



### **Dry Canyon Creek**

The upper extent of the Dry Canyon Creek watershed is located in the Calabasas Highlands area, flowing in a northeasterly direction generally parallel to Mulholland Highway (DCC-22 and 23). In this area, the creek channel supports large willows, and surrounding upland vegetation consists of chaparral and coastal sage scrub. After emerging from the underground culvert and passing south under Mulholland Highway, the creek bends to flow southwest adjacent to Viewpoint School, where the bottom and banks have been stabilized with concrete and rock walls (DCC-19 through 21).

Dry Canyon Creek then passes south of the horse stable southwest of the intersection of Mulholland Highway and Old Topanga Canyon Road where areas of the creek bank have been stabilized with a mixture of rocks and concrete (DCC-18). A wooden bridge also crosses the creek at this location.

Before crossing back under Mulholland Highway to the north, the creek is joined by a tributary that flows north along Old Topanga Road (DCC-16 and 17). The tributary flows adjacent to the road collecting runoff from storm water culverts and street flows and is constricted in several locations by driveway culverts. The surrounding vegetation community along this segment is primarily oak woodland.

North of the Mulholland Highway/Old Topanga Canyon Road intersection, Dry Canyon Creek flows through Headwaters Corner property, then along the west side of Old Topanga Canyon Road before passing into an underground culvert south of Palm Drive (DCC-12 through 15). The creek travels underground for about 0.5 mile before emerging in a residential area near Wrencrest Drive. As the creek continues to the north, the channel is characterized by a gentle slope, natural bottom, and riparian vegetation (DCC-04 through 11). The floodplain in this area is constricted by crib walls that stabilize the adjacent terrace for surrounding residential uses. The crib wall on the western side of the creek ends near the northern boundary of Calabasas and the floodplain expands into a park area containing mature oak trees. A 12-foot-wide cement ramp descends from Park Paloma above to the west into the creek channel.

North of Calabasas, Dry Canyon Creek crosses into Los Angeles City (DCC-01, 02 and 03). The natural channel is then contained in a box culvert that continues under the Ventura Freeway. North of the Ventura Freeway, Dry Canyon Creek joins McCoy Creek to form Calabasas Creek.

The analysis of identified projects on Dry Canyon Creek resulted in nine construction projects listed in Tables 1B and 2B. Table 1B includes seven proposed habitat improvement projects that are entirely contained within Calabasas City Limits. Table 2B includes two habitat improvement projects that are either entirely or partially outside of Calabasas City Limits. The total estimated design and construction cost for implementation of all nine proposed projects on Dry Canyon Creek is slightly under \$800,000.



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**Table 1B**  
**Dry Canyon Creek Habitat Improvement Projects Inside Calabasas City Limits**

Construction Code	Project Codes	Priority	Project Description	Study & Design Cost	Construction & Inspection Cost	Total Design & Construction	Projected O & M Costs	Comments
FH-D04	DCC-08	High	This is an excellent opportunity to achieve multiple benefits in the watershed. Work should be designed and constructed in conjunction with DCC07, 09, and 10. Eradicate Arundo and other invasives. Reserve an access paths for drainage maintenance. Plant banks with riparian forest. Maintain and monitor for 3-5 years.	\$9,910	\$20,109	\$30,019	\$44,000	Arundo removal efforts currently in progress with partial success.
QD-03	DCC-10B, 11, 12, 18, 20	High	Remove barriers to fish movement (Mtn. Restoration Headwaters corner). Stabilize headcut. Redesign culverted crossing. Remove concrete channel segments at Equestrian Center. Fill and restore wetlands.	\$25,500	\$92,500	\$118,000	\$35,000	Similar project cost comparison, concrete channel removal in Mtn. Rst. Trust headwater.
FH-D03	DCC-14	Medium	Remeander creek 200' of stream and recontour inside banks of 200' of stream (major earthwork), weed removal, riparian forest planting, bioengineering	\$30,470	\$115,227	\$145,697	\$41,500	Coordinate planning and design with MRT offices next door.
FH-D02	DCC-13, 15, 16, 17	Medium	At DC13, continue expanding riparian habitat to the west of the drainage (30'x100' area). Plant additional 20'x50' area where the road crosses the drainage upstream. At DC15, expand riparian forest plantings in 50'x50' area surrounding concrete ditch. At DC16, eradicate invasive weed species and enhance native plantings on banks; establish filter strip at top of banks. At DC17, eradicate Vinca and other invasive weeds, remove trash, demolish small building, and enhance riparian forest plantings.	\$14,920	\$37,987	\$52,907	\$62,500	
QD-02	DCC-07, 09, 10A	Low	Create meander and restore wetlands by Park Privado. Stabilize banks and channels (below Park Ora Rd. Xing). Reduce flow velocities and establish pool-riffle morphology w/ vegetated floodplain from Park Ora to Vicasa Drive, near Wrencrest Dr. culvert. Remove barriers to fish movement (Wrencrest Culvert). Stabilize headcut near Palm Drive.	\$18,000	\$57,200	\$75,200	\$13,000	On private property, opposite concr. crib wall, construct 09-10A as 1 project, in gated community, construct 10B-12 as 1 project.
QD-04	DCC-21, 22	Low	Monitor channel for further incision (channel segment between Headwtr's Corner and Viewpoint School). Remove Concrete Bottom (Viewpoint School)	\$15,000	\$85,000	\$100,000	\$10,000	Survey every 2 yrs, after major 25+ storm, removing concrete bottom at school may be infeasible because of limited space and risk.
QD-05	DCC-23	Low	Stabilize Headcut (steep cyn below Calabasas Highlands and Mtn Park Dr.). Revegetate exposed soil - roadside area below Calabasas Highlands.	\$500	\$8,000	\$8,500	\$2,000	Sleep wooded canyon with poor access. Revegetation costs @ \$45k/acre.
<b>SUBTOTAL TABLE 1B =</b>						<b>\$530,323</b>	<b>\$208,000</b>	



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**Table 2B**  
**Dry Canyon Creek Habitat Improvement Projects Outside Calabasas City Limits**

Construction Code	Project Codes	Priority	Project Description	Study & Design Cost	Construction & Inspection Cost	Total Design & Construction	Projected O & M Costs	Comments	
QD-01	DCC-01, 02	Low	Stabilize headcut below end of concrete channel Stabilize banks near LDS church and private homes upstream of Mulholland Drive (150 l.f.). Pull back banks and restore wetland at meander bend nearest Valmar Road.	\$18,750	\$58,250	\$77,000	\$8,000	Construct 01& 02 together.	
FH-D01	DCC-03, 04, 05, 06	High	At DC03, protect large oaks, eradicate Arundo, install rock/willow bank toe protection, create land management buffer, plant, recontour banks at S end. At DC04, exotic weed removal, strategic planting to encourage sinuosity, rock dams for erosion, bioengineering in channel. At DC05, continue exotic weed removal, plant riparian forest. At DC06, establish step-pool morphology, plant banks and floodplain with riparian forest. Maintain and monitor all sites for 3-5 years.	\$38,375	\$133,107	\$171,482	\$106,796		
SUBTOTAL TABLE 2B =							\$114,796		
TOTAL TABLES 1A+1B =							\$778,804	\$322,796	