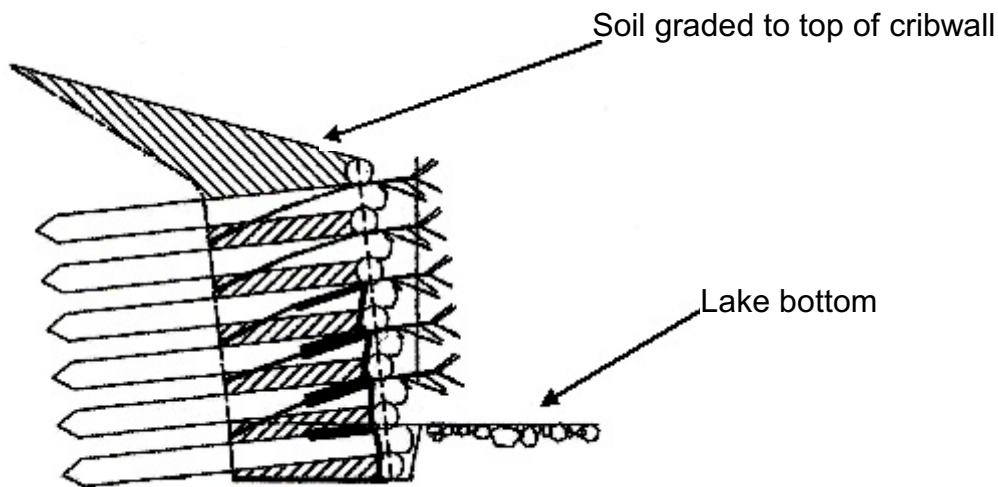


## Figure 1. Erosion Control using Live Cribwall

This soil bioengineered structure is an interlocking arrangement of black locust timbers alternated with layers of five to six live woody shrub cuttings. This technique is useful for stabilizing steep slopes or when replacing a traditional sea wall.

Black locust timbers were chosen for their resistance to rot. They interlock in log cabin fashion and may be stepped back to create a more natural looking slope. The timbers alternate with layers of topsoil, snugly wrapped in coconut blankets, and then live woody shrub cuttings that have been harvested in the dormant stage.

These shrubs create a huge root mass as they grow into the bank. By the time the black locust timbers rot away, these roots will have stabilized this 36-foot section of steep bank against erosion. It is already providing shade and habitat for fish, birds, turtles and other shoreline animals.



Cross-sectional view of live cribwall with layers of black locust timbers and live woody shrub cuttings

Image source: NRCS technical drawings

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