

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Soil Conservation Service

Technical Guide
Section IV
Rev. April 1991

Stream Habitat Improvement and Management

(pen & ink change - 11/05)

~~FISH STREAM IMPROVEMENT~~ (Feet)

Specifications Guide

There are two basic freshwater stream habitat types in North Carolina for consideration under this standard. These are:

Warmwater Streams - These streams are inclusive of the large Coastal Plain streams up to and including the smallmouth bass habitat of the lower mountain region.

Coldwater Streams - These are the trout streams of the mountain region of the state.

Planning for Fish Stream Improvement - Planning for fish stream improvement should include one or more of the following measures:

- (1) Maintenance of riparian vegetation;
- (2) Critical area stabilization for sediment reduction;
- (3) Streambank protection from livestock use - may include fencing;
- (4) Installation of field borders or filter strips for protection or enhancement of water quality;
- (5) Stabilization of streambanks to prevent channel shifting, bank caving, etc., with resultant sedimentation;
- (6) Establishment of tree cover along streams through crop and pasture areas for stream water temperature enhancement;
- (7) Planning for stream access -- may be streambank fishing easements and/or access points;
- (8) Channel clearing and snagging for the purpose of fisherman access in a boat;
- (9) In-stream structures for pool creation -- especially applicable for coldwater streams;
- (10) Assist landowner involved in livestock production to adequately handle the waste by-products of such operations.