

Drainage Control

Controlling Storm Water Pollution Fact Sheet 5

Your Building Site

The Whitsunday Regional Council has developed this erosion and sediment control fact sheet to assist in its goal to protect, enhance and promote its natural assets. Soil erosion, sediment and litter from building sites can be major sources of stormwater pollution and can cause significant harm to our sensitive marine environments like the Great Barrier Reef.

Diversion of Up-Slope Water

Where practicable, or where stormwater run-off from more than 0.5 ha feeds into the work site, divert up-slope water around the soil disturbance. Stormwater can be diverted with the use of small catch drains or perimeter banks (refer Fact Sheet 3). Line all high flow velocity drains with turf or a geotextile fabric to avoid unnecessary soil erosion (refer Figure 5.1).

Diverted stormwater should be discharged onto stable areas and should not be diverted into neighbouring properties, unless written permission is obtained from the landowner(s). Avoid directing stormwater towards the site's entry/exit point (refer Figure 5.2).

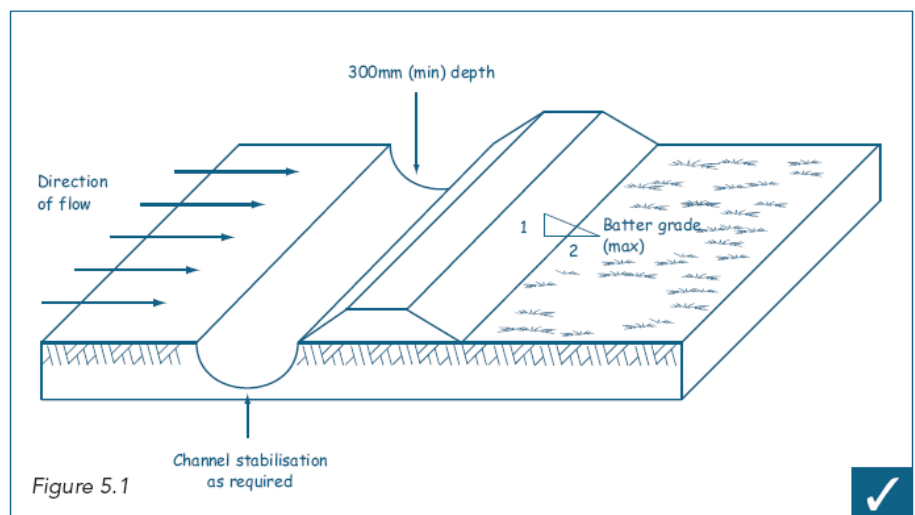


Figure 5.1
Divert stormwater around disturbed area

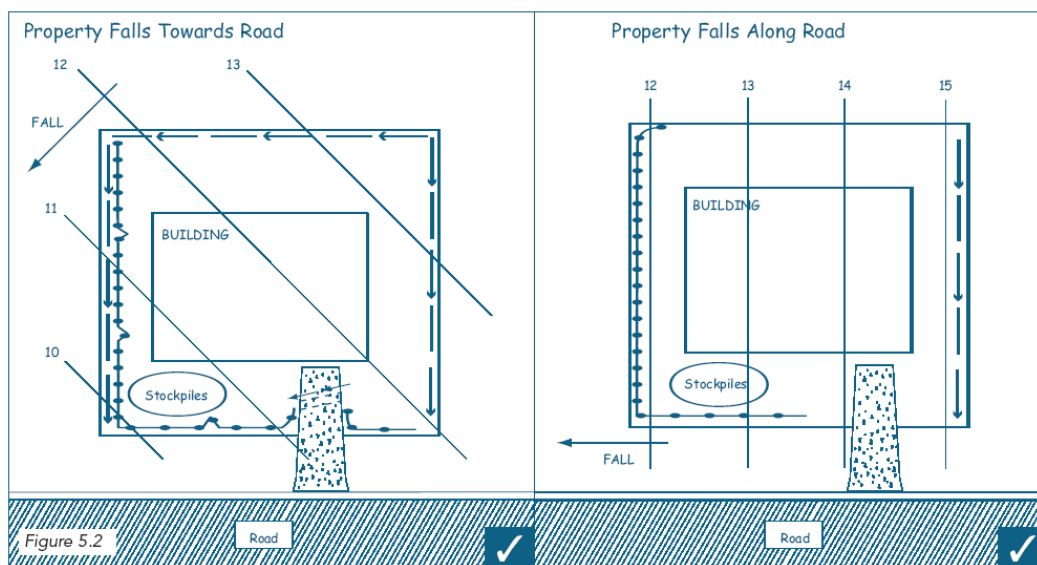


Figure 5.2
Examples of how to divert stormwater run-off around the disturbed areas

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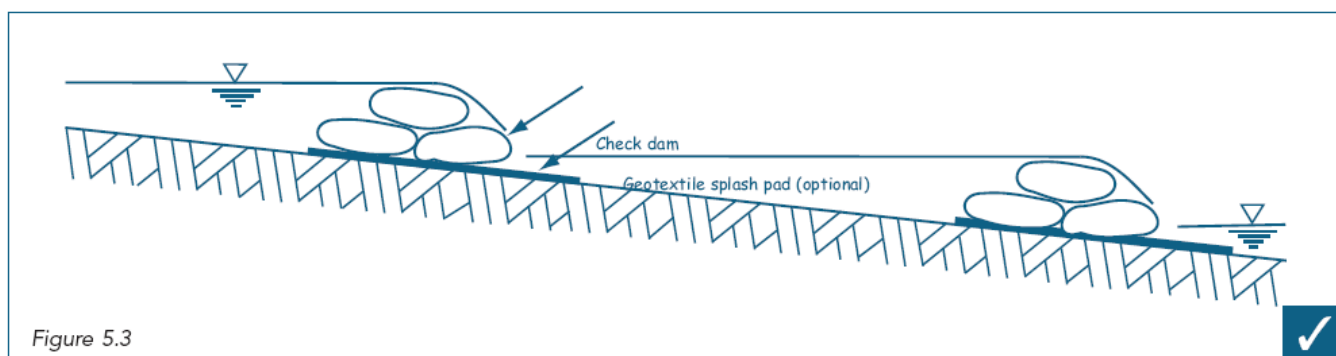
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Check Dams

Soil erosion in unlined diversion drains can be controlled with the use of check dams constructed from sand or gravel filled bags.

Space the check dams so the crest of the down-slope dam is level with the base of the up-slope dam (refer Figure 5.3).



Check dams

Roof Water Connection

The early connection of roof water to the stormwater system will reduce site wetness and the generation of onsite mud. Temporary or permanent downpipes should be installed prior to frame inspection and as soon as practicable after the roof is laid.

This practice has been shown to reduce downtime following storm events and decrease the average building construction time. Furthermore, it protects the slab and house foundation from the pooling of water which may result in movement of the slab/foundation.

Further Details

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These fact sheets are based on those produced by the South East Queensland Healthy Waterways Partnership.



Temporary roof water connection