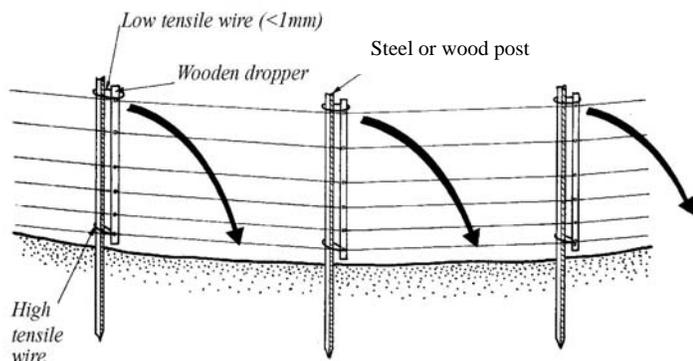
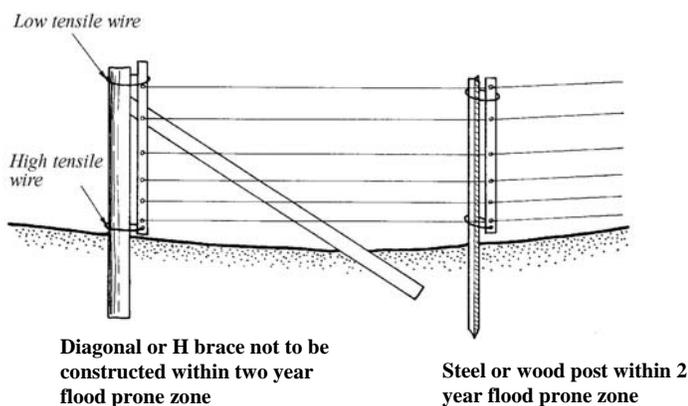


FENCE STREAM CROSSING



Figures 1 and 2. Drop-Down Fence



Fences that work most successfully on streams which flood are those that give way and lay down flat under flood conditions (Figures 1 and 2). Another successful option is to leave a gap in the permanent fencing and fill it in with temporary electric fencing when livestock are present or if terrain allows a gate which is open or closed depending on livestock presence or absence (Figure 3).

When using either fencing methods no H or diagonal brace assemblies should be placed within the two year flood prone zone. Brace posts are placed outside the flood prone zone and the drop-down or temporary electric fences or gate assembly are built between the braces. Any posts placed into the ground within the two year flood prone zone should be driven steel T posts or 2x2 or similar wooden post. No posts should be placed in bored holes within the flood prone zone.

A drop down fence shown in Figures 1 and 2 is constructed as a normal fence except that the section built in the flood prone zone is not attached to posts but to wooden droppers which are attached to posts with low tensile wire at the top and high tensile at the bottom. When flooding occurs, the top wires will break causing the fence to lay flat thus reducing the amount of trapped debris. In the event of complete failure, damage will be limited to in between the brace post assemblies.

If terrain and stream size allow, a gate assembly can be built across the two year flood prone zone. Simply close it when livestock are present and open when they are removed. Temporary electric fences can also be used to fence across the flood prone zone. See the 382 Installation Guide for more detail on installing electric fence.

Figure 3. Temporary Electric Fence or Gate Assembly

