

# Udall Natural Area Riparian Restoration Concept

Fort Collins, Colorado



*A natural area in the center of Fort Collins will become a more appealing, functional, urban open space in which ecological systems will be regenerated along the Poudre River.*

After removing invasive Siberian elm trees on their 26-acre natural area, the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Program asked Biohabitats to develop a restoration concept to widen the riparian zone along the adjacent Cache La Poudre River and revegetate the area with native plants.

The site had been subjected to filling and armoring along the stream with rock and construction rubble, leaving steep, unsightly banks with a narrow riparian bench. In addition, a stormwater outfall fills in part of the riparian floodplain.

Biohabitats' restoration concept widens the bench by grading back the steep

banks, removing rubble, relocating the outfall further from the stream, and planting appropriate native plants in restored lower scrub/shrub, riparian woodland, and upland areas. The concept included measured elevations and color renderings of plan and cross section views. To ensure the concept reflected the concerns and vision of the Natural Areas Program, Biohabitats led a plan-in-hand site visit and an on-site meeting with city floodplain staff to discuss potential floodplain permitting and modeling requirements.

## SERVICES

Inventory & Assessments  
Design

conservation planning  
ecological restoration  
regenerative design



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