

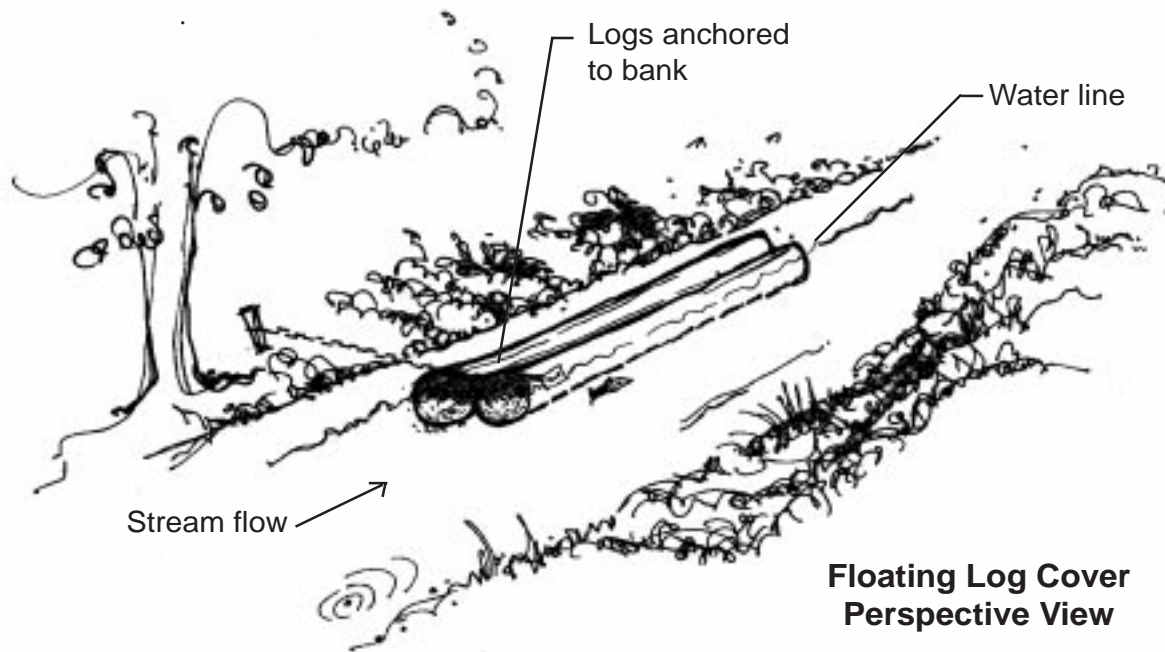
**PRIMARY USE:** Improve the habitat for aquatic plants and animals.  
**ADDITIONAL USES:**

## FLOATING LOG COVER

**What is it?** This is a technique which uses logs either floating and anchored to streambank or secured in mid-channel to add protective cover.

### Purpose

Floating log covers are the simplest and least expensive way to provide cover. They are natural looking, are suitable in any size stream, and have less impact on channel capacity and flow characteristics than other structures.



### Limitations

Logs may become partly or completely covered with sediment. Water needs to be a minimum of 6-8 in (152-203 mm) deep. In sandy or other unstable substrate, there may be no feasible means of anchoring them other than into the streambank.

### Materials

Irregularly shaped logs at least 16 in (406 mm) in diameter, with protruding limb stubs are most suitable. Galvanized steel cable is used to anchor the floating logs to a post in the bank.

### Installation

Ideal locations are open pools, runs or flats. In these locations, logs are placed parallel, or at a slight angle, to the flow. Logs installed along stream banks are usually placed at a slight angle to flow. The best bank locations are in stream meanders or in conjunction with deflectors.

**Source:** [Stream Habitat Improvement Handbook](#), USFS.