



PRUNUSKE CHATHAM, INC.

UPPER YORK CREEK ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT – ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, 2003-2008

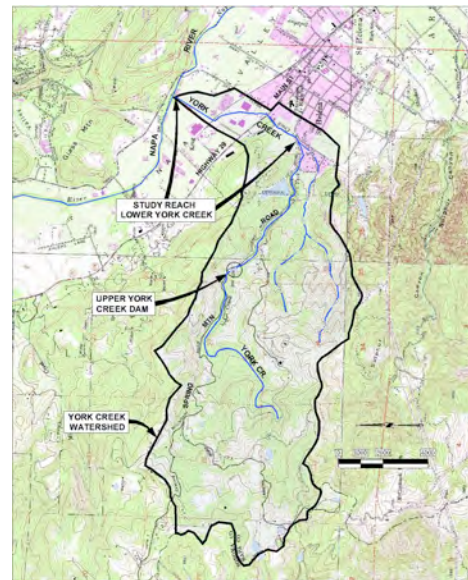
Client: City of St. Helena

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The City of St. Helena (City), in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), is planning to alter or remove the Upper St. Helena Dam on York Creek. Project objectives include improved fish passage and habitat connectivity, reduced future downstream habitat degradation and fish kills, and restoration of the former reservoir area into a natural creek channel and native riparian corridor.

PCI provided a range of services to the City as Lead Agency under CEQA. PCI's responsibilities included:

- Assistance to the Corps during feasibility analysis to develop its Detailed Project Report and **Environmental Assessment** as part of NEPA compliance.
- Preparation of an **Environmental Impact Report** (EIR) to inform decision makers and the general public of potentially significant environmental effects of the project.
- Identification of measures to avoid or minimize significant effects and **analysis of four project alternatives** (no project and three action alternatives).
- **Biological and cultural resources evaluations**, including wetland delineations and focused botanic and biotic surveys.
- **Hydraulic and hydrologic analyses** to estimate the effect of dam removal on flood conveyance through lower York Creek and the City of St. Helena, including assessment of sediment transport and the degree to which sediment may deposit within the lower York Creek channel as a result of dam removal.
- Evaluation of resource areas using **technical studies** and the Initial Study, including aesthetics; air quality; biological and cultural resources; geology; hazardous materials; hydrology and hydraulics; noise; transportation and traffic; water quality.
- Evaluation of the project's potential short- and long-term **impacts on global climate change** (per California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006), which includes beneficial effects from revegetation with a palette of multistory native species.
- Participation in **planning meetings** with the Corps and City of St. Helena.
- Presentation of DEIR findings at 4 **public meetings** to residents and other stakeholders (USFWS, NOAA Fisheries, CDFG, San Francisco Bay RWQCB, Napa County, BAAQMD).
- Preparation of **responses to comments** and the **Administrative Draft** of the Final EIR.



*Project sites in the York Creek watershed
City of St. Helena*