

IN YOUR BACKYARD - Topic: Riparian Corridor & Erosion

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Did you know?

A **riparian corridor** is simply defined as the area and the vegetation adjacent to streams. A healthy **riparian corridor** is essential for the health of our streams. Health of the corridor affects recreation, agricultural practices, wildlife habitat, aesthetics and stream management. Unhealthy **riparian corridors** can lead to unhealthy streams primarily through bank erosion, pollution and increased stream temperatures.

Common causes of local **stream erosion** are:

- a. removal or disturbance of protective stream bank as a result of trees falling from banks, or from poorly managed stock grazing, clearing or fire
- b. redirection and acceleration of flow around infrastructure, obstructions, debris or vegetation within the stream channel

What you can do to help!

There are many small steps we can all do to help the health of our streams. Here are some examples:

- a. Responsibly manage livestock near waterways
- b. Plant grass or shrubs on bare soil
- c. Do not remove or disturb streamside vegetation
- d. Educate and involve all generations
- e. Report sites of concern to the Bishop Paiute Tribe's Environmental Management Office



Figures A & B. Examples of stream-side erosion caused from livestock grazing on bare soil. Figure A shows water ponded in a livestock area. Fencing helps keep the livestock away from the stream; however the ponded water is likely to aid in stream-side sediment erosion. Figure B shows a horse corral directly adjacent to the stream with very little vegetation on the stream bank.

Look for information regarding pollution and improving and protecting the health of our streams in upcoming newsletters!