

Animal-Vehicle Collision Avoidance

2024 Update from RIDOT

Nicole Lineberry

Senior Environmental Scientist

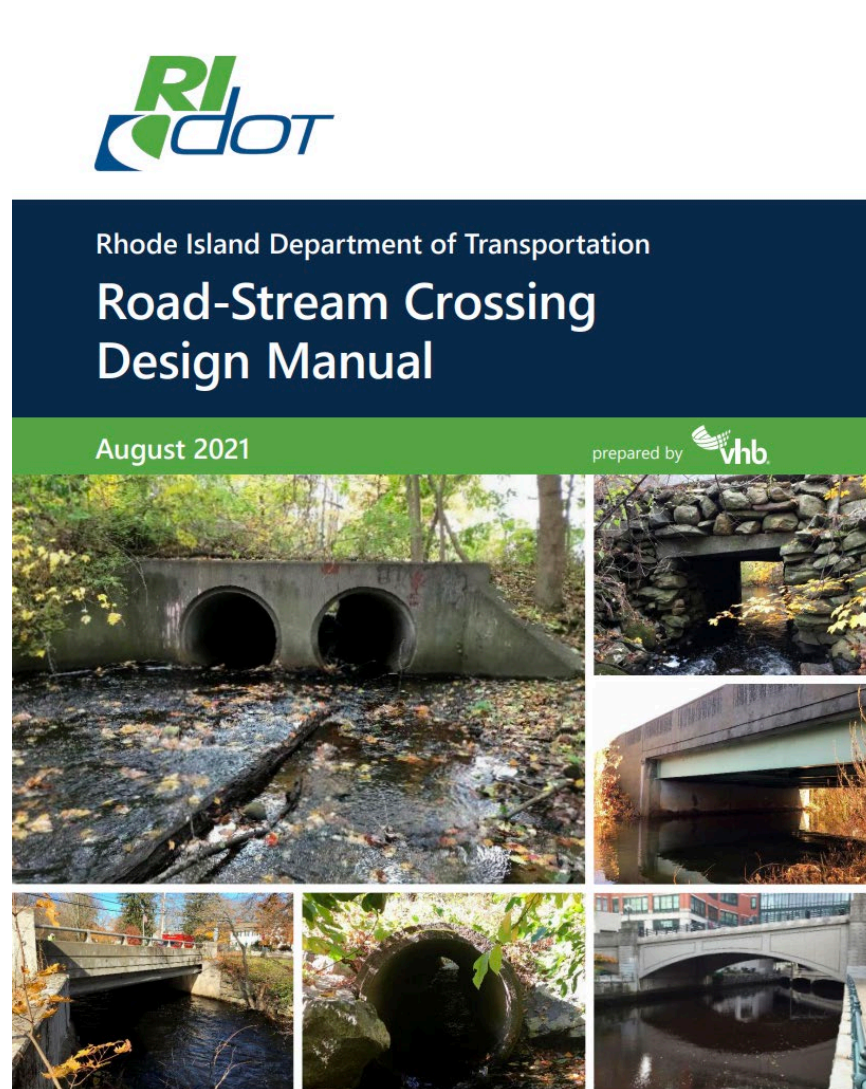
Natural Resources Unit

Environmental Division

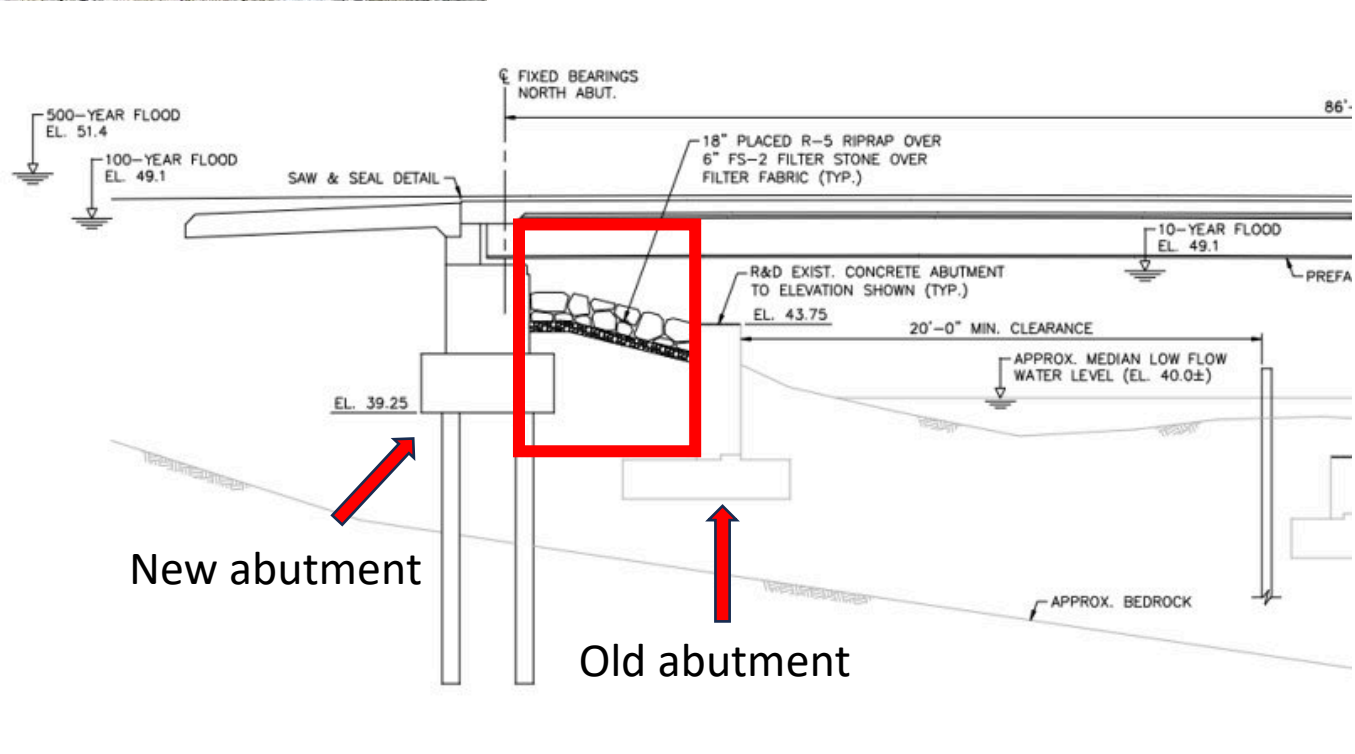
RI Department of Transportation



- Provides design standards to replace undersized crossings with adequately sized stream crossings that can also provide improved passage for terrestrial organisms.
- Design Manual required for all RIDOT-owned road-stream crossing replacements and must be followed as part of RI's Army Corps General permit.
- Design manual provides a base and optimal standard for a list of design criteria. Optimal standard must consider wildlife passages.
- Provides standards and references for wildlife passage design.







Recommendations:

- If feasible given the crossing span, wildlife benches should be a minimum of 3 feet wide and should be slightly above the bankfull elevation to prevent wash-out
- Fill in voids within the riprap with smaller material that is similar to the natural channel upstream and downstream of the bridge to blend in with the surrounding riparian area/floodplain
- Include a well-graded blend of material sizes to prevent/mitigate wash-outs during high flow events

Northern diamondback terrapin fencing

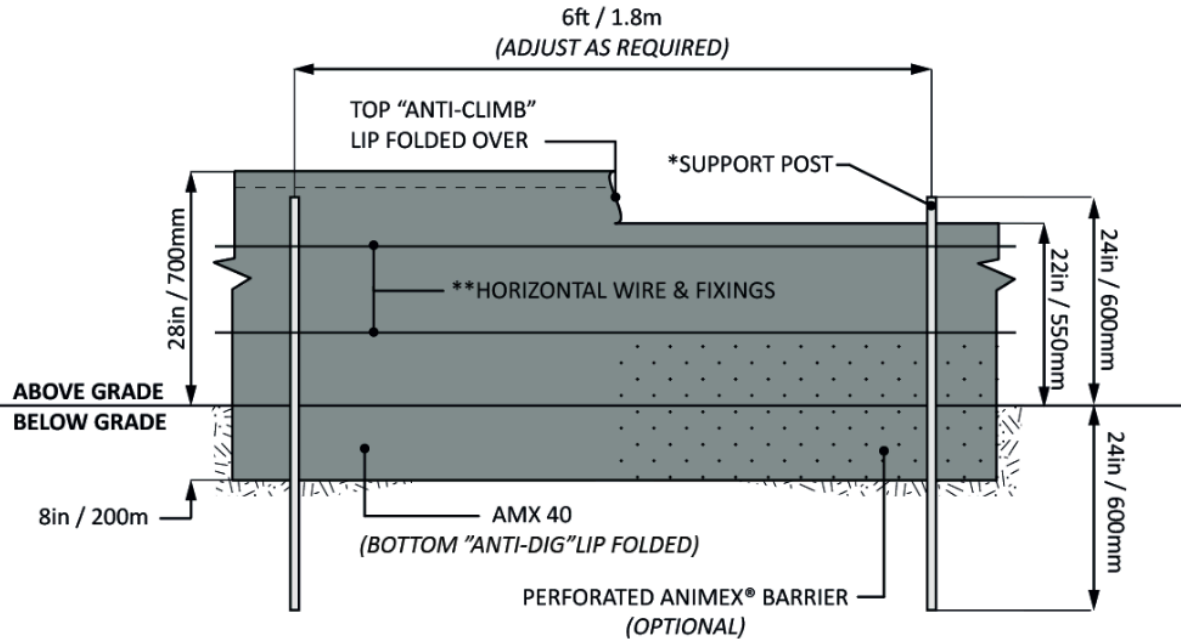


Gabrielle De Meillon



Northern diamondback terrapin fencing

Animex® AMX 40 Permanent Wildlife Fencing



ELEVATION VIEW
NOT TO SCALE



Lessons Learned:

- Fence damage and repair
- Stormwater issues
- Addressing gaps with driveways/access areas

Next Steps:

- Maintenance Schedule
- Outreach
- Monitoring success



Challenges:

- Collision data and needs
- Lack of regulatory oversight
- Budget and schedule

Upcoming:

- SPR-funding secured to look at opportunities for addressing wildlife passage
- Plans to begin entering collision data into VTrans Survey 123 Roads and Wildlife map
- Continuing to look for partnership opportunities with RIDEM and other agencies

RIDOT Contacts

Nicole Lineberry

Senior Environmental Scientist

Nicole.leporacci@dot.ri.gov

Heather Hamilton

Supervising Environmental Scientist

Heather.hamilton@dot.ri.gov

