

Humbug Valley Yellow Creek Project

DESCRIPTION:

The Humbug Valley Yellow Creek Restoration Project is located on Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) lands. The project began in earnest in 2006 with the request by several Humbug Valley partners for Plumas Corporation to begin a data collection and restoration alternatives process. The Ecological Resources Committee (ERC) and its Humbug Valley Subcommittee, as part of PG&E's Rock Creek- Crestafederal energy re-licensing, considered the suite of alternatives developed by Plumas Corporation staff and made the decision to pursue restoration that would reconnect the channel to its historic floodplain. A pond and plug design was modified significantly to address whirling disease concerns and the project was constructed in 2013. Approximately 30,000 cubic yards of material were moved to construct 13 plugs and 104 ditch blocks to prevent capture of overland flows in adjacent irrigation and/or drainage ditches. Revegetation was comprised of native sedge seeding and willow staking accomplished by Plumas Corporation staff, Chester High School students, and the California Conservation Corps.

SPONSORS:

PRIVATE: Pacific Gas & Electric, Sacramento District Wetland Conservation Fund, Point Blue; FEDERAL: U.S. Forest Service Plumas National Forest

PROJECT RESULTS:

Project was successfully implemented in 2013. Extreme drought conditions in 2014 have delayed the project's effectiveness due to lack of precipitation to completely re-hydrate the meadow. Despite the drought, willows staked the spring of 2014 by the California Conservation Corp had a 90% success rate. Monitoring of this project is ongoing.

PROJECT REPORTS (IF AVAILABLE):

Humbug Valley Yellow Creek Restoration Project Final Report

http://www.weebly.com/uploads/4/0/5/5/40554561/humbug_valley_yellow_creek_finalreport.pdf