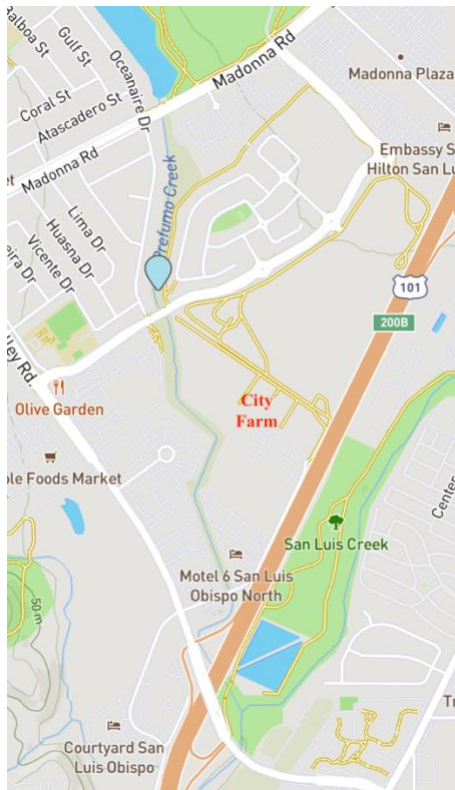


Prefumo Creek Restoration and Enhancement Project



The property designated as the [Calle Joaquin Agricultural Reserve](#) was preserved from Urban Development by the City of San Luis Obispo's General Plan of 1994. A 23-acre parcel of the Reserve is owned by the City and managed under the terms of a long-term lease by the licensed non-profit, [City Farm SLO](#).



Prefumo Creek is a year-round salmon spawning stream the lower section of which flows from Laguna Lake to its convergence with San Luis Creek on the south side of Highway 101.

A 1750-foot length of the Creek runs through 2.5 acres of riparian habitat contained within the City Farm parcel and falls under the custodianship of City Farm.



The health of the Agricultural Land and adjacent natural area depend on one another. Since 2013, City Farm SLO has endeavored to enhance the productivity and health of the agricultural land. In January 2023, City Farm initiated the **Prefumo Creek Restoration and Enhancement Project** to improve the condition of the creek and make available some of its unique natural, educational and recreational benefits.

The project is a collaboration with the [City of SLO Office of Sustainability and Natural Resources](#) and the regional non-profit, [Creek Lands Conservation](#). It is financed largely by a grant from the [California Farmland Conservancy Program](#).

Attachment 1: Project Location Maps



Since the foundation of City Farm, the Creek has presented serious problems. During flood conditions, uncleared invasive vegetation, including massive Canary Island Palms and the litter of their fallen fronds, have blocked drainage, causing backup and flooding.



This contributed to the area's appearance as a no man's land which attracted dumping of trash and unauthorized encampments, which in turn led to stream pollution, theft of equipment from farmers and intimidation of educators and students.



The preparatory phase of the Restoration and Enhancement Project involved City removal of massive amounts of trash from the creek and police enforcement of trespassing laws. The contract work, carried out by [Carmichael Environmental Consultants](#) entered its first phase in Spring 2023, managing the difficult extraction of the palm trees. This was followed by clearance of other invasive and overgrown vegetation, site grading, and installation of a complex irrigation system to sustain 1750 new native shrubs and trees which will restore the riparian landscape to what it once was.



The vegetation will be planted by groups of 50 volunteers organized by the project collaborators and supervised by staff during Saturday work parties during December 2023 and January 2024. These activities will allow community members to participate in the Creek Project and to take ownership of its long-term maintenance.

CITY FARM SLO CREEK TRAIL			
TREES	SHRUBS	PERENNIALS/VINE	GRASSES/SUCCULENT
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
			

LOCAL NATIVE PLANT FAUNTA

CARMICHAEL ENVIRONMENTAL
 LANDSCAPE DESIGN + BUILD

CITY FARM SLO CREEK TRAIL & PROJECT PROTECT

BASE

L7.0



The next stages of the work plan involve construction of gates, fencing, and about 3000 feet of pedestrian/bicycle path around the perimeter of the agricultural land, along with gathering areas and informational signage for the field trips and classes presented by Creek Lands Conservation beginning in Spring 2024.

The pathways (shown in green) will unify the farm and the natural area and provide a scenic route connecting Froom Ranch Way and Calle Joaquin. This path network will link with trails recently constructed along the section of Prefumo Creek adjoining the housing development at San Luis Ranch (shown in yellow) which itself links to the system of trails in Laguna Lake Park and San Luis Mountain.

When complete in 2024, the Prefumo Creek Restoration and Enhancement project will create a new environmental preserve, linear park, active transportation route and educational facility in the middle of town.