

# DORMANT POST PLANTINGS

Dormant post plantings and the willow post method are very similar methods of bank stabilization, in which medium-sized trees are placed in the slope next to the stream. The dormant posts are placed in rows adjacent to the stream and form a permeable barrier.

## Advantages and Disadvantages

- Vegetation is established on the streambank.
- Dormant post planting slows the stream, especially in high water flows, and catches sediment.
- Dormant post planting is best used on small, non-gravel streams.
- Dormant post planting can be damaged by ice flows.
- Some heavy equipment is required to install the stabilization.
- The moisture of the slope is reduced by the roots of the trees.

## Materials

- Native species of trees that root well and are locally available.
- Posts seven to nine feet long and three to five inches in diameter.



Figure 17. Willow posts on a streambank

## **Preparation**

- Taper the bottom of the posts to insert the posts easily.
- Install the posts by using water jetting, mechanized stingers, or a machine ram.

## **Installation**

- Begin installing the posts at or above the normal waterline pointing upwards with one-half to two-thirds of the length of the post driven into the ground.
- The bottom twelve inches of the post should be in saturated soil to insure adequate moisture for growth.
- The posts should be placed in rows in either a square or triangular pattern.
- It is recommended that soil bioengineering techniques be used above the posts.