

## McMurdo Gulch Stream Stabilization, Priority 1 and McMurdo Gulch at Terrain

*Project Managers: Jim Swanson, P. E. & David Van Dellen, P.E.*

Castle Rock Water completed two additional phases of stream stabilization along McMurdo Gulch in 2020. McMurdo Gulch is a western tributary within the Cherry Creek drainage basin, located on the east side of Town. Evidence of erosion was observed in various locations along the length of the channel. The 2020 projects were the latest in an ongoing effort to stabilize the channel since 2011. The Town has forged a partnership with the Cherry Creek Basin Water Quality Authority (Authority) to stabilize the channel in isolated locations where it has unraveled. These improvements protect water quality and maintain a healthy stream system in response to impacts from urbanization.

Stream stabilization occurred in four locations with a combined length of approximately 2,700 lineal feet, using a bio-engineering approach to environmentally fit the project into the natural surroundings. Work included grading the incised channel banks, reconstructing the channel bed, installing riffle drops and cascading boulder structures, and planting native grass and willows. Stream stabilization efforts such as these support the mission to preserve and protect water quality within the Town’s open space and the watershed.

Construction kicked off in March 2020 and is complete with the exception of wetland plantings, willow stakes and shrubs, which will be completed in the spring of 2021. The project was funded through the Stormwater Enterprise Fund, with contributions from the Authority and the local developer.



*McMurdo Gulch Improvements at Terrain*



*McMurdo Gulch Improvements, Priority 1*

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**Contractor:** 53 Corporation, LLC

**Cost:** \$1,513,524 (under budget)

**Schedule:** Completed on time, with the exception of the revegetation seeding and mulch due to scheduling of the subcontractor.