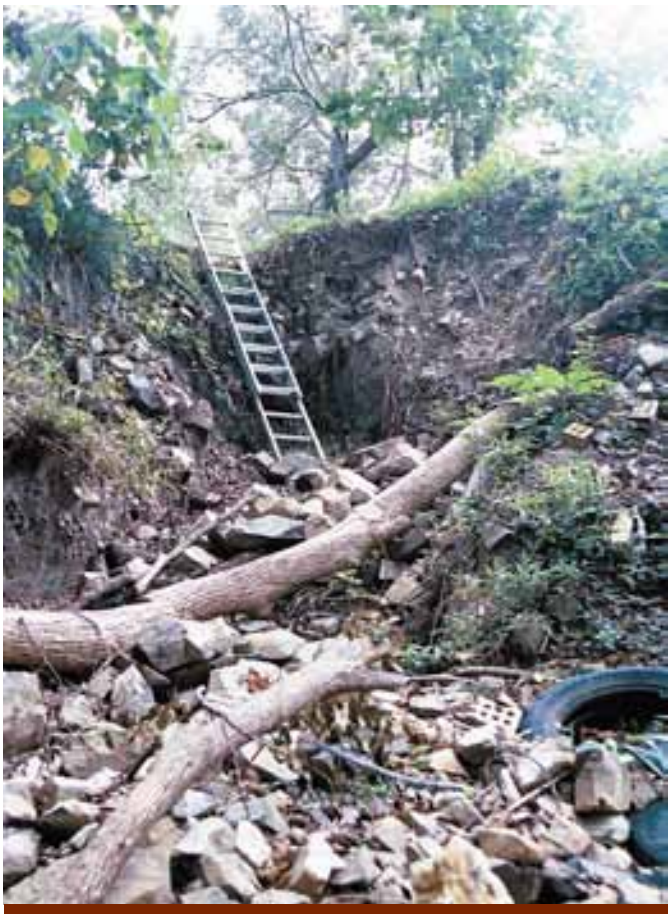
CUDGEN

Gully stabilisation

Landholder	Frank Paice
Map reference	1
Land use	Cabinet timber
Soil Erosion Solutions Grant	$10,000 (earthworks, concrete)
Landholder's in-kind contribution	$10,321 (labour, rocks, plants)

The site

On the low side of a sweeping bend, concentrated run-off from a bitumen road contributed to severe gully erosion running into remnant rainforest. The gully was damaging the forest and cutting into a residential site close to sheds and driveways.



Cudgen property before works

The project

- A waterfall structure made from large boulders was constructed to protect the gully head.
- An upstream channel was constructed to reduce seepage, slow the water and direct the water over the new structure.
- Trees and grasses were planted to stabilise other parts of the gully.

The benefits

- The remnant rainforest area is now protected from scouring and slipping.
- Water quality flowing into a downstream wetland has improved.
- A nearby residential area is no longer threatened with erosion.
- The stabilised gully will offer better habitat value for wildlife in and around the stream.

Finished top of the waterfall

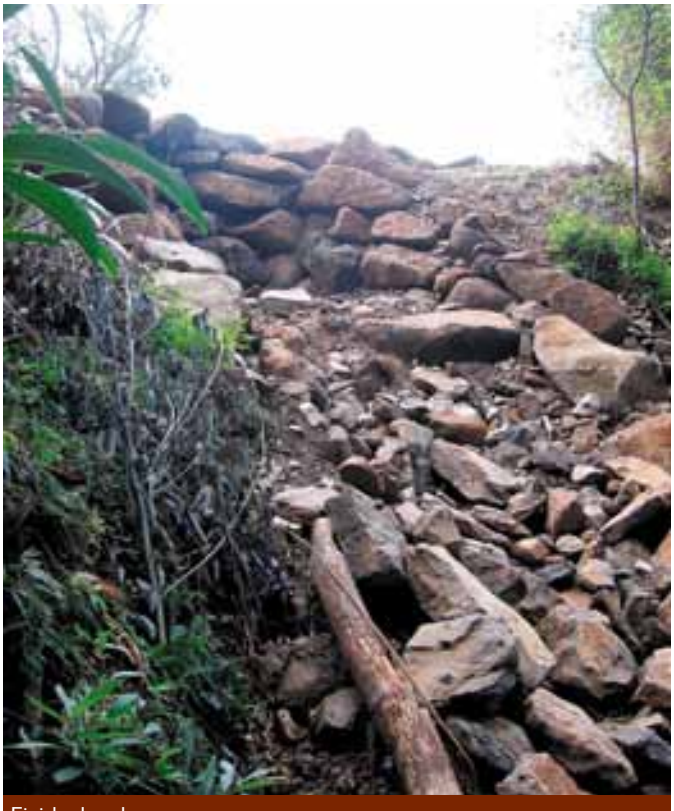
Landholder's experience

What was the best thing about this project?

"The system for controlling the water running off the road works perfectly. The wide flat channel serves to slow the water before flowing over the waterfall structure; the water is then controlled downstream with the use of Australian native trees, grasses and Vetiver grass."

What was the most difficult aspect of the project?

"Once I had the contractors, who were building the structure, understand that water does NOT run uphill, the project went fairly smoothly. I had to be on the spot pretty much 100% of the time to ensure the satisfactory completion of the work."



Finished works