



FEMA

River Road Project Keeping Road from Eroding

Hiram, ME - Along the Saco River on River Road, the river bank eroded within 2 feet of the roadway's edge. The shoulder was too narrow even for guard rails. Northbound traffic in the winter was in danger of sliding directly into the river. Each heavy rain event made the situation worse.

The Town of Hiram recognized that if no action was taken, the entire road would be lost. Also, the continued erosion along the road threatened Central Maine Powers Hiram Fall Dam, which is immediately downstream. The Town was awarded Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds for this project in December 1997. The Town subsequently closed a 1,170 foot section of road, moved it 30 feet back from its location on the river, and elevated that section 8 to 10 feet.

The project was completed in May 1998. In June 1998, more than 10 inches of heavy rain caused flooding across central Maine. The relocated section of the River Road was not damaged and remained open to traffic. The project is expected to save the Town and its residents \$772,055 in avoided damages, including loss due to dam failure.

Standard Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover flood damage. The National Flood Insurance Program makes Federally backed flood insurance available to homeowners, renters, and business owners in participating communities.



Oxford County,
Maine



Quick Facts

Sector:

Public

Cost:

\$103,298.00 (Actual)

Primary Activity/Project:

Flood Control

Primary Funding:

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)