

RIO MESA CENTER

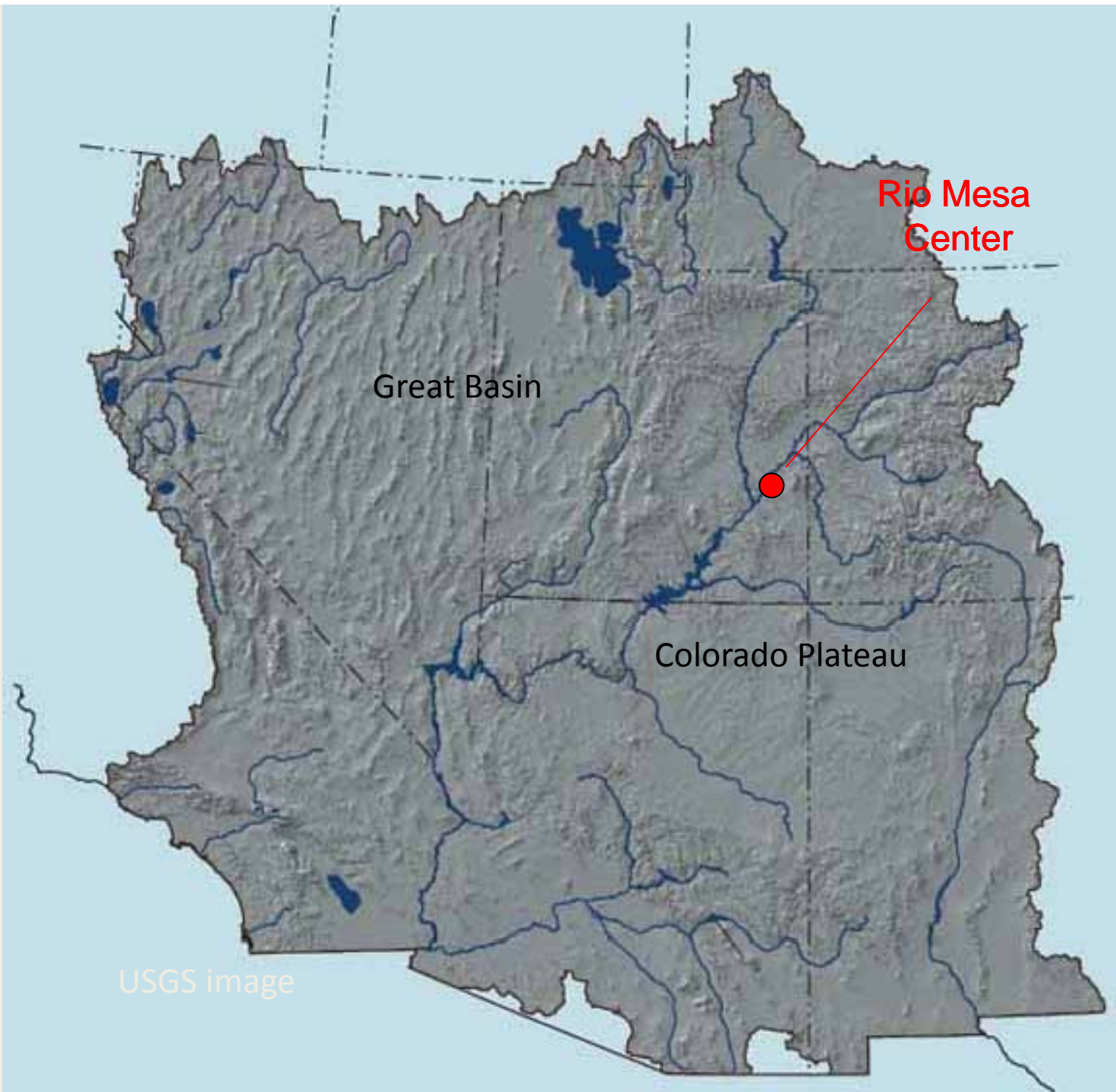
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

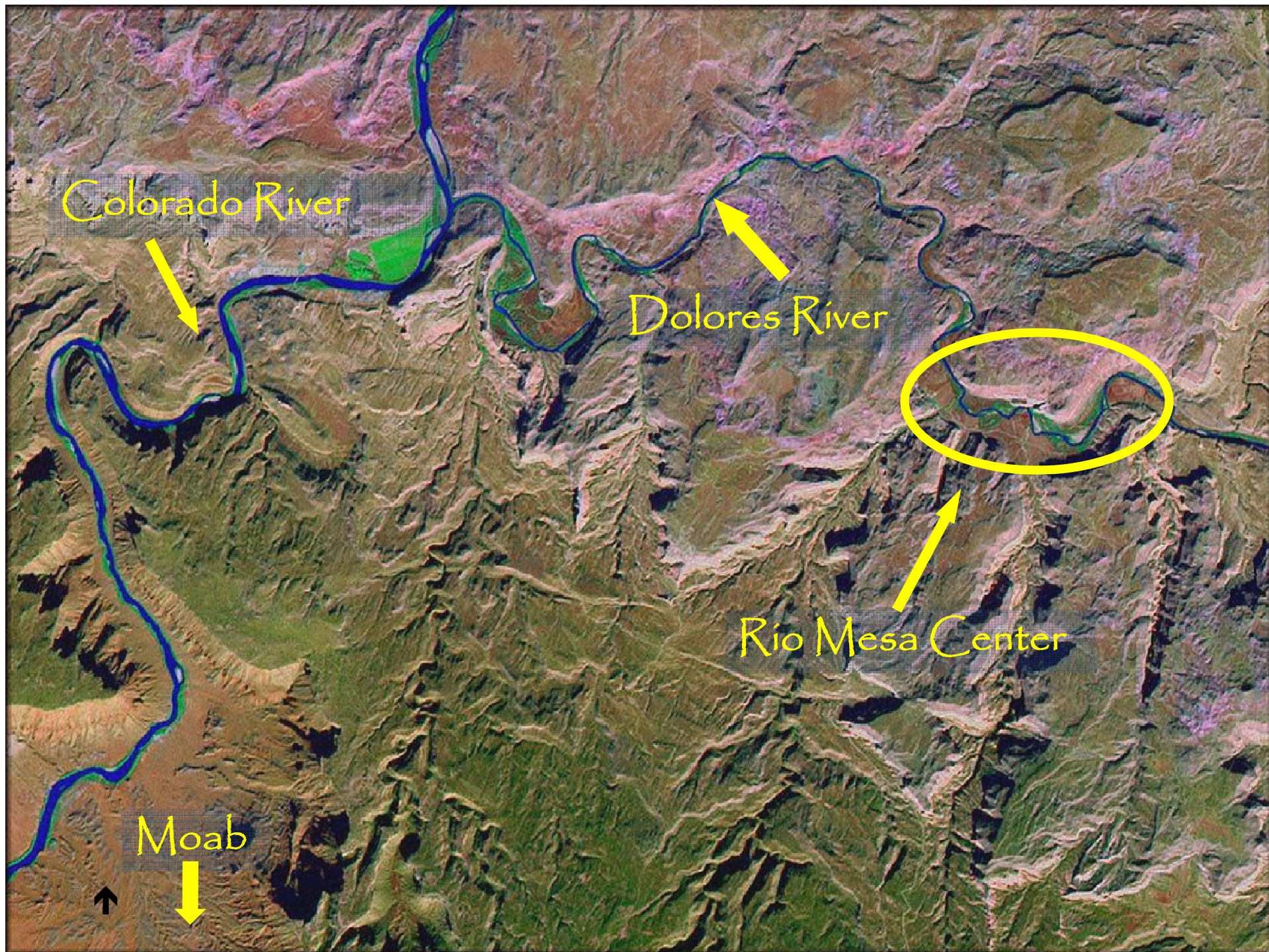
Hau Truong
Site manager

WHY DO FIELD CENTERS MATTER?

“...places where we can read the book of life in the language in which it was written.” James Kirchner UC Berkeley







HISTORY OF THE UTAH BOTTOMS



VISION



Outdoor classroom and laboratory on the
Colorado Plateau

Nationally and internationally recognized Center
for study of people, land, water and history

Leveraging place, land and expertise beyond
traditional notions of field station



TARGET AUDIENCES

University students and researchers
K-12 students and teachers
Moab and rest of Grand County
Workshops, conferences, artists
International scholars & visitors
Civic and thought leaders
Governmental agencies

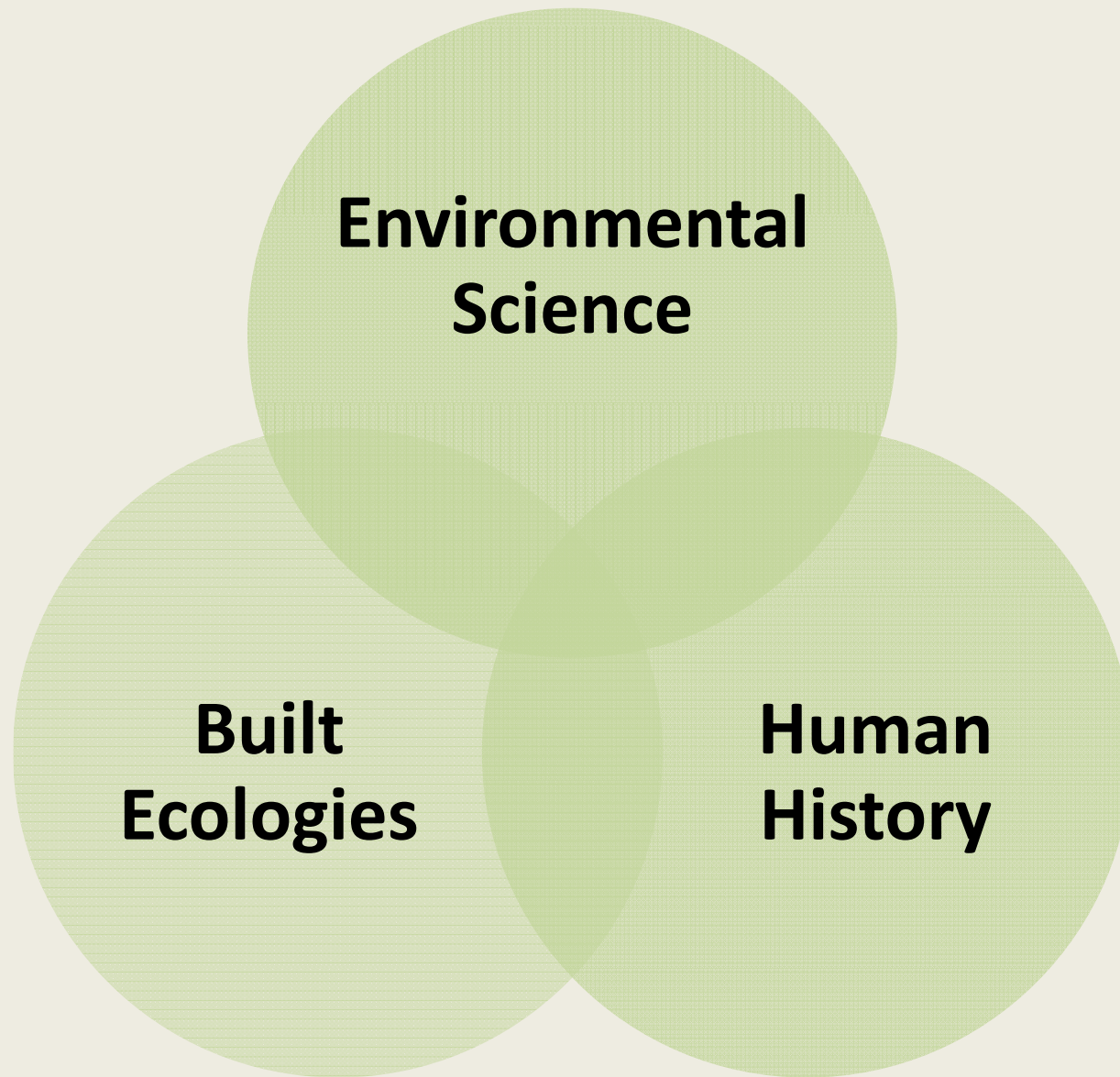
Grand County High School





Geology with a Local

BROAD DISCIPLINES AT RIO MESA



GEOMORPHOLOGY



EDUCATION

ANTHROPOLOGY—ARCHITECTURE—CIVIL ENGINEERING



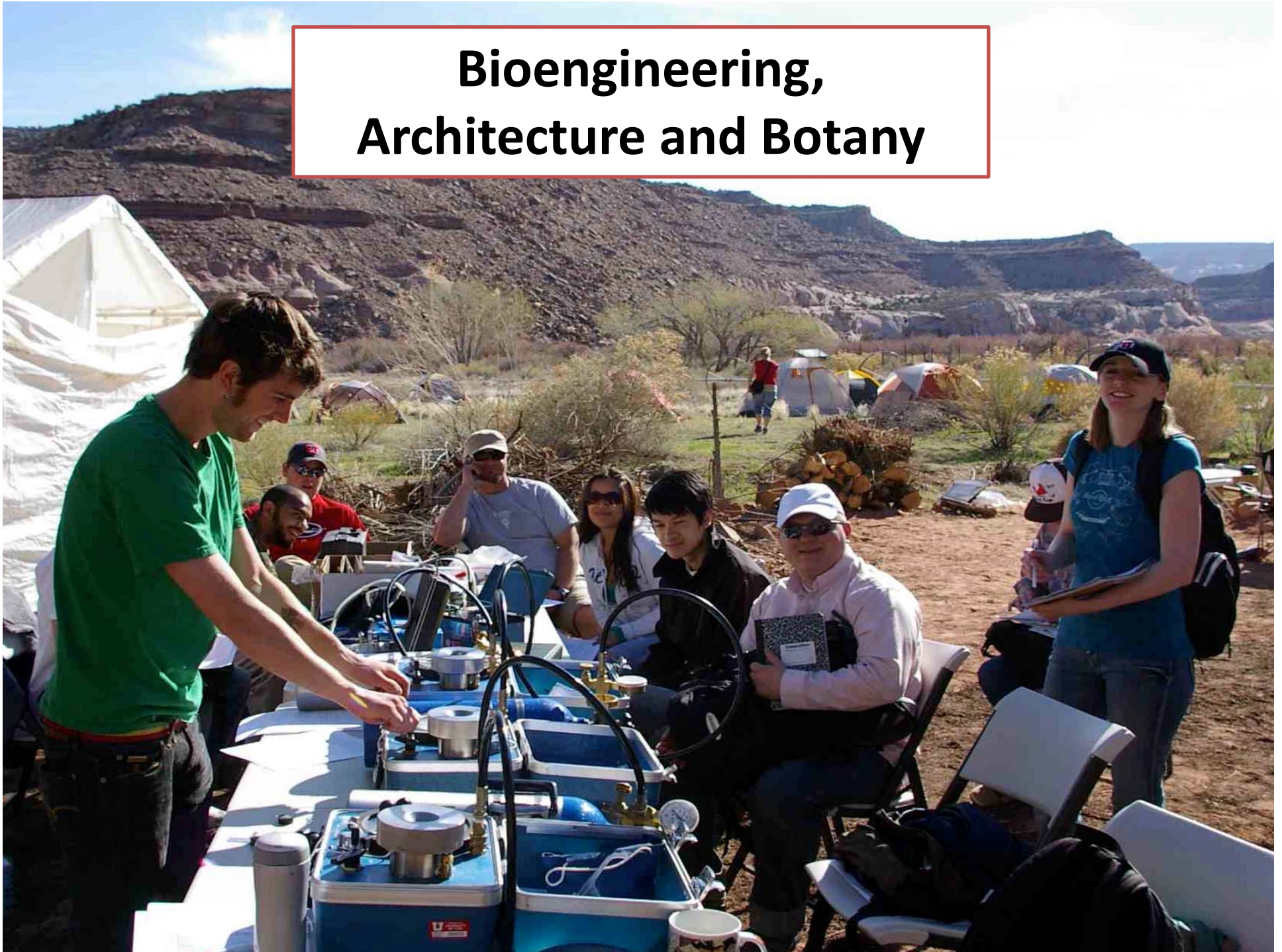
Entomology and.....



.....Service Learning



Bioengineering, Architecture and Botany



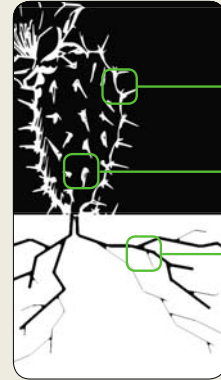
BUILT ECOLOGIES

Pre-fabrication
Water harvesting
Water treatment
Human-nature dialectic
Resource conservation
Environmental psychology



C³ cactus : collection : cubes jessica batty

cactus : case study



WATER TREATMENT

water storage
cells + tissue

natural 'anti-freeze'

sodium induced
osmotic pressure

components : 3



ORGANIC + FABRICATED

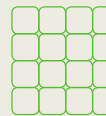
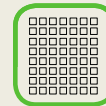
perforated, solid,
translucent outer shell

dark, natural sponge

sodium [from soap]
> antifreeze
> sterilization



system : application



THERMAL CONTROL

waste water
collection

sterilization
+
storage

evaporative cooling
+
thermal mass

program : 3



WASTE WATER RE-USE

showers

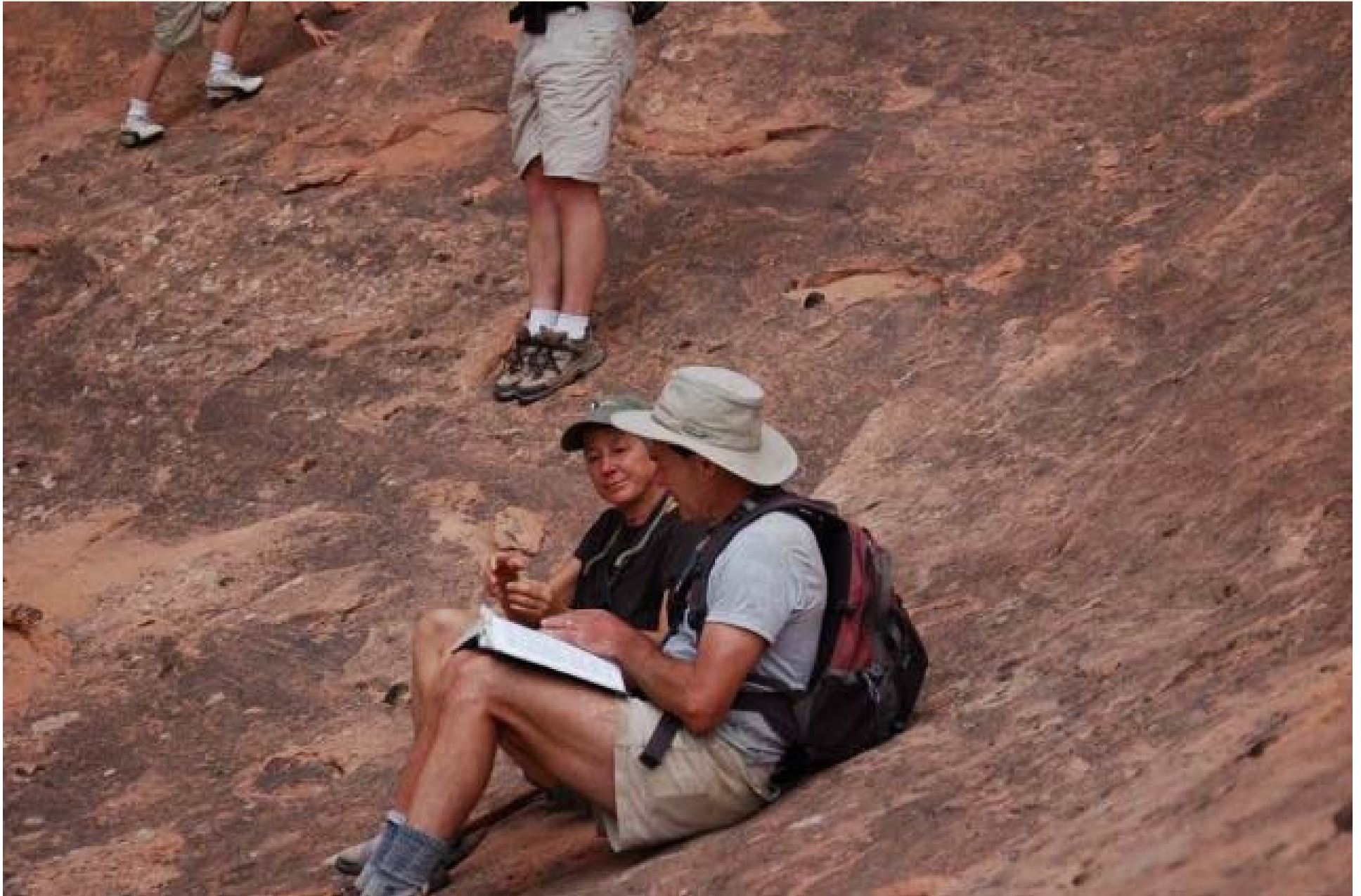
sinks [cook + wash]

pavilion wall

Landscape Painting and Ecology



Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Plant Ecology



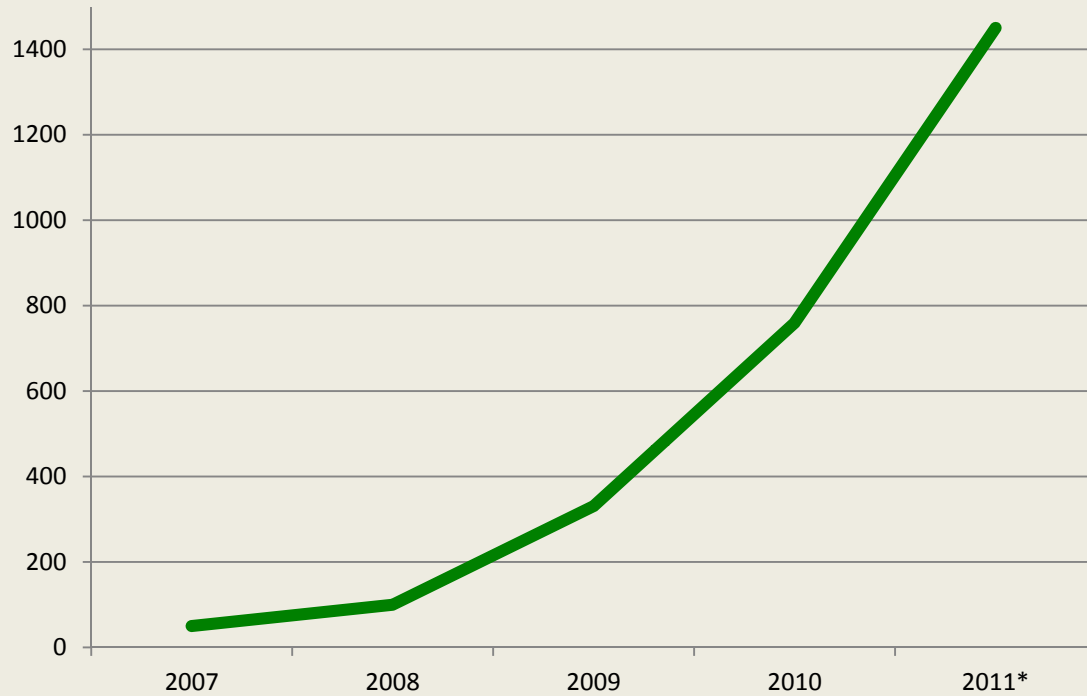
ENTOMOLOGY—SERVICE LEARNING—CREATIVE WRITING



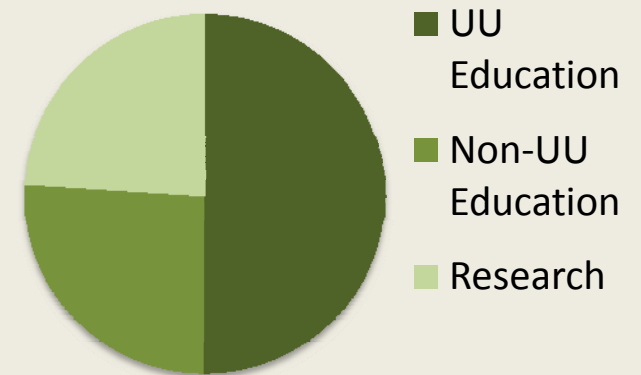
Facilities



USER DAYS



RESEARCH EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OUTREACH



New Bathhouse



RIO MESA: OFF-GRID FIELD CAMP



Rio Mesa Center
3-17-2011 Dolores River, Utah

GSBS 
ARCHITECTS

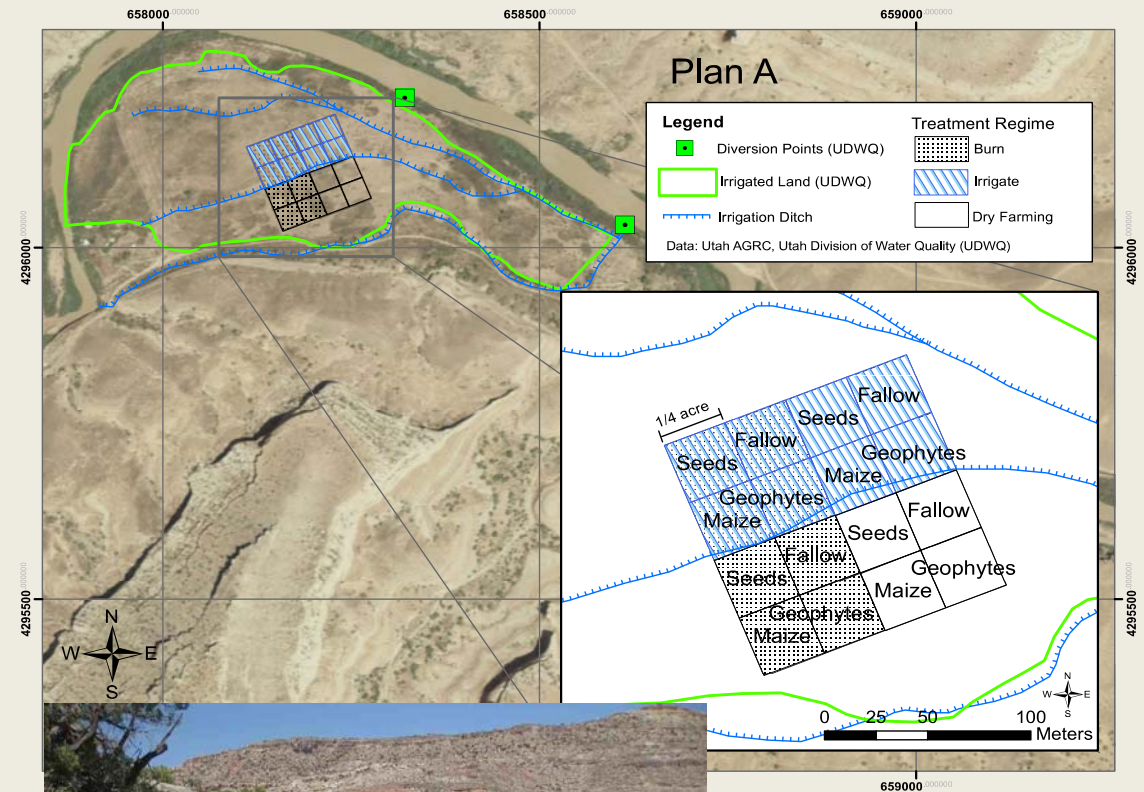
SO WHAT DOES ALL THIS HAVE TO DO WITH RESTORATION?



RESEARCH: ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE



RESEARCH: HUMAN HISTORY AND SUSTAINABILITY





Great opportunity!





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THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

