



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Los Angeles District

# AGENCY NOTIFICATION

## REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT NO. 63 PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION

Application No.: SPL-2024-00568-AJS  
Project Name: Sespe Creek slope stabilization at VCTC bridge  
Deadline to provide intent to comment: August 26, 2024  
Contact: Antal Szijj  
Phone: (805) 585-2147  
Email: Antal.J.Szijj@usace.army.mil  
Location: In the eastern branch of Sespe Creek, near the city of Fillmore, Ventura County, California (lat: 34.406477; long: -118.931987)

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Los Angeles District, Regulatory Division received an application for Regional General Permit #63 "Repair and Protection Activities in Emergency Situations" on August 19, 2024. Please review the attached materials and provide any substantive, site-specific comments on the proposed project by **5:00PM, Monday, August 26, 2024**. Please refer to file number SPL-2024-00568-AJS in your response.

AGENCY	Attention	E-mail
CDFW, Region 5	Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego Counties	R5LakeandStreambed@wildlife.ca.gov
NMFS - Emergency Notifications	nmfs-Long-Beach-emergency-consultation-request@noaa.gov	
CA State Water Resources Control Board		elizabeth.payne@waterboards.ca.gov
Los Angeles RWQCB (Region 4)		RB4-401USACE@waterboards.ca.gov
SHPO		calshpo.ohp@parks.ca.gov
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Ventura)		FW8VenturaSection7@fws.gov
		chris_dellith@fws.gov
U.S. EPA	Sahrye Cohen	cohen.sahrye@epa.gov
U.S. EPA	Melissa Scianni	scianni.melissa@epa.gov
U.S. EPA	Sarvy Mahdavi	mahdavi.sarvy@epa.gov

**APPLICANT NAME:** Martin Erickson, Executive Director, Ventura County Transportation Commission

**WATERWAY NAME:** Sespe Creek

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WORK:** The applicant proposes to backfill and armor a portion of the scoured railroad track embankment behind the existing abutment. The railroad track embankment would be back filled with class 2 base and topped with backfill. The railroad embankment would be protected with Class 1 and Class 9 riprap to control further erosion (See enclosed drawings). The abutment is damaged beyond repair and will be removed as part of these protection measures.

A temporary cofferdam diversion would also be installed to dewater the work area. The cofferdam would be constructed in accordance with Ventura County Public Works Agency's Water Diversion Guidelines, using one or a combination of the following materials: Visqueen-wrapped sandbags, inflatable dam, compacted earth and/or K-rails.

**JUSTIFICATION FOR RGP 63 AUTHORIZATION:** The exposed earthen embankment is prone to additional scour from elevated flows which could result in erosion behind the recently placed emergency rock slope protection at Telegraph Road (Corps file no. SPL-2024-00192) and threaten the road integrity.

**AREA OF WATERS (including wetlands) SUBJECT TO LOSS AS A RESULT OF PROPOSED WORK:** Proposed backfill and rock placement would result in 0.01 acre of direct discharge of fill into non-wetland waters, plus an additional 0.02 acre of temporary impacts to waters associated with dewatering and construction access. All impacts are within areas that were within the upland embankment prior to the flooding which resulting the bank erosion and bridge failure.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT:** Sespe Creek is within designated critical habitat for the endangered Southern California Coastal Steelhead Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and the species could be present during construction activities.

**ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT:** There is no EFH present.

**NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT:** There are no historic properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) within the Corps' Area of Potential Effect (APE). Areas within the APE were subject to significant flooding and scour as a result of high flows, as well as past disturbance from the construction of the railroad bridge and it is unlikely any unknown historic properties eligible for listing on the NRHP would be present or affected by the action.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** The applicant anticipates developing a more permanent repair to restore the railroad bridge and reclaim eroded uplands at the abutment, which would be the subject of a separate Corps permitting process.

Maps, site photos and a .kmz (Google Earth) file are included with this notification. This is an active situation and the scope of activities required to restore damaged facilities may change accordingly. Any changes would be addressed through subsequent agency notification(s).



*Regulatory Program Goals:*

- To provide strong protection of the Nation's aquatic environment, including wetlands.
- To ensure that the Corps provides the regulated public with fair and reasonable decisions.
- To enhance the efficiency of the Corps administration of its regulatory program.

Figure 1 – Regional Location Map

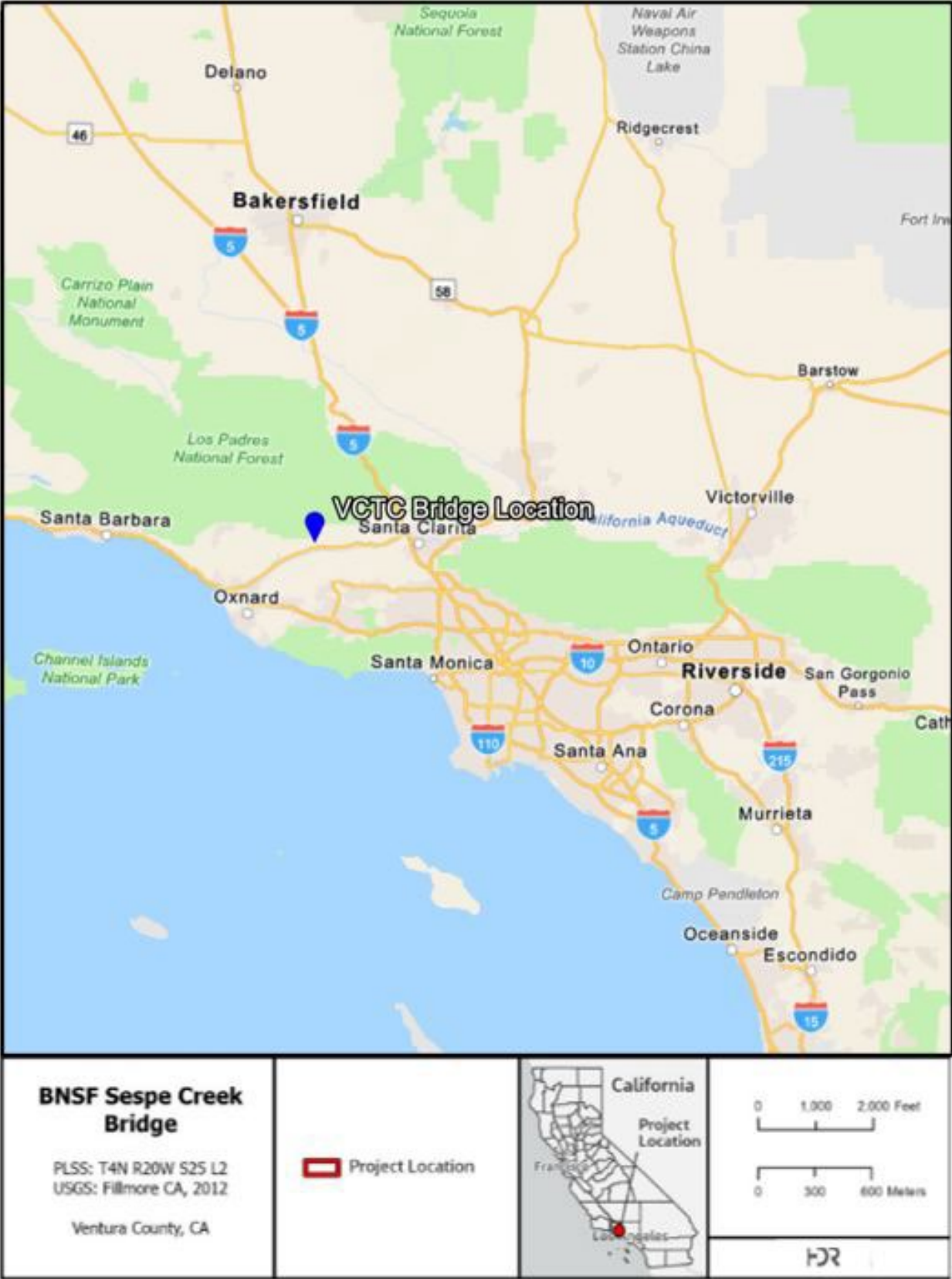
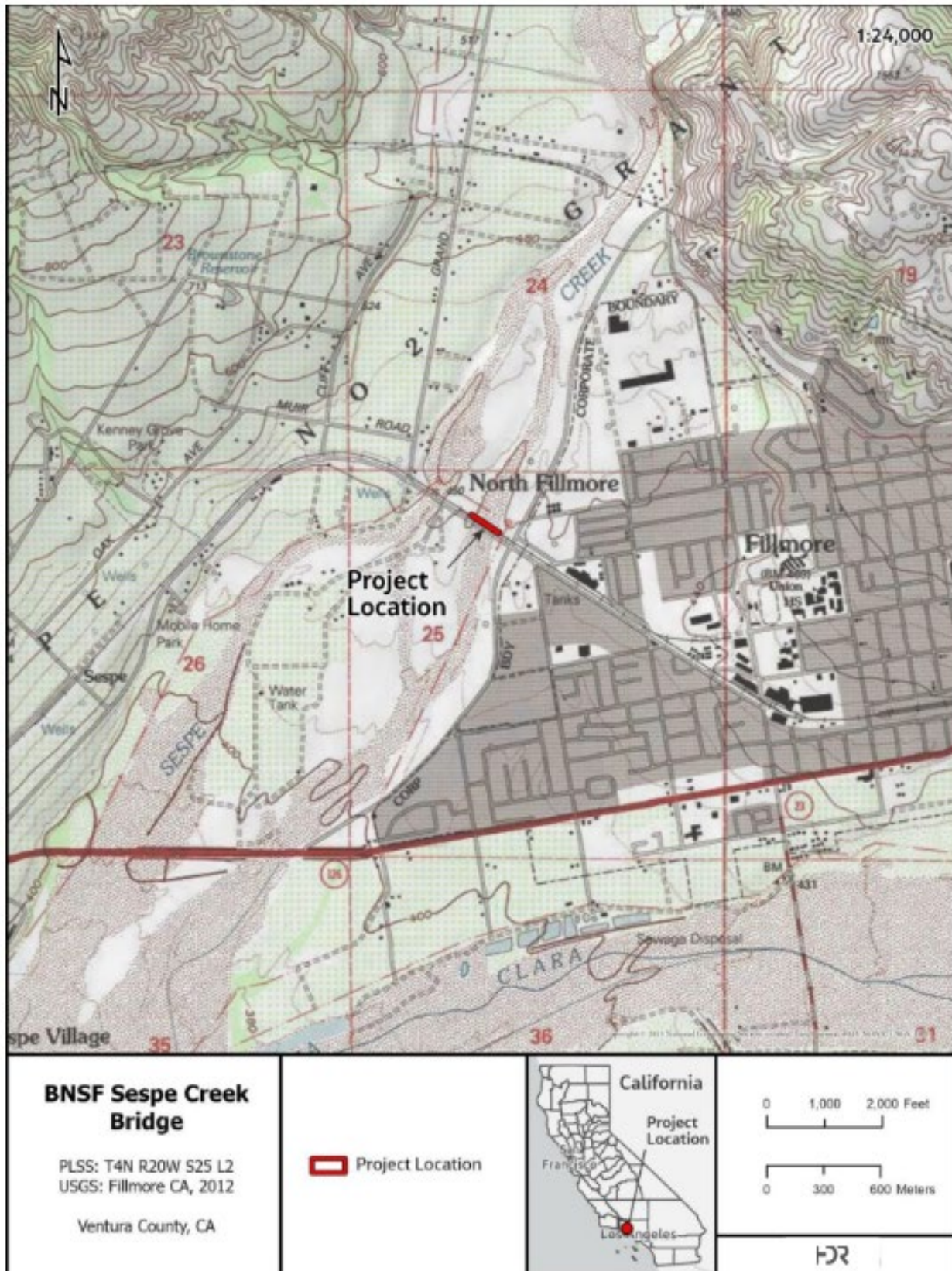




Figure 2 – Site Location USGS “Filmore” Map





**Figure 3a – Proposed Repairs Plan View**

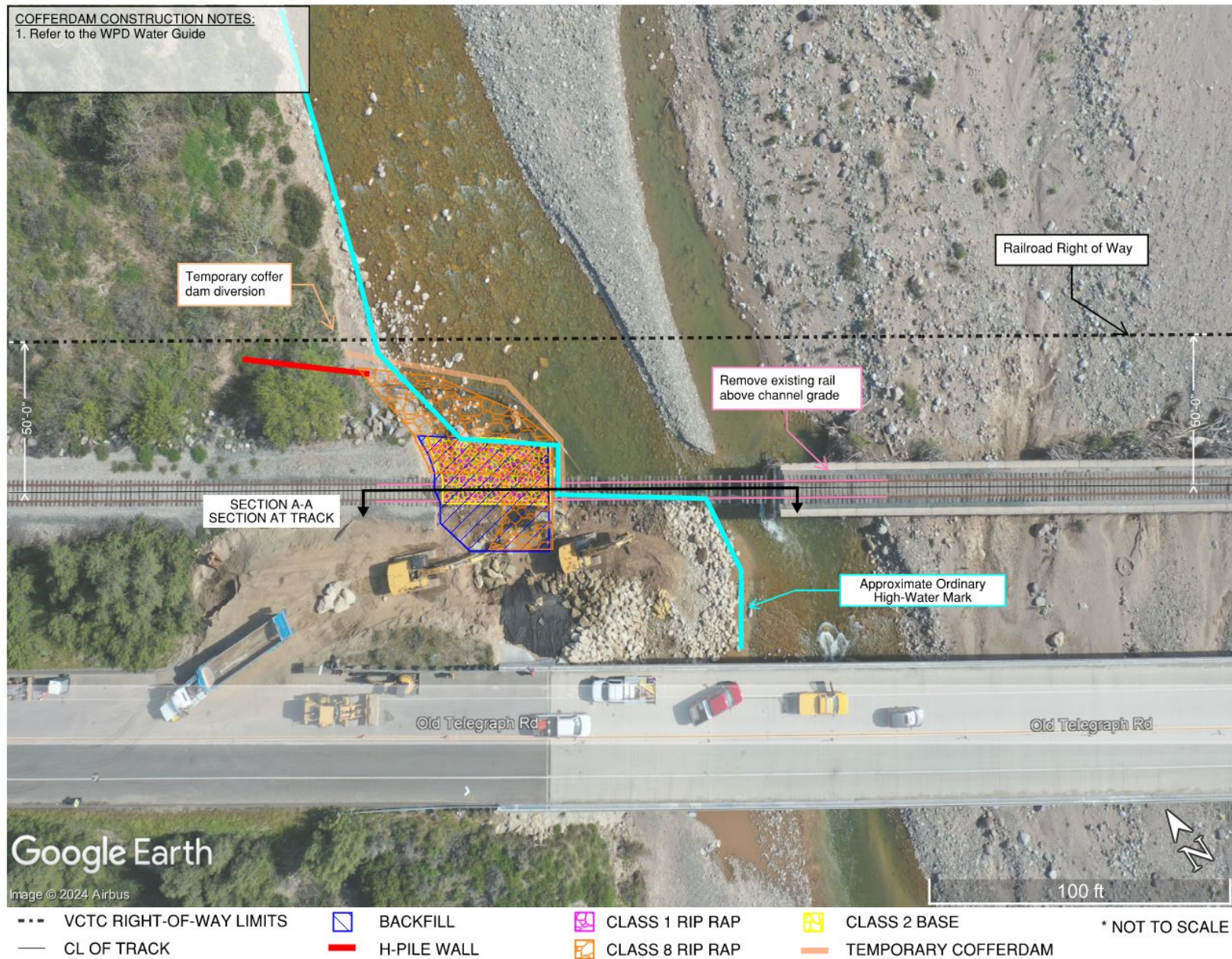
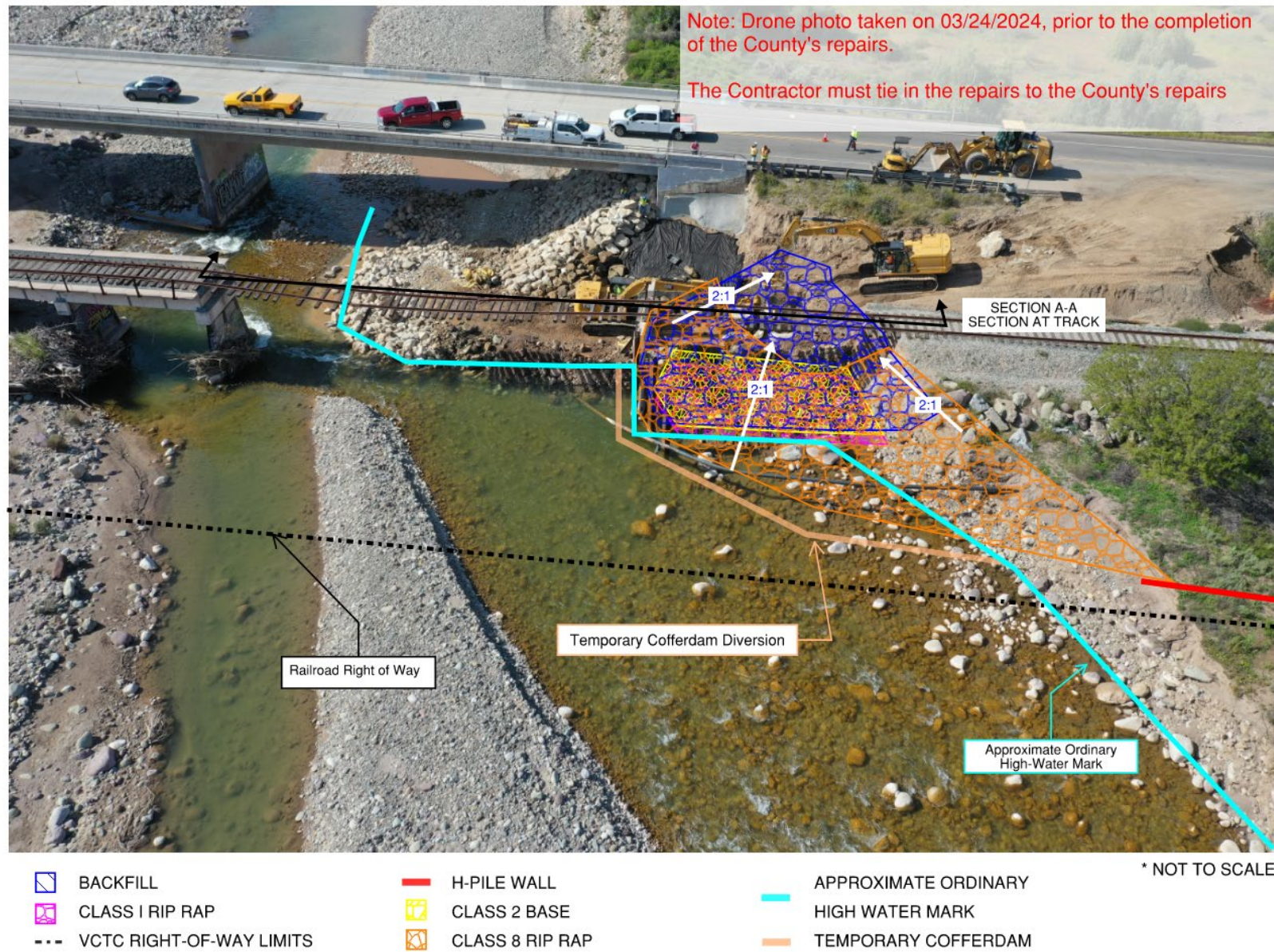






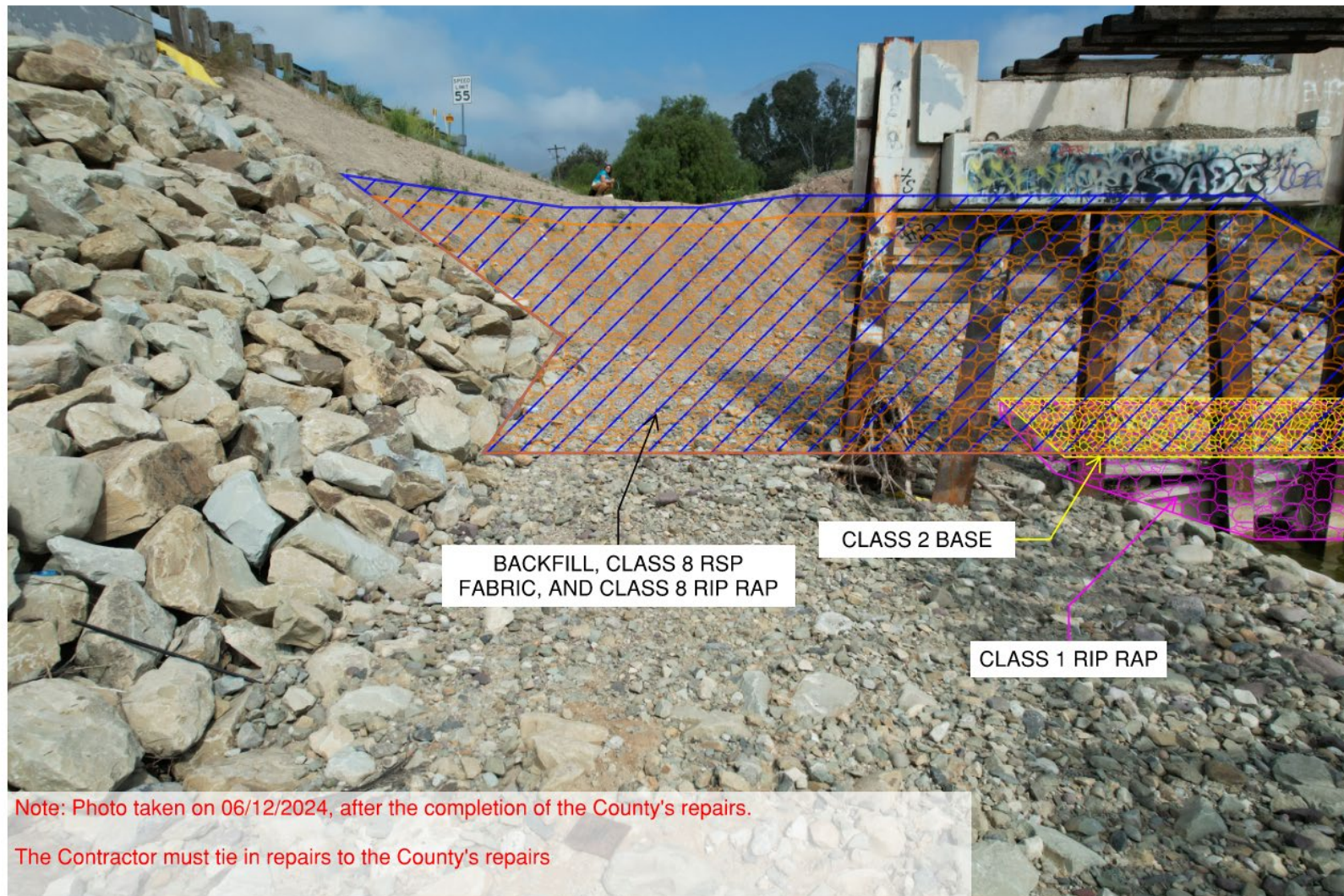
Figure 3b – Proposed Repairs Elevation View





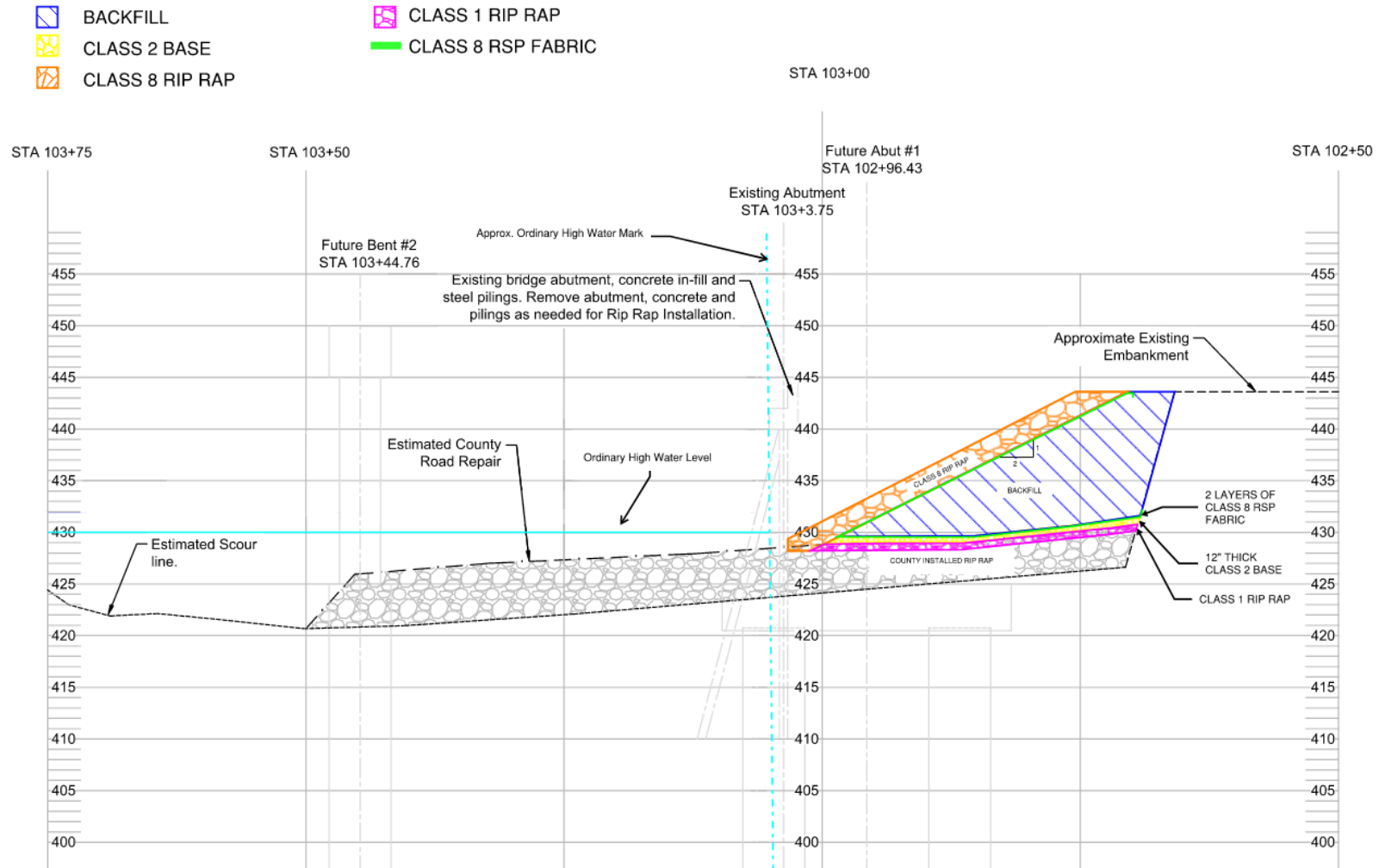


**Figure 3c – Proposed Repairs Elevation Schematics of Rip-Rap Protections**





**Figure 3d – Proposed Embankment Repairs adjacent to Old Telegraph Road.**



**SECTION A-A,  
SECTION AT CL OF TRACK**  
Not to Scale





## Site Photographs: Continued:



Photo. #2  
View facing east  
at the 50+ feet of  
embankment  
behind the  
abutment that will  
be replaced to  
align with the Old  
Telegraph Road  
immediately  
behind this  
photograph.



Photo #3.  
View of damaged  
abutment and  
newly replaced  
Old Telegraph  
Road  
Embankment on  
the left.





Photo #4  
View to the west at  
the repaired Old  
Telegraph Road  
abutment



Photo #5  
View looking south  
at the damaged  
piers and existing  
spans proposed to  
be reused in the  
final bridge repair.  
Rock rip rap will be  
buried around these  
two bents in order  
to support them  
during winter  
storms.