Jackson Rancheria
Dalton Road Project

Introduction

- Jackson Rancheria Environmental Compliance Manager – Michael J. Fallon
- Jackson Rancheria – Located in the Foothills east of Sacramento on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains

Introduction - Continued

- Location

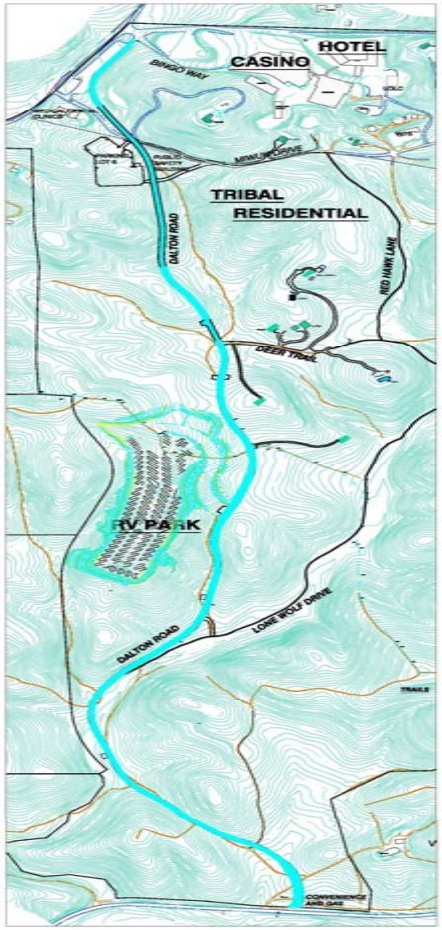
Dalton Road Project

- The Tribe wanted to connect Highway 88 to the Casino by creating a arterial type access
- Create access to other portions of the Rancheria that were previously inaccessible
- Enable further development of the property for future growth.
- Start enterprises that support and funcnctionly work to enhance the Casino.

Dalton Road Project

- 2.12 miles from Highway 88 to the Casino
- Crossed a number of ephemeral drainages
- Crossed one perennial drainage
- Required the dredge and fill of a small wetland
- Undergrounding of overhead utilities
- Removal of a large number of Oaks, Pines and under brush
- Numerous cut and fill slopes

Dalton Road Project



Project Shut down

- Project broke ground in late 2003
- Winter 2003/2004 – County received a complaint about water quality in Jackson Creek – Several projects under construction in the area offsite.
- County referred complaint to the state; state attempted an inspection and threatened to notify U.S. EPA
- After state inspection, state notified U.S. EPA
- EPA and Army Corps found 32 separate CWA 404 violations some not part of the Dalton Road project – No CWA 404 or 401 authorizations.
- No Stormwater controls in place
- No environmental reviews, NEPA
- No environmental permits/approvals – 404, 401, 1602, CGP – Stormwater, ESA

Enforcement Action

- Stopped project
- Negotiated the enforcement penalties
  - Hired competent consultant
  - 5 year mitigation plan
  - Restore impacted drainages
  - Protect impacted drainages in perpetuity
  - Stewardship Plan
  - Purchased mitigation credits for impacts
- Unable to restart project without permits
- Corps unwilling to give permit until mitigation plan was in place

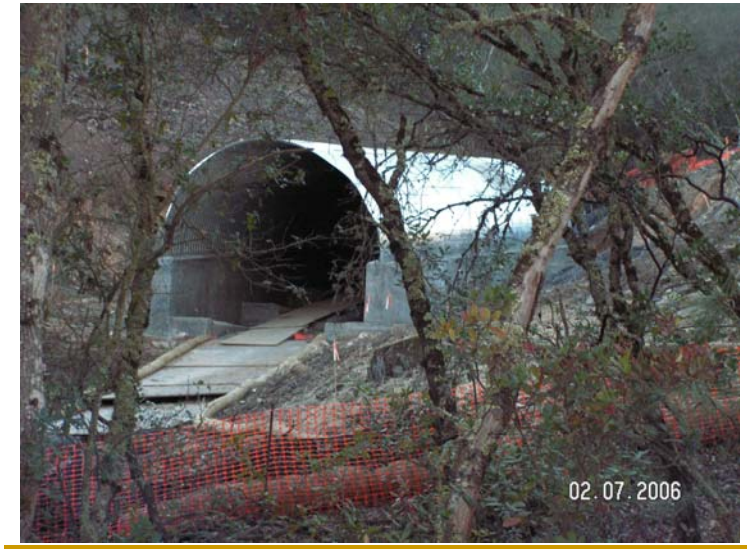
Getting The Project Going Again

- Obtained 404/401 permit for wetland area
- Used large arched culverts to span the corps jurisdiction
- Obtained 1603 permit
- Conducted ESA surveys
- Developed a CGP SWPPP and Caltrans SWPPP
- Organized project
- Systematically conducted the project

Dalton Road BMPs -Culverts

- Arched Culverts
- 7 Crossings (Culverts) – All Different Sizes
- Each Crossing was constructed onsite based on the drainage dimensions
- Clear spanned seasonal drainages
- Protected drainage from construction impacts
- Unintentionally Created Deer and Animal Crossings

Dalton Road BMPs



Dalton Road BMPs

- Erosion Control
  - Silt fence
  - Sedimentation ponds
  - Dewatering
  - Wattles

Dalton Road BMPs

Dalton Road BMPs – Silt Fence

Dalton Road BMPs - Hydroseeding

Dalton Road BMPs - Other

Dalton Road- Success

- In the end, the project was successful - the Tribe got its road.
- 2 years behind schedule
- 5 million over budget
- Continued EPA oversight
- Poor public perception

- Lessons learned
  - Slow Down
  - Assemble and organize your project team
  - Assess the environmental needs
  - Hire competent consultants/engineers
  - Contractors are not consultants or engineers