



Photo: DWCD Web Site

Lower Dolores Plan Working Group

April 20, 2009

Tools for River, Stream and
Land Protection

A Working List

Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs)

As listed in the draft Land Management Plan for the San Juan Public Lands (USFS/BLM)

- ✓ Geology
- ✓ Archeology
- ✓ Scenery
- ✓ Wildlife
- ✓ Fisheries
- ✓ Ecology
- ✓ Recreation



Photo: DWCD Web Site

A Reminder...

Key Charges to the Working Group:

- Recommend the appropriate level of protection and protection tools that the DPLO (USFS/BLM) should consider for the values identified
- Give input and recommendations about key management issues the DPLO should consider in updating the Lower Dolores Plan (see handout)

What are the options?

A working tool kit.....

- Tools can be implemented at the federal, state and/or local levels and by a number of entities. Some tools require legislation.
- Not every one of the tools in your handout is applicable to the Lower Dolores
- *Which tools do you think should be used to protect the values of the Lower Dolores River Valley?*

Protection Tools: Water

State

Colorado In-stream Flow Program

- Voluntary
- Administered by the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB)
- Several options (purchase or lease)
- Permanently protects stream flows

Protection Tools: **Water**

State

Colorado Laws and Inter-governmental Agreements

- Developed on a case-by-case basis
- Broad range of options for potential enactments and inter-governmental agreements
- Actions by a State Agency or Department
- Voluntary Flow Agreements
- Special Legislation (Colorado Legislature)

Protection Tools: Water

State

Other

- **Gold Medal Waters:** CDOW designation to recognize the highest-quality cold-water fishery habitats in the State
- **Outstanding Waters:** A Colorado Water Quality Control Act classification
- **RICD** or 'Recreational In-Channel Diversions' – water right for recreational uses between two points (many stipulations)

Protection Tools: Water & Land

Federal

- **USFS/BLM Land Management Plans:** Land Management Plans establish broad guidance for the project and activity decision making needed to manage USFS and BLM lands; Overall plan and special area plans
- **Wild and Scenic Rivers** (requires federal legislation)
- **Wilderness** (requires federal legislation)
- **Special designations:** National Conservation Area; Research Natural Area; or Areas of Critical Environmental Concerns (require legislation)
- **Other Special Legislation** Targeted to a Specific Areas – SUCH AS: Rio Grande National Area, South Platte Protection Plan, and the Rio Chama Management Plan (please refer to handout)

Protection Tools: Other

County and Local Efforts

- Conservation **Easements** on Private Land
- Local work projects (e.g. Tamarisk removal, river bank stabilization, cultural site stewardship programs)
- Land **Stewardship** Programs
- Local County **Land Use Policy**
- Local **Contractual Agreements**

Where do we go from here?

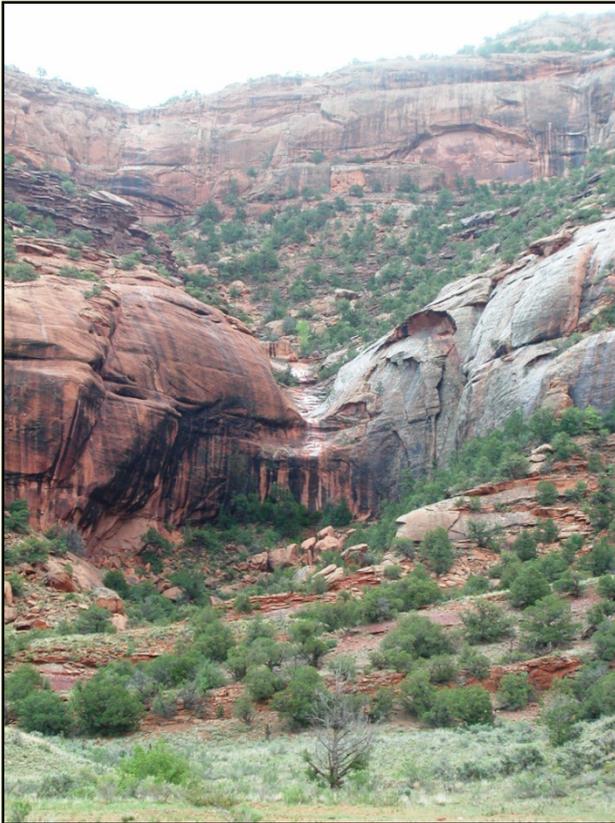


Photo: Rick Ryan's 2/08 Power Point to the DRD

Continue to become educated on tools for protection, the issues, opportunities and concerns from all involved interests

“*Work*” the Working Group Process

Determine which tools should be recommended (July to late Fall)