

STRUCTURAL WORKS IN THE STREAM BANK ZONE

What structural works can I undertake to control erosion?

- **Brush Groynes** are a series of low walls built out of logs and brush extending into the stream along the eroded bank. The groynes slow the flow, collect sediment and allow vegetation to establish. It is a low cost option, suitable for low to medium energy flow watercourses.
- **Fallen logs** in the watercourse can also be used to protect the bank from erosion by diverting the flow of water away from an eroding bank.
- **Log walls** can be constructed along the base of the bank which allows vegetation to establish.
- **Realignment of the water channel** can be carried out to direct flows away from the banks. Native vegetation is used to stabilise the new bank. Note that permits apply to this type of work. See local DLWC office for more information.
- **Gravel mesh sausages** are long mesh baskets filled with gravel that are used to slow the flow of the watercourse near the bank and guide it way, allowing sediment to deposit at the base of the bank.
- **Jacks** are a series of cross-shaped structures placed along the base of the eroded bank with vegetation planted in between to slow the flow near the bank, and allow vegetation to establish.
- **Timber weirs** provide bed erosion control, and restore shallow rapids and pools. They also provide for fish habitat and water supply.
- **Boulders** can be used to raise the bed level and direct flows away from banks. They also provide pools, riffles and holes for fish habitat.
- **Rock revetment** is the placing of rocks against the base of the bank to protect it and hold material in place.

*It is important that you seek advice before planning any of the above works.
Work undertaken in or near stream banks is subject to local and state
legislation and you should seek advice regarding your obligations or any
permits that may be required.*

Who can help?

Department of Land and Water Conservation, Yass Office (02) 6226 1433.

Further References

Works to control stream bank erosion: Treatment Options. Riverwise Advisory notes for rural landholders, DLWC, 1998