Typical Design of Upgraded Stream Crossings

Stream crossing culvert Installation

1. Culverts shall be aligned with natural stream channels to ensure proper function, and prevent bank erosion and plugging by debris.
2. Culverts shall be placed at the base of the fill and the grade of the original streambed or downspouted past the base of the fill.
3. Culverts shall be set slightly below the original stream grade so that the water drops several inches as it enters the pipe.
4. To allow for sagging after burial, a camber shall be between 1.5 to 3 inch per 10 feet culvert pipe length.
5. Backfill material shall be free of rocks, limbs or other debris that could dent or puncture the pipe or allow water to seep around pipe.
6. First one end and then the other end of the culvert shall be covered and secured. The center is covered last.
7. Backfill material shall be tamped and compacted throughout the entire process:
   - Base and side wall material will be compacted before the pipe is placed in its bed.
   - Backfill compacting will be done in 0.5 - 1 foot lifts until 1/3 of the diameter of the culvert has been covered. A gas powered tamper can be used for this work.
8. Inlets and outlets shall be armored with rock or mulched and seeded with grass as needed.
9. Trash protectors shall be installed just upstream from the culvert where there is a hazard of floating debris plugging the culvert.
10. Layers of fill will be pushed over the crossing until the final designed road grade is achieved, at a minimum of 1/3 to 1/2 the culvert diameter.

Note:
Road upgrading tasks typically include upgrading stream crossings by installing larger culverts and inlet protection (trash barriers) to prevent plugging. Culvert sizing for the 100-year peak storm flow should be determined by both field observation and calculations using a procedure such as the Rational Formula.

Armoring fill faces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fill angles ≤ 2:1</th>
<th>Fill angles (between 2:1 &amp; 1.5:1)</th>
<th>Fill angles steeper than 1.5:1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No rock armor needed</td>
<td>Armor 1/4 up fill face</td>
<td>Armor 3/4 way up fill face</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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