

Pond Construction & Management

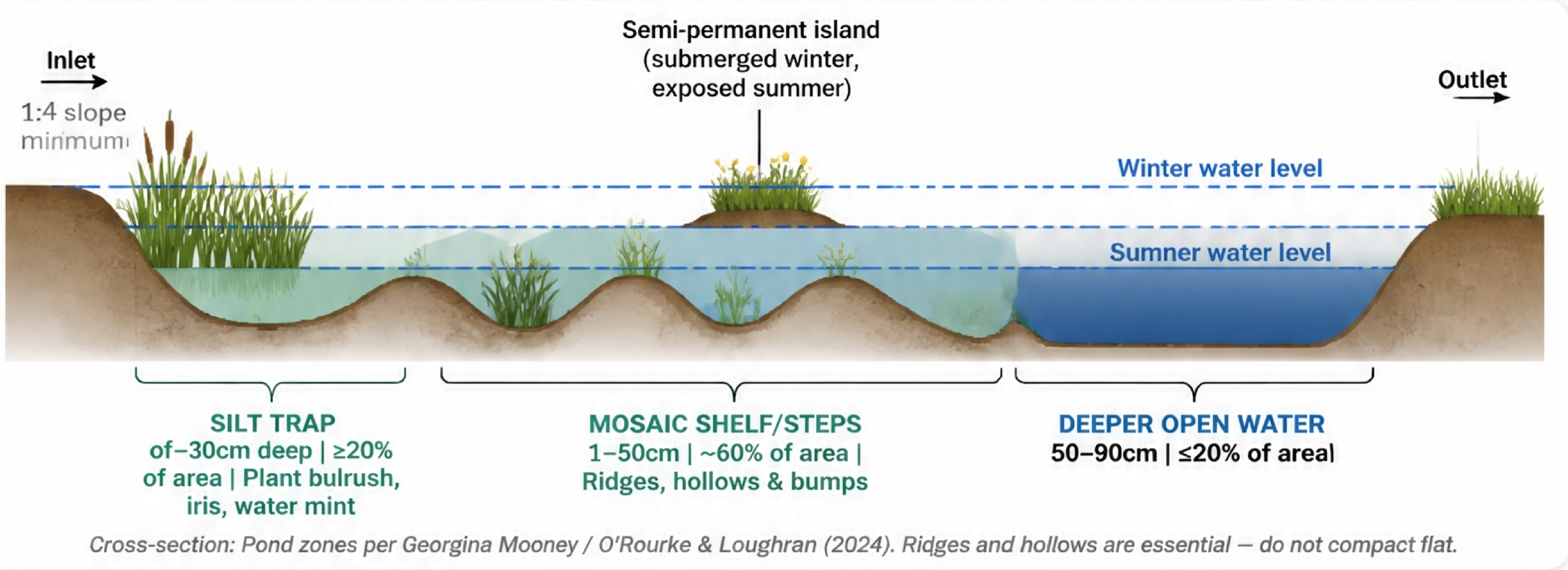
Guidelines for Farm-Scale Water Quality Enhancement

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COMMON MISTAKE TO AVOID

Do NOT compact the basin flat with the digger. A flat, compacted surface prevents plant establishment and reduces water quality benefits. Leave ridges, hollows and bumps throughout this basin.



POND ZONE SUMMARY

Zone	Depth	Area	Location
Silt Trap	20–30 cm	≥20%	At inlet – MUST be planted
Mosaic Shelf / Steps	1–50 cm	~60%	Throughout – ridges & bumps
Deeper Open Water	50–90 cm	≤20%	Throughout – limited

CONSTRUCTION RULES

- Silt trap at inlet – min 20% of total pond area
 - Inlet bank slope – 1:4 gradient minimum
 - Ridges & hollows along edges and base – essential
 - Semi-permanent islands encouraged
- Natural wavy boundary – not circular
 - Max inlet-to-outlet distance
 - Shallow areas (under 20cm) maximised
 - Pond over 1m deep requires planning permission

PLANTING

SILT TRAP – Must Plant (in blocks)



- Bulrush (*Typha latifolia*)
- Yellow Flag Iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)
- Water Mint (*Mentha aquatica*)

NO Common Reed – it out-competes all other species

REST OF POND

Allow natural colonisation if near existing waterbody

Do not remove Horsetails (*Equisetum* spp.) – they aid nutrient removal

All plants must be locally sourced and native

Avoid invasive species – may be illegal to plant



MANAGEMENT



VEGETATION

Remove when ≥70% covered.
Max 30% in one year.
Leave overnight on bank.
Best time: mid-autumn.



TREES & SHRUBS

Manage if ≥70% shading.
3–5 year cycle.
Leave dappled shade.
Keep kingfisher perch branches.



DREDGING

3–5 year cycle.
Dredge 1/3 at a time only.
Block outflow with straw bale.
Use sediment as fertiliser off-site.



TIMING

Mid-summer preferred – firm ground, low water.
Avoid disturbing frogspawn (spring) and hibernating frogs (autumn/winter).