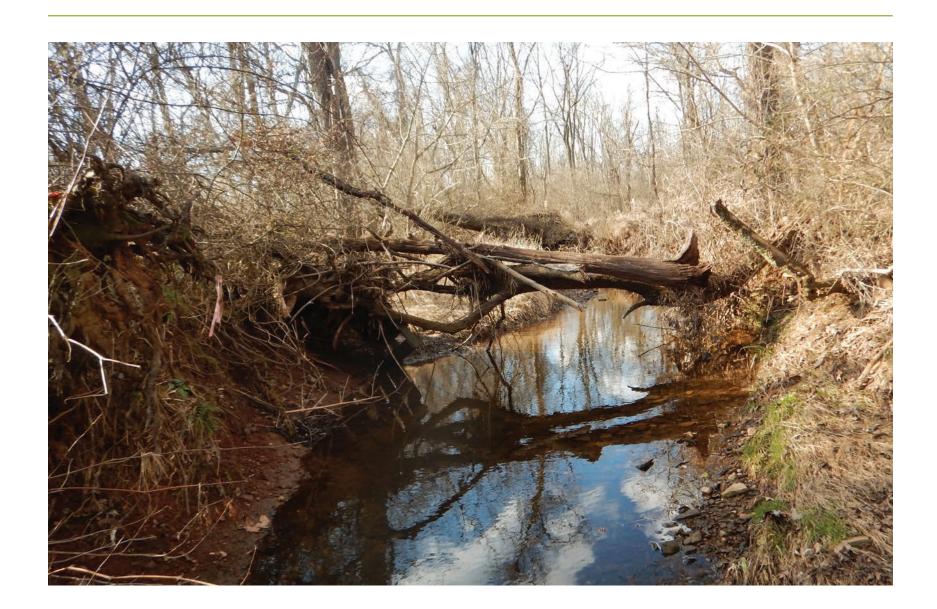
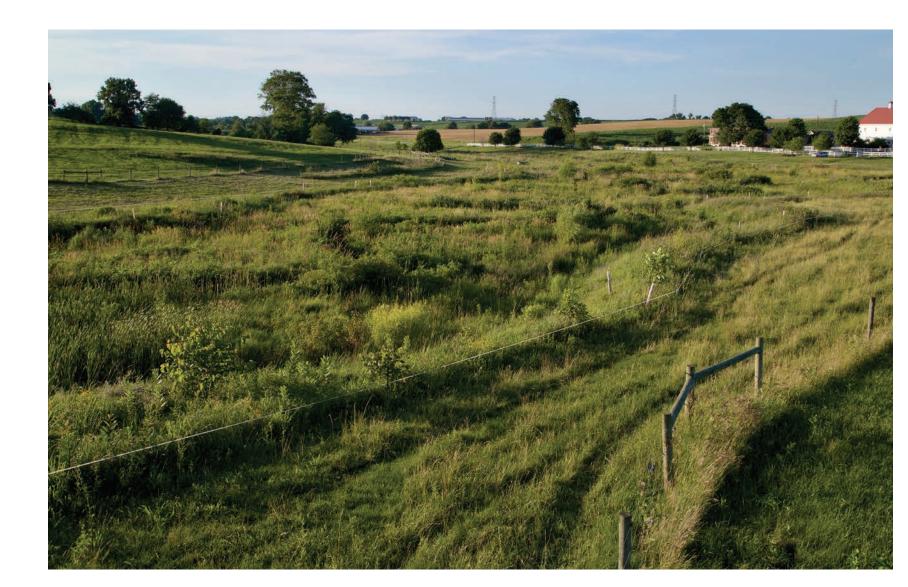
# Little Conewago Creek Floodplain Restoration Master Plan York County, PA March 24, 2021

# **Existing Conditions**



**Proposed Conditions** 









# Concept Summary

## Approach Overview

Little Conewago Creek and its tributaries are highly channelized within steep, bare banks, resulting in extreme erosion and associated pollutant loading. The degraded condition is the result of legacy sediments deposited across the floodplain as a result of intensive past land uses including mill dams, agricultural practices and land development. LandStudies' holistic floodplain restoration approach focuses on addressing the root cause of the impairment. Restoring the floodplain's historical ecological function provides a host of diverse benefits and lasting results.

### Water Quality Improvements

The proposed restoration will eliminate problematic erosion and create an expansive wetland-floodplain system critical to healthy nutrient cycling. Implementation of the proposed improvements will significantly reduce pollutant loading to the immediate resources and the Chesapeake Bay watershed and help achieve local and regional planning goals.

### **Ecological Uplift**

The proposed conditions will create acres of wetlands within the floodplain footprint characterized by native vegetation and in close connection to the restored channel. The site will provide a critical wildlife habitat corridor for diverse plant and animal species. The natural meanders, pools, and woody material in the restored channel will be offer food sources, cover and cool water ideal for native fish species.

### Recreational Benefits

Additional trails and stream crossings offer extensive recreational opportunities for residents and provide connections between currently disconnected public spaces in both communities. The gently sloping banks will provide easy access to the currently inaccessible stream channel. Green spaces improve property values and increase incentives to live, work and shop nearby.



