

**Trans Alaska Pipeline System, Pipeline Milepost 28
Buried Rock Sill
Permit Narrative (April, 2026)**

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to install a buried rock sill to protect the Pipeline from being exposed in the event of a major flood.

Site Description

The work site is located approximately 29 miles from Deadhorse on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. In this area the Dalton Highway and the pipeline follow the west side of the Sagavanirktok (Sag) River floodplain which is over a mile wide with numerous braided streams. Soils in the area consists of organic silt with some sand, gravel mixed with sand, numerous cobbles and scattered boulders. The vegetation zone is open, grass and low willow shrub community. The Sag River is classified as an anadromous fish stream, and its side channels are also considered anadromous because of their connection to the main channel. The Sag River also contains numerous species of resident fish.

Problem Description

A late spring breakup on the river resulted in flooding that inundated the larger floodplain and reduced the pipe cover at a relic oxbow of the river. A buried rock sill consisting of riprap will be installed to protect the pipe from a similar event in the future.

Work Description

The rock sill will be field fit in the vicinity of the existing ROW boundary. A shallow trench will be excavated east of the Pipeline and filled with riprap. Voids in the rock will be filled with the excavated gravels. Any organic soils within the trench footprint will be removed first and segregated for final placement on top of the disturbed trench area. Excess gravels, if any, from the trench excavation will be stockpiled or spread out on a protected segment of the adjacent pipeline workpad. Equipment used on the project will be rock trucks, backhoe and loaders.

Work in and Around Water and Environmental Impacts

There will be no instream work. However, groundwater or an isolated pool of water may be encountered when excavating the trench, and no dewatering will be needed. All fueling activities will be done inside the ROW and away from the active floodplain.

Environmental Considerations

No adverse environmental impact is anticipated as a result of this work. All work will be within the original pipeline construction footprint and natural revegetation will follow.

The work will start between July 1 and October 31, 2026. Work will take approximately 7 days to complete.

Approximate Construction Scope of Work

1. Mobilize personnel and equipment
2. Excavate trench
3. Place rip rap and fill voids with gravel
4. Dispose of excess material, clean up work site and demobilize