



CONSERVATION COMMISSION
AMENDED MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, June 11, 2026 at 6:30 PM
Town Hall Annex, 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls and via Zoom

To join meeting via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85790607802?pwd=cdOUWqusDRa53c4OiPIxvTbIVCzEvW.1>

Meeting ID: 857 9060 7802 Passcode: 149234 Dial by Telephone: (309) 205-3325

1. ROLL CALL:

- a. Meeting minutes from **March 12, 2026**, April 9, 2026 & May 14, 2026

2. PUBLIC MEETING:

- a. **Request for Certificate of Compliance**, filed by **Town of Montague**, in reference to work regulated under the approved Order of Conditions (DEP #229-0253/NOI #2019-01), to conduct asbestos abatement and demolition of five connected buildings and associated areas within the Strathmore Mill Complex at **20 and 8 Canal Road, Turners Falls** within Bordering Land Subject to Flooding and within the Riverfront Area of the Connecticut River.
- b. **EmergCert 2026-02 – USGS – Request a Emergency Certificate to provide immediate improvements to the boat ramp that would provide a more stable surface for putting in and taking out vessels needed and to clear some of the residual silt deposits that have narrowed the ramp at 1 Migratory Way, Turners Falls within Riverfront Area of the Connecticut River**

3. PUBLIC HEARING:

- a. **NOI #2026-04 – Notice of Intent**, filed by the Town of Montague for the Former Strathmore Mill Abatement, Demolition, and Restoration Project at **20 and 8 Canal Road, Turners Falls** within Bordering Land Subject to Flooding and within the Riverfront Area of the Connecticut River. **CONTINUED FROM MAY 14, 2026**
- b. **NOI #2026-03 – Request to Amend an Order of Conditions**, filed by **US Geological Survey**, to reconsider Special Conditions 3 & 5 under the previously approved Order of Conditions (NOI #2026-03/DEP #229-0270), at **1 Migratory Way (Parcel #08-0-3) Turners Falls** within buffer zone

4. NEW BUSINESS:

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **EmergCert 2026-01 – FirstLight Power Services LLC** – Review/discuss weekly monitoring report submitted from applicant and MassDEP's updated 30-day extension to the Emergency Certification

6. OTHER BUSINESS NOT ANTICIPATED WITHIN 48 HOURS:

7. ADJOURN:



**TOWN OF
MONTAGUE
MASSACHUSETTS**

TOWN HALL
One Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
(413) 863-3200 ext. 112
Planner@montague-ma.gov

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, March 12, 2026, 6:30 PM
Annex Meeting Room, Town Hall and via Zoom
Meeting was recorded**

6:31PM: ROLL CALL PRESENT: Mark Fairbrother (Chair), Al Averill, Anthony Reiber, Sean Werle, Justin Fermann, Toby Carter, Donna Francis, Margaux Reckard. ABSENT: Donna Francis
STAFF: Maureen Pollock (Staff Liaison, Planner/Conservation Agent)
ALSO PRESENT: Andy Brydges (FirstLight Power), Matt Wagner (Tighe & Bond)

ROLL CALL:

MOTION by M. Reckard to accept the meeting minutes from November 13, 2025. Seconded by A. Reiber. VOTE: Fairbrother (AYE), Averill (AYE), Reiber (AYE), Werle (AYE), Fermann (AYE), Carter (AYE), Reckard (AYE). MOTION PASSES (8-0) 6:34pm.

MOTION by M. Reckard to accept the meeting minutes from January 26, 2025. Seconded by A. Reiber. VOTE Mark Fairbrother (AYE), Averill (AYE), Reiber (AYE), Werle (AYE), Fermann (AYE), Carter (AYE), Reckard (AYE). MOTION PASSES (8-0) 6:36pm.

PUBLIC MEETING:

EmergCert 2026-01 – FirstLight Power Services LLC – Request an approval of an Emergency Certification for emergency spill response in accordance with the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP; 310 CMR 40.0000) as per the direction of MassDEP Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup at Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Avenue, Turners Falls within 100-foot buffer zone and 200-foot Riverfront Area.

The Conservation Agent gives an overview of the situation; on Tuesday March 3, 2026 she received an email from Matt Wagner (Tighe & Bond) on behalf of First Light Power informing the Town of a hydraulic fluid release from one or more of the pistons at Turners Falls dam. Repair work began on March 4, 2026, and DEP was notified. The Agent, in consultation with the Chair Mark Fairbrother, signed an emergency certificate for the repair work. The Agent recommends one condition related to weekly reports about the progress of First Light’s responsive actions. Mass Division of Fishery and Wildlife Natural Heritage and Endangered Species was informed of the hydraulic oil leak and the repair work in progress.

Andy Brydges (FirstLight Power) and Matt Wagner (Tighe& Bond) are in attendance and address the Commission. Brydges reviews the timeline of events: an oil sheen was observed near piston 4 and

reported to DEP on February 25, 2026. A subcontractor, JF Brennon, was hired to spread sand on the footpath. Ice was power washed off pistons 7 and 8. Packing was injected into the pistons after the ice melted and FirstLight deployed a harbor boom with absorbent pads on the upstream side of the water which were left in place until the oil is washed out of the ice.

The Agent asks when the project will be finished. Matt Wagner answers that the emergency certificate is good for 60 days and they are monitoring oil trapped in the ice. The Agent will receive weekly communication about the river and boom conditions. If the project goes past 60 days FirstLight will seek additional approval from the Commission. Andy Brydges comments that power washing the pistons has been effective. FirstLight has been replacing pistons since 2023 and will continue to do so. Images of the ice, location of sand, and boom are shown and described. There is no impact on the fish ladder.

M. Reckard asks for FirstLight's plan to monitor after the 60 days (April 26). Brydges replies that the pistons are monitored multiple times a week, if not daily, and every time they add hydraulic oil to the system regardless of the project. Reckard rephrases her question, "You said that you were going to keep an eye on the boom and replace it with new absorbent pads as needed. Is that going to continue after the 60 days, if needed." Brydges replies yes and this information will be included in the weekly monitoring reports.

A. Reiber asks that since oil leaks seems to be a regular (winter) issue, "are there proactive measures that FirstLight can take?" Brydges answers that deploying the booms before the winter doesn't work because they get frozen onto the ice. Reiber asks if/ how they monitor the amount of hydraulic oil used. Brydges responds "yes" and it is normal to replace hydraulic fluid in the reservoir tank and it is monitored daily.

The Agent asks the Commission to review the Special Condition in emergency conditions. Reckard comments that the language is generally fine; the applicant is required to seek another emergency certificate before it expires in 60 days.

MOTION by Averill to approve EmergCert 2026-01 – FirstLight Power Services LLC – Request an approval of an Emergency Certification for emergency spill response in accordance with the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP; 310 CMR 40.0000) as per the direction of MassDEP Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup at Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Avenue, Turners Falls within 100-foot buffer zone and 200-foot Riverfront Area. Seconded by M. Reckard. VOTE Mark Fairbrother (AYE), Averill (AYE), Reiber (AYE), Werle (AYE), Fermann (AYE), Carter (AYE), Reckard (AYE). MOTION PASSES (8-0) 6:56pm.

Brydges comments that when the pistons are all replaced, FirstLight will change to an environmentally friendly oil.

The Agent and Chair Mark Fairbrother review the reasons why the Town issued an emergency certificate rather than going through the NOI process.

PUBLIC HEARING:

NOI #2026-01/DEP #229-0268 – Skyjac Realty, Inc. – Request an approval of a Notice of Intent for wetland delineation; removal of concrete piles, brush, stump, and wood debris; and proposed restoration plan at Rod Shop Road (Parcel #12-0-052) within the 100-foot buffer zone and 200-foot Riverfront Area. CONTINUED FROM JANUARY 26, 2026

The Agent reports that the applicant submitted updated plans, however verifying wetland flagging is difficult with the snow; the applicant is agreeable to move the hearing until 6:30pm on April 9, 2026. There will be a site visit before the April meeting.

MOTION by S. Werle to CONTINUE NOI #2026-01/DEP #229-0268 – Skyjac Realty, Inc. – Request an approval of a Notice of Intent for wetland delineation; removal of concrete piles, brush, stump, and wood debris; and proposed restoration plan at Rod Shop Road (Parcel #12-0-052) within the 100-foot buffer zone and 200-foot Riverfront Area, to April 9, 2026. Seconded by J. Fermann. VOTE Mark Fairbrother (AYE), Averill (AYE), Reiber (AYE), Werle (AYE), Fermann (AYE), Carter (AYE), Reckard (AYE). MOTION PASSES (8-0) 7:05pm

Discussion about scheduling numerous site visits for the April 9 meeting. A site visit for NOI 2026-01 is scheduled for Monday, April 6, 2026, at 4pm. The Chestnut Hill area site visits are scheduled for the morning of Tuesday, April 7, 2026. The Agent will confirm times and dates with Commissioners.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upcoming joint meeting with the Conservation Commission and the Parks & Recreation Commission at 6:00pm on Thursday, April 2 via Zoom to discuss the draft Open Space & Recreation Plan. The Agent will email the draft plan to the Commission for comments.

MOTION by M. Fairbrother TO ADJOURN by Seconded by S. Werle. VOTE: Mark Fairbrother (AYE), Averill (AYE), Reiber (AYE), Werle (AYE), Fermann (AYE), Carter (AYE), Reckard (AYE). MOTION PASSES (8-0) 7:22pm.



CONSERVATION COMMISSION
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Thursday April 9, 2026, 6:30 PM
Annex Meeting Room, Town Hall and via Zoom
Meeting was recorded

6:31pm: **ROLL CALL PRESENT:** Anthony Reiber (Chair), Al Averill, Sean Werle, Donna Francis, Margaux Reckard, Mark Fairbrother. **ABSENT:** Justin Fermann, Toby Carter.

STAFF: Maureen Pollock (Staff Liaison, Planner/Conservation Agent)

ALSO PRESENT: Chris Chamberland (Professional Engineer, Berkshire Design Group), Laura Meyer, Lindsey Gorman, Terri Neal, Lyons Witten (PG, LSP at OHI Engineering), Bradley Stumph (Natural Resource Specialist III, Chloeta), Marty Garcia (Facility Operations Specialist, USGS S.O. Conte Anadromous Fish Research Center)

MEETING MINUTES: Meeting minutes from March 12, 2026 were tabled.

PUBLIC MEETING:

Request for Certificate of Compliance, filed by Lindsey Gorman, in reference to work regulated under the approved Order of Conditions (DEP #229-0262/NOI #2022-02), to restore an established farm/fire pond, located on the 82 Chestnut Hill Loop (Parcel # 53-0-043) Site Visit Date/Time: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 10:00am

Chris Chamberland describes the project to dredge the site, which began under a previously approved Order of Conditions in 2022. That work has been completed; material was kept on site and spread. The site has been stabilized. The applicants would like to close that permit. The Agent and Al Averill conducted a site visit. There were no comments about the fire-pond. Everything looked in order and conditions were met. The Agent recommends that the Commission approve the Certificate of Compliance.

MOTION by M. Reckard to approve the Certificate of Compliance, filed by Lindsey Gorman, in reference to work regulated under the approved Order of Conditions (DEP #229-0262/NOI #2022-02), to restore an established farm/fire pond, located on the 82 Chestnut Hill Loop (Parcel # 53-0-043). Seconded by S. Werle. VOTE: Anthony Reiber (AYE), Al Averill (AYE), Sean Werle (AYE), Donna Francis (AYE) Margaux Reckard (AYE) MOTION PASSES (5-0). 6:38pm

RDA #2026-02 - Request for Determination of Applicability, filed by Laura Meyer to determine whether the proposed demolition of an existing single-family house and removal of asphalt and whether the wetland boundaries are accurate at 82 Chestnut Hill Loop (Parcel # 53-0-043) is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. Site Visit Date/Time: Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 10:00am

Chris Chamberland shares slides of the project which show the position of the existing house and the delineated wetlands. An intermittent stream crosses the driveway and feeds the fire pond. In 2023, Ward Smith (Wendell Wetland Services) delineated the slopes, wetlands, stone walls, vegetation and the edge

of the pond- the site is surrounded by resource area. Chamberland shows that the proposed demolition is outside of the 50-foot buffer. Chamberland believes that this project qualifies as a Negative Determination Exemption 310 CMR Section 10.02; this plan is to demolish the house and reseed as vegetation.

The Agent and Al Averill conducted a site visit and observed 4 trees to be removed. Chamberland shows these trees on the plan. Buffer trees can be replaced 1:1 although the homeowner has planted dozens of trees on the property. Al Averill asks if the replacement house will have the same footprint. The Agent thinks the question is outside the purview of this RDA. Averill responds that if the replacement house is bigger, it will impact hydrology. Chamberland continues that issues like water management will be addressed in the upcoming NOI. The Agent continues that as long as there is erosion control, she understands the project as returning impervious surface to pervious surface-at least temporarily. Chamberland clarifies that it is his hope that the RDA will be clear of the Order of Conditions before construction. Should the Order of Conditions be delayed or the project delayed, they will refresh the erosion control measures. S. Werle asks if the Commission can issue a Negative Determination and then condition it so extensively? Werle does not believe that this falls under the exemption because it clearly is intended to replace (not remove) impermeable surface. Chamberland thinks that a Negative 3 could be issued because of the disturbance is more than 50 feet from the wetland. Erosion controls are shown on the plan.

Mark Fairbrother joins the meeting, 6:57pm

M. Reckard asks if wetland delineation flags are placed- noting they are *just* outside the demolition site. She suggests that flags are replaced if damaged or accidentally removed during demo.

MOTION by M. Fairbrother to issue a Negative Determination 3 with conditions for RDA #2026-02 - Request for Determination of Applicability, filed by Laura Meyer to determine whether the proposed demolition of an existing single-family house and removal of asphalt and whether the wetland boundaries are accurate at 82 Chestnut Hill Loop (Parcel # 53-0-043) Seconded by S. Werle. VOTE: Mark Fairbrother (AYE), Anthony Reiber (AYE), Al Averill (AYE), Sean Werle (AYE), Donna Francis (AYE) Margaux Reckard (AYE) MOTION PASSES (6-0). 7:02pm

RDA #2026-03 - Request for Determination of Applicability, filed by Teresa Neal to determine whether the proposed construction of a new 16' x 24' screened porch and drainage within buffer zone only, and to determine whether the wetland boundaries are accurate at 199 East Chestnut Hill Road (Parcel # 53-0-075) is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. Site Visit: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 10:30/10:45am

Terri Neal introduces herself and her proposal. She would like to build a screened-in porch that would be attached to her home, and to build a detached one car garage. The Agent shows the plan with current proposed structures. The driveway is steep. Neal describes the need for drainage near the site of the proposed screen porch. A drainage swale (45 feet in length, 6 feet wide) is being proposed as part of the porch project. Ward Smith flagged the wetlands. The Agent and Al Averill met with the homeowner at the site visit. Averill describe the swale as “minimal” and the porch more as “a deck.” The gutter system can handle the water off the roof. There is also a historic, nonoperational drainage system installed, which the homeowner would like to remedy during construction.

A. Reiber asks about the “wet” side of the house. How steep is the slope? Neil responds that it is flat for 12 feet and then drops about 3 feet and is stable.

The Agent recommends a number of conditions. Averill recommends that the swale is vegetated.

MOTION by M. Fairbrother to issue a Negative Determination 3 with conditions to RDA #2026-03 - Request for Determination of Applicability, filed by Teresa Neal to determine whether the proposed construction of a new 16' x 24' screened porch and drainage within buffer zone only, and to determine whether the wetland boundaries are accurate at 199 East Chestnut Hill Road (Parcel # 53-0-075). Seconded by M. Reckard. VOTE: Mark Fairbrother (AYE), Anthony Reiber (AYE), Al Averill (AYE), Sean Werle (AYE), Donna Francis (AYE), Margaux Reckard (AYE) MOTION PASSES (6-0). 7:12pm

The Agent reviews the delineation packet submitted by Ward Smith of Wendell Wetland Services.

MOTION by Al Averill to issue a Positive Determination Box 2A, the boundary delineations of the following resource areas described on the reference plans are confirmed as accurate. Therefore, the resource area boundaries confirmed in this determination are binding as to all decisions rendered pursuant to the Wildness Protection Act and its regulations regarding such boundaries for as long as it's determined. Seconded by A. Reiber. VOTE: Mark Fairbrother (AYE), Anthony Reiber (AYE), Al Averill (AYE), Sean Werle (AYE), Donna Francis (AYE,) Margaux Reckard (AYE) MOTION PASSES (6-0). 7:17pm

RDA #2026-04 - Request for Determination of Applicability, filed by Gary Houle to determine whether the proposed construction of a new 32' x 40' 3-car detached garage within buffer zone and Riverfront Area at 31-33 Randall Road (Parcel # 21-0-141) is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. Site Visit: Monday, April 6, 2026, at 4:00pm

Gary Houle was not present at the meeting. The Agent recommends that the Commission hold on this review until the applicant is in attendance so that the applicant can introduce themselves and present the proposed work and application, and to answer questions that the Commission may have regarding the proposal. Mark Fairbrother asks Al Averill about the site visit. Averill comments that the proposed garage is well within the 200-foot riverfront boundary. The USGS map shows a perennial stream. The slope behind the proposed garage is steep but stable because of existing vegetation. The soil is permeable with sandy soil. The Agent comments that a few trees have already been removed. Reckard continues that bank stability is her main concern. She'd like to ask the applicant a few key questions about construction; the materials submitted with this application are very limited. S. Werle thinks that the Commission should continue until the applicant is present to answer these questions.

MOTION by M. Fairbrother to continue RDA #2026-04 until May 14, 2026 at 6:30pm in the Town Hall Annex and via ZOOM. Seconded by M. Reckard. VOTE: Mark Fairbrother (AYE), Anthony Reiber (AYE), Al Averill (AYE), Sean Werle (AYE), Donna Francis (AYE), Margaux Reckard (AYE). MOTION PASSES (6-0). 7:28pm

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

NOI #2026-01/DEP #229-0268 – Notice of Intent, filed by Skyjac Realty, Inc. for wetland delineation; removal of concrete piles, brush, stump, and wood debris; and proposed restoration plan at Rod Shop Road (Parcel #12-0-052) within the 100-foot buffer zone and 200-foot Riverfront Area. CONTINUED FROM MARCH 12, 2026. Site Visit: Monday, April 6, 2026, at 4:30pm

The Agent gives background information. The Commission has worked with the property owner to remedy unpermitted work (tree removal, debris and equipment near a perennial stream) in the past. The Commission could have issued an enforcement order but chose a friendlier approach by allowing the property owner to file an NOI for a wetland delineation and restoration. The property was not considered degraded by DEP as of 1996; it's advised that the property owner remove debris and equipment out of the 200-foot Riverfront Area, in compliance with the Wetlands Protection Act and its Regulations.

Lyons Witten (OHI Engineering) presents the existing conditions of the parcel for Skyjac Realty. The perennial stream and highwater line are delineated on the map. Flags delineated are also indicated on the plan in addition to the 100-foot buffer and the 200-foot riverfront line. Witten reviews the debris which include concrete block from demolition projects and woody debris. The restoration plan shows permeant markers (metal bollards) along the 200-foot riverfront line of the southern property line for the benefit of future development. Within the disturbed area the applicant is planting 25 trees and 54 shrubs to restore the vegetation. The equipment, concrete block and woody debris will be removed from the riverfront area.

Present at the site visit were the Agent, Toby Carter, Al Averill, Margaux Reckard.

The Agent asks how everything will be removed. Witten answers that removing the debris with machinery will not degrade the area any more than it is. Toby Carter suggested (at the site visit) that it's not raining while the work is being completed. Reckard describes "equipment" which includes part of a tractor and a trailer. Removal, planting, and placing bollards is not complicated.

MOTION by M. Fairbrother to Approve the Order of Conditions for NOI #2026-01/DEP #229-0268 – filed by Skyjac Realty, Inc. for wetland delineation; removal of concrete piles, brush, stump, and wood debris; and proposed restoration plan at Rod Shop Road (Parcel #12-0-052) within the 100-foot buffer zone and 200-foot Riverfront Area. Seconded by D. Francis. VOTE: Mark Fairbrother (AYE), Anthony Reiber (AYE), Al Averill (AYE), Sean Werle (AYE), Donna Francis (AYE), Margaux Reckard (AYE). MOTION PASSES (6-0). 7:46pm

NOI #2026-02/DEP #229-0269 – Notice of Intent, filed by Laura Meyer for the proposed construction of a new single-family house, and associated site improvement, such as driveway access, utility connections, site grading, and drainage at 82 Chestnut Hill Loop (Parcel # 53-0-043) within buffer zone only. Site Visit: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 10:00am

Chris Chamberland (Berkshire Design Group) presents for Laura Meyer. The presentation shows the resource areas, the fire pond, building structures, and buffers. project has two components: demolition of the old house and the construction of a new house and garage. The driveway will be slightly altered for better parking. A new well will be dug. Chamberland also highlights a 100-year-old stone culvert that passes under the driveway. Erosion control is indicated. In two spots the work will be closer than 25 feet of the wetlands. A grading plan is submitted, especially where the old house is removed, and for access. The existing septic tank will stay. Overhead utility lines will be moved to a separate pole; electricity will be dropped underground. The previously mentioned stone culvert will be replaced. A culvert detail was submitted. Work will be done in the summer when the stream is dry. Chamberland shows images of the stream, stone wall, and an inlet area. All have been flagged. Laura Meyer comments on the culvert, and training that the fire department does using the pond, noting the weight of the trucks.

The Agent reviews comments by DEP. Conditions are discussed. Laura Meyer informs the Commission

about planting native tree species planted on the parcel including oak trees, apple and pitted fruit trees. The applicants participate in a forestry program- they are working with a State assigned forester on a sustainable logging plan.

Discussion about the Replacement Stream Crossing Evaluation form from Mark Stinson: the applicant is working toward improving the culvert in all evaluation categories, rather than replacement in-kind.

M. Reckard asks that the pipe would handle 5-year storm events. Does that mean that that the culvert has been overflowing in big storms? Chamberland answers, “yes”, every spring it floods over the driveway.

A. Reiber comments that the new structure goes slightly into 50-buffer zone. The reason for extending into that area was to extend subsurface drainage from around the foundation. Chamberland discusses the foundation and drainage plan. In the spring, drainage pipe will have “solid trickle” of water; in the summer probably nothing. A splash pad will spread out the water. The house will have gutters and a drip line. Erosion control notes are listed in the plans.

The Agent and Al Averill had a site visit. Neither has anything to add to the presentation.

The Agent reviews Conditions.

MOTION by M. Fairbrother to approve NOI #2026-02/DEP #229-0269 with conditions filed by Laura Meyer for the proposed construction of a new single-family house, and associated site improvement, such as driveway access, utility connections, site grading, and drainage at 82 Chestnut Hill Loop (Parcel # 53-0-043) within buffer zone only. Seconded by S. Werle. VOTE: Mark Fairbrother (AYE), Anthony Reiber (AYE), Al Averill (AYE), Sean Werle (AYE), Donna Francis (AYE), Margaux Reckard (AYE) MOTION PASSES (6-0). 8:20pm

NOI #2026-03/DEP #229-0270 – Notice of Intent, filed by US Geological Survey, for the proposed installation of approximately 4,500 - 5,000 feet of force main for the Conte Anadromous Fish Research Laboratory, to be connected to the municipal wastewater system at 1 Migratory Way (Parcel #08-0-3) within buffer zone. Site Visit: Monday, April 6, 2026, at 5:00pm

It’s unlikely to be built before January 2027. There has been an archeological survey curated by a USGS Tribal consultant. They are starting the environmental assessment of the route then they will look for funding. They will proceed with directional drilling, not open trench. A small excavation will be made and equipment lowered, which is minimal compared to an open trench. They’ll go down about 15’ deep. There is a Town waterline that runs through the woods. It has to be below the waterline. They don’t understand the location of the waterline, but a survey will be done to show these details. They have to work out water easements with FirstLight Power. FERC will also be involved because of the dams. The project is over a decade in the works.

Bradley Stumph (Natural Resource Specialist III, Chloeta) and Marty Garcia (Facility Operations Specialist, USGS S.O. Conte Anadromous Fish Research Center) introduced themselves and explained the proposal.

The Agent, Al Averill, Toby Carter, Donna Francis and Margaux Reckard joined Marty on the site visit. He invites the Commission for a more thorough site visit in warmer weather. He is yet to mark the waterline for the Commission.

Marty discusses the new easement agreement with FirstLight which will allow them to work.

The Agent shows a map of the project. The sewer line is indicated in green. At times the sewer is under the wetlands. Four drill pits are indicated. Those pits have been placed in a manner to avoid the buffer zones. All the disturbance is sub surface. Marty discusses the benefits of directional drilling.

Al Averill asks if the waste is under pressure. Marty answers, yes, it can't be gravity fed. It's flushed out with air once a year. DEP will approve the maintenance plan.

The Agent reviews comments by DEP. DEP made a request for an emergency frac-out plan to contain drilling fluid. M. Reckard asks why a frac-out plan is needed if they are implementing horizontal drilling, which does not cause surface disturbance. Stumph responds that it is a contingency plan. Werle continues that the drilling lubricant is water. Stumph clarifies that he is not a professional engineer but that it is not 100% water being used in the drilling.

The Agent discusses conditions, like a weekly monitoring report and announcements to the public about the potential disruptions to trail usage to members of the public. Marty responds that FirstLight will announce public use/trail disruption. Mark Fairbrother would like to have a condition related to how the Lab will handle emergency drilling issues, if they come up. The emergency frac-out plan would have to be submitted before work starts. Brad Stumph and the Conservation Agent clarify emergency communication with the Montague Conservation Commission, DEP, and the Natural Resource of Endangered Species Program.

MOTION by M. Fairbrother to Approve an Order of Conditions for NOI #2026-03/DEP #229-0270 – Notice of Intent, filed by US Geological Survey, for the proposed installation of approximately 4,500 - 5,000 feet of force main for the Conte Anadromous Fish Research Laboratory, to be connected to the municipal wastewater system at 1 Migratory Way (Parcel #08-0-3) within buffer zone. Seconded by D. Francis. VOTE: Mark Fairbrother (AYE), Anthony Reiber (AYE), Al Averill (AYE), Sean Werle (AYE), Donna Francis (AYE), Margaux Reckard (AYE) MOTION PASSES (6-0). 8:40pm

OLD BUSINESS:

EmergCert 2026-01 – FirstLight Power Services LLC – Review/discuss weekly monitoring report submitted from applicant.

ADJOURN:

MOTION by M. Fairbrother TO ADJOURN by Seconded by A. Reiber. VOTE: MOTION PASSES (6-0) 8:44pm.



Strathmore Mill Complex Demolition Project
MassDEP File #229-0253
8 and 20 Canal Road, Montague, Massachusetts

**Request for Certificate of
Compliance (RCOC)**

Town of Montague

May 2026



M-500312A-01.02
May 13, 2026

Montague Conservation Commission
One Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

**Re: Request for Certificate of Compliance (MassDEP File #229-0253)
Strathmore Mill Complex Demolition Project (Montague, MA)**

Dear Members of the Commission:

On behalf of Town of Montague (Town), Tighe & Bond respectfully requests the issuance of a Certificate of Compliance (COC) for the expired Order of Conditions (OOC) issued on April 13, 2019 (MassDEP File #229-0253) for the demolition of the Strathmore Mill Complex located at 8 and 20 Canal Road in the village of Turners Falls, Montague, Massachusetts. The OOC expired before work commenced at the Project Site. A copy of WPA Form 8A Request for Certificate of Compliance is provided in Attachment A and a copy of the final approved Project Drawings are provided in Attachment B. A copy of the recorded Order of Conditions is provided in Attachment C.

Project Background

The purpose of this project was to demolish five (5) dilapidated buildings and ancillary structures associated with the Mill Complex to limit the potential for harm to public health, safety, and the environment that could occur in the event of an uncontrolled building collapse. Buildings #3, #5/5A, #6/6A, #7, and #8, the Smokestack located in the courtyard, and the Loading Dock attached to Building #3 were scheduled for demolition. Tailrace #3 beneath Building #3 was also scheduled for capping and closure in situ. The OOC permitted activities within Bordering Land Subject to Flooding (BLSF), as well as the 200-foot Riverfront Area to the Connecticut River.

Summary

The OOC expired prior to the commencement of work due to insufficient funding at the time. The Town respectfully requests a Certificate of Compliance (COC) to close out the expired OOC prior to the issuance of a new OOC for an increased scope of work for demolition. We appreciate your review of this request at your next public meeting. If the Commission has any questions, please contact Lucas Acaba by phone at (413) 572-3254 or by email at lacaba@tighebond.com, or me at Melissa Coady by phone at (413) 572-3224 or by email at mpcoady@tighebond.com.

Respectfully yours,
Tighe & Bond, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa P. Coady".

Melissa P. Coady
Senior Project Manager

Enclosures
Copy: Walter Ramsey, Town of Montague

53 Southampton Road
Westfield, MA 01085

TIGHEBOND.COM

T 413.562.1600

**Tighe &
Bond**

**Attachment A:
WPA Form 8A**





WPA Form 8A – Request for Certificate of Compliance

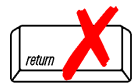
Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

Provided by DEP

A. Project Information

Important:

When filling out forms on the computer, use only the tab key to move your cursor - do not use the return key.



Upon completion of the work authorized in an Order of Conditions, the property owner must request a Certificate of Compliance from the issuing authority stating that the work or portion of the work has been satisfactorily completed.

1. This request is being made by:

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

2. This request is in reference to work regulated by a final Order of Conditions issued to:

Applicant _____

Dated _____ DEP File Number _____

3. The project site is located at:

Street Address _____ City/Town _____

Assessors Map/Plat Number _____ Parcel/Lot Number _____

4. The final Order of Conditions was recorded at the Registry of Deeds for:

Property Owner (if different) _____

County _____ Book _____ Page _____

Certificate (if registered land) _____

5. This request is for certification that (check one):

- the work regulated by the above-referenced Order of Conditions has been satisfactorily completed.
- the following portions of the work regulated by the above-referenced Order of Conditions have been satisfactorily completed (use additional paper if necessary).

- the above-referenced Order of Conditions has lapsed and is therefore no longer valid, and the work regulated by it was never started.



WPA Form 8A – Request for Certificate of Compliance

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

Provided by DEP

A. Project Information (cont.)

6. Did the Order of Conditions for this project, or the portion of the project subject to this request, contain an approval of any plans stamped by a registered professional engineer, architect, landscape architect, or land surveyor?

Yes

If yes, attach a written statement by such a professional certifying substantial compliance with the plans and describing what deviation, if any, exists from the plans approved in the Order.

No

B. Submittal Requirements

Requests for Certificates of Compliance should be directed to the issuing authority that issued the final Order of Conditions (OOC). If the project received an OOC from the Conservation Commission, submit this request to that Commission. If the project was issued a Superseding Order of Conditions or was the subject of an Adjudicatory Hearing Final Decision, submit this request to the appropriate DEP Regional Office (see <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/about/contacts/find-the-massdep-regional-office-for-your-city-or-town.html>).



**Attachment B:
Final Approved Project Drawings**

STRATHMORE MILL COMPLEX DEMOLITION AND ABATEMENT DESIGN TURNER FALLS, MASSACHUSETTS

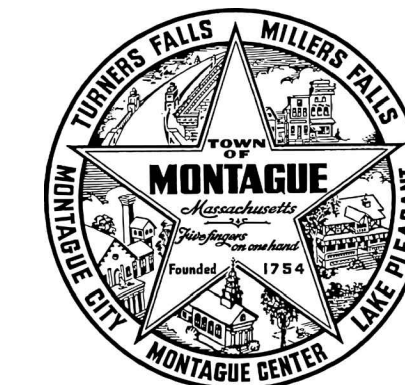
APRIL 2019 - PERMITTING SUBMISSION

LIST OF DRAWINGS	
SHEET NO.	SHEET TITLE
	COVER
G-000	GENERAL NOTES, LEGEND
G-001	PHOTO LOCATION PLAN
C-100	EXISTING CONDITIONS AND DEMOLITION PLAN
C-200	SITE BACKFILL AND CONCEPTUAL GRADING PLAN
C-300	SITE DETAILS
S-000	STRUCTURAL NOTES AND DETAILS
S-101	SECTION A LOOKING PROJECT WEST
S-102	SECTION B LOOKING PROJECT WEST
S-103	BUILDINGS 5 AND 6 LOOKING PROJECT NORTH
S-104	TAILRACE #3 CLOSURE DETAILS
S-201	RETAINING WALL LAYOUT POST DEMOLITION
S-301	RETAINING WALL DETAILS
S-302	INFILL AND MISCELLANEOUS DETAILS



LOCUS PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 500'±

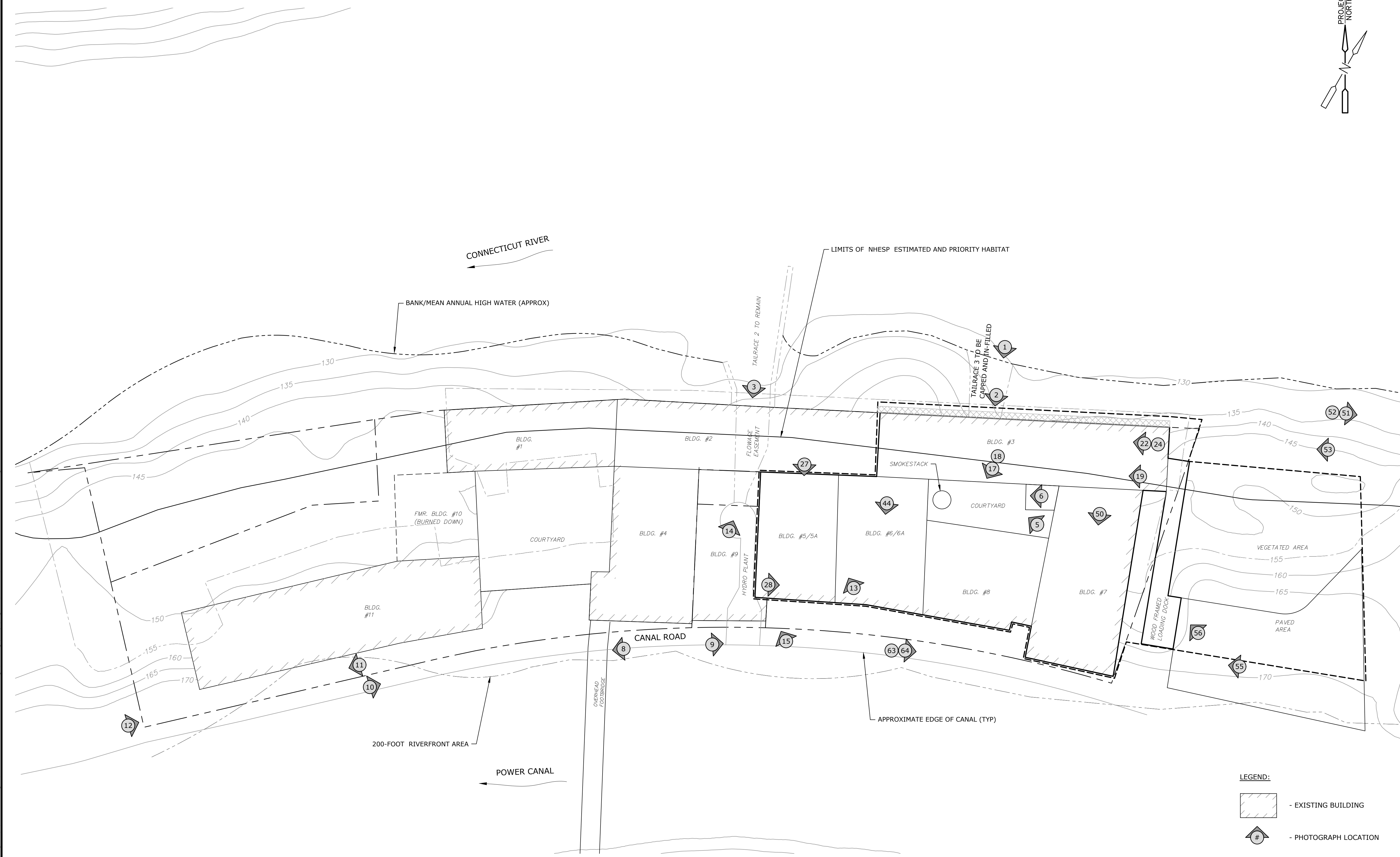
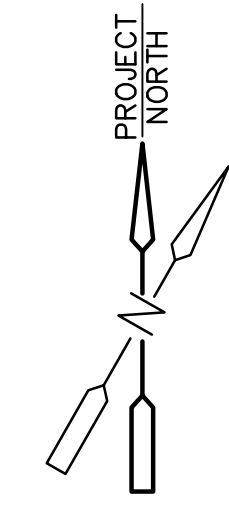
**TOWN OF
MONTAGUE**



Tighe & Bond
Engineers | Environmental Specialists

**FOR PERMITTING ONLY
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION**

COMPLETE SET 14 SHEETS



**For Permitting
Only Not For
Construction**

**Strathmore
Mill Complex
Demolition and
Abatement
Design**

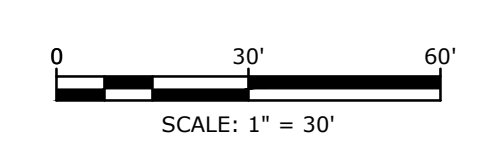
Town of
Montague,
Planning and
Conservation
Dept.

Turners Falls,
Massachusetts

LEGEND:

- EXISTING BUILDING
- PHOTOGRAPH LOCATION

- NOTES:**
1. PHOTOS 65-67 ARE SITE WIDE AERIAL VIEWS. REFER TO PHOTOGRAPH LOG
 2. SITE LOCATED ENTIRELY WITHIN THE LIMITS OF 100-FOOT BUFFER ZONE.
 3. PLANS BASED ON PLAN BOOK 117 PAGE 25 OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS.
 4. NOT ALL INTERIOR/EXTERIOR PHOTOS DISPLAYED IN THE PHOTO LOG ARE PLOTTED HEREIN. REFER TO PHOTO LOG FOR ALL SITE PHOTOS.



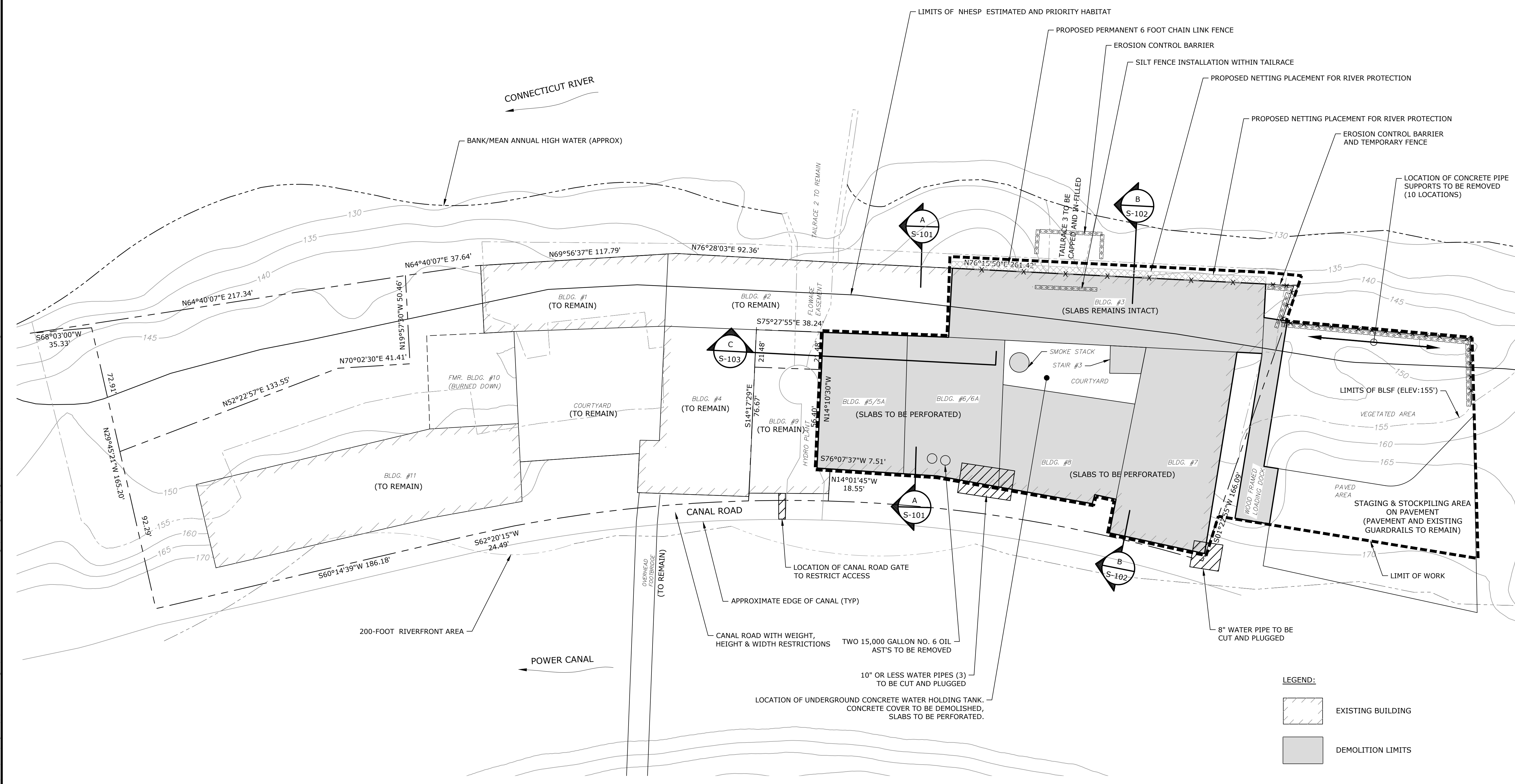
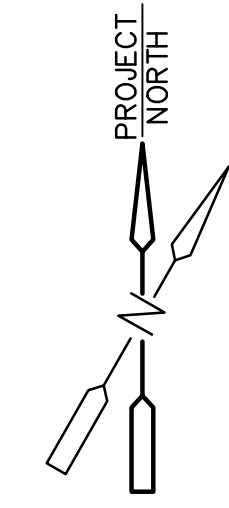
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PROJECT NO:	M5003-002	
DATE:	APRIL 2019	
FILE:	Unsaved Drawing3.dwg	
DRAWN BY:	MDS	
CHECKED BY:	BFD	
APPROVED:	MJR	

PHOTO LOCATION PLAN

SCALE: 1" = 30'

G-001

Last Saved: 3/27/2019 3:55pm By: DWB:rdshaw
 Plotted On: Mar 27, 2019 3:55pm
 Tighe & Bond: \\tigher\project\m5003\montague\02 - Strathmore Mill Demolition Design Drawings - Maps - Figures\AutoCAD\Sheet\M5003-002-G-001-1-PHOTO.dwg



For Permitting Only Not For Construction

Strathmore Mill Complex Demolition and Abatement Design

Town of Montague, Planning and Conservation Dept.

Turners Falls, Massachusetts

MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION

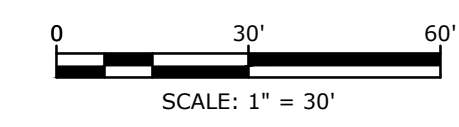
PROJECT NO:	M5003-002
DATE:	APRIL 2019
FILE:	M5003-002-C-100-EXCN.dwg
DRAWN BY:	DWB
CHECKED BY:	TDG
APPROVED BY:	CSF

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND DEMOLITION PLAN

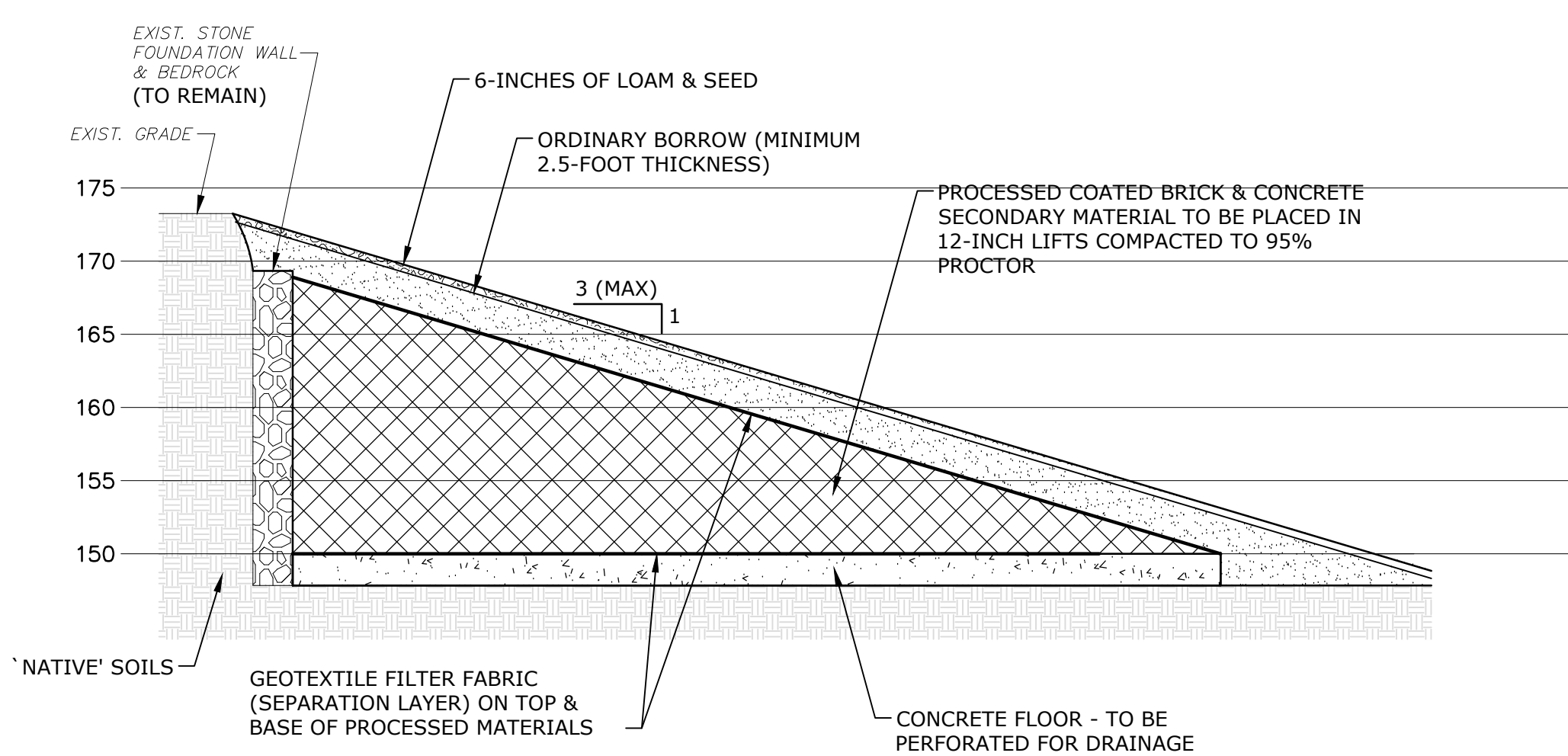
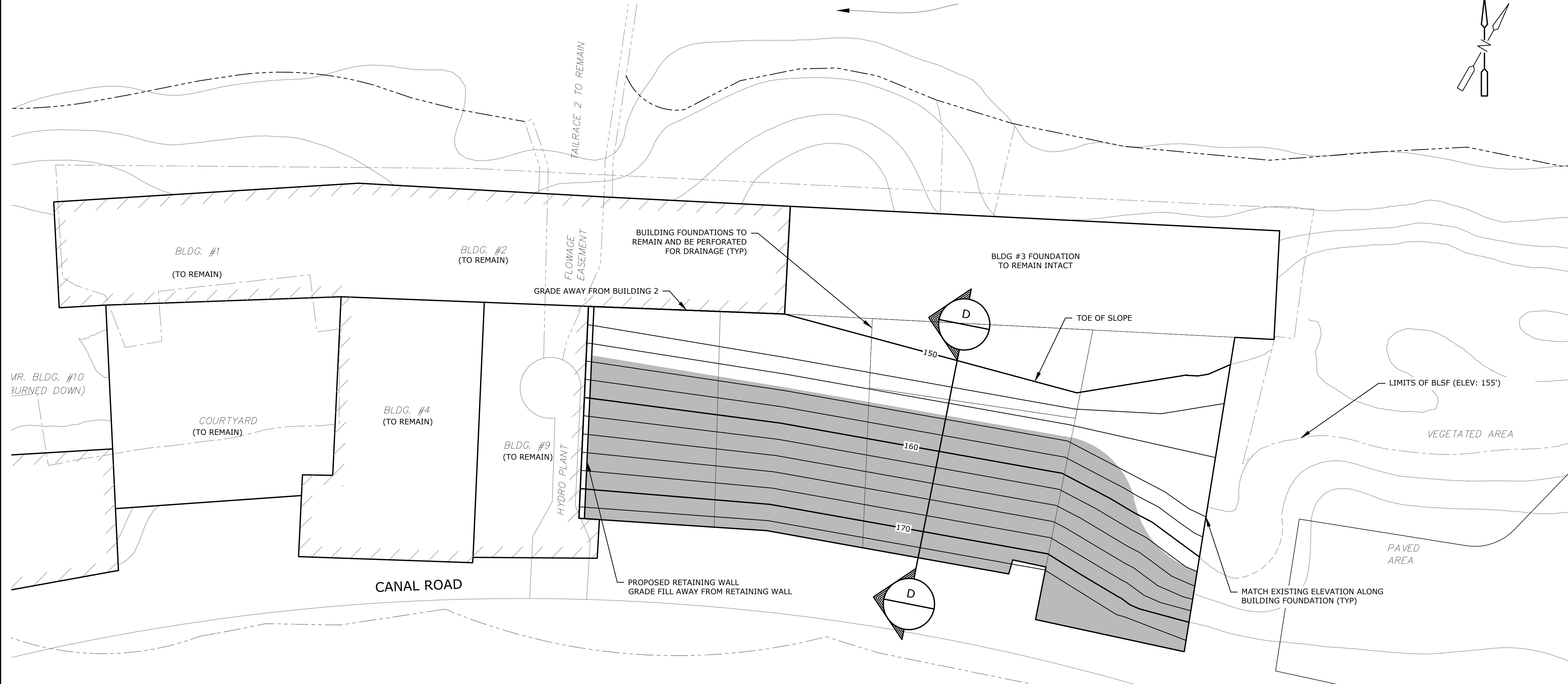
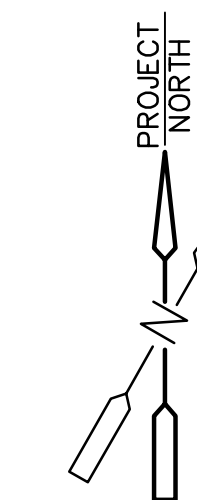
SCALE: 1" = 30'

C-100

- NOTES:
- SITE LOCATED ENTIRELY WITHIN THE LIMITS OF 100-FOOT BUFFER ZONE.
 - PLANS BASED ON PLAN BOOK 117 PAGE 25 OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS.

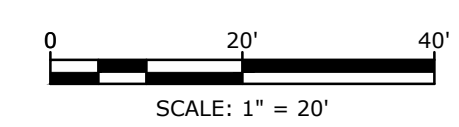


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 Plotted On: Mar 27, 2019 3:59pm By: Tighe & Bond: \\tighernd\com\data\projects\m5003\m5003-002-C-100-EXCN.dwg



SITE BACKFILL CROSS SECTION D-D
NO SCALE

APPROXIMATE LIMITS OF BUD MATERIALS



For Permitting Only Not For Construction

Strathmore Mill Complex Demolition and Abatement Design

Town of Montague, Planning and Conservation Dept.

Turners Falls, Massachusetts

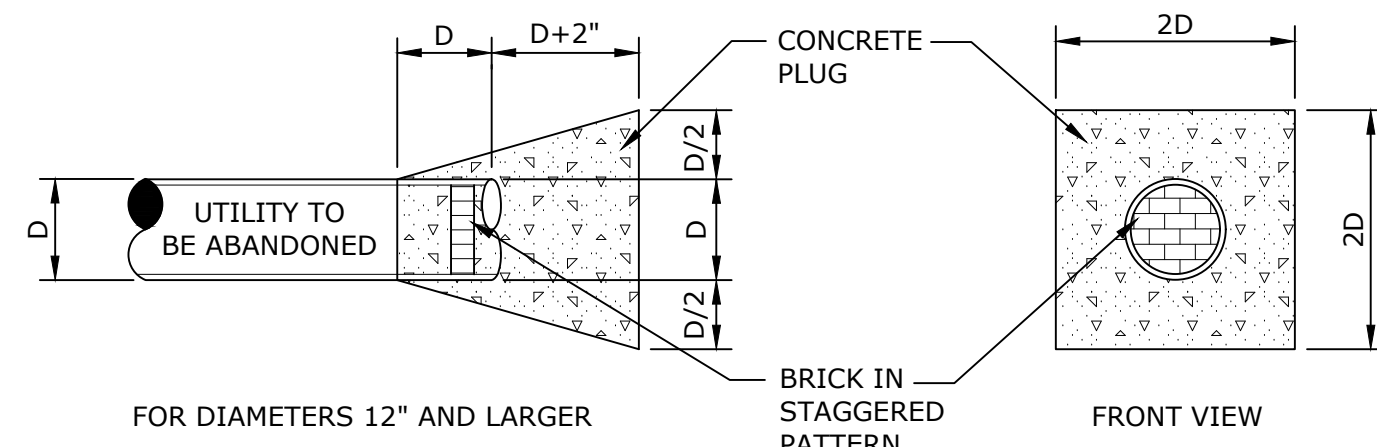
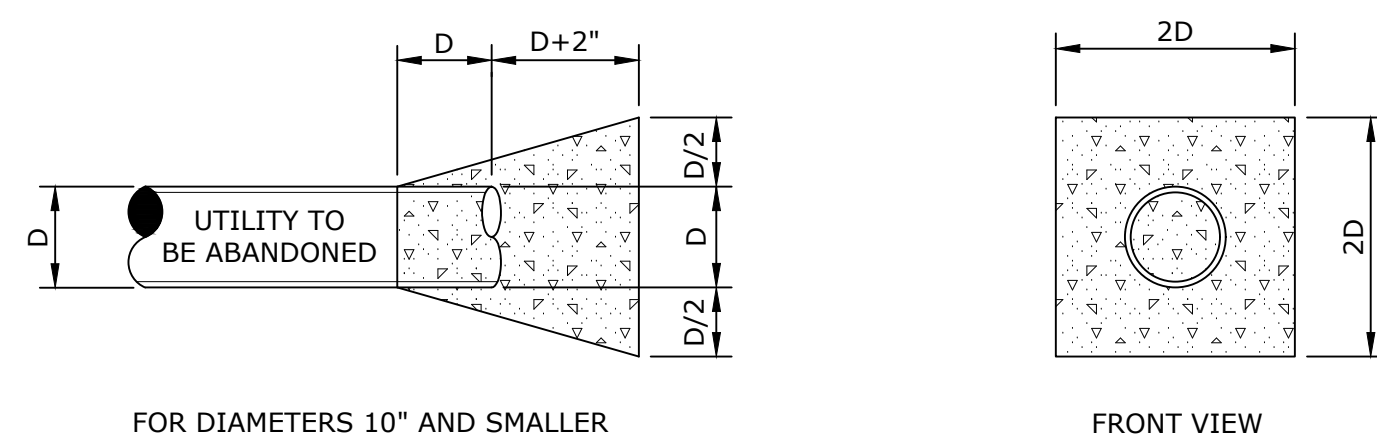
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DATE:	APRIL 2019	
FILE:	M5003-002-C-200.dwg	
DRAWN BY:	DWB	
CHECKED:	TDG	
APPROVED:	CSF	

SITE BACKFILL & CONCEPTUAL GRADING PLAN

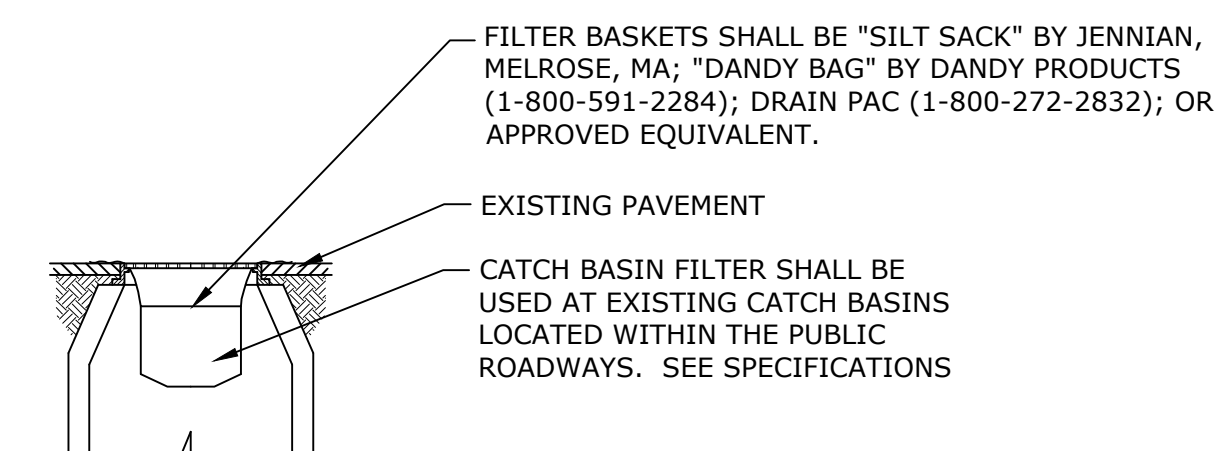
SCALE: 1" = 20'

C-200

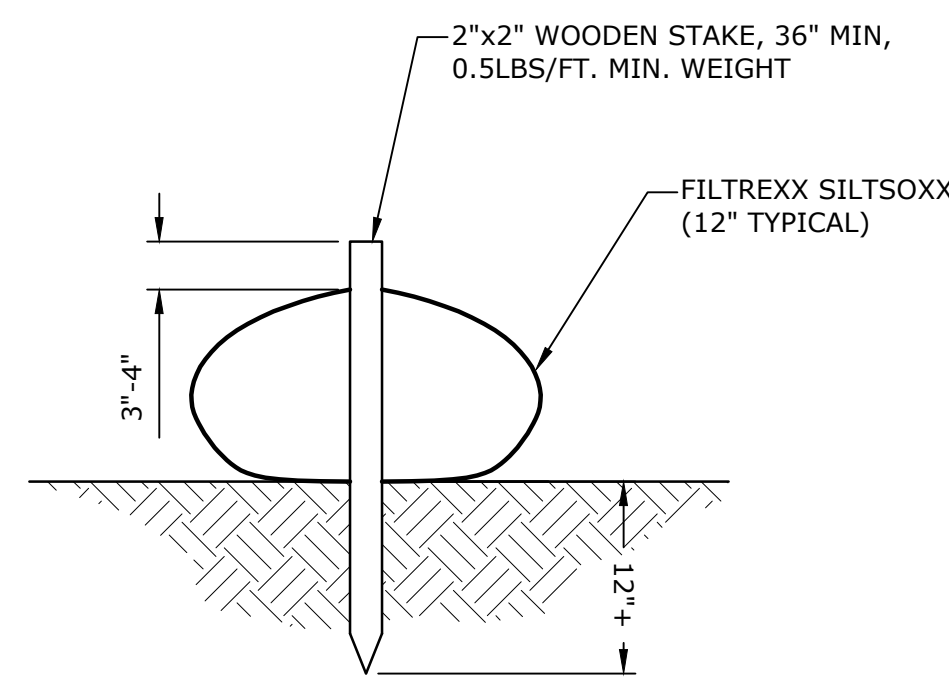
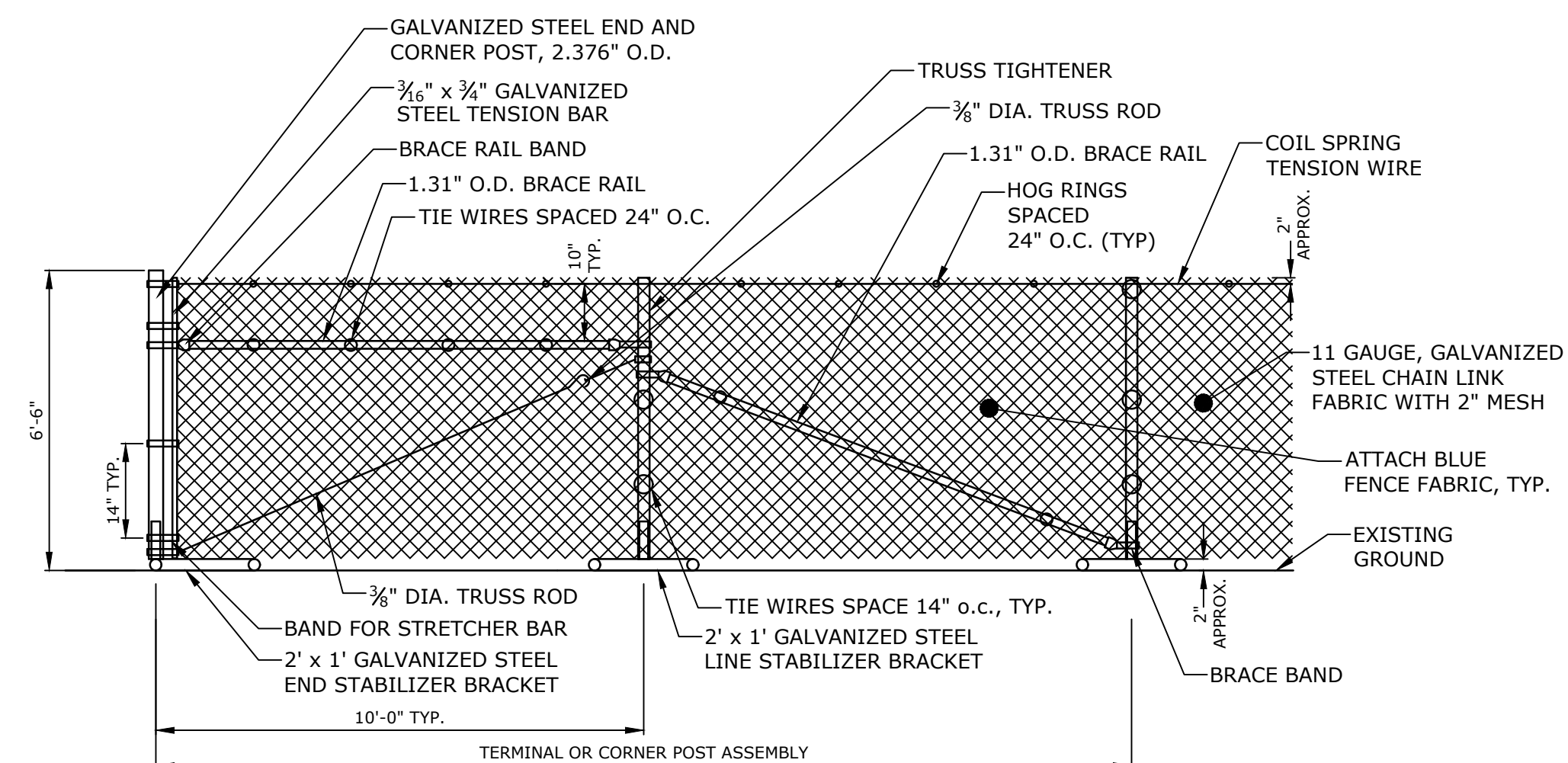
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 Plotted On: Mar 27, 2019 4:00pm
 File Path: C:\Users\dwbradshaw\OneDrive\Documents\Projects\Strathmore Mill Demolition\Design\Drawings\Map\Figures\AutoCAD\Sheet\M5003-002-C-200.dwg



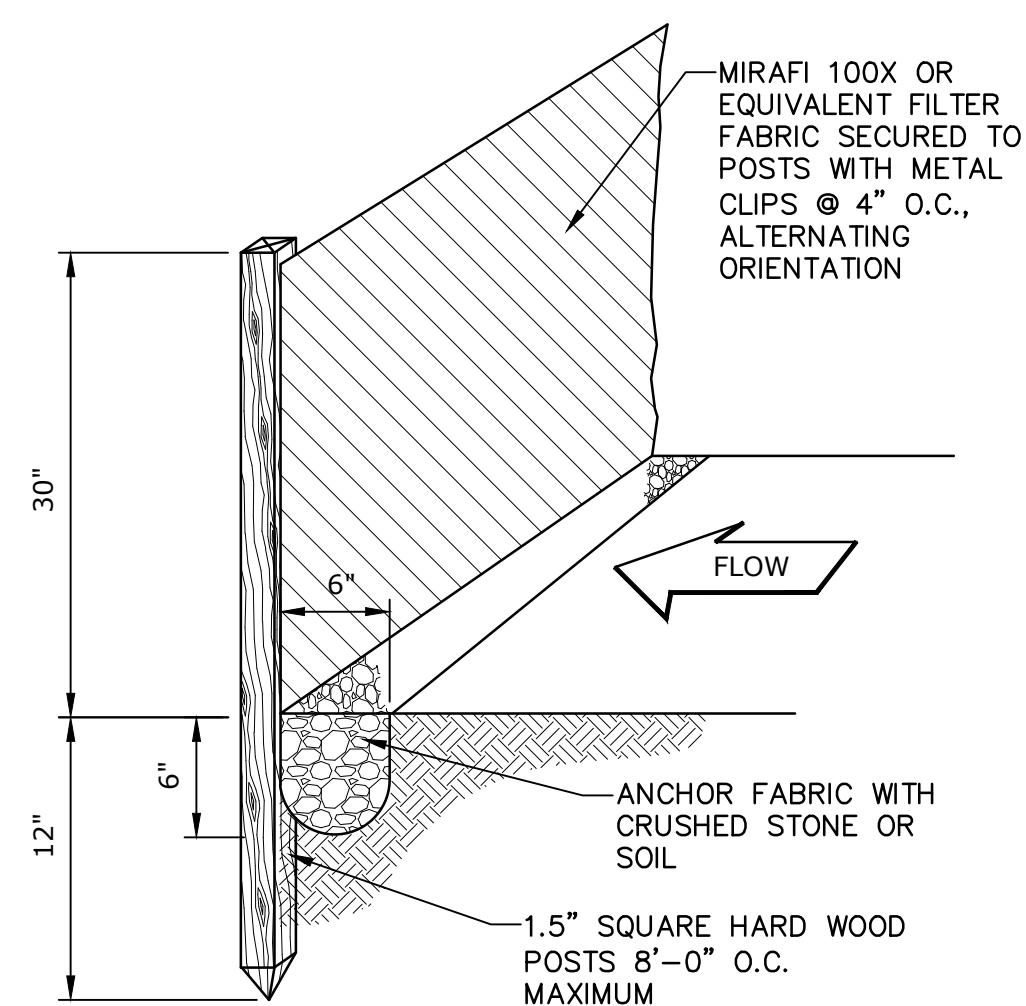
TYPICAL PLUGS FOR GRAVITY SEWER & DRAIN ABANDONMENT
NO SCALE



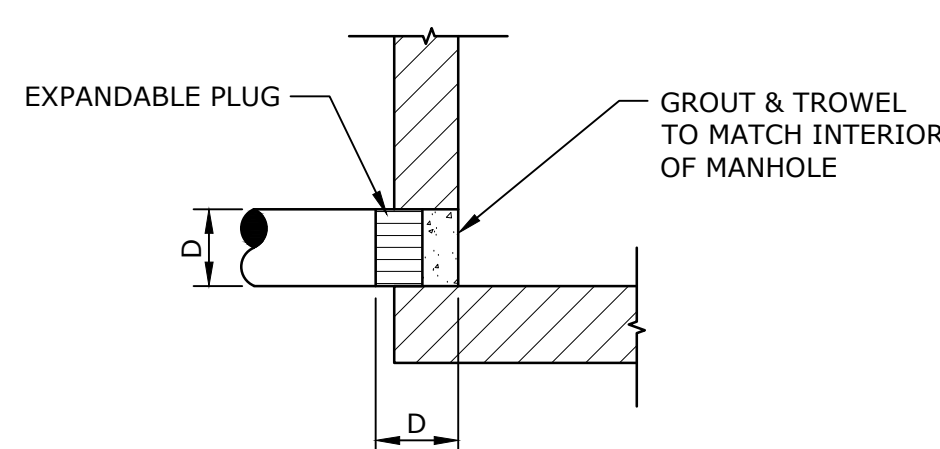
CATCH BASIN INLET PROTECTION PAVED AREAS
NO SCALE



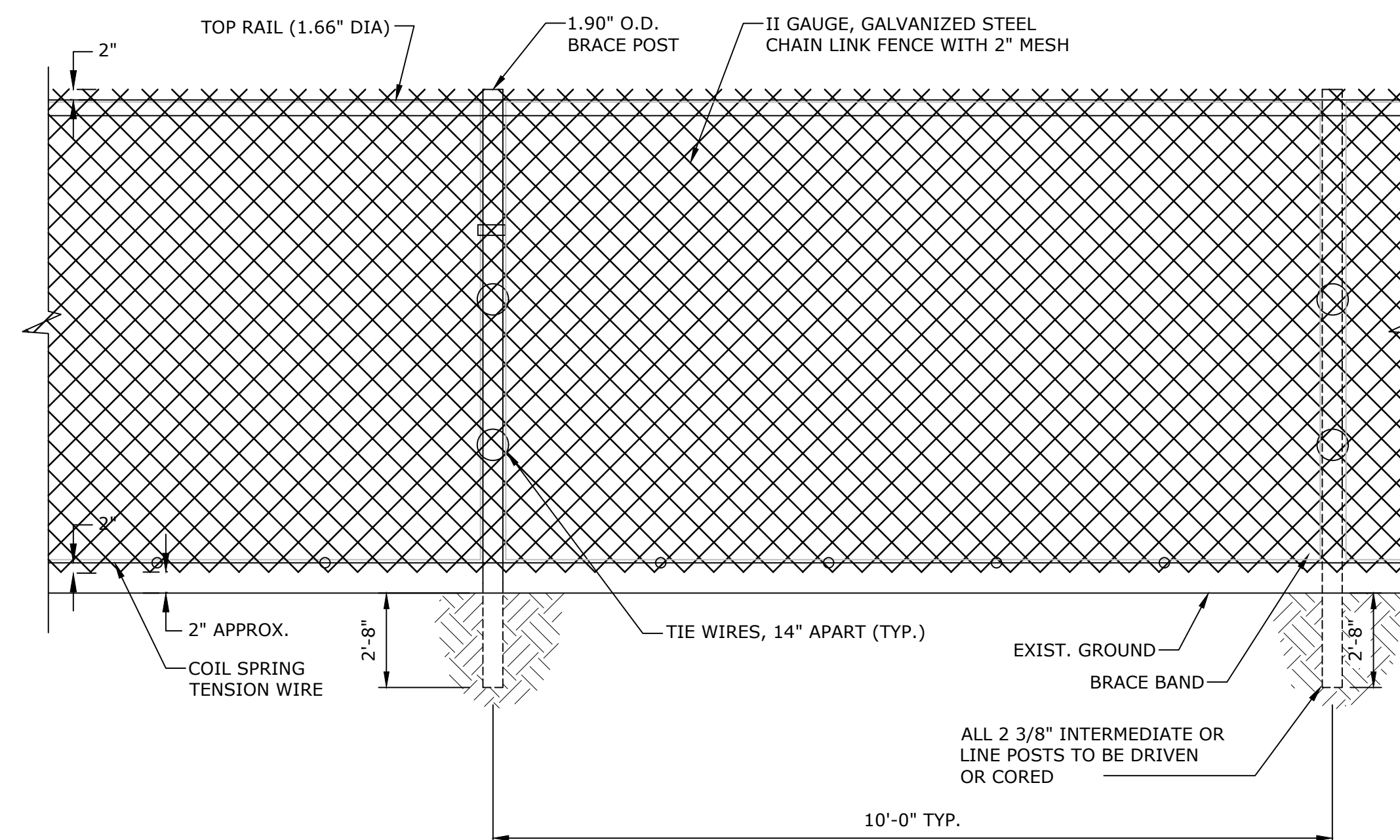
SILTSOXX (FILTREXX®) DETAIL
NO SCALE



SILT FENCE
NO SCALE



PLUG AT ACTIVE MANHOLE OR CATCH BASIN
NO SCALE



For Permitting Only Not For Construction

Strathmore Mill Complex Demolition and Abatement Design

Town of Montague, Planning and Conservation Dept.

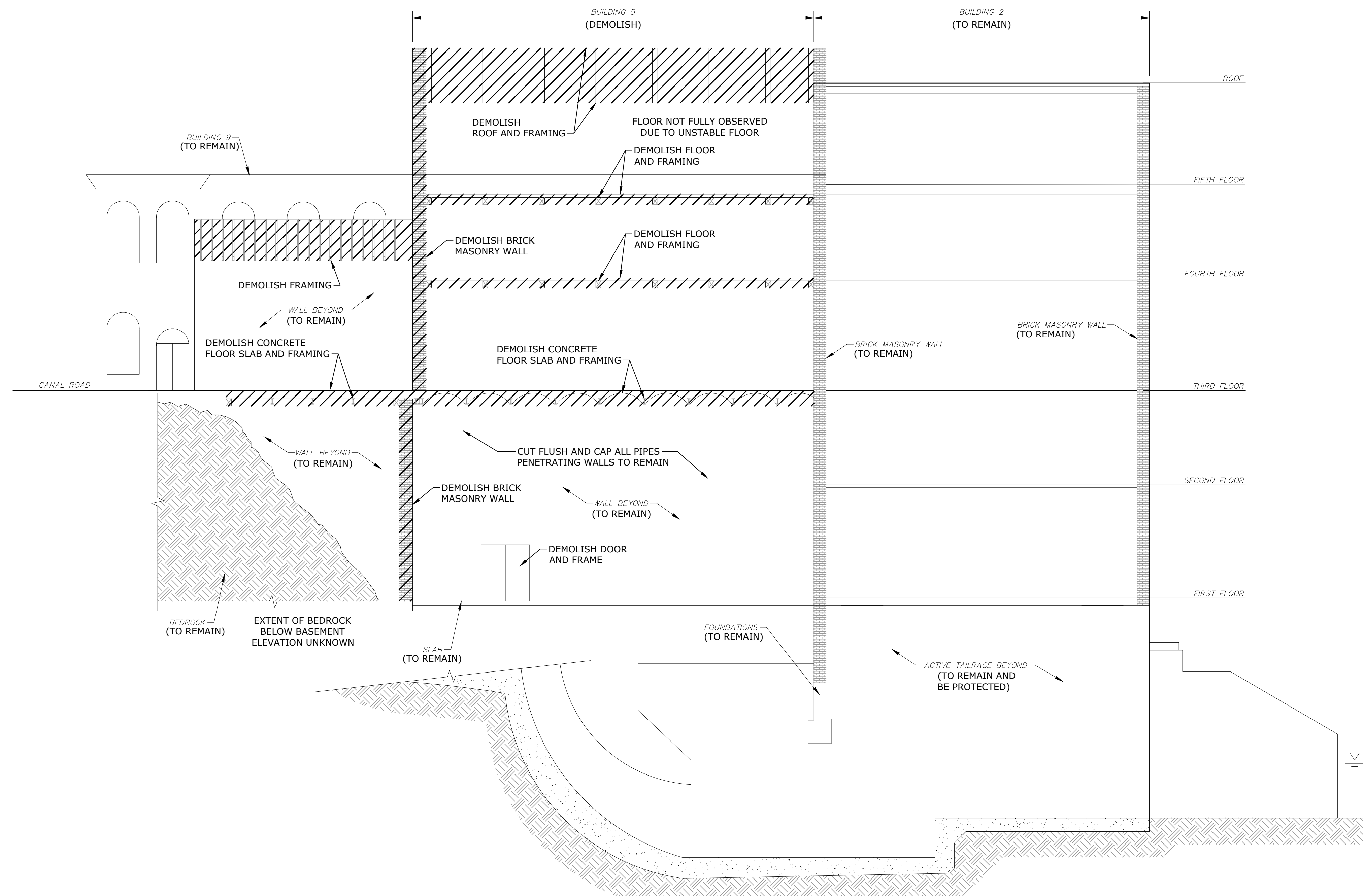
Turners Falls, Massachusetts

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DATE:	APRIL 2019	
FILE:	M5003-002-C-300-DETL.dwg	
DRAWN BY:	MDS	
CHECKED:	BFD	
APPROVED:	MJR	

SITE DETAILS

SCALE: NO SCALE

C-300



SECTION A
1/8"=1'-0" C-100

LEGEND:
 STRUCTURE TO BE DEMOLISHED

**For Permitting
Only Not For
Construction**

**Strathmore
Mill Complex
Demolition and
Abatement
Design**

Town of
Montague,
Planning and
Conservation
Dept.

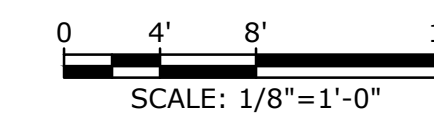
Turners Falls,
Massachusetts

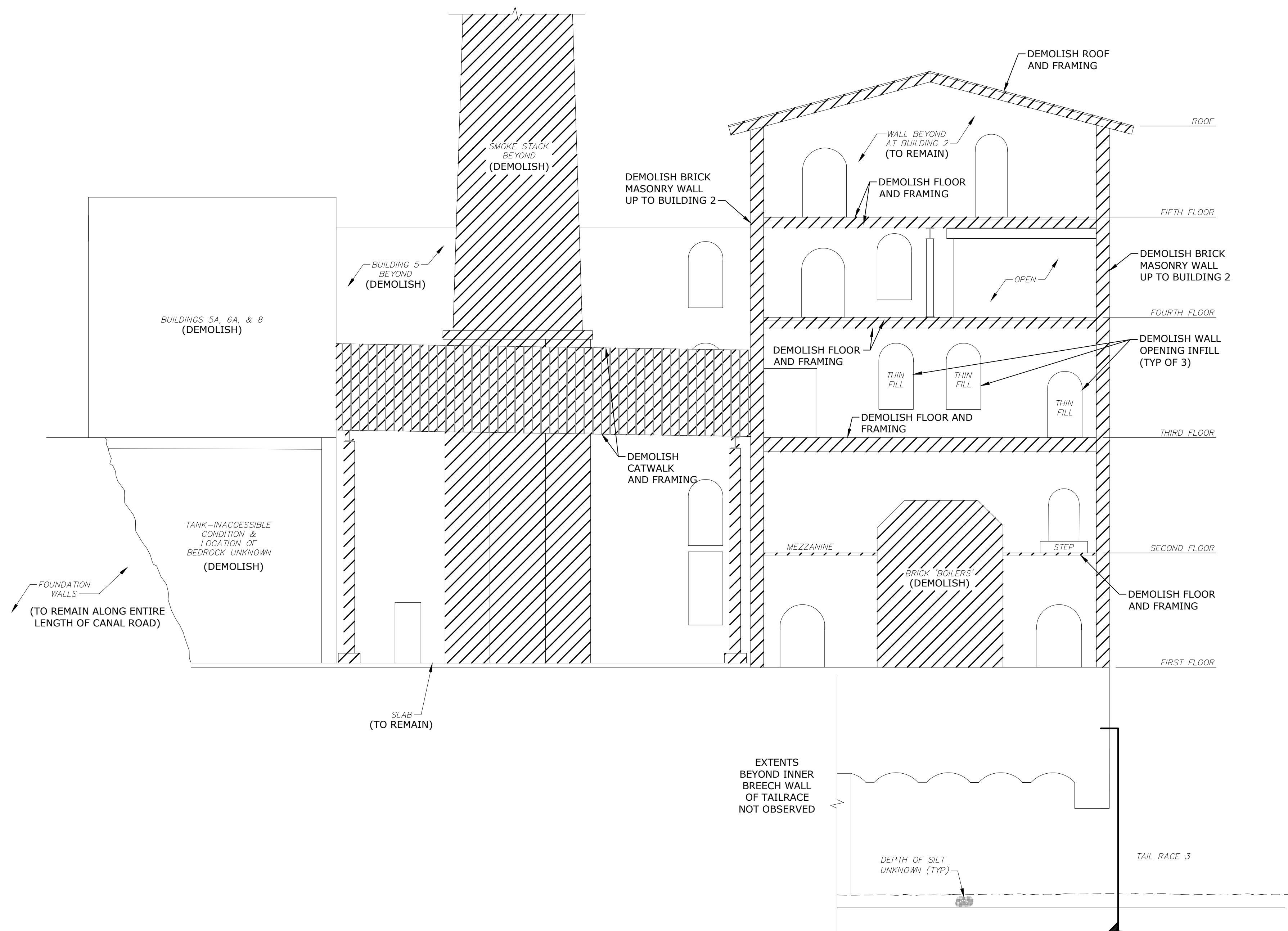
MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION
PROJECT NO: MS003-002		
DATE: APRIL 2019		
FILE: M5003-002-S-102_107.dwg		
DRAWN BY: D.BISHOP		
CHECKED: TDG		
APPROVED: CSF		

SECTION A LOOKING
PROJECT WEST

SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

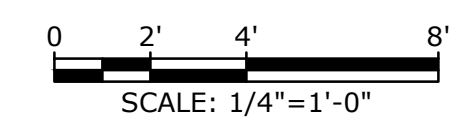
S-101





SECTION B
1/8" = 1'-0"
C-100

LEGEND:
 STRUCTURE TO BE DEMOLISHED



**For Permitting
Only Not For
Construction**

**Strathmore
Mill Complex
Demolition and
Abatement
Design**

Town of
Montague,
Planning and
Conservation
Dept.

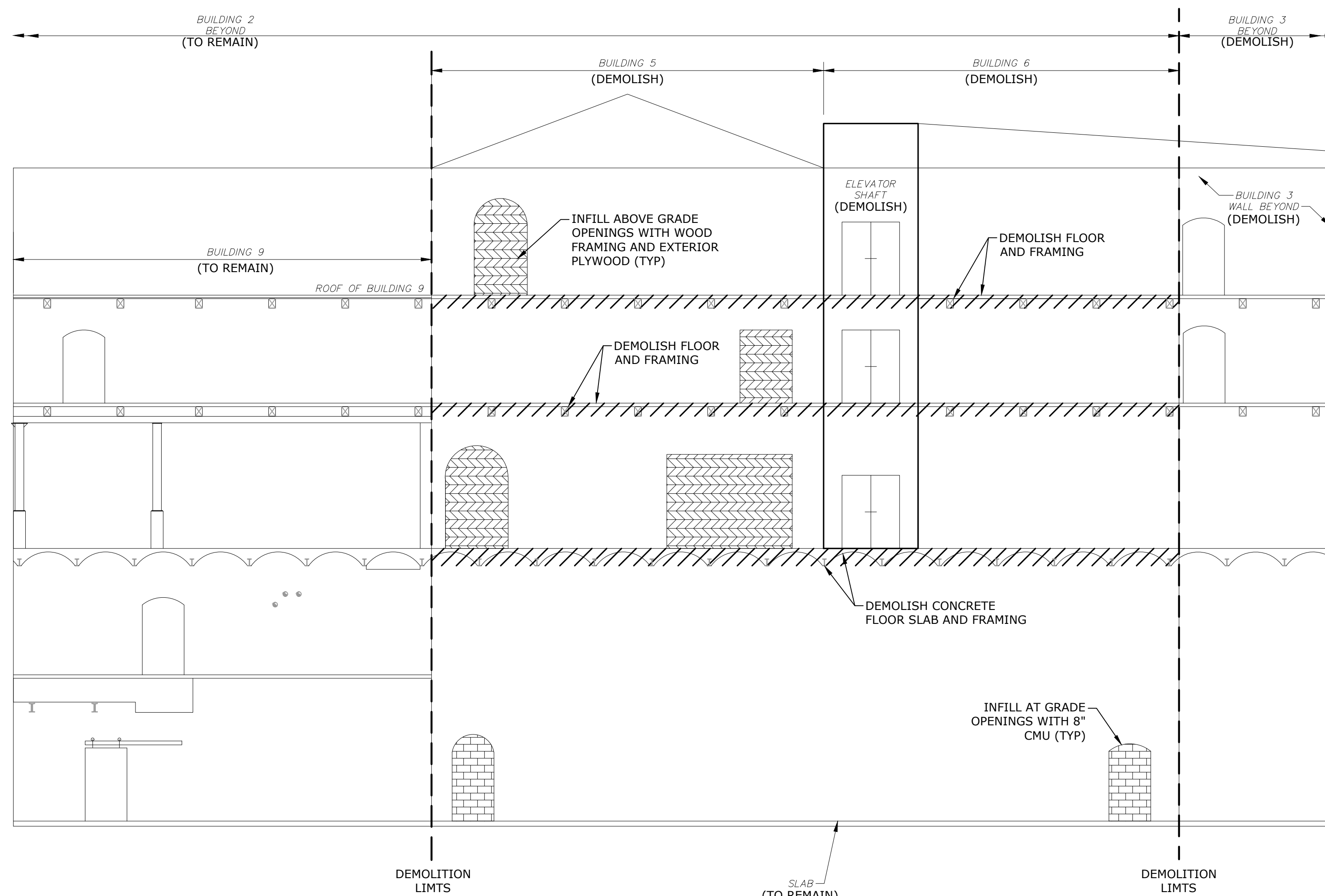
Turners Falls,
Massachusetts

MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION
PROJECT NO:	M5003-002	
DATE:	APRIL 2019	
FILE:	M5003-002-S-102_107.dwg	
DRAWN BY:	D.BISHOP	
CHECKED:	X	
APPROVED:	X	

SECTION B LOOKING PROJECT WEST

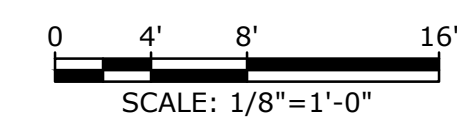
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

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 Plotted On: Mar 27, 2019 11:39am By: T.Gulhan
 Tighe & Bond: J:\M5003-002-Strathmore Mill Demolition Design\Drawings - Major - Figures\AutoCAD\Sheet\M5003-002-S-102_107.dwg



SECTION C
1/8" = 1'-0"
C-100

LEGEND:
 STRUCTURE TO BE DEMOLISHED



**For Permitting
Only Not For
Construction**

**Strathmore
Mill Complex
Demolition and
Abatement
Design**

Town of
Montague,
Planning and
Conservation
Dept.

Turners Falls,
Massachusetts

MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION
PROJECT NO:	M5003-002	
DATE:	APRIL 2019	
FILE:	M5003-002-S-102_107.dwg	
DRAWN BY:	D.BISHOP	
CHECKED:	TDG	
APPROVED:	CSF	

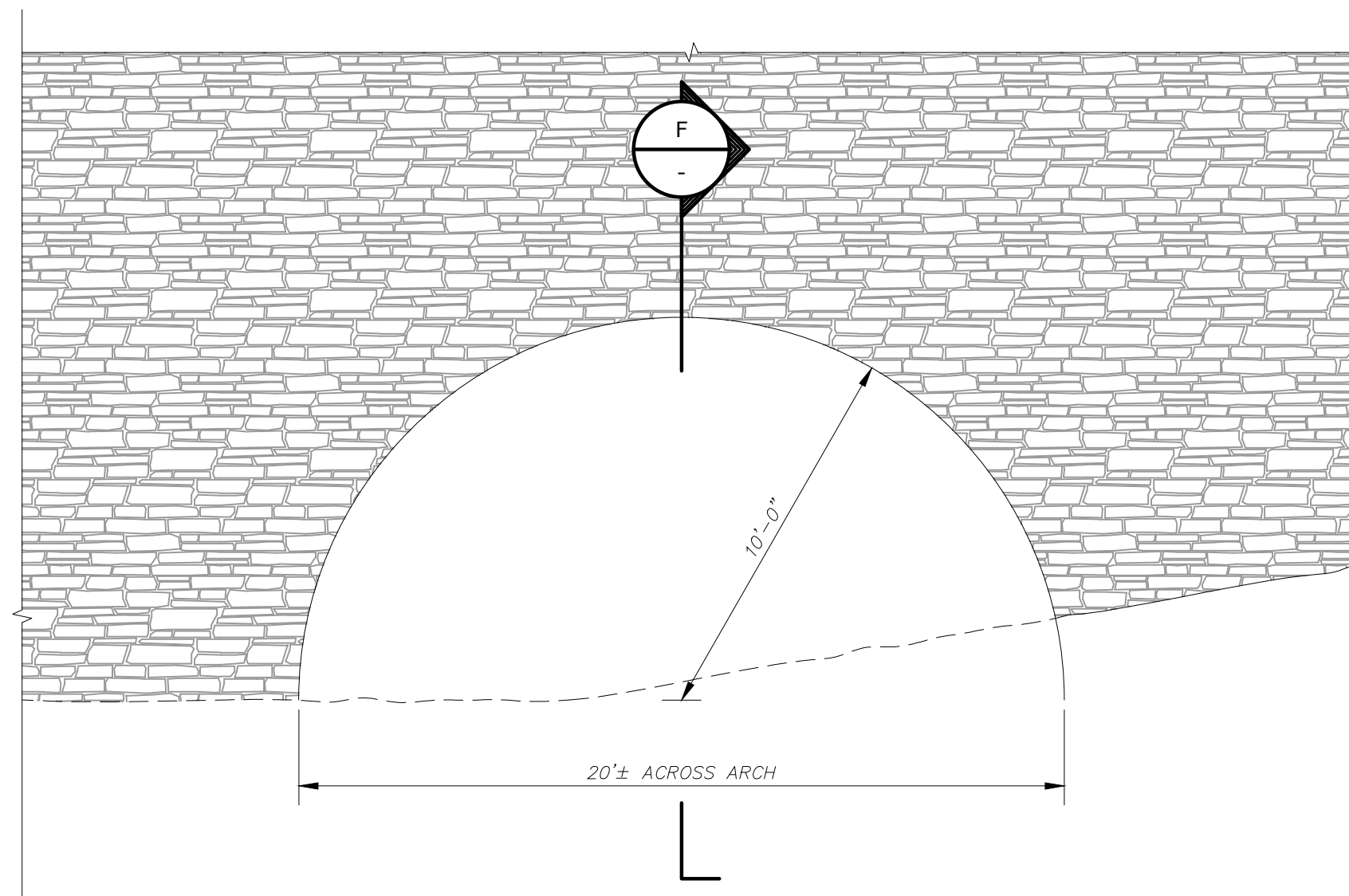
BLUINDING 5 AND 6
LOOKING PROJECT NORTH

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

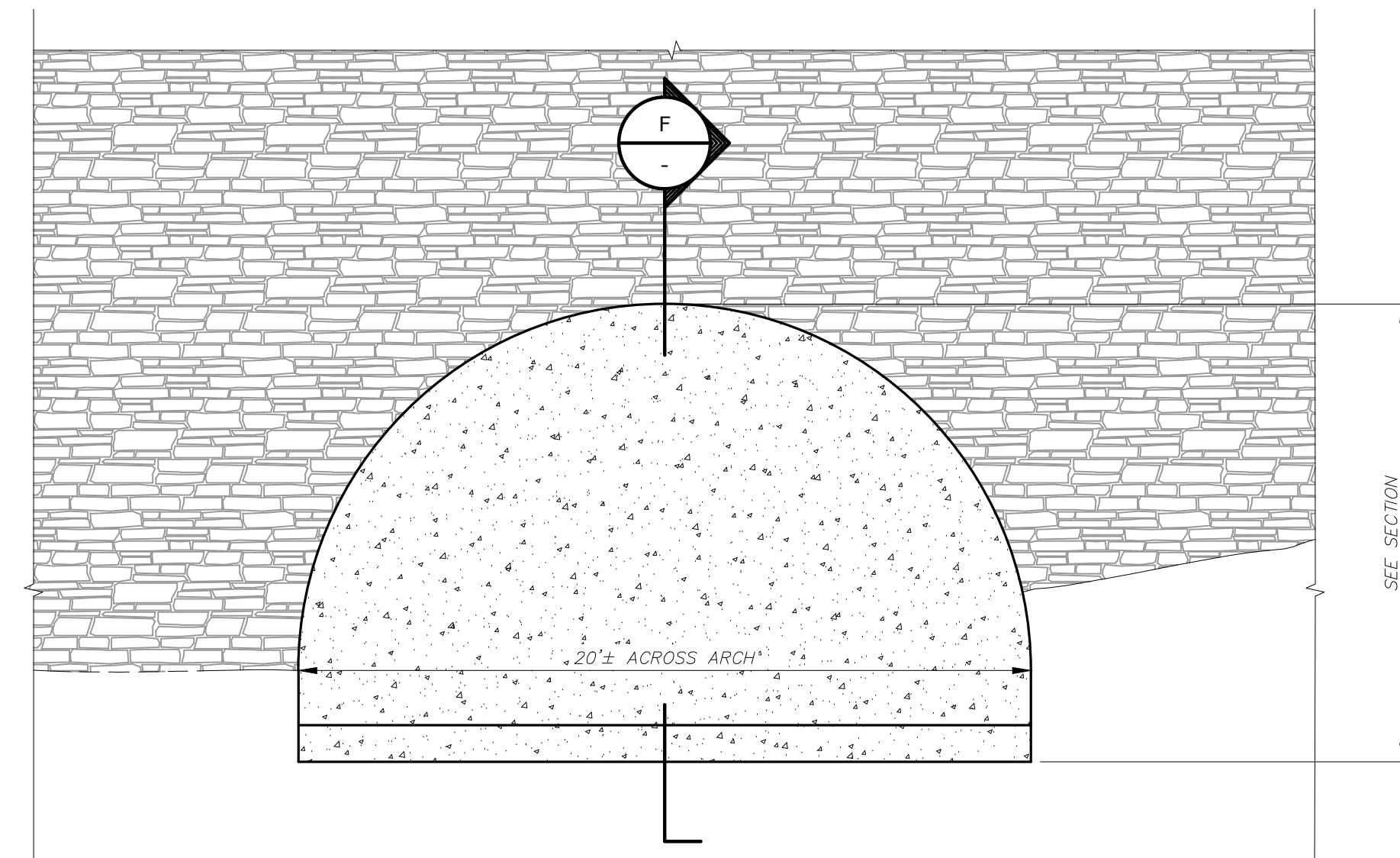
S-103



PHOTO #1



EXISTING TAILRACE

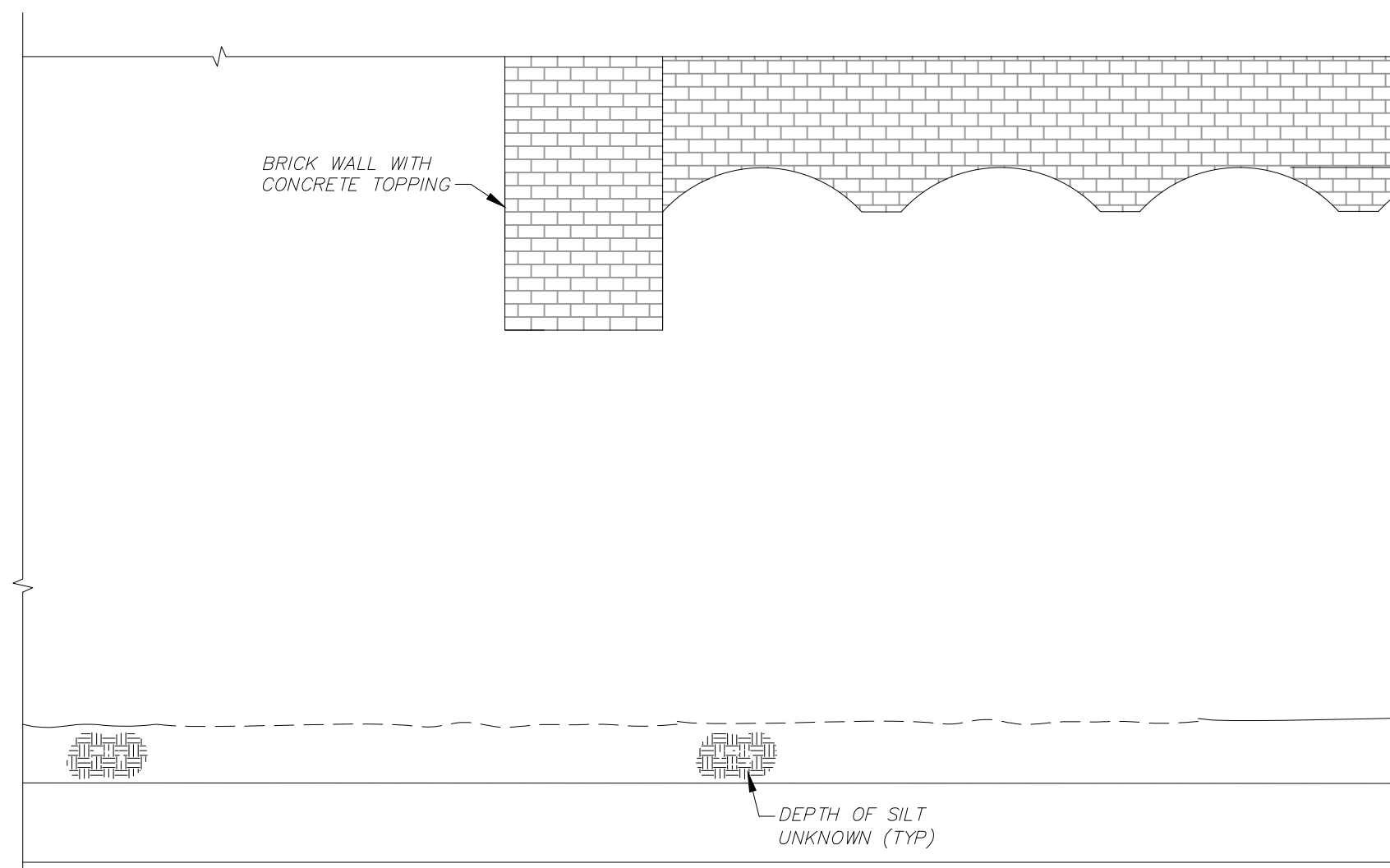


PROPOSED TAILRACE CAP

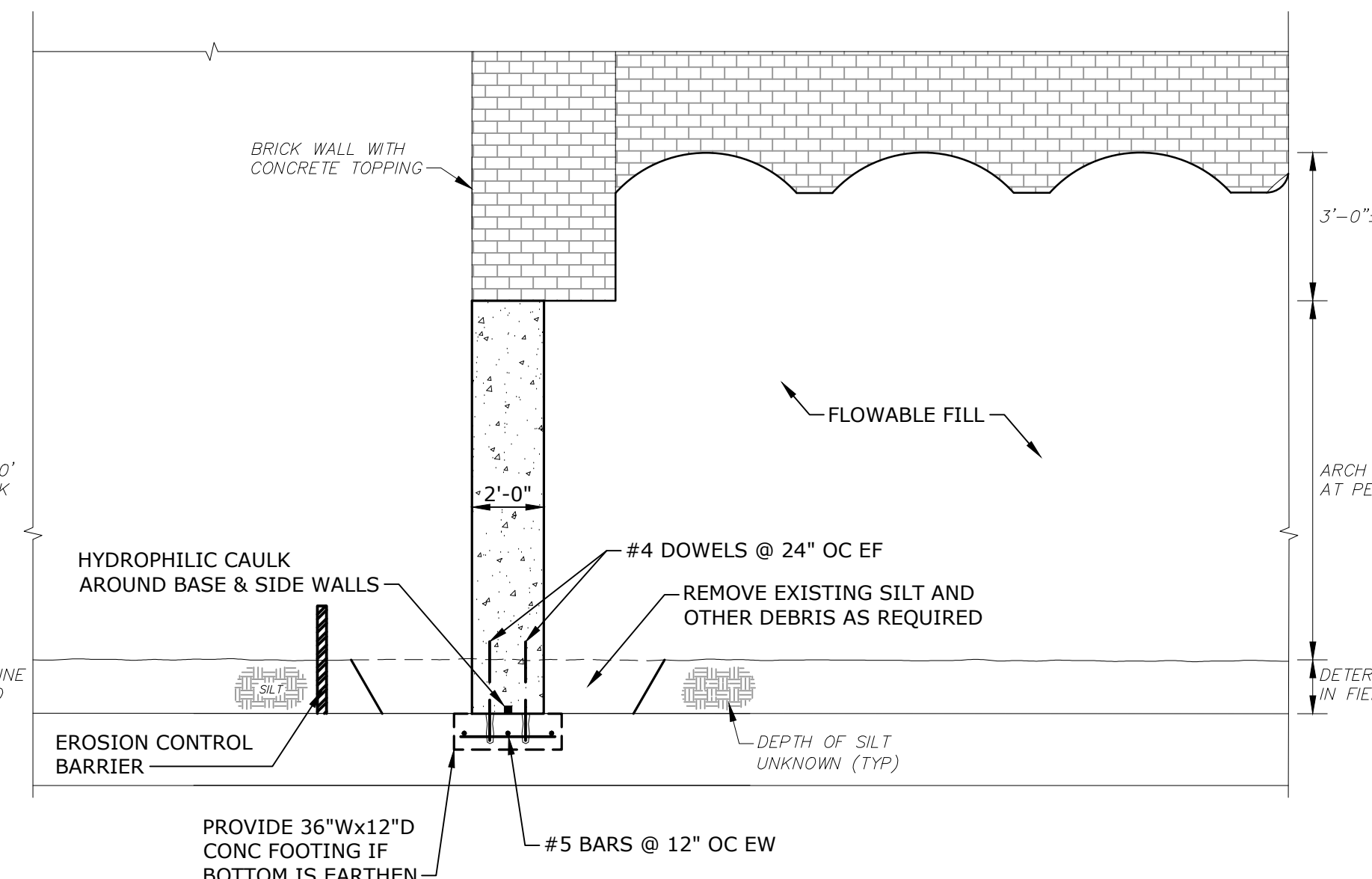
SECTION E
1/4"=1'-0" S-102



PHOTO #2



EXISTING TAILRACE SECTION



PROPOSED TAILRACE CAP SECTION

SECTION F
1/4"=1'-0"

LEGEND:
[Hatched Box] STRUCTURE TO BE DEMOLISHED

**For Permitting
Only Not For
Construction**

**Strathmore
Mill Complex
Demolition and
Abatement
Design**

Town of
Montague,
Planning and
Conservation
Dept.

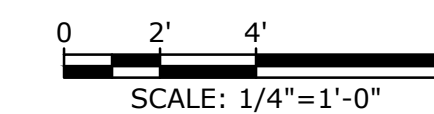
Turners Falls,
Massachusetts

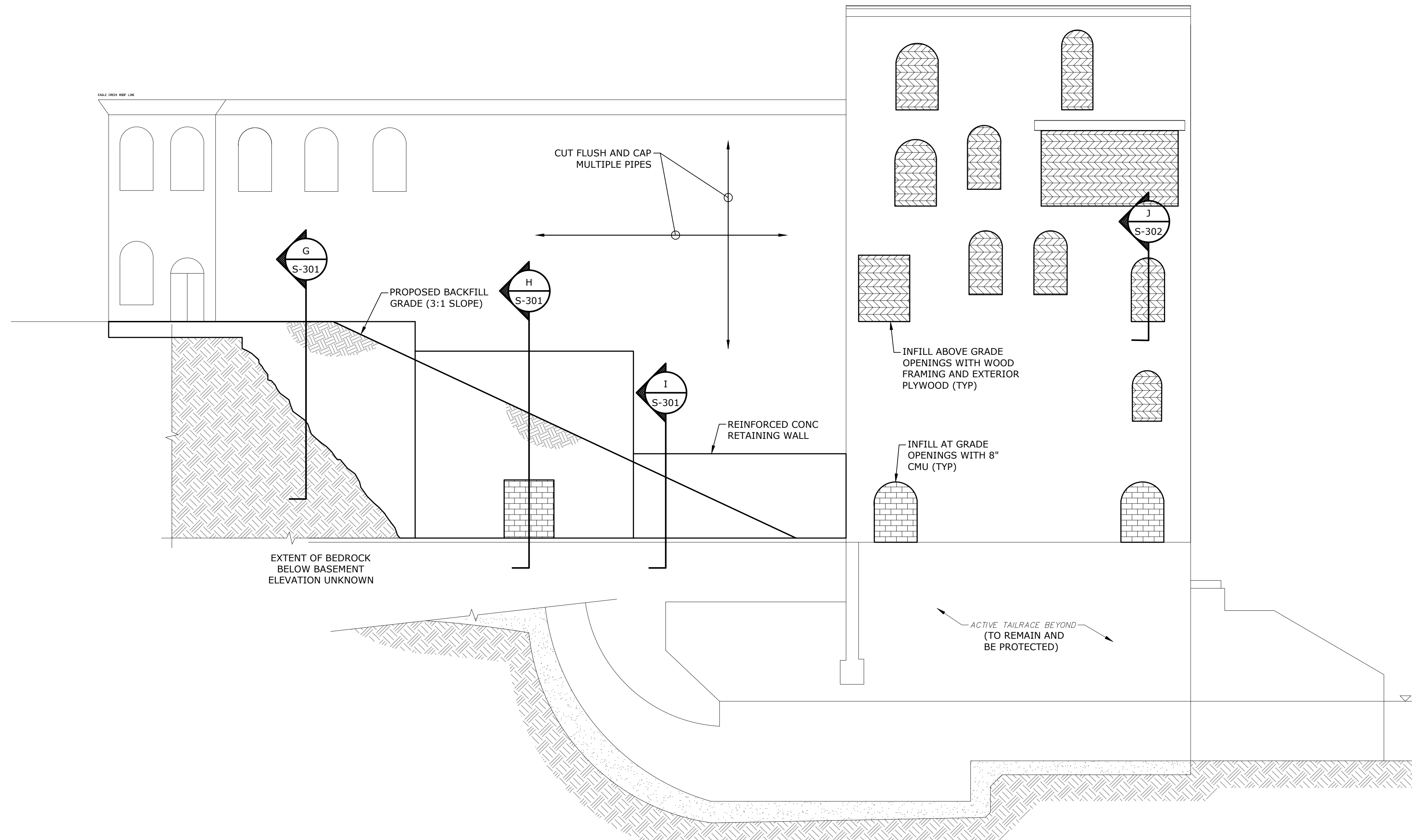
MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION
PROJECT NO:	M5003-002	
DATE:	APRIL 2019	
FILE:	M5003-002-S-102_107.dwg	
DRAWN BY:	D.BISHOP	
CHECKED:	TDG	
APPROVED:	CSF	

**TAILRACE #3
CLOSURE DETAILS**

SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0"

S-104





**For Permitting
Only Not For
Construction**

**Strathmore
Mill Complex
Demolition and
Abatement
Design**

Town of
Montague,
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Conservation
Dept.

Turners Falls,
Massachusetts

MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION

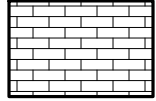
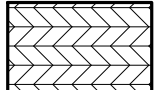
PROJECT NO:	M5003-002
DATE:	APRIL 2019
FILE:	M5003-002-S-102_107.dwg
DRAWN BY:	D.BISHOP
CHECKED:	TDG
APPROVED:	CSF

RETAINING WALL LAYOUT
POST DEMOLITION

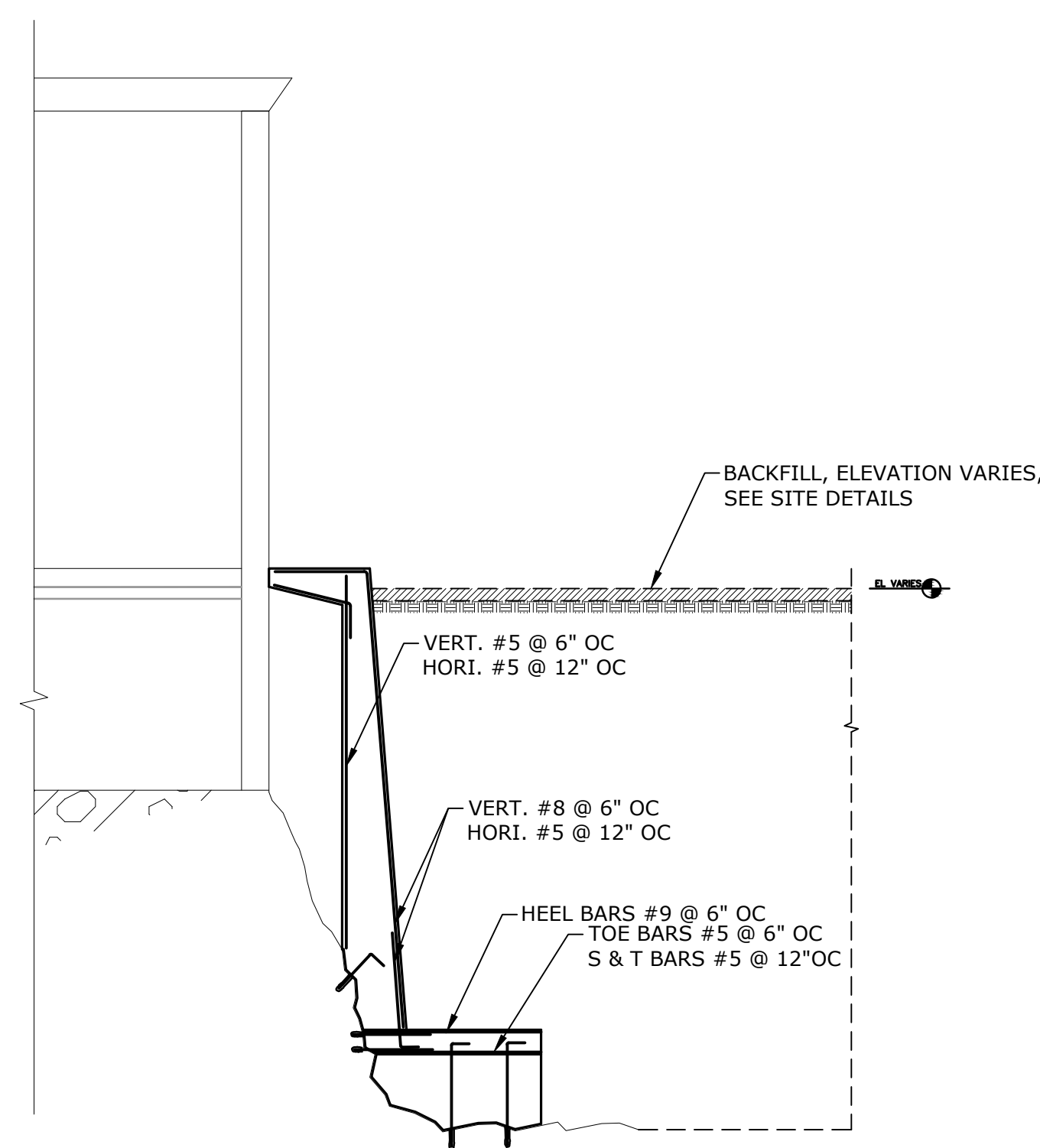
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

S-201

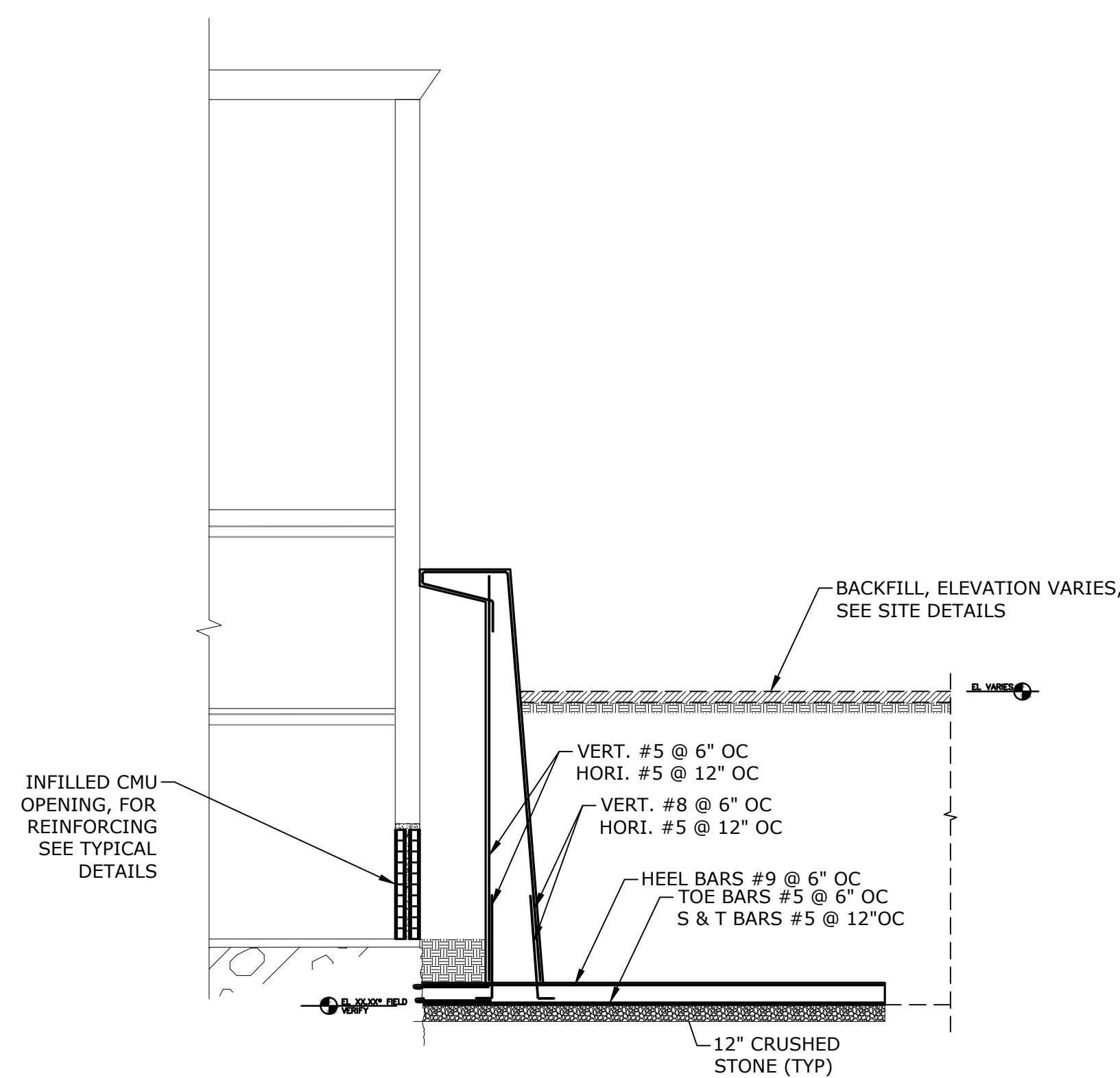
LEGEND:

-  8" CMU INFILL OF EXISTING OPENINGS AT DEMOLITION LIMITS OF EXISTING BUILDINGS
-  WOOD FRAMING AND EXTERIOR PLYWOOD INFILL

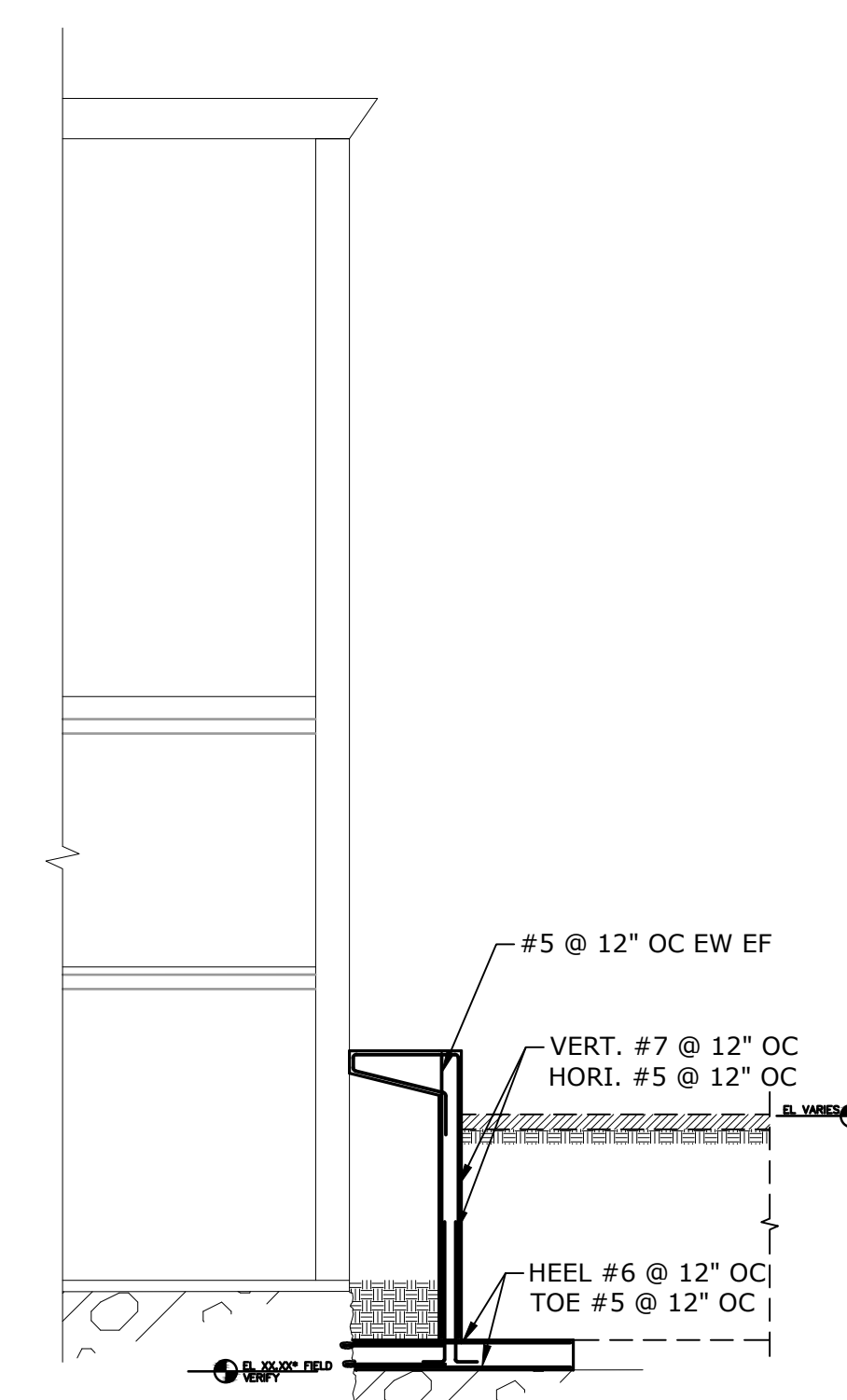




SECTION G
1/8"=1'-0" S-201



SECTION H
1/8"=1'-0" S-201



SECTION I
1/8"=1'-0" S-201

NOTE:
REINFORCEMENT #5 @ 12" OC
UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

**For Permitting
Only Not For
Construction**

**Strathmore
Mill Complex
Demolition and
Abatement
Design**

Town of
Montague,
Planning and
Conservation
Dept.

Turners Falls,
Massachusetts

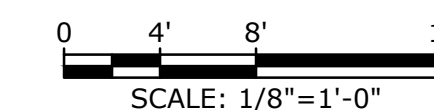
MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION

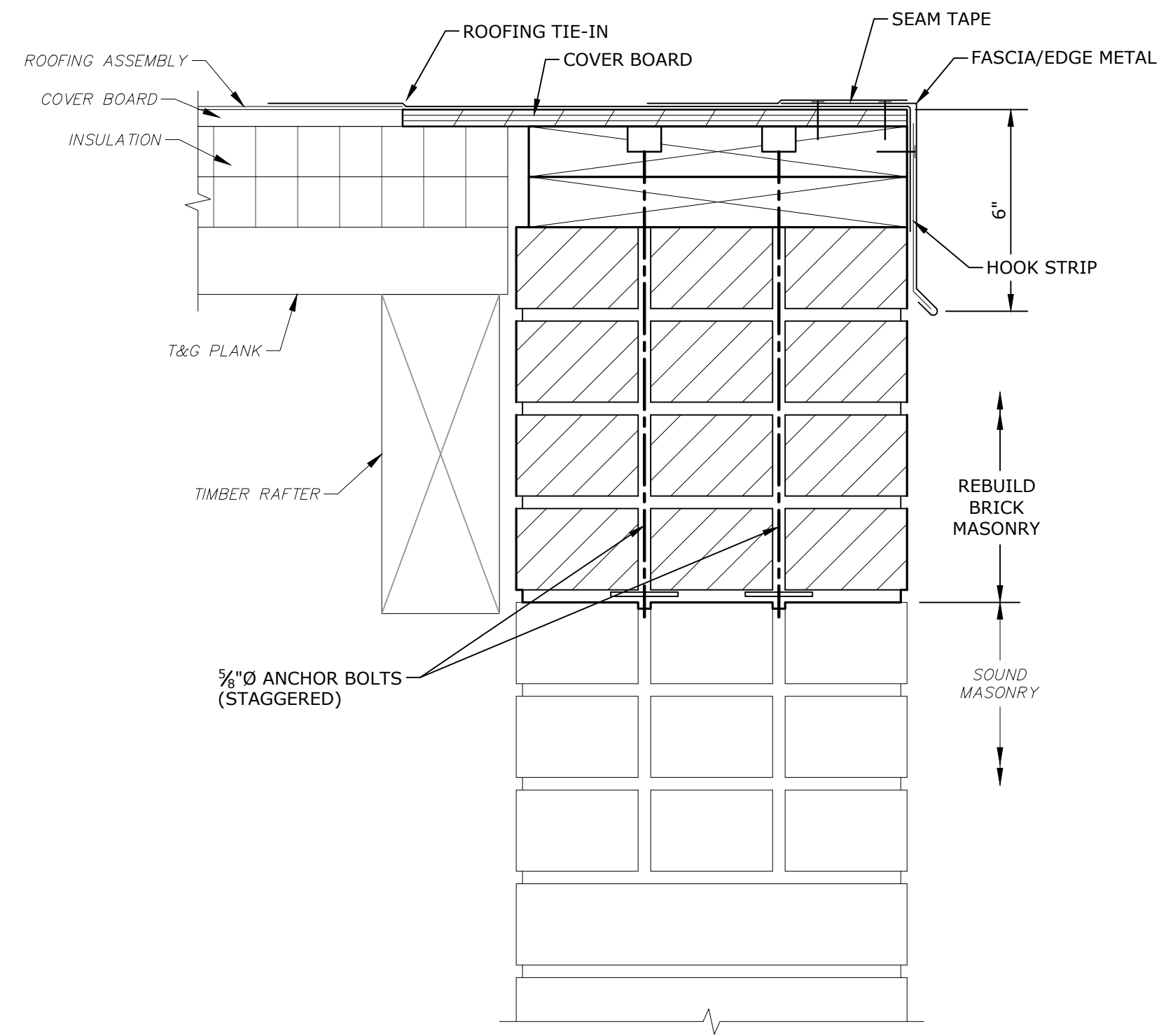
PROJECT NO:	M5003-002
DATE:	APRIL 2019
FILE:	M5003-002-S-102_107.dwg
DRAWN BY:	D.BISHOP
CHECKED:	TDG
APPROVED:	CSF

RETAINING WALL DETAILS

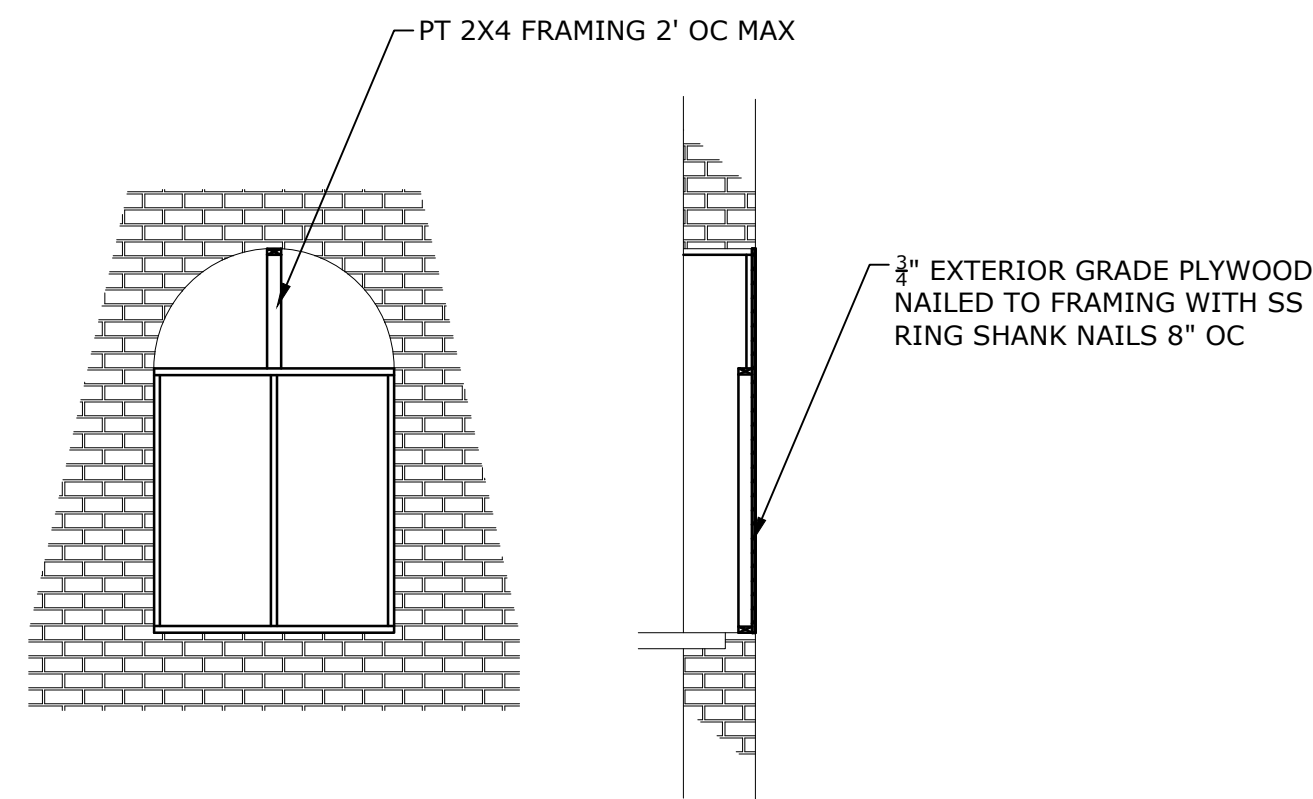
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

S-301





NEW ROOF EDGE DETAIL FOR BUILDING 2
NO SCALE



NOTE:
PROVIDE FRAMING AROUND PERIMETER OF OPENING TO SECURELY FASTEN EXTERIOR PLYWOOD INTO OPENING. INSTALL INTERMEDIATE FRAMING AT 2' OC MAXIMUM

SECTION J
1/4" = 1'-0"

For Permitting Only Not For Construction

Strathmore Mill Complex Demolition and Abatement Design

Town of Montague, Planning and Conservation Dept.

Turners Falls, Massachusetts

MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION
PROJECT NO:	M5003-002	
DATE:	APRIL 2019	
FILE:	M5003-002-S-102_107.dwg	
DRAWN BY:	D.BISHOP	
CHECKED:	TDG	
APPROVED:	CSF	

INFILL & MISCELLANEOUS DETAILS

SCALE: VARIES

S-302



**Attachment C:
Recorded Order of Conditions**

Franklin County Registry of Deeds
Electronically Recorded Document

This is the first page of the document - Do not remove

Recording Information

Document Number	: 3876
Document Type	: ORD
Recorded Date	: May 12, 2026
Recorded Time	: 12:29:32 PM
Recorded Book and Page	: 08639 / 208
Number of Pages(including cover sheet)	: 16
Receipt Number	: 214815
Recording Fee	: \$105.00

Franklin County Registry of Deeds
Scott A. Cote, Register
Courthouse
43 Hope Street
P.O. Box 1495
Greenfield, MA 01302-1495
413-772-0239
www.Masslandrecords.com



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Resource Protection - Wetlands
WPA Form 5 – Order of Conditions
Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

Provided by MassDEP:
229-0253
MassDEP File #

eDEP Transaction #
Montague
City/Town

A. General Information (cont.)

6. Property recorded at the Registry of Deeds for (attach additional information if more than one parcel):
Franklin
- | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|--|------------|
| a. County | <u>4972</u> | b. Certificate Number (if registered land) | <u>251</u> |
| c. Book | | d. Page | |
7. Dates: 4/2/2019 5/9/2019 5/13/2019
 a. Date Notice of Intent Filed b. Date Public Hearing Closed c. Date of Issuance
8. Final Approved Plans and Other Documents (attach additional plan or document references as needed):
Strathmore Mill Complex Demolition and Abatement Design Notice of Intent Package
- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| a. Plan Title | <u>Tighe & Bond, Inc.</u> | c. Signed and Stamped by | |
| b. Prepared By | <u>April 2019</u> | d. Final Revision Date | <u>As Noted</u> |
| | | e. Scale | |
| | | | <u>April 2019</u> |
| f. Additional Plan or Document Title | | | g. Date |

B. Findings

1. Findings pursuant to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act:
- Following the review of the above-referenced Notice of Intent and based on the information provided in this application and presented at the public hearing, this Commission finds that the areas in which work is proposed is significant to the following interests of the Wetlands Protection Act (the Act). Check all that apply:
- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Water Supply | b. <input type="checkbox"/> Land Containing Shellfish | c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prevention of Pollution |
| d. <input type="checkbox"/> Private Water Supply | e. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisheries | f. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protection of Wildlife Habitat |
| g. <input type="checkbox"/> Groundwater Supply | h. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Storm Damage Prevention | i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood Control |
2. This Commission hereby finds the project, as proposed, is: (check one of the following boxes)

Approved subject to:

- a. the following conditions which are necessary in accordance with the performance standards set forth in the wetlands regulations. This Commission orders that all work shall be performed in accordance with the Notice of Intent referenced above, the following General Conditions, and any other special conditions attached to this Order. To the extent that the following conditions modify or differ from the plans, specifications, or other proposals submitted with the Notice of Intent, these conditions shall control.



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Resource Protection - Wetlands
WPA Form 5 – Order of Conditions
 Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

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B. Findings (cont.)

Denied because:

- b. the proposed work cannot be conditioned to meet the performance standards set forth in the wetland regulations. Therefore, work on this project may not go forward unless and until a new Notice of Intent is submitted which provides measures which are adequate to protect the interests of the Act, and a final Order of Conditions is issued. **A description of the performance standards which the proposed work cannot meet is attached to this Order.**
- c. the information submitted by the applicant is not sufficient to describe the site, the work, or the effect of the work on the interests identified in the Wetlands Protection Act. Therefore, work on this project may not go forward unless and until a revised Notice of Intent is submitted which provides sufficient information and includes measures which are adequate to protect the Act's interests, and a final Order of Conditions is issued. **A description of the specific information which is lacking and why it is necessary is attached to this Order as per 310 CMR 10.05(6)(c).**
- 3. Buffer Zone Impacts: Shortest distance between limit of project disturbance and the wetland resource area specified in 310 CMR 10.02(1)(a) _____ a. linear feet

Inland Resource Area Impacts: Check all that apply below. (For Approvals Only)

Resource Area	Proposed Alteration	Permitted Alteration	Proposed Replacement	Permitted Replacement
4. <input type="checkbox"/> Bank	_____ a. linear feet	_____ b. linear feet	_____ c. linear feet	_____ d. linear feet
5. <input type="checkbox"/> Bordering Vegetated Wetland	_____ a. square feet	_____ b. square feet	_____ c. square feet	_____ d. square feet
6. <input type="checkbox"/> Land Under Waterbodies and Waterways	_____ a. square feet	_____ b. square feet	_____ c. square feet	_____ d. square feet
	_____ e. c/y dredged	_____ f. c/y dredged		
7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bordering Land Subject to Flooding	8,510 _____ a. square feet	_____ b. square feet	8,510 _____ c. square feet	_____ d. square feet
Cubic Feet Flood Storage	_____ e. cubic feet	_____ f. cubic feet	_____ g. cubic feet	_____ h. cubic feet
8. <input type="checkbox"/> Isolated Land Subject to Flooding	_____ a. square feet	_____ b. square feet		
Cubic Feet Flood Storage	_____ c. cubic feet	_____ d. cubic feet	_____ e. cubic feet	_____ f. cubic feet
9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Riverfront Area	45,916 _____ a. total sq. feet	_____ b. total sq. feet		
Sq ft within 100 ft	26,676 _____ c. square feet	26,676 _____ d. square feet	_____ e. square feet	_____ f. square feet
Sq ft between 100-200 ft	19,240 _____ g. square feet	19,240 _____ h. square feet	_____ i. square feet	_____ j. square feet



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B. Findings (cont.)

Coastal Resource Area Impacts: Check all that apply below. (For Approvals Only)

	Proposed Alteration	Permitted Alteration	Proposed Replacement	Permitted Replacement
10. <input type="checkbox"/> Designated Port Areas	Indicate size under Land Under the Ocean, below			
11. <input type="checkbox"/> Land Under the Ocean	a. square feet	b. square feet		
	c. c/y dredged	d. c/y dredged		
12. <input type="checkbox"/> Barrier Beaches	Indicate size under Coastal Beaches and/or Coastal Dunes below			
13. <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Beaches	a. square feet	b. square feet	c. ^{cu yd} nourishment	d. ^{cu yd} nourishment
14. <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Dunes	a. square feet	b. square feet	c. ^{cu yd} nourishment	d. ^{cu yd} nourishment
15. <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Banks	a. linear feet	b. linear feet		
16. <input type="checkbox"/> Rocky Intertidal Shores	a. square feet	b. square feet		
17. <input type="checkbox"/> Salt Marshes	a. square feet	b. square feet	c. square feet	d. square feet
18. <input type="checkbox"/> Land Under Salt Ponds	a. square feet	b. square feet		
	c. c/y dredged	d. c/y dredged		
19. <input type="checkbox"/> Land Containing Shellfish	a. square feet	b. square feet	c. square feet	d. square feet
20. <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Runs	Indicate size under Coastal Banks, Inland Bank, Land Under the Ocean, and/or inland Land Under Waterbodies and Waterways, above			
	a. c/y dredged	b. c/y dredged		
21. <input type="checkbox"/> Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage	a. square feet	b. square feet		
22. <input type="checkbox"/> Riverfront Area	a. total sq. feet	b. total sq. feet		
Sq ft within 100 ft	c. square feet	d. square feet	e. square feet	f. square feet
Sq ft between 100-200 ft	g. square feet	h. square feet	i. square feet	j. square feet



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B. Findings (cont.)

* #23. If the project is for the purpose of restoring or enhancing a wetland resource area in addition to the square footage that has been entered in Section B.5.c (BVW) or B.17.c (Salt Marsh) above, please enter the additional amount here.

23. Restoration/Enhancement *:

a. square feet of BVW

b. square feet of salt marsh

24. Stream Crossing(s):

a. number of new stream crossings

b. number of replacement stream crossings

C. General Conditions Under Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act

The following conditions are only applicable to Approved projects.

1. Failure to comply with all conditions stated herein, and with all related statutes and other regulatory measures, shall be deemed cause to revoke or modify this Order.
2. The Order does not grant any property rights or any exclusive privileges; it does not authorize any injury to private property or invasion of private rights.
3. This Order does not relieve the permittee or any other person of the necessity of complying with all other applicable federal, state, or local statutes, ordinances, bylaws, or regulations.
4. The work authorized hereunder shall be completed within three years from the date of this Order unless either of the following apply:
 - a. The work is a maintenance dredging project as provided for in the Act; or
 - b. The time for completion has been extended to a specified date more than three years, but less than five years, from the date of issuance. If this Order is intended to be valid for more than three years, the extension date and the special circumstances warranting the extended time period are set forth as a special condition in this Order.
 - c. If the work is for a Test Project, this Order of Conditions shall be valid for no more than one year.
5. This Order may be extended by the issuing authority for one or more periods of up to three years each upon application to the issuing authority at least 30 days prior to the expiration date of the Order. An Order of Conditions for a Test Project may be extended for one additional year only upon written application by the applicant, subject to the provisions of 310 CMR 10.05(11)(f).
6. If this Order constitutes an Amended Order of Conditions, this Amended Order of Conditions does not extend the issuance date of the original Final Order of Conditions and the Order will expire on 5/8/2022 unless extended in writing by the Department.
7. Any fill used in connection with this project shall be clean fill. Any fill shall contain no trash, refuse, rubbish, or debris, including but not limited to lumber, bricks, plaster, wire, lath, paper, cardboard, pipe, tires, ashes, refrigerators, motor vehicles, or parts of any of the foregoing.



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C. General Conditions Under Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act

8. This Order is not final until all administrative appeal periods from this Order have elapsed, or if such an appeal has been taken, until all proceedings before the Department have been completed.
9. No work shall be undertaken until the Order has become final and then has been recorded in the Registry of Deeds or the Land Court for the district in which the land is located, within the chain of title of the affected property. In the case of recorded land, the Final Order shall also be noted in the Registry's Grantor Index under the name of the owner of the land upon which the proposed work is to be done. In the case of the registered land, the Final Order shall also be noted on the Land Court Certificate of Title of the owner of the land upon which the proposed work is done. The recording information shall be submitted to the Conservation Commission on the form at the end of this Order, which form must be stamped by the Registry of Deeds, prior to the commencement of work.
10. A sign shall be displayed at the site not less than two square feet or more than three square feet in size bearing the words,

"Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection" [or, "MassDEP"]
"File Number 229-0253"
11. Where the Department of Environmental Protection is requested to issue a Superseding Order, the Conservation Commission shall be a party to all agency proceedings and hearings before MassDEP.
12. Upon completion of the work described herein, the applicant shall submit a Request for Certificate of Compliance (WPA Form 8A) to the Conservation Commission.
13. The work shall conform to the plans and special conditions referenced in this order.
14. Any change to the plans identified in Condition #13 above shall require the applicant to inquire of the Conservation Commission in writing whether the change is significant enough to require the filing of a new Notice of Intent.
15. The Agent or members of the Conservation Commission and the Department of Environmental Protection shall have the right to enter and inspect the area subject to this Order at reasonable hours to evaluate compliance with the conditions stated in this Order, and may require the submittal of any data deemed necessary by the Conservation Commission or Department for that evaluation.
16. This Order of Conditions shall apply to any successor in interest or successor in control of the property subject to this Order and to any contractor or other person performing work conditioned by this Order.



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C. General Conditions Under Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (cont.)

17. Prior to the start of work, and if the project involves work adjacent to a Bordering Vegetated Wetland, the boundary of the wetland in the vicinity of the proposed work area shall be marked by wooden stakes or flagging. Once in place, the wetland boundary markers shall be maintained until a Certificate of Compliance has been issued by the Conservation Commission.
18. All sedimentation barriers shall be maintained in good repair until all disturbed areas have been fully stabilized with vegetation or other means. At no time shall sediments be deposited in a wetland or water body. During construction, the applicant or his/her designee shall inspect the erosion controls on a daily basis and shall remove accumulated sediments as needed. The applicant shall immediately control any erosion problems that occur at the site and shall also immediately notify the Conservation Commission, which reserves the right to require additional erosion and/or damage prevention controls it may deem necessary. Sedimentation barriers shall serve as the limit of work unless another limit of work line has been approved by this Order.
19. The work associated with this Order (the "Project")
- (1) is subject to the Massachusetts Stormwater Standards
- (2) is NOT subject to the Massachusetts Stormwater Standards

If the work is subject to the Stormwater Standards, then the project is subject to the following conditions:

- a) All work, including site preparation, land disturbance, construction and redevelopment, shall be implemented in accordance with the construction period pollution prevention and erosion and sedimentation control plan and, if applicable, the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan required by the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Construction General Permit as required by Stormwater Condition 8. Construction period erosion, sedimentation and pollution control measures and best management practices (BMPs) shall remain in place until the site is fully stabilized.
- b) No stormwater runoff may be discharged to the post-construction stormwater BMPs unless and until a Registered Professional Engineer provides a Certification that:
- i. all construction period BMPs have been removed or will be removed by a date certain specified in the Certification. For any construction period BMPs intended to be converted to post construction operation for stormwater attenuation, recharge, and/or treatment, the conversion is allowed by the MassDEP Stormwater Handbook BMP specifications and that the BMP has been properly cleaned or prepared for post construction operation, including removal of all construction period sediment trapped in inlet and outlet control structures;
 - ii. as-built final construction BMP plans are included, signed and stamped by a Registered Professional Engineer, certifying the site is fully stabilized;
 - iii. any illicit discharges to the stormwater management system have been removed, as per the requirements of Stormwater Standard 10;



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C. General Conditions Under Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (cont.)

iv. all post-construction stormwater BMPs are installed in accordance with the plans (including all planting plans) approved by the issuing authority, and have been inspected to ensure that they are not damaged and that they are in proper working condition;

v. any vegetation associated with post-construction BMPs is suitably established to withstand erosion.

c) The landowner is responsible for BMP maintenance until the issuing authority is notified that another party has legally assumed responsibility for BMP maintenance. Prior to requesting a Certificate of Compliance, or Partial Certificate of Compliance, the responsible party (defined in General Condition 18(e)) shall execute and submit to the issuing authority an Operation and Maintenance Compliance Statement ("O&M Statement") for the Stormwater BMPs identifying the party responsible for implementing the stormwater BMP Operation and Maintenance Plan ("O&M Plan") and certifying the following:

i.) the O&M Plan is complete and will be implemented upon receipt of the Certificate of Compliance, and

ii.) the future responsible parties shall be notified in writing of their ongoing legal responsibility to operate and maintain the stormwater management BMPs and implement the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan.

d) Post-construction pollution prevention and source control shall be implemented in accordance with the long-term pollution prevention plan section of the approved Stormwater Report and, if applicable, the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan required by the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Multi-Sector General Permit.

e) Unless and until another party accepts responsibility, the landowner, or owner of any drainage easement, assumes responsibility for maintaining each BMP. To overcome this presumption, the landowner of the property must submit to the issuing authority a legally binding agreement of record, acceptable to the issuing authority, evidencing that another entity has accepted responsibility for maintaining the BMP, and that the proposed responsible party shall be treated as a permittee for purposes of implementing the requirements of Conditions 18(f) through 18(k) with respect to that BMP. Any failure of the proposed responsible party to implement the requirements of Conditions 18(f) through 18(k) with respect to that BMP shall be a violation of the Order of Conditions or Certificate of Compliance. In the case of stormwater BMPs that are serving more than one lot, the legally binding agreement shall also identify the lots that will be serviced by the stormwater BMPs. A plan and easement deed that grants the responsible party access to perform the required operation and maintenance must be submitted along with the legally binding agreement.

f) The responsible party shall operate and maintain all stormwater BMPs in accordance with the design plans, the O&M Plan, and the requirements of the Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook.



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C. General Conditions Under Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (cont.)

- g) The responsible party shall:
1. Maintain an operation and maintenance log for the last three (3) consecutive calendar years of inspections, repairs, maintenance and/or replacement of the stormwater management system or any part thereof, and disposal (for disposal the log shall indicate the type of material and the disposal location);
 2. Make the maintenance log available to MassDEP and the Conservation Commission ("Commission") upon request; and
 3. Allow members and agents of the MassDEP and the Commission to enter and inspect the site to evaluate and ensure that the responsible party is in compliance with the requirements for each BMP established in the O&M Plan approved by the issuing authority.
- h) All sediment or other contaminants removed from stormwater BMPs shall be disposed of in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- i) Illicit discharges to the stormwater management system as defined in 310 CMR 10.04 are prohibited.
- j) The stormwater management system approved in the Order of Conditions shall not be changed without the prior written approval of the issuing authority.
- k) Areas designated as qualifying pervious areas for the purpose of the Low Impact Site Design Credit (as defined in the MassDEP Stormwater Handbook, Volume 3, Chapter 1, Low Impact Development Site Design Credits) shall not be altered without the prior written approval of the issuing authority.
- l) Access for maintenance, repair, and/or replacement of BMPs shall not be withheld. Any fencing constructed around stormwater BMPs shall include access gates and shall be at least six inches above grade to allow for wildlife passage.

Special Conditions (if you need more space for additional conditions, please attach a text document):

See attached document titled Special Conditions NOI 2019-01

20. For Test Projects subject to 310 CMR 10.05(11), the applicant shall also implement the monitoring plan and the restoration plan submitted with the Notice of Intent. If the conservation commission or Department determines that the Test Project threatens the public health, safety or the environment, the applicant shall implement the removal plan submitted with the Notice of Intent or modify the project as directed by the conservation commission or the Department.



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D. Findings Under Municipal Wetlands Bylaw or Ordinance

1. Is a municipal wetlands bylaw or ordinance applicable? Yes No
2. The _____ hereby finds (check one that applies):

Conservation Commission

- a. that the proposed work cannot be conditioned to meet the standards set forth in a municipal ordinance or bylaw, specifically:

1. Municipal Ordinance or Bylaw

2. Citation

Therefore, work on this project may not go forward unless and until a revised Notice of Intent is submitted which provides measures which are adequate to meet these standards, and a final Order of Conditions is issued.

- b. that the following additional conditions are necessary to comply with a municipal ordinance or bylaw:

1. Municipal Ordinance or Bylaw

2. Citation

3. The Commission orders that all work shall be performed in accordance with the following conditions and with the Notice of Intent referenced above. To the extent that the following conditions modify or differ from the plans, specifications, or other proposals submitted with the Notice of Intent, the conditions shall control.

The special conditions relating to municipal ordinance or bylaw are as follows (if you need more space for additional conditions, attach a text document):



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G. Recording Information

Prior to commencement of work, this Order of Conditions must be recorded in the Registry of Deeds or the Land Court for the district in which the land is located, within the chain of title of the affected property. In the case of recorded land, the Final Order shall also be noted in the Registry's Grantor Index under the name of the owner of the land subject to the Order. In the case of registered land, this Order shall also be noted on the Land Court Certificate of Title of the owner of the land subject to the Order of Conditions. The recording information on this page shall be submitted to the Conservation Commission listed below.

 Conservation Commission

Detach on dotted line, have stamped by the Registry of Deeds and submit to the Conservation Commission.

To:

 Conservation Commission

Please be advised that the Order of Conditions for the Project at:

 Project Location

 MassDEP File Number

Has been recorded at the Registry of Deeds of:

 County

 Book

 Page

for: _____
 Property Owner

and has been noted in the chain of title of the affected property in:

 Book

 Page

In accordance with the Order of Conditions issued on:

 Date

If recorded land, the instrument number identifying this transaction is:

 Instrument Number

If registered land, the document number identifying this transaction is:

 Document Number

 Signature of Applicant



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
 Bureau of Resource Protection - Wetlands

DEP File Number:

Request for Departmental Action Fee Transmittal Form

Provided by DEP

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

A. Request Information

1. Location of Project

_____	_____
a. Street Address	b. City/Town, Zip
_____	_____
c. Check number	d. Fee amount

2. Person or party making request (if appropriate, name the citizen group's representative):

Name

Mailing Address

_____	_____	_____
City/Town	State	Zip Code

_____	_____
Phone Number	Fax Number (if applicable)

3. Applicant (as shown on Determination of Applicability (Form 2), Order of Resource Area Delineation (Form 4B), Order of Conditions (Form 5), Restoration Order of Conditions (Form 5A), or Notice of Non-Significance (Form 6)):

Name

Mailing Address

_____	_____	_____
City/Town	State	Zip Code

_____	_____
Phone Number	Fax Number (if applicable)

4. DEP File Number:

B. Instructions

1. When the Departmental action request is for (check one):

- Superseding Order of Conditions – Fee: \$120.00 (single family house projects) or \$245 (all other projects)
- Superseding Determination of Applicability – Fee: \$120
- Superseding Order of Resource Area Delineation – Fee: \$120

Important:
 When filling out forms on the computer, use only the tab key to move your cursor - do not use the return key.





Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Resource Protection - Wetlands

DEP File Number:

**Request for Departmental Action Fee
Transmittal Form**

Provided by DEP

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

B. Instructions (cont.)

Send this form and check or money order, payable to the *Commonwealth of Massachusetts*, to:

Department of Environmental Protection
Box 4062
Boston, MA 02211

2. On a separate sheet attached to this form, state clearly and concisely the objections to the Determination or Order which is being appealed. To the extent that the Determination or Order is based on a municipal bylaw, and not on the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act or regulations, the Department has no appellate jurisdiction.
3. Send a **copy** of this form and a **copy** of the check or money order with the Request for a Superseding Determination or Order by certified mail or hand delivery to the appropriate DEP Regional Office (see <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/about/contacts/>).
4. A copy of the request shall at the same time be sent by certified mail or hand delivery to the Conservation Commission and to the applicant, if he/she is not the appellant.

Montague Conservation Commission

One Avenue A Turners Falls, MA 01376 (413) 863-3208

DEP File 229-0253 - Special Conditions

A. Applicant Information

Applicant:	<u>Town of Montague, Selectboard</u>	DEP File #	<u>229-0253</u>
Address:	<u>8 and 20 Canal Road</u>	Montague File #	<u>NOI# 2019-01</u>
Project Site:	<u>Strathmore Mill Complex (Map 2 Lot 1.6)</u>	Date Issued	<u>May 9, 2019</u>
Owner:	<u>Inhabitants of Montague</u>		

B. Approved Plans and Documents

1. Strathmore Mill Complex Demolition and Abatement Design Notice of Intent, April 2019. Prepared by Tighe and Bond

C. Findings

1. The abatement and controlled demolition of the Strathmore Mill will be a net environmental benefit because the structure in its current state is a threat to jurisdictional resource areas.
2. The Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program has determined that the project must be conditioned in order to avoid adverse effects to the Resource Area Habitats of state-listed wildlife species (310 CMR 10.58(4)(b) and 10.59) and must be conditioned in order to avoid a prohibited Take of state-listed species (321 CMR 10.18(2)(a)). See NHESP file no. 18-38083

D. Special Conditions

1. Pre-Construction Conference. The Montague Conservation Commission must be notified at least 48 hours prior to construction in order to inspect erosion controls, review limit of work and participate in a pre-construction conference with town officials. A copy of this Order of Conditions shall be provided to the contractor by applicant.
2. Work Timing. All work associated with the Project, is prohibited April 1 – June 30 to protect spawning fish species.
3. Botanical field surveys. Surveys for Tufted Hairgrass shall be conducted to delineate and avoid impacts to this plant species along the Connecticut River side of the project.
 - a. Botanical field surveys must be conducted by a qualified botanist in appropriate habitats throughout all areas of proposed work and areas within 20 feet, including any area of contact between the debris collection netting and the ground, using methodologies consistent with the STATE-LISTED SPECIES HABITAT ASSESSMENT AND SURVEY GUIDELINES: PLANTS (dated March 2016), see <http://www.mass.gov/cca/docs/dfg/nhosp/regulatory-review/plantassessment.pdf>
 - b. The Division of Fish and Wildlife (Division) requires pre-approval of the botanist prior to conducting surveys. Please submit a copy of the botanist's resume/curriculum vita for review.
 - c. The approved botanist shall submit to the Division a time-table and survey protocol for written approval prior to initiation of field work. The survey protocol shall list the specific taxonomic characteristics for definitive identification as well as the characteristics of similar or easily confused species. Surveys should be successful at detecting the target plant in June.
 - d. If state-listed plants are encountered within the proposed limit of work or within 20 feet, the approved botanist shall conduct additional surveys sufficient to enable the Applicant to propose to the Division protective measures to ensure that the project does not result in a Take of the state-listed plants.
4. Renewal, extension or Amendment of the Order of Conditions, Request for Certificate of Compliance. Upon filing for any renewal, extension, amendment, or certification of compliance for the Order of Condition associated with this site pursuant to the MA Wetlands Protection Act, the Applicant shall similarly file with the Division pursuant to 310 CMR 10.58(4)(b) & 10.59.
5. Authorization Duration. This authorization is valid for 5 years from the date of issuance. Work shall be completed by the expiration of this authorization. If needed, the Applicant shall submit a written request to the Division for an extension of time to complete the Work no later than 60 days prior to the expiration of this determination, and the Division will review the Project pursuant to the MESA for any continuing impacts as described herein, and any new impacts to any State-listed Species found subsequent to the issuance date of this Permit.
6. Compliance Report. Within thirty (30) days of completion of Work the Applicant shall submit to the Commission and Division a brief written report including photographs showing previous and final conditions in order to demonstrate compliance with the Conditions herein.

Statement of Work: Boat Ramp Surfacing at Conte Research Lab

Background: The Conte Research Lab (CRL) has a boat ramp that allows access to the Connecticut River between Rock Dam and Cabot Station, located within our easement boundary as defined in the agreement with First Light, who are the property owners. The area was excavated and graded then stone surfacing material was spread to provide traction. The purpose of the ramp was originally to allow access for research vessels studying fisheries in the river, and it is still used for that purpose, but it has also become an essential access point for local and state water rescue teams. During periods of heavy rain and spring snowmelt that cause high water levels in the river the boat ramp is completely submerged, which has caused heavy silt deposits and washed away the surfacing material. The result is that vehicles putting in and taking out boats regularly become stuck in the deep mud, requiring another vehicle or construction equipment to pull them out.

This situation can delay the response time of first responders and jeopardize the success of their mission if more than one vessel is needed to conduct a rescue or recovery. It can take a considerable amount of time to move a piece of equipment down to the ramp or to rig another truck for a recovery, and the success of the effort depends on the capability of the available equipment. If CRL personnel are not available to assist with pulling out a vehicle, or they can't complete the recovery, the delay could be even longer if the town needs to assist or a contractor is summoned. The nearest alternate access point for rescue vessels is in Sunderland, 11 miles south on the river, and there could be factors that make navigating the water to this stretch of the river difficult or impossible.

Objective: The immediate goal of this effort is to provide a more stable surface for putting in and taking out vessels and to clear some of the residual silt deposits that have narrowed the ramp. Using traprock will make the surface more resistant to washing out, as the stones will interlock when compacted and last longer than the cobblestone used in previous efforts to stabilize the surface. All the materials and labor will be provided by the CRL.

Scope of Work: Some leveling and grading will need to be completed before the surfacing material is installed, but this work will be minor and will not extend beyond the original boundaries of the ramp. Approximately 6-10 yards of #1 crushed bluestone aggregate will be spread and levelled by mechanical means and compacted as need to lock in the stone and provide a solid surface. This work will be performed during low water in the river, and no material will be added below the waterline. The weather will be closely monitored, and no work will be performed during rain events to prevent the possibility of runoff from the work area into the river. Any soil or debris on the ramp that is loosened or disturbed will be compacted and covered with stone or removed if necessary.

The equipment to be used in the project are as follows:

- 2023 F-350 one-ton dump truck
- Kubota U-27 mini-excavator
- John Deere 3520 tractor with bucket loader
- Hand tools as needed

All the equipment is in sound mechanical condition and is regularly inspected and serviced.

Documentation: A site visit was conducted by Maureen Pollock, who took pictures of the proposed work area and asked that we provide pictures of the completed work. CRL will also furnish before and after photos to verify that the work is completed within the original boundaries of the ramp. CRL will provide access to the site for any town officials if requested during all phases of this project. The project lead for this job is Marty Garcia, the Facility Manager at the CRL, he can be reached at (413) 768-4941 or rgarcia@usgs.gov if any questions or concerns arise.

From: [Chief Luke Hartnett](#)
To: [Maureen Pollock](#); [JohnZ-Emergency Management Director](#)
Subject: RE: FW: Statement of Work for Boat Ramp
Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2026 4:50:38 PM

Good Afternoon,

As one of the responders on that incident, I can not stress how important that the improvement of this ramp could be for access to the river for a large portion of our Town, and neighboring as well.. The next closest access that provided the safest means of entry/exit is that of the Sunderland boat ramp, nearly 10 miles downstream.

In whatever manner I may assist in moving this along, please let me know.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated!

-Luke



Luke Hartnett

Fire Chief
Turners Falls Fire Department
180 Turnpike Rd.
Turners Falls, Ma.01376
413-863-9023 EXT 100
413-835-5343
Chief@TurnersFallsFire.org

When writing or responding, please remember that the Secretary of State's Office has determined that e-mail is a public record. This message and accompanying documents are covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 2510-2521, and contain information intended for the specified individual (s) only. This information is confidential. If you are not the intended recipient or an agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this document in error and that any review, dissemination, copying, or the taking of any action based on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by e-mail, and delete the original message.

From: "Maureen Pollock" <mpollock@montague-ma.gov>
Sent: 6/9/26 4:40 PM
To: "JohnZ-Emergency Management Director" <emd@montague-ma.gov>; "chief@turnersfallsfire.org" <chief@turnersfallsfire.org>
Subject: FW: Statement of Work for Boat Ramp

Hi John and Luke,

As you are aware, there was a drowning last week along the Connecticut River. First responders used the existing boat ramp at the S.O. Conte Research Laboratory, 1 Migratory Way, Turners Falls.

I have been informed that emergency vehicles had difficulty putting in and taking out boats at this boat ramp and become stuck in the deep mud, requiring another vehicle or construction equipment to pull them out.

USGS staff worry about future rescue or recovery events that may occur this summer and how the current boat conditions may pose an immediate threat to public safety as this situation can delay the response time of first responders and jeopardize the success of their mission if more than one vessel is needed to conduct a rescue or recovery.

USGS would like to provide immediate improvements to the boat ramp that would provide a more stable surface for putting in and taking out vessels and to clear some of the residual silt deposits that have narrowed the ramp. Using traprock will make the surface more resistant to washing out, as the stones will interlock when compacted and last longer than the cobblestone used in previous efforts to stabilize the surface.

See attached for more information.

Do you agree that immediate improvements should be made to protect the health and safety? Please confirm.

Based on your response, I would like to request an Emergency Certificate from the Montague Conservation Commission and MassDEP

Sincerely,

Maureen

Maureen Pollock (she/her)

Planning Director

Town of Montague

Department of Planning & Conservation

1 Avenue A

Turners Falls, MA 01376

Phone: (413) 863-3200 x 112

Web: www.montague-ma.gov/planning

Email: mpollock@montague-ma.gov

From: Garcia, Rolando M <rgarcia@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2026 3:18 PM
To: Maureen Pollock <mpollock@montague-ma.gov>
Cc: Richardson, Brian M <brichardson@usgs.gov>; Fair, Jennifer B <jfair@usgs.gov>
Subject: Statement of Work for Boat Ramp

Hello Maureen. Attached are the details on the proposed work at the boat ramp. Please let me know if you need anything further from us.

Marty Garcia, Facility Operations Specialist
United States Geological Survey
Eastern Ecological Science Center at the S.O. Conte Research Laboratory
1 Migratory Way, Turners Falls, MA 01376
Office: (413) 863-3808
Mobile: 413-768-4941

“Nature is part of our humanity, and without some awareness and experience of that divine mystery man ceases to be man.” -Henry Beston



Aerial Map: Boat Ramp, 1 Migratory Way, Turners Falls

Town of Montague, MA

1 inch = 80 Feet



www.cai-tech.com

June 10, 2026



- PWater
- Property Line
- Water-poly
- Wetlands

Data shown on this map is provided for planning and informational purposes only. The municipality and CAI Technologies are not responsible for any use for other purposes or misuse or misrepresentation of this map.



MASSWILDLIFE

File Number: NOI #2026-04/DEP #229-0271

DIVISION OF FISHERIES & WILDLIFE

1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581
p: (508) 389-6300 | f: (508) 389-7890
MASS.GOV/MASSWILDLIFE

May 28, 2026

Walter Ramsey
Town of Montague
One Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Montague Conservation Commission
One Avenue A
Turners Falls
Montague, MA 01376

Applicant: Walter Ramsey, Town of Montague
Project Location: 8 and 20 Canal Road
Project Description: Former Strathmore Mill Abatement, Demolition and Restoration Project
DEP Wetlands File No.: 229-0271
NHESP File No.: 24-18890
Heritage Hub Form ID: RC-98809

Dear Commissioners and Applicant:

The Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife (the "Division") received a Notice of Intent in compliance with the rare wildlife species section of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act Regulations (310 CMR 10.58(4)(b), 10.59). The Division also received the MESA Review Checklist and supporting documentation for review pursuant to the MA Endangered Species Act Regulations (321 CMR 10.18).

Project Description

The Project is a portion of the work associated with the demolition and restoration of the former Strathmore Mill. This submittal describes activities for the asbestos abatement and demolition of up to nine (9) buildings and ancillary structures associated with the Historic Mill Complex. Buildings #1, #2, #3, #4, #5/5A, #6/6A, #7, #8, and #11, the smokestack located in the courtyard, and the loading dock attached to Building #3 are scheduled for demolition. Tailrace #3 beneath Building #3 is also scheduled for capping and closure in situ.

Tailrace #3, located beneath Building #3, originates at the Power Canal and terminates at the riverside foundation wall along the Connecticut River. The Tailrace has an arch opening approximately 20 feet wide and 10 feet high; the area inside Tailrace #3 is approximately 20 feet across and 30 feet deep with 13-foot ceilings. Tailrace #3 is masonry and concrete construction with pipe penetrations on the back wall. Steel supports are in place for further structural stability. Debris (e.g., brick, driftwood) and silt have accumulated on the floor of the tailrace near the outlet due to water backing up from the Connecticut River. Steel I-beams on the ceiling are approximately three

MASSWILDLIFE

(3) feet on center. Historically, water from the Power Canal flowed through the raceway, through the tailrace, and discharged to the Connecticut River. The inlet (penstock) was capped by the Town during the summer of 2018. The outlet remains open. Under the Base Bid, the tailrace is scheduled to be sealed at the outlet archway with a concrete wall and filled with flowable concrete fill beneath Building #3 and the East Courtyard.

State-Listed Species

The Division has determined that this Project, as currently proposed, will occur **within** the actual habitat of the following species:

<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Taxonomic Group</u>	<u>State Status</u>
<i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>	Shortnose Sturgeon	Fish	Endangered
<i>Symphotrichum tradescantii</i>	Tradescant's Aster	Plant	Threatened
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa ssp. glauca</i>	Tussock Hairgrass	Plant	Endangered
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Long-eared Bat	Mammal	Endangered
<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	Tricolored Bat	Mammal	Endangered

These species and their habitats are protected in accordance with the rare species provisions of the WPA and the MESA.

The purpose of the Division's review of the proposed project under the WPA regulations is to determine whether the project will have any adverse effects on the Resource Areas Habitats of state-listed species. The purpose of the Division's review under the MESA regulations is to determine whether a Take of state-listed species will result from the proposed project.

Tailrace #3 - Capping and Closure Only

Based on the information provided and the information contained in our database, it is the opinion of the Division that this portion of the project, as currently proposed, **must be conditioned in order to avoid adverse effects to the Resource Area Habitats of state-listed wetland wildlife species (310 CMR 10.37, 10.58(4)(b), 10.59; Shortnose Sturgeon, Lota lota) and must be conditioned in order to avoid a prohibited Take of state-listed species (321 CMR 10.18(2)(a); Shortnose Sturgeon, Lota lota, Tradescant's Aster, and Tussock Hairgrass).** **To avoid adverse effects to the Resource Area Habitats and to avoid a prohibited Take of the specified state-listed species, the conditions attached to this letter must be met for work associated with the Tailrace #3 Capping and Closure and any work within the Connecticut River or its banks.**

Provided these conditions are included in any approving Orders of Conditions issued by the Conservation Commission, and the applicant complies with all the above noted conditions, the project will not result in an adverse impact to the resource area habitats of state-listed wildlife species pursuant to the WPA and will not result in a prohibited Take pursuant to the MESA. A copy of the final Order of Conditions shall be sent to the NHESP simultaneously with the applicant as stated in the Procedures section of the WPA (310 CMR 10.05(6)(e)).

This determination is a final decision of the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to 321 CMR 10.18. Any changes to the proposed project or any additional work beyond that shown on the site plans may require an additional filing with the Division pursuant to the MESA. This project may be subject to further review if no

physical work is commenced within five years from the date of issuance of this determination, or if there is a change to the project.

Please note that this determination addresses only the matter of state-listed species and their habitats. If you have any questions regarding this letter please contact Melany Cheeseman, Endangered Species Review Assistant, at Melany.Cheeseman@mass.gov, (508) 389-6357.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jesse Leddick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a smaller loop at the end.

Jesse Leddick
Assistant Director

cc: Melissa Coady
Lucas Acaba
Walter Ramsey, Town of Montague
Montague Conservation Commission
DEP Western Region

Attachment: List of Conditions

List of Conditions

Applicant: Walter Ramsey, Town of Montague
Project Location: 8 and 20 Canal Road
Project Description: Former Strathmore Mill Abatement, Demolition and Restoration Project
NHESP File No.: 24-18890
Heritage Hub Form ID: RC-98809
Approved Plan: FORMER STRATHMORE MILL ABATEMENT, DEMOLITION AND RESTORATION PROJECT
TURNER FALLS, MASSACHUSETTS PERMIT SET
Plan date: April 2026 (prepared by Tighe & Bond, 7 sheets)

To avoid adverse effects to the Resource Area Habitats and to avoid a prohibited Take of state-listed species, the following condition(s) must be met for all work associated with the Closure and Capping of Tailrace #3 and any work within the Connecticut River or its banks:

1. **Authorization Duration:** This authorization is valid for 5 years from the date of issuance. Work may be completed at any time during this 5-year period in compliance with the conditions herein. Thereafter, the Applicant must re-file pursuant to the MESA.
2. **Plant Surveys and Avoidance, Tradescant's Aster and Tussock Hairgrass:** Prior to the start of work, surveys shall be conducted to delineate and avoid impacts to this plant species in all areas of potential habitat associated with Tailrace #3.
 - a. Botanical field surveys must be conducted by a qualified botanist in appropriate habitats throughout all areas of proposed work and areas within 20 feet of the limit of work, including any access routes or staging areas, using methodologies consistent with the State-listed Species Habitat Assessment And Survey Guidelines: Plants (dated March 2016), see <https://www.mass.gov/doc/state-listed-species-habitat-assessment-and-survey-guidelines-plants/download>
 - b. The Division requires pre-approval of the botanist prior to conducting surveys. Please submit a copy of the botanist's resume/curriculum vita for review.
 - c. The approved botanist shall submit to the Division a time-table and survey protocol for written approval prior to initiation of field work. The survey protocol shall list the specific taxonomic characteristics for definitive identification as well as the characteristics of similar or easily confused species. Surveys should be successful at detecting the target plant in June.
 - d. If state-listed plants are encountered within the proposed work areas or within 20 feet of the limit of work, the Applicant must provide a detailed protection plan specifying measures to ensure the project does not result in a Take of state-listed plants to the Division for review and written approval. Please note the protection plan may necessitate additional or subsequent botanical survey work to implement required Take avoidance measures.
3. **Time of Year, Shortnose Sturgeon:** No work shall occur within the tailrace or Connecticut River during the spring spawning period between March 15 - June 15.
4. **Restoration or Stabilization:** The Division does not approve of the planting of state-listed species, even if the seeds are sourced outside of Massachusetts. Please carefully review seed mixes at the time of purchase as the specific composition and mixes frequently change, even within a year(<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/list-of-endangered-threatened-and-special-concern-species>).
5. **Use of Native Species:** Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Division, all seed and plantings not

thereafter maintained as lawn shall be native to the county of the project as provided in current version of the The Vascular Plants of Massachusetts: A County Checklist (see <https://www.mass.gov/doc/the-vascular-plants-of-massachusetts-a-county-checklist/download>).

6. **Completion of Construction:** Written notification shall be submitted to the Division within thirty (30) days of the completion of construction activities associated with the Project.

RECOMMENDATIONS

7. **Bat Protection:** To avoid harm to state- and federally-listed bat species, the Division recommends implementation the following measure as part of the project. To the greatest extent possible, closure of Tailrace #3 shall be avoided between October 15 and May 1, to avoid the staging and hibernation period of the Northern Longeared Bat and Tricolored Bat.



United States Department of the Interior

U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Eastern Ecological Science Center
S.O. Conte Anadromous Fish Research Center
1 Migratory Way, Turner Falls, MA 01376

May 29, 2026

To: Maureen Pollock
Planning Director
Town of Montague
Department of Planning & Conservation
1 Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Re: Request to Amend an Order of Conditions (DWW Policy 85-4)

Ms. Pollock:

The U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) respectfully requests that the Montague Conservation Commission reconsider the special conditions required by the Order of Conditions (OOC) issued to the Conte Anadromous Fish Laboratory (MassDEP File #:229-0270). Specifically, USGS believes that Special Conditions 3 and 5 impose time-of-year (TOY) restrictions not required by either the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. Although not specifically stated in the OOC, Special Conditions prevent construction from March 15th - November 15th, limiting construction to the winter season and greatly reducing the period when construction can occur. I have provided USGS reasoning for each Special Condition below.

3. All work shall occur outside of the spawning and early life stage period of state and federally listed species, including but not limited to shad, sturgeon, and eels.

TOY restrictions as found in the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries Technical Report TR-47 is March 15 - November 15. USGS believes this to be an overly burdensome requirement given that no construction will take place in spawning habitats. In a 12/18/25 email from Misty-Anne Marold, Senior Endangered Species Review Biologist for NHESP, she states, "...directional drilling would not require review under the MA Endangered Species Act in this context." She goes on to say, "...in an inadvertent release of drill fluid, ...that may raise some concerns."

As only the short nosed sturgeon is protected under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA), it is our understanding that Ms. Marold was not requiring these TOY restrictions for species under Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) purview but simply providing additional guidance beyond what MESA requires. Please consider removing Special Condition 3.

5. All work shall occur outside of the growing season to limit and/or prevent negative impacts to state and federally listed rare plant species.

USGS starts again with the basis of Ms. Marold's statement, "...directional drilling would not require review under the MA Endangered Species Act in this context". With respect to rare plants, she goes on to say, "...efforts to control it (i.e. drill fluid, erosion) in the water would raise concerns", implying aquatic plants. We emphasize that USGS requires frac out plans and best management practices of their contractors. These safeguards are designed to keep drilling fluids and erosion from reaching surface waters and aquatic habitats. Eliminating the 125-day growing season (approximately March 19 - September 21, for USDA Plant Hardiness Zone 6a) for a terrestrial project that provides safeguards to prevent impacts to aquatic habitats, presents an unnecessary restriction on construction dates. Please consider removing Special Condition 5.

USGS recognizes that Special Condition 4 contains the requirement that NHESP be notified in the event of a frac out, re-opening consultation and allowing NHESP to provide project guidance determined to be unnecessary at this time.

Thanks for your consideration,

Sincerely,



Jordan D. Sizemore, REM
Environmental Protection Specialist
Environmental Management Branch
U.S. Geological Survey
360-929-0783
jsizemore@usgs.gov

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY REPORT

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Other Reporting Period: March 2 through March 13, 2026 Present/affiliation(s): Tighe & Bond, FirstLight, Clean Harbors Environmental Services (CHES), J.F. Brennan Company Weather conditions (time of inspection(s) & future outlook): Fluctuating temperatures between 26° F and 67° F, significant snow and ice melt occurred on March 10 and 11, 2026 due to high temperatures.	Immediate Response Actions for RTN 1-53064 Location: <u>FirstLight Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague</u>
PROGRESS SUMMARY: This is the first weekly environmental summary report for response actions associated with Release Tracking Number (RTN) 1-53064 at the Turners Falls Dam. Tighe & Bond will provide subsequent reports to the Montague Conservation Commission each Monday. <u>Monday (2026-03-02):</u> Work activities were not conducted. <u>Tuesday (2026-03-03):</u> Tighe & Bond, on behalf of FirstLight, submitted a request for Emergency Certification to the Montague Conservation Commission for the application of sand over a resource area in order access areas. The Montague Conservation Commission granted the Emergency Certification on this date. <u>Wednesday (2026-03-04):</u> J.F. Brennan Company were onsite to conduct de-icing and repair activities on suspected leaking Pistons #7 and #8. Sand was applied to the ice surface for traction to access the pistons. <u>Thursday (2026-03-05):</u> Repairs to Pistons #7 and #8 were performed by J.F. Brennan personnel. <u>Friday (2026-03-06):</u> J.F. Brennan demobilized off-site. <u>Monday (2026-03-09):</u> Work activities were not conducted. <u>Tuesday (2026-03-10):</u> Absorbent booms were deployed by Clean Harbors Environmental Services (CHES) immediately downstream of the Bascule Gate #4 as a precaution. In addition, absorbent booms and rigid containment boom were installed downstream of Bascule Gate #4 on the Connecticut River. Sand which was previously applied on ice to allow access to de-ice and repair the pistons was swept and removed from the ice to the extent feasible. <u>Wednesday (2026-03-11):</u> Tighe & Bond was onsite with FirstLight personnel to observe conditions. Significant ice melt occurred due to unseasonably high temperatures. Hydraulic fluid previously trapped in ice was observed to be sheen on the water below Bascule Gate #4. <u>Thursday (2026-03-12):</u> Work activities were not conducted. <u>Friday (2026-03-13):</u> Work activities were not conducted. Due to high volume of water and flow rates, the booms downstream of Bascule Gate #4 on the Connecticut River were separated and no longer containing sheen. MassDEP was notified on this date, and the booms will be replaced when it is safe to do so (based on river flow rates and amount of ice observed upstream).	
ACTION ITEMS FirstLight, CHES and Tighe & Bond will continue to monitor river conditions, and repairs to the downstream boom will be performed once the area is safe to access. In addition, Bascule Gates #2 and #3 will be assessed once ice has melted and the gates are safely accessible.	

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

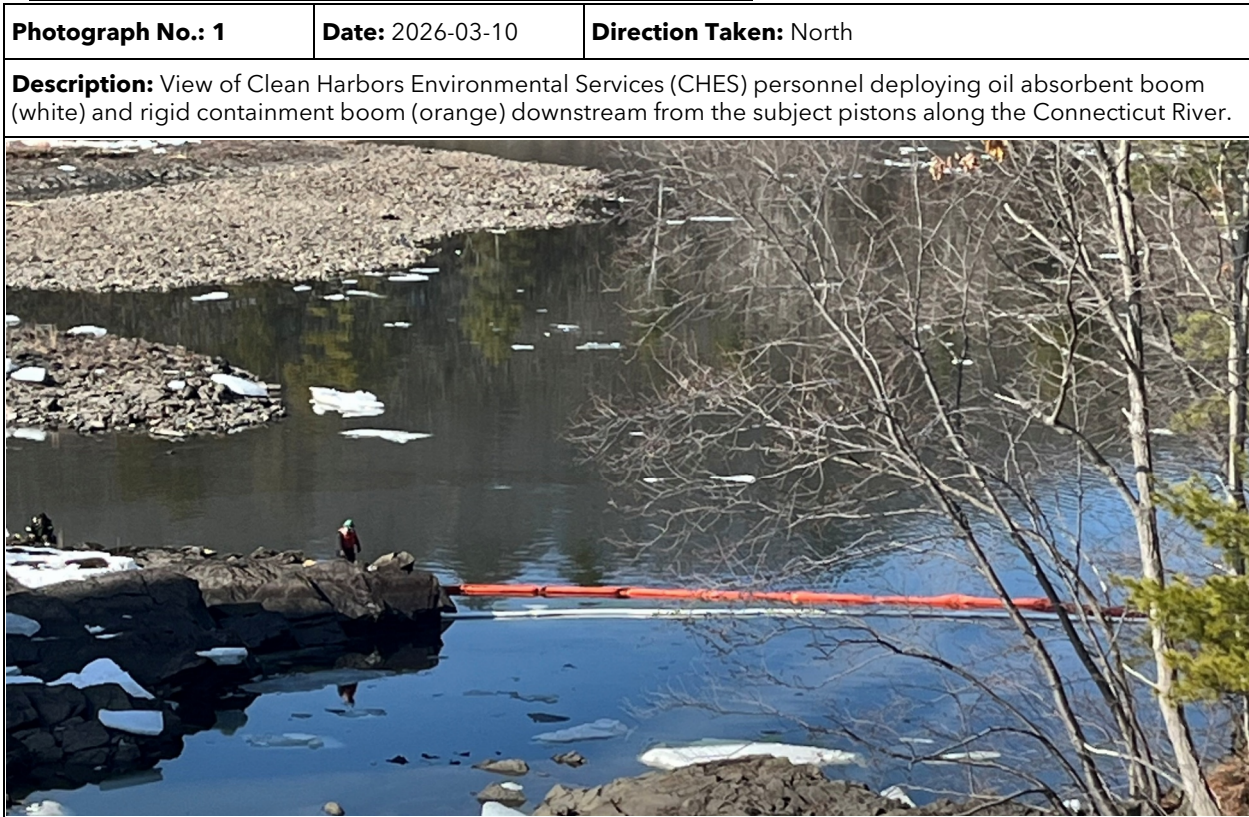
Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA



Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 3	Date: 2026-03-10	Direction Taken: East
Description: View of Pistons #7 and #8 following de-icing. Sand and absorbent booms are both visible.		

Photograph No.: 4	Date: 2026-03-11	Direction Taken: Southwest
Description: View of Site conditions following significant ice melt. Hydraulic fluid and sand can be seen on the ice and in the water below the dam. Additionally, the oil absorbent booms shifted with the ice melt.		

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 5	Date: 2026-03-11	Direction Taken: N/A
<p>Description: View of remaining sand used to access Pistons #7 and #8. A majority of the remaining sand is not located over the Connecticut River. Sand has been removed from the Site to the extent feasible.</p>		

Photograph No.: 6	Date: 2026-03-13	Direction Taken: South
<p>Description: View of boom deployed on Connecticut River, which disconnected due to high flow rates from significant snow/ice melt.</p>		

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY REPORT

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Other Reporting Period: March 16 through March 20, 2026</p> <p>Present/affiliation(s): Tighe & Bond, FirstLight, Clean Harbors Environmental Services (CHES)</p> <p>Weather conditions (time of inspection(s) & future outlook): Significant rainfall occurred on March 16. Temperatures ranging from 21° and 56° F during the reporting period.</p>	<p>Immediate Response Actions for RTN 1-53064</p> <p>Location: <u>FirstLight Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague</u></p>
<p>PROGRESS SUMMARY:</p> <p>This is the second weekly environmental summary report for response actions associated with Release Tracking Number (RTN) 1-53064 at the Turners Falls Dam.</p> <p><u>Monday (2026-03-16):</u> CHES were onsite to secure the oil containment boom located downstream of Bascule Gate #4 on the Connecticut River. Due to the high volume of water flow in the Connecticut River and residual ice along the dam, the repairs to the boom could not be performed safely. High river flow rates are anticipated to continue through the week.</p> <p><u>Tuesday (2026-03-17):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p> <p><u>Wednesday (2026-03-18):</u> Tighe & Bond was onsite with FirstLight personnel to observe conditions. Significant ice melt occurred due to unseasonably high temperatures. Hydraulic fluid previously trapped in ice was observed to be sheen on the water below Bascule Gate #4. Flow rate measured on this date exceeded 50,000 cubic feet per second (cfs).</p> <p><u>Thursday (2026-03-19):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p> <p><u>Friday (2026-03-20):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p>	
<p>ACTION ITEMS</p> <p>FirstLight, CHES and Tighe & Bond will continue to monitor river conditions, and repairs to the downstream boom will be performed once the area is safe to access. In addition, Bascule Gates #2 and #3 will be assessed once ice has melted and the gates are safely accessible.</p>	

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 1	Date: 2026-03-18	Direction Taken: North
Description: Status of the rigid containment boom downstream of the dam on the Connecticut River. A portion of the boom was swept downstream by the high volume/flow rate of water in the river (see Photograph No. 4).		

Photograph No.: 2	Date: 2026-03-18	Direction Taken: West
Description: View of the release area and Pistons #7 and #8.		

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)


Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Client: FirstLight

Turners Falls Dam

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 3	Date: 2026-03-18	Direction Taken: N/A
Description: View of remaining sand beneath Pistons #7 and #8.		
		

Photograph No.: 4	Date: 2026-03-18	Direction Taken: Northwest
Description: View of the rigid containment boom which was swept downstream and was caught on the exterior of the fish ladder. The boom will be recovered and re-set when it is safe to do so.		
		

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY REPORT

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Weekly</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Other</u> Reporting Period: March 23 through March 27, 2026</p> <p>Present/affiliation(s): Tighe & Bond, FirstLight, Clean Harbors Environmental Services (CHES)</p> <p>Weather conditions (time of inspection(s) & future outlook): Significant rainfall occurred on March 16. Temperatures ranging from 21° and 56° F during the reporting period.</p>	<p>Immediate Response Actions for RTN 1-53064</p> <p>Location: <u>FirstLight Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague</u></p>
<p>PROGRESS SUMMARY:</p> <p>This is the third weekly environmental summary report for response actions associated with Release Tracking Number (RTN) 1-53064 at the Turners Falls Dam.</p> <p><u>Monday (2026-03-23):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p> <p><u>Tuesday (2026-03-24):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p> <p><u>Wednesday (2026-03-25):</u> Tighe & Bond was onsite with FirstLight personnel to observe conditions. Hydraulic fluid previously trapped in ice was observed to be sheen on the water below Bascule Gate #4. Sheen was not observed to be exiting the area below Bascule Gate #4 into the broader Connecticut River. Flow rates measured on this date ranged from 20,000 to 24,000 cubic feet per second (cfs).</p> <p><u>Thursday (2026-03-26):</u> CHES was onsite to repair and replace the oil containment booms which were previously dislodged by the flow of the Connecticut River. Absorbent boom was also placed upstream of the containment booms to collect sheen on the surface of the water. Flow rate measured on this date was less than 20,000 cfs.</p> <p><u>Friday (2026-03-27):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p>	
<p>ACTION ITEMS</p> <p>FirstLight, CHES and Tighe & Bond will continue to monitor river conditions. Boom will be maintained for the duration of IRA activities. In addition, Bascule Gates #2 and #3 will be assessed once ice has melted and the gates are safely accessible.</p>	

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 1	Date: 2026-03-25	Direction Taken: North
Description: Status of the rigid containment boom downstream of the dam on the Connecticut River. The portions of the damaged boom were secured to the shore.		

Photograph No.: 2	Date: 2026-03-25	Direction Taken: West
Description: View of the release/sheen area, and Pistons #7 and #8.		

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 3	Date: 2026-03-26	Direction Taken: North
--------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------------

Description: View of the containment boom and oil absorbent boom below Bascule Gate #4 following repairs and replacement by CHES.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY REPORT

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Other Reporting Period: March 30 through April 3, 2026</p> <p>Present/affiliation(s): Tighe & Bond, FirstLight</p> <p>Weather conditions (time of inspection(s) & future outlook): Precipitation occurred on April 1 (approximately 0.5 inch). Temperatures ranging from 28° and 70° F during the reporting period.</p>	<p>Immediate Response Actions for RTN 1-53064</p> <p>Location: <u>FirstLight Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague</u></p>
<p>PROGRESS SUMMARY:</p> <p>This is the fourth weekly environmental summary report for response actions associated with Release Tracking Number (RTN) 1-53064 at the Turners Falls Dam.</p> <p><u>Monday (2026-03-30):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p> <p><u>Tuesday (2026-03-31):</u> Tighe & Bond was onsite with FirstLight personnel to observe conditions. Hydraulic fluid previously trapped in ice was observed to be sheen on the water below Bascule Gate #4. Sheen was not observed to be exiting the area below Bascule Gate #4 into the broader Connecticut River and boom appeared to be in good condition.</p> <p><u>Wednesday (2026-04-01):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p> <p><u>Thursday (2026-04-02):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p> <p><u>Friday (2026-04-03):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p>	
<p>ACTION ITEMS</p> <p>FirstLight, CHES and Tighe & Bond will continue to monitor river conditions. Boom will be maintained for the duration of IRA activities. In addition, Bascule Gates #2 and #3 will be assessed once ice has completely melted and the area is safely accessible.</p>	

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Client: FirstLight

Turners Falls Dam

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 1	Date: 2026-03-31	Direction Taken: North
Description: View of the containment boom and oil absorbent boom below Bascule Gate #4.		
		

Photograph No.: 2	Date: 2026-03-31	Direction Taken: West
Description: View of the release/sheen area, and Pistons #7 and #8.		
		

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY REPORT

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Other Reporting Period: April 6 through April 10, 2026</p> <p>Present/affiliation(s): Tighe & Bond, FirstLight</p> <p>Weather conditions (time of inspection(s) & future outlook): Temperatures ranging from 23° and 69° F during the reporting period.</p>	<p>Immediate Response Actions for RTN 1-53064</p> <p>Location: <u>FirstLight Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague</u></p>
<p>PROGRESS SUMMARY:</p> <p>This is the fifth weekly environmental summary report for response actions associated with Release Tracking Number (RTN) 1-53064 at the Turners Falls Dam.</p> <p><u>Monday (2026-04-06):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p> <p><u>Tuesday (2026-04-07):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p> <p><u>Wednesday (2026-04-08):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p> <p><u>Thursday (2026-04-09):</u> Tighe & Bond was on-site with FirstLight personnel to observe conditions. Hydraulic fluid previously trapped in ice was observed to be sheen on the water below Bascule Gate #4 – ice around the Bascule Gates was fully melted on this date. Sheen was not observed to be exiting the area below Bascule Gate #4 into the broader Connecticut River and the boom was shifted slightly off-center but still functional. In general, river conditions appear to be improving, and the size of the sheen is reduced compared to previous visits.</p> <p>In the afternoon, FirstLight employees were able to mend the lifeline and assess the eight pistons. No active leaks were discovered during the assessment of each of the pistons.</p> <p><u>Friday (2026-04-10):</u> Work activities were not conducted.</p>	
<p>ACTION ITEMS</p> <p>FirstLight, CHES and Tighe & Bond will continue to monitor river conditions. Boom will be maintained for the duration of IRA activities.</p>	

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 1	Date: 2026-04-09	Direction Taken: North
Description: View of the containment boom and oil absorbent boom below Bascule Gate #4.		

Photograph No.: 2	Date: 2026-04-09	Direction Taken: West
Description: View of the release/sheen area below Pistons #7 and #8.		

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY REPORT

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Weekly</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Other</u> Reporting Period: April 13 through April 17, 2026 Present/affiliation(s): Tighe & Bond, FirstLight, Clean Harbors Environmental Services Weather conditions (time of inspection(s) & future outlook): Temperatures ranging from 43° and 83° F during the reporting period.	Immediate Response Actions for RTN 1-53064 Location: <u>FirstLight Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague</u>
PROGRESS SUMMARY: This is the sixth weekly environmental summary report for response actions associated with Release Tracking Number (RTN) 1-53064 at the Turners Falls Dam. <u>Monday (2026-04-13):</u> Work activities were not conducted. <u>Tuesday (2026-04-14):</u> Work activities were not conducted. <u>Wednesday (2026-04-15):</u> Tighe & Bond was on-site with FirstLight personnel to observe conditions. Hydraulic fluid previously trapped in ice was observed to be sheen on the water below Bascule Gate #4. Sheen was not observed to be exiting the area below Bascule Gate #4 into the broader Connecticut River and the boom was shifted slightly off-center but still functional. On this date, Clean Harbors Environmental Services were on-site to replace the booms which had previously shifted. Additionally, a new string of booms was deployed across the cove beneath Bascule Gate #4, closer to the dam. <u>Thursday (2026-04-16):</u> Work activities were not conducted. <u>Friday (2026-04-17):</u> Work activities were not conducted.	
ACTION ITEMS FirstLight, CHES and Tighe & Bond will continue to monitor river conditions. Boom will be maintained for the duration of IRA activities.	

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 1	Date: 2026-04-15	Direction Taken: North
Description: View of the containment boom and oil absorbent boom below Bascule Gate #4 prior to being adjusted by Clean Harbors.		

Photograph No.: 2	Date: 2026-04-15	Direction Taken: West
Description: View of the release/sheen area below Pistons #7 and #8.		

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Client: FirstLight

Turners Falls Dam

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 3	Date: 2026-04-15	Direction Taken: North
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Description: Clean Harbors replaced the absorbent booms along the orange rigid containment boom. An additional line of absorbent boom was deployed closer to bascule Gate #4.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY REPORT

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Weekly</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Other</u> Reporting Period: April 20 through April 24, 2026 Present/affiliation(s): Tighe & Bond, FirstLight Weather conditions (time of inspection(s) & future outlook): Temperatures ranging from 22° and 65° F during the reporting period.</p>	<p>Immediate Response Actions for RTN 1-53064</p> <p>Location: <u>FirstLight Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague</u></p>
<p>PROGRESS SUMMARY:</p> <p>This is the seventh weekly environmental summary report for response actions associated with Release Tracking Number (RTN) 1-53064 at the Turners Falls Dam.</p> <p>On Tuesday, April 21, 2026, Tighe & Bond was on-site with FirstLight personnel to observe conditions. Very minimal hydraulic fluid sheen was observed in the water below Bascule Gate #4. Sheen was not observed to be exiting the area below Bascule Gate #4 into the broader Connecticut River; however the booms were shifted slightly off-center and will be adjusted so the boom can continue to be effective at containing residual sheen.</p> <p>FirstLight maintenance staff conducted a second inspection of each of the pistons, and no evidence of leakage was identified.</p>	
<p>ACTION ITEMS</p> <p>FirstLight, CHES and Tighe & Bond will continue to monitor river conditions. Boom will be maintained for the duration of IRA activities.</p>	

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)


Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 1	Date: 2026-04-21	Direction Taken: North
Description: View of the containment booms and oil absorbent boom below Bascule Gate #4.		
		

Photograph No.: 2	Date: 2026-04-21	Direction Taken: West
Description: View of the release/sheen area below Pistons #7 and #8.		
		

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 3	Date: 2026-04-24	Direction Taken: Northwest
Description: View of the containment booms and oil absorbent boom below Bascule Gate #4.		

Photograph No.: 4	Date: 2026-04-24	Direction Taken: Southwest
Description: View of the release/sheen area below Pistons #7 and #8.		

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY REPORT

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Weekly</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Other</u> Reporting Period: April 27 through May 1, 2026 Present/affiliation(s): Tighe & Bond, FirstLight Weather conditions (time of inspection(s) & future outlook): Temperatures ranging from 38° and 66° F during the reporting period.</p>	<p>Immediate Response Actions for RTN 1-53064</p> <p>Location: <u>FirstLight Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague</u></p>
<p>PROGRESS SUMMARY:</p> <p>This is the eighth weekly environmental summary report for response actions associated with Release Tracking Number (RTN) 1-53064 at the Turners Falls Dam.</p> <p>On Tuesday, April 28, 2026, Tighe & Bond was on-site with FirstLight personnel to observe conditions. Very minimal hydraulic fluid sheen was observed in the water below Bascule Gate #4. Sheen was not observed to be exiting the area below Bascule Gate #4 into the broader Connecticut River; however, the containment boom was observed to be pushed to the side of the rocky cove. The absorbent booms appeared intact and properly deployed.</p>	
<p>ACTION ITEMS</p> <p>FirstLight, CHES and Tighe & Bond will continue to monitor river conditions. Boom will be maintained for the duration of IRA activities.</p>	

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 1	Date: 2026-04-28	Direction Taken: North
Description: View of the containment and oil absorbent boom below Bascule Gate #4. The containment boom is partially dislodged, but the absorbent boom is still properly deployed. Minor sheen was observed in this area.		

Photograph No.: 2	Date: 2026-04-28	Direction Taken: West
Description: View of the release area below Pistons #7 and #8. Sheen was not observed in this area.		

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY REPORT

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Weekly</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Other</u> Reporting Period: May 4 through May 8, 2026 Present/affiliation(s): Tighe & Bond, FirstLight Weather conditions (time of inspection(s) & future outlook): Temperatures ranging from 31° and 81° F during the reporting period.</p>	<p>Immediate Response Actions for RTN 1-53064</p> <p>Location: <u>FirstLight Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague</u></p>
<p>PROGRESS SUMMARY:</p> <p>This is the ninth weekly environmental summary report for response actions associated with Release Tracking Number (RTN) 1-53064 at the Turners Falls Dam.</p> <p>On Monday, May 4, 2026, Tighe & Bond was on-site with FirstLight personnel to observe conditions. No hydraulic fluid sheen was observed in the water below Bascule Gate #4. Sheen was also not observed to be exiting the area below Bascule Gate #4 into the broader Connecticut River; however, the containment boom was observed to be pushed to the side of the rocky cove. The absorbent booms appeared intact and properly deployed.</p>	
<p>ACTION ITEMS</p> <p>FirstLight, CHES and Tighe & Bond will continue to monitor river conditions. Boom will be maintained for the duration of IRA activities.</p>	

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 1	Date: 2026-05-04	Direction Taken: North
Description: View of the containment and oil absorbent boom below Bascule Gate #4. The containment boom is partially dislodged, but the absorbent boom is still properly deployed. Sheen was not observed.		

Photograph No.: 2	Date: 2026-05-04	Direction Taken: West
Description: View of the release area below Pistons #7 and #8. Sheen was not observed.		

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY REPORT

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Weekly</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Other</u> Reporting Period: May 11 through May 15, 2026 Present/affiliation(s): Tighe & Bond, FirstLight Weather conditions (time of inspection(s) & future outlook): Temperatures ranging from 34° and 70°F during the reporting period.</p>	<p>Immediate Response Actions for RTN 1-53064</p> <p>Location: <u>FirstLight Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague</u></p>
<p>PROGRESS SUMMARY:</p> <p>This is the tenth weekly environmental summary report for response actions associated with Release Tracking Number (RTN) 1-53064 at the Turners Falls Dam.</p> <p>On Wednesday, May 13, 2026, Tighe & Bond was on-site with FirstLight personnel to observe conditions. A minor hydraulic fluid sheen was observed in the water below Bascule Gate #4. Sheen was not observed to be exiting the area below Bascule Gate #4 into the broader Connecticut River; however, the containment boom was observed to be pushed to the side of the rocky cove. The absorbent booms appeared intact and properly deployed.</p>	
<p>ACTION ITEMS</p> <p>FirstLight, CHES and Tighe & Bond will continue to monitor river conditions. Boom will be maintained for the duration of IRA activities.</p>	

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 1	Date: 2026-05-13	Direction Taken: North
<p>Description: View of the containment and oil absorbent boom below Bascule Gate #4. The containment boom is partially dislodged, but the absorbent boom is still properly deployed. Sheen was not observed.</p>		

Photograph No.: 2	Date: 2026-05-13	Direction Taken: West
<p>Description: View of the release area below Pistons #7 and #8. Minor sheen was observed on water trapped in the rocks below Bascule Gate #4.</p>		

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY REPORT

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Weekly</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Other</u> Reporting Period: May 18 through May 22, 2026 Present/affiliation(s): Tighe & Bond, FirstLight Weather conditions (time of inspection(s) & future outlook): Temperatures ranging from 37° and 96°F during the reporting period.</p>	<p>Immediate Response Actions for RTN 1-53064</p> <p>Location: <u>FirstLight Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague</u></p>
<p>PROGRESS SUMMARY:</p> <p>This is the eleventh weekly environmental summary report for response actions associated with Release Tracking Number (RTN) 1-53064 at the Turners Falls Dam.</p> <p>On Tuesday, May 19, 2026, Tighe & Bond was on-site with FirstLight personnel to observe conditions. A minor hydraulic fluid sheen was observed in the water below Bascule Gate #4. Sheen was not observed to be exiting the area below Bascule Gate #4 into the broader Connecticut River; however, the containment boom was observed to be pushed to the side of the rocky cove. The absorbent booms appeared intact and properly deployed. FirstLight is coordinating with Clean Harbors to perform boom adjustment and sheen skimming with absorbent pads during the week of May 26, 2026.</p>	
<p>ACTION ITEMS</p> <p>FirstLight, CHES and Tighe & Bond will continue to monitor river conditions. Boom will be maintained for the duration of IRA activities.</p>	

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 1	Date: 2026-05-19	Direction Taken: North
Description: View of the containment and oil absorbent boom below Bascule Gate #4. The containment boom is partially dislodged, but the absorbent boom is still properly deployed. Minor sheen was observed.		

Photograph No.: 2	Date: 2026-05-19	Direction Taken: West
Description: View of the release area below Pistons #7 and #8. Minor sheen was observed.		

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY REPORT

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Weekly</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Other</u> Reporting Period: May 24 through May 29, 2026</p> <p>Present/affiliation(s): Tighe & Bond, FirstLight, Clean Harbors Environmental Services</p> <p>Weather conditions (time of inspection(s) & future outlook): Temperatures ranging from 46° and 85°F during the reporting period.</p>	<p>Immediate Response Actions for RTN 1-53064</p> <p>Location: <u>FirstLight Turners Falls Dam, 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague</u></p>
<p>PROGRESS SUMMARY:</p> <p>This is the twelfth weekly environmental summary report for response actions associated with Release Tracking Number (RTN) 1-53064 at the Turners Falls Dam.</p> <p>On Friday, May 29, 2026, Tighe & Bond and Clean Harbors Environmental Services (CHES) were on-site with FirstLight personnel to observe conditions and change out the oil absorbent booms downstream of the dam. A minor hydraulic fluid sheen was observed in the water below Bascule Gate #4. Sheen was not observed to be exiting the area below Bascule Gate #4 into the broader Connecticut River.</p> <p>CHES replaced the oil absorbent booms across the cove below Bascule Gate #4. CHES and Tighe & Bond also skimmed areas of visible hydraulic fluid sheen from the surface water using oil absorbent pads. The rigid containment boom was removed from the area because it consistently became dislodged due to high flows in the Connecticut River and was not effective. Based on the minor sheen that has been observed, the absorbent boom appears to be sufficient in containing the sheen.</p>	
<p>ACTION ITEMS</p> <p>FirstLight, CHES and Tighe & Bond will continue to monitor river conditions. Boom will be maintained for the duration of IRA activities.</p>	

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)


Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Client: FirstLight

Turners Falls Dam

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 1	Date: 2026-05-29	Direction Taken: Northwest
Description: View of the release area prior to boom replacement.		
		

Photograph No.: 2	Date: 2026-05-29	Direction Taken: Northwest
Description: View of the release area following boom replacement.		
		

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release


Job Number: F-0211

Turners Falls Dam

Client: FirstLight

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 3	Date: 2026-05-29	Direction Taken: Southwest
Description: View of oil sheen on the surface of water in a rocky area below Bascule Gate #4.		
		

Photograph No.: 4	Date: 2026-05-29	Direction Taken: N/A
Description: View of the rocky area from Photograph No. 3 following skimming using an oil absorbent pad.		
		

Immediate Response Actions (RTN 1-53064)

Project: Turners Falls Dam Hydraulic Fluid Release

Job Number: F-0211

Client: FirstLight

Turners Falls Dam

Location: 1 Gatehouse Dr, Montague, MA

Photograph No.: 5	Date: 2026-05-29	Direction Taken: West
Description: View of the area below Bascule Gate #4.		
