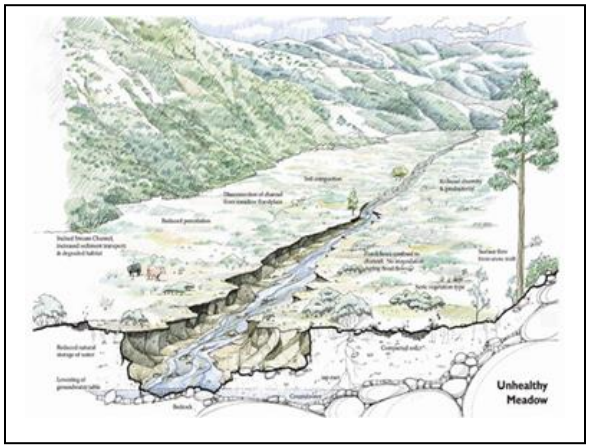
Bean Creek Preserve *Meadow Restoration Project*

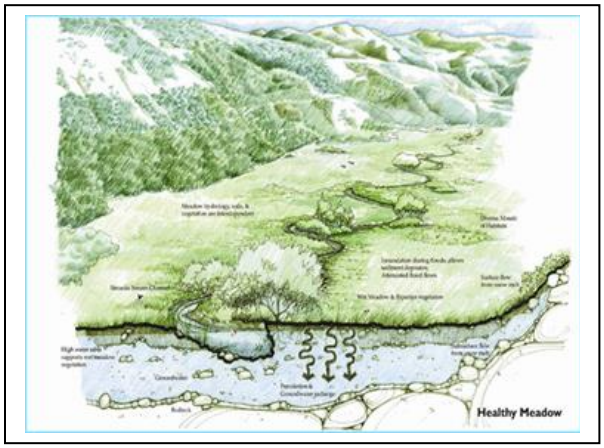
The Bean Meadow property, located in Greeley Hill, was donated to Sierra Foothill Conservancy in 2011. While SFC was ecstatic to own and steward this beautiful meadow, we immediately recognized that the creek was eroding at such a rapid pace that we would soon lose the meadow. SFC began interviewing past landowners and obtaining historic accounts of the property, these interviews painted a different picture of wagons crossing the meadow, small streams and few trees in the channel; much different than what we see today. SFC realized that restoration was necessary in order to bring the meadow back and to prevent Bean Creek from eroding the land further.

Over the past five years SFC has completed significant research in meadow restoration. Our due diligence lead us to geomorphic restoration specialist Plumas Corporation; a non-profit with over 20 years of experience and 45 successful meadow restorations in the Sierra Nevada. The restoration will be completed by licensed equipment operators experienced in implementing meadow restorations, and is slated to begin in mid-September. SFC staff will hold an informational open house regarding the restoration at the Greeley Community Hall on Wednesday, Sept 7th, 4-7 pm.

PARTNERS: SFC is working with local, state and federal agencies to restore this extremely degraded meadow. Our list of partners is extensive and includes Natural Resources Agency, Ca. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, UC Merced, California Trout and American Rivers, to name a few. SFC is a partner in the larger Sierra Meadow Restoration and Research Partnership, which is working collectively to restore meadows throughout the Sierra in order to enhance water quality, wildlife habitat, carbon storage and decrease greenhouse gasses.



Degraded Meadow



Healthy Meadow

Article Contributed by Lauren Hubert, Images contributed by Amy Quinton and American Rivers