



Upper Cutthroat Sediment Source Control Project 2003-2008

Integrated Environmental Restoration Services, Inc. (IERS), in cooperation with Placer County Public Works, Tahoe Division, the California Tahoe Conservancy, the US Forest Service, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and others, designed and implemented an erosion control project in King's Beach, CA that employed recently developed, innovative, soil-based restoration techniques.

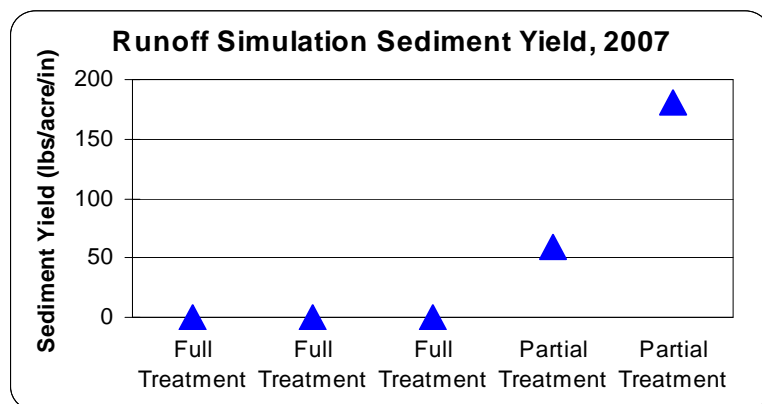
IERS' role included providing project planning, restoration specifications, implementation, and performance monitoring. All treatments were designed to control sediment at its source through increased soil hydrologic function, protection of surface soil and development of a sustainable, native plant community. The U.S. Forest Service funded two years of quantitative source control monitoring, which had not previously been conducted on a project of this type in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

IERS used a range of monitoring techniques, which included vegetative and soil cover monitoring, soil density measurements, and simulated rainfall and runoff to determine whether the restoration treatments resulted in an improvement in soil function and a reduction in erosion.

IERS demonstrated that an investment in full soil restoration treatment results in an order of sediment reduction when compared to partial treatment and two orders of magnitude improvement over disturbed, untreated soil. Vegetation assessment, which is commonly used to determine project success, was shown to be an inadequate measure of sediment source control and therefore not reflective of overall project performance. The level of quantitative monitoring conducted as part of this project is critical if true adaptive management is to take place in the Tahoe Basin.



Rainfall Simulator



Client:

Placer County

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