

# terrafix®

Interlocking Concrete Block Systems

**Engineering Solutions  
Environmental Answers**



**EROSION CONTROL  
SYSTEMS Pty Ltd**

### Natural Stream Bed

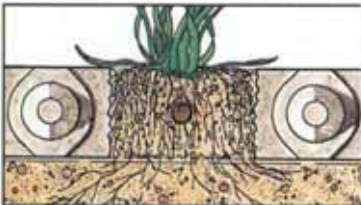
The stream bed remains NATURAL. The Terrafix System is employed only on the eroding banks of a watercourse. The stream is maintained naturally with opportunities to create 'rocky ramps' and 'sills' to enhance water quality, visual amenities and the FISHERY.

### Planting Techniques

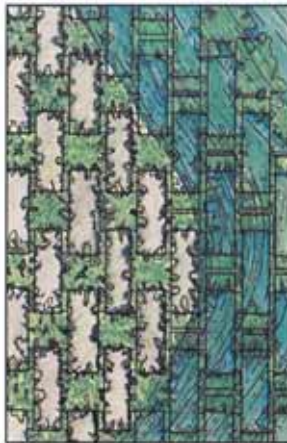
The tapered ends of the Terrafix Blocks can be broken off to allow for a planting hole which can accommodate cuttings, seedlings, saplings, perennial 'mats' and 'plugs' or seed-mixes.



NATURAL STREAM BED



PLANTING TECHNIQUES



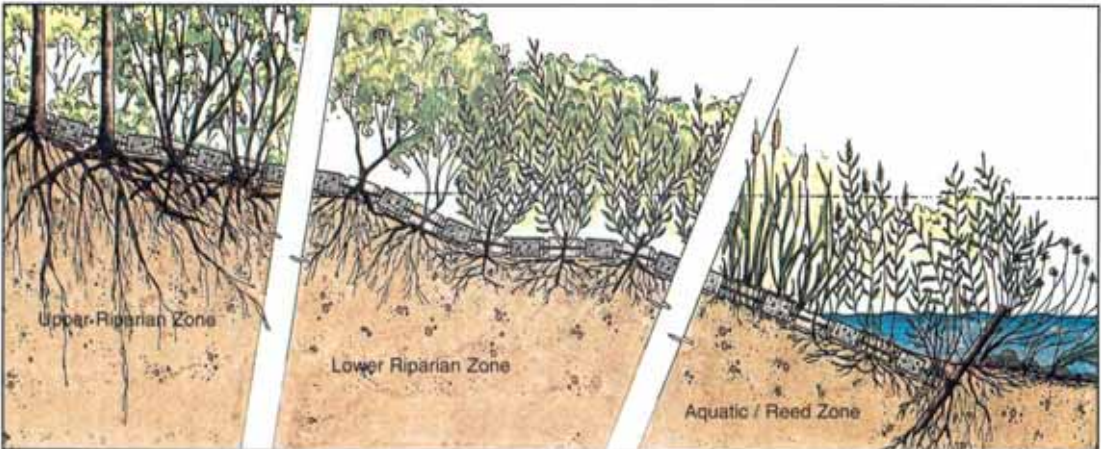
OPEN MESH FOR PLANT

### Open Mesh for Plant Growth

Removing the tapered ends of the Terrafix Blocks will enlarge the openings of the block mesh. This will allow for planting, natural regeneration and the employment of biotechnical strategies.

### Root Anchorage

The Terrafix Blocks are initially fastened to live stakes. The block mesh will check slope erosion enabling plants to develop an extensive root system thus anchoring the entire mesh in place for added effectiveness. Plants that reproduce vegetatively by means of rhizomes or runners will clone themselves by sending up shoots or setting down roots within the gaps of the Terrafix mesh.



ROOT ANCHORAGE



## Biological and Scenic Quality

The integration of plants and natural rocks with the Terrafix product can be used to create a natural habitat for river fauna and to reconstruct the scenic qualities of the stream corridor.

## Natural Fluvial Processes

The Terrafix System is a key factor in the re-naturalization of an eroding stream course. Geomorphological principles and watershed characteristics must be adhered to. The use of vegetation with the Terrafix mesh allows for both an engineered solution to the erosion problem as well as a slope adaptable to the ecology and scenery of a natural stream corridor.



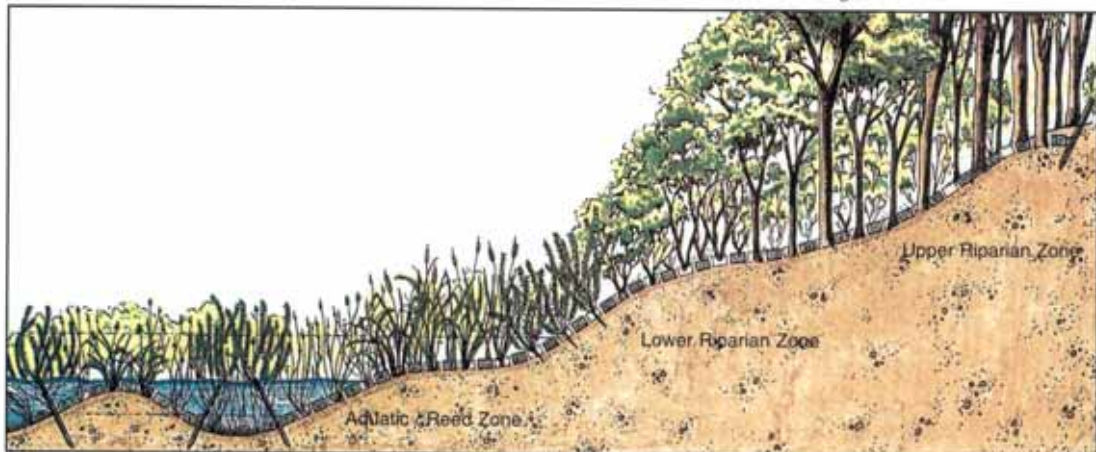
BIOLOGICAL AND SCENIC QUALITY



NATURAL FLUVIAL PROCESSES

## Plant Zonation

The immediate slope stabilization and erosion control established by the Terrafix Block mesh will enable the planting of a large variety of plant species. Included among the vegetation are plants that are not significant in erosion control but are nevertheless important to the ecology of the site. Plants can then respond to an ecological gradient beginning with the aquatics at low water levels, followed by the reeds at higher water levels, which give way to shrubbery, lower riparian species on the open flood-way zones, ending with the upper riparian canopy-forming trees on the flood fringe.



PLANT ZONATION

## **Environmental Advantages of the Terrafix System:**

### **Erosion Control and Slope Stabilization**

*The Terrafix Block mesh on its own has been proven to be very effective in erosion control and slope stabilization. The added vegetative layer will further stabilize the mesh through root anchorage and the retardation of stream flow.*



### **Ecological Diversity and Biological Purification**

*The erosion control effectiveness of the Terrafix Block mesh creates a stable substrate for the propagation of a wide range of plant species thus enabling the establishment of indigenous plant communities. The use of aquatic species and reeds at appropriate locations will help to maintain water quality.*



### **Fish and Wildlife Conservation**

*The Terrafix System can harbour a wide range of plant species beneficial to wildlife. The installation of the Terrafix System enables the stream bed to remain connected to its natural substrate creating opportunities for the development of natural fluvial features thus enhancing the aquatic habitat and scenic qualities.*

### **Recreation and Scenery**

*The natural character and recreation value of a stream corridor is enhanced through the quick establishment of a variety of plants and intergration of natural features.*



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