



Photo S30-1 (top) – June 2008

Facing north towards the gabion wall from across the valley. The segment of the wall that collapsed in 2007 is visible on the left, and the more recent undermining of the portions of the eastern end of the wall is visible on the right.



Photo S30-2 (bottom) – June 2008

Facing east along the wall alignment from the west end of the wall. The collapsed segment of the wall is visible in the foreground. Note the erosion gullies that are forming along the downslope edge of the highway above the collapsed segment of the wall.



Photo S30-3 (top) – June 2008
Facing east across the collapsed segment of the wall. The exposed front wraps of the geogrid supporting the road embankment fill are visible. Ravelling of the granular fill out from behind the geogrid wraps has been ongoing but has not yet compromised the geogrid support to the highway.



Photo S30-4 (bottom) – June 2008
Gullying and surface erosion along the downslope edge of the highway, above the collapsed segment of the wall. The geogrid within the road embankment continues to support the highway, but the loss of erosion protection provided by the gabion wall has allowed this surface erosion to develop and retrogress back towards the guardrail.



Photo S30-5 (top) – June 2008
Another view of surface erosion developing above the collapsed segment of the wall. Without the erosion protection provided by the gabion wall, surface runoff from the highway is able to downcut through the downslope edge of the embankment and wash away the fill from above the uppermost layer of geogrid.



Photo S30-6 (bottom) – June 2008
Recent undermining of a portion of the eastern end of the gabion wall. There was no flow at the time of the site inspection, however it appeared that groundwater discharge (or possibly surface runoff from the highway percolating downwards through the gabion baskets) has been washing away the slope material below the base of the wall. Similar erosion was likely the cause of the 2007 collapse of the western end of the wall.



Photo S30-7 (top) – June 2008

Closer view of recent undermining of a portion of the eastern end of the wall. The voids and undercutting of the wall base were up to 2 m wide and 0.3 to 0.4 m laterally under the base of the wall.