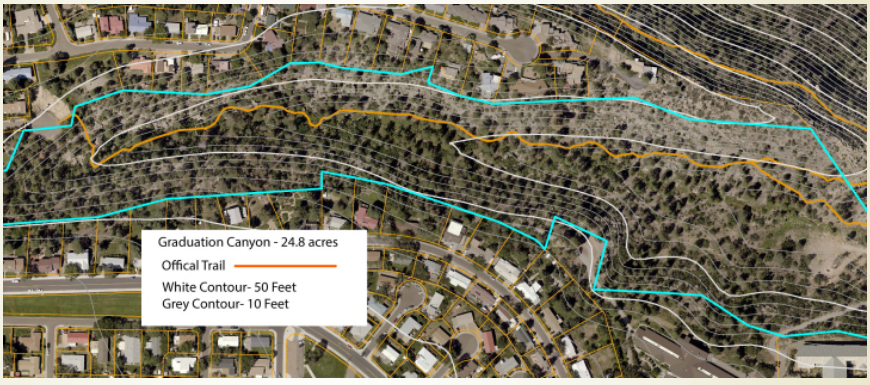
Pilot Restoration Project: Graduation Canyon

Graduation Canyon



Materials & Time

- Construction Period:~10 days including layout and weather delays.
- Imported Rock – 17 cy (25 tons), remainder harvested on site
- Machines Used – Rubber tracked skid steer loader, Rubber tracked mini-excavator
- Machine Hours – 40 hours each
- Hand Crew – 2 crew members

Upper Canyon had pedestrian access only. All materials and construction performed by hand labor. Lower Canyon access by machinery and hand crews.

Weather delays for soft ground working conditions

Pulled invasive Whitetop (Cardaria draba) in lower canyon

One Rock Dams and Log Check Dams were installed to help reduce channel velocities, prevent erosion, and trap small amounts of sediment by intercepting flow along the channel.

Zuni bowls operate as a headcut control structure composed of rock lined step falls and plunge pools that prevents headcuts from continuing to migrate upstream. They also serve to maintain soil moisture on the face of the headcut, encouraging the establishment of protective vegetation.

Before Photo

After Photo

Plug and Pond treatments were used to restore wetlands characteristics by rising the water table up to its historic level

Before Photo

After Photo

Recommendations

- Utilize baseline photos for repeat photography monitoring
- Consider additional restoration in lower canyon to improve water retention
- Utilize youth crews for trail maintenance
- Utilize youth crews for culvert outlet spreaders and water harvesting along canyon rim
- Monitor and treat invasive species (whitetop and others) as needed.
- Build on community interest by holding a short public walk through of project to describe issues, goals and practices