

# Implementation Strategies/Infrastructure Fixes for Wildlife Avoidance



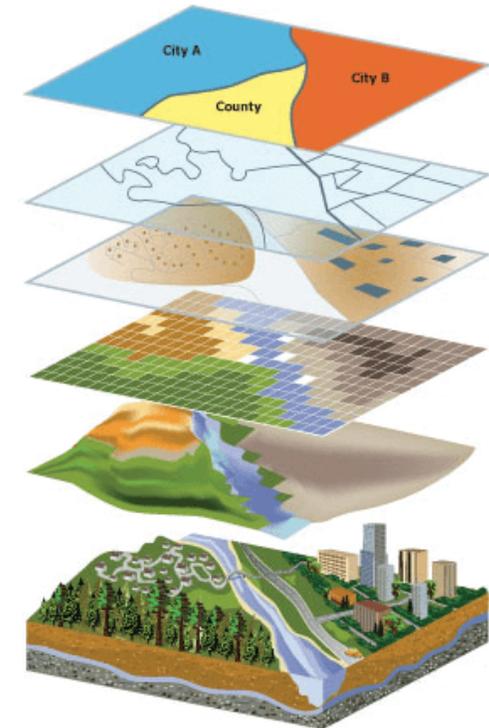
*January 25, 2024*

**David Paulson**

Wildlife and Endangered Species Unit Supervisor,  
MassDOT Highway Division

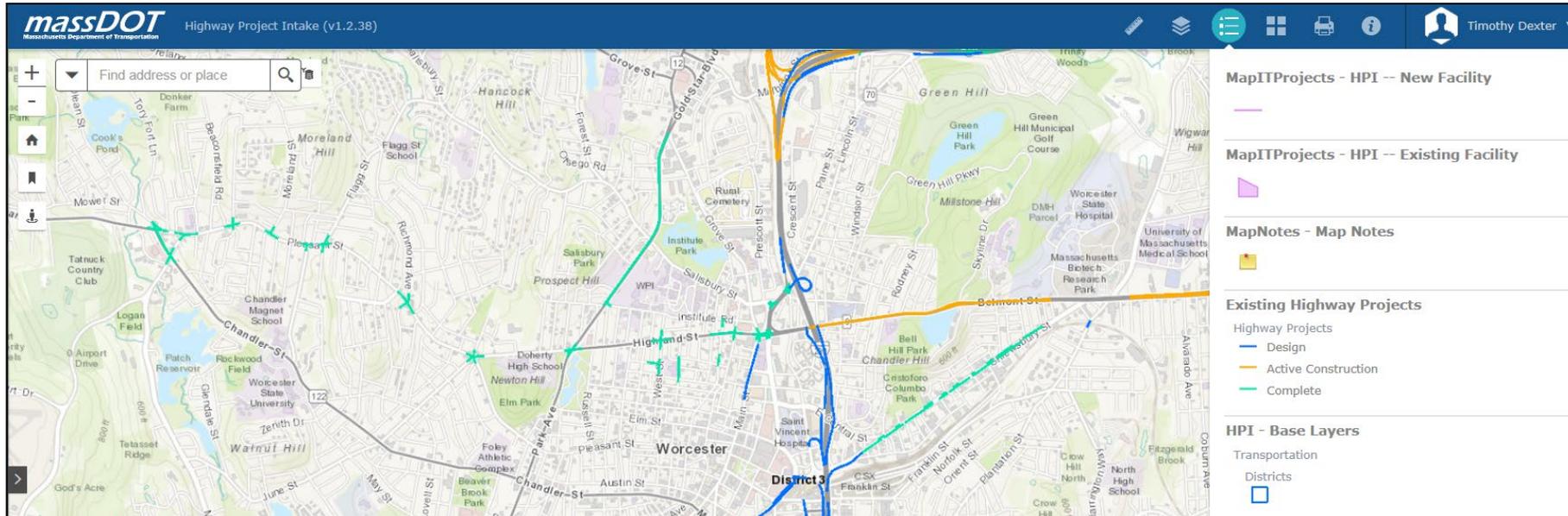
# Early Environmental Coordination

- Interagency Working Group
  - Identify Priorities
    - Rare Species, Wildlife, Landscape Connectivity
    - Inland Fisheries, Marine Fisheries
- Enhanced Geospatial Data Sharing
- Spatial Analysis and Modeling
  - Conservation/Restoration: Priorities
  - AD List Projects (Focus Pre 25% and 2050)
  - MassDOT Vulnerable Culverts and Bridges
  - MassDOT Culvert Inventory

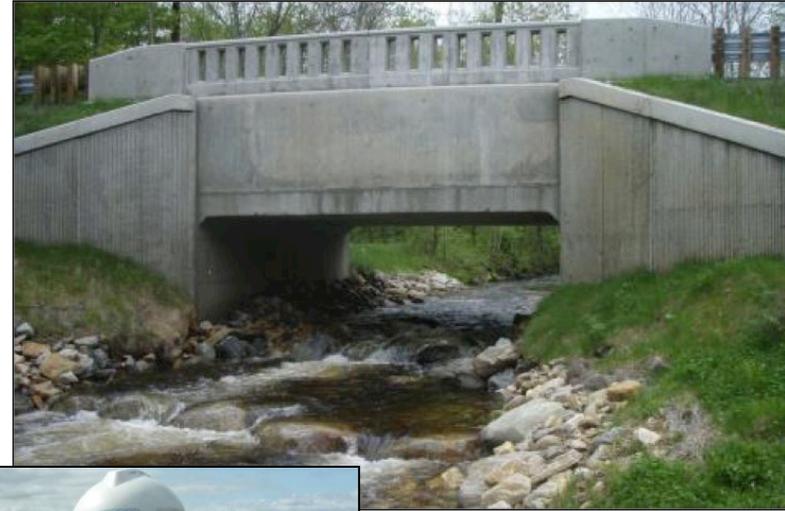


# Early Environmental Coordination

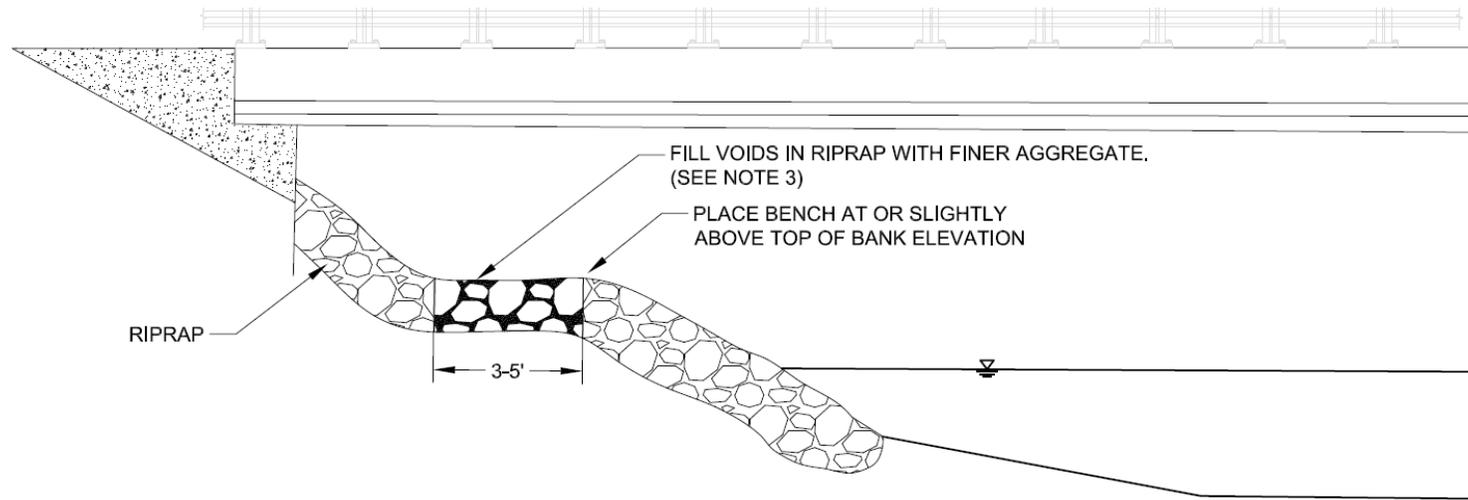
- MassDOT Project Intake Tool (MaPIT) – provides planning – phase environmental screening
- Environmental Review Checklist for Scoping, Pre-25% Design, and 25% Design phase environmental reviews
- Project specific early coordination meetings



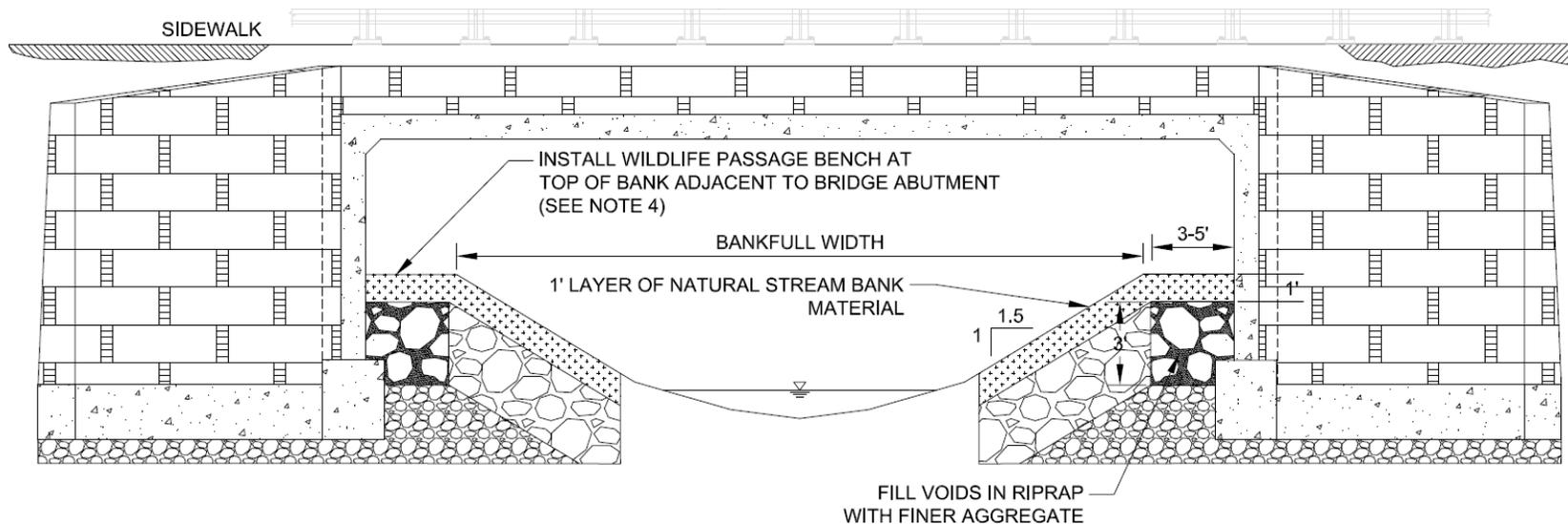
# The Outcome



# Wildlife Passage Bench Design



ELEVATION PROFILE: MID-SLOPE WILDLIFE PASSAGE BENCH



ELEVATION PROFILE: ADJACENT TO ABUTMENT WILDLIFE PASSAGE BENCH

# Stream Crossings: Design for Fish/Wildlife *and* Severe Storm Resilience



# Crossing Structures and Fencing



# Education and Outreach



# Research and Monitoring



2018-11-26 2:02:38 PM M 2/3 36°F



LINKINGLANDSCAPE

RECONYX

2016-03-31 11:33:35 AM M 3/3 65°F



LINKINGLANDSCAPE

RECONYX



LINKINGLANDSCAPE

RECONYX

# Research and Monitoring

- Statewide Wildlife and Transportation Action Plan
  - A strategic Plan for the Commonwealth
  - Relates to:
    - State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP)
    - MassDOT Design Guide
    - Resilience Improvement Plan (PROTECT)



# SWTAP Objectives

1) A plan to protect wildlife and reduce WVC

2) To develop a joint statewide transportation and wildlife action plan that identifies and incorporates priorities of

- MA Division of Fisheries & Wildlife (DFW)
- MA Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF)
- MassDOT

into a single resource.

# **The MassDOT SWTAP would include, but not be limited to the following focal areas:**

- Actions to reduce WVC and improve public safety
- Enhancing, protecting, and restoring habitats impacted by roads
- Incorporating conservation priorities into transportation planning
- Identifying wildlife-transportation research needs