

## Rice Creek Floodplain Reconnection

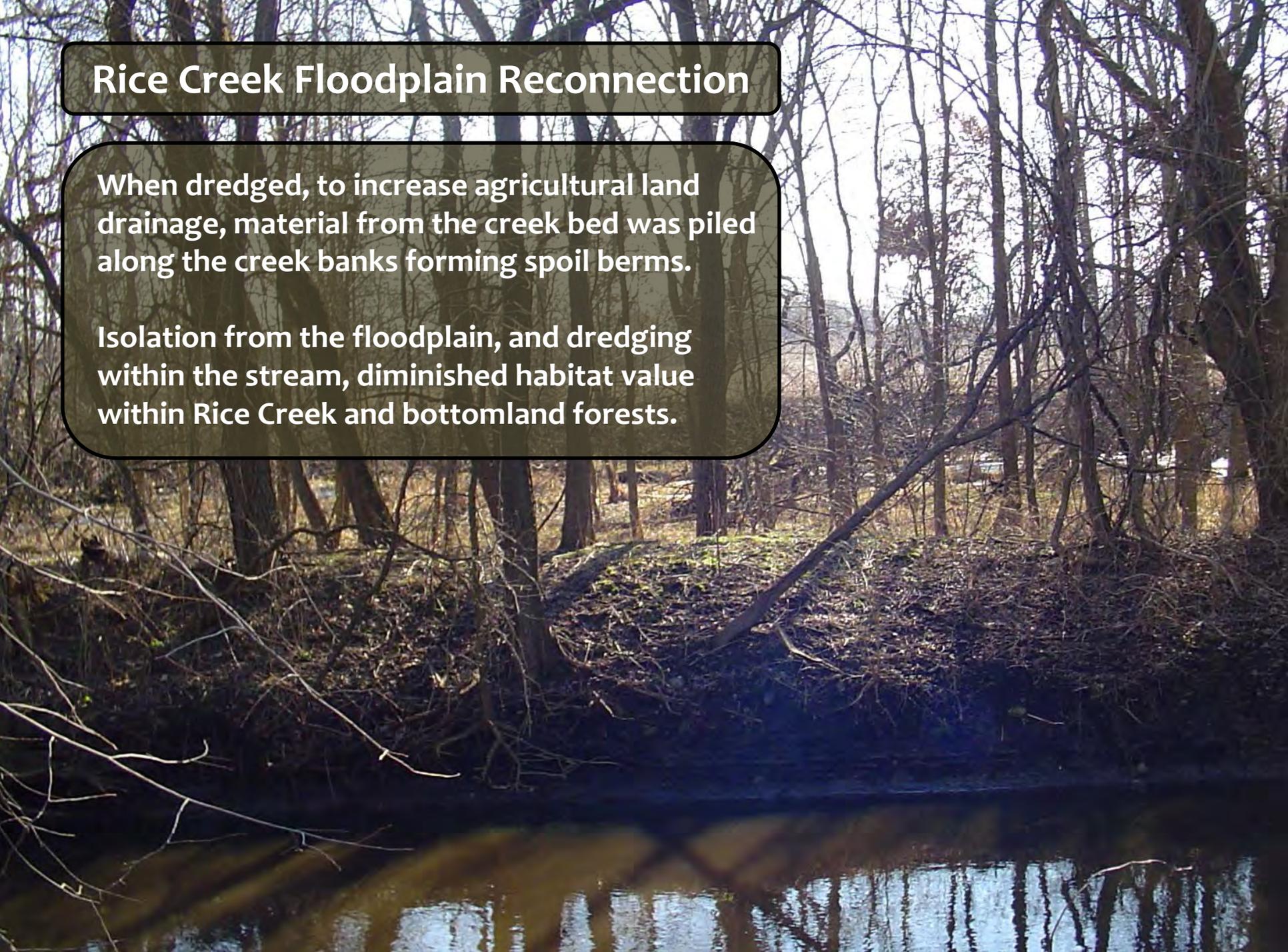


Initial removal of an historical dredge spoil berm did not allow for the seasonal inundation of the adjacent wooded floodplain.

## Rice Creek Floodplain Reconnection

When dredged, to increase agricultural land drainage, material from the creek bed was piled along the creek banks forming spoil berms.

Isolation from the floodplain, and dredging within the stream, diminished habitat value within Rice Creek and bottomland forests.



## Rice Creek Floodplain Reconnection

An engineering firm was hired to survey the site. A local excavator then lowered the elevation of the existing berm to allow the creek to overflow its bank during flood events.

HUR  
ELEV. 100.00

## Rice Creek Floodplain Reconnection



Natural jute fabric was used to stabilize creek bank soils. The jute was pinned below the water line to minimize soil loss.

## Rice Creek Floodplain Reconnection



Approximately 425 feet of the existing berm was lowered. Soil was re-purposed on the same tract outside of the floodplain.

Ephemeral wetlands have already begun to form within the adjacent woodland.

# Rice Creek Floodplain Reconnection



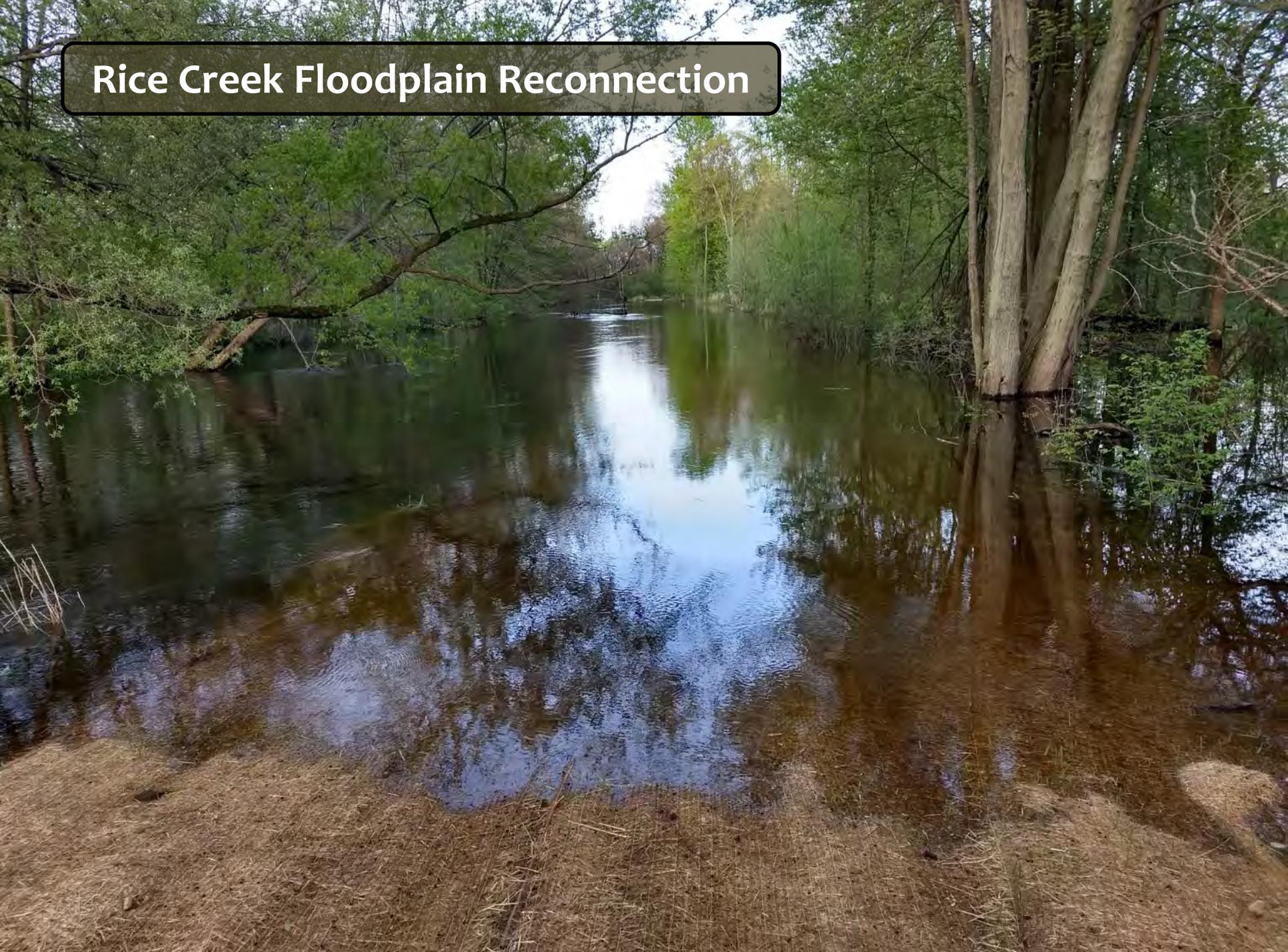
Soil stabilization using jute fabric was tested by several substantial rain events.

A conservation seed mix was used to stabilize the soil in anticipation of revegetation by the existing seedbank.

# Rice Creek Floodplain Reconnection



# Rice Creek Floodplain Reconnection



## Rice Creek Floodplain Reconnection

A photograph showing a dirt path leading from a grassy area towards a creek. The path is flanked by dense trees and vegetation. The creek is on the left side of the path, and the path appears to be a natural or semi-natural connection between the floodplain and the water body.

With subsidence of water levels, revegetation of the creek bank progressed rapidly.

## Rice Creek Floodplain Reconnection



With subsidence of water levels, revegetation of the creek bank progressed rapidly.

## Rice Creek Floodplain Reconnection

A photograph showing a lush green floodplain area adjacent to a river. The foreground is filled with dense, vibrant green vegetation, including tall grasses and various flowering plants. The river flows through the middle ground, reflecting the surrounding greenery. The background is a dense forest of tall trees, creating a shaded and natural setting.

The site now provides seasonally inundated ephemeral wetlands adjacent to Rice Creek as well as native plant species important to pollinators.