RESEARCH REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

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Vegetation Barriers Around Headwalls of Edge Drains			6. Report Type	7. Project No. IM-2-094(016)240
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14. Supplementary Notes				
15. Abstract				
Purpose and Need The present practice to outlet drainage pipe is to place a 4" PVC outlet pipe approximately every 250 feet. This 4" PVC discharge pipe is capped				
with a headwall splash block, which				
Objective	in onen becomes blocked		it where it finders the drainage	system.
The objective of this experiment	tal feature is to determine	if constructing vegetat	tion barriers around the headwa	lls of edge drain systems would
help solve the problem of vegetation				is of eage aram systems would
Scope				
Construction of two types of head wall barriers on three projects across the state will provide performance data needed for a full evaluation. Three				
projects have been selected to receive the vegetation barriers. <u>IM-8-029(025)053</u> Mile 58 to 59, <u>IM-2-094(016)240</u> Mile 243 to 244, and <u>IM-5-</u>				
<u>094(008)071</u> Mile 76 to 77. The experimental feature will be evaluated and a report written annually with a final report after five years. The evaluation				
will include construction costs, construction problems, performance, advantages/disadvantages, and amount of vegetation and debris in each type of				
section.				
Summary				
The vegetation barriers were designed to include an 18-inch wide band of either aggregate or concrete around the headwall. Three projects were				
selected for the experimental barriers and each project will be briefly summarized. At this time, the concrete vegetation barriers are performing better				
than the aggregate vegetation barriers.				
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The vegetation barriers look good after the fifth year of operation. Vegetation is growing out of the aggregate barriers in 20 out of 21. Some				
sediment is building up behind the screens in some headwalls. The biggest problem is the vegetation growing in the aggregate barriers. The vegetation				
growth in aggregate barriers covers 45 to 90 percent of the barrier. No mowing problems were encountered with the experimental vegetation barriers.				
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With slow vegetation growth and heavy rains some soil has eroded from around a few drains. In many aggregate barriers, the aggregate is being				
move away from the headwall by passing mowers and other vehicles exposing the sides of the headwall. The vegetation growth in the aggregate				
barriers covers 15 to 80 percent of the barrier. Concrete barriers are performing excellent. Jamestown maintenance section reports no problems				
mowing over or around the barriers.				
AC-IM-8-029(025)053 All of the aggregate barriers have been switched over to concrete barriers due to safety concerns. Mowers could pick up rocks and cast them				
around. This could pose a hazard to the traveling public. Many of the barriers on this project are lower than the surrounding soil due to wet conditions				
at the time of construction, which did not allow equipment to landscape properly. The concrete barriers are aesthetically pleasing and are performing				
satisfactorily.				
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