

SOUTHERN REGION GRMP SITE INSPECTION FORM



SITE NUMBER AND NAME:		HIGHWAY & KM:	PREVIOUS	INSPECTION DATE:	
S057 Exshaw Rockfall, Site	s A & B	1A:02 km 12.034	INSPECTION DATE:	May 17, 2022	
			July 6, 2020	y ,	
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:	NAD 83 COO	RDINATES:	RISK ASSESMENT:		
13-22-24-09 W5M	UTM North	hing Easting	Site A: PF: 11 CF:	2 TOTAL: 22	
	11 5658	8509 627178	Site B: PF: 12 CF:	3 TOTAL: 36	
AVERAGE ANNUAL DAILY	FRAFFIC:	CONTRACTOR MAINTENANCE AREA (CMA):			
844 (west) & 770 (east) (Refe	erence No. 5010	27			

SUMMARY OF SITE INSTRUMENTATION:

There is no instrumentation at the S057 site.

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LAST READING DATE: N/A

PRIMARY SITE ISSUE: Two rock cut slopes with bedding planes dipping towards the highway. The sites have shallow to non-existent catchment ditches and rockfalls can reach the highway.

APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: Site A – approximately 210 m long and up to 15 m high; Site B – approximately 300 m long and up to 12 m high.

DATE OF ANY REMEDIAL ACTION: N/A

ITEM	CONDITION EXISTS		DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION	NOTICABLE CHANGE FROM LAST INSPECTION	
	YES	NO			NO
Pavement Distress		Х	N/A – none observed		Х
Slope Movement		Х	Bedrock slopes with ongoing rockfall into the existing shallow catchment ditches.		х
Erosion		Х	N/A – none observed		Х
Seepage		Х	N/A – none observed		х
Culvert Distress		Х	N/A – none observed		Х
Rockfall	Х		Recent rockfalls up to 3.5 m ³ contained within the ditch		Х
COMMENTS					

General:

- The existing shallow ditches at both sites appear to be effective but should be cleaned out regularly.
- A utility box was noted on the north side of the road, with utility cables running along the ditch.





Site A (km 12.52 to km 12.34):

- The bedrock is sedimentary (limestone or siltstone) with open joints and visible bedding planes (dipping towards the highway at approximately 40°) (Photo 1). There is the potential for sliding failure but unlikely to rebound onto the road.
- The ditch is relatively flat and rockfall debris (up to boulders in size) were observed in the ditch. The larger debris (boulders) were observed during the 2020 inspection (Photo 2).
- Fresh (i.e., unweathered) rockfall debris (up to 0.70 m x 0.30 m x 0.50 m) were noted in the ditch, suggesting rockfalls are ongoing. Multiple rocks with open fractures were noted at the brow of the rock slope.
- No significant changes were observed at the site during the 2022 inspection.

Site B (km 12.26 to km 11.91):

- Bedrock is sedimentary and similar to Site A (limestone or siltstone) with open joints and visible bedding planes (dipping towards the highway at approximately 50°), mid-sized blocks visible with potential to roll onto the road. The bedrock at the northwest end of Site B is highly fractured and has irregular bedding (Photo 3). At the east end the bedrock is massive and less fractured. Subrounded rocks were observed to be weathering out of the soil mantle at the brow of the slope during the inspection. Root jacking due to the presence of trees and shrubs may be contributing to additional rockfalls.
- Ditch is relatively flat and contained multiple gravel and cobble sized debris. The ditch appeared to have been recently graded (Photo 4).
- Rockfalls are active and fresh rockfall debris (up to 1.2 m x 0.60 m x 0.70 m) was noted in the ditch bottom (Photo 5), with smaller debris on the highway surface. Rockfall observed was primarily subangular to angular. Multiple potential loose blocks were visible in the rock mass.
- Site B appears to be more active than Site A.

Maintenance/Repair/Monitoring Recommendations:

- The site should be inspected regularly by AT's MCI and rockfall debris in the ditch should be regularly removed.
- The site should continue to be inspected as part of the Southern Region GRMP Section B inspections.
- Excavation of rockfall catchment ditches adjacent to the highway and spot bolting of blocks which appear unstable or pose a wedge failure risk. A trajectory model could be used to assess the size of lock block wall required to contain the rockfalls. A lock block wall or high-tension cable barrier (HTCB) should be considered pending the results of the trajectory model. A wildlife and road safety assessment would be need completed to assess the impact from the installation of a lock block wall or HTCB at the site.





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Chris Gräpel, M.Eng., P.Eng. Senior Civil Engineer, Associate



Inspection Photographs

Photo 1 The bedrock at Sites A and B is dipping at approximately 40° and 50°, respectively, towards the highway. Photo taken May 17, 2022, facing north.



Photo 2 The north (westbound) ditch at Site A is relatively flat and some rockfall debris was observed at the toe of the slope (larger debris indicated by red arrow). Photo taken May 17, 2022, facing southeast.





Photo 3 Northwest end of Site A. Photo taken May 17, 2022, facing north.



Photo 4 Northwest end of Site B. Photo taken May 17, 2022, facing north.





Photo 5 Rockfall debris up to 3.5 m³ in the ditch of Site B. Photo taken May 17, 2022, facing northwest.



