



# TOWN OF SOUTHBURY

OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

501 Main Street South

Southbury, Connecticut 06488

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## **Final Report dated September 28, 2017**

### **Project F12AC01477**

**Background:** More than a decade ago, the severe erosion of the eastern bank of the Pomperaug River in the area of Ballantine Park was noted as a problem that needed to be addressed. Around 2007, Southbury submitted an application as part of the General Electric Damage Claim for PCB pollution from its Pittsfield, MA plant for the purpose of addressing the erosion.

The objective was to protect an important recreational fishery resource, the Pomperaug River, by stabilizing approximately 500 feet of eroding riverbank. The Pomperaug River, a Class B watercourse, flows along the western boundary of Ballantine Park in Southbury. The east river bank is steeply sloped and rises approximately 40 to 44 feet above the river at this location. Portions of the stream bank within the park had become unstable; with severe erosion occurring as a result. The purpose of the project was to stabilize a significant section of the eroding stream bank and reduce adverse impacts to downstream water quality and aquatic habitat. There were two flood plains between the eroding area and the river was trying to balance the flood plains and combine them into one. Upon review with US Fish and Wildlife, the best approach to the project was to minimally regrade the slope to encourage the ultimate angle of repose and to stabilize the slope with native plantings.

**Scope of work:** Repair the damaged streambank along Ballantine Park and stabilize the repaired streambank utilizing bioengineering restoration techniques and native vegetation to improve riparian habitat. The stabilization included a combination of erosion control blankets, coconut coir logs, and vegetation. An Archaeological Phase 1A and 1B was required. The results indicated a previously unknown archaeological site. Additional assessment was necessary to determine the significance of the site and a Phase II evaluation was conducted. The findings of the Phase II evaluation concluded that it was likely that there was an early occupation at the locale. A Phase III Survey-Data Recovery was required to be conducted at the site. A copy of the final report is being retained by the Southbury Historical Society.

**Following is a photo history of the construction phase of the project:**





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