

Russian River Steelhead Habitat Improvement – Mill Creek Riparian Planting

Organization: California Conservation Corps

Project Period: January 2021 – March 2022

Amount: \$14,859

Location: Upper Russian River Watershed, Mendocino County

Project Description: The Russian River Steelhead Habitat Improvement – Mill Creek Riparian Planting Project has proposed to create a complex corridor within 670 feet of Mill Creek in the Upper Russian River Watershed to improve stream conditions for juvenile and adult steelhead. This project aims to decrease water temperature by planting streamside vegetation and increasing canopy cover and shade conditions during a critical time of year for juvenile salmonids. Additional streamside vegetation will also serve to improve food availability, and future woody recruitment to the channel. Along the 670 ft section of Mill Creek, 48 native hardwood trees and 185 willows will be planted and irrigated until they are established.



Facing downstream on Mill Creek near downstream end of project. Both banks devoid of riparian vegetation and canopy cover.



Suitable rearing habitat upstream of project reach