

The Bernard Property

The Bernard's property sits at the confluence of Teels Creek and a small unnamed tributary in Franklin County.



Fig. 1 – Bernard property, MVP easements in red with right-of-way between thin red lines. The star indicates the area depicted in photographs below.

From the earliest days of active construction at this site, which lies in a marshy floodplain, the right-of-way has been filled with a ponded body of water. This water either seeps to the streams gradually or, when rains occur, is pushed in mass over, under, and through the silt fences and silt socks installed.



Fig. 2 – Bernard property, May 19, 2018

Also, from the very earliest stages of land disturbance, the erosion and sediment control measures have failed. Sediment has flowed from the site into both Teals Creek and the tributary. The flow patterns and intensity of runoff have changed because of the removal of landcover and ponding of very large volumes of water. This caused the bank shown here to collapse and other parts of the channel are continually being eaten away because of these changes and will contribute excess sediment to this stream forever, unless the banks are restored. This violates water quality standards by damaging the physical and biological integrity of the streams.



Fig. 3 – Bernard property, May 20, 2018 (looking across Teals Creek to the northeast; tributary enters Teals downstream and to the right from this spot.) This is the same location as shown in Fig. 3. New measures have been installed but very heavy sediment discharges continued in June.



Fig. 4 – Bernard Property, June 22, 2018(same site as in Fig. 3, facing west)

This view again shows the ponded water on the right-of-way near the confluence of the two streams. The pipe was installed in the trench to this point on or about August 1, 2018 and photos show the end of the pipe floating up from the bottom almost immediately. This condition has persisted until the present.



Fig. 5 – Bernard Property, September 15, 2018

This photo shows the extreme damage that has been caused to the stream banks on both Teals Creek and the tributary. Note the ineffectual use of silt socks strung along the narrow banks that have been cut back on both sides of a narrow peninsula where the two streams join. Previously one could easily walk along the edge of both streams outside of the silt socks but at least 5 – 8 feet of bank has collapsed and been carried away.



Fig. 6 – Bernard Property, February 22, 2019 (the site shown in Fig. 4 is located at the left center of the photo)