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CLARION

Feature

The Primitive Current

and pollution, and lack of appropriate vegetation has decreased the quality of the water and the stream's overall health.

There are plans to restore King's Creek conditions through a series of hydraulic engineering changes. These include adding meanders in the stream to help redirect the energy flow of the water, and reconnecting the creek with the floodplain, which will assist in decreasing erosion along the banks. The plan is presently undergoing the last stages of engineering approval before construction will begin.

"Restoration of the stream will be a lengthy and involved process," explains Dr. Duke. The first goal is to redirect the stream's channel, ultimately producing shallower banks and reducing erosion. In addition, there are plans to grow a riparian vegetation zone over the next 10 to 15 years along the banks.

The restoration of King's Creek is set to begin in March of 2004, according to Duke.