Poor silt check installation. Straw bales are not approved as silt checks for ditch or channel applications due to rotting, installation difficulties, and high failure potential.
Installing Sediment Traps and Basins
trap and basin
Length = 2x width or more

- seeded
- stable outlet
- maintained
Sediment basins often have pipe risers, but well-constructed rock overflow outlet notches in the dam or retaining berm are acceptable if the overflow area is protected from erosion.
Fair installation of two traps above small pond. Dikes are a little too small; placement is too close to pond. Area needs seed and mulch.
Fair sediment trap construction. Rock dike is undersized and lacks a defined overflow notch. Poor maintenance attention. Silt fence beyond rock dike is not needed—silt fence should not be used across flow channels.
Good sediment trap installation, but poor maintenance has caused trap to fill and bypass to occur. Remove sediment before trap is half full. Make sure containment dike has an overflow notch to control the discharge location.
Good trap location; needs cleaning out.
Trap might be too small for area drained.
Very good channel protection, seeding, and mulching.
Fair to poor trap installation. Dike overflow notch is too deep; basin is too small. No seed or mulch covering bare soil areas.
Poor sediment trap construction. Dike is poorly built, without an overflow notch. Placement is too close to pond. No seeding or mulching evident in drainage area.
Cement wash water going to storm drain
Cement wash water draining to State waters
Turbid plume caused by cement wash water
non-functional silt fence
non-functional (unanchored) silt fence
Inadequate silt fence
Gravel filter for outlet protection
Gravel filter around outlet

AFTER 😊
Inadequate inlet protection 😞
Inadequate inlet protection
Open manhole 😞
Ineffective silt fence
containment box for oil barrels
Dewatering operation to State water
Dewatering operation to State water (cont’d)
Dewatering operation to State water (cont'd)
Discharge point of untreated dewatering effluent to State waters
containment of dewatering effluent into excavated pile area
silt curtain
Over-topping fuel tank