



Marsh Creek Restoration Area at Creekside Park Receives Some Renovations After Winter Storms

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City workers and contractors are performing clean up, the installation of new plants and trees, and general maintenance of the Marsh Creek Restoration area at Creekside Park.

The January and February Winter rain and wind storms damaged and destroyed some trees and vegetation, and left a significant amount of trash and woody debris to be cleaned up.

Some new Oregon Ash, Willow, and Cottonwood trees are be installed along with some Toyon shrubs.

A large scour hole and one smaller one were created from the flooding. Restoration Design Group, consultants for the City, recommended the two scour holes not be filled in as it will make a good habitat feature and provide additional ecological value to the area over time.

The City of Oakley received a grant from the California River Parkways grant program for the widening of the floodplain and restoration of habitat along Marsh Creek adjoining Creekside Park. The project was completed in 2013, and restored approximately 3 acres of riparian habitat and converted about 850 linear feet of trapezoidal flood control channel to a diverse floodplain habitat. The project also included an 8' foot wide pedestrian trail and a pedestrian bridge across Marsh Creek that connects Creekside Park with East Bay Regional Park's Marsh Creek Regional Trail.

The restoration area already looks very natural. Erik Stromberg, Restoration Design Group Inc., said, "The City has made a big improvement of the riparian habitat values along this stretch of Marsh Creek."