

Mini-Exclosures

Small fenced areas are installed in strategic places and designed to allow woody streamside vegetation to grow and protect overhanging banks from elk and livestock grazing and trampling. Desirable woody vegetation includes willows, cottonwoods, and alders.



Comanche Creek Mini-Exclosure Construction Specifications:

1. **Placement:**

Placement of all exclosures should be verified by a person who is trained in river geo-morphology

2. **Supervision:**

All work crews should be under the supervision of personnel who have been briefed on, and have a clear understanding of, the construction specifications.

3. **Materials Specifications:**

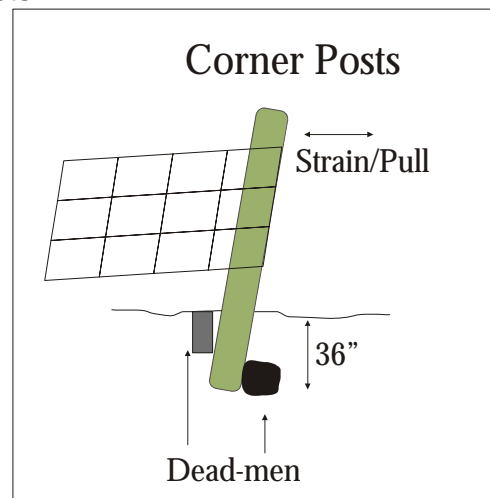
- A. Smooth two strand barb-less wire for guy wires and water gap suspension wire.
- B. Mesh wire "hog wire" should be 4 feet (48 inches in height, minimum)
- C. Steel "T" posts should be 7 feet (84 inches) in length. Seven foot posts are easier, safer, and less expensive to install. If addition height is needed at a later date another "T" post can be wired to the current one.
- D. Use existing treated wood post for corner posts.

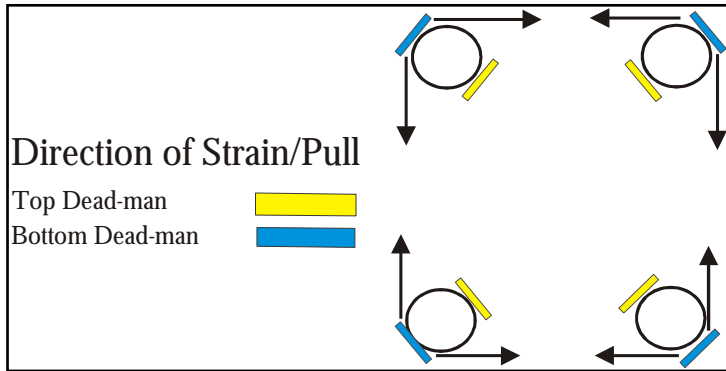
4. **General Construction Specifications:**

- A. **Holes** for wood post installation should be to a minimum of 3 feet (36 inches)

B. **Setting of Corner Post or Any Post with Side Strain:**

Post should be set with a 15 degree rake away from the direction of strain/pull. A "dead-man" shall be placed at the base of the post, in the bottom of the hole, big rocks are good to use at this location. Another "dead-man", a 24 inch piece of treated wood post, should be placed at 12 to 18 inches below the ground line.



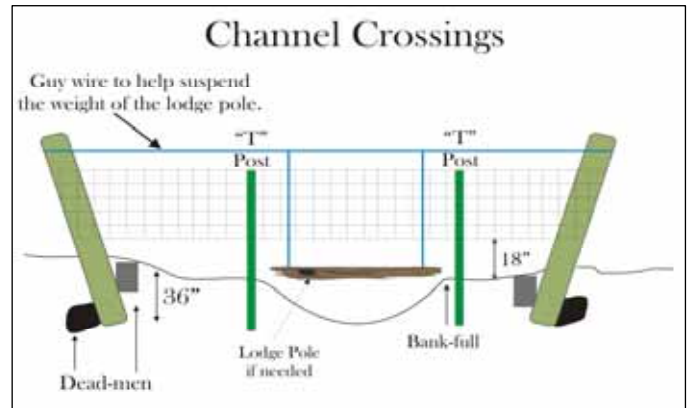


C. Installation of Mesh Wire Fencing:

All mesh wire shall be installed at a minimum of 18 inches above bank-full with coarse mesh on the bottom. This will reduce the force on the fencing when small debris catches in it.

D. Channel Crossings:

Channel crossing areas should be left as open as possible. "T" post should be installed at the bank-full mark on each side of the creek at the channel crossings to help stabilize the fence at this location. If it is determined that the channel crossing is high enough to permit an adult elk or bovine to enter the enclosure then a swinging horizontal lodge pole shall be installed at no lower than bank-full.



E. In-line Post should be 7 ft "T" posts as much as possible to simplify the work.



September 2005.
 Work Weekend
 Volunteers build a mini-exclosure along an eroding bank close to FS Road 1950 to protect and encourage growth of existing willows.
 A rock plug was installed in July 2005 to move the creek away from the road.