

Bodega Bay HU Water Resources Management Project

GOLD RIDGE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (GRRCD)



STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The towns of Bodega and Valley Ford are considered economically disadvantaged communities and both have failing water storage systems. Their water supplies primarily come from shallow, near-channel wells that are documented by DWR as drawing from the water table, with no appropriative rights for this water, thus both town's water security are in jeopardy. Additionally, agricultural and rural residential practices throughout the Bodega Bay HU have resulted in altered stream channels and reduced riparian zones, resulting in a loss of habitat. The removal of riparian vegetation has caused increases in water temperature, fine sediment, as well as reduced instream complexity due to less LWD.

PROJECT GOALS

1. Increased instream flow during critical dry periods
2. Fine sediment delivery reduction to rearing
3. Instream habitat enhancement
4. Riparian vegetation enhancement for shade, habitat diversity, bank stability, and instream wood recruitment

THE SOLUTION

The GRRCD will work throughout the Estero Americano and Salmon Creek Watersheds within the Bodega Bay HU to facilitate planning, project implementation and monitoring efforts to restore and enhance water resources. This program combines a suite of approaches to restore a resilient, sustainable riparian corridor and in-stream habitat for endangered CCC coho and threatened steelhead trout.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This project consists of several components, listed below.

1. Riparian enhancement through native riparian planting to reestablish a wide diverse riparian buffer
2. Instream habitat improvement through installation of large wood structures to provide cover and habitat complexity
3. Streamflow augmentation during critical dry periods through installation of rainwater catchment systems to replace creek withdrawals
4. Sediment reduction through the restoration of five actively eroding gullies
5. Infrastructure upgrades for Bodega and Valley Ford Water Companies to eliminate leaks and increase storage
6. Outreach, education and signage to increase public awareness locally and nationally

COMPLETION DATE

Ongoing

PROJECT BUDGET

<i>IRWM funds:</i>	\$ 700,000
<i>Leveraged funds:</i>	\$ 255,205
TOTAL	\$ 955,205

BENEFITS

Economic

- Approximately \$391,037 from reduced water treatment costs
- Approximately \$207 from increased instream flow for environmental beneficial uses
- Approximately \$202,149 from avoided water supply purchases
- Approximately \$30,000 per year from avoided water-supply operations costs
- Approximately \$2,304 per year from restored riparian habitat and improved biodiversity
- Approximately \$15,486 in avoided costs of carbon dioxide emissions
- Approximately \$6,610 per year from sediment reduction

Watershed Rehabilitation

- Improved fish and wildlife habitat
 - » Increased salmonid populations due to improved spawning and juvenile rearing habitat
- Enhanced human and social capital from the project's educational activities including workshops and field visits, increasing local technical knowledge and thereby improving land management practices in the Salmon Creek watershed

Jobs and Local Economic Benefit

- Over \$950,000 is being spent locally using local labor and supplies when possible, thus contributing to State goals for environmental justice and social equity
- Approximately 6.7 jobs created/maintained through Prop 84 NCIWMP funds

NEXT STEPS & RECOMMENDATIONS

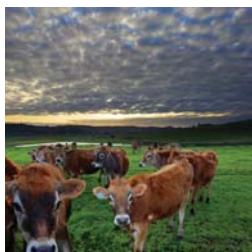
GRRCD continues to implement and seek funding for projects that improve salmonid habitat, water supply reliability, and agricultural sustainability in the Salmon Creek watershed.

CONTACT

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

State Water Resources Control Board
USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service
CA Department of Fish and Wildlife
Landowners



NORTH COAST RESOURCE PARTNERSHIP