



Healthy streams start at home

When soil gets into our streams it has negative effective on water quality. Whakatū Nelson has a lot of very fine clay soils, which don't settle on the bed of the stream like coarser soils like sand do, and instead clouds in the water as a fine sediment. This sediment hangs around and can cause damage to fish, as well as making it harder for them to see their food.

When this sediment travels downstream to the coast it creates silt in estuaries and smothers shellfish beds. Nutrients and other contaminants carried with the soil can also be damaging in large amounts, and can mean that our rivers, streams and beaches are closed for swimming.

How does this apply to me?

Small works on properties and DIY matter!

You might think that your small DIY project isn't contributing much to this problem but combined with all the other projects going on in the region there can be a lot of soil getting into our waterways.

To help prevent soil entering our waterways, Nelson City Council has rules about earthworks, so whether you are moving a lot of dirt or a little, get in touch with Council to make sure you are planning and

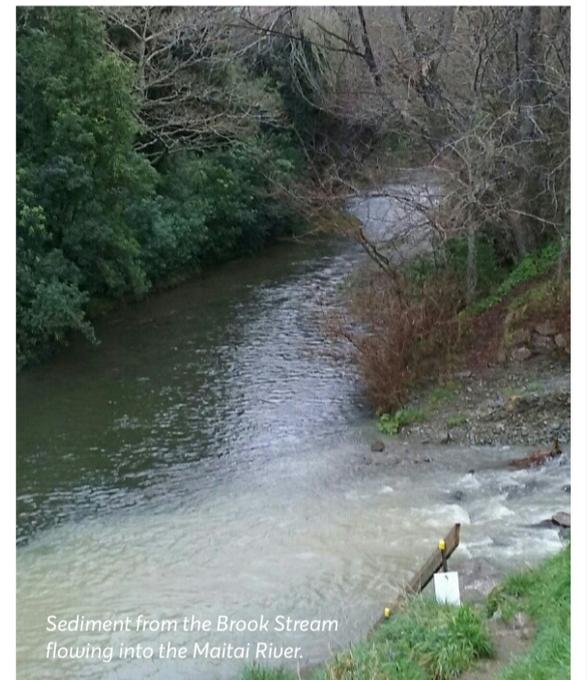
executing your earthworks correctly, and not dirtying our streams by emailing Council's duty planner at enquiry@ncc.govt.nz or phoning 03 546 0200.

Are you a contractor or developer?

Nelson City Council is working with land developers and the building industry to upskill people with the latest information on how to control sediment and prevent it entering waterways, either directly into a stream or via the stormwater network.

If you are an earthworks contractor interested in learning more, get in touch with us at healthy.streams@ncc.govt.nz for more info.

We have detailed information for building sites, rural land owners and developers on our website nelson.govt.nz/environment/healthy-streams/erosion-and-sediment-control



Sediment from the Brook Stream flowing into the Maitai River.



If you see a dirty or polluted stream, or a dirt spill on a road, call us on the pollution hotline **0800 NO POLLUTE** immediately to report it.

Quick reporting ensures that Council is able to act to prevent and mitigate pollution incidents.

Stormwater drains are particularly vulnerable to pollution, as they lead directly into our rivers and streams. Any substance such as sediment, paint, diesel, or chemical that is washed into the stormwater drain has the potential to cause a freshwater pollution problem in our rivers, streams and harbour.

