Hi Walt,

Thanks for contacting us. That looks like a good project, I know how bare that section of Bear Creek is and how the high flood flows can really rip through that section of the stream. We are doing a similar project along the Coweeman River outside of Kelso Washington where we are pulling severely incised river banks back to create more capacity and installing wood along the sides to improve fish habitat.

We have only just started thinking about our project design and have not collected any data or developed any plans yet. The closest thing that we will have that will be out in the next few months is a VERY conceptual design that is included in the project prospectus that gets sent out for public review. We really only have the design in there because it is required in the prospectus but truthfully it doesn’t make a lot of in our process to make any design decisions before the agencies weigh in and the data starts getting collected.

Our plan is to do a combination of these things:  in-stream work all along Bear Creek (including wood installation, possible bank pullback/reshaping and planting) reroute Perrigo Creek away from Avondale Road and through the site, re-meander the Ag ditches and connect them to Bear Creek, restore wetland hydrology and create some off-channel habitat areas and potential flood overflow areas.

Our design is probably at least a year to a year and a half out from getting approved but I will certainly send you information as it comes out. We should have the prospectus ready to send out shortly and I will send that to you directly when it is approved by the agencies.

Let me know if you have any other questions about the project too, we are working the WRIA-8 folks WSDOT and Redmond to get local stream data but if you have anything that you think might be useful to us send it our way as well.

Thanks!

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