

## Update on Tamarisk Biocontrol in New Mexico

Kevin T. Gardner<sup>\*1</sup>

[\\*kevgardn@nmsu.edu](mailto:kevgardn@nmsu.edu)

<sup>1</sup>New Mexico State University, Box 30003, MSC 3BE Las Cruces, NM 88003

Two species of Tamarisk leaf beetles are now well established in New Mexico. *Diorhabda elongata* established in 2009 along the Pecos River in southeast NM and in 2010 defoliated 40 acres. Dispersal from the release site extended 1 mile upstream and 4 miles downstream in tamarisk previously treated with an aerial herbicide application. *D. carinulata*, although not released in New Mexico, has defoliated several thousand acres along the San Juan River and its tributaries. Beetles have dispersed throughout the entire stretch of the San Juan river in New Mexico.