

Dolores River Restoration Partnership (DRRP)

Background: The Dolores River flows for more than 200 miles through southwestern Colorado to its confluence with the Colorado River in Utah. While a myriad of factors affect the Dolores River, the invasion of tamarisk is of particular interest due to its extensive growth patterns which can displace native vegetation, impair wildlife habitat, and affect the health and sustainability of these vegetative communities.

The Dolores River - Riparian Action Plan (DR-RAP) was developed by stakeholders to help manage tamarisk 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, contractors and volunteers.

Scope: Restoration efforts are planned to occur on 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 \$3.7M.



A PUBLIC - PRIVATE COLLABORATION



Vision:

A thriving Dolores River system that is ecologically, socially, and economically sustainable in a multi-use context.

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 youth
	Economic	Increase employment opportunities; improve cost benefit ratio for contractors and youth service corps; enhance visitor travel to area
	Management	Manage adaptively, incorporate education, attract additional funding, facilitate communication



\$1.3M of Funding Secured To Date

- Bureau of Land Management
- Walton Family Foundation
- Packard Foundation
- El Pomar Foundation
- Colorado Water Conservation Board/Healthy Rivers Fund
- Colorado State Forest Service
- Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife
- Colorado River Water Conservation District
- USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

Social and On-the-Ground Achievements

- Signed MOU between 20 partners
- Over 700 acres of *both public and private* land have been treated for tamarisk, secondary weeds, and re-vegetated in various stages
- 90 young adults trained and engaged in many components of river restoration work
- 10 corps members placed in state or federal agency jobs as a result of experience gained on DRRP projects
- \$42,600 in AmeriCorps education awards for post secondary education
- 44 volunteers engaged through 2 events

Partners: Colorado and Utah BLM - Dolores, Grand Junction, Uncompahgre and Moab Field Offices; Natural Resource Conservation Service; Colorado Department of Agriculture Palisade Insectary; Colorado State University; Dolores, San Miguel, Montrose, and Mesa Counties, Colorado; Grand County Utah; Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company; Four Corners School/Canyon Country Youth Corps; Southwest Conservation Corps; Western Colorado Conservation Corps; Dolores Tamarisk Action Group; Dolores River Dialogue; Southeastern Utah Tamarisk Partnership; Bureau of Reclamation; Dolores Water Conservancy; US Fish and Wildlife Service; Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife; Walton Family Foundation; nonprofits; private landowners and businesses.

DRRP Website: <http://ocs.fortlewis.edu/drrp/default.htm>

Youth Corps in Action: www.youtube.com/tamariskproject

