation towards west. There may be a frost heave component to the pavement deformations.

APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: Embankment is 3 to 4 m high with slopes of 3H:1V on the east side and 4H:1V on the west side.

DATE OF ANY REMEDIAL ACTION: French drains were installed about 10 to 15 years ago on both sides of the embankment over a length of approximately 180 m. A new pavement patch was completed in 2017.

A pavement overlay was underway at the time of the 2020 site visit and construction included regrading the ditch on the east side of the highway.

ITEM	CONDITION EXISTS		DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION	NOTICABLE CHANGE FROM LAST INSPECTION	
	YES	NO			NO
Pavement Distress		Х	None visible. Overlay completed in mid 2020.	Х	
Slope Movement		х	Prior to overlay, slope movement was most pronounced on the west slope, and the head scarp extended across the centreline into northbound lane. No cracking or slope movement was visible due to the overlay in progress.		х
Erosion		х	Topsoil stripping and slope regrading was ongoing at the time of the site visit. The slopes are not vegetated.		х
Seepage	х		Visible seepage and saturated ground midway down the east and west embankment side slopes. Potentially more visible because all vegetation has been stripped. No visible discharge from the French drains.	х	
Culvert Distress		Х	Condition of existing 36" CSP culvert unknown.		Х



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COMMENTS

Site was repaved in mid 2020 and slope regrading / ditch cleanout was ongoing at the time of the site visit.

Exposed soil at the base of the ditch is silty, sandy, very wet, and soft. The failure mechanism at this site could be a bearing capacity failure, exacerbated by frost heaving.

A toe roll had previously been observed in the west ditch but appeared to have been regraded during the embankment topsoil stripping.

French drains appear to be designed to dewater to embankment but there is no record of construction. Photos from the previous site visit in 2017 show the French drains to be directly beneath the pavement surface and they do not extend to the embankment toe. In 2020, the drains were measured to extend approximately 4 m down the slope (from the pavement edge), with each drain approximately 2.1 m wide.

Seepage and saturated ground was noted along the lower half of the east and west embankment slopes. Seepage was more evident on the west side and more extensive in the southern portion of the site. Seepage areas were estimated to cover approximately 40% of the west slope and 20% of the east slope.

Prior to 2017, the ditch had been deepened to a depth of 2.5 to 3 m with steepening of the east embankment slope and construction of a narrow bottom width for the ditch (2 m). The ditch drains towards the north until a grade change at the base of the ditch prevents water from reaching the culvert.

At the time of the 2020 site visit, the ditch grade was unchanged and standing water was present in the ditch.

Pavement overlay work included topsoil stripping, and the embankment side slopes had been track-packed parallel to the highway. Near-surface desiccation cracking was noted along the freshly exposed earth fill side slopes.

A file review should be conducted to obtain available background information (e.g. 1987 borehole data, construction and maintenance records, highway grade line drawings). Depending on the availability of background data, a geotechnical investigation should be conducted with instrumentation to assess groundwater level, depth of movement, and depth of frost penetration (piezometers, inclinometers, and ground temperature cables).

Depending on the findings of the geotechnical investigation and instrumentation monitoring, the method of repair may include an H-pile wall, one or more drains, a gravel shear key and toe berm, a geosynthetic reinforced slope, and, if frost heaving is an issue, replacement of frost susceptible fill with non-frost susceptible fill or place insulation.





Photo 1 Highway overlay paving work and embankment regrading in progress. Photo taken facing south on July 7, 2020.



Photo 2 West slope has been stripped and regraded as part of ongoing highway overlay project. Photo taken facing south along the west side on July 7, 2020.





Photo 3 Seepage and saturated ground on the west slope. Photo taken facing north along the west side on July 7, 2020.



Photo 4 Seepage and saturated ground on the east slope. Standing water in the ditch due to poor grading of the ditch. Photo taken facing north on July 7, 2020.



