

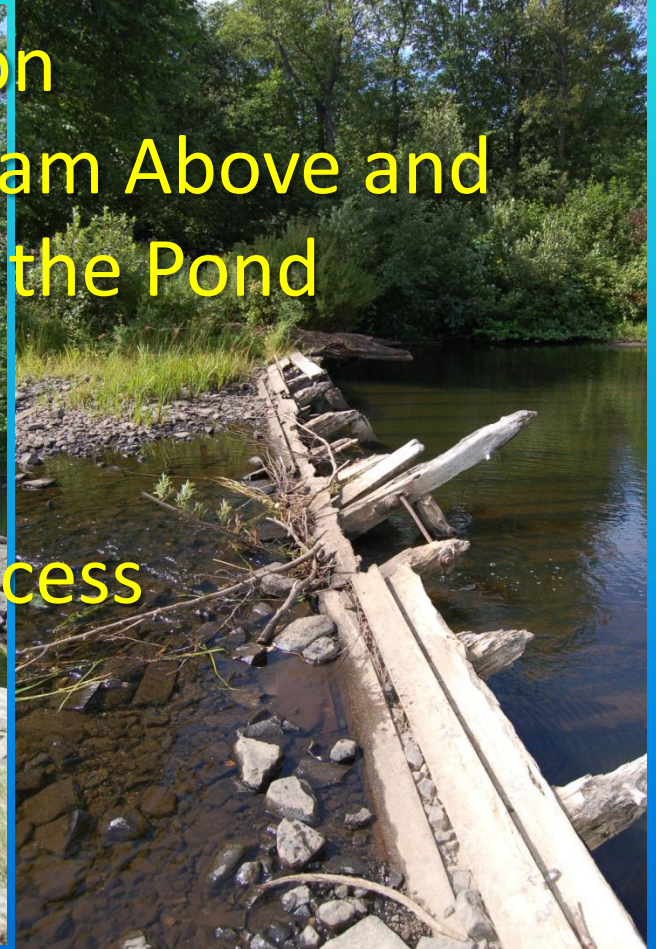
An aerial photograph of a forested landscape. A winding stream flows through the center-left of the image. The surrounding area is a mix of green forest and brown, cleared land. A pond is visible in the top right corner.

Sears Pond Project Update

Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District
Nichelle Billhardt
District Manager
376-6122

Project Status

- Dam Proposal Not Viable Option
- NYS DEC Designated Trout Stream Above and Below Former Sears Pond, Not the Pond Area
- High Temp, Low Oxygen
- Improve Fishing and Fishing Access



“Brook Trout Habitat Enhancement”

Project Funding Sources

Lewis County

Soil & Water Conservation

- Habitat Stamp Grant (\$15,000)
- Special Project Funding (\$6,000)

Town of Montague

- Senator Joe Griffo (\$10,000)

Deer River

“Brook Trout Habitat Enhancement”

Project Outline

- Pre-Project Stream Health Assessment
- Trail Construction
- Adjust Dam Height
- Tree Planting
- J-Hook / Rock Vane Installation
- Post Structure Evaluation
- Post Project Stream Health Assessment



Stream Health Assessment

WQCC Macroinvertebrate Sampling

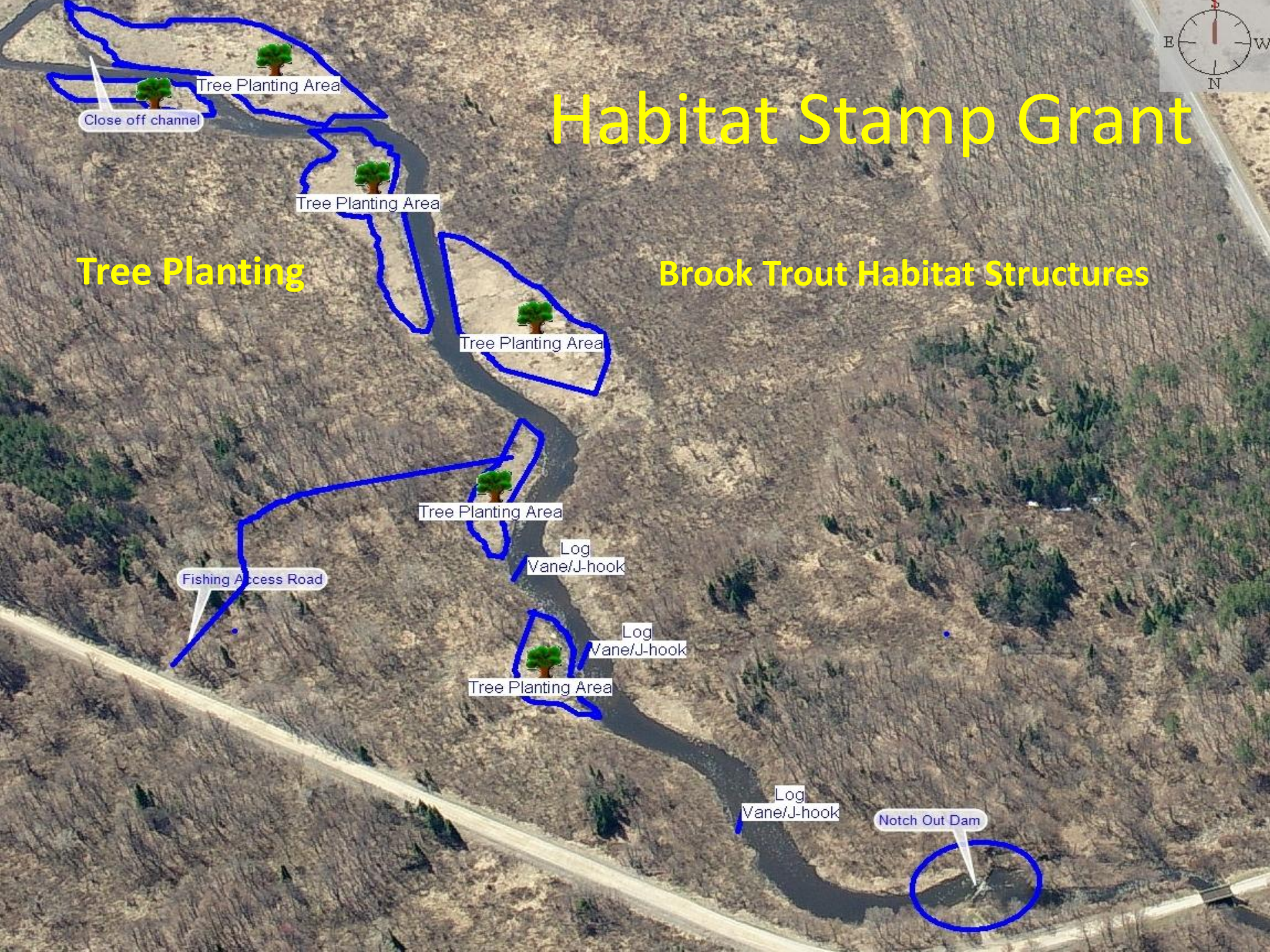




Habitat Stamp Grant

Tree Planting

Brook Trout Habitat Structures

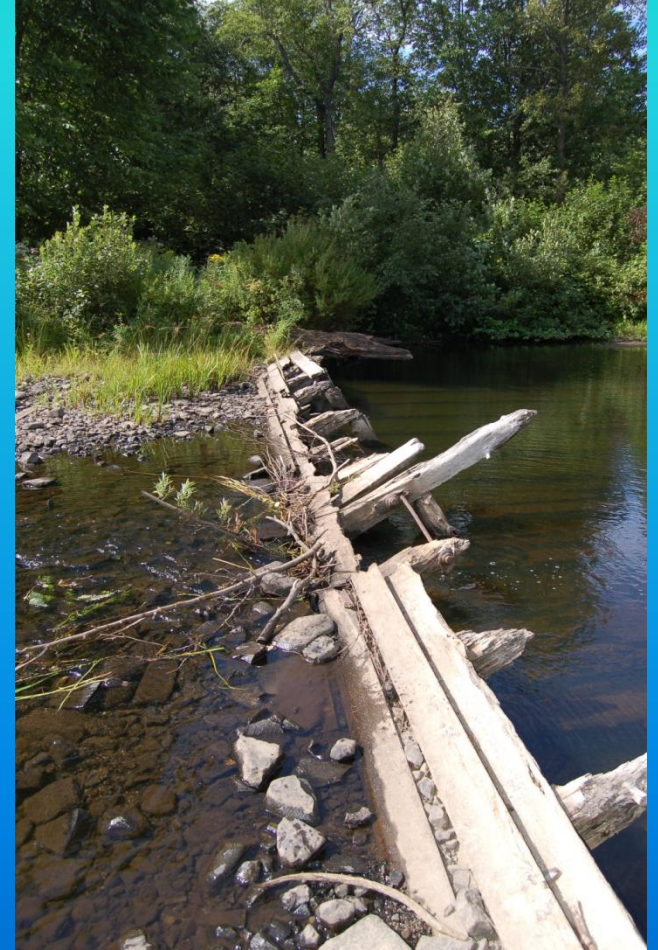


Trail Construction



- 4 Car Parking Lot
- Reduced to a Foot Trail
- Barricade for Non-Pedestrian Traffic
- Construction Minimize Disturbance (ground clearing, tree removal, etc.)
- Filter Fabric and Stone Placement

Adjust Dam Height



Tree Plantings

(Flood Tolerant and Upland Species)

- Increase Shading
- Lower Water Temperatures
- Protect Streambank from Erosion

NYS DEC Seedlings

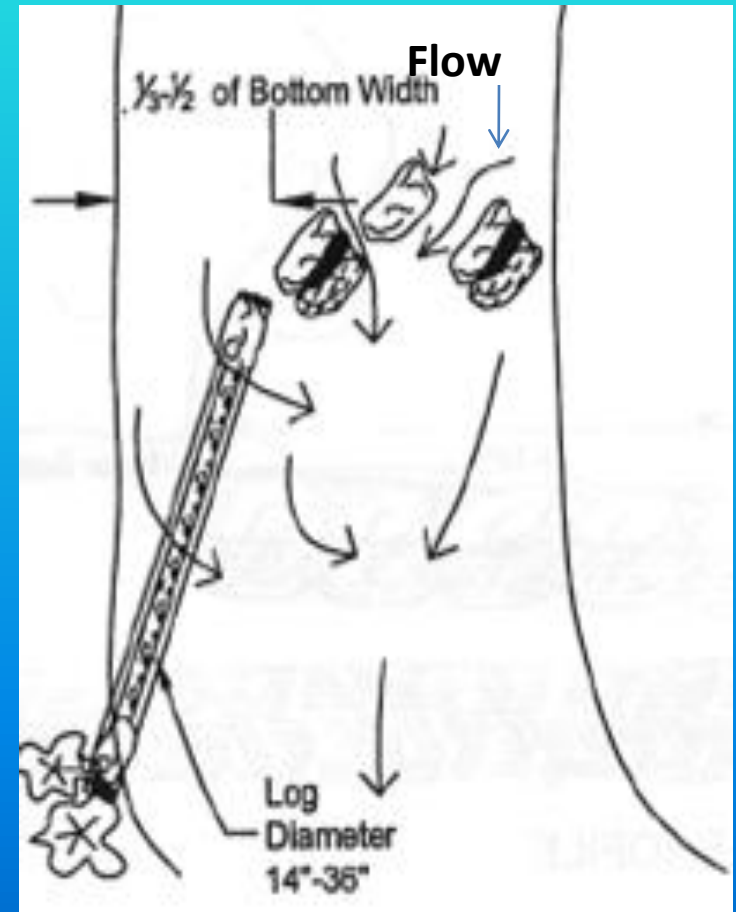
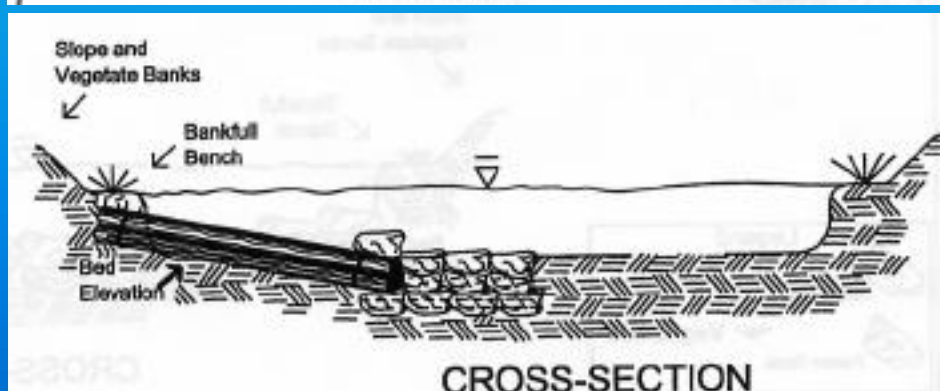
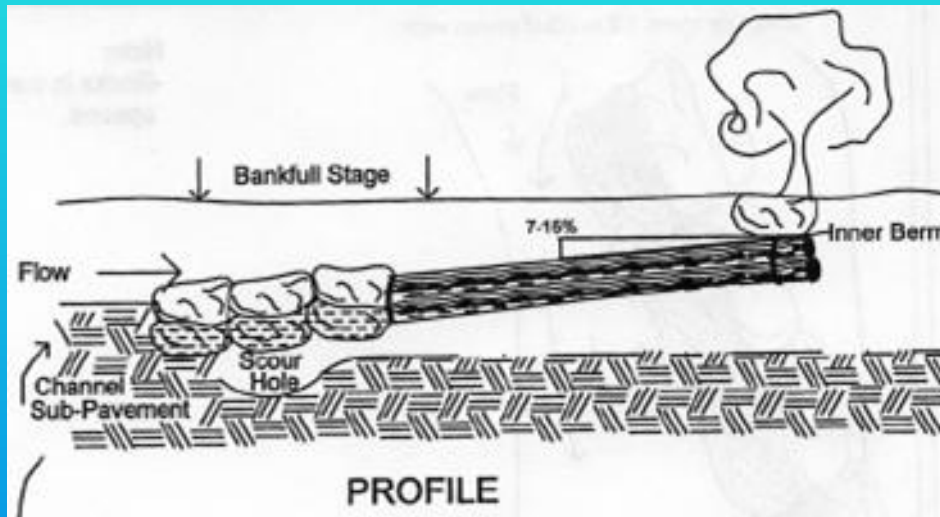
- Tamarack 440
- Silver Maple 220
- Green Ash 200



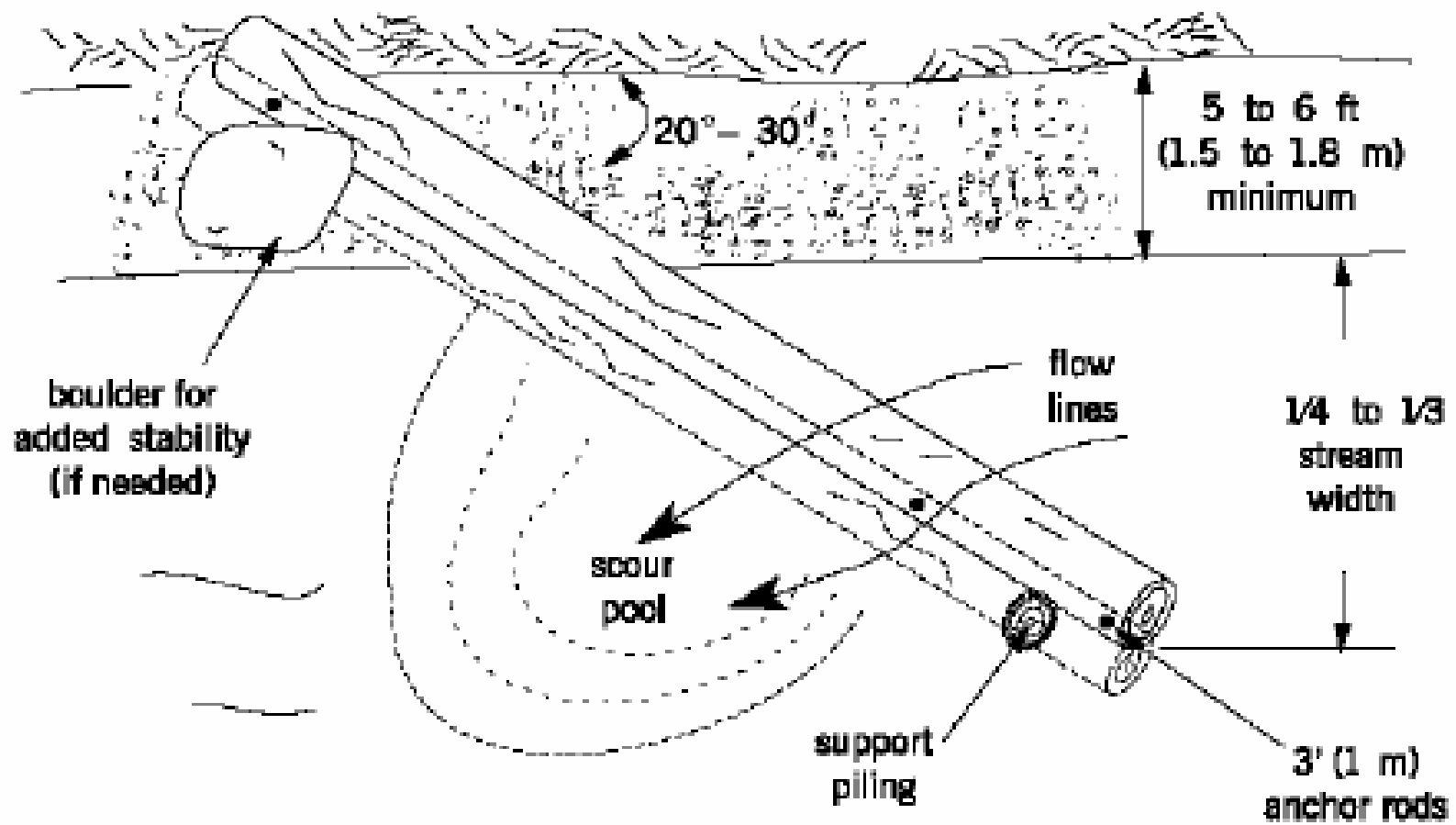
Flood Tolerant Species



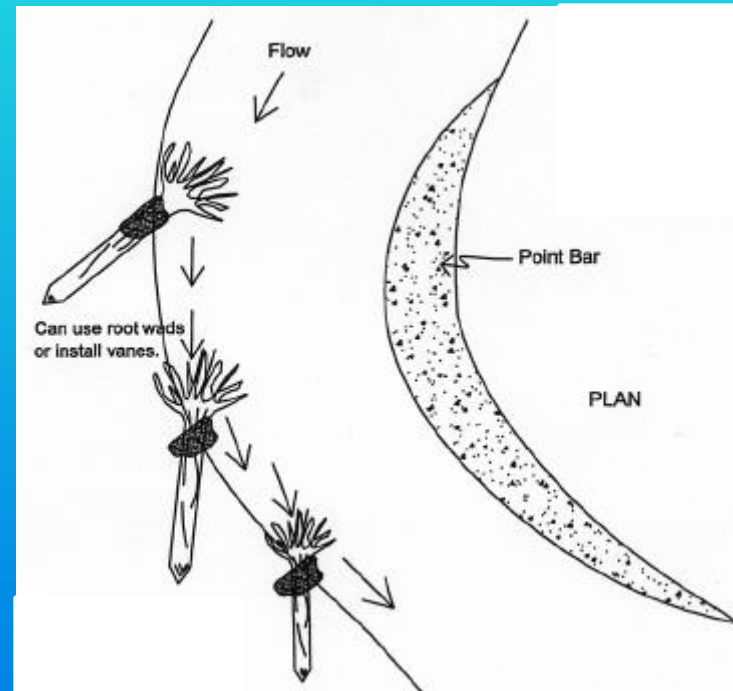
Log J-Hook Vane Detail

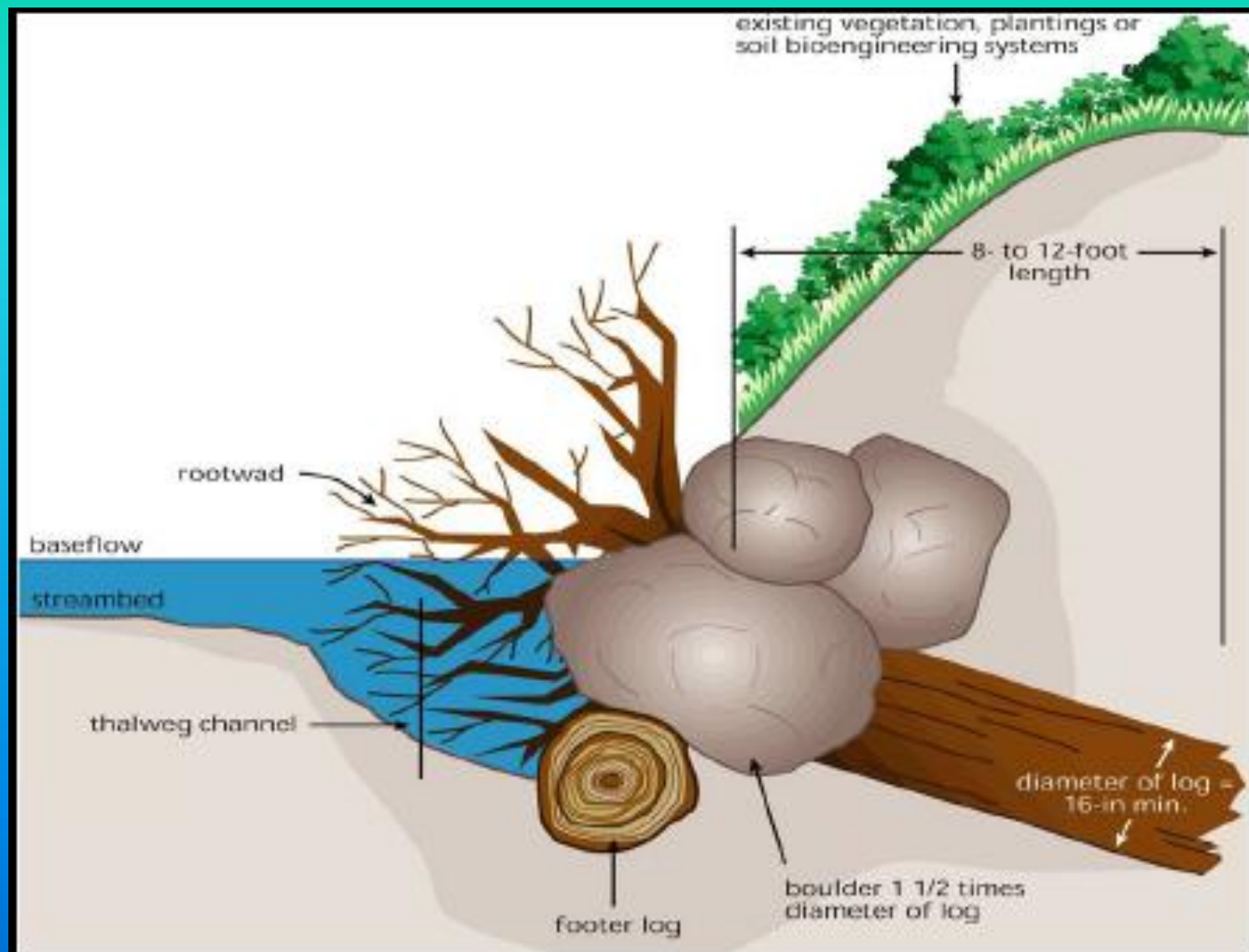


PLAN VIEW: LOG VANE



Root Wad

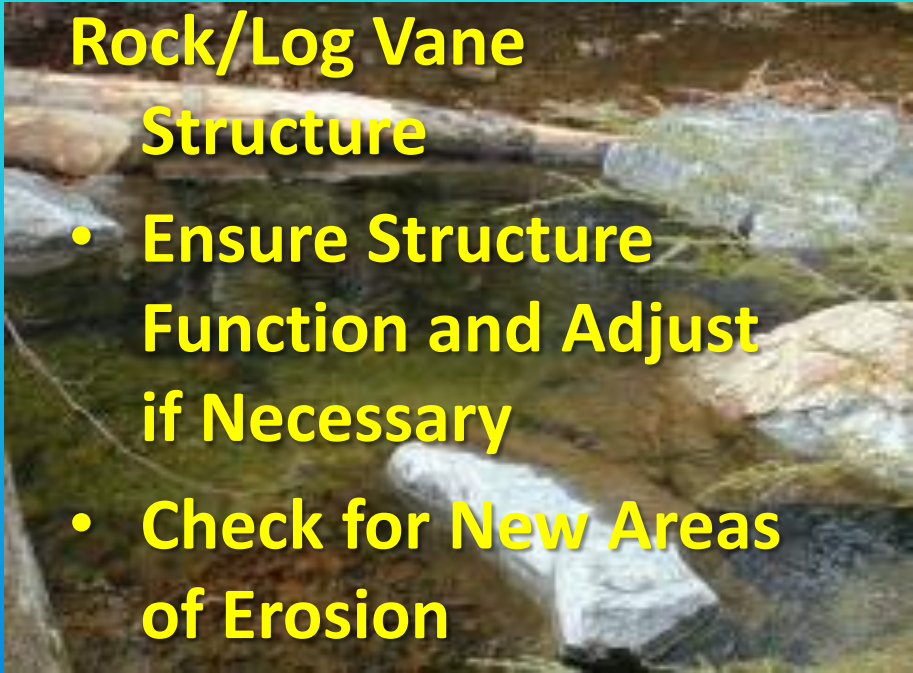




Structure & Tree Planting Evaluation

Rock/Log Vane Structure

- Ensure Structure Function and Adjust if Necessary
- Check for New Areas of Erosion
- Post Project Stream Health Assessment



Tree Planting

- Check for Seedling Survival
- Ensure Tree Tubes, Stakes and Weed Control are Functioning



Where Are We Now?

- Need to apply for:
 - Article 24 Permit: Freshwater Wetlands
 - Article 15 Permit: Protection of Waters
 - NYS DEC Landuse Permit
- Lewis County SWCD has License to Possess and Collect Fish and Invertebrates
- NYS DEC Trees Arrive in April
- Planned Meeting with USFWS Carl Swartz
- WQCC Field Trip Planned in July 2008

Questions?

