



spongeworks

## Guess the sponge measure!

Which has the power to...?

INTERCEPT



SLOW



STORE



## Benefits

**Improves**

water quality, water retention,  
soil moisture, biodiversity

**Reduces**

soil erosion



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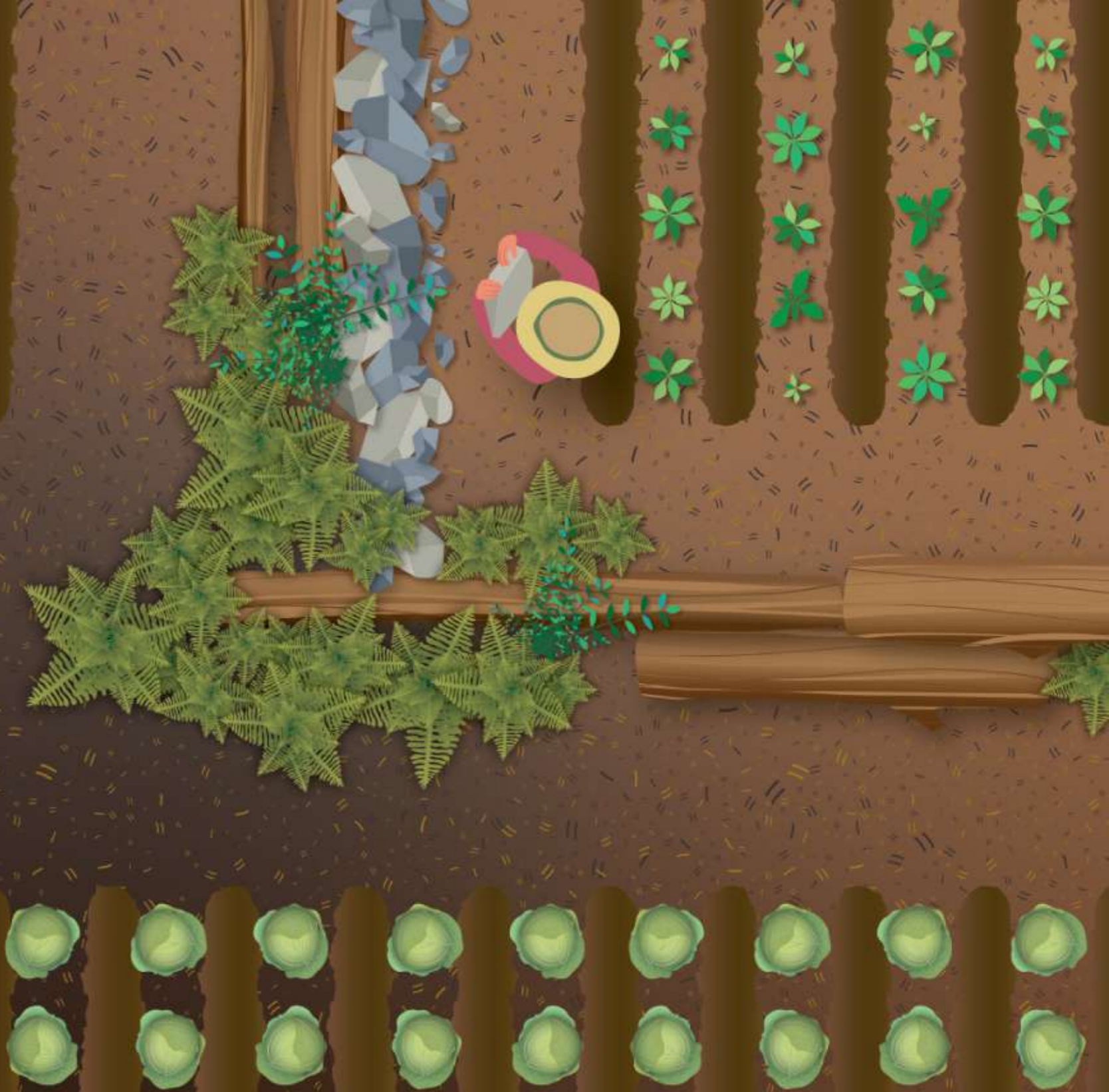


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# Buffer Strips and Hedges

Barriers made from plants  
or natural materials.

Placed between crop edges  
to improve soil quality, enhance  
water retention, and protect  
against erosion.





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STORE



## Benefits

### Improves

groundwater recharge, ecosystem functions, biodiversity, water retention, climate resilience

### Reduces

erosion, sediment transfer



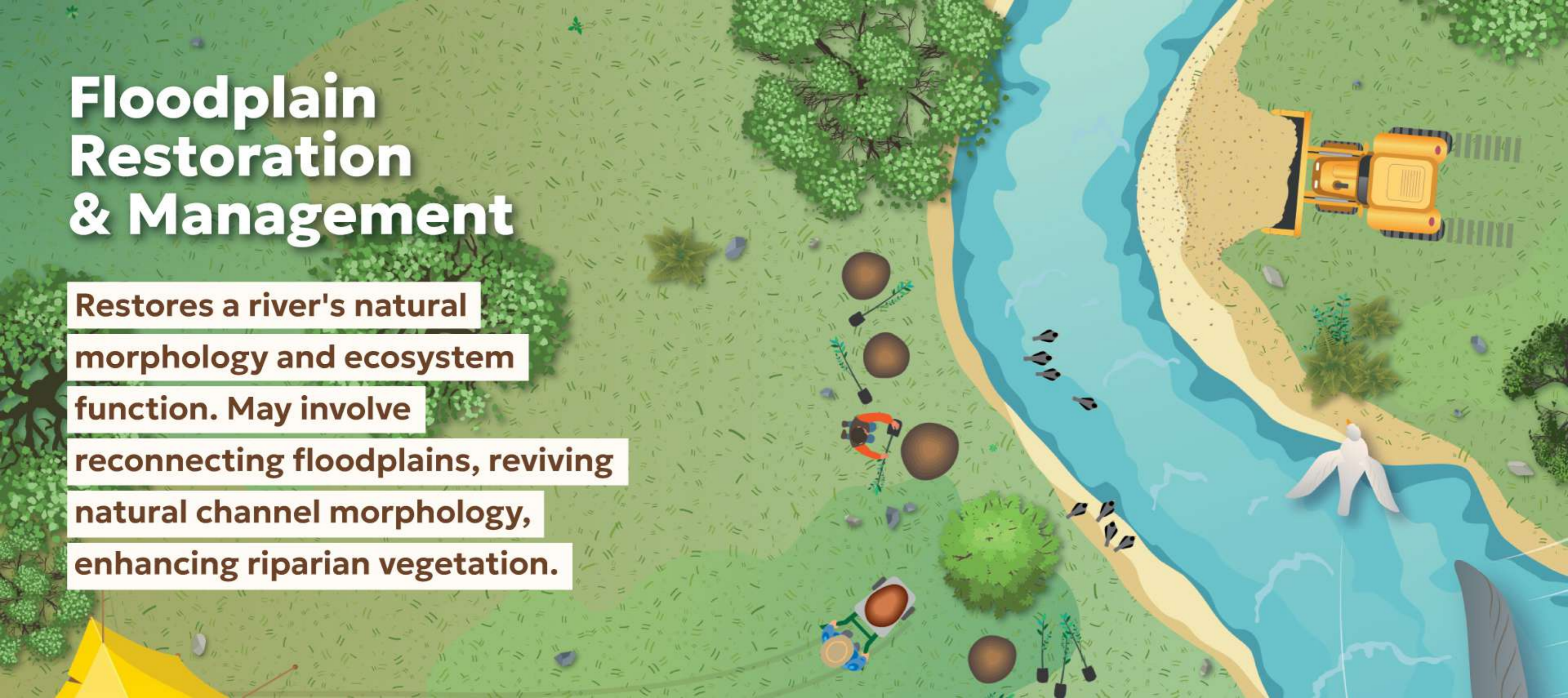
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# Floodplain Restoration & Management

Restores a river's natural morphology and ecosystem function. May involve reconnecting floodplains, reviving natural channel morphology, enhancing riparian vegetation.





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## Benefits

### Improves

water retention, fodder, habitat  
for grazing animals, carbon storage,  
biodiversity, natural soil structures

### Reduces

erosion



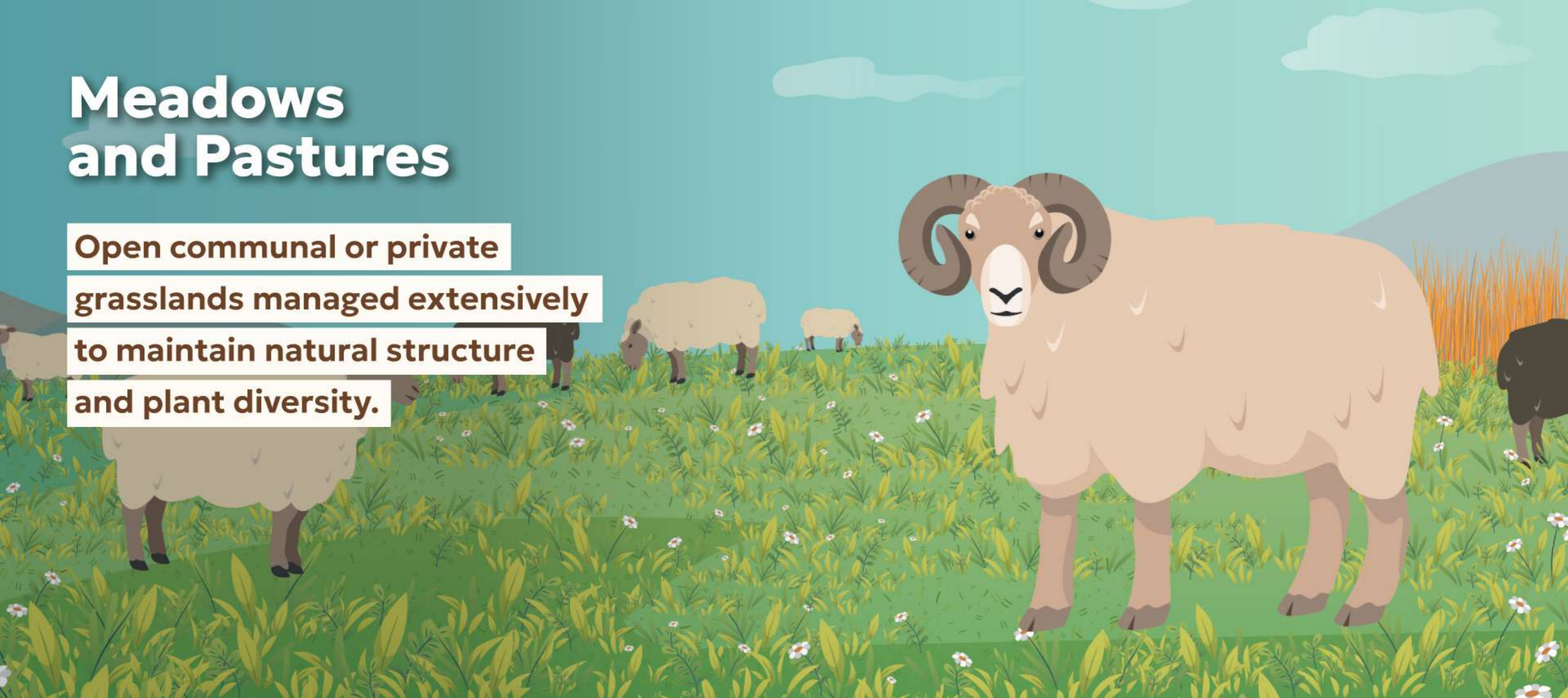
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# Meadows and Pastures

Open communal or private grasslands managed extensively to maintain natural structure and plant diversity.





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INTERCEPT



SLOW



STORE



## Benefits

### Improves

water retention, groundwater recharge, water flow, erosion control, water quality, biodiversity

### Reduces

sediment transport



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# Measures in small tributaries

Decentralised application  
of measures like weirs,  
vegetated buffers and culverts  
in small streams and tributaries  
for cumulative effect.





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STORE



## Benefits

### Improves

moisture, resilience to weather conditions, soil fertility, soil structure

### Reduces

need for irrigation, need for chemicals, soil erosion, agrochemical runoff



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# Mulching

An illustration showing a garden bed with several green leafy plants. The soil surface is covered with a layer of brown straw mulch. A hand is shown holding a bundle of straw, ready to be placed on the ground. The background is a dark brown, cracked soil texture.

The soil surface is covered with a protective layer of organic materials, such as straw, leaves, wood chips, or compost.



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INTERCEPT



SLOW



STORE



## Benefits

**Improves**

water retention, soil stability,  
biodiversity

**Reduces**

soil erosion



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# Riparian Forest Buffers



Vegetation zones between rivers and farmland serving as natural filters, preventing pollutants from entering water bodies.



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STORE



## Benefits

### Improves

soil structure, soil fertility, water retention, soil health, drought resistance

### Reduces

soil erosion, compaction, fuel costs, labor costs



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# Strip Tillage



**A low-till method which keeps part of the surface covered with crop residues, reducing erosion and increasing water retention.**



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INTERCEPT



SLOW



STORE



## Benefits

**Improves**

water retention, soil stabilisation

**Reduces**

erosion, runoff



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# Terracing

Involves creating flat or gently sloping cropping surfaces on hilly terrain, designed to prevent soil erosion and enhance water retention.





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INTERCEPT



SLOW



STORE



## Benefits

### Improves

water retention, groundwater recharge, flood mitigation, biodiversity, climate resilience, urban living

### Reduces

runoff, heat island effects



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# Urban Sponge Measures

Nature-based measures  
like disconnecting paved areas  
from traditional drainage systems,  
like installing permeable surfaces,  
and harvesting rainwater.





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INTERCEPT



SLOW



STORE



## Benefits

### Improves

water retention, flood & drought mitigation, carbon storage, water quality, biodiversity

### Reduces

downstream flooding, greenhouse gas emissions



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# Wetland Restoration & Management

Rehydrating degraded areas,  
through technical measures like  
rewetting by digging ditches  
or cutting back embankments  
to restore water flows,  
and vegetation clearing.

