

Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Reply To:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: Regulatory Office 2488 E 81st Street Tulsa, OK 74137 SWT-2023-00365 Public Notice No.

October 18, 2023
Public Notice Date

November 17, 2023 Expiration Date

PURPOSE

The purpose of this public notice is to inform you of a proposal for work in which you might be interested and to solicit your comments and information to better enable us to make a reasonable decision on factors affecting the public interest.

SECTION 10

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is directed by Congress through Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403) to regulate all work or structures in or affecting the course, condition, or capacity of navigable waters of the United States. The intent of this law is to protect the navigable capacity of waters important to interstate commerce.

SECTION 404

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is directed by Congress through Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344) to regulate the discharges of dredged and fill material into all waters of the United States. These waters include lakes, rivers, streams, mudflats, sandflats, sloughs, wet meadows, natural ponds, and wetlands adjacent to other waters. The intent of the law is to protect these waters from the indiscriminate discharge of material capable of causing pollution and to restore and maintain their chemical, physical, and biological integrity.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, TULSA DISTRICT 2488 EAST 81ST STREET TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74137-4209

Application No. SWT-2023-00365

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (ODEQ) (30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD)

Interested parties are hereby notified that the District Engineer (DE) has received an application for a Department of the Army (DA) permit and water quality certification pursuant to Sections 404 and 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The ODEQ hereby incorporates this public notice and procedure as its own public notice and procedure by reference thereto.

Applicant: Mr. Ryle Huddleston

ONEOK, Inc.

25923 U.S. Highway 81 Medford, OK 73759

<u>Location:</u> The proposed project is located along the left descending bank of the North Canadian River approximately 1.5 miles east of the town of McLoud in Section 11, Township 11 North, Range 2 East, Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma. The project site can be found on the USGS, 1:24,000- scale, McLoud, Oklahoma 7.5-minute Quadrangle at North Latitude 35.43599, and West Longitude 97.06741.

<u>Project Description:</u> The application is for the discharge of dredged or fill material consisting of 50 cubic yards (cys) of clay and 12-inch to 18-inch rock riprap into the North Canadian River for the bank stabilization of approximately 1,250 linear feet (If) of eroded riverbank where the left descending bank of the North Canadian River has migrated northeast.

<u>Purpose:</u> The basic purpose of this work is bank stabilization. There are no special aquatic sites on the project. A water dependency determination is not necessary since no special aquatic sites are located within the project site.

The overall project purpose would stabilize approximately 1,250 If of the left descending bank of the North Canadian River. The bank stabilization proposed by the applicant would prevent further lateral migration of the North Canadian River and prevent the exposure of the existing 12-inch and 16-inch natural gas pipelines.

Summary Table of Impacts:

Original Proposal					
Number or Location	Impact Activity	Type of Water	Type of Fill Material	Qty of Material below OHWM	Footprint (ac and/or lf)
Sta. 0+00 to 1+88	Bank Stabilization	River	Earthen (Clay)	50 cys	280 If
Sheet No. C- 401 and C- 701	Bank Stabilization	River	12 to 18-inch rock riprap	1,450 cys	1,250 lf
cubic yards	(cye) ordinary	high-water m	Total:	1,500 cys , linear feet (lf), acre	1,250 If (0.3 ac)

<u>Description of Work</u>: Approximately 280 If of the left descending bank of the North Canadian River closest to the 12-inch and 16-inch natural gas pipelines (Enclosure 4-5) would be graded and overlayed with clay earthen fill material to create a 2:1 graded slope. Following the grading of this approximately 280 If portion of the overall project, 280 If of 12-inch to 18-inch riprap would then be placed on top of the earthen fill material that would extend from beyond the top of the highbank to the toe of the bank stabilization system. A system of Longitudinal Peaked Stone Toe Protection (LPSTP) would then be constructed via the placement of approximately 1,250 lf (this total includes the 280 If of grading and riprap placement previously mentioned, see Enclosure 2-3) of 12 to 18-inch riprap along the toe of the left descending bank of the North Canadian River. The LPSTP would be supported by approximately 24 riprap keys that would be constructed approximately every 54 lf. The construction of the riprap keys would include the excavation of the riverbank to achieve a slope of approximately 2:1 before extending the riprap key from the LPSTP to beyond the top of the highbank (Enclosure 7). Lastly, a system of 24 embedded bendway weirs, each measuring approximately 30 by 7 by 3 ft, would be constructed approximately every 54 If throughout the 1,250 If bank stabilization effort.

The proposed work would be accomplished by placing all fill material via a front-end loader and/or a tracked excavator. All materials and equipment would be staged onsite within the 4.12-acre work area that is depicted on Sheet No. C-701 (Enclosure 2).

<u>Avoidance and Minimization Information</u>: The applicant provided the following statement with regard to how avoidance and minimization of impacts to aquatic resources was incorporated into the project plan:

The proposed project is the minimum necessary to protect the pipelines and prevent the river from migrating into the pipeline right-of-way. If the system were shorter, flow could flank the system and further erode the bank compromising the system and cover over the pipelines. The system would aid to prevent future erosion/soil loss, and the riprap can also serve to increase aquatic life habitat, therefore, mitigation is not proposed.

The following project alternatives below were considered by the applicant:

No-Action Alternative: The "no-action" alternative does not meet the need to protect the pipelines. Exposed pipelines caused by washout due to river migration could result in areas of unsupported pipe with the potential of being struck with flowing debris during a flood event. These pipelines were designed and constructed at depths so that the surrounding soil would provide restraining forces to counteract possible loads that could cause pipeline failure. The continuing migration of the river is approaching the pipelines; therefore, the "do nothing" alternative is not a feasible option.

Alternative 1: Horizontal directional drilling (HDD) is a trenchless method of pipe installation where a pipeline is bored underground using a surface-launched drilling rig. This method has fewer permanent impacts on the environment and surrounding area, but it does add complexity because it requires Line Stops, purging the pipelines, cutting, and welding the pipelines back together. An HDD in the area of current river migration would help alleviate some concerns by relocating the pipeline to a greater depth. However, it is not the best option stand-alone due to the amount of bank loss in recent years. If the river continues to move east, there is a risk of additional exposure in the areas where the pipelines tie into the HDD near the surface. Based on the risk of future river migration, an HDD alone is not sufficient to adequately protect the pipelines, and thus is not the preferred alternative at this time.

Applicant's Preferred Alternative: This alternative proposes to stabilize the left descending bank of the North Canadian River with a system of LPSTP with a series of bendway weirs. The area near the pipeline would be graded as shown on Sheet C-302 of the drawings, and then riprap would be placed as shown on Sheet C-402 of the drawings. This riprap would armor the bank in the immediate area of the pipelines to protect the pipelines. A system of LPSTP would then be placed through the bend in this reach of river. This LPSTP system would protect the toe of the river and help to prevent toe and bank failure from the leading edge of the bend to the outgoing edge of the bend. A series of bendway weirs would then be placed to redirect the high velocity flow to the middle of the river, rather than being concentrated on the left descending bank where the erosion is occurring. This alternative is expected to have minimal impacts on the environment and can be completed in a timely manner without disrupting the operation of the pipelines.

<u>Mitigation</u>: Furthermore, the applicant proposes the following as compensatory mitigation for the unavoidable impacts to aquatic resources expected from the proposed project:

The applicant is not proposing compensatory mitigation. This project would stabilize the bank and reduce the silt load in the future, improving water quality for aquatic life downstream.

This mitigation plan is the applicant's proposal. The Corps has made no determination at this time with regard to the adequacy of the proposed mitigation relative to the federal mitigation rules and guidance, including Tulsa District's Mitigation and Monitoring Guidelines. Compensatory Mitigation for unavoidable impacts may be required to ensure that this activity requiring a Section 404 permit, if issued, complies with the Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines. The Corps bears the final decision on the need for and extent of mitigation required if the project proposed herein is authorized.

Project Setting: The hills, cuestas, and ridges of the Northern Cross Timbers are naturally covered by a mosaic of oak savanna, scrubby oak forest, eastern red cedar, and tall grass prairie. Native on porous, course-textured soils derived from sandstone are post oak, blackjack oak, and understory grasses. Tall grass prairie naturally occurs on fine-textured soils derived from limestone or shale. Overall, far more oak savanna occurs than in the Central Great Plains (27), Flint Hills (28), or Central Irregular Plains (40). Floristic variety is less, vegetation is sparser, and growing season is shorter than in the Eastern Cross Timbers (29b). Today, livestock farming is the main land use; cropland is less extensive than in Ecoregions 27 and 40, but rangeland is less widespread than in Ecoregion 28. Soils are highly erodible when disturbed. Large oilfields were developed in the early 20th century; associated brine, drilling mud, and petroleum waste products have increased salinity in many streams. Streams are typically shallow and have sandy substrates; they are habitat-poor and have lower fish and macroinvertebrate species richness than Ecoregion 37e. However, some stream reaches have deep pools, riffles, and bedrock, boulder, cobble, or gravel substrates; these reaches have greater species richness and more pollution and habitat-intolerant species than shallower streams in Ecoregion 29a.

<u>Existing Condition</u>: The left descending bank of the North Canadian River within the project area is currently unstable with the course of the river having migrated hundreds of feet northeast over the last decade. No construction activity has been started at this time. The bank within this reach of the North Canadian River continues to experience lateral migration with highly eroded highbanks being present currently.

<u>Cultural Resources:</u> The DE is responsible to ensure compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) (Public Law 89-665), as amended, and other cultural resources laws and Executive Orders. A preliminary review of the state's records has been completed for the presence of sites included in, or eligible for, inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, as well as the Oklahoma Landmark Inventory Database. There are no known historic properties, as defined by the NHPA, in or within the vicinity of the proposed permit area.

<u>Threatened and Endangered Species</u>: The following federally listed species are known to occur in the vicinity or are listed for the county in which the proposed action is

located: Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*), Tricolored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), American Burying Beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*), Monarch Butterfly (*Danus plexippus*), and the Arkansas River Shiner (*Notropis girardi*). A copy of this notice is being furnished to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and appropriate state agencies.

We are currently assessing the potential effects of the proposed action on these species and will comply with the Endangered Species Act with regard to any effect of our decision on this permit application.

Evaluation Factors: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownerships, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be denied if the discharge does not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) Guidelines. Subject to the 404(b)(1) Guidelines and any other applicable guidelines or criteria, a permit will be granted unless the DE determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

<u>Plans and Data:</u> Plans showing the location of the proposed activity and other data are enclosed with this notice. If additional information is desired, it may be obtained from Mr. Christian Luper, Tulsa District Corps of Engineers, ATTN: Regulatory Office, 2488 East 81st Street, Tulsa, OK 74137; or telephone 918-669-7400.

Comments: The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. Any comments on this proposal must be submitted to be received by the Corps by the expiration date of this public notice comment period. Comments received after this date will not be considered in our decision. You may submit comments to mailing address Tulsa District Corps of Engineers, ATTN: Regulatory Office, 2488 East 81st Street, Tulsa, OK 74137 or email CESWT-

RO@usace.army.mil. Please include the public notice number SWT-2023-00365 in the subject line of your email message.

Comments concerning water quality impacts will be forwarded to ODEQ for consideration in issuing a Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the proposed project. Work may **not** commence until decisions have been made on both Sections 401 and 404.

Andrew R. Commer Chief, Regulatory Office

Enclosures

SHEET INDEX:

C-701 C-803

C-000 COVER SHEET
C-001 GENERAL NOTES
C-101 EXISTING CONDITIONS
C-301 PROPOSED SITE GRADING PLAN
C-302 PROPOSED SITE GRADING PLAN
C-401 PROPOSED PLAN
C-402 PROPOSED PLAN
C-601 CROSS SECTION

ACCESS/WORK AREA PLAN TYPICAL DETAILS

ONEOK

No.REVISION DESCRIPTION DATE 1 NO CHANGES TO SHEET 07/12/23 2 ADDED TO SHEET INDEX 07/26/23

NORTH CANADIAN RIVER POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY MCLOUD, OKLAHOMA



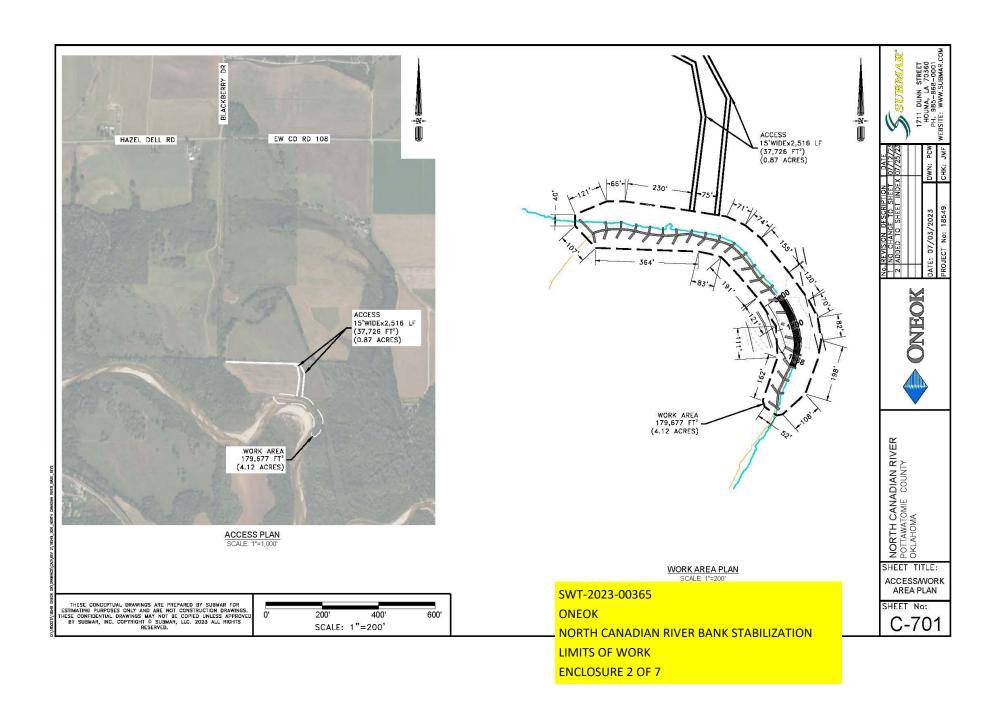
SSUBMAR.

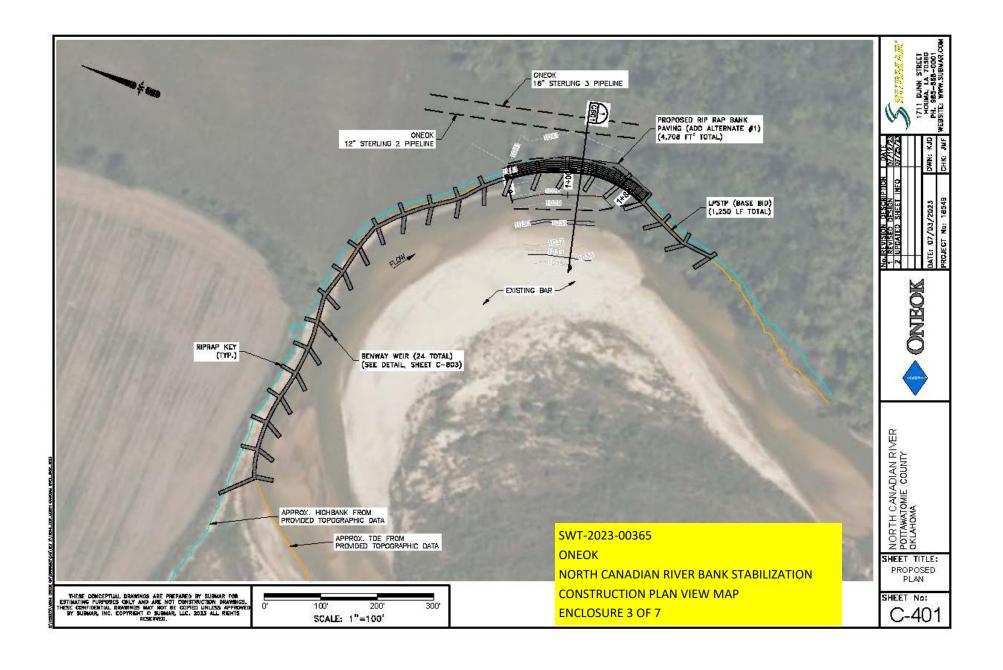
1711 Dunn Street Houma, LA 70360 Ph. 985-868-0001 Fax 985-851-0108 Email: submar@submar.com Website: www.submar.com

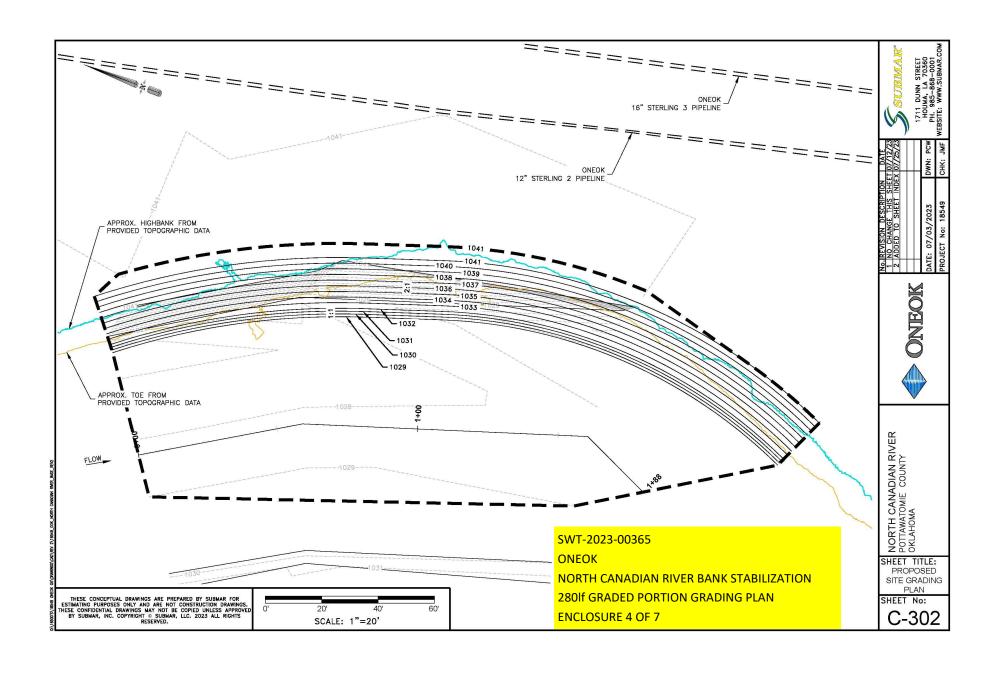


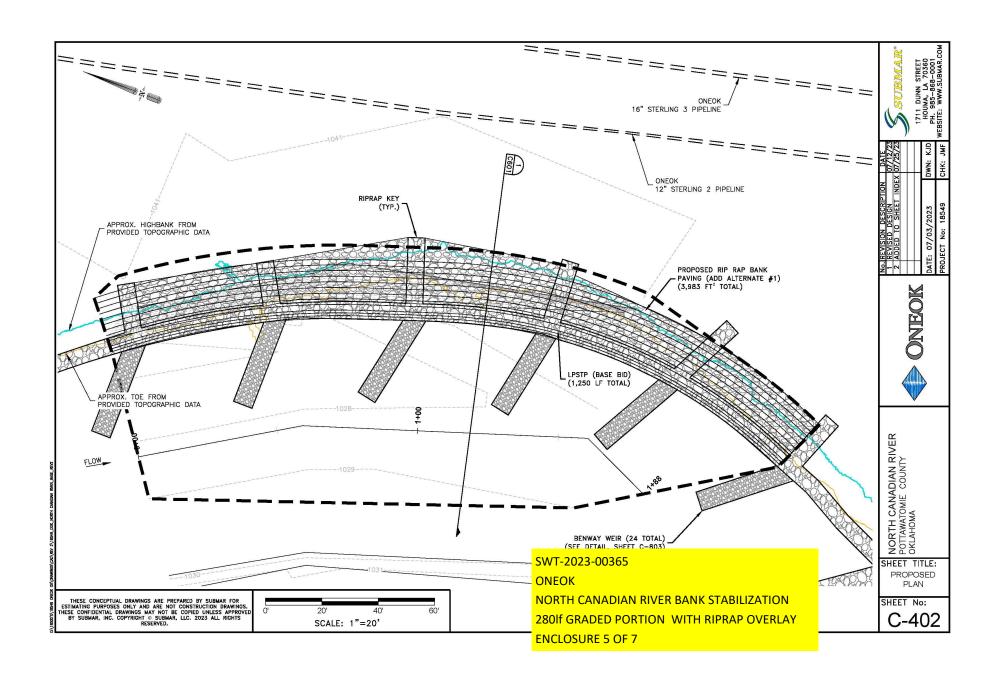
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NORTH CANADIAN RIVER BANK STABILIZATION
LOCATION MAP
ENCLOSURE 1 OF 7

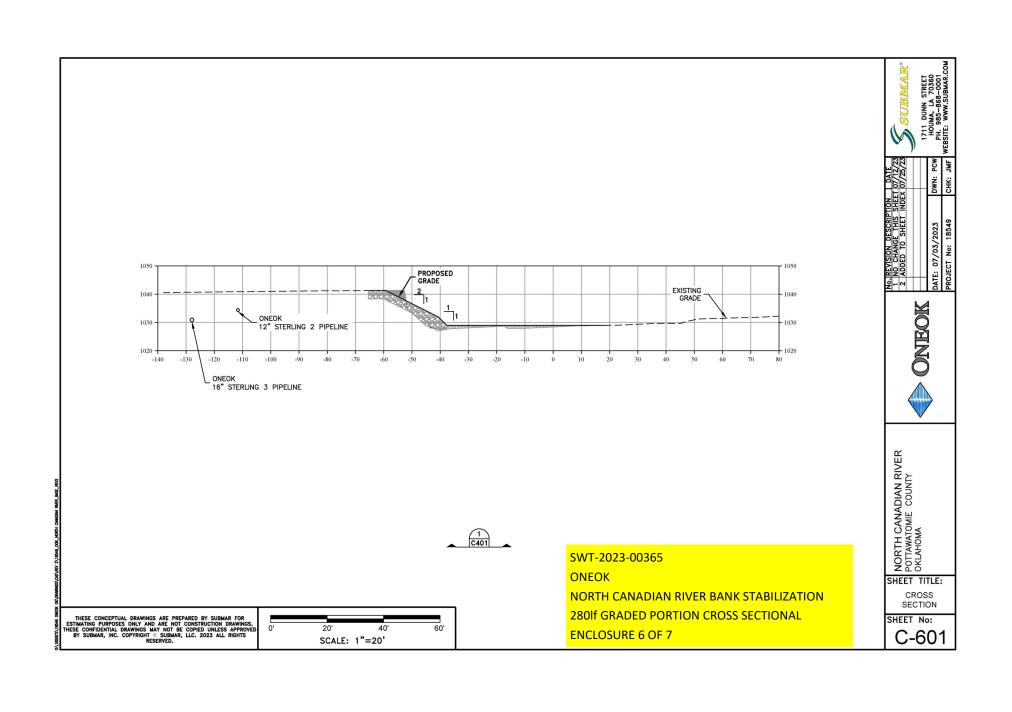
MAR PROTECT NO 18549

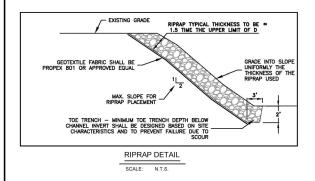


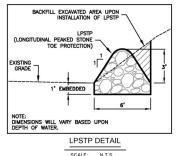


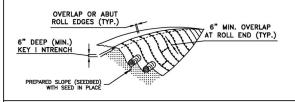












EROSION CONTROL BLANKET CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS

- 1. USE TEMP. SOIL STABILIZATION MATTING MADE OF DEGRADABLE (LASTS 6 MOS. MIN.) NATURAL OR MAN—MADE FIBERS (MOSTLY ORGANIC). MAT MUST HAVE UNIFORM THICKNESS & DISTRIBUTION OF FIBERS THROUGHOUT & BE "SMOLDER RESISTANT. CHEMICALS USED IN THE MAT MUST BE NON-LEACHING & NON-TOXIC TO VEGETATION & SEED GERMINATION & NON-INJURIOUS TO THE SKIN. IF PRESENT, NETTING MUST BE EXTRUDED PLASTIC WITH A MAX MESH OPENING OF 2*X2* & SUFFICIENTLY BONDED OR SEWN ON 2" CENTERS ALONG LONGITUDINAL AXIS OF THE MATERIAL TO PREVENT SEPARATION OF THE NET FROM THE
- 2" CENTERS ALONG LONGTUDINAL AXIS OF THE MATERIAL TO PREVENT SEPARATION OF THE NET FROM THE PARENT MATERIAL USING STEEL STAPLES, WOOD STAKE OR BIODEGRADABLE COUNALENT. STAPLES MUST BE "U" OR T" SHAPED STEEL WIRE HAVING A MIN. GAUGE OF NO. 11 AND NO. 8 RESPECTIVELY "U" SHAPED STEEL WIRE HAVING A MIN. GAUGE OF NO. 11 AND NO. 8 RESPECTIVELY "U" SHAPED STAPLES MUST AVERAGE 1" TO 1--1/2" WIDE & BE A MIN. 6" LONG. "T" SHAPED STAPES MUST HAVE A MIN. 8" MAIN LEG, A MIN. 1" SECONDARY LEG, & A MIN. 4" HEAD. WOOD STAKES MUST BE ROUGH-SAWN HARDWOOD, 12" TO 24" IN LENGTH, 1" x 3" IN CROSS SECTION & WEDGE SHAPED AT THE BOTTOM. PERFORM FINAL GRADING, TOPSOL APPLICATION, SEEDBED PREP. & PERMANENT SEEDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH SPECS, PLACE MATTING WITHIN 48 HRS OF COMPLETING SEEDING OPERATION CONTROL PLAN. UNROLL MATTING DOWN SLOPE. LAY MAT SMOOTHLY & FIRMLY UPON THE SEEDED SURFACE. AVOID LINGUIS AND STAPE OF THE SEEDED SURFACE. AVOID CHEED AND THE SEEDED SURFACE.

- STRETCHING THE MATTING.

 OVERLAP OR ABUT ROLL EDGES PER MANUFACTURING RECOMMENDATIONS. OVERLAP ROLL ENDS BY 6"

 (MIN.) WITH THE UPSLOPE MAT OVERLAPPING ON TOP OF THE DOWNSLOPE MAT.

 KEY IN THE UPSLOPE END OF MAT 6" (MIN.) BY DIGGING A TRENCH, PLACING THE MATTING ROLL END IN

 THE TRENCH, STAPLING THE MAT IN PLACE, REPLACING THE EXCAVATED MATERIAL, & TAMPING TO SECURE

 THE MAT END IN THE KEY.

 STAPLE/STAKE MAT IN A STAGGERED PATTERN ON 4" (MAX.) CENTERS THROUGHOUT & 2" (MAX.) CENTERS

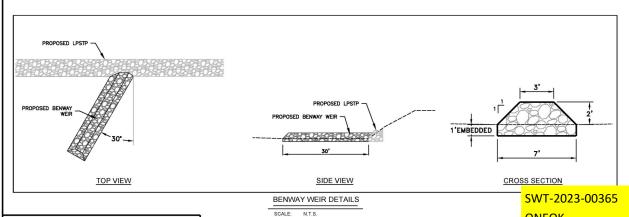
 ALONG SEAMS, JOINTS & ROLL ENDS.

 ESTABLISH & MANTAIN VEGETATION SO THAT REQUIREMENTS FOR ADEQUATE VEGETATIVE ESTABLISHMENT ARE

 CONTINUOUSLY MET IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION B-4 VEGETATIVE STABLIZATION.

EROSION CONTROL BLANKET DETAIL

SCALE:



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NORTH CANADIAN RIVER BANK STABILIZATION RIPRAP KEY AND LPSTP DETAIL DRAWINGS **ENCLOSURE 7 OF 7**

SUBMAR

No.REVISION DESCRIPTION
1 ADDED DETAIL
2 NO CHANGE TO SHEET 07/03/2023 :CT No: 18549 DATE: 07/ PROJECT

ONEOK

NORTH CANADIAN RIVER POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY OKLAHOMA SHEET TITLE:

TYPICAL **DETAILS**

SHEET No:

C-803