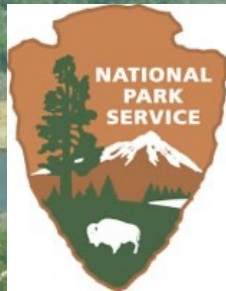




# Town of Wellfleet



## Cape Cod National Seashore

**Phase 1 Project Update  
Wellfleet Community Forum  
April 13, 2023**



# Restoration Objectives

Restore Herring River estuary—once one of the most productive salt marsh systems in the Northeast.

Address severe degradation caused by prolonged tidal restriction

- Water quality (Clean Water Act non-compliance, bacterial point source)
- Marsh subsidence
- Acid sulfate soils, water surface acidification, metals mobilization
- Loss of resilience, climate adaptability
- Loss of habitat, obstructed fish passage, loss of shellfish areas
- Loss of estuarine function



# Water Control Features Restore Tidal Flow

## On Town Property:

- Chequessett Neck bridge & sluice gates
- Upper Pole Dike Creek Water Control Structure
- Removal of High Toss Rd causeway

## On CCNS Property:

- Mill Creek Water Control Structure

Phase 1 (570 acres) includes all water control infrastructure needed for full restoration (890 acres)



Herring River Restoration Project  
Wellfleet and Truro, Massachusetts

USGS Locus

Source: 1) ESRI, USA Topo Map, 2017  
2) National Park Service, Basin  
and Park Boundaries, 2017

- Project Element
- Shown for Informational Purposes
- Town Boundary
- Cape Cod National Seashore Boundary



# Protect the Built Environment

## On Town Property:

- Elevate  $\approx$ 2 non-contiguous miles of Old County, Bound Brook Island, Pole Dike, High Toss Roads, Way #672
- Replace 5 culverts in Wellfleet
- $\approx$ 671 linear ft of road work & 2 culverts in Truro (Inter-municipal Agreement)
- Elevated roads increase embankment slopes

## On Private Property:

- Elevate portions of CYCC golf course
- Measures on 3 private properties
- Relocate 2 wells in Mill Creek sub-basin





# Project Funding

- \$49,870,000 grant agreements executed by Town:
  - US Dept. Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service  
\$27,200,000
  - MA Division of Ecological Restoration - \$22,670,000
- Grants pending:
  - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – \$14,690,000 to Town
  - US Dept. Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service - \$8,000,000 to NPS/Cape Cod National Seashore (\$1,425,000 match committed by National Park Foundation)
- Funding for marsh/vegetation management
  - National Park Foundation: \$230,000
  - US Fish & Wildlife North American Wetland Conservation Act - \$2,000,000 – Ducks Unlimited

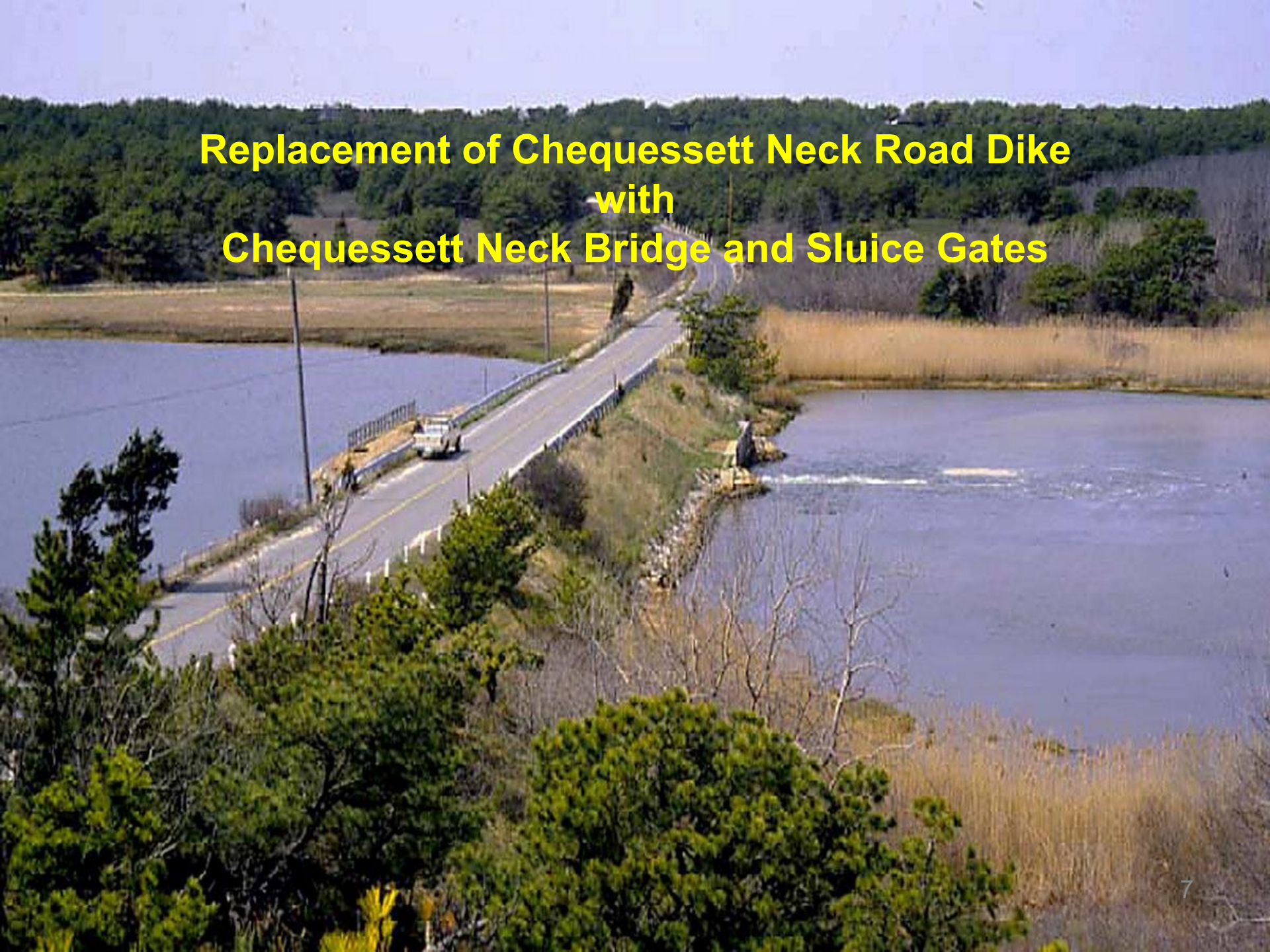
# Construction Management and Oversight

- Grant-funded support for project oversight and grants management:
  - Owners Project Representative for bridge construction—**Environmental Partners**
  - Design Engineer for bridge construction— **Fuss & O'Neill**
  - Grants Management Support — **Clifton Larson Allen**

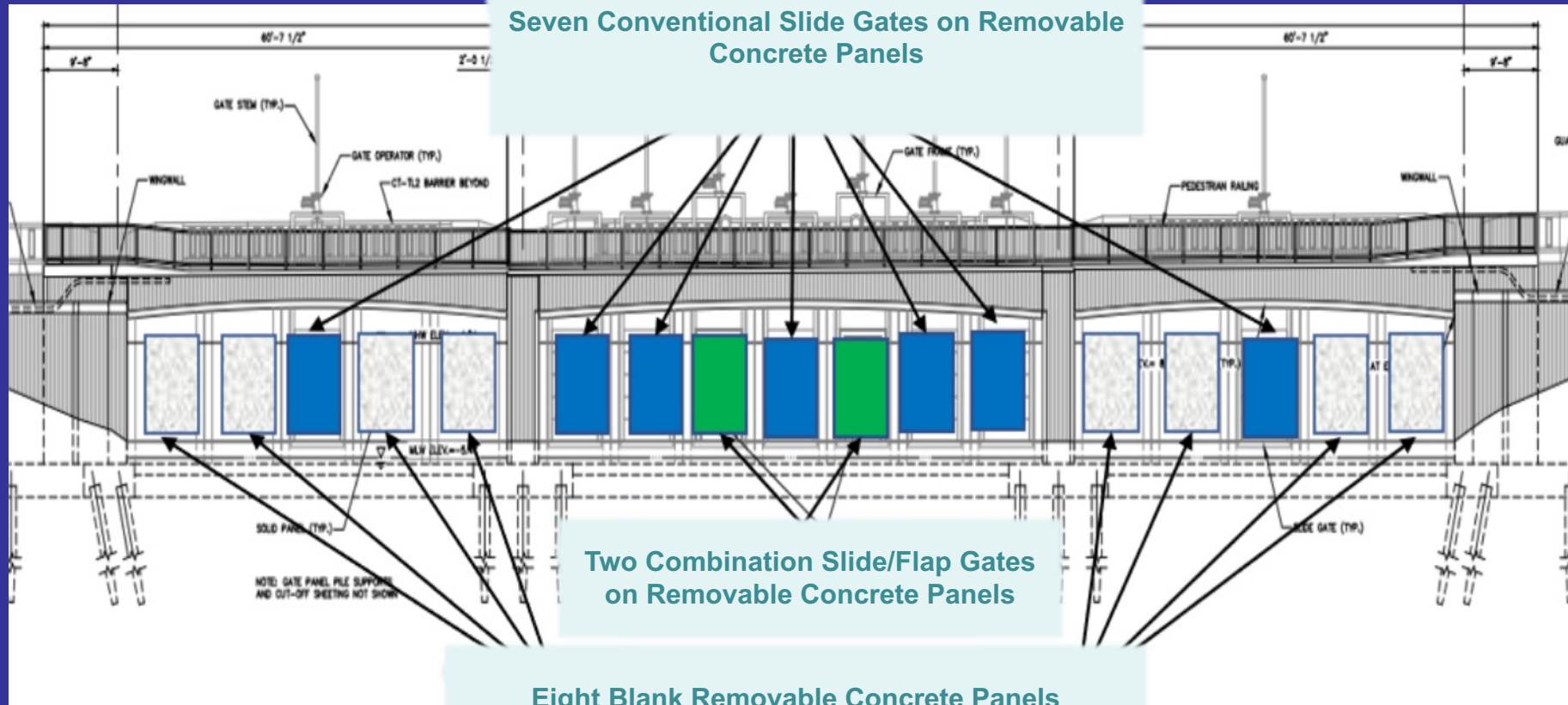




**Replacement of Chequessett Neck Road Dike  
with  
Chequessett Neck Bridge and Sluice Gates**

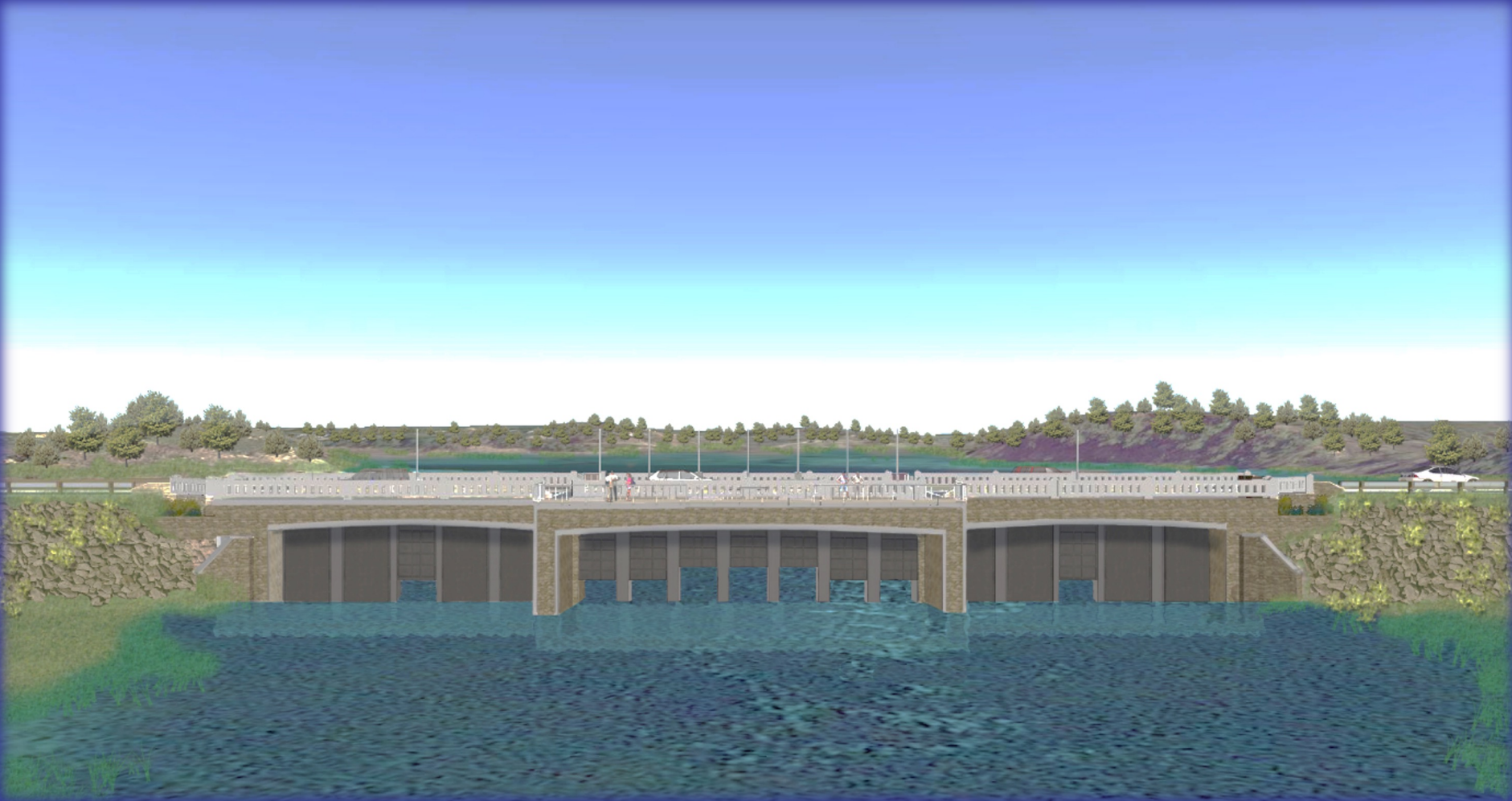


# Bridge Structure Overview

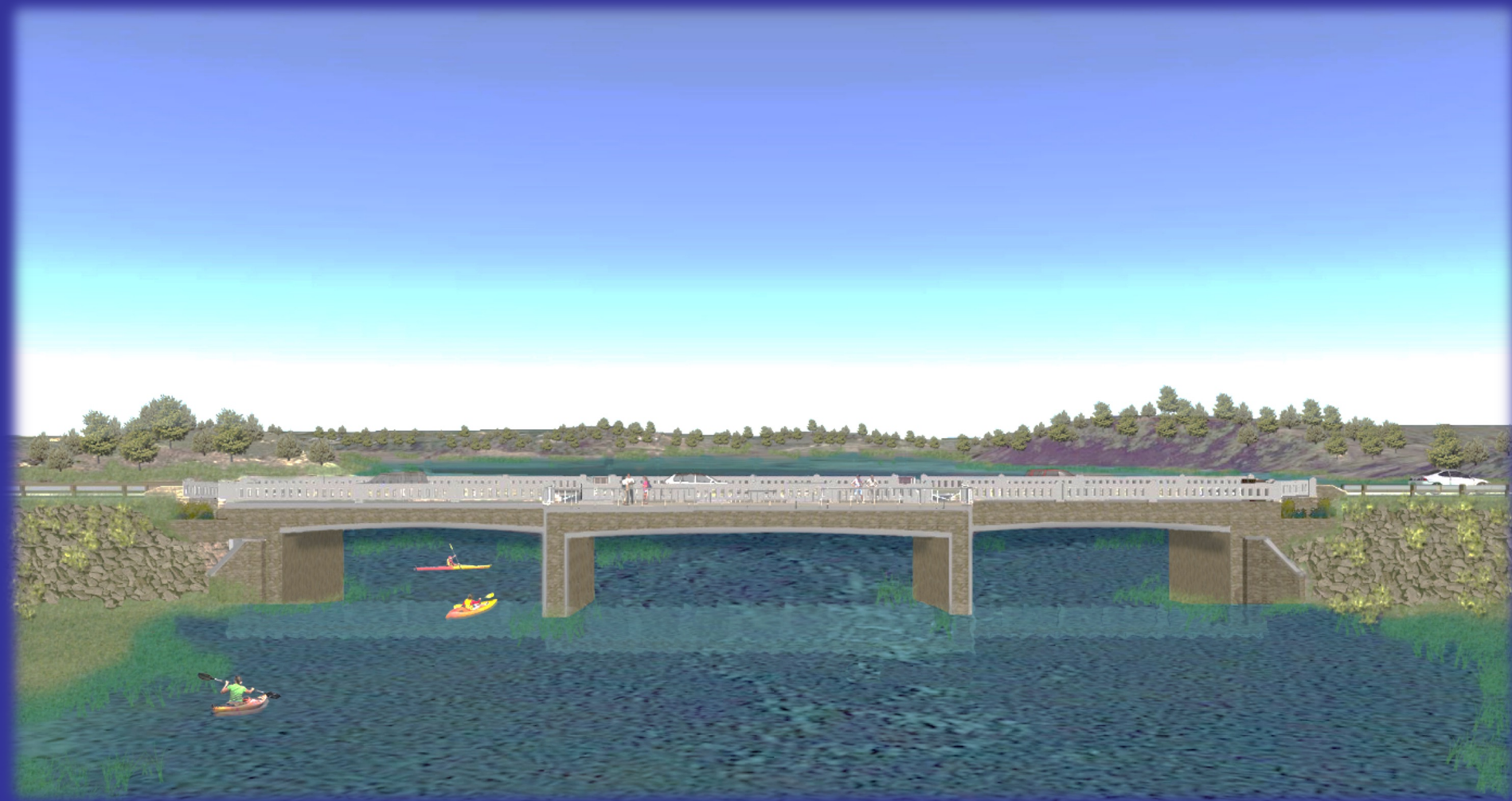




# Post-Construction – Gates Partially Open



# Full Restoration – Gates/Panels Removed



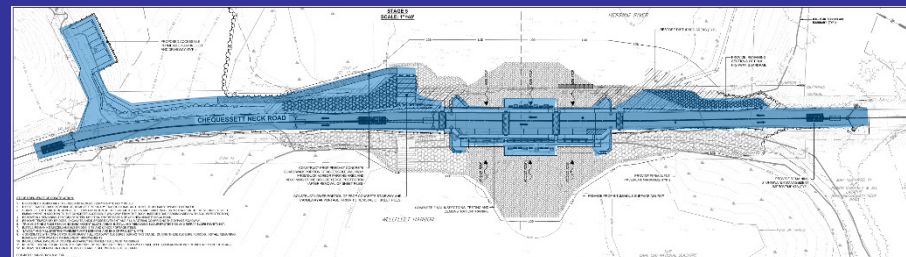
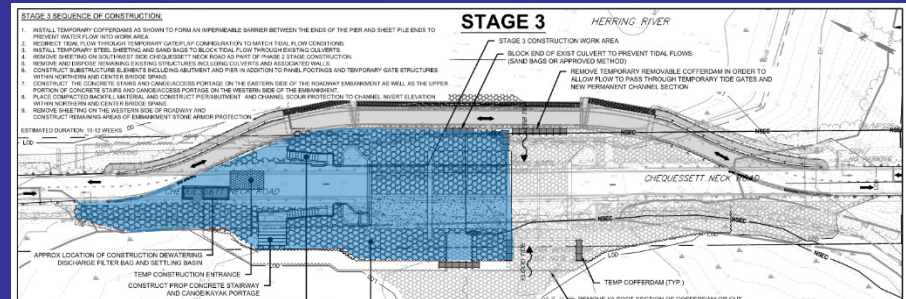
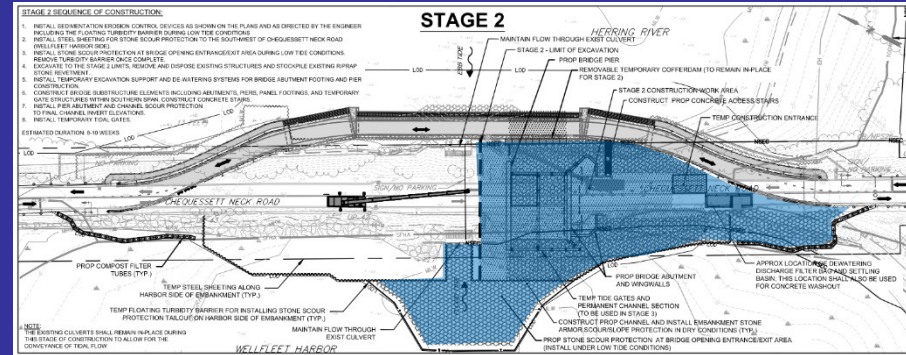


- Fall 2022 – Summer 2023

- Summer/Fall – Winter 2023

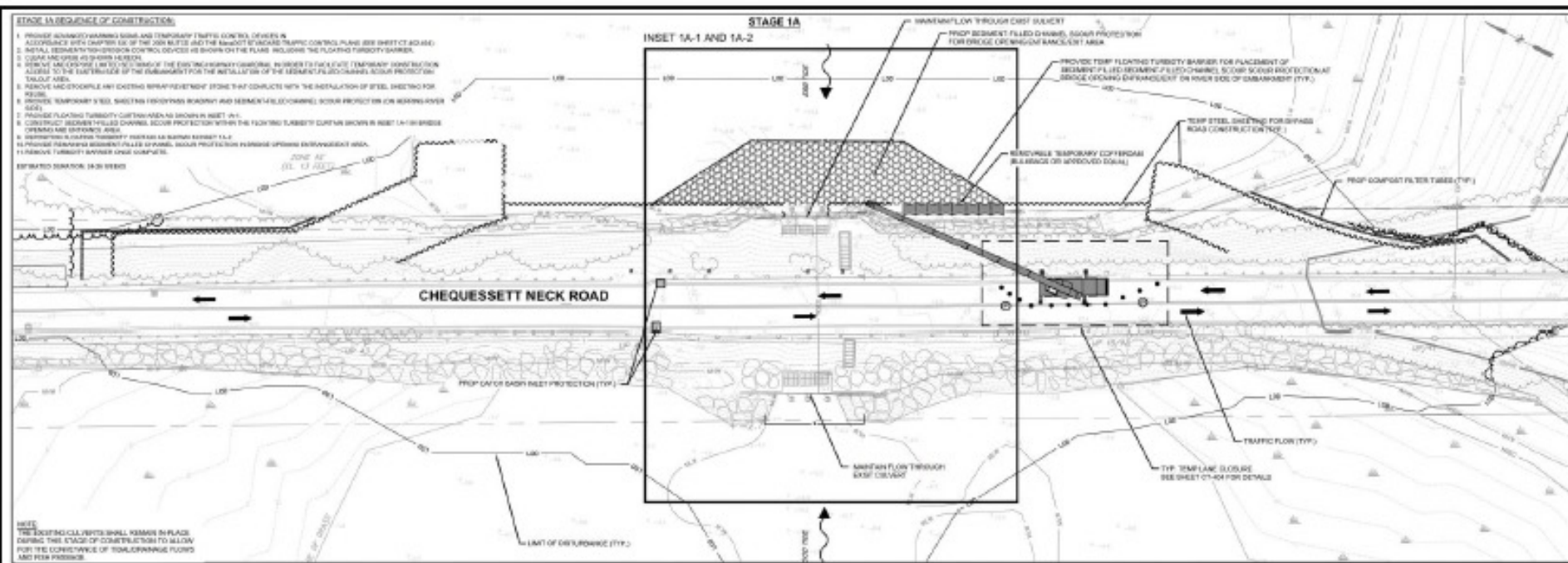
- Winter 2023 – Summer 2024

- Summer 2024 – Spring 2025

[illegible]

- Fall 2022 – Summer 2023

# Installation of upstream stone armor for permanent bridge





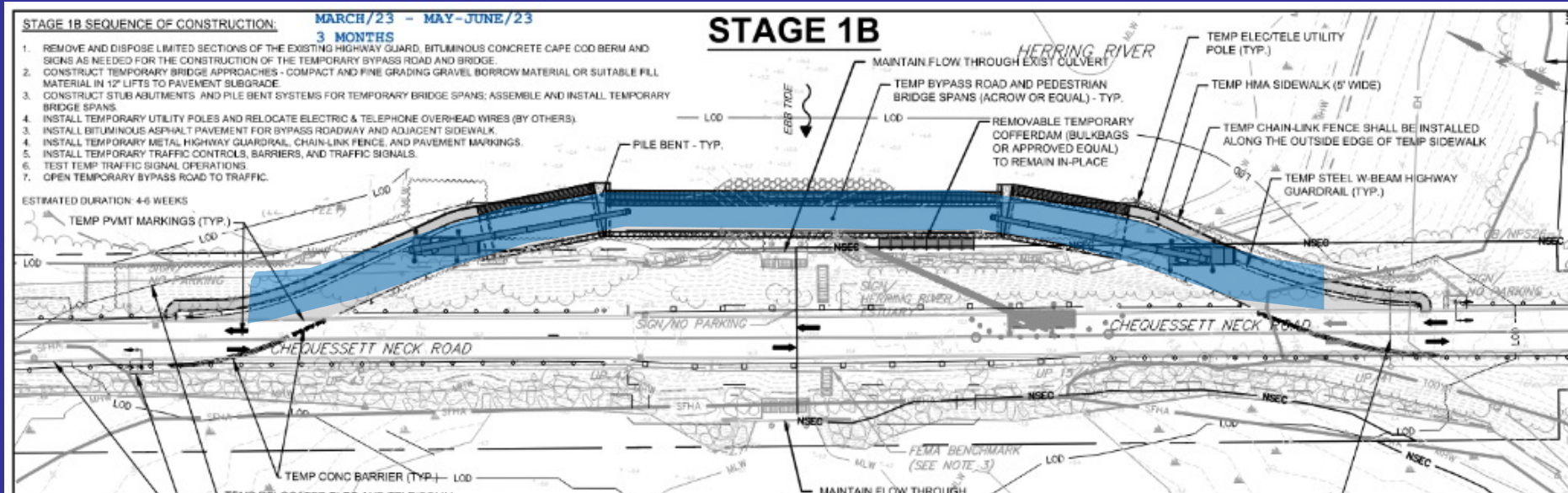


Photos by Wes Stinson,  
Environmental Partners



- Summer 2023

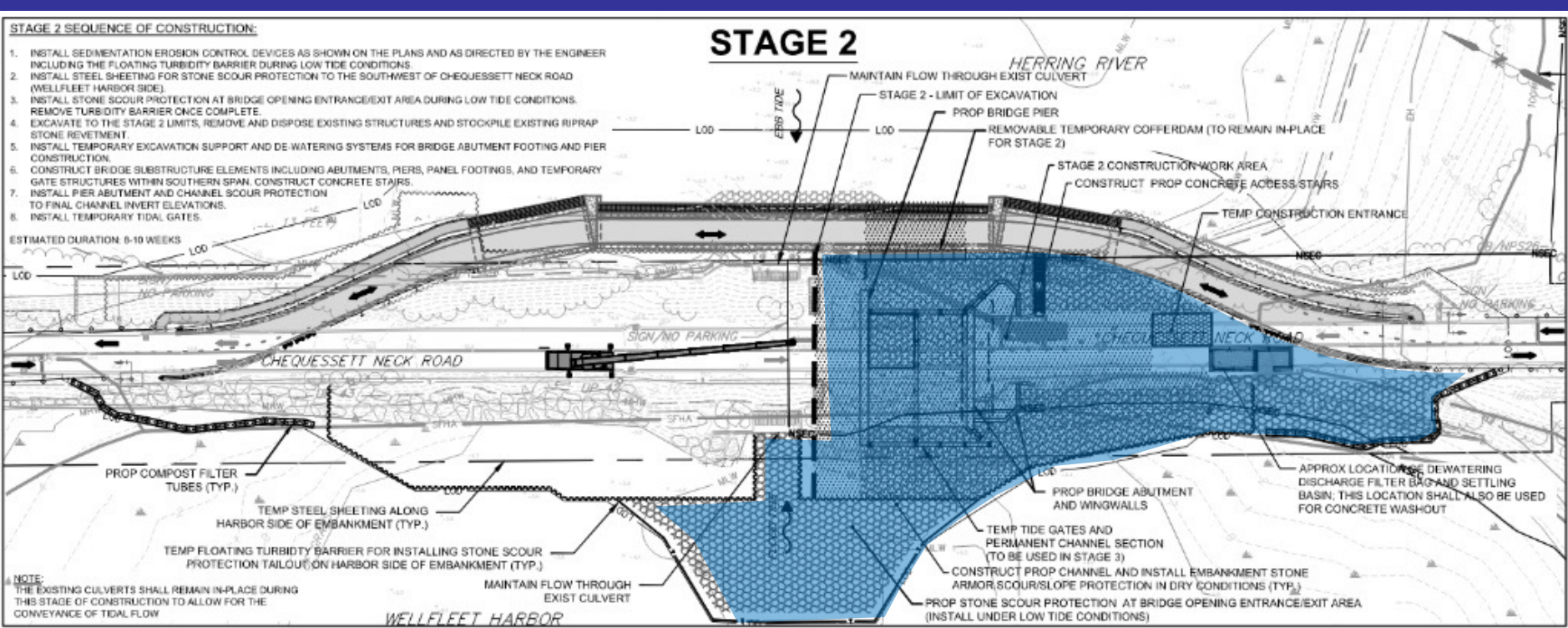
## Construct Temporary Bypass Bridge



# Anticipated Construction Timeline

- Summer/Fall – Winter 2023

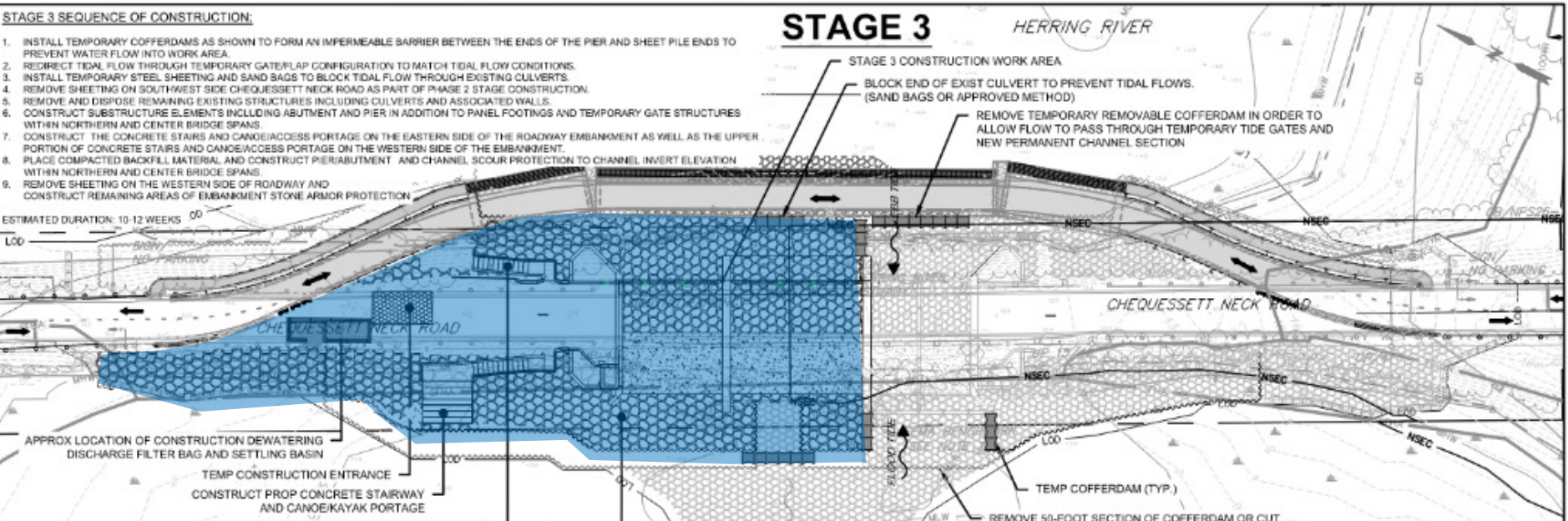
## Construct Southern Bridge Pier and Abutment Area



# Anticipated Construction Timeline

- Winter 2023 – Summer 2024

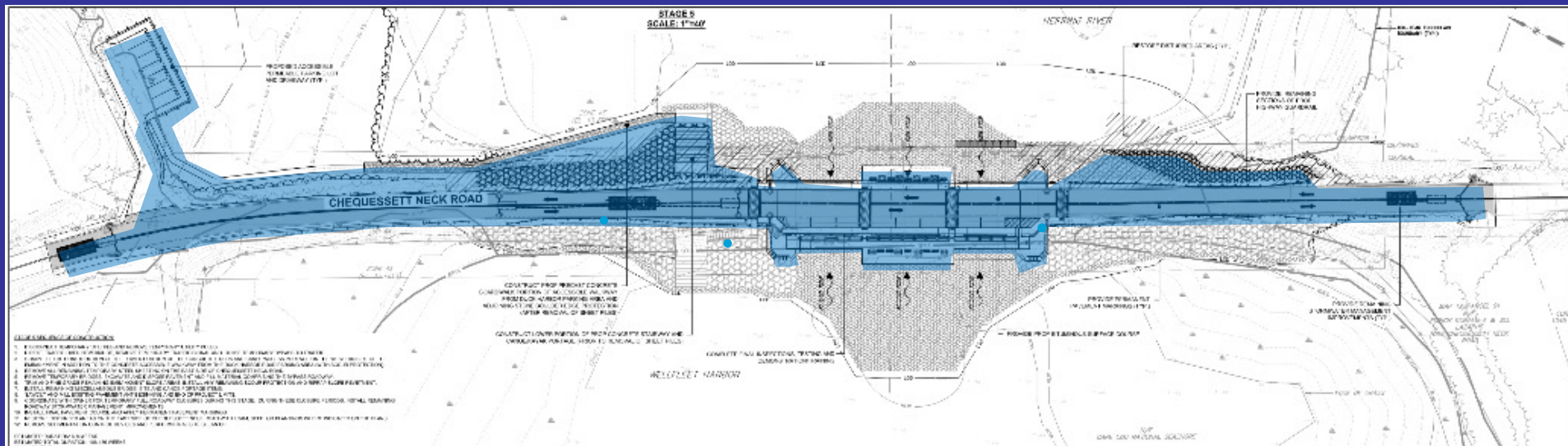
## Construct Northern Bridge Pier and Abutment Area



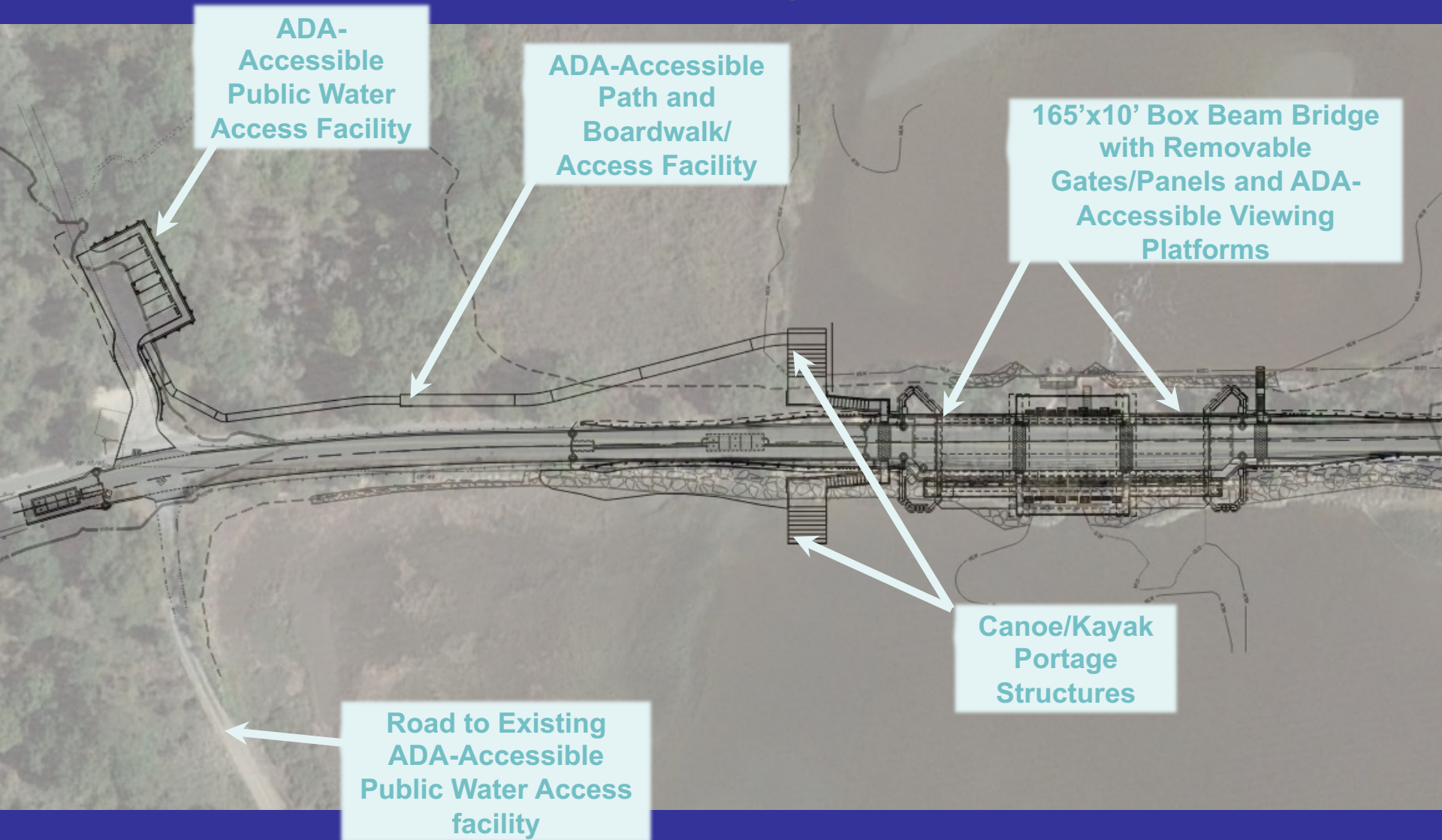


- Summer 2024 – Spring 2025

- Summer 2024 – Spring 2025



# Chequessett Neck Road Bridge and Water Access Improvements





# Post-Construction – View Looking South



# Transportation Management

- Vehicular & pedestrian access maintained throughout bridge construction via signalized bypass bridge
- Road closures not anticipated, police details utilized as needed to maintain traffic flow
- Truck traffic through summer – avg of 15 hauls per day depending on construction activity
  - To/From Rt 6 – E Commercial along Harbor most likely route
  - To/From Town Pit – West Main – Howland - Chequessett Neck most likely route



# Construction-related Questions

- Construction activity and traffic management updates posted regularly:
  - Town website
  - Friends of Herring River website
  - Wellfleet DPW Facebook page
- Construction-related questions:
  - email: [herringriver@envpartners.com](mailto:herringriver@envpartners.com)

# Other Ph 1 Projects -Estimated Timeline

- Final design underway, bid advertisements late 2023:
  - Mill Creek Water Control Structure
  - Pole Dike, Old County, Bound Book Island Rd elevation/culverts
  - Way 672 road elevation
  - High Toss Road causeway removal/road elevation
  - Property impact prevention on private property
- Estimated construction start
  - Mill Creek Water Control Structure – late 2023
  - Low road elevation/culvert replacements– early 2024
- 2023 Annual Town Meeting Warrant article - easement from Wellfleet Conservation Trust



# Duck Harbor Vegetation Clearing

- Removal of woody vegetation salt-killed by persistent Duck Harbor over-wash
- Funded by National Park Foundation and US Fish & Wildlife Service through Ducks Unlimited
- Clearing suspended April 14; will resume next fall
- Monitoring will inform future vegetation clearing in the floodplain





# Herring River Restoration Project

**Questions and Discussion**

