

Site Name: Dam with steep pass ladder (Cahill Dam)

Stream Name: Branciforte Creek

Structure Owner: Private landowner(s) (non-corporate)

Year Remediated: 2013

Site Type: Dam

Site Status After Remediation: Remediated, fish response unconfirmed

Species Benefited After Remediation: Multiple Andromous Salmonids

Immediate Downstream barrier PAD ID: 706732

PAD ID: 707031

Tributary To: Carbonera Creek

Barrier Remediation By: Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District

version of the Passage Assessment Database

Barrier Description Prior to Remediation: Partial

Count of Barriers Downstream: 6

Count of Barriers Upstream: 12

Distance Upstream to Next Barrier or Limit of Anadromy: 0.2053 mi

Notes: In October 2013, the 8-foot high, 40-foot wide Cahill Dam in Santa Cruz was removed (see the YouTube video at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-g8Fj-kRXPo). Built in1931 from concrete and rebar, this privately owned dam was intended for water supply, recreation, and fire protection. Its removal allows steelhead and coho salmon to access miles of additional habitat. Before: Partial barrier per professional judgment by CDFW. Listed as a barrier to juvenile and adults. Had a denil fishway that wasn't functioning. 15 feet high denil ladder over 10 feet high dam, needs maintenance to allow passage. 300167 (2013): the Branciforte Dam inhibits access to upstream spawning and rearing habitat during low to medium flows and acts as a partial barrier to migration during high flows. The stream bed directly up and downstream has been altered by the dam's presence through the accumulation of sediment.Removal of the dam will allow complete passage during all flows for juveniles and adult salmonids.