

# Help Beavers Fix it

## Low-tech process-based restoration

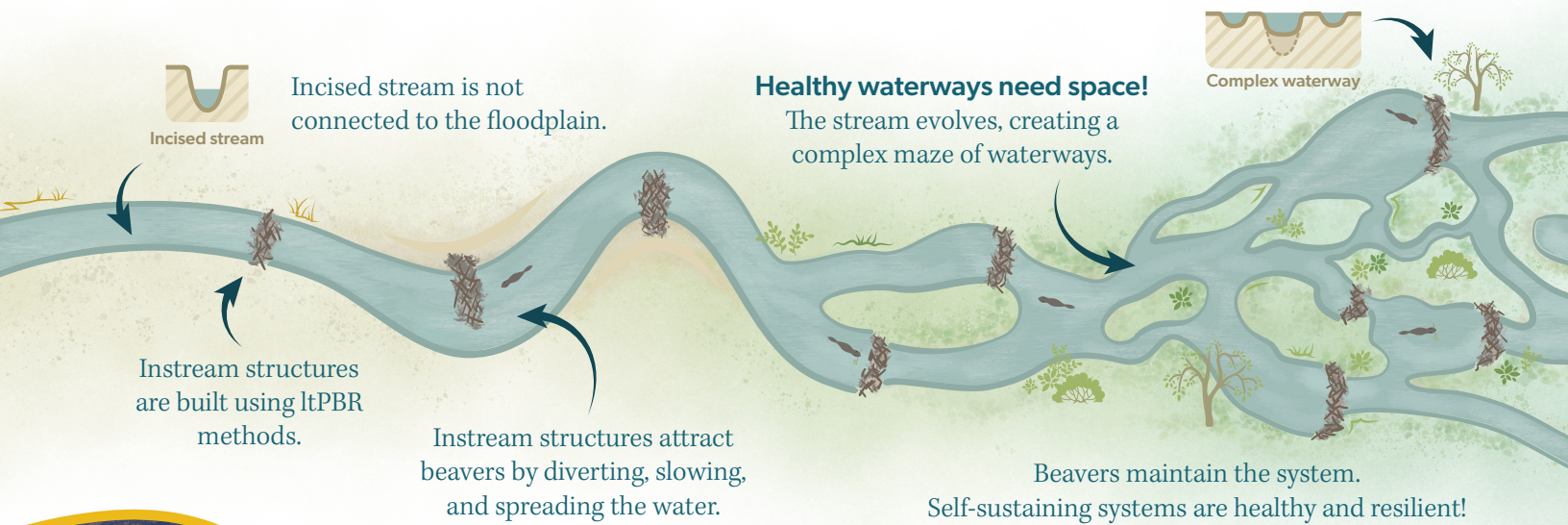
Beavers have been influencing waterways for so long that healthy ecosystems have become reliant on their presence. Human activities such as removing instream wood, artificial straightening, and livestock grazing near creeks and rivers all contribute to waterways losing their natural complexity and becoming incised (deeply eroded with steep banks). Since it is difficult for beavers to build in incised streams, they rarely stay.

Low-tech process-based restoration (ltPBR) aims to help beavers re-establish in degraded streams. Most forms of ltPBR involve placing configurations of natural woody material into streams. These structures serve as a starting point for beavers to build upon, kickstarting the natural restoration of the habitat. Once the beavers take over, we can walk away and let the system do the work.



### Beavers need to eat!

- Beavers eat riparian vegetation which can die off when streams become incised. For information on how to fix degraded foraging habitat, refer to the **Planting to Attract Beavers** infosheet.



## Will ltPBR work for you?

Low-tech process-based restoration is a great tool for repairing incised stream habitats but is **not** suitable for all locations. A good site must:

- Have room for change → consider nearby human infrastructure that could be affected
- Be in natural beaver habitat → consider the site slope and ecology
- Have an adequate food source → consider planting riparian vegetation
- Be accessible to beavers → consider whether beavers will be able to find the site

For more information and references visit: [projectbeaver.org](http://projectbeaver.org)

