

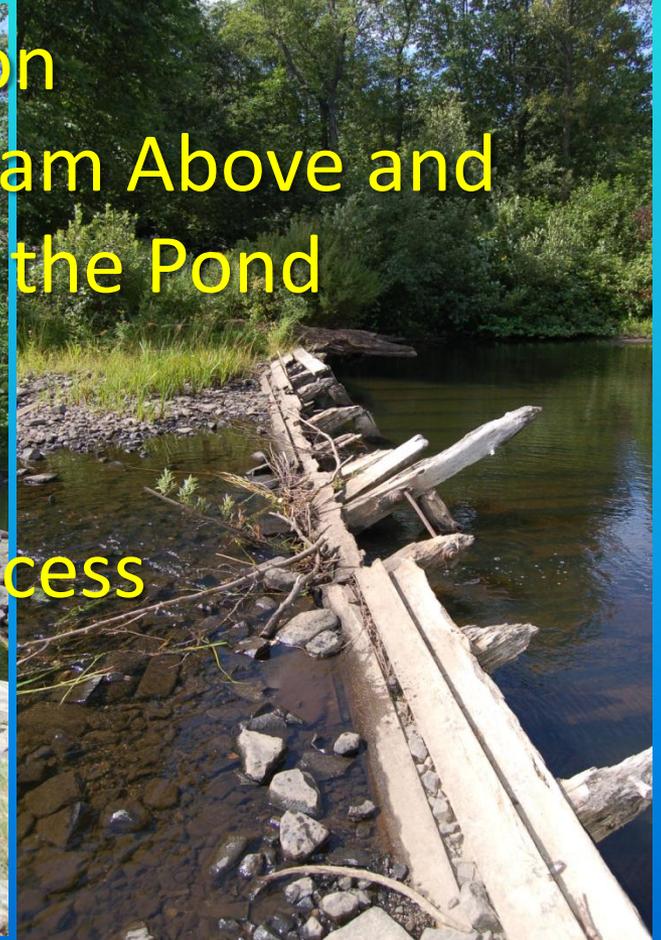
An aerial photograph showing a river winding through a landscape of mixed forest and cleared land. The river is dark and meanders from the top left towards the center. The surrounding land is a mix of green evergreen trees and brown deciduous trees, with several large, irregularly shaped cleared areas in shades of tan and brown. A road or path is visible in the lower left, and a larger body of water is partially 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

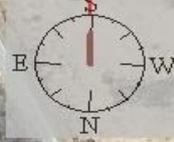
- Pre-Project Stream Health Assessment
- Trail Construction
- Adjust Dam Height
- Tree Planting
- J-Hook / Rock Vane Installation
- Post Structure Evaluation
- Post Project Stream Health Assessment



Stream Health Assessment

WQCC Macroinvertebrate Sampling





Habitat Stamp Grant

Tree Planting

Brook Trout Habitat Structures

Tree Planting Area

Close off channel

Tree Planting Area

Tree Planting Area

Tree Planting Area

Fishing Access Road

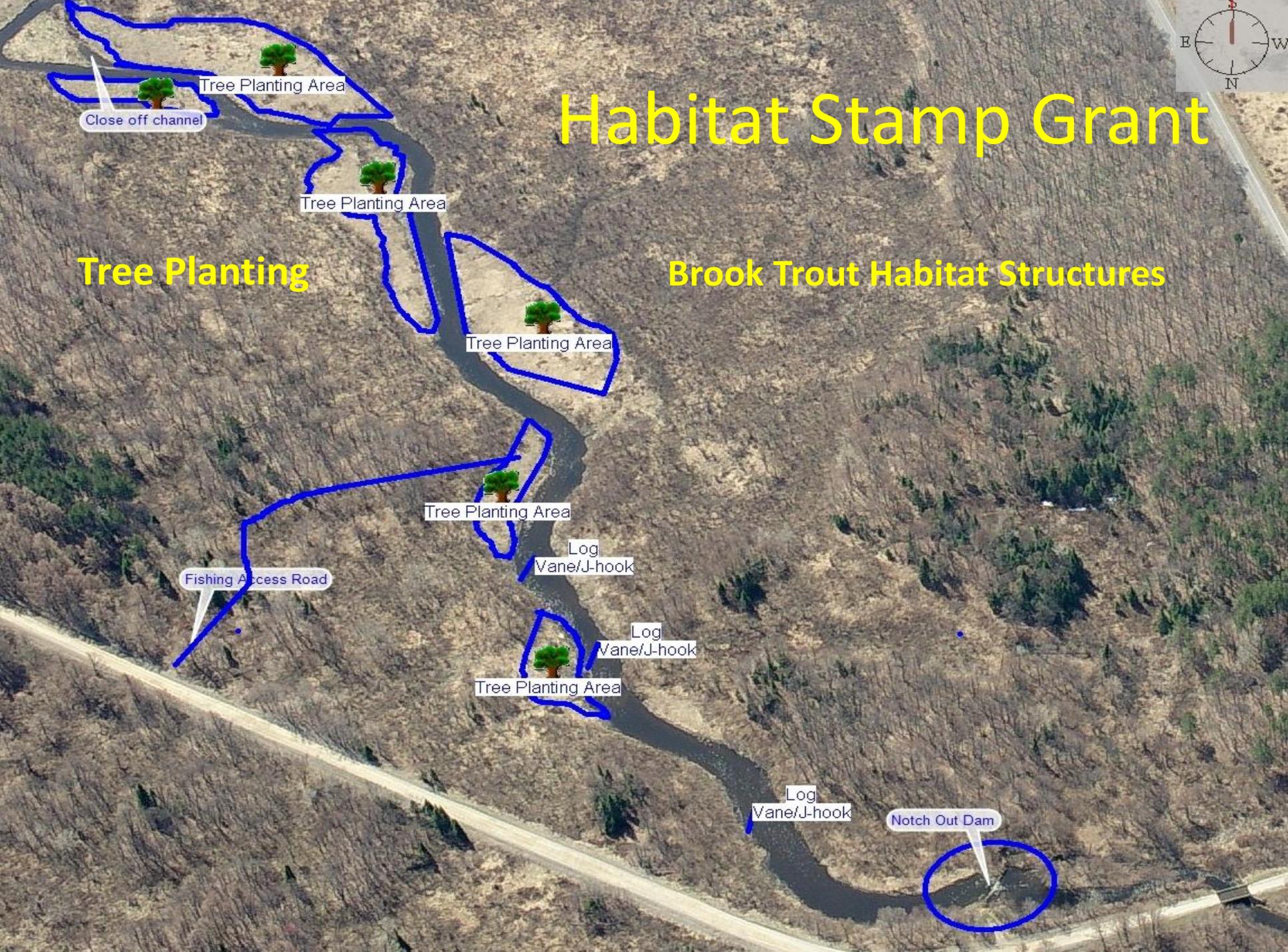
Log Vane/J-hook

Log Vane/J-hook

Tree Planting Area

Log Vane/J-hook

Notch Out Dam

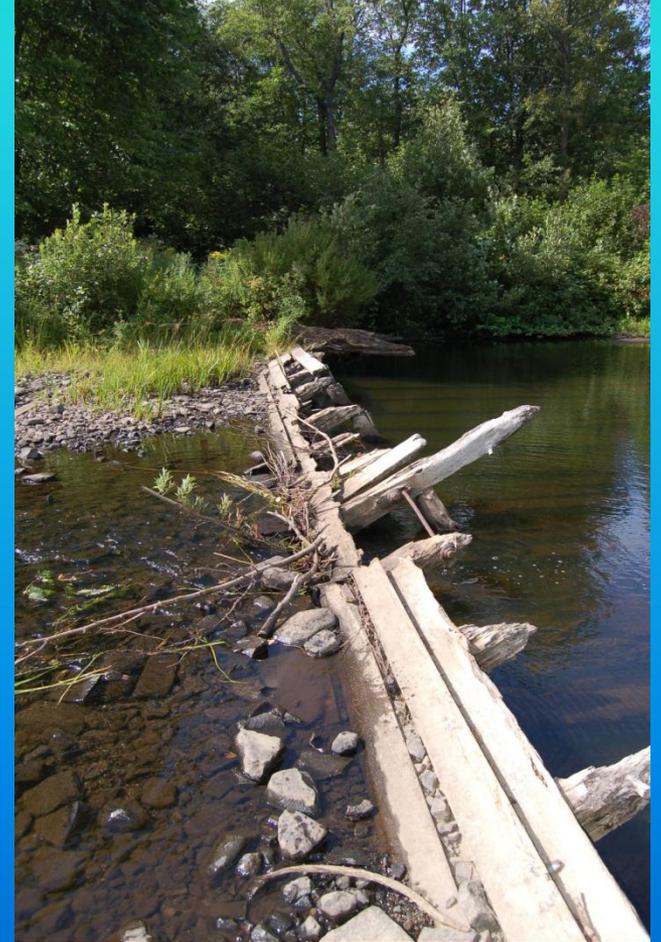


Trail Construction



- 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

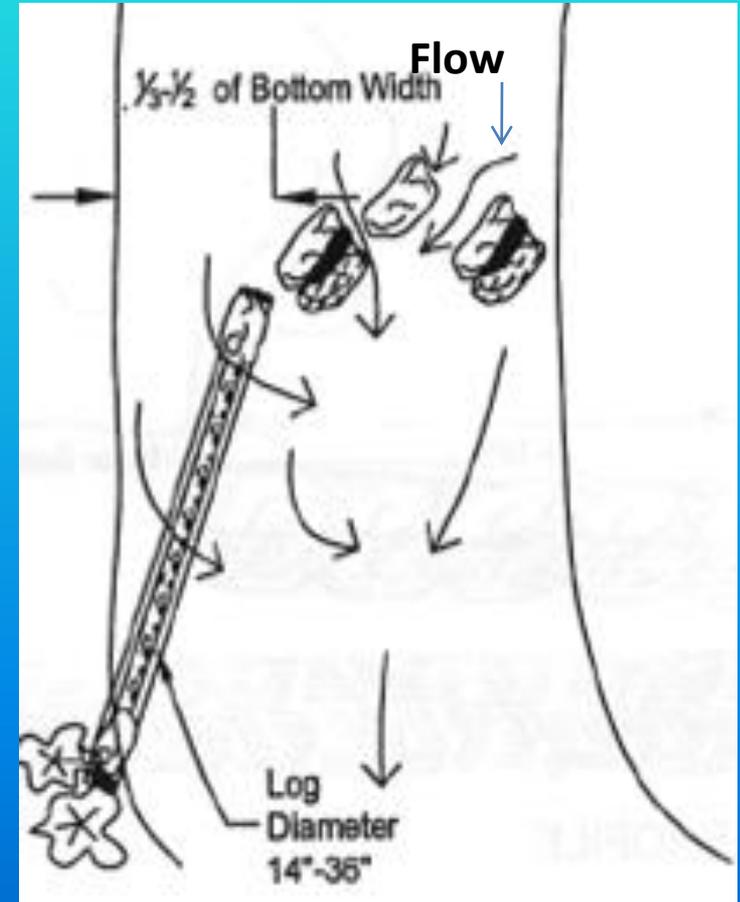
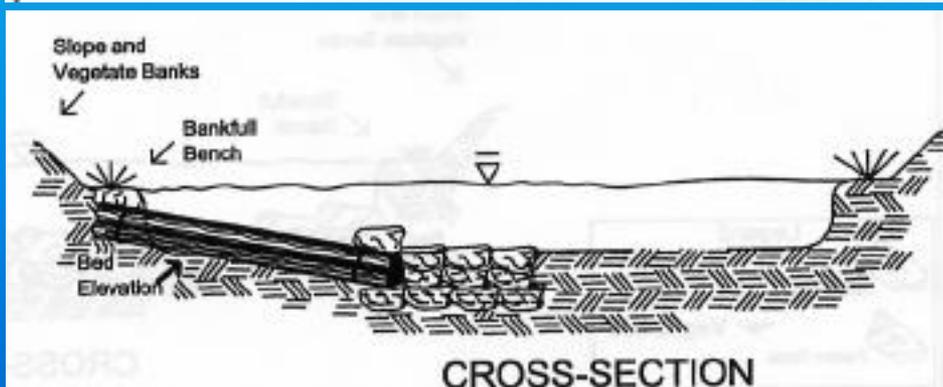
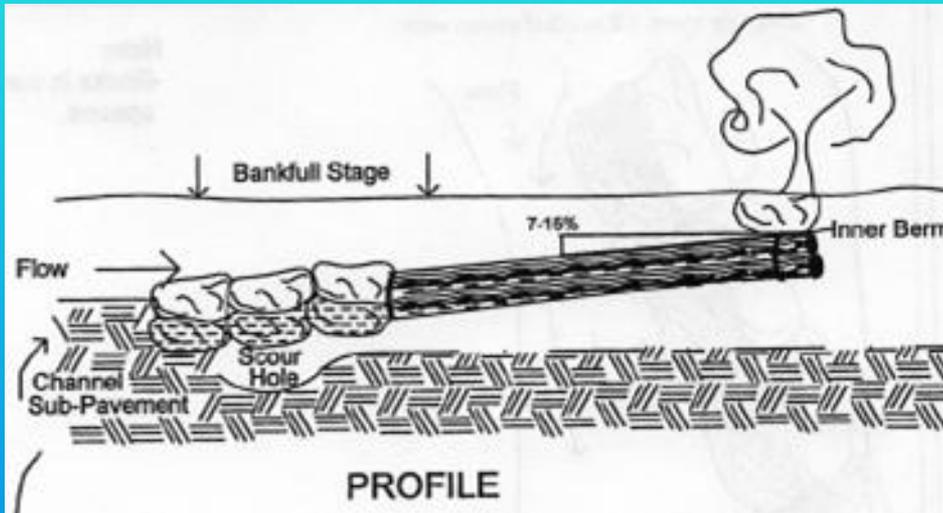
- Tamarack 440
- Silver Maple 220
- Green Ash 200



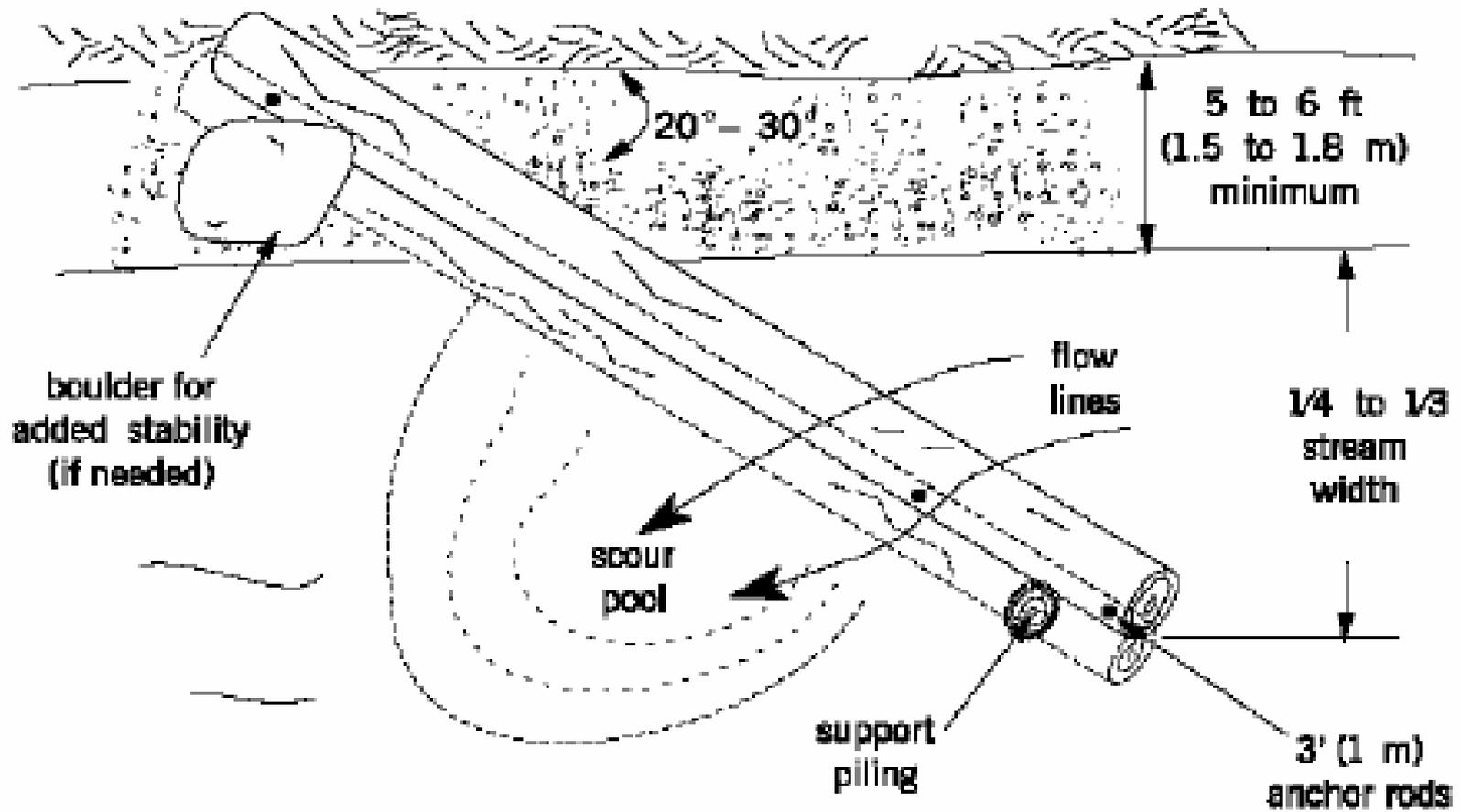
Flood Tolerant Species



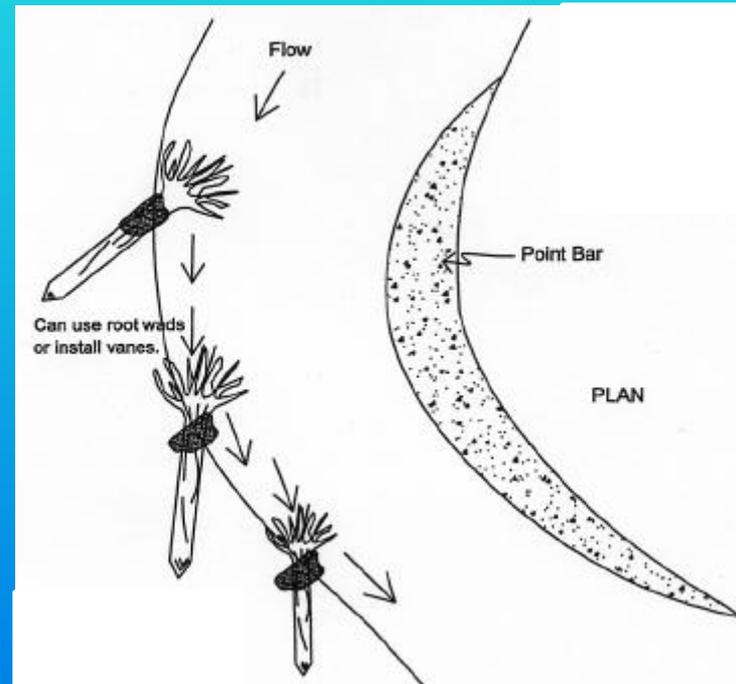
Log J-Hook Vane Detail

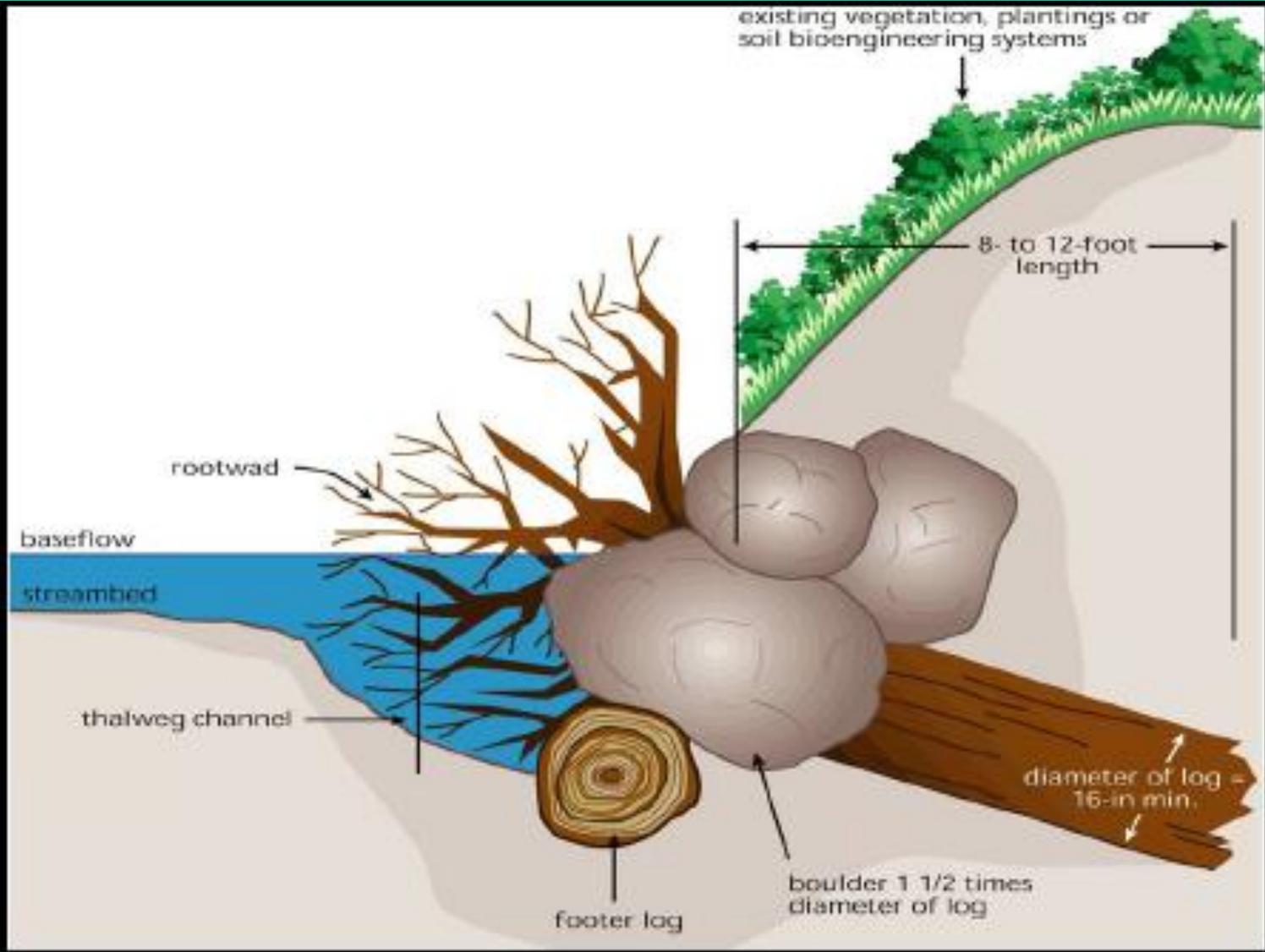


PLAN VIEW: LOG VANE



Root Wad

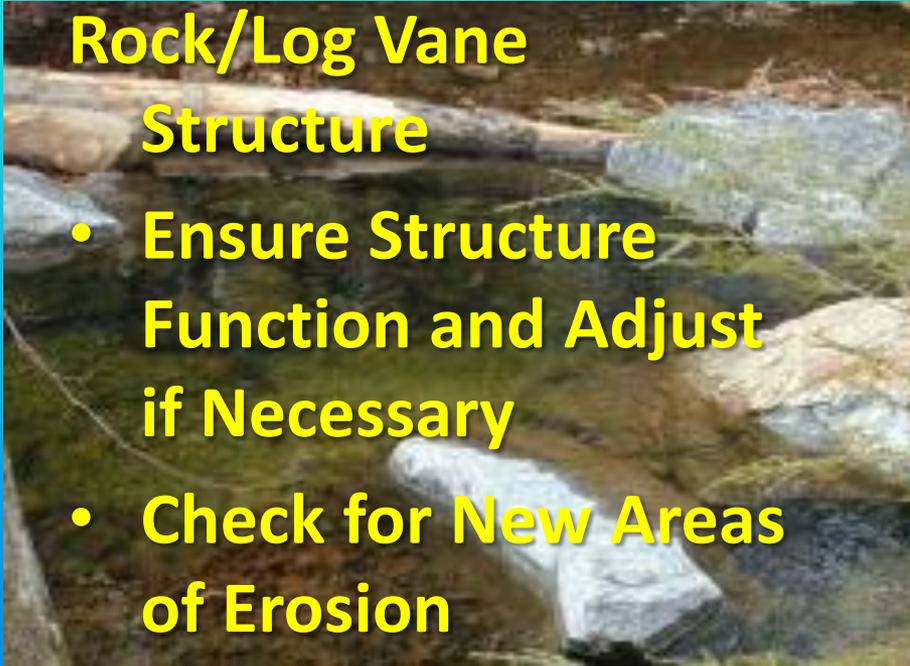




Structure & Tree Planting Evaluation

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?

