



What Can We Do To Improve Riparian Areas?

Since our riparian areas are not owned by just one person, we must work together to keep them healthy.



Prevention

Ranchers, and land managers have developed new grazing systems to protect and improve riparian areas. These include:

- rotating livestock to other pastures
- reducing numbers of livestock
- fencing to protect sensitive areas
- changing the time of year when riparian areas are used



The picture above shows what happens when riparian areas are not cooperatively managed. The upper portion of this stream is healthy, while the lower stretch shows damage.

Buffers are created around riparian areas to protect them from logging and mining activities.

Restoration



Where damage has been done, repairs are made by:

- building in-stream rock or log structures to trap sediment, slow the stream and create fish habitat
- replanting willows along banks, trapping sediment and reducing water temperature to improve trout habitat



You can find out more about the Bureau of Land Management's Riparian Recovery Initiative, our projects and our partners on our web site at [WEB ADDRESS HERE](#).