



1.0 Terms and Definitions

Flume – a flume is a drainage feature near a highway or bridge intended to allow storm-water runoff to flow away from the highway pavement or bridge without causing erosion. Flumes are usually perpendicular to the pavement or edge of road and should not pond water. Flumes are typically made of concrete, asphalt or riprap.

2.0 Maintenance

Maintenance functions of flumes include:

- Keep the water course free of accumulations of dirt, debris, vegetation and other obstructions to ensure the flow of water.
- Repair erosion, settlement or install erosion control measures to maintain the function of the flume.
- Asphalt and concrete flumes with open joints or cracks should be sealed so water does not undermine the flume.

If the entire flume can be seen from the road, a drive-by inspection is all that is needed to see if any flume maintenance is needed. If the flume cannot be seen from the vehicle, a proper inspection will require getting out of the vehicle.