



## Beaver Stop® Installation

### Location

New Norway, AB

### Owner

Canadian National Railway

### Contractor

Canadian National Railway

### Site Supervisor

Larry Wizniuk  
Great Plains District

CN Rail discovered a large amount of standing water near the Edmonton/Calgary main line and feared a rail washout. After careful consideration and planning, a Beaver Stop® was successfully installed and still continues to function properly today with no further maintenance.

### Project Details

Three 1500mm diameter corrugated steel pipes had been plugged directly in the middle by beavers. Removing this type of dam is difficult because there is no direct access and removing the culvert is not an option on a heavily travelled rail line. As a result, a 30' push rod was fabricated and used to dislodge the debris. Once dislodged, the head pressure cleared the debris very quickly. To prevent a loss of head pressure, a plywood sheet was placed on the inlet end on the cleared culvert. This process was also repeated on the remaining two culverts. To prevent downstream flooding, one free flowing culvert was used to drain the pond. After reaching the desired water depth the Beaver Stop® installation began.

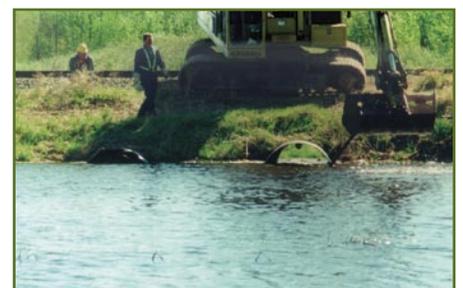
The Beaver Stop® was constructed the previous day on dry land adjacent to the site. The Gradall was used to excavate the area around the inlet and outlet. This was done to ensure the connection to the culvert is done properly. Finally, the Gradall transported the assembled unit and lowered it into position. After fastening the Beaver Stop® to the culvert and installing the support rods, the Beaver Stop® installation was complete. Total installation time for the two man crew was five hours. Total cost for unplugging the three culverts was approximately \$1650. The Beaver Stop® was an easy decision for CN Rail as the only alternative is the high cost of routine maintenance.

Patent Numbers: Canada 1290578 U.S.A. 4998847

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