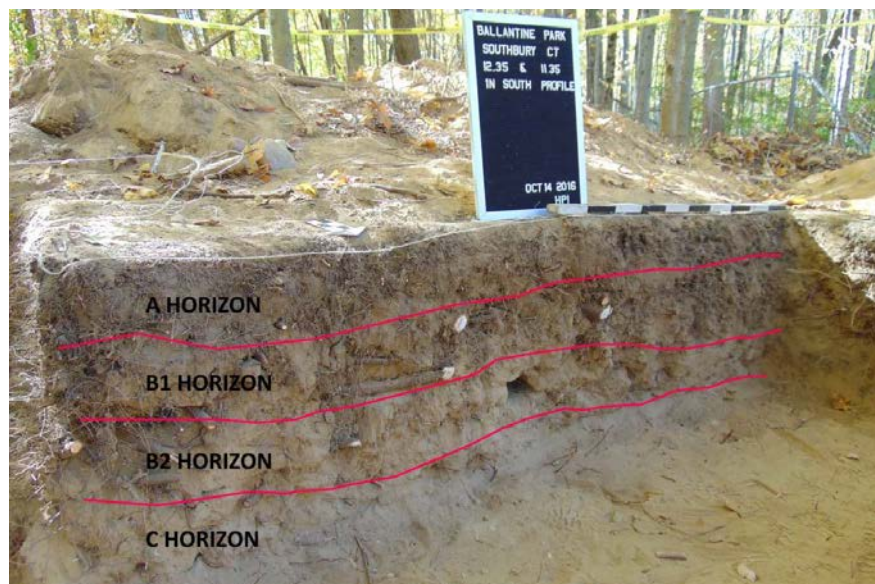


Priority: Strategic Conservation – Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Natural Resource Damage Assessment & Restoration

The Pomperaug River is an important recreational fishery in Connecticut. It also forms the western boundary of the town of Southbury's Ballantine Park. The riverbank is steeply sloped and portions of the streambank within the park had become unstable; with severe erosion occurring as a result. As part of the Housatonic River NRDAR settlement, the Service and the town entered into a Cooperative Agreement to stabilize the streambank utilizing bioengineering restoration techniques and native vegetation to improve riparian habitat. An unexpected benefit of the project was that a previously unknown archeological site dating from the Archaic Period (6,000 to 2,700 BP) was found. This Native American site was discovered during survey work done in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) through an MOA with the Mohegan Tribe and the State Historic Preservation Office. Stabilizing the riverbank has halted the degradation of this site and artifacts found during the survey were archived for use in the future. For more information, contact Drew Major at andrew_major@fws.gov or (603) 227-6413.



Before and after pictures of the east bank of the Pomperaug River in Southbury, CT
Photo Credit: Town of Southbury



Wall profile from the Phase III archeological data recovery project
Photo Credit: Historical Perspectives, Inc.