



Information Sheet 4A - Examples of obstacles to fish or flow and other key structures



Wier / Sluice: A man-made structure used to control water levels above and below. It may also redirect water into a distributary or side channel.



Ford: A small section of road used by vehicles that passes through a shallow section of river. Normally concrete but can also be made of a natural looking bed of stone and gravel.



Debris dam: A man-made or natural woody clusters / structure that may be causing the river to back-up behind them. They usually allow some flow through at normal water levels but may cause higher flows to back-up.



Fallen or submerged trees: A tree trunk that is either spanning or in the channel. Can cause backing-up behind but is generally still allowing flow to pass. These features can be living or dead trees.



Culvert: A man-made structure that acts as a large pipe to allow the river to pass through. They can be rectangular or round in shape and are used mostly in small ditches to allow vehicle or pedestrian access across a watercourse. Usually covered by earth / grass or concrete.



Information Sheet 4B - Examples of various water levels



Flood (out of bank): Water has breached the riverbank on one or both sides of the river channel.



High (still in channel): High surging flow but the river has not breached any banks.



Normal: This is your perception of expected average flow within the watercourse – not high nor low flow.



Low: Water level is below what you would expect to see in the watercourse. Levels are moving towards dry but water is present – margins are dry and exposed.

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