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## ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION SAVES NATIVE TROUT POPULATION

FRANCESTOWN, NH

The old Russell Station Road Bridge over the Rand Brook was undersized, overtopped and eroded during the 100-year flood event in the spring of 2007. During this flood, significant portions of pavement and fill were washed out above and



between the arches. Temporary repairs had been completed to allow the reopening of the road prior to the design and construction of a permanent replacement structure.

FEMA funding was secured with assistance from CLD Consulting Engineers, Inc. and construction on the final replacement began in the fall of 2010. Great care was taken in the diversion of the brook while construction was taking place to meet all the regulations the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services permit as well as the surrounding community's desire to maintain sustainable ecology while handling the water flow in the brook that contained a native trout population and a protected fish passage. The project included a bypass channel with multiple corrugated metal culverts to allow the bridge to be constructed within a sheet pile-protected dry site. Seepage into the protected site was pumped to an upland treatment site, from which the pumpage flowed back to the riverine system downstream of the bridge site. The project implementation took approximately 90 days to complete and handled the most recent damage producing storm, Hurricane Irene, with flying colors. David Gates, PE, an engineer with CLD Consulting Engineers, has been watching over the project since the beginning, and is gratified to see its conclusion. "The diversion channel has been all seeded, mulched, and backfilled," he said. "It looks like a million dollars."

### ***About CLD Consulting Engineers, Inc.***

*CLD Consulting Engineers, Inc. (CLD) has provided professional engineering services to communities, regional planning agencies, State and Federal agencies, as well as industrial and private clients throughout northern New England since 1976.*

*CLD provides an extensive range of comprehensive professional services including survey, site planning, civil engineering, traffic/transportation planning, bridge/highway design, water resources engineering, environmental engineering, solid waste management, structural engineering, permitting, construction management services including oversight and inspections, value engineering and peer review services.*

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