

Construction Specification 462—Grouted Rock Riprap

1. Scope

The work consists of furnishing, transporting, and the installation of grouted rock riprap revetments and blankets, including filter or bedding where specified.

2. Material

Rock riprap shall be dense, sound and free from cracks, seams and other defects conducive to accelerated weathering. The rock shall be angular to sub-rounded in shape with the greatest dimension not greater than 2 times the least dimension. It shall be free from dirt, clay, sand, rock fines, and other material not meeting the required gradation limits. Rock density shall be 165 pounds per cubic foot or greater. Rock hardness shall be such that it will not dent when struck with the rounded end of a one pound ball peen hammer, or hardness shall be determined by other methods approved by the NRCS. Unless otherwise specified on the plans riprap gradation shall conform to the specified mix number as follows:

Rock size in inches			
Mix Number	Maximum	Average D50	Minimum
1	7	4	1
2	9	6	1
3	14	9	1
4	18	12	2
5	23	15	2
6	27	18	3
7	32	21	3
8	36	24	4
9	45	30	4
10	54	36	5

The mix number shall be _____.

Before rock is delivered from its source, the contractor shall designate the source from which rock material will be obtained and provide information satisfactory to the NRCS that the material meets design requirements. The contractor shall provide the NRCS technical representative free access to the source for the purpose of obtaining samples for testing. The size and grading of the rock shall be as specified in the construction drawings.

Filter or bedding aggregates, when required, shall be composed of clean, hard and durable mineral particles free from organic matter, clay balls or other deleterious substances. The size and grading of the filter or bedding shall be as specified in the construction drawings.

Geotextiles, when required, shall conform to the requirements outlined in Construction Specification 495, Geotextile.

Portland cement shall be Type II or Type IIA as specified in ASTM C 150 or as otherwise specified on the construction drawings.

Pozzolan conforming to Specification ASTM C 618, Class C or F, in amounts not to exceed 25

percent based on absolute volume, may be substituted for an equivalent amount of portland cement in the grout mixture unless otherwise specified in section 14 of this specification.

Aggregates shall conform to the requirements of ASTM C 33 for fine and coarse aggregate for concrete, or as shown on the construction drawings.

Water shall be clean and free from injurious amounts of oils, acid, alkali, organic matter, or other deleterious substances.

Air-entraining admixtures shall conform to the requirements of ASTM C 260. If air-entraining cement is use, any additional air-entraining admixture shall be of the same type as that in the cement.

Curing compound shall conform to the requirements of ASTM C 309. Unless otherwise specified, the compound shall be type 2.

Other admixtures, when required, shall be as specified in section 14 of this specification.

3. Subgrade preparation

The subgrade surface on which the rock riprap, filter, bedding, or geotextile is to be placed shall be cut or filled and graded to the lines and grades shown on the drawings. When fill to subgrade lines is required, it shall consist of approved material and shall be compacted to a density equal to the adjacent existing soil material.

Rock riprap, filter, bedding, or geotextile shall not be placed until the foundation preparation is completed and the subgrade surface has been inspected and approved by the NRCS.

4. Placement of rock riprap

Method 1 Equipment-placed rock—The rock riprap shall be placed by equipment on the surface and to the depth specified. It shall be installed to the full course thickness in one operation and in such a manner as to avoid serious displacement of the underlying material. The rock for riprap shall be delivered and placed in a manner that ensures the riprap in place is reasonably homogeneous with the larger rocks uniformly distributed and firmly in contact one to another with the smaller rocks and spalls filling the voids between the larger rocks.

Rock riprap shall be placed in a manner to prevent damage to structures. Hand placing is required as necessary to prevent damage to any new and existing structures.

Method 2 Hand-placed rock—The rock riprap shall be placed by hand on the surface and to the depth specified. It shall be securely bedded with the larger rocks firmly in contact one to another without bridging. Spaces between the larger rocks shall be filled with smaller rocks and spalls. Smaller rocks shall not be grouped as a substitute for larger rock.

5. Filter or bedding

When the contract specifies filter, bedding, or geotextile beneath the rock riprap, the designated material shall be placed on the prepared subgrade surface as specified. Compaction of filter or bedding aggregate shall be as specified on the construction drawings. The final surface of such

material shall be finished reasonably smooth and free of mounds, dips, or windrows.

6. Design of the grout mix

The mix proportions for the grout mix shall be as specified on the construction drawings and/or in the construction details in section 14 of this specification. During installation, the engineer may require adjustment of the mix proportions whenever necessary. The mix shall not be altered without the approval of the engineer.

7. Handling and measurement of grout material

Material shall be stockpiled and batched by methods that prevent segregation or contamination of aggregates and ensure accurate proportioning of the mix ingredients.

Except as otherwise provided in section 14 of this specification, cement and aggregates shall be measured as follows:

- Cement shall be measured by weight or in bags of 94 pounds each. When cement is measured in bags, no fraction of a bag shall be used unless weighed.
- Aggregates shall be measured by weight. Mix proportions shall be based on the batch weight of each aggregate saturated, surface-dry weight plus the weight of surface moisture it contains at the time of batching.
- Water shall be measured, by volume or by weight, to accuracy within 1 percent of the total quantity of water required for the batch.
- Admixtures shall be measured within a limit of accuracy of plus or minus 3 percent.

8. Mixers and mixing

The mixer, when operating at capacity, shall be capable of combining the ingredients of the grout mix into a thoroughly mixed and uniform mass and of discharging the mix with a satisfactory degree of uniformity.

The mixer shall be operated within the limits of the manufacturer's guaranteed capacity and speed of rotation.

The time of mixing after all cement and aggregates have been combined in the mixer shall be a minimum of 1 minute for mixers having a capacity of 1 cubic yard or less. For larger capacity mixers, the minimum time shall be increased 15 seconds for each cubic yard or fraction thereof of additional capacity. The batch shall be so charged into the mixer that some water will enter in advance of the cement and aggregates, with the balance of the mixing water introduced into the mixer before a fourth of the total minimum mixing time has elapsed.

When ready-mix grout is furnished, the contractor shall furnish to the engineer at the time of delivery a ticket showing the time of loading and the quantities of material used for each load of grout mix delivered.

No mixing water in excess of the amount required by the approved job mix shall be added to the grout mix during mixing or hauling or after arrival at the delivery point.

9. Conveying and placing

The grout mix shall be delivered to the site and placed within 1.5 hours after the introduction of the cement to the aggregates. In hot weather or under conditions contributing to accelerated

stiffening of the concrete, the time between the introduction of the cement to the aggregates and complete discharge of the grout batch shall be a maximum of 45 minutes. The engineer may allow a longer time provided the setting time of the grout is increased a corresponding amount by the addition of an approved set-retarding admixture. In any case concrete shall be conveyed from the mixer to the final placement as rapidly as practicable by methods that prevent segregation of the aggregates, loss of mortar, displacement of the rock riprap, or a combination of these.

Grout mix shall not be allowed to free fall more than 5 feet unless suitable equipment is used to prevent segregation.

The grout mix shall not be placed until the rock riprap has been inspected and approved by the engineer for the placement of grout.

Rock to be grouted shall be kept moist for a minimum of 2 hours before grouting.

The rock riprap shall be flushed with water before placing the grout to remove the fines from the rock surfaces. The rock shall be kept moist before the grouting and without placing in standing or flowing water. Grout placed on inverts or other nearly level areas may be placed in one operation. On slopes, the grout shall be placed in two nearly equal applications consisting of successive lateral strips about 10 feet in width starting at the toe of the slope and progressing upward. The grout shall be delivered to the place of final deposit by approved methods and discharged directly on the surface of the rock. A metal or wood splash plate is used to prevent displacement of the rock directly under the grout discharge. The flow of grout shall be directed with brooms, spades, or baffles to prevent grout from flowing excessively along the same path and to assure that all intermittent spaces are filled. Sufficient barring shall be conducted to loosen tight pockets of rock and otherwise aid in the penetration of grout to ensure the grout fully penetrates the total thickness of the rock blanket. All brooming on slopes shall be uphill. After the grout has stiffened, the entire surface shall be rebroomed to eliminate runs and to fill voids caused by sloughing. The surface finish, following the completion of grout installation, shall consist of one-third of the rock extended above the level of grout. The exposed rock will not have a plastered appearance.

After completion of any strip or panel, no individual(s) or equipment shall be permitted on the grouted surface for 24 hours. The grouted surface shall be protected from injurious action by the sun, rain, flowing water, mechanical injury, or other potential damaging activity.

10. Curing and protection

The completed finished surface shall be prevented from drying for a minimum curing period of 7 days following placement. Exposed surfaces shall be maintained in a moist condition continuously for the 7-day curing period or until curing compound has been applied as specified in this section. Moisture shall be maintained by sprinkling, flooding, or fog spraying or by covering with continuously moistened canvas, cloth mats, straw, sand, or other approved material. Water or moist covering shall be used to protect the grout during the curing process without causing damage to the grout surface by erosion or other mechanisms that may cause physical damage.

The grouted rock may be coated with an approved curing compound as an alternative method to maintaining a continuous moisture condition during the curing period. The compound shall be sprayed on the moist grout surface as soon as free water has disappeared and all surface finishing

has been completed. The compound shall be applied at a minimum uniform rate of 1 gallon per 175 square feet of surface and shall form a continuous adherent membrane over the entire surface. Curing compound shall not be applied to surfaces requiring bond to subsequently placed grout and/or concrete. If the membrane is damaged during the curing period, the damaged area shall be resprayed at the rate of application specified for the original treatment.

Grout mix shall not be placed when the daily minimum temperature is less than 40 degrees Fahrenheit unless facilities are provided to ensure that the temperature of the material is maintained at a minimum temperature of 50 degrees Fahrenheit and not more than 90 degrees Fahrenheit during placement and the curing period. Grout mix shall not be placed on a frozen surface. When freezing conditions prevail, rock to be grouted must be covered and heated to within a range of 50 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit for a minimum of 24 hours before placing grouting material.

11. Inspecting and testing fresh grout

The grout material shall be checked and tested throughout the grouting operation. Sampling of fresh grout shall be conducted in conformance with ASTM C 172. The volume of each batch will be determined by methods prescribed in ASTM C 138.

The engineer shall have free access to all parts of the contractor's plant and equipment used for mixing and placing grout during the period of the contract. Proper facilities shall be provided for the engineer to sample material and view processes implemented in the mixing and placing of grout as well as for securing grout test samples. All tests and inspections shall be conducted so that only a minimum of interference to the contractor's operation occurs.

For ready-mixed grout, the contractor shall furnish to the engineer a statement-of-delivery ticket for each batch delivered to the site. The ticket shall provide as a minimum: weight in pounds of cement, aggregates (fine and coarse), water; weight in ounces of air-entraining agent; time of loading; and the revolution counter reading at the time batching was started.

12. Measurement and payment

For items of work for which specific unit prices are established in the contract, the volume of riprap and the volume of filter layers or bedding is determined to the nearest cubic yard from the specified thickness shown on the drawings and the area in which acceptable placement has been installed. The volume of grout is determined from the calculated batch volume and the number of mixed batches delivered to the site and placed in accordance with the specification. The area of geotextile is determined to the nearest square yard from measurements of geotextile material installed according to the contract requirements. Payment is made at the contract unit price for each type of rock riprap, filter or bedding, concrete grout, and geotextile. Such payment is considered full compensation for all labor, material, equipment, and all other items necessary and incidental to the completion of the work.

13. Construction Operations

Construction operations shall be done in such a manner that erosion and air and water pollution are minimized. The owner, operator, contractor or others will conduct all work and operations in accordance with proper safety guidelines for the type of construction being performed.

The completed job shall be workmanlike and provide a good overall appearance.

14. Items of work and construction details