



Australian  
National  
University

# Designer Storm Water Drains

Kate Harriden

Fenner School of Environment & Society

[k.harriden@anu.edu.au](mailto:k.harriden@anu.edu.au)



# We know the problem





- ## Some encouraging signs
- ‘daylighting’ and renaturalization
- uncommon due to socio-political resistance
- aspects of WSUD becoming more common, esp off-line
- rain gardens, wetlands

# But not across scale

large scale, off-line interventions



large scale in-channel interventions





## Nature-based solutions

“Nature-based solutions are inspired and supported by nature and use, or mimic, natural processes to contribute to the improved management of water. An NBS can involve conserving or rehabilitating natural ecosystems and/or the enhancement or creation of natural processes in modified or artificial ecosystems. They can be applied at micro-(e.g. a dry toilet) or macro-(e.g. landscape) scales.” (WWAP/UNESCO 201



# Chain of islands

Leaky weirs found in both in the water management practices of Indigenous Australia and Thailand's Local Wisdom.

Designed to treat standard channel flow.

Allow biological, chemical and physical processes to occur.

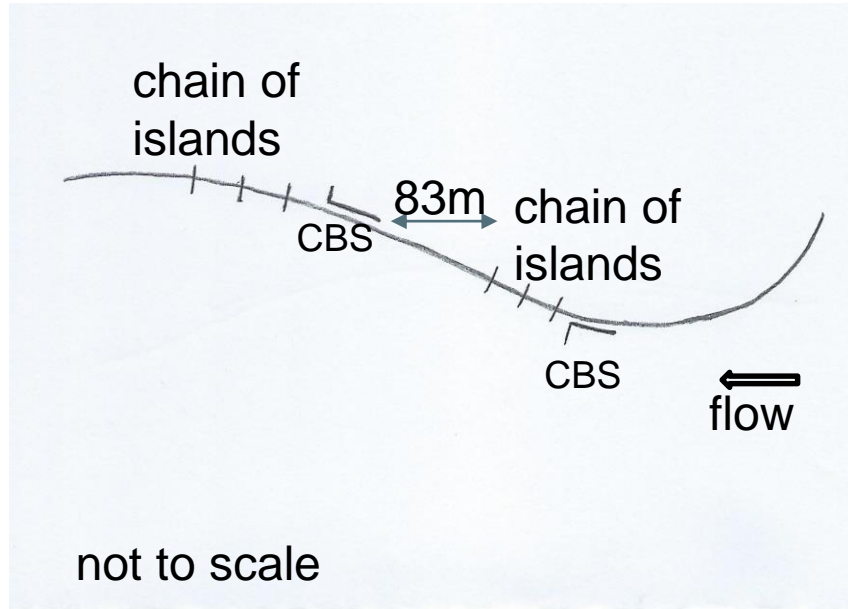
Essentially a series of micro-rivers.

# Channel bank storage

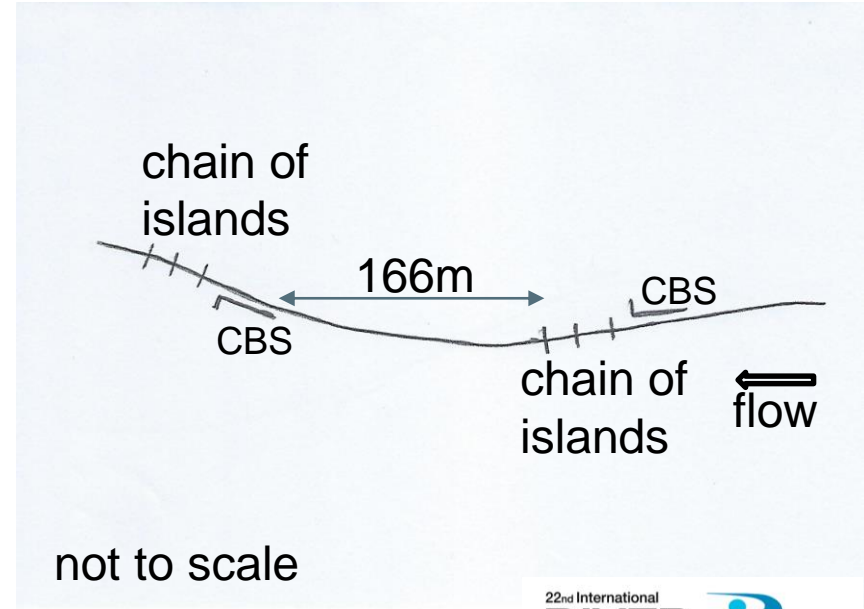


# Treatment trains

Reach 1



Reach 2





# Designer drains

IS + NBS + small-scale focus + plan regionally, design locally = designer drains

=> No one storm water channel modified using the same intervention mix as another