

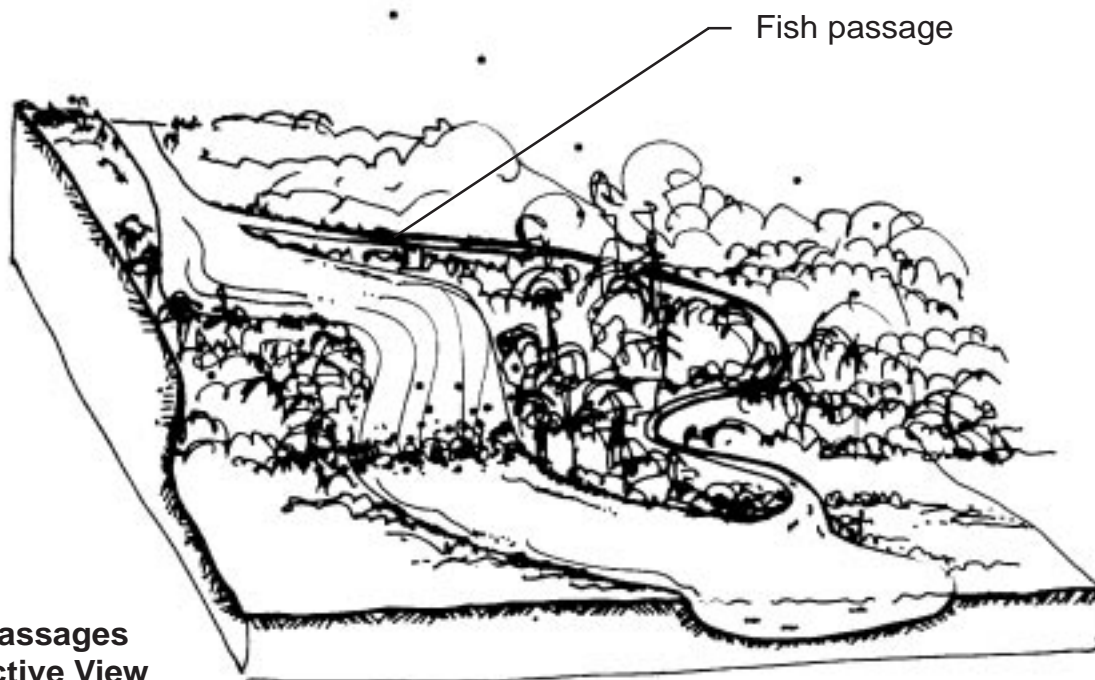
**PRIMARY USE:** Provide fish passage where none existed before.  
**ADDITIONAL USES:** Improve habitat for aquatic plants and animals.

## FISH PASSAGES

**What is it?** This is a technique in which changes are made to the stream channel to eliminate natural or man-made barriers which obstruct the migration of certain species of fish to upstream areas to spawn.

### Purpose

Fish passages provide certain species of fish access to upstream areas for spawning, habitat utilization, and an improved fishery value.



**Fish Passages  
Perspective View**

### Limitations

Care must be taken so that other aquatic species are not affected negatively and that other stream corridor functions are not impaired. Other corridor functions which obstructions may provide are aesthetic, barrier to undesirable species, scouring and sorting of materials, backwater management, organic material input, refuge for assorted species, water temperature control, oxygenation of water, and cultural resources.

### Materials

Natural materials on site.

### Installation

Minimize disturbance to the stream and adjoining areas by scheduling the work when it will interrupt aquatic plants and animals the least. Any proposed alternative for rerouting a portion of a stream should include a geomorphic evaluation by trained personnel. Divert flow around the work wherever possible. Make only enough alteration to facilitate fish passage.

**Source:** Stream Corridor Restoration Handbook, USDA