

SANTA ROSA CREEK PRINCE MEMORIAL GREENWAY: PIERSON REACH RESTORATION PROJECT DESIGN, 2006 TO 2007

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PCI provided design recommendations to the City of Santa Rosa for **restoration of natural fisheries and riparian habitat** in Santa Rosa Creek between Olive and Pierson Streets (Pierson reach). The project objectives included **sustaining**

acceptable flood conveyance capacity.

Santa Rosa Creek was historically straightened and narrowed through the Pierson reach. Pre-project channel conditions maximized the hydraulic conveyance of sediment and storm flows with grouted rocklined bed and banks. The urban environment with its generally inflexible project boundaries and flood conveyance requirements were recognized constraints and presented serious challenges for restoration design.



Pre-project Conditions Pierson Reach, 2006

PCI's approach to the design was to employ hydraulic modeling to optimize the habitat

enhancements. A HEC-RAS hydraulic model was used to reiteratively evaluate the impact of restorative bed and bank features on the 100-year water surface elevation and to evaluate the hydraulic conditions of the bankfull (channel-forming) and fish passage flows created by the design. PCI adjusted the design to achieve a **100-year water surface elevation** that was acceptable to the

Sonoma County Water Agency.
Restoration design concepts
included construction of four pool
and riffle sequences, increased
riparian vegetation, roughness
boulders, and large woody
debris; bank stabilization features
included biotechnical treatments
to enhance aquatic and riparian
habitat. The bases for design
included observed geometries in
nearby reference reaches and



Post-project Conditions, 2009

hydraulic geometry for the bankfull flow.

PCI also compiled **as-built information for existing surface and subsurface conditions**, including walls and wall footings, bridge footings, bike paths, storm drains, and other utilities. These elements were shown in cross section and plan view to optimize restoration design elements. PCI developed a **detailed hydraulic analysis report** and conducted **meetings to negotiate acceptance of project-specific hydraulic criteria** to achieve an approved 100-year floodwater surface elevation.