

## **8. RESTORATION**

In-stream restoration projects will not be successful without implementation of stormwater controls and aquifer protection in the Illahee Creek watershed. It's possible that once stormwater controls are in place and infiltration of surface water occurs at a level to sustain base flow in Illahee Creek that instream conditions will begin to recover without intervention. Watershed recovery will not be immediate and may take several years or decades to occur. As part of this plan, we would not recommend any specific in-stream restoration projects. The riparian corridor surrounding Illahee Creek is in excellent condition and has good recruitment potential for large woody debris (LWD). Once upstream erosion and sedimentation is in balance (assuming recommended stormwater controls are successful at minimizing erosion problems), the pools that are presently absent in Illahee Creek, will likely begin to form again, creating new habitat for salmonids. The construction of in-stream projects in the Illahee Forest Preserve's current condition could cause more temporary impacts than long-term benefits of such projects.