

CC 2D

Stillwater Sciences

RiversEdge West

RESTORE CONNECT + INNOVATE Riparian Restoration and Tamarisk Beetle Workshop







I om Till Photography, Inc.



TFRANCI

Strategic Habitat Enhancements *The* WALTON FAMII FOUNDATIO

Tamarisk and Tamarisk Beetle History, Release, and Spread



Ben Bloodworth Program Coordinator

Tamarisk is a non-native phreatophyte that can dominate riparian lands



Getting to know tamarisk...

In the U.S., tamarisk is an invasive species

Invasive species = non-native to the ecosystem in which they are found and can cause environmental, economic, or human harm

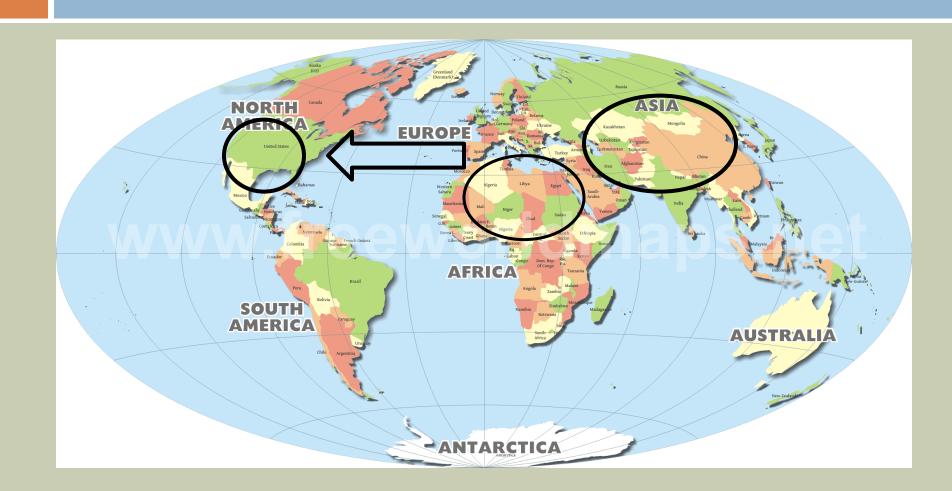
Leaves are scale-like with salt-secreting glands



Produces 500,000 seeds/yr Dispersed by wind, water, animals



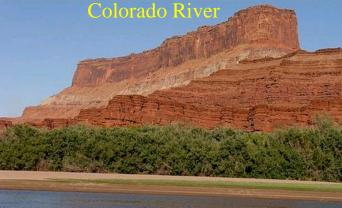
How did it get here?



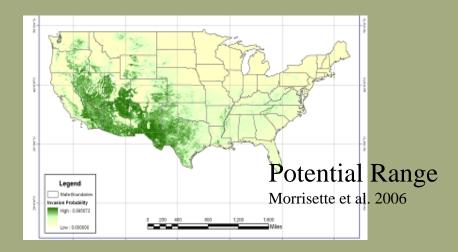
 ≥ 5 *Tamarix* species; most are *T. ramosissima* X *chinensis* hybrids
 3rd most common tree in western rivers, both regulated and free-flowing
 > 1 million ha. in No. America









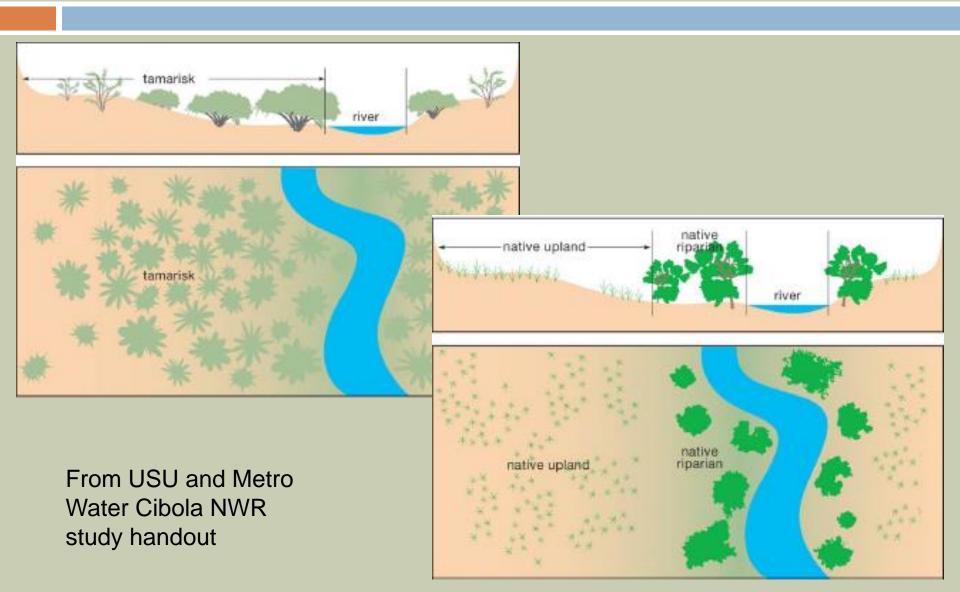


- Deeper roots than most natives (mesquite has roots almost as deep)
- Does **NOT** use 200 gallons of water per day, but has water use roughly equal to native riparian species
- Can survive in dryer areas/upper benches and in times of drought where native trees cannot reach water table
- Grows more densely than other native plants



Tamarisk Water Use

Simplified Conceptual Model of Tamarisk Dominated vs. Native Riparian Areas

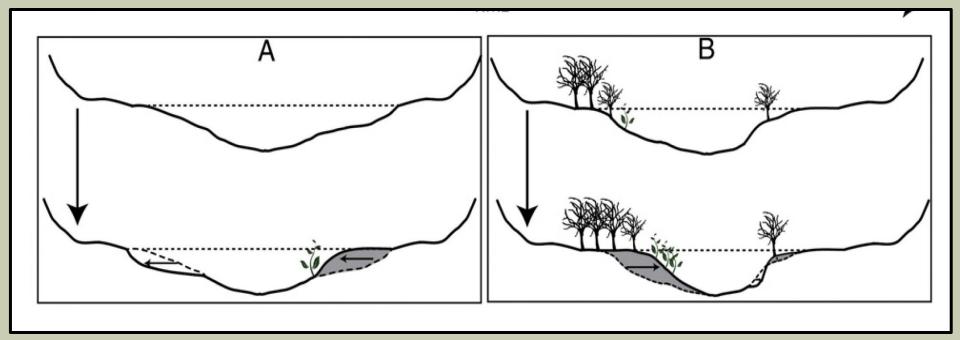


More flood/drought resistant than other species



Roots can remain under water for up to 70 days and grow up to 25 feet deep

Tamarisk and Channel Narrowing



From: Manners, et al. (2014). *Mechanisms of vegetationinduced channel narrowing of an unregulated canyon river: Results from a natural field-scale experiment.* Geomorphology 211 (2014) 100-115.



Then by Geology teacher \$ principal Floyd Kelly about 1921-1924

Flow alterations, both man-made and vegetation induced, have reduced habitat complexity (ditch-like river).

The bank stabilizing effects of the tamarisk prevent floodplain access and limit the creation of complex habitat (split channels, backwaters, pools, and riffles).

[Historic bridge supports circled in red]

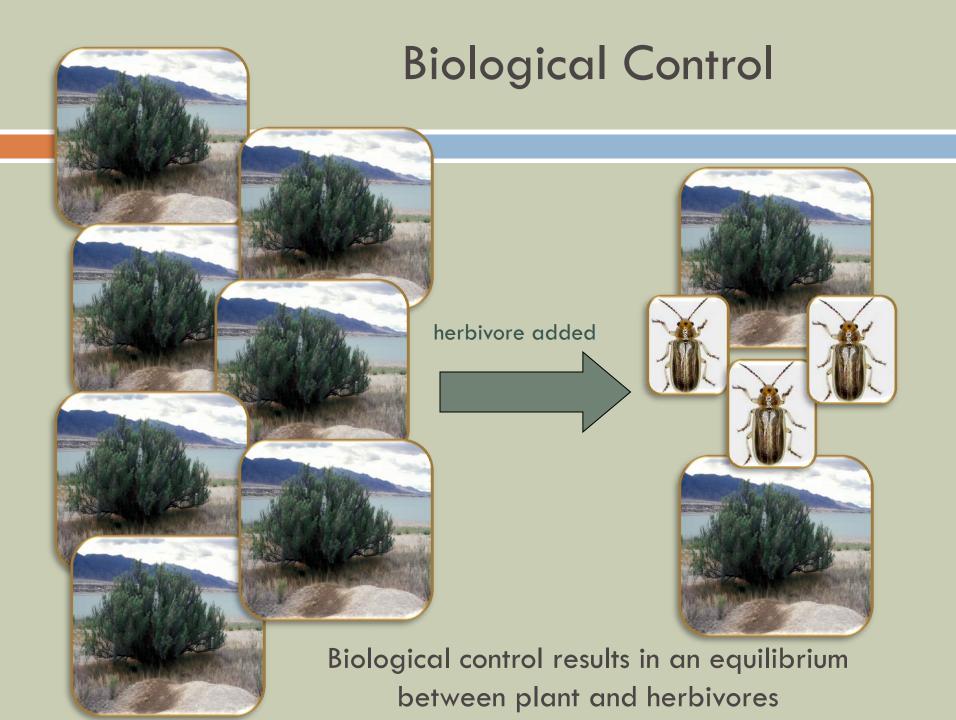


Landscape-Level Control isn't Practical

Humboldt River, NV

Tamarisk (Diorhabda spp.) leaf beetle

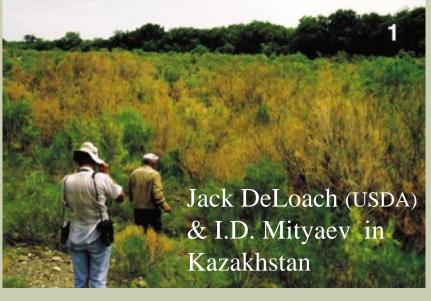




Classical Biological Control Ideal Candidate:

- No native Tamaricaceae
- Envir. impacts strong
- Low economic value
- Unusual chemistry, thus many specialist herbivores





Overseas Exploration: >300 specialist insects





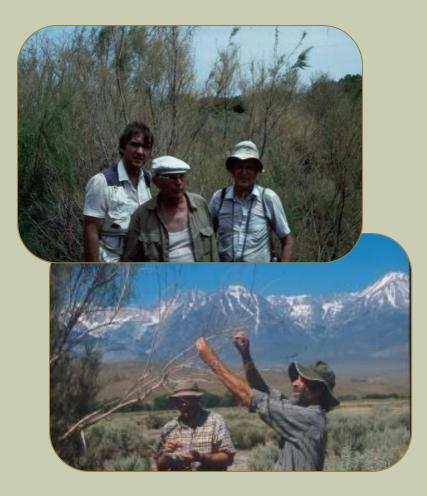
Diorhabda carinulata (tamarisk leaf beetle)

Coniatus tamarisci (weevil)

1996 – 3 candidates approved by USDA *Trabutina mannipara* (mealy bug)



Tamarisk biological control timeline



1987:

Overseas exploration and research to find agent or agents □1989-1994: Host specificity testing **□1994**: **TAG** approval **1998-2000** Field cage tests and monitoring plan put into place 2001: Limited open releases

Humboldt River Basin in 2003 showing extensive tamarisk defoliation by *D.* (photo: A. Brinkerhoff)

With 40,000 acres defoliated Lovelock became the prime collection site for *Diorhabda* in North America *Diorhabda carinulata* from Nevada, site of the first success





Collecting beetles near Lovelock, NV, 2005



Cages filled with beetles from Nevada



Trays of Diorhabda for distribution



August, 2005, first open field release in western Colorado, BLM site, Horsethief Bench

Larvae & Adults only eat Tamarisk (10+ years Testing)

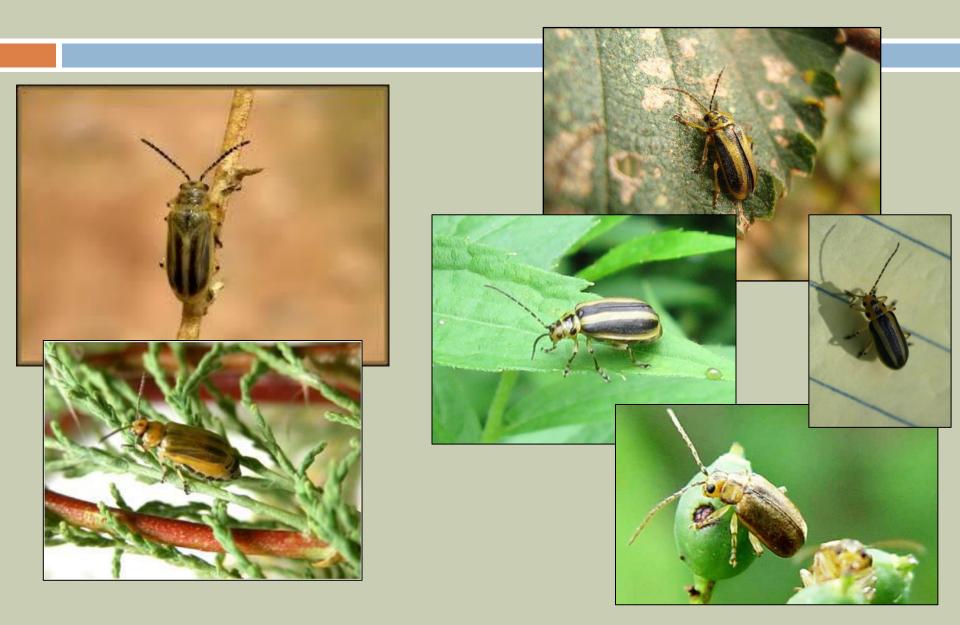


Larva

Adults pupate & over-winter in litter

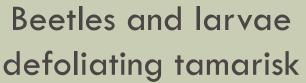
Egg

Other Similar leaf beetles



Tamarisk Beetle - Diorhabda spp.

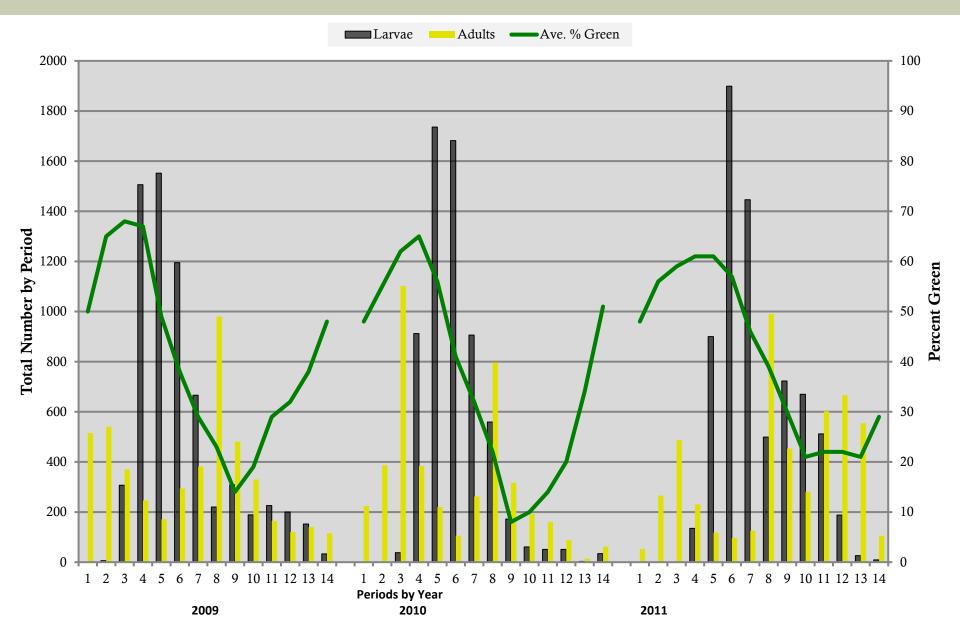






Courtesy of Dr. Dan Bean, Palisade Insectary

Beetle/Tamarisk Interaction: Green to Brown 2009 - 2011



Beetles drop from host plant and pupate in the leaf litter

arvae

pupae

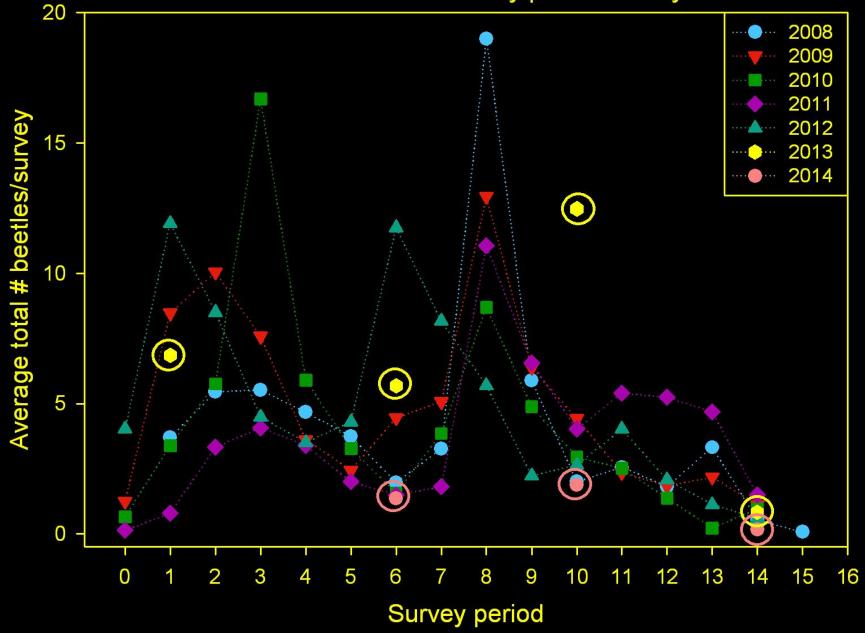
Adults emerge from the leaf litter, climb up the defoliated plants and fly in search of food.

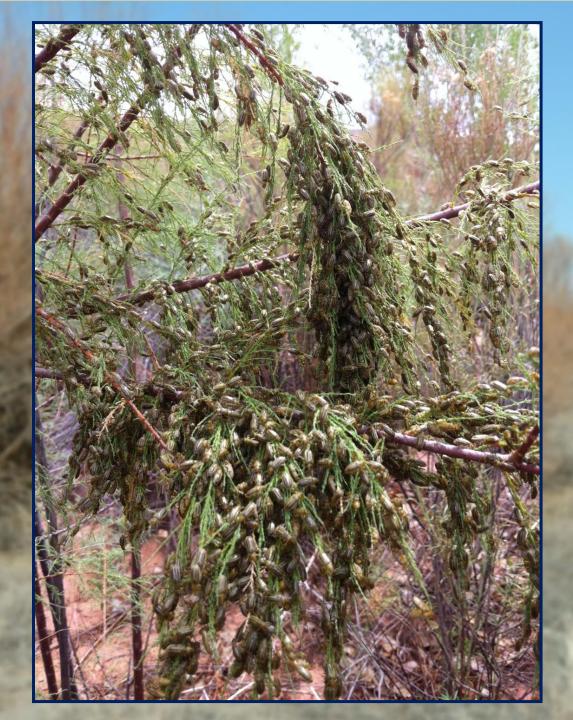
arvae

adults

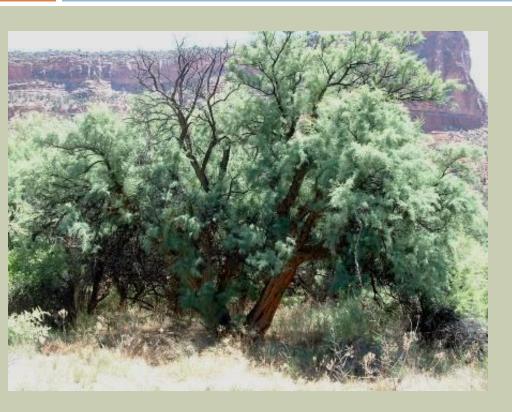
pupae

Average number of adult beetles counted per site across Grand Co. UT each survey period each year





Beetles will not eradicate Tamarix



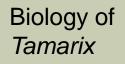


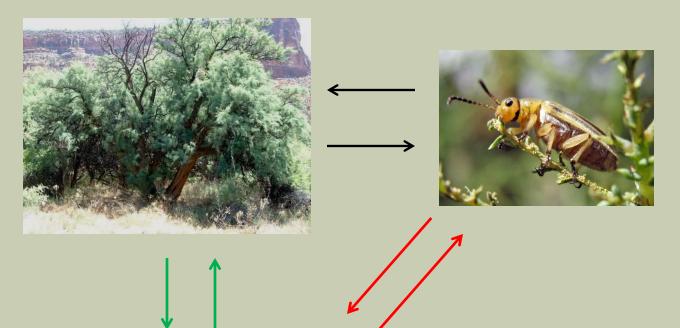
An ecological relationship is established between the herbivore and the plant





Beetles will shift ecological relationships

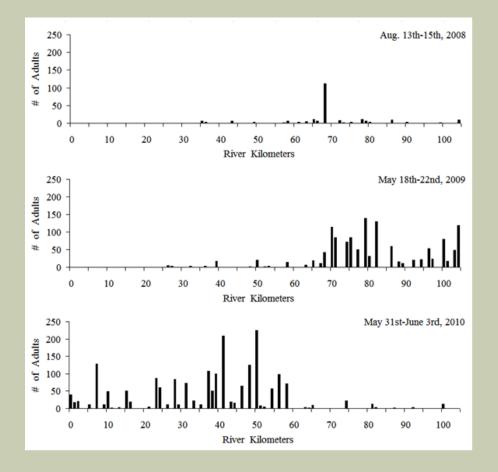




Biology of *Diorhabda*

biotic and abiotic ecosystem components

Beetles will defoliate *Tamarix* and the timing and frequency will be variable.



Beetles will move over large distances, periodically defoliating tamarisk stands, as illustrated by their movements on the Dolores River.

Jamison et al 2015

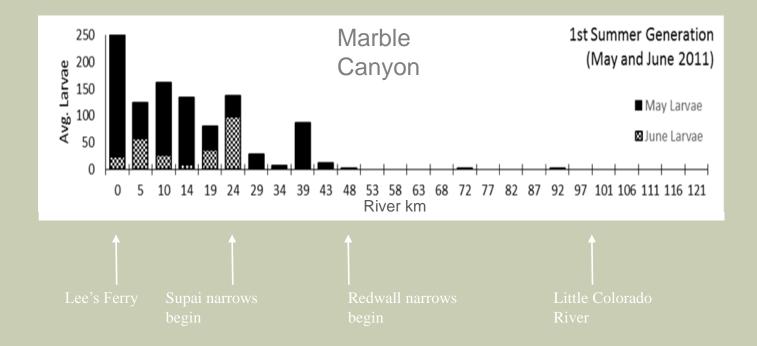
Tamarisk foliates in spring



Larvae hatch

OW/F



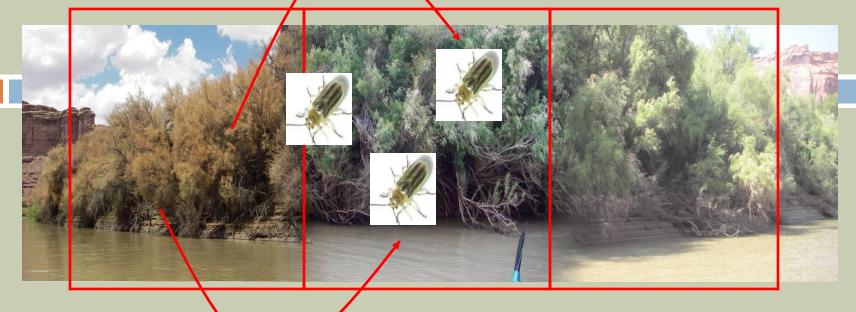


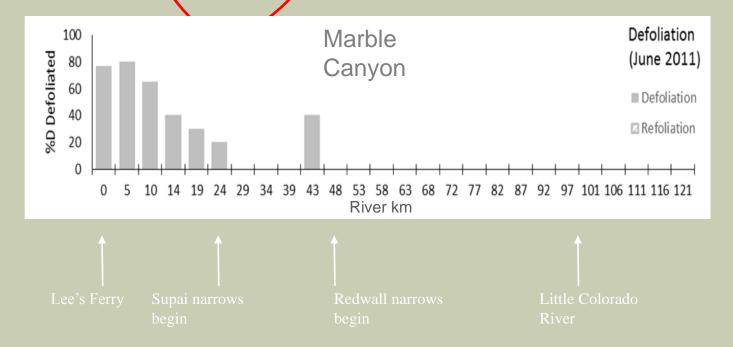
Larval feeding leads to defoliation!!



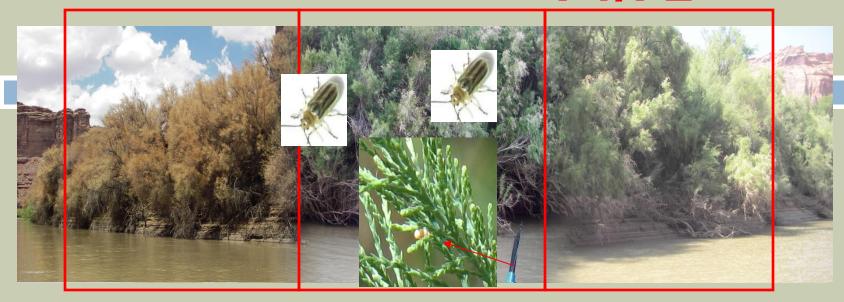


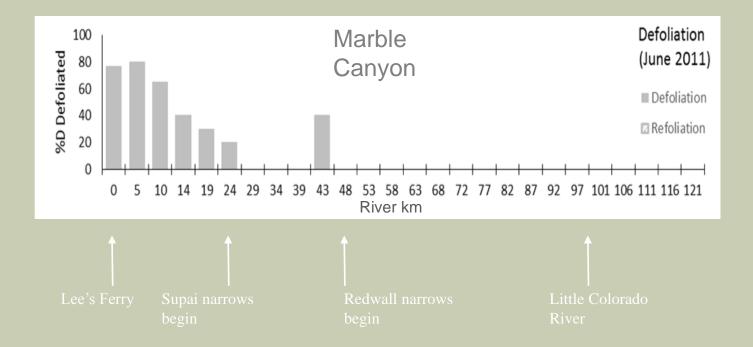
Larvae pupate and new adults disperse in search of green tamarisk





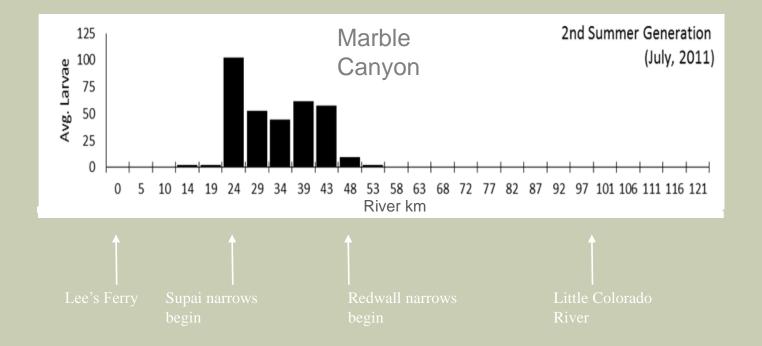
New generation established **F1/F2**





Larvae hatch and begin F1/F





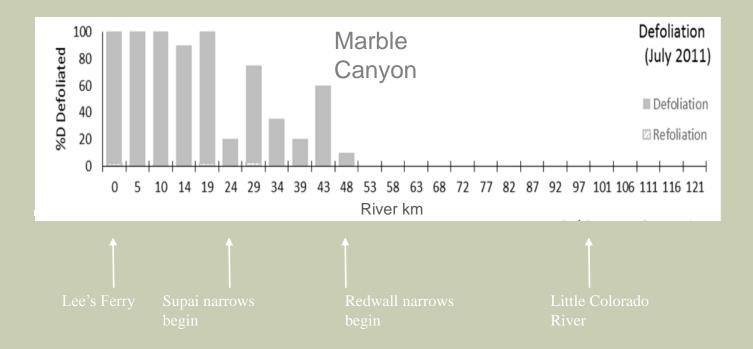
Larval feeding leads to defoliation!!





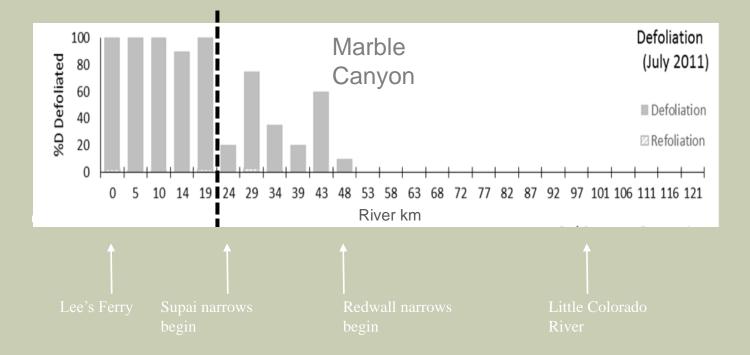
Larvae defoliate new zone





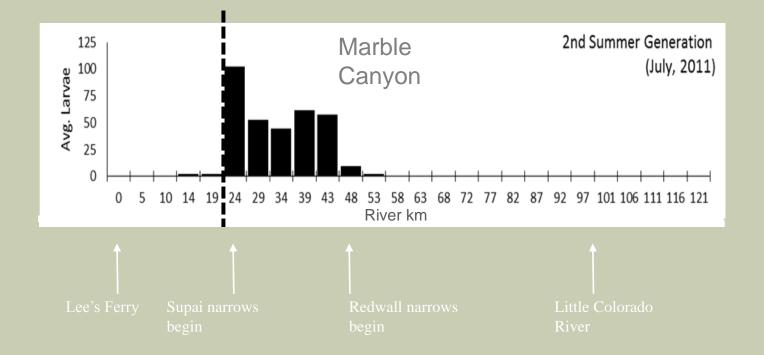
Larvae defoliate new





Larvae hatch and begin F1/F2

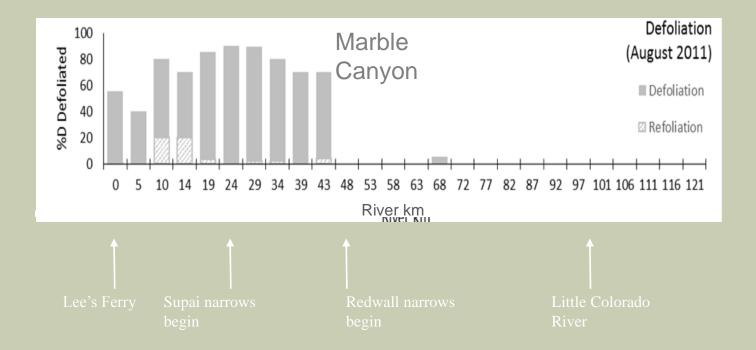






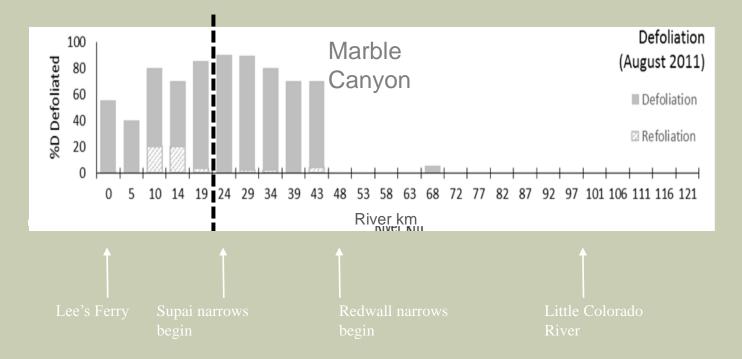
Defoliation continues, refoliation is new refugia





F3 Defoliation continues, refoliation is new refugia

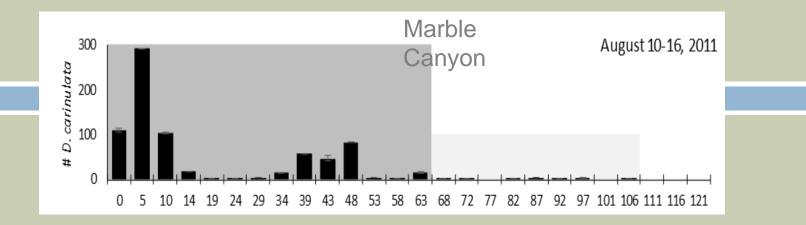


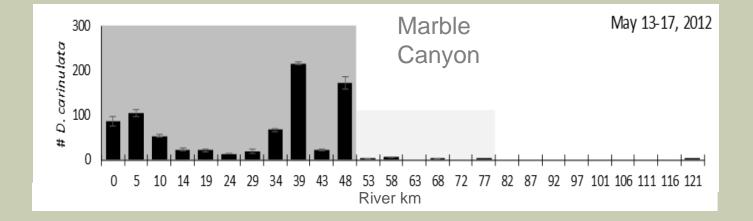


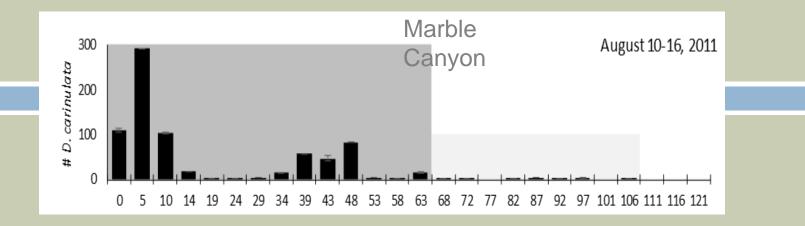
F3 Next generation of larvae are established

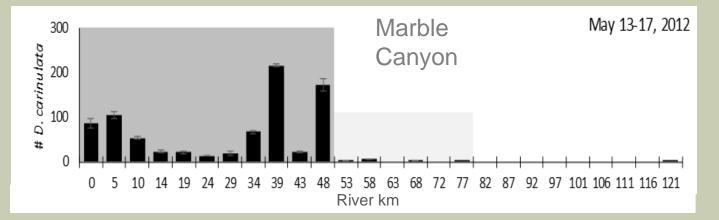












The distribution of beetles in the fall is predictive of where they'll start the following year.



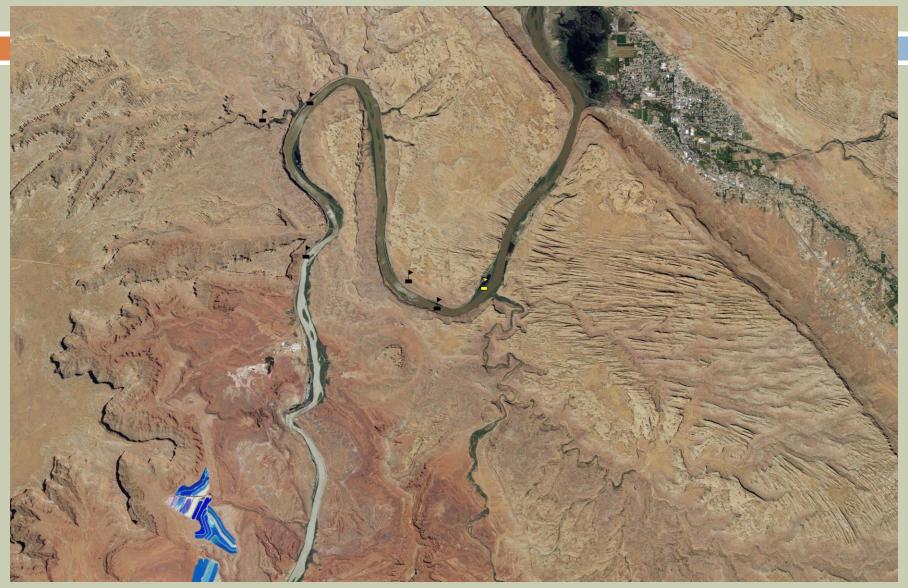
Beetle Browning 2005 at WB Site



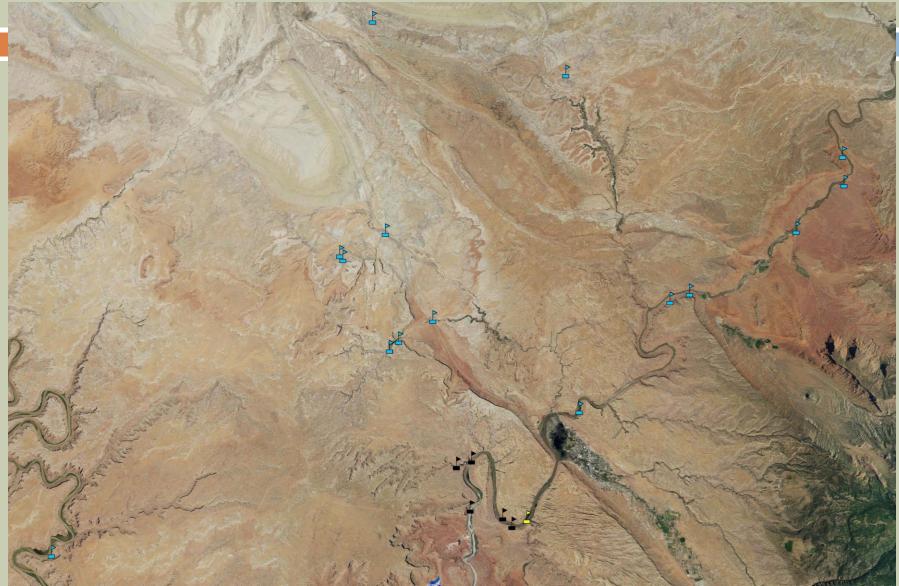
Beetle Browning 2008 at WB Site



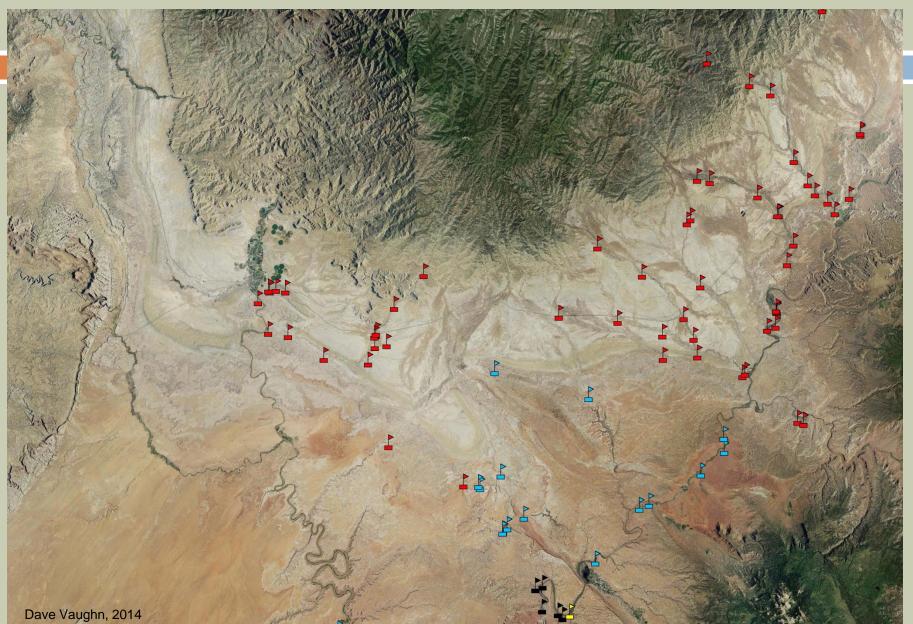
2006: 400 ha browned (add black flags)

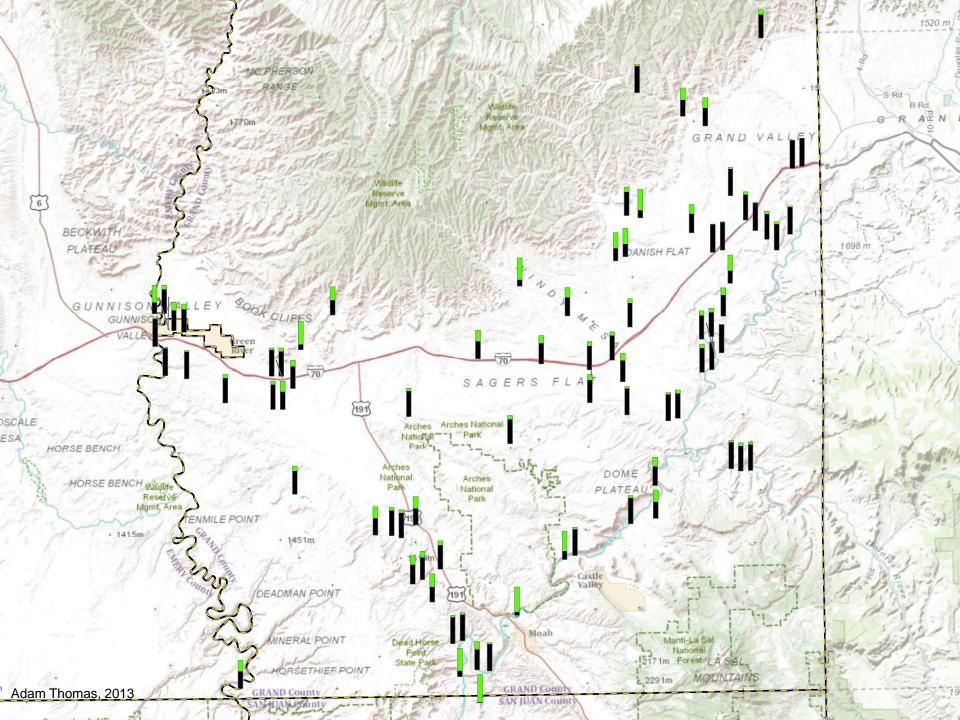


2007: 4000 ha browned (add blue flags)



2008 – 2013: > 650,000 ha browned (add red flags)





2007 pre-beetle

Stan Young ranch along East Salt Creek in Mesa County before and after beetles released.

- \$2500 A

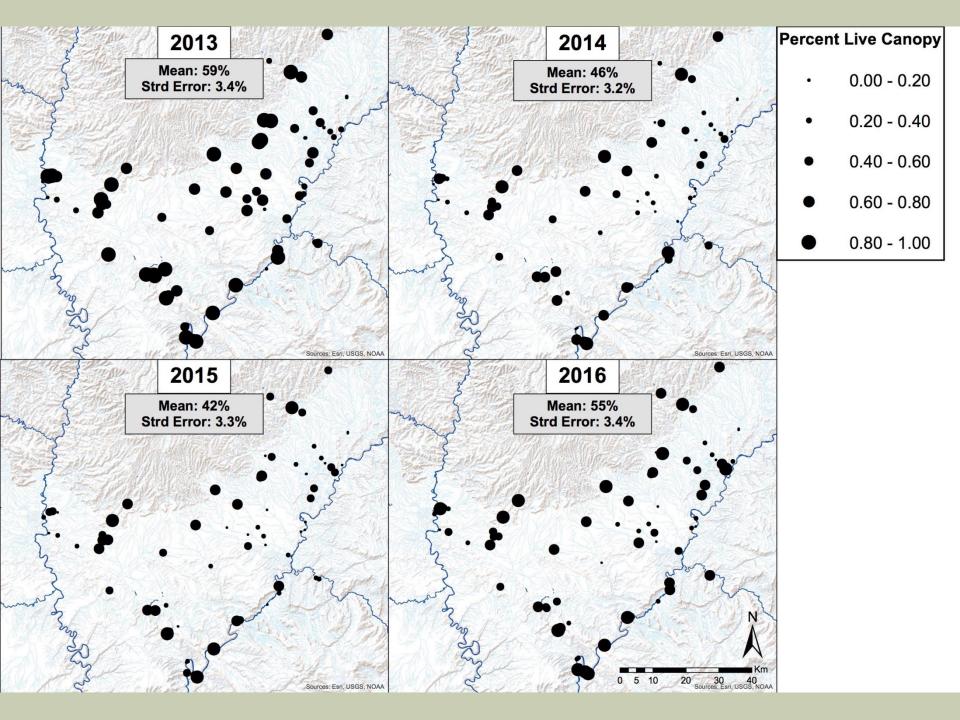
2010 post-beetle

Colorado River near Moab, Utah

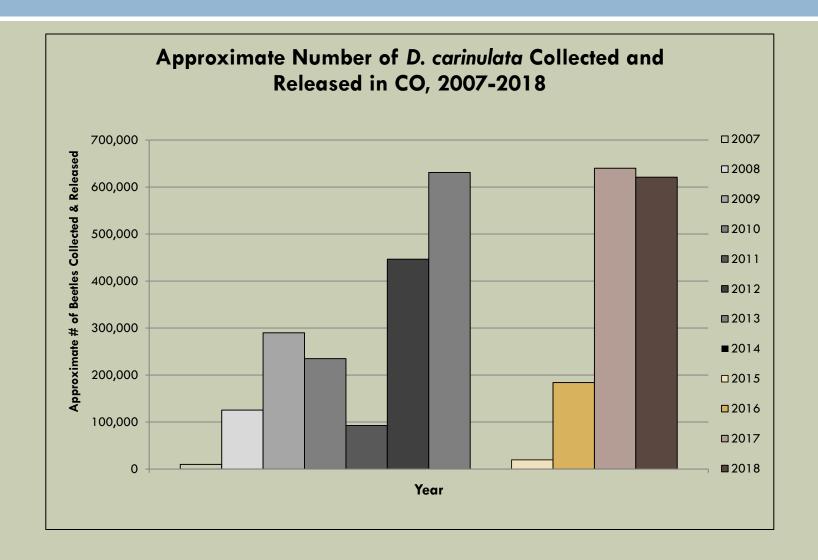
State of State of State

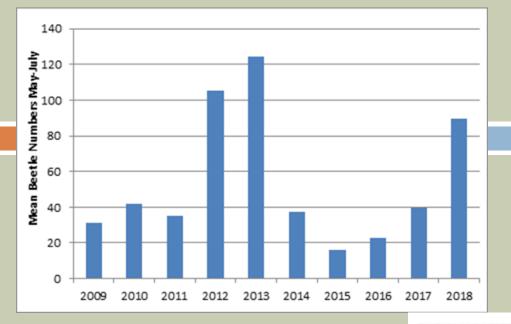






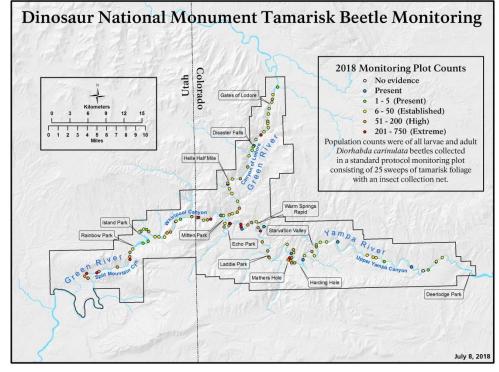
Steady rise in populations across western CO with widespread defoliation across sites in 2017 and 2018.









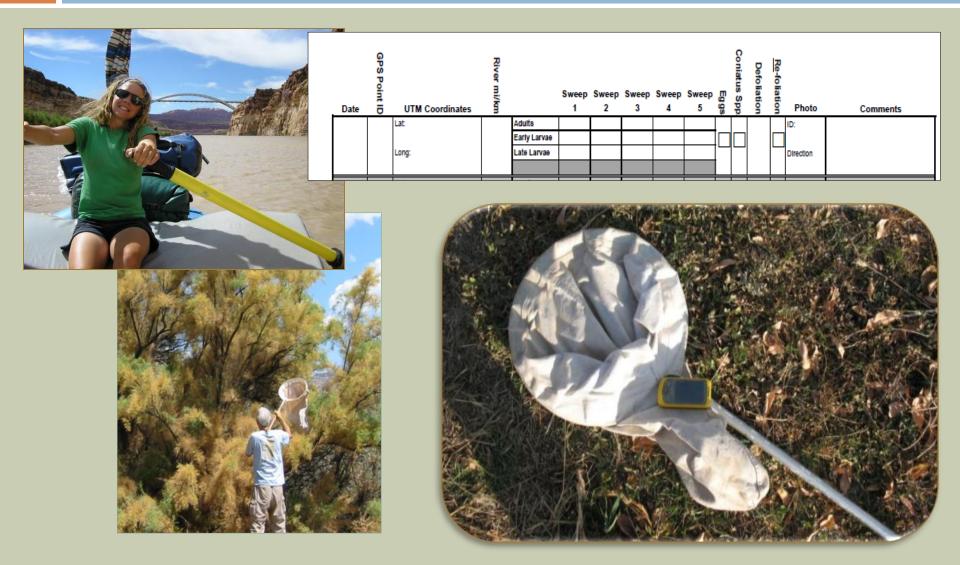


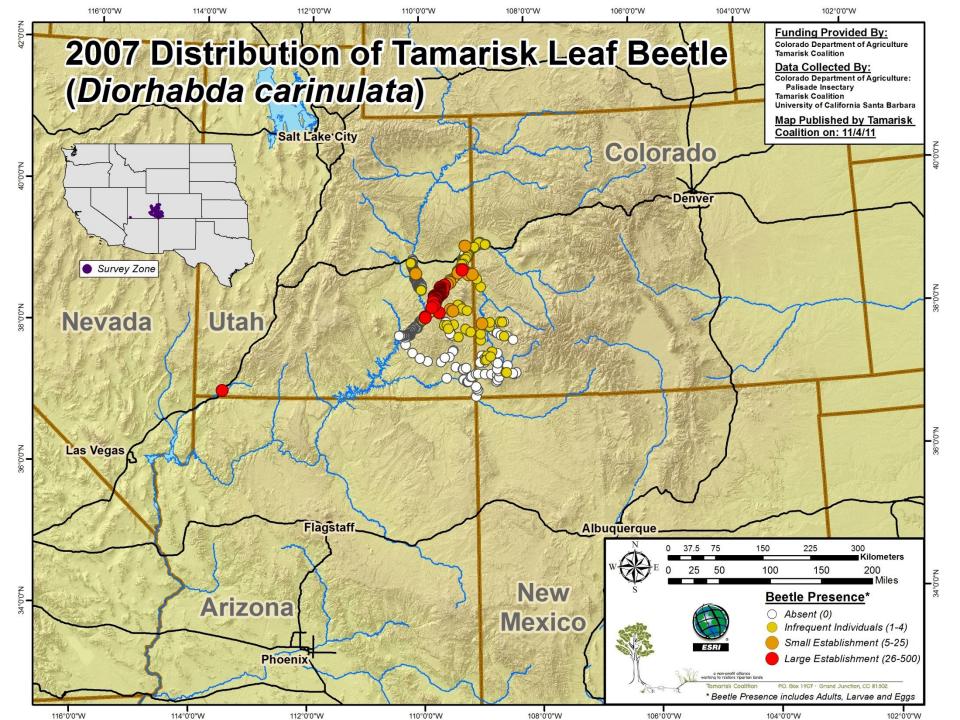
Origins of the Biological Control Monitoring Program

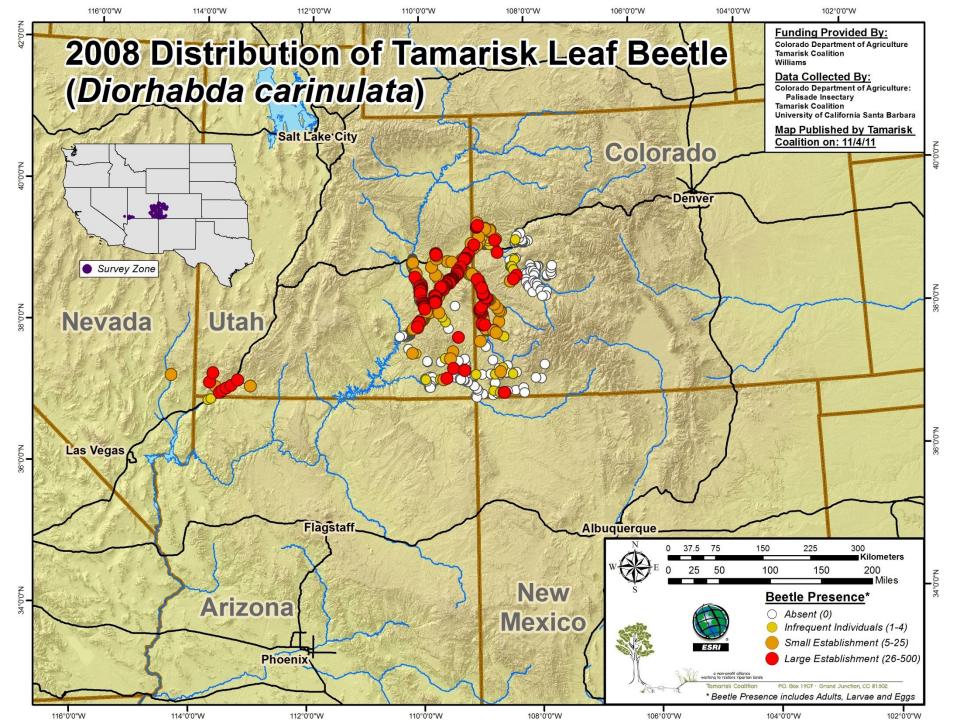
- Colorado Department of Agriculture Palisade Insectary wanted to expand monitoring outside of CO
- 2007 TC worked with CDAPI and UC Santa Barbara
 to develop
 landscape scale
 monitoring program
- Focused on the
 Colorado River Basin

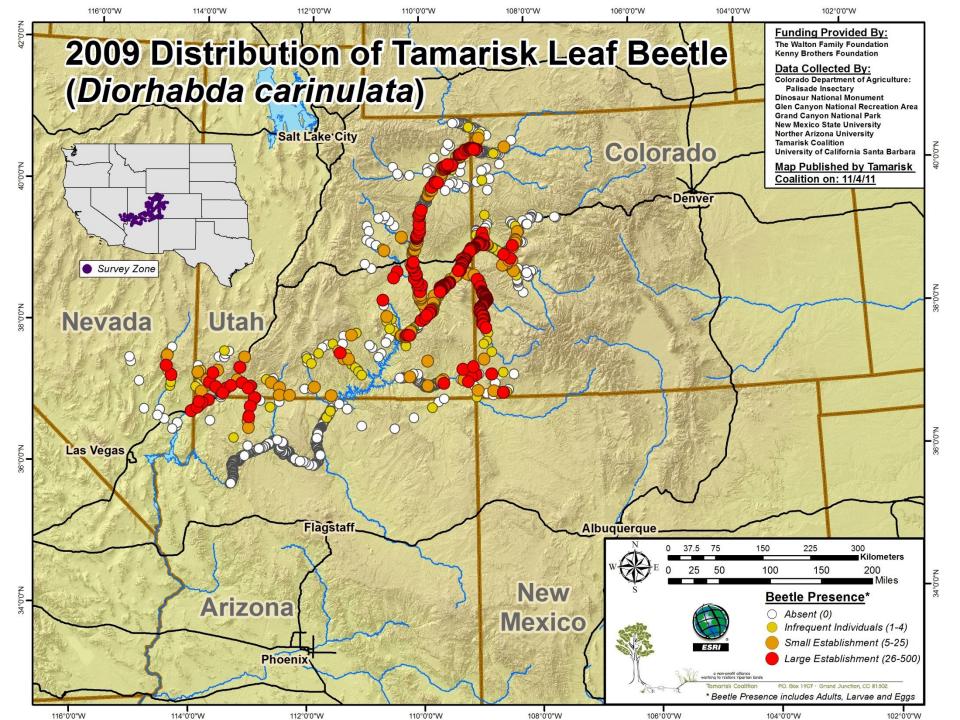


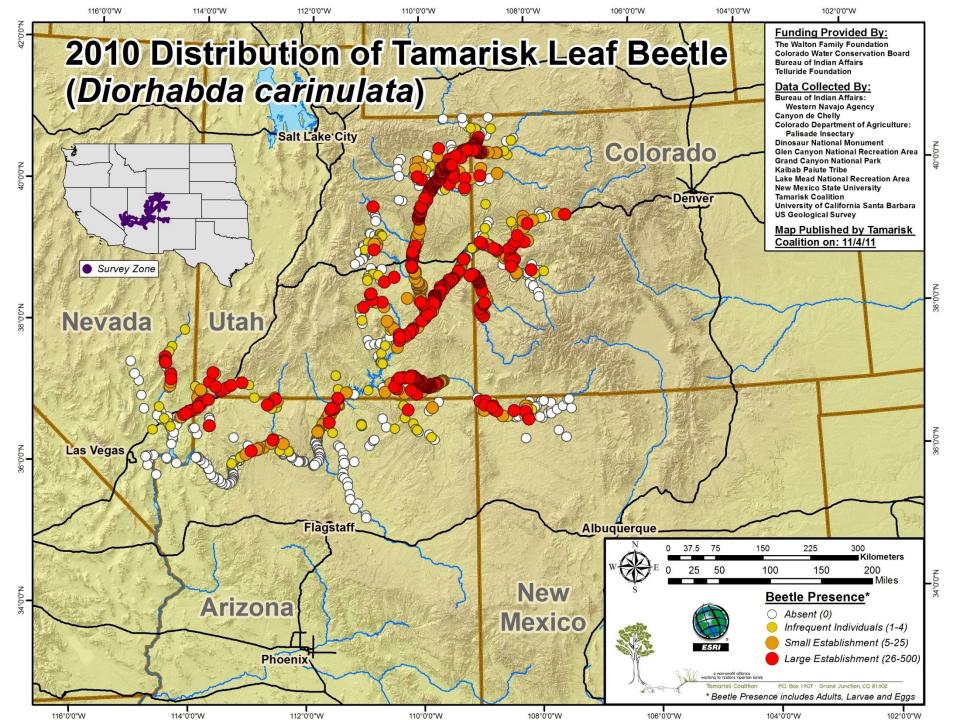
Monitoring the beetles

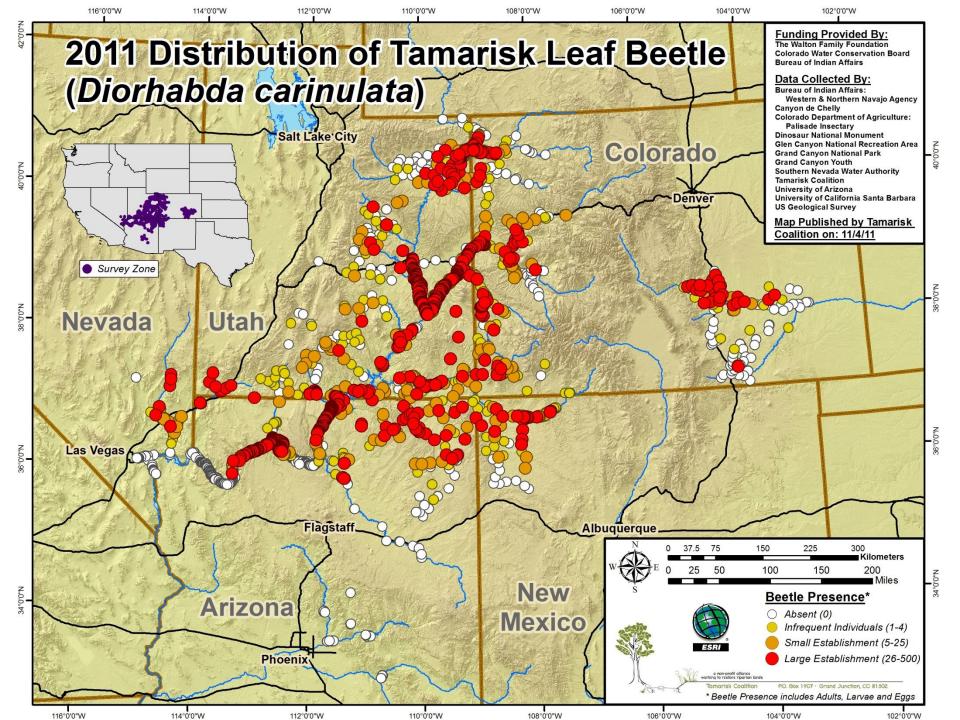


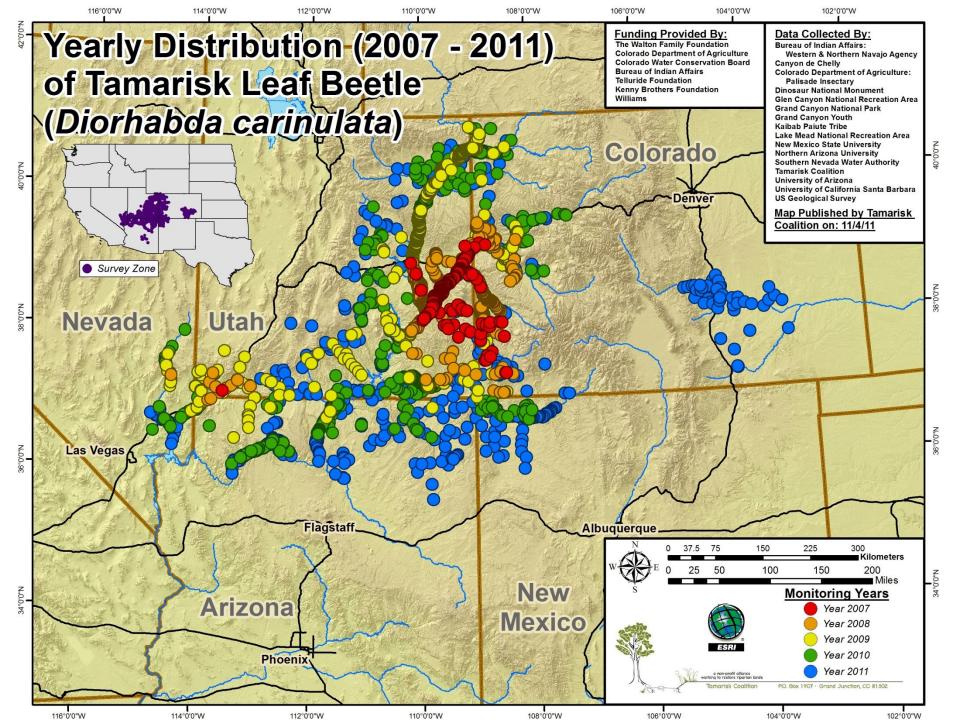


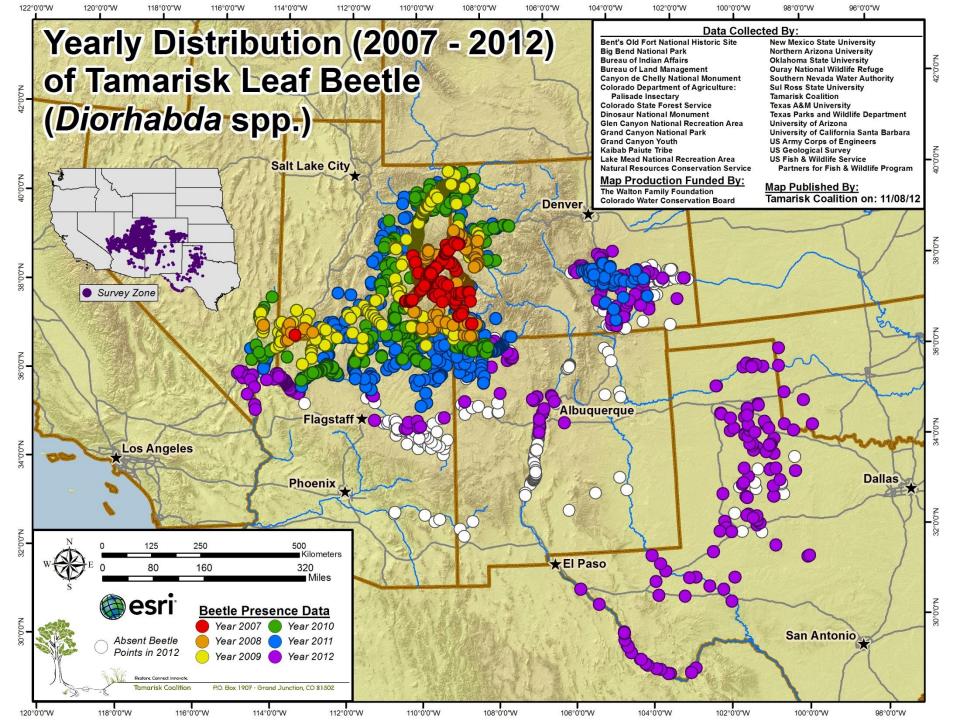


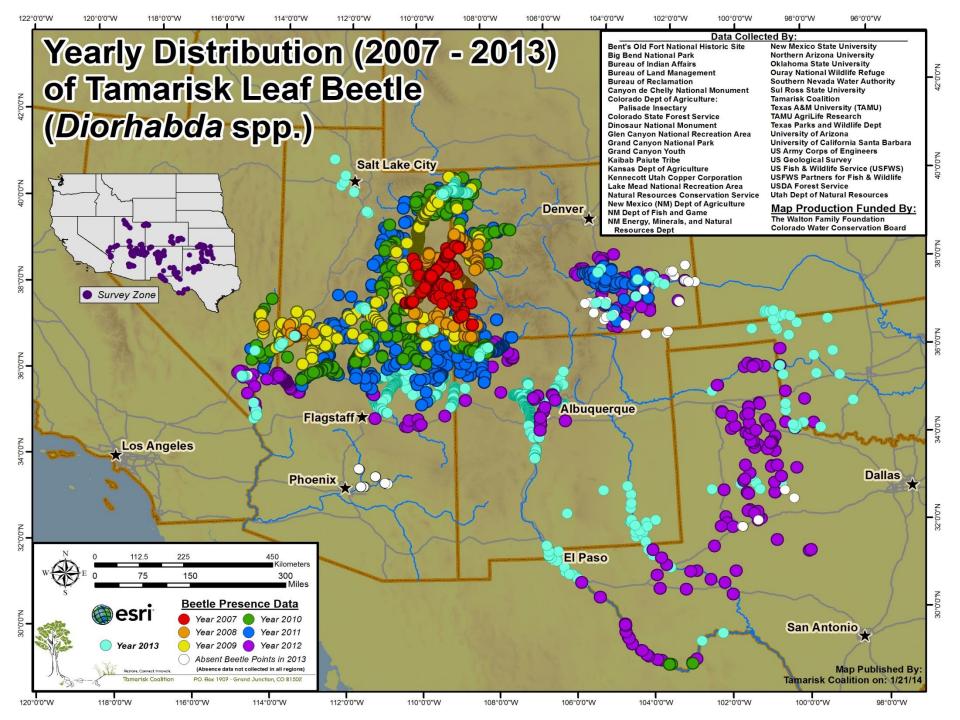


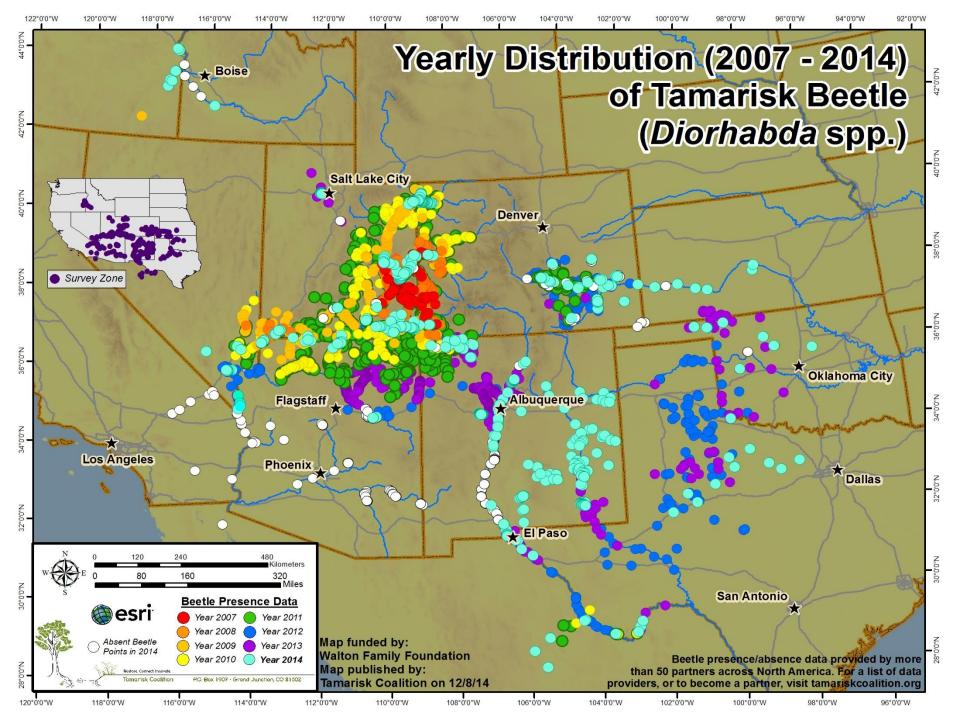


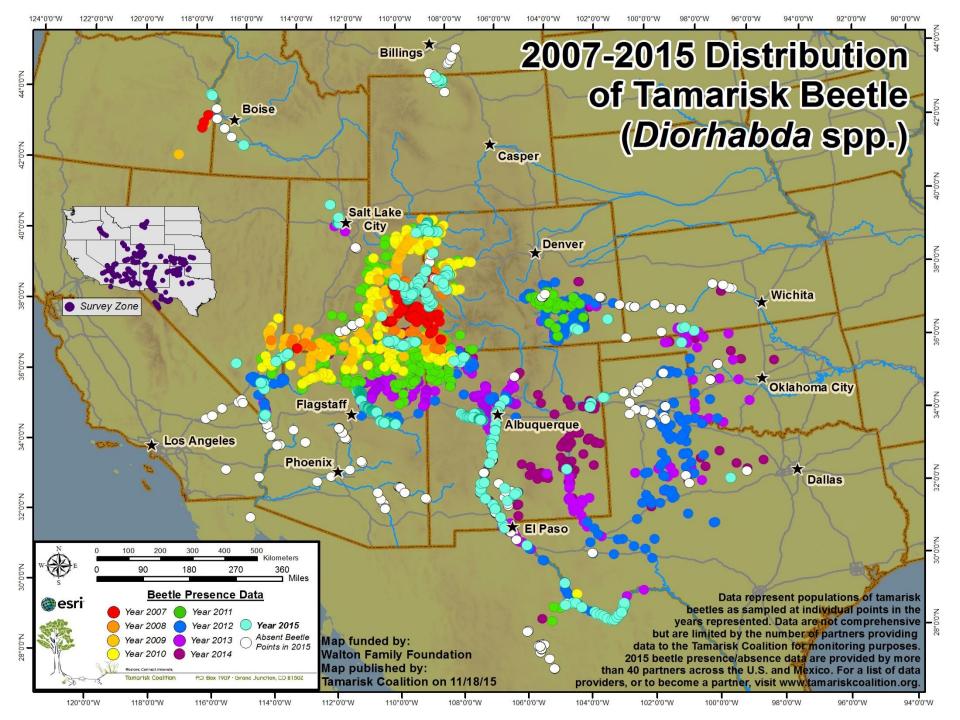


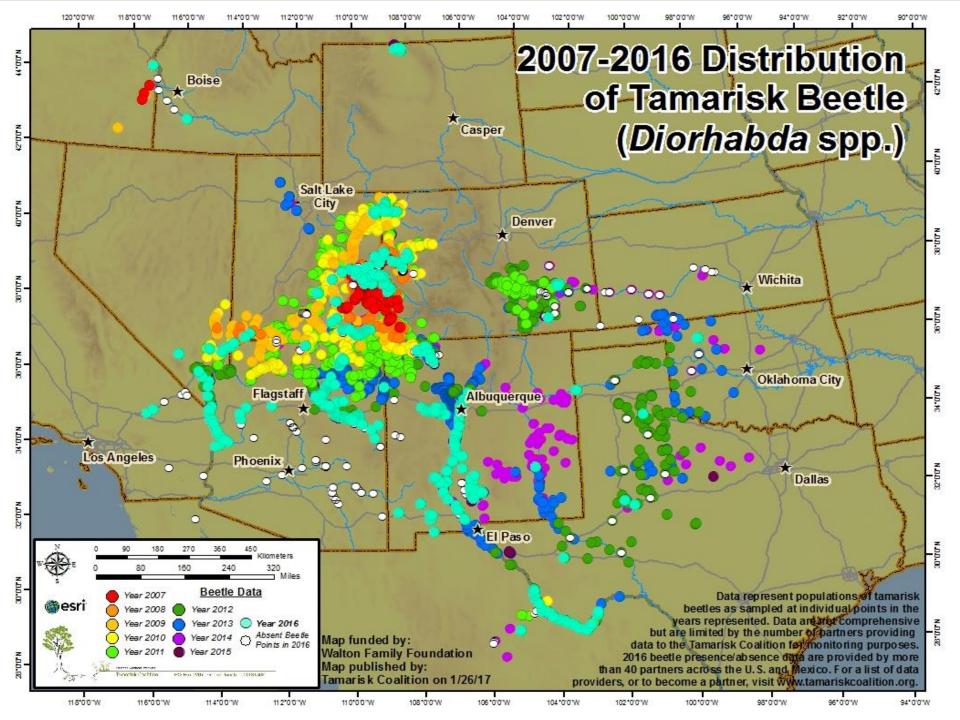


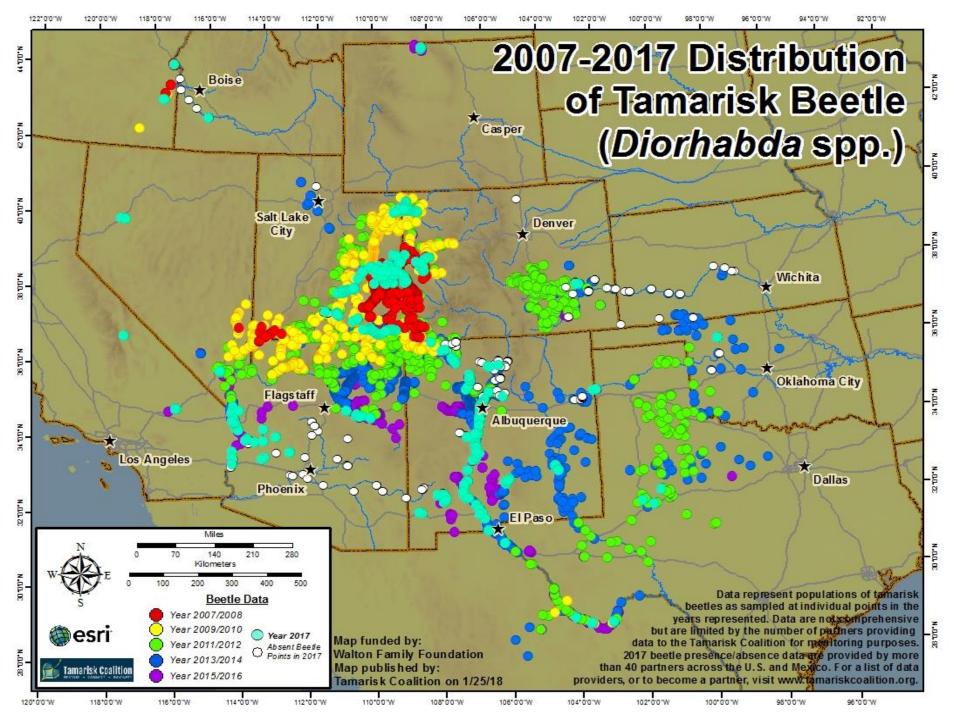


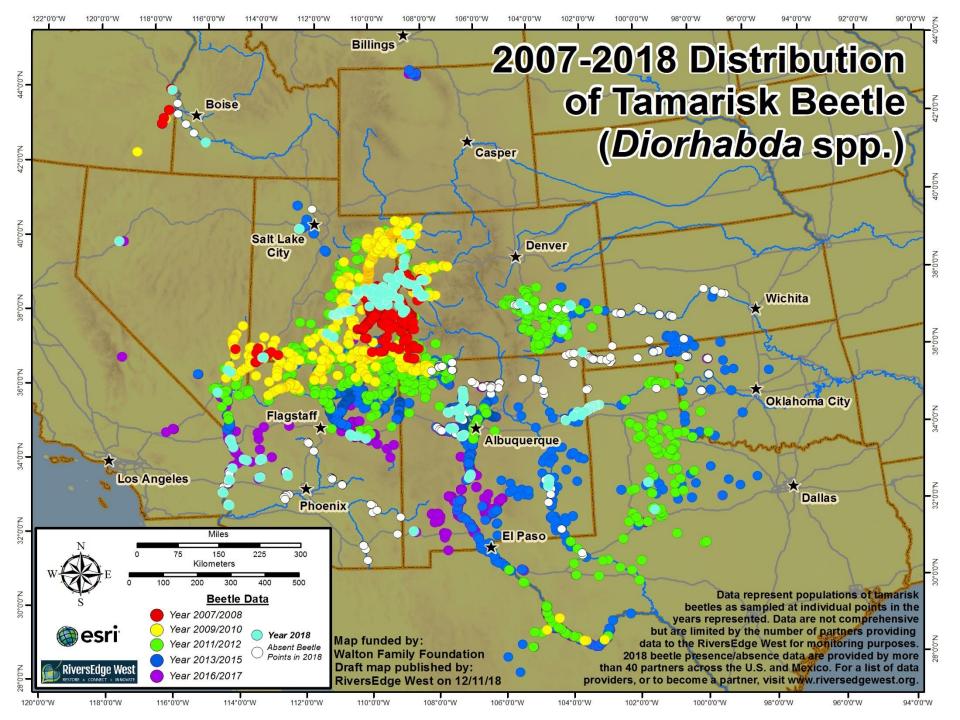










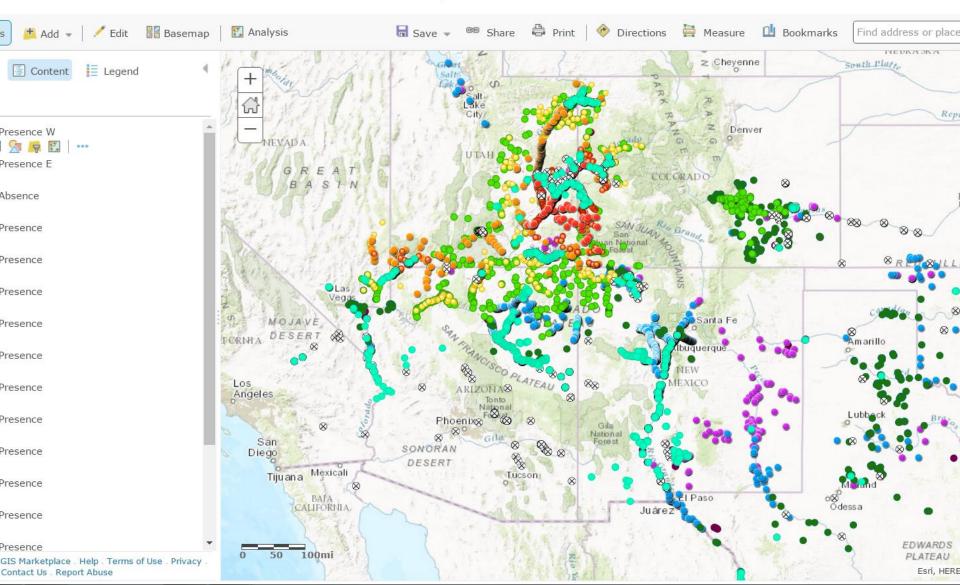


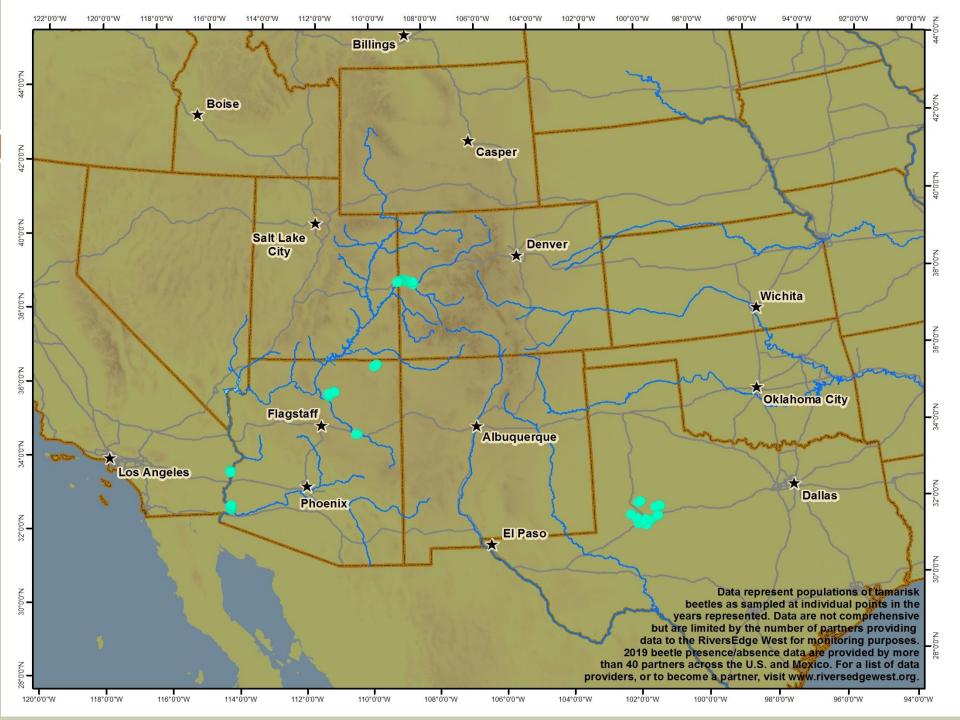
TC ArcGIS Online Map

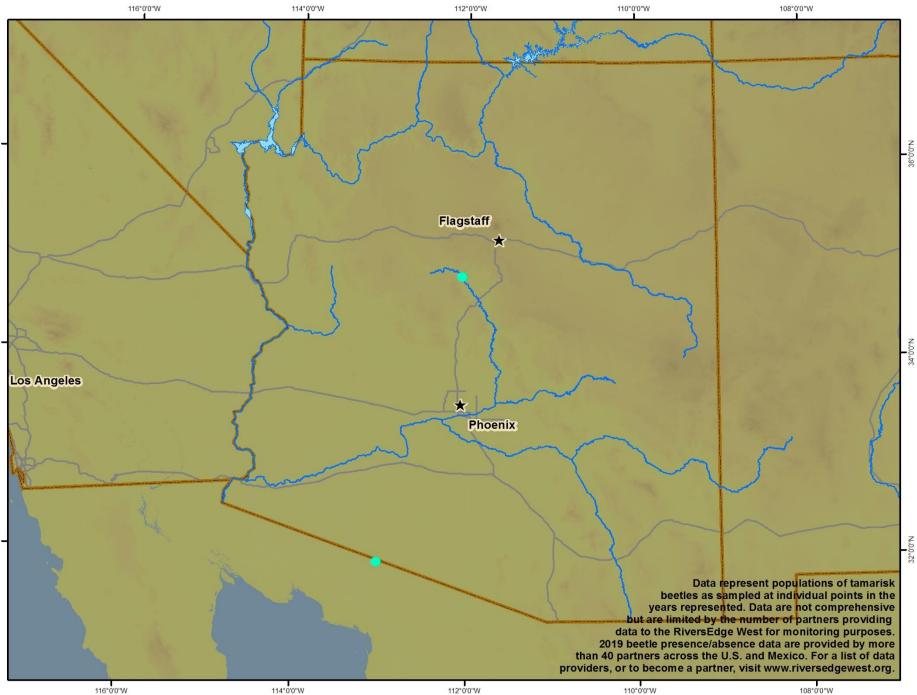
() tamariskcltn.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=b6a6028781034008888783d5b47e8c39

Tamarisk Coalition's 2016 Tamarisk Beetle Distribution Map

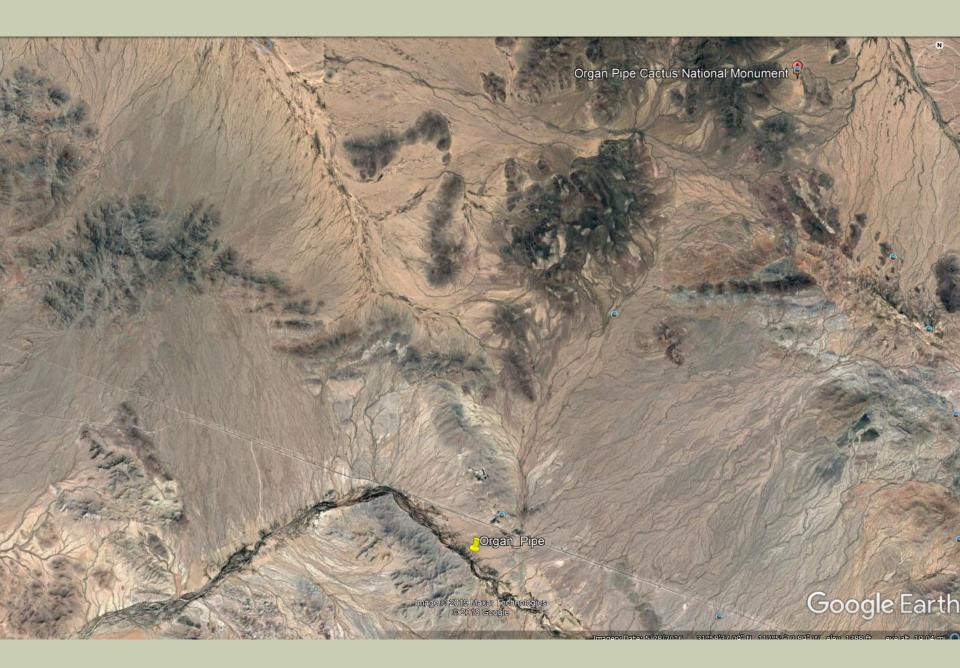
New







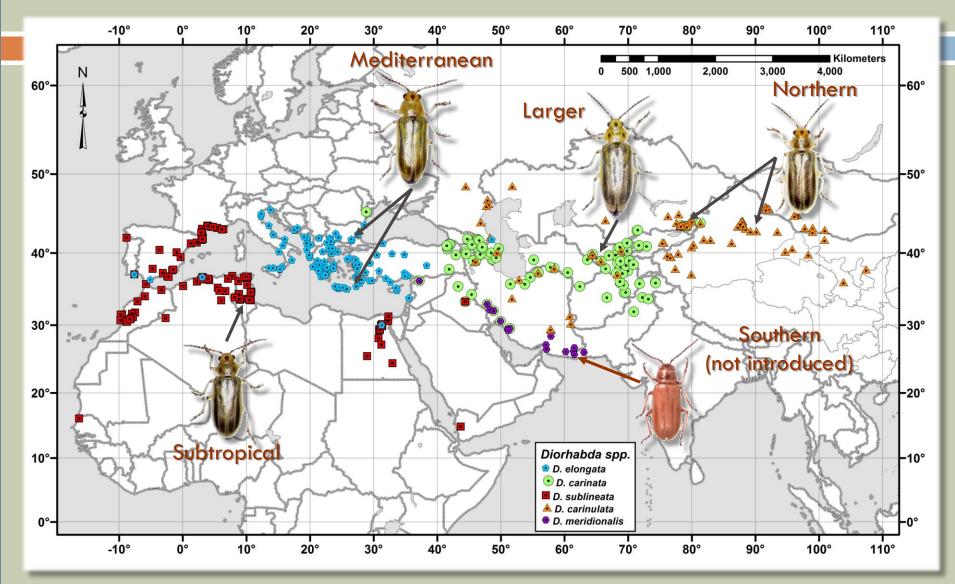
32°0'0"N





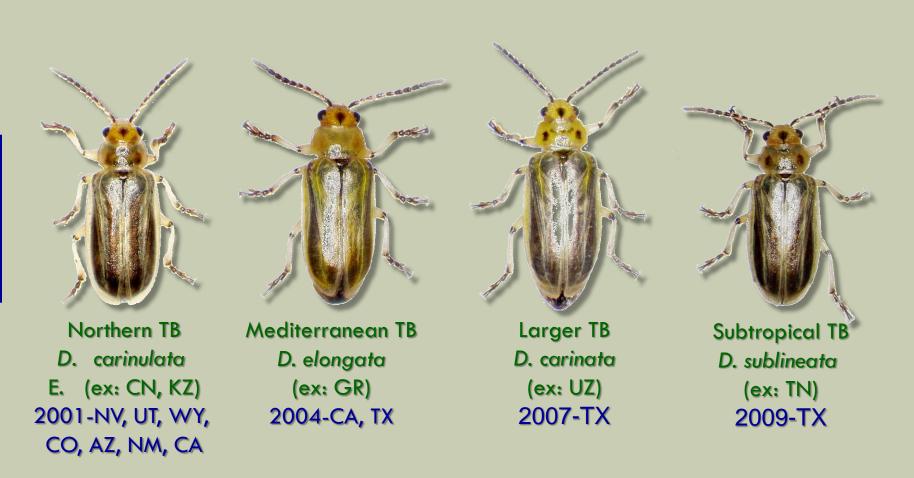
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Tamarisk beetle Old World distributions

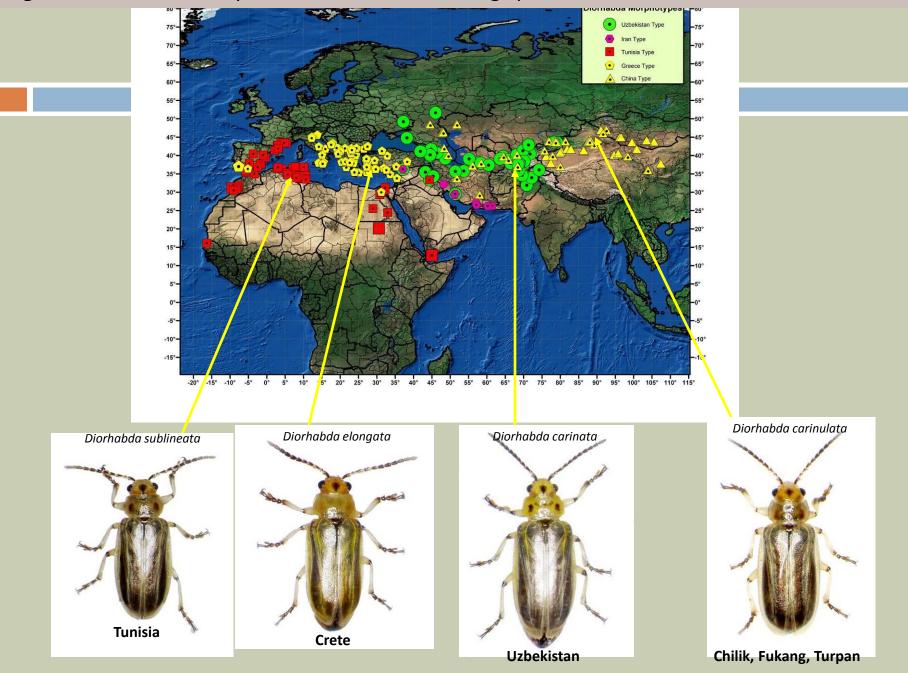


Tracy and Robbins (2009)

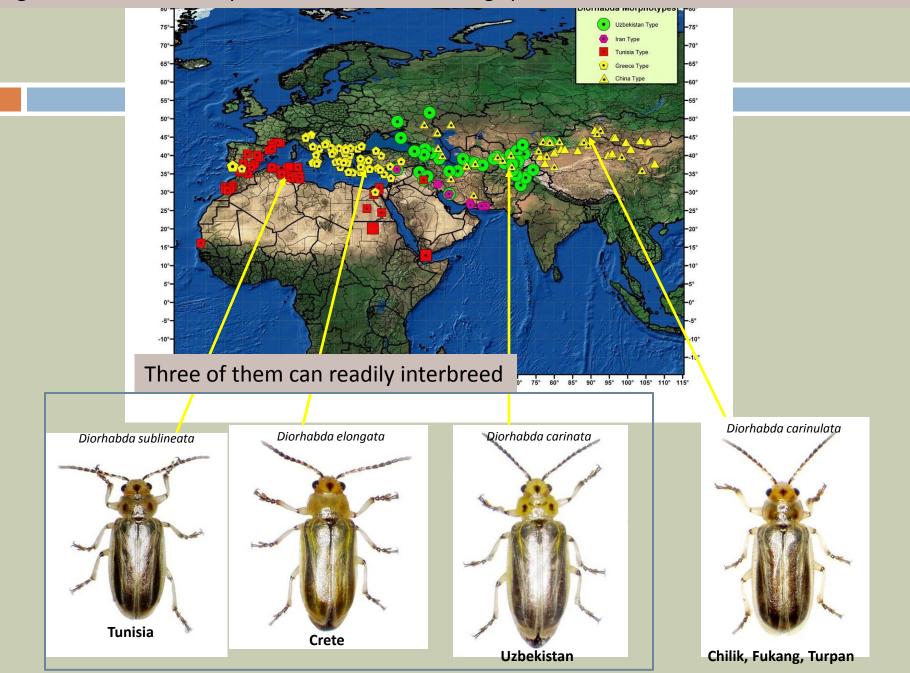
Four Old World Diorhabda spp. tamarisk beetles introduced into western North America from 2001–2009



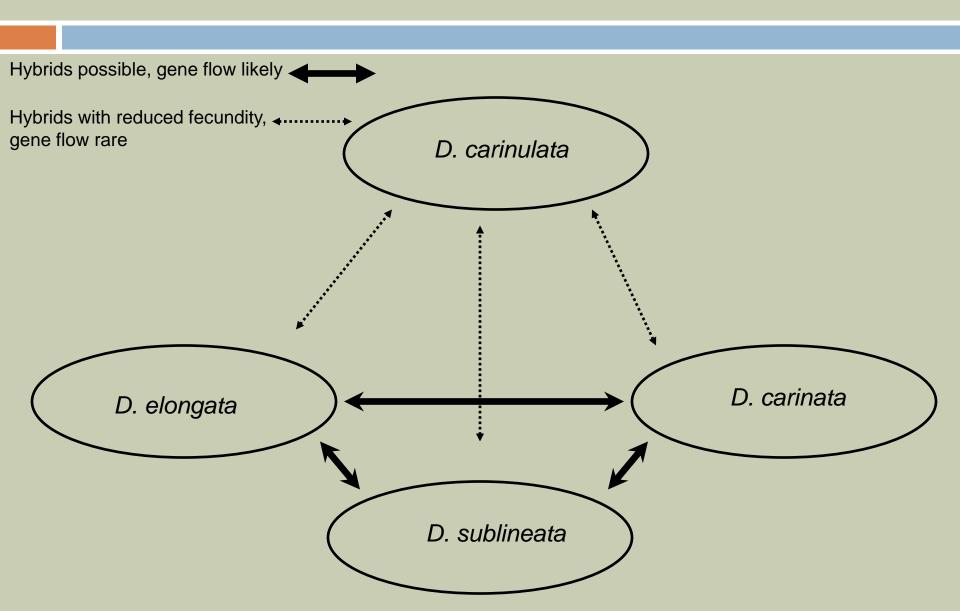
The genus Diorhabda comprises five tamarisk feeding species, four of which are now found in NA

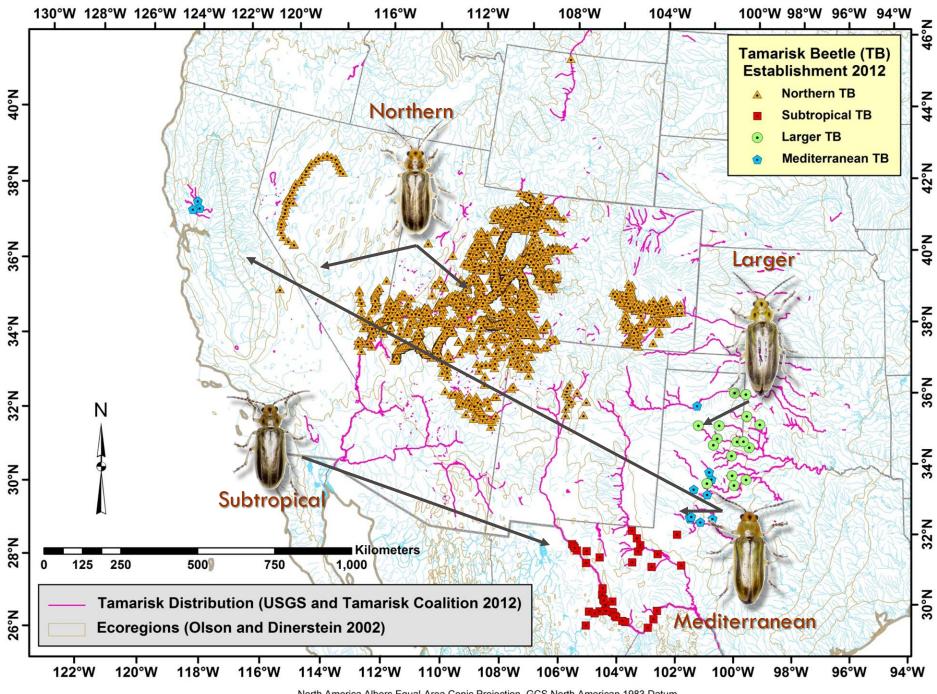


The genus *Diorhabda* comprises five tamarisk feeding species, four of which are now found in NA



Diorhabda hybridization





North America Albers Equal-Area Conic Projection, GCS North American 1983 Datum

Over-wintering induced by shortening daylengths – Go to sleep in middle of summer in southern areas



Lovell, WY – 44.5°N Xinjiang, China – 44.1°N

Owens Valley, CA – 37.1°N

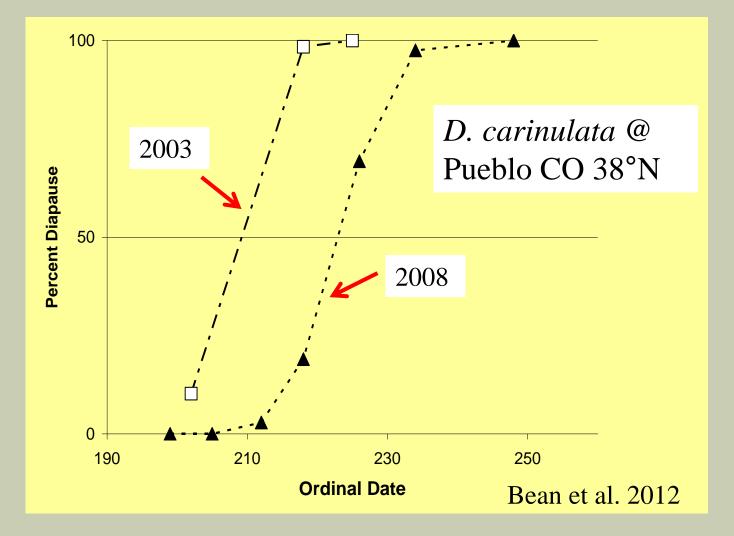
Temple, TX – 31.1°N

New *Diorhabda*:

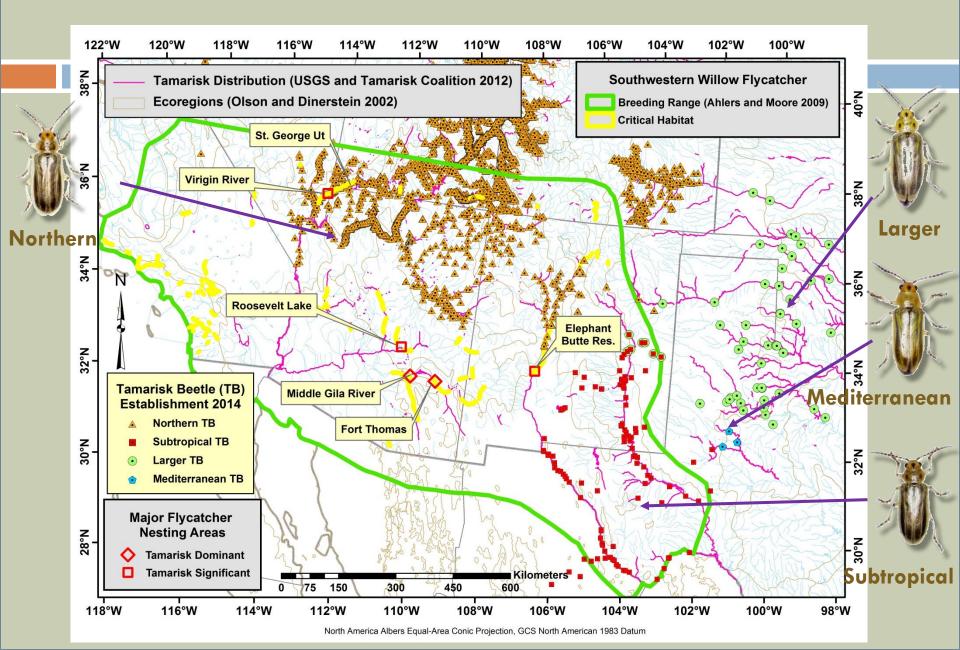
D. carinata - 38.9° (Uzbek.) *D. elongata* – 35.1° (Greece) *D. sublineata* - 34.7° (Tunisia)

Narrow reproductive window in Pueblo, CO and did not reproduce during the summer in Texas.

Evolution Happens...! Diapause dates at 37°N

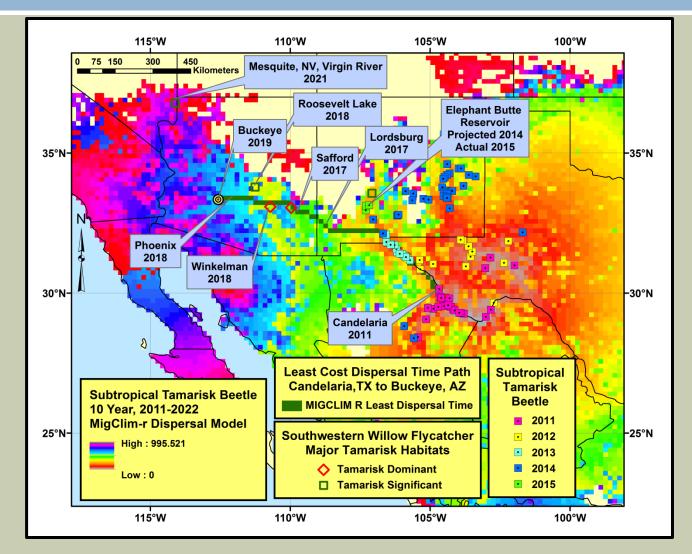


SW Willow Flycatcher & tamarisk beetle ranges- 2014



Subtropical tamarisk beetle dispersal projected from 2011-2022

 Final model incorporates functional connectivity and represents mean of 10 individual model runs using optimal dispersal kernel yielding maximum of ca. 210 km dispersal per year.



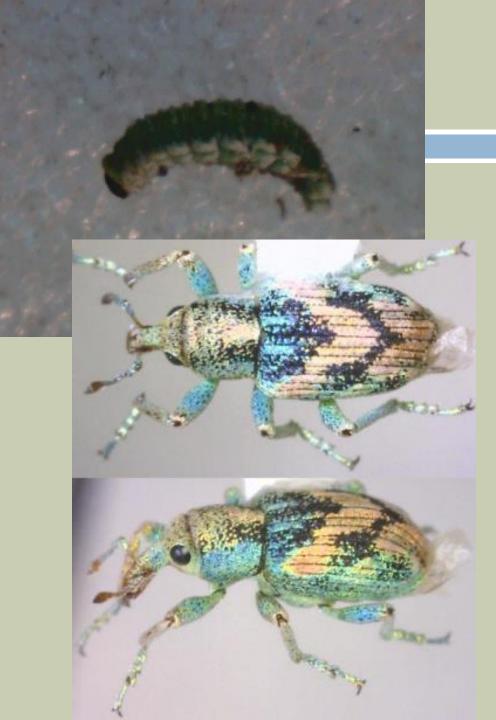
Coniatus splendidulus – Splendid tamarisk weevil







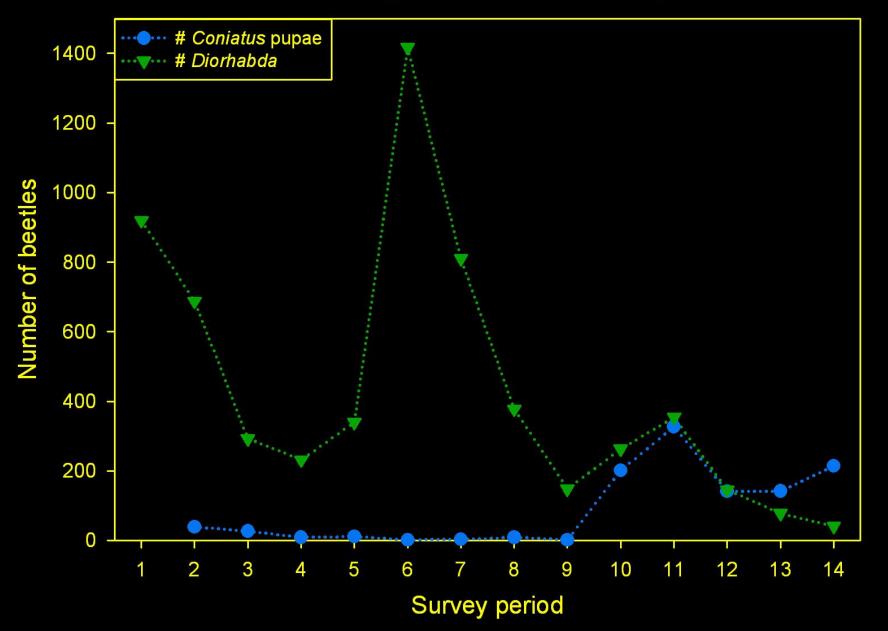
C)





Coniatus splendidulus

Number of *Coniatus splendidulus* pupal cases and number of *Diorhabda carinulata* at each site during 2012 beetle monitoring season.

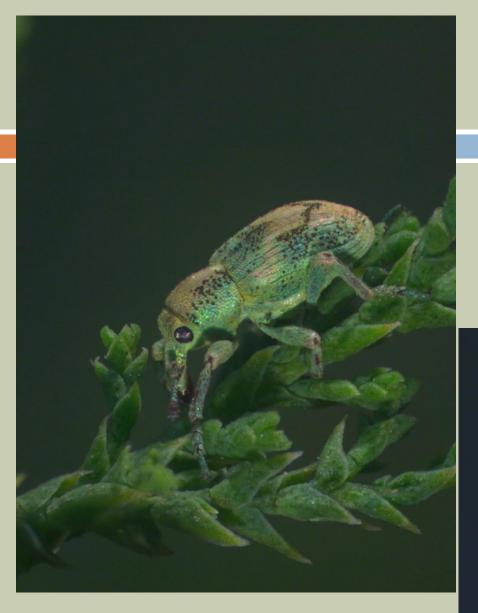


Coniatus begin feeding earlier in the spring and remain active later in the summer/fall than Diorhabda



Tamarisk branch collected September 28. *Diorhabda* have been in diapause for about 30 days, *Coniatus* populations have exploded on the regrowth. Adults abundant, baskets abundant on branches with regrowth.





Coniatus splendidulus

