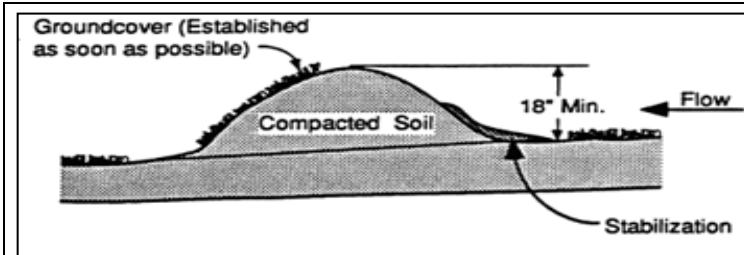


## 2.2 Diversion Dike

### Erosion Control



**Description:** A diversion dike is a compacted soil mound, which redirects runoff to a desired location. The dike is typically stabilized with natural grass for low velocities or with stone or erosion control mats for higher velocities.

### KEY CONSIDERATIONS

#### DESIGN CRITERIA:

- Maximum 1 foot flow depth at the dike for a 2-year return period design storm peak flow
- Side slopes 3:1 or flatter
- Minimum 2 feet top width
- Minimum embankment height of 18 inches measured from toe of slope on upgrade side
- Maximum contributing drainage area of 5 acres or less

#### ADVANTAGES / BENEFITS:

- Easy to install during early grading operations
- Very effective in reducing erosion at a reasonable cost
- Can be used in combination with an interceptor swale

#### DISADVANTAGES / LIMITATIONS:

- Must be stabilized immediately after placement or the dike will become a sediment source
- Can be a hindrance to construction equipment moving on the site

#### MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- Inspect regularly
- Remove silt
- Repair erosion on the face of the dike
- Provide additional stabilization if erosion occurs

### TARGETED POLLUTANTS

- Sediment
- Nutrients & Toxic Materials
- Oil & Grease
- Floatable Materials
- Other Construction Wastes

### APPLICATIONS

Perimeter Control

Slope Protection

Sediment Barrier

Channel Protection

Temporary Stabilization

Final Stabilization

Waste Management

Housekeeping Practices

**Fe=0.95**

### IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS

- Capital Costs
- Maintenance
- Training
- Suitability for Slopes > 5%

#### Other Considerations:

- None

### 2.2.1 Primary Use

The primary use of diversion dikes is to prevent erosion by diverting runoff away from steep slopes and disturbed areas. The diversion dike is normally used to intercept offsite flow upstream of the construction area and direct the flow around the disturbed soils. It can also be used downstream of the construction area to direct flow into a sediment control, such as a sediment basin or protected inlet. The diversion dike serves the same purpose as an interceptor swale and, based on the topography of the site, can be used in combination with an interceptor swale.

### 2.2.2 Applications

By intercepting runoff before it has the chance to cause erosion, diversion dikes are very effective in reducing erosion at a reasonable cost. They are applicable to a large variety of projects including site developments and linear projects, such as roadways and pipeline construction. Diversion dikes are normally used as upslope perimeter controls for construction sites with large amounts of offsite flow that needs to be re-directed around the construction site. They can also be used as a downslope perimeter control to direct runoff from the disturbed area to a sediment control.

Used in combination with swales, the diversion dike can be quickly installed with a minimum of equipment and cost, using the swale excavation material to construct the dike. No sediment removal technique is required if the dike is properly stabilized and the runoff is intercepted prior to crossing disturbed areas.

Significant savings in sediment controls can be realized by using diversion dikes to direct sheet flow from disturbed areas to a central sediment control, such as a sediment basin or other sediment trap, instead of installing a series of high-maintenance linear controls. Dikes can also be used to direct runoff from disturbed areas to a filtration device, passive treatment system, or active treatment system when these are necessary to attain required levels of sediment removal.

### 2.2.3 Design Criteria

- The maximum contributing drainage area should be 5 acres or less depending on site conditions.
- Maximum depth of flow at the dike shall be 1 foot based on a 2-year return period design storm peak flow.
- Side slopes of the diversion dike shall be 3:1 or flatter.
- Side slopes of the diversion dike may be 2:1 for dike installations to be used less than 3 months, if the dike is within an area protected by perimeter controls.
- Minimum width at the top of the dike shall be 2 feet.
- Minimum embankment height shall be 18 inches as measured from the toe of slope on the upgrade side of the berm.
- For grades less than 2 percent and velocities less than 6 feet per second, the minimum required channel stabilization shall be grass, erosion control blankets, or anchored mulch. For grades in excess of 2 percent or velocities exceeding 6 feet per second, stabilization is required in the form of turf reinforcement mats (or riprap with appropriate size, gradation, and thickness depending on flow conditions). Velocities greater than 8 feet per second will require approval by the local municipality and is discouraged.
- Refer to [Section 2.9 Vegetation](#) for design criteria and guidance on establishing vegetation in the swale.
- The dikes shall remain in place until all disturbed areas that are protected by the dike are permanently stabilized unless other controls are put into place to protect the disturbed area.
- The flow line at the dike shall have a positive grade to drain to a controlled outlet.

- Diverted runoff from a disturbed or exposed upland area shall be conveyed to a sediment-trapping device.
- The soil for the dike shall be placed in lifts of 8 inches or less and be compacted to 95 percent standard proctor density using ASTM D698 Standard Test Methods for Laboratory Compaction Characteristics of Soil Using Standard Effort.
- Soil used in construction of the dike can be onsite material. It should be free of rocks larger than three inches in diameter and should be clay, silty clay or sandy clay with a plasticity index greater than 25. If only low PI material is available, it will be necessary to armor the slopes with stone or geotextile to prevent erosion of the dike.
- An interceptor swale may be installed on the upslope side of the diversion dike. Refer to [Section 2.4 Interceptor Swale](#) for swale design criteria.

### 2.2.4 Design Guidance and Specifications

Specifications for construction of this item may be found in the Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction – North Central Texas Council of Governments, Section 201.7 Diversion Dike.

### 2.2.5 Inspection and Maintenance Requirements

Dikes should be inspected regularly (at least as often as required by the TPDES Construction General Permit) to determine if silt is building up behind the dike or if erosion is occurring on the face of the dike. Silt shall be removed in a timely manner. If erosion is occurring on the face of the dike, the face of the slopes shall either be stabilized with mulch or seeding or the slopes shall be flattened.

### 2.2.6 Example Schematics

The following schematics are example applications of the construction control. They are intended to assist in understanding the control's design and function.

The schematics are **not for construction**. They may serve as a starting point for creating a construction detail, but they must be site adapted by the designer. In addition, dimensions and notes appropriate for the application must be added by the designer.

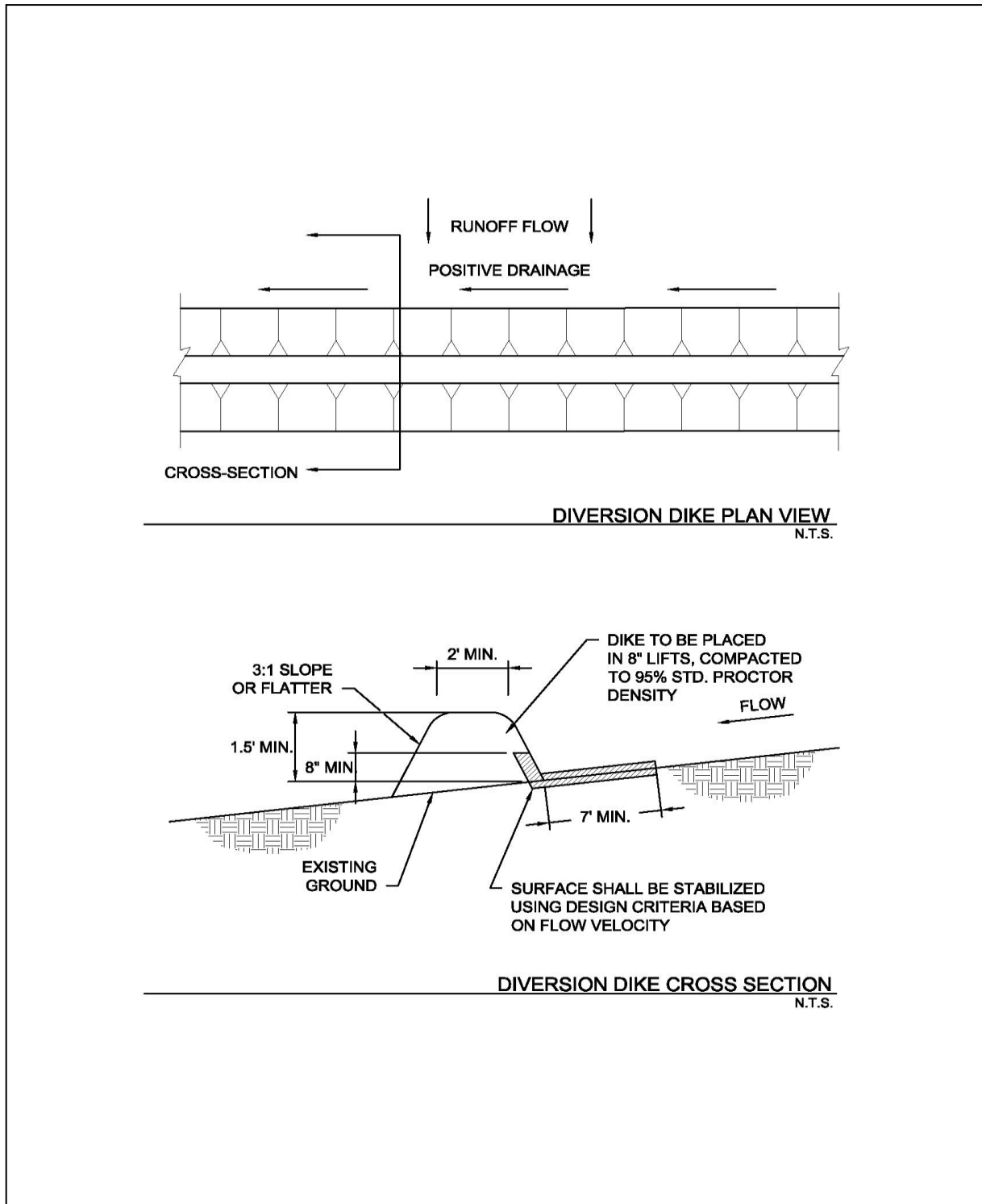


Figure 2.5 Schematics of Diversion Dike

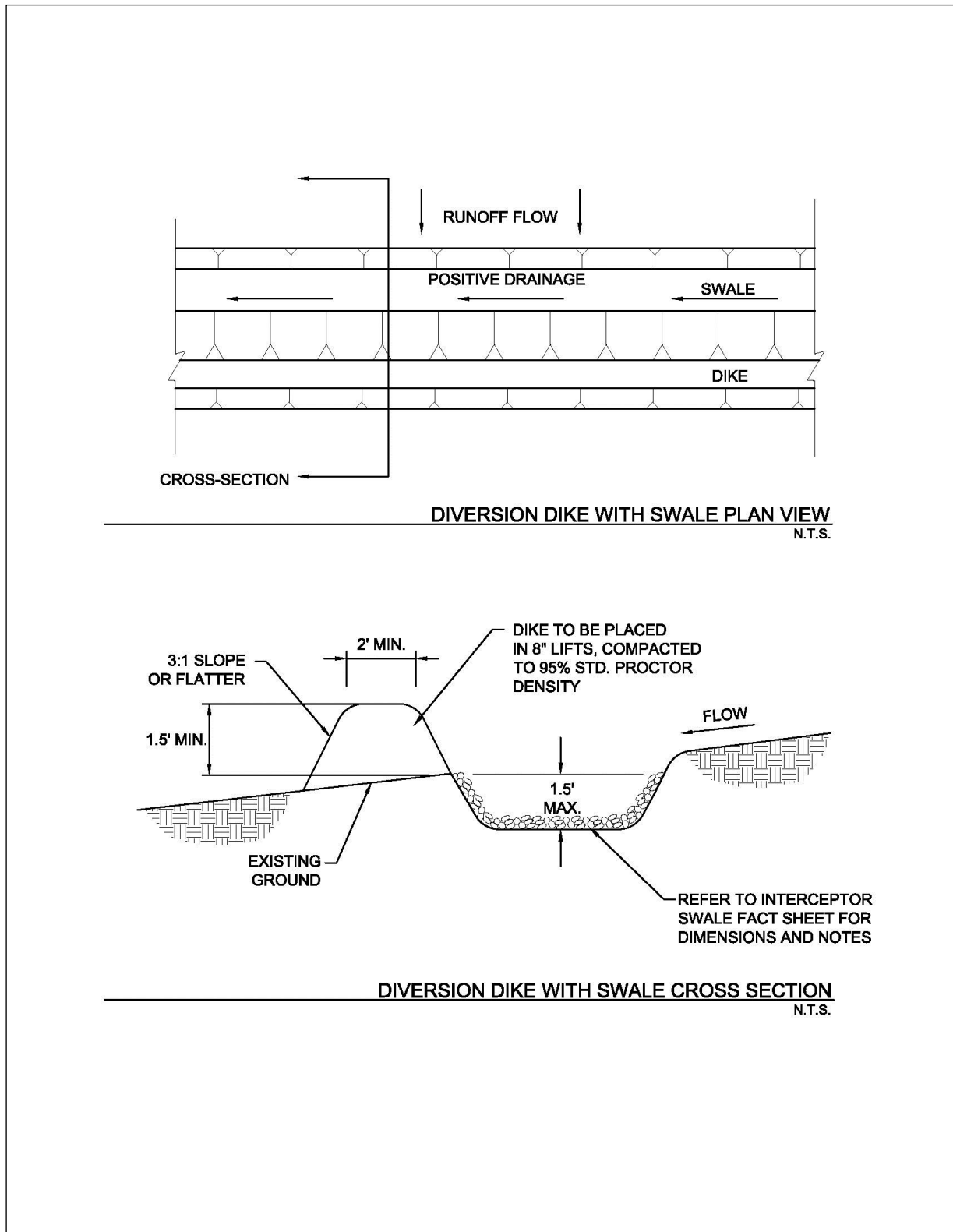


Figure 2.6 Schematics of Diversion Dike with Swale