

May 8, 2014 10:00 AM

Field trip to River Road with DES Fluvial Geomorphologist Shane Csiki, Jeremy -----, DES, David Robins, Planning/zoning Adm, Jim Kennedy, Wetland Scientist, CRJC/UVSC, Fred Stearns, Road agent, Patty Jenks and Sue MacKenzie Selectboard Members.

The group met at the town office where Jim Kennedy briefed the DES representatives on the river/road conditions using both the Pathways 2013 and Holden 2011 engineering reports as well as photographs contributed by John Mudge.

1. Starting at the Berway Farm on North River Road the group examined the bank and road conditions. Moving south we examined the 1997-98 bank stabilization done by private landowners at the junction of the North Thetford Road, the area that is unprotected and finally the 2012 repair. Possible solution is to stabilize the bank at the river level and up to just above the high water level.
2. One area of concern on the gravel section of road where an old rock retaining wall has given way, and more is threatening to give way. One solution presented was to have the area back filled to prevent further deterioration.
3. The area of Road slump 0.2 mile south of the East Thetford Bridge. This was felt to be not related to river action but more about poor road material and water seeping through the cracks and washing out the road bed. They strongly recommended placing a guard rail at this site.
4. The 0.5 mile section of River Road from the Hanover town line north. Discussion involved decreasing the degree of bank stabilization recommended by Pathways and extending the stabilization along the entire length to avoid bank failure down the road to areas left unprotected between the areas described in the Pathways report.

The DES scientists will write up their findings and impressions, discussing them with the wetlands section of DES and sending a report back to Jim Kennedy. Jim will be recommending measures to be taken by the town to further stabilize the river bank and River Road.

Jim, Shane and Jeremy were thanked for their time and efforts on behalf of the Town.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30

Respectfully submitted,

//Susan MacKenzie