

Case Study:

# Gasoline Tanker Roll-Over

## Initial Response Actions and Restoration

NH Route 101, Epping, NH



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Spill Response & Complaint Investigation Section

# December 16, 2019

Notification from NH State Police received 8:20pm

- “Gasoline gushing out like an open fire hydrant”
- 11,000-gallon capacity
- Multiple Fire Departments on scene
- Emergency Response Contractor dispatched
- Spill into wet wooded area







## Challenges out of the gate

- Highly flammable liquid with low S.G. into wetland area
- Night operations - low visibility
- Below freezing temperatures
- Snowstorm forecast to begin in ~10 hours
- >100 personnel on scene



# Objectives determined with Incident Command

- Scene safety – PREVENT FIRE
- Remove truck from crash scene
- Assess tanker and pump out remaining gasoline
- Remove tanker from crash scene
- Assess impacts and potential migration
- Recover pooled gasoline
- Stabilize scene and clear road before snow storm







# Tanker Recovery and Assessment

- Significant damage to front headwall of tanker
- Piping and valve gallery intact
- Did not tap into tanker due to flammability – opened hatches front to back
- Interior baffles compromised
- Recovered ~4,500 gallons of virgin gasoline from rear compartment
  - Estimated ~6,500 gallons released to the ground











# Spill Assessment

- Communication with IC for entry into “hot zone”
- Generally flat wooded area filled with hummocks and dips containing exposed groundwater
- Gasoline migrating through hummocks and held up by high water table
- Stream located ~200' north and ~350' east of the release area
- 15+ gallons of AFFF concentrate applied to crash site
  - Some class B foam



# Gasoline Recovery and Scene Stabilization

- Contractor recovered ~2,300 gallons of pooled gasoline from the ground into tanker
  - Estimated ~4,200 gallons remain on the ground
- Containment boom placed in two 1'-deep interceptor trenches on the east and west sides of the release
  - Hand-dug with non-sparking tools
- Roadway cleared at ~5:00am on December 17



# Ongoing Stabilization and Recovery Work

- SAFETY – Side of Roadway, Gasoline vapors
- Contractor continued pumping pooled gasoline from source area and surrounding area
- Determined the extent of impacts and migration path of gasoline
- Absorbent pads and boom deployed in exposed pools of gasoline
- Large interceptor trench excavated east of the release area, down-gradient of impacts















# Coordination Meeting and Planned Work

- Responsible Party (Hauler), Insurance Rep, Consultant, Response Contractor, Local FD, Local DPW, NH DOT, NH DES
- Input from NH DOT for roadwork and restoration requirements
- NH DES: Env-OR 600 requires clean-up meeting SRS and AGQS
- Input from Response Contractor regarding work practices
- Input from Consultant regarding remediation strategy



# Remediation Challenges

- Hand work required until flammability hazard is removed
  - Local FD Fire Watch at scene on standby
- Access to site – clear trees and build ramps down to work pad next to spill
- High water table presents disposal challenge
  - Dewater stockpile prior to load-out
- Wetland area requires delineation for appropriate restoration
  - Emergency Authorization – NH DES Wetlands Bureau



# Remedial Action, Road Safety, and Restoration Plans

- Remedial Action Plan in accordance with NH DES Env-OR 600
  - Outlines remediation/excavation plan and endpoint sampling strategy
  - Remedial Action Plan Completion Report to be submitted at completion
- Wetlands Delineation and Restoration Plan required by NH DES
- Road Safety Plan in accordance with US DOT rules
  - Jersey barriers, crash arrestors, and warning signage
- Excavation Permit required by NH DOT
  - Entry/exit ramp and work pad construction procedure/specs













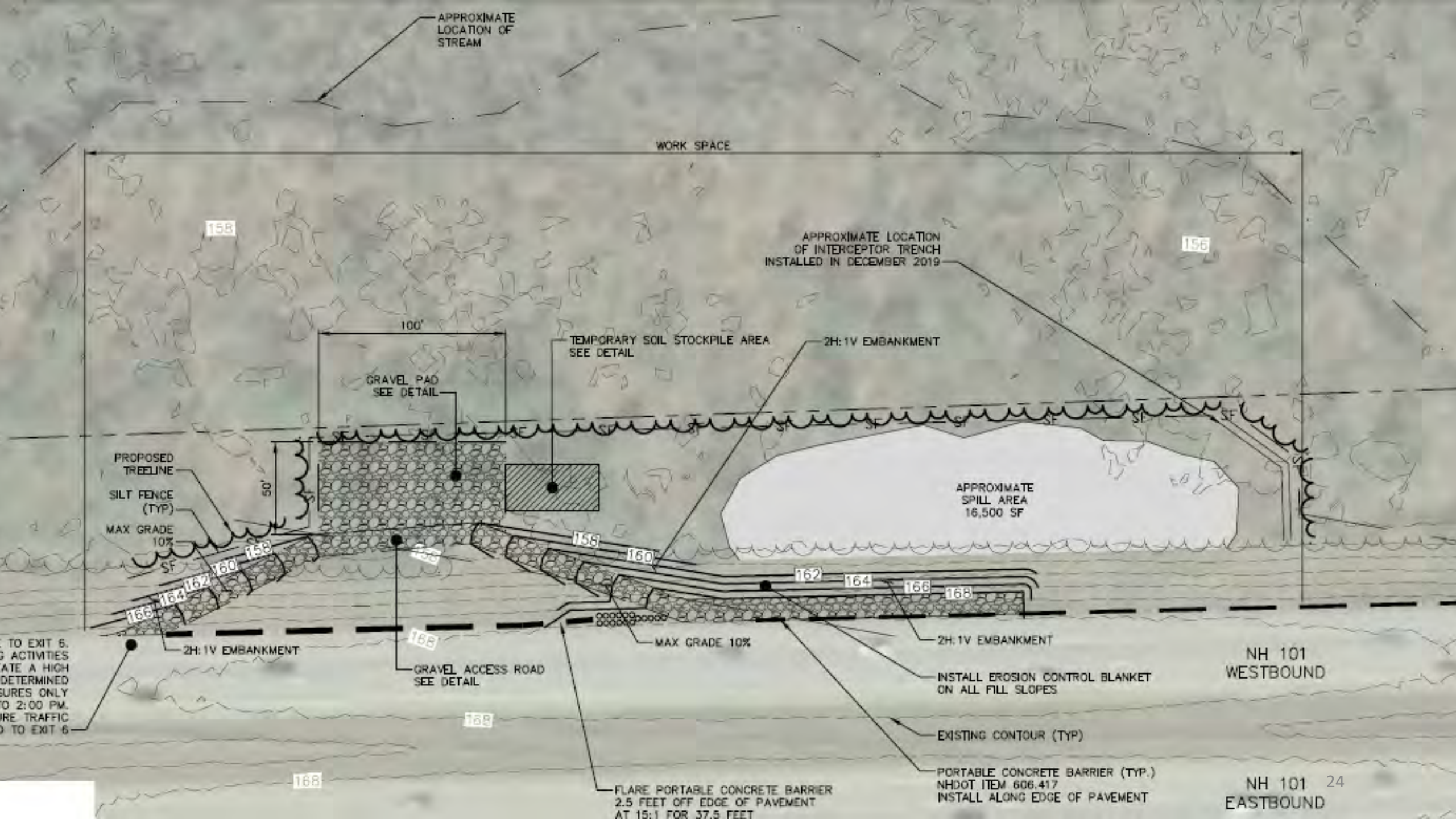


































































# Results of Excavation

- Excavated and disposed of 3,373 tons of impacted soil
  - Not including trees, stumps, and absorbents
- Recovered ~6,900 gallons of gasoline and gas/water mix
- Collected 19 post-excavation soil samples
  - Excavation mostly affective, low-level SRS violations in a couple locations along roadway embankment (excavation limited by roadway)



# Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring Results

- GW monitoring:
  - Low-level AGQS violations for select VOC's in source area wells
  - PFAS detected in source area wells and at down-gradient wells (<AGQS)
- SW monitoring:
  - 3 repeatable sample locations in nearby unnamed stream
  - No petroleum detections
  - PFAS concentrations detected at down-gradient location
- Two rounds of groundwater sampling show similar results (June & July 2020)



# Future Investigation and Remediation

- At completion of Initial Response Action phase, the project is passed to the NH DES Petroleum Remediation Section for management
- Additional groundwater and surface water monitoring requested
- Additional groundwater investigation required
- SRS violations in roadway embankment to be addressed



# Special Thanks

First Responders

JP Noonan



St. Germain



Clean Harbors Environmental Services





# Questions?

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