Westside Creeks Ecosystem Restoration











Environmental Advisory Committee
June 10, 2022

Project Boundaries

4 Creeks San Pedro Apache Alazán Martinez

* Zarzamora was not part of initial federal flood control investment so will not be part of this ecosystem restoration project



History

1960 - 70's

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) channelized the creeks into trapezoidal shapes for flood control

July 2011

Westside Creeks chosen for USACE National Pilot Study (feasibility study).

January 2014

USACE report was completed, and Westside Creeks was approved for design and construction of an ecosystem restoration.



Current Creek Conditions







Martinez Creek Apache Creek Alazán Creek



Project Purpose

STUDY PURPOSE

To restore structure and function to the aquatic ecosystem within the Westside Creeks portion of the San Antonio Channel Improvement Project while maintaining the existing level of flood risk management provided by the previously constructed project. Additionally, provide ancillary recreational opportunities which integrate with the ecosystem and provide opportunity for human interaction and enjoyment of the aquatic environment without degrading the restoration.

Ecosystem Restoration Objective

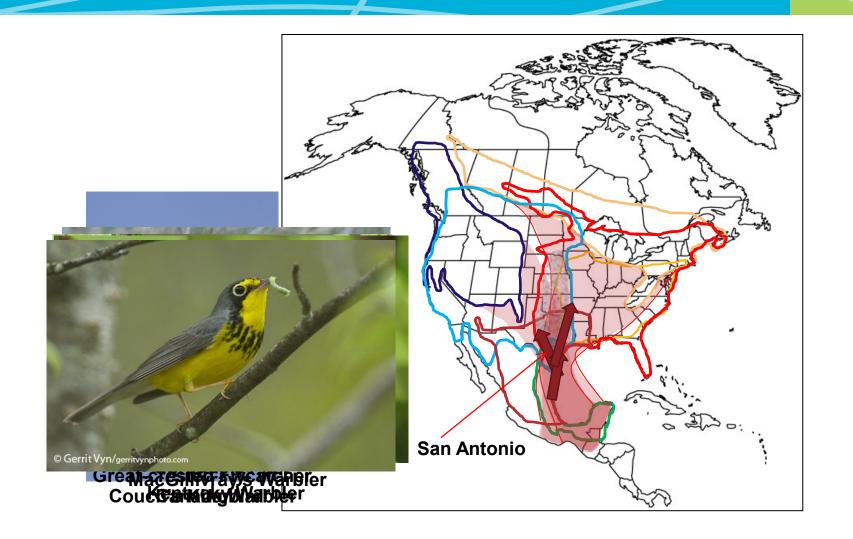
 Restore, to the extent practicable, a sustainable, dynamic riverine ecosystem providing habitat for aquatic and riparian dependent migratory and native resident bird species in the Westside Creeks study area over the next 75 years.

Recreation Objective

 Maximize, to the extent practicable, recreation benefits along the Westside Creeks compatible in scope and scale of the project's ecosystem restoration objective and consistent with national, regional, and local recreation goals.



Federal Interest – Resource of National Significance





Federal Funding

- Summer of 2021 Administration's FY 22 Budget
 - \$2.34 million include in Administration's Budget for the design of the remaining section of San Pedro Creek
 - Biden Administration emphasis on the Environmental and Equity Justice
- January 2022 US Army Corp of Engineers announced \$75 million to "initiate complete and fiscally closeout the construction project, including all future monitoring and adaptive management"
 - Total Project Cost Estimate (Fed and Local) ~\$115M
 - 65% federal 35% local



Next Steps

- City & County Developing synergistic WSC area project ideas
- Negotiate Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) with USACE –
 Ongoing, target completion <u>mid summer</u>
- After PPA has been signed, design is anticipated to take 18-24 months
- Robust community outreach as a part of the design planned for this Fall
- ESD are gearing up to conduct baseline vegetation and aviation studies



QUESTIONS?

