



Pinned Woody Material

This technique can be utilised where woody material is lacking in-channel but there are no bankside trees to act as an anchor point. Instead, the material is securely held in place with stakes. These are driven into the bed and/or bank to secure the wood, with the butt end u/s, replicating how the woody material would usually come to rest naturally.

Use of this technique is usually more suitable for lowland rivers or lower energy areas, like sheltered inside bends, where it can be incredibly effective at driving bed scour or increasing sediment deposition to reshape a uniform channel, depending upon how exactly it is used.

This is generally a deadwood technique, with the material not usually expected to grow, it is more to kickstart river processes. However, depending upon the channel conditions, a living structure can be created by using a live willow limb or trunk. Similarly, where live willow is used for the posts, they will usually form a new tree that can be used for future habitat enhancement, often by simply hinging it down into the channel.



Above, live willow posts used to secure a branch into a recently restored channel to assist the retention of coarse sediment during high flows. The following two pictures show, a piece of live willow pinned into the channel (still healthy and growing) and large ash tree pinned into a stream, both providing much-needed cover and refuge for fish, along with flow deflection that will aid in scouring and sorting of the substrate, diversifying the otherwise uniform bed profile.



