



Vine Hill School Road Culvert Repair & Road Widening Scotts Valley, California

Civil and Structural Engineering



Client Reference:

Scott Hamby, Public Works Director
City of Scotts Valley
701 Lundy Lane
Scotts Valley, CA 95066
(831) 438-5854

Budget: \$400,000

During severe storms in February 1998, the southwest wing wall of the culvert beneath the Vine Hill School Road crossing of Carbonera Creek failed, dropping into the channel and partially blocking the flow of water within the creek. The collapse of the wing wall weakened the foundation of the road crossing, and if left unrepaired, it would have been likely the entire crossing would have failed causing additional impacts to the west branch of Carbonera Creek both upstream and downstream.

MME designed and oversaw the construction of the repairs. The work basically included extending the culvert, building a new fish ladder, constructing new wing walls, installing boulder rip-rap, installing a crib wall retaining structure, and widening the roadway, which allowed for new sidewalks and bike lanes on both sides of the roadway.

The most interesting aspect of this project was the new fish ladder, which allows native fish to easily ascend nearly four feet in a short distance. The fish ladder consists of a series of weirs and pools with staggered spillways and boulders for protection from predators.