How You Can Get Involved:

Learn!

- Attend a partnership meeting
- Recieve e-newsletters
- Browse the partnership website

http://ocs.fortlewis.edu/drrp

Volunteer!

email Mike Wight - mike@sccorps.org

Receive email updates!

email Marsha Porter-Norton
porternorton@bresnan.net

Get in Touch!

Daniel Oppenheimer, Tamarisk Coalition
doppenheimer@tamariskcoalition.org
970.256.7400

Peter Mueller, The Nature Conservancy
pmueller@tnc.org
970.728.5291

Mike Wight, Southwest Conservation Corps
mike@sccorps.org
970.749.2796

Marsha Porter Norton, DRRP Facilitator
porternorton@bresnan.net
970.247.8306

Partners: (As of Spring 2012)

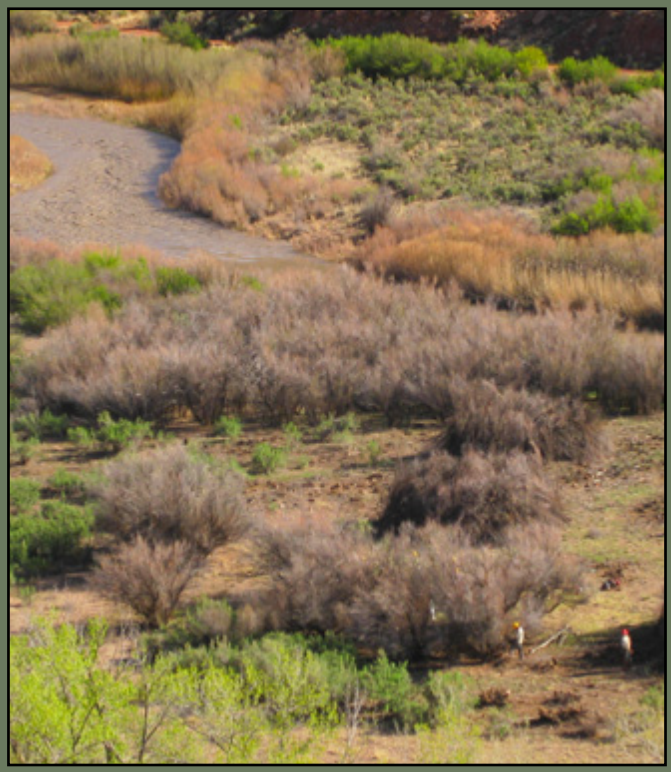
- Bureau of Land Management, Colorado and Utah
- Canyon Country Youth Corps
- Colorado Department of Agriculture
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife
- Colorado State University
- Counties of: Dolores, San Miguel, Montrose, Mesa, Colorado; Grand County, Utah
- Dolores River Dialogue
- Gateway Canyons Resort
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Private land owners
- Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
- Southeast Utah Riparian Partnership
- Southwest Conservation Corps
- Tamarisk Coalition
- The Nature Conservancy
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Partners for Fish and Wildlife
- Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado
- Walton Family Foundation
- Western Colorado Conservation Corps

DOLORES RIVER RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP

A PUBLIC - PRIVATE COLLABORATION

Vision:

The Dolores River watershed is dominated by native vegetation, where the threats from tamarisk and other associated 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.



http://ocs.fortlewis.edu/drrp/

Background:

The Dolores River flows for more than 200 miles through southwestern Colorado and eastern Utah to its confluence with the Colorado River. Tamarisk and other non-native vegetation have displaced native vegetation, impaired wildlife habitat and affected the health and sustainability of vegetative communities along the Dolores. The Dolores River Restoration Partnership (DRRP) was organized in 2010 to address this issue. DRRP is a private, public collaborative partnership between federal land management agencies, county governments, landowners, non-profits, private interests and stakeholders -- all who value riparian health and habitat within the watershed.

Planning:

The Dolores River – Riparian Action Plan (DR-RAP) was developed by stakeholders to help manage tamarisk and other invasives on the Dolores River. DR-RAP uses technical resources and scientific studies to create a science driven foundation to this collaborative effort. The restoration work is conducted by youth conservation corps, local contractors, land managers, and volunteers.

Scope:

Restoration is planned for 2,050 riparian acres of the Dolores river from McPhee dam to the confluence with the Colorado River (175 miles) by 2014 at a projected cost of 3.7 Million dollars, with funding provided from both public and private entities.

Goals:

Ecologic- Increase number of sustainable healthy riparian communities, decrease areas dominated by tamarisk and other invasive plants.

Social- Develop a competitive and professional workforce by employing and training youth and young adults from the region.

Economic- Increase local employment opportunities; improve cost benefit ratio for contractors and youth service corps; enhance visitor travel to area; improve economic conditions for landowners.

Coordination:

The partnership holds meetings with all stakeholders in the spring and fall of each year. A Core Team meets monthly to discuss tasks necessary for completion of priorities. Members of the Core team chair five subcommittees; Fundraising, Implementation, Science and Monitoring, Private Lands, Outreach and Education.

Tamarisk and Invasives:

Though a myriad of factors affect the health of the Dolores River, the invasion of tamarisk and other invasive weeds is a particular focus for land managers due to its extensive growth patterns which can displace native vegetation, create costly challenges for agricutlral production, and affect the health and sustainability of these vegetative communities. The DRRP has taken on the challenge of reducing the invasive population in the watershed and restoring native species communities to create healthy riparian habitat beneficial for all users.