

The existing canal is over 100-years old. Conditions have occurred that compromised the integrity of the canal. The development of a spring above and under the canal in combination of the continued erosion of the bank separating the canal and river has resulted in a significantly weakened bank.

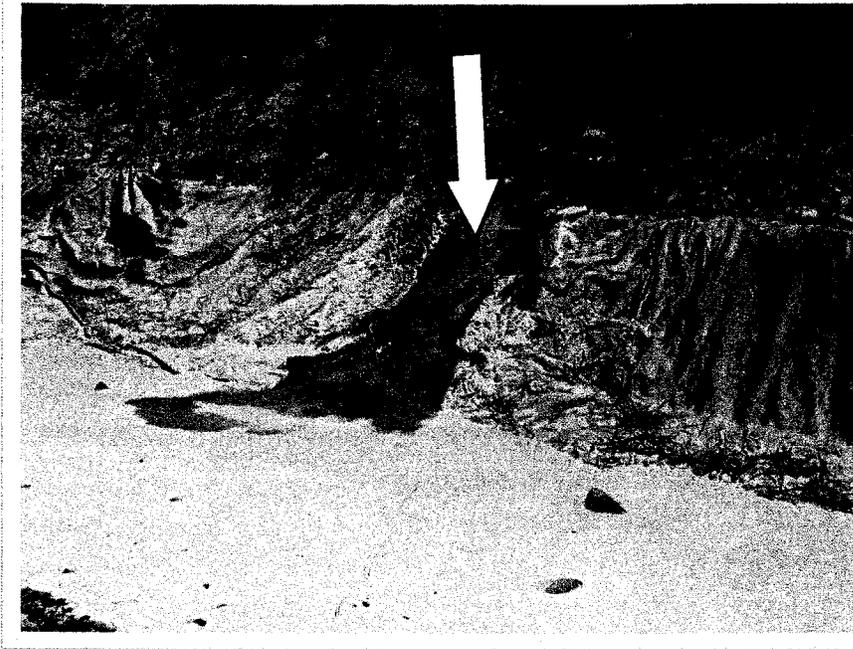


Photo 1 – Spring flowing into Canal

A spring located above the canal is flowing over and under the canal resulting in infiltration of external water sources and movement of structural foundation of the canal.

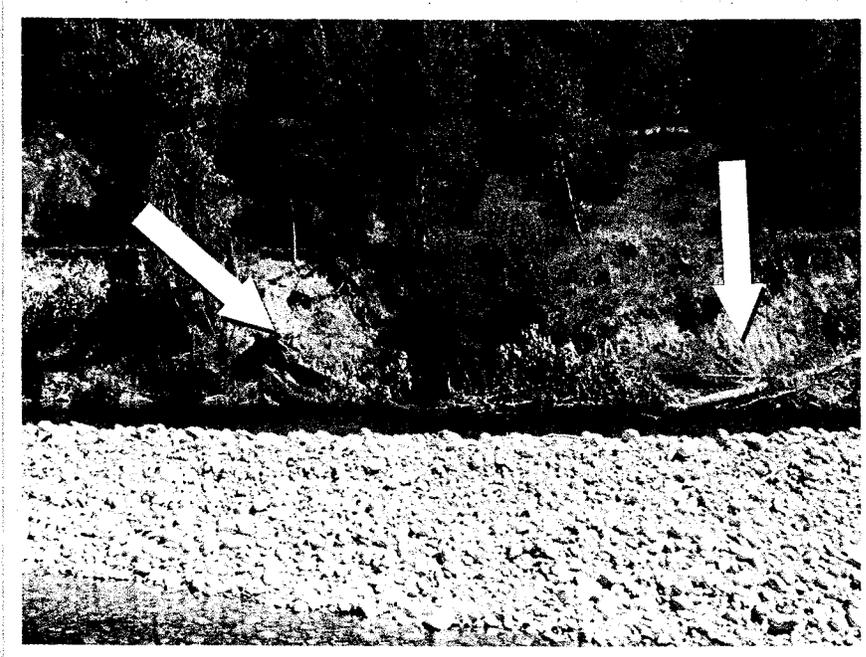


Photo 2 – Sloughing of Canal Bank

This picture illustrates the sloughing of the canal bank into the Bitterroot River. The Hedge Canal is located immediately behind the top of bank.

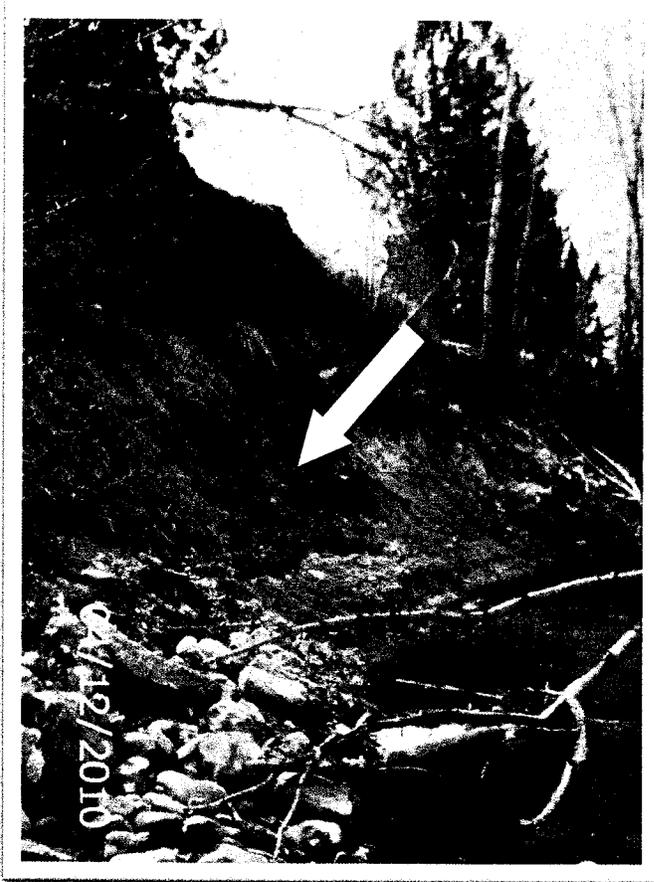


Photo 3 – Spring Seepage through Canal/Riverbank

This picture illustrates the seepage of the spring through the canal bank into the Bitterroot River. The Hedge Canal is located immediately behind the top of bank.



Photo 4 – Sectional View

This picture, taken looking downstream (North), illustrates the sectional view of the Hedge Canal, bank and Bitterroot River.



Photo 5 – Slide from river level

This picture is taken from the Bitterroot River looking up. The bank is near vertical with seepage weakening the bank.



Photo 6 – Cracks in the canal bank attributing to sloughing

The underlying causes of the current condition of the Hedge Canal are seepage and channel erosion. The canal bank is weakened from above by the spring seepage through the canal bank and from below by the erosion occurring along the streambank.