



A PUBLIC - PRIVATE COLLABORATION

Presentation for Twentieth Regular Session of the CEC Council and Meeting of the Joint Public Advisory Committee – July 11, 2013

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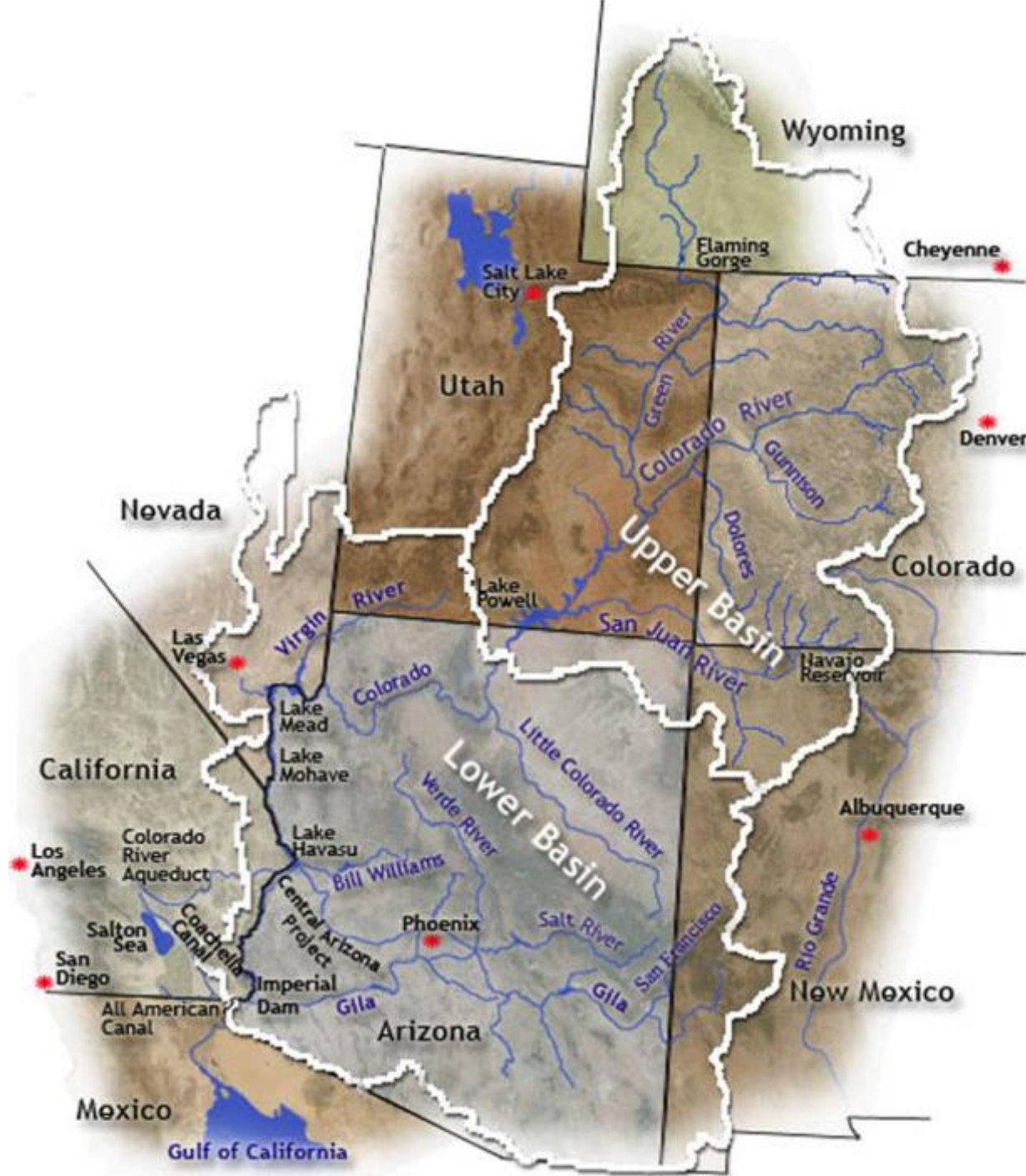
## Brief Outline

- Where
- Why
- What
- Who
- How
- Progress





# Where Colorado River Watershed



Map source:  
<http://www.crwua.org/coloradriver/rivermap.aspx>



# Where Dolores River Watershed



Map Source:  
<http://ocs.fortlewis.edu/drrp/watershed-Map.htm>









# Where 4-Corners Area Communities



Map Source:  
<http://fourcornershotels.net/four-corners-map/>





# Why Healthy Ecosystems

## Tamarisk & Non- Native Impacts

- Native  
Vegetation
- Wildfire
- Wildlife &  
Livestock





# Why Healthy Ecosystems

## Tamarisk & Non- Native Impacts

- People
- Water





# Why Healthy Communities

- Rural Communities
- Youth Employment





# Why Healthy Communities

- Training & Education
- Community Involvement





# What A Plan

## Vision:

**A Dolores River watershed dominated by native vegetation where threats from tamarisk and other invasive species have been mitigated and the riparian areas of the watershed continue to become more naturally functioning, self-sustaining, diverse and resilient over time.**

## Five Year Goals:

- ^Ecologic – increase the number of sustainable, healthy riparian plant communities while reducing those dominated by tamarisk and other invasive, non-native plant species.**
- ^Social – develop a professional, competitive, and efficient work force; improve aesthetic enjoyment; increase public safety; and increase the protection of property.**
- ^Economic – increase employment opportunities, improve cost benefit ratio for contractors and youth service corps, improve effectiveness and financial efficiency of riparian restoration, and enhance visitor travel to the area.**
- ^Management – manage adaptively, incorporate education and interpretation, garner support from agency budgets and attract other sources of funding, facilitate communications between land managers and partners**



# Partners (MOU)

## Who A Partnership

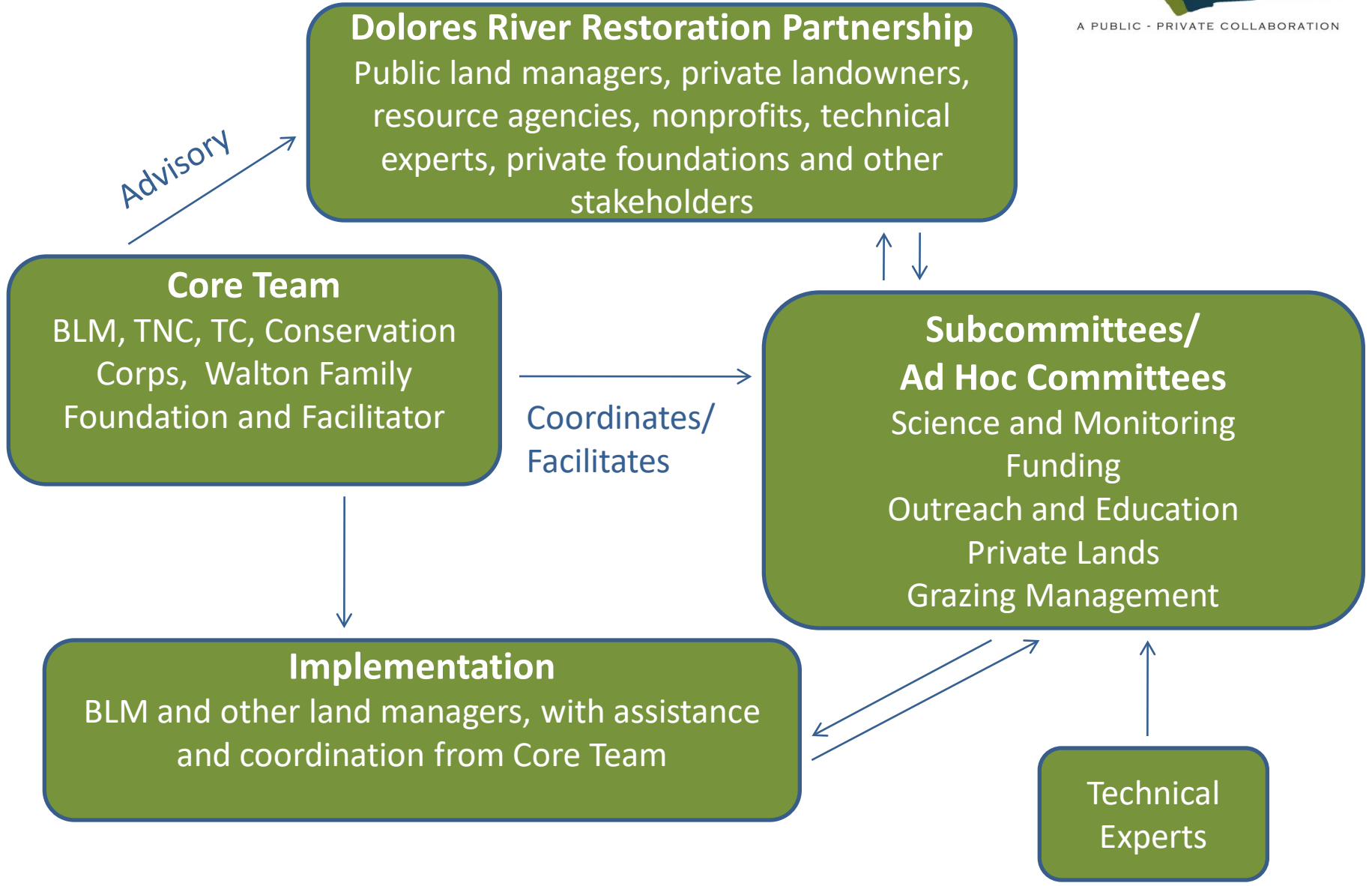
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Tamarisk Coalition
- Bureau of Land Management:
  - Tres Rios, Uncompahgre, Grand and Moab Field Offices
- Walton Family Foundation
- Counties: Dolores, San Miguel, Montrose,  
Mesa, Grand (Utah)
- Natural Resource Conservation Service - CO
- Colorado Association of Conservation Districts
- Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
- Canyon Country Youth Corps
- Southwest Conservation Corps
- Western Colorado Conservation Corps
- USFWS - PFW Colorado
- USFWS - PFW Utah
- University of Utah, Rio Mesa Center
- Colorado Department of Transportation
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife
- Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Moab





# Who A Partnership

## DRRP Organizational Diagram - 2011





How  
Multiple Fronts



# Subcommittees

- Funding
- Grazing Management
- Outreach/Education
- Private Lands
- Science & Monitoring
- Implementation





# How Conservation and Youth Corps





# How Conservation and Youth Corps



## Skills for the future





# Progress

On ecological goals to increase sustainable, healthy riparian communities



## Progress on Riparian Acres Prioritized for Active Treatment

BLM Offices	2009 acres	2010 acres	2011 acres	2012 acres	Total acres actively treated	Remaining acres prioritized for active treatment	Percent completion of active treatment
Tres Rios	45	91	28	34	198	85	70%
Uncompahgre	0	0	2	11	13	213	1%
Grand Junction	0	157	92	147	396	420	49%
Moab	0	141	72	1	214	151	59%



# Progress

Striving towards our social and economic goals to support youth conservation corps programs and create local jobs



DRRP Corps Statistics Per Year

	2009	2010	2011	2012	TOTALS
Opportunities created	12	40	32	44	128
Hours of service	3,840	12,800	10,240	14,080	40,960
Hours of education & training per participant	122	126	128	130	126 (avg)



# Progress

1. Community Engagement
2. Attitude Towards Public Lands
3. Environmental Activism
4. Teamwork
5. Leadership
6. Self-Responsibility
7. Grit
8. Communication



2012 PLSC EVALUATION REPORT:  
River Restoration Watershed Project  
Texas A&M University



## Progress

### Community Involvement & Investment

To date, 184 volunteers (ranging in age from 5 – 75) have worked nearly 1,654 hours to harvest and plant 1,600 willows; cage 127 cottonwoods, plant thousands of native plants, and construct a 3,940 foot long interpretive trail.





# Progress

## Gateway Canyons

## Dolores River

## Interpretive Trail

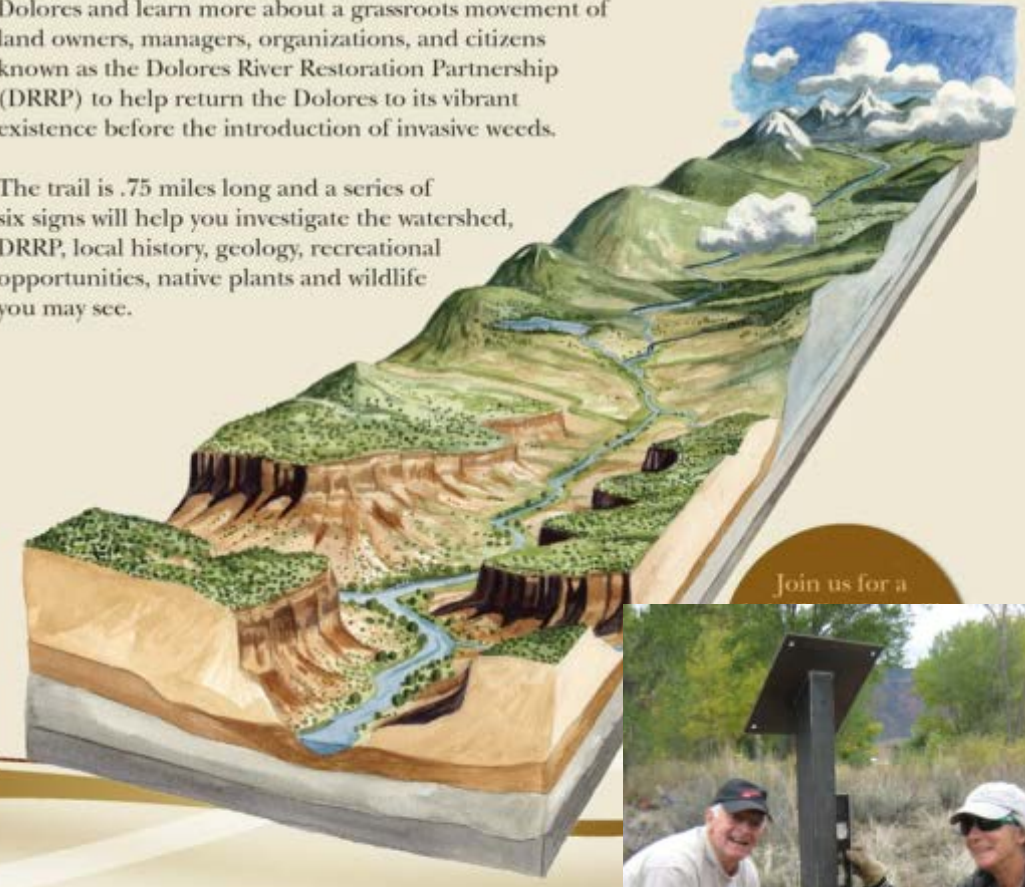
# Life Along the Dolores Watershed

*WELCOME* You are looking at a special place in the west: the Dolores River Basin. Starting as rain and snowfall on the treeless high Alpine Life Zone of the San Juan Mountains, the river winds through stunning redrock canyons into the Upper Sonoran Life Zone amongst pinion pine, juniper and sagebrush. The Dolores River is rich in cultural and natural resources and is the lifeline of local residents, both wild and human.

However, a multitude of factors have impaired that lifeline, including the recent invasion of non-native, invasive weeds. These weeds degrade the land and the river which makes it increasingly difficult for ranchers, miners, recreationalists, and wildlife to draw upon the river for their survival.

We invite you to take a walk along the banks of the Dolores and learn more about a grassroots movement of land owners, managers, organizations, and citizens known as the Dolores River Restoration Partnership (DRRP) to help return the Dolores to its vibrant existence before the introduction of invasive weeds.

The trail is .75 miles long and a series of six signs will help you investigate the watershed, DRRP, local history, geology, recreational opportunities, native plants and wildlife you may see.



Join us for a





# QUESTIONS?

## DRRP Funding Contributing Partners:

- Bureau of Land Management
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife
- Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund
- Colorado River Water Conservation District
- Colorado State Forest Service
- Colorado Water Conservation Board
- Commission for Environmental Cooperation
- Corporation for National and Community Service
- David & Lucile Packard Foundation
- El Pomar Foundation
- Hendricks Charitable Foundation
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Resource Conservation Service
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- North American Partnership for Environmental Community Action
- Partners for Fish and Wildlife
- Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative
- Walton Family Foundation

