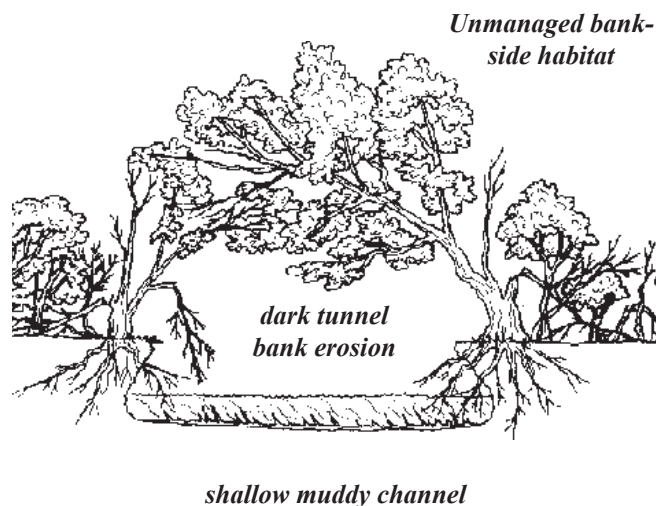


River Bank Management *Overshading*

Traditionally bankside trees were cut every few years (coppiced) for firewood, fencing and roofing materials.

This practice has lapsed on many farms and the river channel has become a dark tunnel beneath the tangled tree branches.

This shading reduces grass and shrub growth on the banks which are then exposed to the eroding forces of the river.



In these situations the channel can become wide, shallow and full of silt from the eroding banks.

Fish and wildlife habitat can be improved by reinstating the coppicing of the bankside trees.