

# Management guidelines for dune use

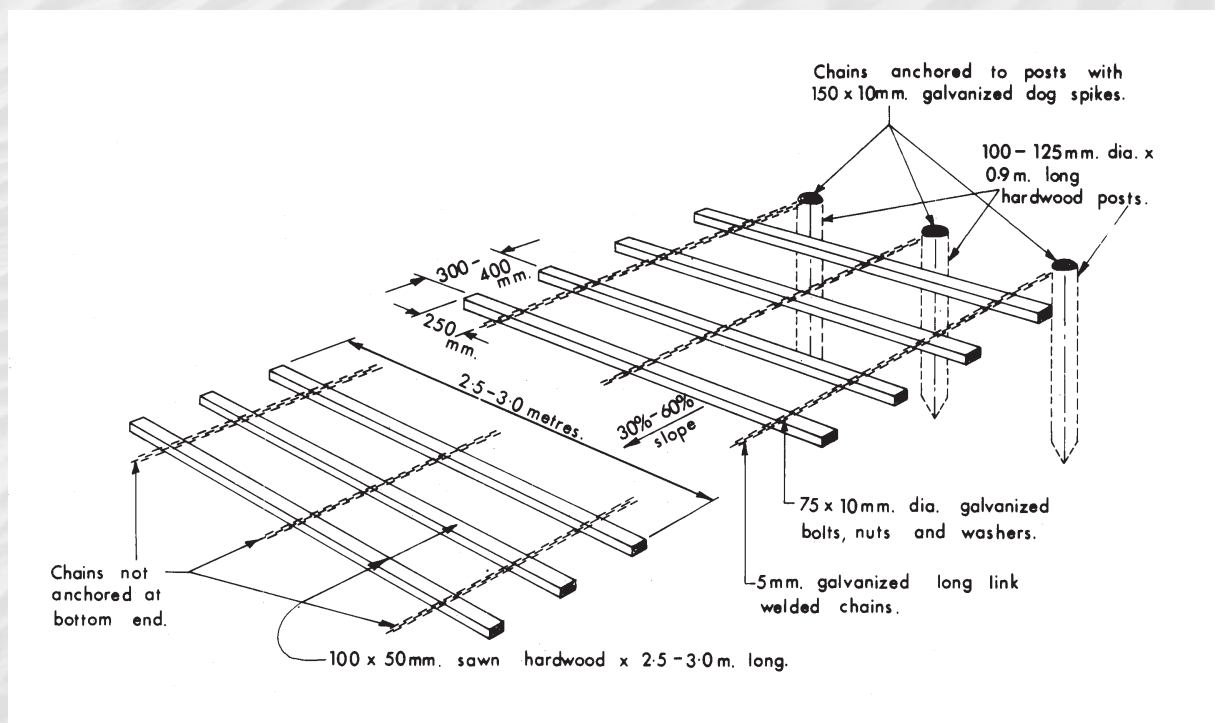
## Vehicle access to beaches

### Introduction

Provision of vehicle access tracks over the dunes to the beach is desirable where large numbers of vehicles use the beaches. Strategic placement of access tracks can reduce damage to dune vegetation by vehicles, especially on foredunes. Destruction of vegetation makes the dunes unstable, increases wind erosion and causes the coastline to recede.

Access tracks to the beach may have to be surfaced to prevent wind erosion and lowering of the dunes. This can be done with gravel, bitumen or board and chain roadways.

Beach access tracks are discussed in general in leaflet no.V-02.3. This leaflet deals with construction and use of board and chain roadways on beach access tracks.



Board and chain roadway across sand dunes.



## Board and chain roadways

Board and chain roadways are used on steep sections of the dunes (slopes greater than 30%). They are often placed on the crest and seaward face of the frontal dune. The board and chain roadway should be between 2.5 and 3 metres wide.

Roadways are constructed from 100mm x 50mm sawn hardwood about 2500-3000mm long. The hardwood boards are fixed at 300-400mm spacing along three long-link galvanised welded 6mm chains. The two outside chains are attached to the boards about 250mm from the end of each board. The outside chains and middle chain are bolted to each board with 75mm x 10mm galvanised bolts.

Each chain is attached to the top of treated hardwood posts. These posts are buried upright in

the sand on the dune crest. The posts are 100-125mm diameter and about 900mm long. Galvanised dog spikes 150mm x 10mm are driven through a link of each chain into the end of the buried post. The bottom end of the board and chain roadway on the seaward slope of the frontal dune is not anchored. This allows the roadway to be lifted if sand builds up on it.

Where there is heavy vehicle traffic, fencing may be needed along each side of the track. This will restrict traffic to the track and thus prevent damage to vegetation on either side. Wing fences at the track entrance from the beach will direct traffic onto the track. Signs advising the location of the access track should be provided at both the seaward and landward ends of the track. Leaflets nos V-02.2, V-02.5 and V-02.6 give information about fencing and advisory signs.



Board and chain roadway in use on a foredune.