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The effect of woody plants on dikes and levees: Design and construction of a model dike

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The flood events in the last years (1997, 2002, and 2006) have once more drawn attention to the stability of dikes and levees. At the Institute of Soil Bioengineering and Landscape Construction, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna, impounding and flooding tests will be carried out on a model dike built to a natural scale. The authors take a critical look on the effects of woody plants on river dikes and go into details regarding the problems of stability and maintenance. The presentation describes the design and construction of the model dike.