

Brief Project Summary

Cambridge Bay, NU, Freshwater Creek. Riverbed Alteration related to Upgrading of Bridge Crossing

The Hamlet of Cambridge Bay, NU is upgrading, in stages, the Existing Freshwater Creek Crossing located on the road to the local Cemetery some 2.5 km to the NW of town.

Presently, there is a 30 m long Bailey Bridge on the crossing. The east end of this bridge rests directly on a high river bank. The west end is supported on a gravel-rock fill Causeway projecting into the river and blocking nearly one third of the Natural River Channel. This Causeway is subject to progressive yearly erosion, and associated siltation of the river, with need for significant repairs every several years. The last major washout was in 2010 when the bridge was closed for traffic for a few weeks.

In the last few years the Hamlet has gradually installed a 45 m long New Bridge alongside the existing one. The abutments of the New Bridge are located beyond the High Water Mark of the Natural River Bed. The remaining Work on the Bridge Upgrading includes:

- Removal of the existing Bailey Bridge:.
- Excavation-Removal from the Causeway, and the adjacent upstream Buffer Berm some 1,600 cubic meters mixture of gravel and rock.

This Work is considered Alteration of the Riverbed. During Work, temporary siltation of the watercourse downstream from the crossing will take place. The Plan is to carry out the work this fall, at low water, within a time window established by the NIRB, DFO, NWB and other appropriate Regulators.

The Long Term Impact of the proposed Alteration is highly positive. The erosion of the Riverbanks and Riverbed will be practically eliminated and 600 sq m fish habitat will be recovered.

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