



Delaware Riverkeeper Network Field Report, 7/4/2013 Conducted by Joe Zenes

This field report documents Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN) observations during a follow-up field visit to High Point State Park on July 4th, 2013 to monitor conditions after the lowering and back filling of the pipeline for Tennessee Gas Pipeline's Northeast Upgrade Project. Observations were made from mile marker 13.1 between Sawmill Rd and Ridge Rd. and wetland and stream numbers are used when possible.

The following photos located in this link:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sredir?uname=105703332397473503863&target=ALBUM&id=5897144830767913409&authkey=Gv1sRqCJumxp2lpLnlcg&invite=CLHNwK0M&feat=email> are from the dewatering of W015, associated with Big Flat Brook, S005, and located off of Sawmill Road. No construction work was occurring due to the national holiday. Photos show a pump with a hose in the pipe trench in close proximity to S005 and in the general area of W015. Resource signage has been removed so we are unsure exactly where W015 starts. The second photo in the album shows the west view from Sawmill Road. Green compost socks mark the equipment bridge over S005, recently reinstalled, with trench breaker material to the west of the bridge. The third photo marks the approved dewater location. The sign shows "structure" underneath it, which may indicate TGP needs a dewatering structure there due to close proximity to the stream and wetlands. The remainder of the photos shows a sediment filter bag that appears to have not been used properly. The hose was not secured in the bag allowing sediment to overflow into areas near the wetlands.

The first photo from the next album:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sredir?uname=105703332397473503863&target=ALBUM&id=5897146812926590001&authkey=Gv1sRqCO-Ki6ui5eX7uqE&invite=CLXz96MM&feat=email> shows the resource signage for S005 splattered with mud. The equipment bridge behind it was also covered in mud and sediment. The area to the east end of the equipment bridge had mud caked on it. DRN believes this is evidence of past E&S controls or practices that allowed sediment laden water or mud to discharge off the ROW. Photo 6 of 7 shows a large gap in the silt fencing from the equipment bridge that is not wrapped properly around the bridge. This may allow mud to penetrate beyond the boundary of the silt fencing and enter the sensitive resource area. The final photo is a general overview of the conditions of the area with copious amounts of mud and disturbed soils in the ROW indicating there is potential for sediment to flow into the adjacent stream and wetlands during the next rain if these inadequate E&S measures are not corrected.

The first two photos from the following album:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sredir?uname=105703332397473503863&target=ALBUM&id=5897149243325105649&authkey=Gv1sRqCM2v2NWC2JqymQE&invite=CLu3oqUI&feat=email> are of W017 taken outside the construction ROW west of W016. W017 is listed in the FWW as an isolated feature. This wetland previously flowed across the ROW and should not be considered an isolated feature as was delineated. The remaining three photos show where a steady flow of water continues across the ROW towards the area that is delineated as W017. Field visits by DRN in 2012 documented W017 as a large wetland that flowed across the ROW and therefore should not have been considered an isolated feature.

The first photo in the following album:

https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sreDIR?uname=105703332397473503863&target=ALBUM&id=5897150153338895297&authkey=Gv1sRgCPr84eWBlledygE&invite=CM_c7uoE&feat=email shows the condition of the equipment bridge where sediment/mud and water had accumulated on the top of the bridge with the compost socks lying on the side unused. A previous DRN report was filed in regards to the conditions of the area. The remainder of the photos shows the conditions of the bridge, which is located between W016 and W017. Photo 3 shows that water was flowing across the construction bridge that has an accumulation of sediment on it. Note in photo 4 that the water is flowing off the bridge carrying sediment into the wetlands. There was also straw mulch placed within the wetland boundaries which TGP's construction plan states will not be used in wetlands.

The first three photos from the following album:

https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sreDIR?uname=105703332397473503863&target=ALBUM&id=5897153081991619041&authkey=Gv1sRgCL7AxtKX7L_FAg&invite=CJKk-e8O&feat=email show where Parker Brook, S006, flows under Ridge Road. There was cloudiness and sediment observed in the stream several days after the last rain event. The fourth photo shows a section of trench still open with sediment-laden water overflowing towards W020. Photo 6 shows an open trench, in the top right of the image, within W020 filled with muddy water spilling over into the wetlands. Note the pooling of water near where the stream as well as the large quantity of mud at the start of the equipment bridge. Photo 9 shows the east side of W020 where it appears as though there were runoff problems on that side of the wetland. The dewatering structure at this location was still in place and appeared to have been used. However, it is improperly installed; the sediment fabric should go over top of the hay bales. Photos 13-17 show the open trench within the wetland and that it is discharging sediment-laden water into W020, bypassing the hay bales. Photos 19 and 20 show the sediment filter bags that were not utilized and left in the woods. Photo 21 shows sediment-laden water pooling against the perimeter fencing of the pipeline and leaching into the wetlands.

Photos from the following album:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sreDIR?uname=105703332397473503863&target=ALBUM&id=5897161137786503073&authkey=Gv1sRgCOOsyuGXwtWhJQ&invite=CJTPjZ4G&feat=email> shows another section of open trench, which is overflowing into W021 carrying sediment with it. W021 has a crossing length of 410' as listed in the FWW permit. From field observations, it appears the infield delineation is less than the 410' listed in the permit. The pooling of water in the open trenches could be an indication that trench breakers were not installed allowing water to flow unchecked along the buried pipeline trench.

Photos from the following album:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sreDIR?uname=105703332397473503863&target=ALBUM&id=5897158986606810769&authkey=Gv1sRgCOz937eZzZapMA&invite=ClqArewC&feat=email> show zoomed in images of the open trench that overflowed into W021. They show a substance floating on top of the muddy water. It appears to be an oil-like substance due to its separation from the water.

Photos 2 and 3 from the following album;

<https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sreDIR?uname=105703332397473503863&target=ALBUM&id=5897163503728806529&authkey=Gv1sRgClfykfHmh4CELA&invite=CPWQ8rcI&feat=email> show an east view of what may be the western edge of W021 or W022. DRN is unable to determine due to inability to discern the number of the wetland boundary sign. Photo 6 shows an open trench of the right hand side of the white bags. There is a sheet flow of mud travelling down the ROW into the open trenches and wetlands. Compost socks have been pushed to the side allowing mud to flow off the ROW as can be seen in photo 10. Photos 4 and 5 are further west, up the slope from photos 2 and 3. They show a clear channel of water flowing through the mud towards the wetlands. Photo 13 shows the water flowing between dirt piles. Photo 14 shows an approved dewater location sign that was located in the vicinity of the wetlands. Photo 17 shows evidence that the E&S controls had been overtopped with sediment-laden water flowing off the ROW and into the wetlands. The final picture shows a slope breaker directing water off the ROW towards a wetland where the controls were overtopped.