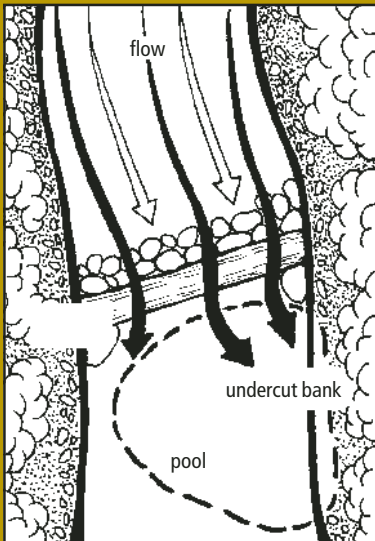


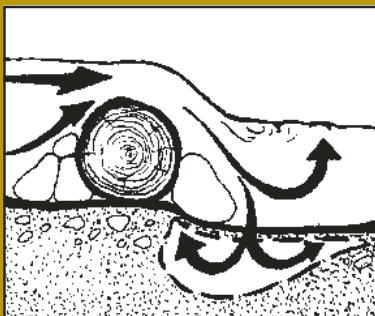
Digger Logs



AERIAL VIEW



CROSS SECTION



Large photo: Digger logs in the Mushamush River. **Inset:** Digger logs in the Blockhouse Mill Brook.

Diagrams courtesy of the St. Mary's River Forestry Wildlife Project. To contact BCAAF, call 902.624.9888 or visit coastalaction.org.

What is a digger log?

A digger log is a river restoration structure that consists of hardwood logs (6-9 feet long, 8 inches in diameter) secured to the streambed at a 30 degree angle to the bank. Boulders and cobble from the downstream side of the log are removed and placed upstream to create a ramp, causing the water to cascade over the log.

The purpose of the digger log is to dig a pool below the log and deepen the water above it. The digger log also provides cover under the log and banks which will be undercut. Spawning gravel is also deposited beneath.

These structures help to re-establish the natural meander of the stream, create pools and gravel beds for fish spawning, clean and oxygenate the water, and also provide quality habitat for aquatic insects.

How is it built?

The selected stream site is cleared so that the log will sit flat on the stream bed. The log is wedged into the stream banks or behind large boulders at a 30 degree angle to the bank. The log may also be secured by hammering posts through the log and stream bed. Rocks from downstream are moved to above the log to keep it in place and to build a ramp that will speed up the digging of the pool.

