PROJECT SUMMARY

The goal of this project was to construct a stream and floodplain restoration plan that protects this particular portion of the stream banks while providing additional storage areas, nutrition and habitat to improve the overall quality of the watershed. through the implementation of the following items:

- 358.9 LF Streambank Restoration
- 109,947 SF Riparian Buffer Plantings
- 58,050 CF Floodplain Reconnection Storage
- 5 In-stream Structures

as well as the construction of a small educational center and handicapped accessible fishing pier to be used by community members. The proposed park area will encourage outside recreation and education as it is located directly adjacent to the Rachel Carson Trail.

Floodplain restoration and reconnection was completed by minor grading to gain additional storage area that is stabilized with riparian seed mix to ensure stabilization during all times of the year. The additional flooodplain storage provided will include two culverts that help connect flood plain storage and provide a channel that allow any debris to settle out after flood waters recede. This allows for concentrated separation and easier clean up.

Pine Creek, within the extent of this project, has very little bank vegetation and many areas of erosion. The stabilization of the streambank will limit the erosion of the streambank and lessen the overall sedimentation and TSS that continues to be an issue in the watershed. In addition to overall streambank stabilization, the matting and vegetation provided on the streambank will aid in pollutant removal and provide habitat for animals both in and out of Pine Creek.

Riparian Buffer enhancements will begin with the removal of invasive and undesirable species. It is common for invasive species to cause nitrogen fixation resulting in the leaching of nitrates from the root system and into the ground water and adjacent stream. These riparian plantings will help create a more consistent canopy, lessen the overall thermal impacts to the stream, and provide nutrition and shelter for animals.

The implementation of the above restoration elements should result in the following nutrient removals from the Pine Creek watershed; 31,417 lbs Total Load Removal, 20.7 lbs Nitrogen Removal, and 2.3 lbs Phosophorus Removal. The total nutrient removal addresses the two impairments, nutrients and sedimentation and directly benefit the Pine Creek Watershed. In addition, instream structures were installed in Pine Creek per the PA Fish and Boat "Habitat Improvement for Trout Streams" guidance and other similar regulations to enhance the stream habitat.

Project Cost: $634,606 319 Grant Amount: $421,042

Project Participants: Hampton Township, PVE-LLC, DEP, DCNR Trout Unlimited, Tree Pittsburgh, Richland Sportsmen’s Association

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