

# Las Virgenes Creek Rehabilitation Project – 18 years later

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*Nature Based Design as a  
Scaffolding*

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# Nature Based Design

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- Provides Design Intent and Guidance
- Constraints, Engineering, and Risk Analysis inform Design Details

# Project Description/Goals

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- Restore 400 feet of trapezoidal concrete channel within an urban setting
- Create a stable channel that:
  - increases the wildlife corridor, and
  - Protects existing infrastructure
  - Maintains current level of flood protection
  - Creates a community amenity



# Project Constraints/Issues

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- Constraints included;
  - Channel bottom sewer and water supply lines
  - Limited flood Freeboard
  - High design flows
  - Easily erodible soils
  - Significant channel bed slope - 1.7%
  - Right-of-Way boundary constraints



Agoura Road

Rondell Street/Agoura Road

Country Creek Lane

Ventura Freeway

County Hwy N1/Las Virgenes Road

Camino del Sol

Cielo Circle

Luna Court

Las Virgenes Road

Rondell Road



# Project Design Features

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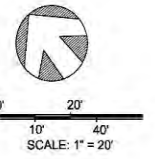
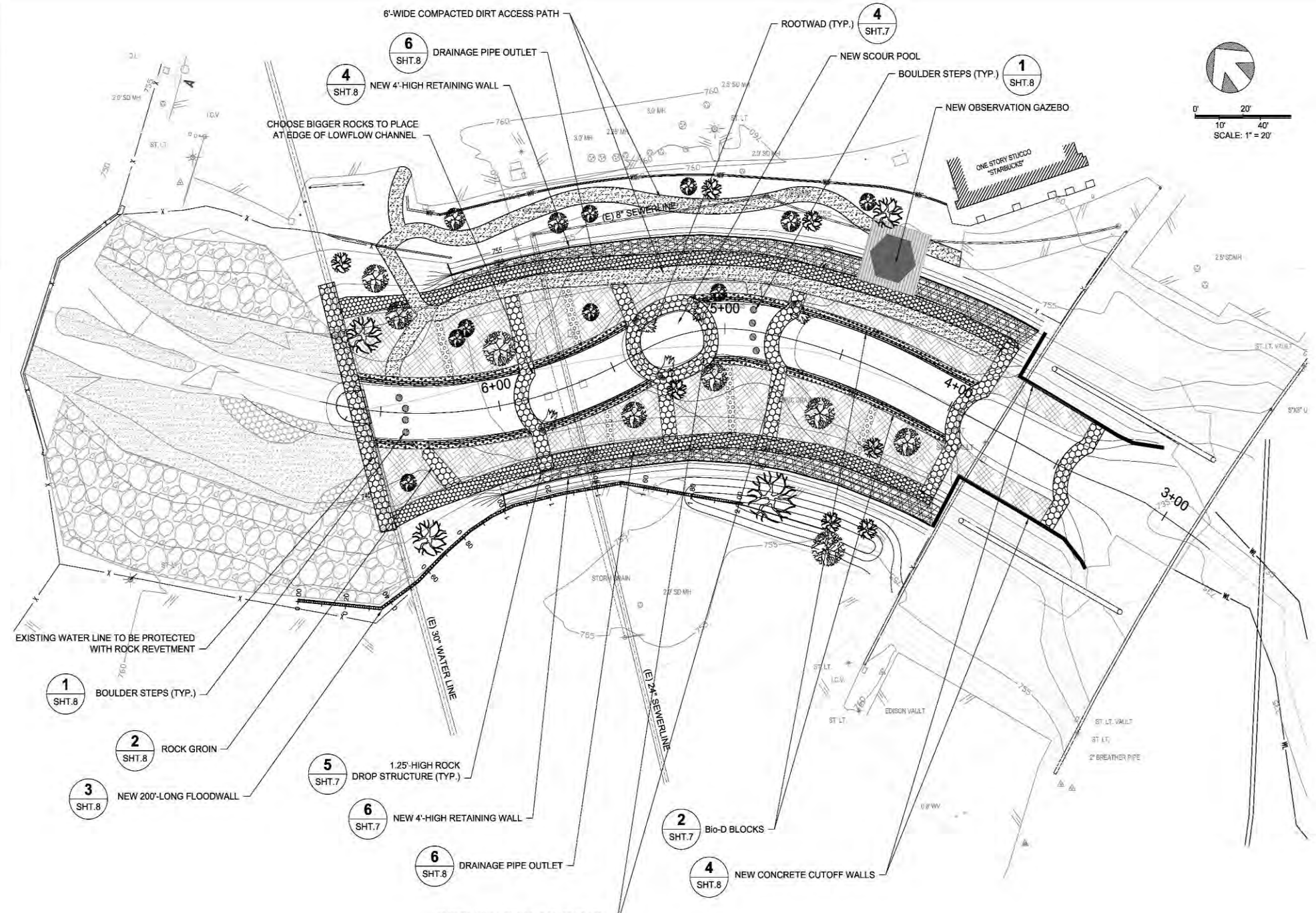
- Utilize compound channel geometry
- Maintain existing right-of-way
- Protect in-place existing utilities
- Use steps or grade breaks to reduce effective channel slope
- Provide long-term lateral and vertical scour protection for bank slope stability

# Analysis completed

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- Hydrology
- Hydraulic modeling
- Fluvial geomorphic
- Shear stress bed and banks

- NO-DEGRADABLE EROSION CONTROL FABRIC
- HIGHLY REINFORCED EROSION CONTROL FABRIC
- COMPACTED DIRT ACCESS PATH
- ROCK WEIR, REVETMENT OR GROIN
- WILLOW PLANTED TRENCH
- BIO-D COIR BLOCK
- RETAINING WALL / CUTOFF WALL
- FLOODWALL
- STEPPING BOULDER
- ROOTWAD



CHOOSE BIGGER BOULDERS TO PLACE

# Flood and Erosion Control Features



- Retaining walls used to increase channel cross sectional area (A)
- Flood walls used to provide capitol flood protection and maintain FEMA freeboard requirements



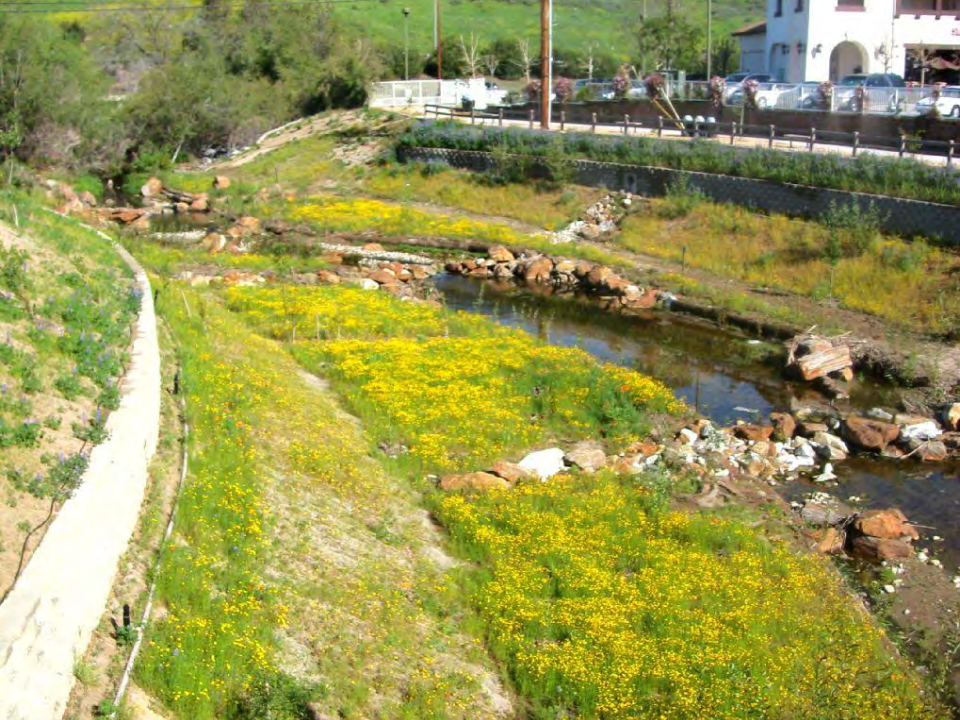
- Channel erosion control
  - Interlocking lateral and vertical rock keyways to provide long term stability

# Low Flow Channel design

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- Step pools incorporating rock cut off walls/steps
- Biotechnical bank treatments along low flow channel, quickly provides canopy cover
- Planted rock toe scour protection
- Addition of woody debris









# Maintenance

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- Maintenance
  - Reverse maintenance effort
- Maintenance and management Requirements
  - Managing vegetation for Mannings N
  - Tree crown development and pruning
  - Replanting
  - Minor erosion repair



# Summary



- Balanced Nature Based design that makes some compromises for:
  - Infrastructure safety
  - Right-of-way constraints
  - Erosion control