

High Efficiency Sediment Basin



Wet Tropics
Major
Integrated
Project

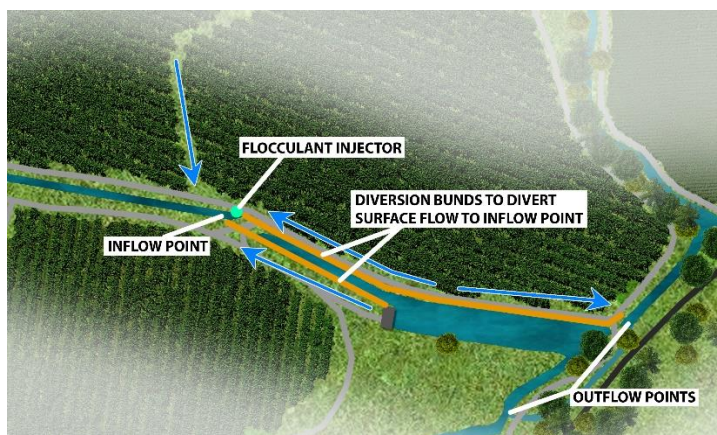
High Efficiency Sediment (HES) Basins use different design features to make a traditional sediment trap more efficient. Sediment traps with favourable design characteristics could become HES basins by implementing one or more design features that improve their efficiency.

Examples of design features that may be used independently or in combination:

Flocculant injector – Measures rainfall and runoff inflow to dose the water with a flocculant such as aluminium-sulphate. The flocculant then binds to the sediment particles, making them heavy and causing them to sink faster.

Diversion banks – Direct all the water flowing into the sediment trap to a designated inflow point. This means all water flowing into the sediment basin is retained for the longest possible time. Keeping these banks vegetated also prevents unwanted erosion.

Shape – The ideal shape of a sediment trap is long and narrow. This shape increases the retention time of the water in the sediment basin, giving the sediment in the water the longest possible time to settle.



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