

WATER

Fish Passage

702



Many native fish migrate back to the same stream their parents came from when they are young. If the streams are badly modified, many of the migratory fish are unable to swim up to a suitable habitat. It is important that streams and wetland inlets and outlets that are changed have good culverts with fish passages or gently sloping wet surfaces for eels and fish to climb.

The first fish passage was built in the 17th century in France



IMG 704

This weir (under construction) has rocks placed in a zig zag pattern that forms a staircase for the fish which slows down the water and creates small pockets of still water so the fish can rest.

What makes a good fish passage?

- Well vegetated buffer zones that are fenced off from animals.
- A series of cascading pools so the fish can rest along their journey.
- Natural water levels and water flow.
- Natural material such as rocks

What makes bad fish passage?

- Waterfalls that fish can not swim up.
- Small concrete channels that make the water move too fast.
- Low water levels.
- No barriers to slow down water and create pools for fish to rest.