

# RIVERSEDGE WEST *annual report*



**RiversEdge West**

23 YEARS OF  
*river restoration & stewardship*

Photo by Joel Sholtes

**2024**





# 2024 Impact

**\$871,233**

RAISED FOR RESTORATION  
& RIVER EDUCATION

**922**

YOUTH & ADULTS  
EDUCATED

**275**

RIVER RESTORATION  
PROFESSIONALS EDUCATED

**325**

ACRES OF RESTORATION  
CONDUCTED

**195**

PLANTS PLANTED

**794**

ACRES MONITORED

**11**

VOLUNTEER  
EVENTS HOSTED

**194**

VOLUNTEERS ENGAGED

**46**

JOB SUPPORTED



# A note from Rusty & Don

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As another year comes to a close, we find ourselves reflecting on both the strides we've made and the challenges we've faced. We are deeply grateful for the collective dedication that continues to propel RiversEdge West's (REW) mission forward—revitalizing and protecting riparian (riverside) ecosystems throughout the West. Thanks to your steadfast support, along with the hard work of our staff, partners, volunteers, and board of directors, 2024 was a year of significant progress.

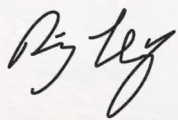
This year, we proudly celebrated several key achievements:

- **Expanding Restoration:** We broadened our restoration initiatives across multiple river systems, collaborating closely with private landowners and public agencies in Colorado and Utah to restore thousands of acres of riparian habitat.
- **Engaging Youth and Communities:** Through volunteer events, educational programs, and community gatherings—including the Grand Valley River Fest, Raft the River, and the multi-day Wellspring Project—we strengthened public connection to our waterways and nurtured a culture of stewardship across generations.
- **Strengthening Partnerships:** We continued to lead and support vital restoration collaborations, working alongside government agencies, nonprofits, and landowners to maximize our collective impact. A standout achievement was the 2024 Riparian Restoration Conference, where over 240 land and water managers, scientists, and policymakers gathered to exchange knowledge and strengthen relationships.
- **Growing Our Organization:** In an exciting development, we joined forces with like-minded nonprofits to establish the Confluence Center of Colorado. This new space will serve as a permanent headquarters for RiversEdge West and a collaborative hub for organizations dedicated to land and water conservation, education, recreation, and sustainable agriculture.

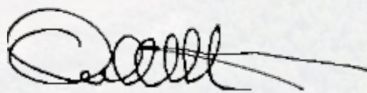
As we set our sights on 2025, we remain committed to advancing riparian restoration and fostering vibrant communities that depend on healthy rivers. Building on the successes of this year, we will continue to seek out innovative solutions and meaningful partnerships to further our mission.

Thank you for being an essential part of this journey. Your ongoing support ensures that we can make a lasting impact on our rivers, wildlife, and the people who rely on them.

With gratitude,



Rusty Lloyd, Executive Director



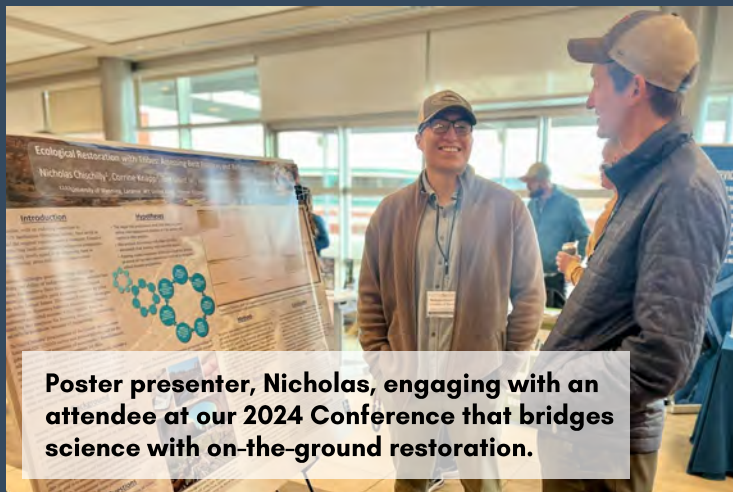
Don Schuster, Board President





# 2024 *at-a-glance*

This year, we built upon our successes and saw our positive impact on rivers grow. Below are a few highlights:





# OUR FUTURE STARTS HERE

*Building a permanent home*



## *The Confluence Center of Colorado*

The Confluence Center of Colorado will serve as RiversEdge West's (REW) permanent home and a hub for collaboration, education, and conservation in the Grand Valley.

This state-of-the-art facility will include:

- Office space for REW and our partner organizations, providing an innovative environment for collaboration and resource sharing
- A STREAM (Science, Technology, Rivers, Engineering, Arts, and Math) preschool
- An interactive lobby focused on land and water science
- Classrooms for community education

These elements ensure the Center will serve as a vibrant hub for conservation education, family engagement, and community resilience.

This building represents much more than a physical space. It is the manifestation of a collective vision to unify organizations around shared values of land and water stewardship, recreation, and restoration. It will allow REW to expand our impact, strengthen partnerships, and better serve our mission of protecting riparian ecosystems.

Thanks to the incredible support of donors and community leaders, significant progress has been made toward the Confluence Center's \$7.5

million capital campaign goal. As we continue fundraising to close the remaining gap, community support remains essential to completing the 11,000-square-foot facility at Dos Rios in Grand Junction and ensuring its long-term sustainability.

In February 2025, we will gather with donors, local leaders, and supporters to break ground on this transformative project—an exciting milestone made possible by your generosity. There are still opportunities to contribute, including tax credit options, to help bring this vision to life. We look forward to celebrating the Confluence Center's grand opening with you soon!

*Photos: Architectural renderings of the building*





# RIVER EDUCATION PROGRAM

*Connecting kids and adults to rivers*

RiversEdge West (REW) expanded its education program even further in 2024, connecting people of all ages to the Colorado River and its unique ecosystem! Through middle school summer programs, community river floats, and hands-on lessons, we inspired curiosity and fostered stewardship for the river.

## THE WELLSPRING PROJECT: INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS

This year's Wellspring Project welcomed 18 middle schoolers from nine different schools to a one-of-a-kind, free summer program blending art, science, and adventure. Through creative projects and field experiences, students explored the complexities of the Colorado River and water issues in the West.

Highlights included touring a sustainable farm and a water treatment plant, sampling aquatic macroinvertebrates, visiting a fish hatchery to learn about endangered species, and collecting and transforming trash from riverside parks into art inspired by the river. The week came to a fantastic close with a rafting adventure down the Colorado River, giving students firsthand experience with the vital water source they had learned about throughout the week.

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AGES

Throughout 2024, REW provided educational experiences for children and adults. Highlights include:

- Classroom lessons for elementary school students on invasive plants, biodiversity, and river health.
- Riparian restoration classes with Colorado Mesa University.
- Interactive activities like our "Cottonwoods vs. Tamarisk" relay game at the Children's Water Festival.
- Outreach lunches introducing community members to REW's vital work.

By engaging people of all ages, we are cultivating a community of river stewards dedicated to protecting and restoring our riparian ecosystems.



CLARA

“ Wellspring is getting out in nature with other tweens and adults who are excited to be there, and who share my interest in nature. Meeting adults who are excited to share their passions, whether that be sustainable agriculture, or raising endangered fish, or the history of Palisade. It's a very unique camp!! ”

- Clara Strippell, 2024 Wellspring Student



Photo: Over 50 community members joined us for our annual Raft the River float trip.



Photo: Wellspring students dig model streams in the riverbank during a stop on their float trip down the Colorado River.



Photo: 5th grade student plays water relay game at Children's Water Festival.



# Engaging the community in RIVER STEWARDSHIP

In 2024, RiversEdge West teamed up with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the City of Grand Junction to host a season of impactful volunteer events in the Grand Valley spanning April to October. These events brought together over 140 dedicated volunteers who worked tirelessly to protect wildlife habitat and enhance river recreation areas.

Together we removed countless invasive plants like Russian olive, kochia, and pampas grass, planted 100 native plants, and caged and protected over 100 cottonwoods. Volunteers contributed 284 hours towards keeping our parks and riverside areas beautiful – that's over \$7,300 worth of restoration!

## BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF STEWARDS

Our volunteer events are about more than just hard work; they create opportunities for learning and connection. Participants gained practical skills in restoration while building a sense of camaraderie and environmental responsibility.

**As RiversEdge West volunteer, Dawn Weigand (pictured right) noted, "As an East Coast transplant, I had no knowledge about living on the Western Slope. Volunteering for REW has taught me the importance of the river and its surrounding areas. When volunteering you never feel like you are working because everyone at REW is friendly, and it feels as if many are part of my family! I am grateful to have been able to participate in these events!!"**

Thanks to these incredible efforts, we're creating healthier, more resilient landscapes and ensuring the long-term success of vital restoration projects.



Photo: REW volunteer, Stef, making seed balls to accelerate native plant revegetation.



Photo: REW volunteers protecting cottonwood trees from beaver predation.



Photo: REW Volunteer, Dawn Weigand, clearing debris.



CAITLIN

“ Getting out into the field with RiversEdge West is more than volunteering, it's a chance to learn about our local area. From identifying invasive species and planting native ones, they give us an amazing way to give back to the community. Through volunteering I met not only professionals but local citizens with a similar passion for restoring and protecting the land around us. It pushes me to further my education so when I'm out in the field, I can better understand the importance of a project and how we're helping. I look forward to every opportunity I can get out into the field with RiversEdge West and hope to do even more as the years go on! Thank you all for an amazing year and all that you do! ”

– Caitlin Jones, REW Volunteer



# DESERT RIVERS COLLABORATIVE

## *A Partnership 12 Years and Counting*

RiversEdge West (REW) formed the Desert Rivers Collaborative (DRC) in 2012 to cooperatively protect, restore, and maintain native riparian habitat in Mesa and Delta Counties. The partnership is comprised of over 20 non-profits, federal and state agencies, and local government stakeholders.

2024 was a year of meaningful progress and renewed commitment to our shared vision. Twenty DRC partners signed an updated Memorandum of Understanding, reaffirming our dedication to the protection, restoration, and maintenance of river corridor habitat! Together, the collaborative completed restoration on 27 acres between the Colorado and Gunnison Rivers. Among these efforts was a 5-

acre raft-based restoration project in Crow Bottom, located on Bureau of Land Management land within McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area. We also restored 8.5 acres along remote stretches of the Gunnison River in Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area.

Partnering with the dedicated crews of the Western Colorado Conservation Corps (WCCC) we tackled invasive species like tamarisk and Russian olive along Big Salt Wash, the Riverfront Trail near the Kokopelli trailhead, the river island by Bananas Fun Park, Palisade Ranch, and Riverbend Park. These local efforts restored 15 acres of sensitive riverside habitat, thanks to the invaluable support of the City of Fruita, the City of Grand Junction, and private

landowners. REW coordinated WCCC crews as they worked for months along the Colorado River, cutting and treating invasive plants with herbicide to reduce wildfire risk and improve wildlife habitat in these vital riparian areas. This work ensures our riverside lands can thrive as safe, beautiful, and resilient spaces for both wildlife and people.



*Photo: WCCC crew members hauling slash to create burn piles in Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area.*

2025 will bring more invasive species removal to McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area and Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area. We'll also continue wildfire mitigation and riparian restoration work at riverside parks and lands while strengthening collaborations with stakeholders who share our passion for protecting the health and future of our rivers.



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**

*Photos: Palisade Ranch before and after WCCC crew work to remove tamarisk and Russian olive.*



**DUNCAN**

“Mesa County’s ecosystem is highly susceptible to invasive weed establishment. I really admire REW’s ability to focus on the bigger picture and promote watershed-scale restoration projects. Their capacity to bring our priorities into an extended network of volunteers, stakeholders, and project partners is a tremendous benefit to our fight against noxious weeds.”

- Duncan Dearduff, Mesa County Noxious Weed and Pest Management



# DOLORES RIVER RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP

Building on 15 years of successful partnership, the [Dolores River Restoration Partnership](#) (DRRP) remains committed to riparian restoration across two states, six counties, four Bureau of Land Management field offices, and numerous private properties.

Co-led by RiversEdge West and Conservation Legacy's Southwest Conservation Corps, the DRRP is a public-private partnership focused on creating and executing a collaborative approach to riparian restoration that aligns with the ecological and socioeconomic objectives of the Dolores River watershed.

Focused on restoring 200 miles of riparian habitat, the DRRP has removed over 2,000 acres of invasive tamarisk that once dominated the riverbanks.

While ongoing tamarisk removal continues in remote areas, current efforts prioritize maintaining restored sites, including re-treatment of tamarisk and control of secondary weeds. This year, youth conservation corps crews spent 30 weeks actively restoring this vital habitat, treating tamarisk on more than 50 acres, seeding 12 acres with native vegetation, and protecting 77 cottonwood trees with caging to guard against herbivory.

The DRRP's rapid monitoring program remains a priority, tracking invasive plant species, assessing restoration progress, and guiding future work. In 2024, a conservation corps team surveyed vegetation across 744 acres. Bird Conservancy of the Rockies conducted avian surveys to assess the impact of restoration on bird species, recording over 700 individual birds across 73 species. Additionally, the DRRP supported the Dolores River Adaptive Monitoring Support team in monitoring vegetation changes linked with shifting hydrology.



*Photo: A fall view of the Dolores River near Gateway, Colorado. This photo was taken during a site visit with Dolores River Restoration Partnership collaborators to plan project sites for the upcoming season.*



*Photo: BLM partner, Kyle, showcasing cottonwood trees he planted years ago following the removal of invasive tamarisk. Removing invasive species creates space for native plants to reestablish.*

Looking ahead to 2025, we will launch a pilot project to create fish habitat for endangered species, engage with landowners through stewardship events, host a partnership meeting, test revegetation techniques, and collaborate with volunteers to protect cottonwoods and prepare sites for future revegetation.



# *New beginnings on the* **UNCOMPAHGRE RIVER**

RiversEdge West, the City of Montrose, and Friends of the River Uncompahgre (ForU) are working together to expand restoration efforts along the Uncompahgre River.

Since 2022, vital restoration work has included the removal of Russian olive and tamarisk, volunteer events centered on planting native species, protecting cottonwoods from herbivory, and engaging with stakeholders to discuss goals and objectives. These restoration efforts benefit the community by improving river health, enhancing recreation, improving wildlife habitat, and reducing wildfire risk.

This year, youth conservation corps crews dedicated three weeks to clearing and chipping dense stands of Russian olive and tamarisk. Following removal, ForU led volunteers in planting 40 native species, including locally harvested willow whips.

A notable collaboration involved Special Education students from Montrose County School District's Step up to Life 18-21 Transitional Program. These students assisted with biomass removal, planting, and watering. Their efforts have been truly appreciated, and in return, they've built valuable skills and gained hands-on experience.



*Photo: The Uncompahgre River flowing through the City of Montrose, Colorado.*



*Photo: Staff and students from the Montrose County School District's Step Up to Life Transitional Program assist in moving and piling invasive plants that have been removed, staging the material for chipping.*

In 2025, youth conservation corps crews will continue clearing invasive species, and we will conduct vegetation surveys to help inform site stewardship plans and assess restoration progress. With additional funding, we aim to sustain restoration activities and strengthen collaborations to create long-term restoration plans.



*Photo: Crew members from WCCC and students from Montrose County School District's Step Up to Life Transitional Program working together to remove invasive plants and haul branches to be chipped.*



# WHITE RIVER PARTNERSHIP

## *Restoring the White River*

RiversEdge West has led the White River Partnership (WRP) since its establishment in 2019. The WRP brings together public, private, and nonprofit entities committed to restoring and maintaining healthy riparian areas along the White River, which flows through northwest Colorado and northeast Utah. By fostering collaboration, the partnership has made meaningful strides in protecting the ecological health of this critical watershed.

In 2024, the WRP expanded its collaborative efforts, uniting nonprofit organizations, research institutions, land managers, landowners, and local governments. Together, this collaboration treated 90 acres of riparian lands, combatting invasive species that threaten the river's biodiversity and overall health.

Notable advancements included the increased use of heavy equipment for whole-tree removal and mulching of invasive species while conservation corps chainsaw crews continued their essential, hands-on work. To support the recovery of native vegetation, partners revegetated 40 acres with native plants and seed, a vital step in restoring the ecosystem's balance. Partners in Utah used a creative approach to protect eight acres of native cottonwood trees from beaver activity. Tree trunks are painted with a mixture of paint and sand, the abrasive texture serving as a deterrent for beavers. This method offered an eco-friendly solution to safeguard these essential native trees.

Partners met throughout the year along the White River to share knowledge and plan projects during site visits, as well as a workshop in

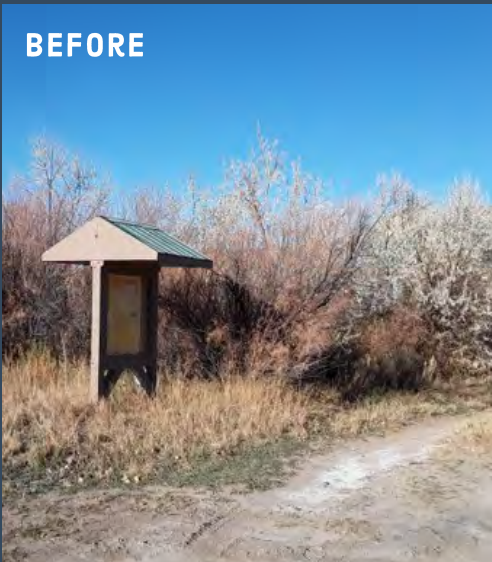
Yellow Creek, an area where tamarisk removal began in 2022. The year's collective efforts culminated in a virtual meeting attended by 37 engaged partners, a testament to the growing momentum and shared commitment to the health of the White River.

Thanks to the dedication of WRP partners and supporters like you, 2024 marked another year of impactful restoration, ensuring that the White River and its ecosystems thrive for generations to come.



*Photo: Utah Conservation Corps member cutting Russian olive along the White River. Photo provided by Utah Conservation Corps.*

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



*Photos: Before-and-after photos of the Big Trujillo Boat Ramp near Rangely, CO. Tamarisk was masticated then herbicide was applied to regrowth. Native shrubs like rabbitbrush and willow are starting to regrow.*

Looking ahead to 2025, WRP partners are excited to build on their successes by using monitoring data to adapt and refine restoration projects. They'll also integrate process-based restoration and beaver activity to enhance river ecosystems. Plus, with more volunteer opportunities on the horizon, there will be even more ways for community members to get involved in protecting and restoring our rivers!



# THE GRAND VALLEY RIVER CORRIDOR INITIATIVE

*Promoting sustainable planning in Mesa County*

As economic growth and development continues in the Grand Valley, coupled with chronic and potentially worsening environmental stressors such as drought and fire, the need for sustainable planning becomes more urgent. To address this need, RiversEdge West (REW) co-leads the River Corridor Initiative; a community-driven effort to ensure that the river corridor is managed to support its diverse values—economic, cultural, and ecological—for future generations.



The Grand Valley's River Corridor — stretching from De Beque, Colorado, to the Utah state line and from the Gunnison River in Bridgeport to its confluence with the Colorado River — is a vital economic, cultural, and ecological resource that underpins the community's wellbeing and prosperity. To enhance coordination and planning for this vital area, the River Corridor Initiative (RCI) was launched in 2020.

This community-driven initiative is led by a Core Team that includes representatives from REW, Colorado Mesa University, and American Rivers, and is guided by an Advisory Council of diverse stakeholders who meet quarterly to shape its direction.

In 2024, RCI partnered with Lotic Hydrological to conduct a riparian and floodplain health assessment, addressing the critical need to evaluate habitat quality and connectivity within the Grand Valley River Corridor. This assessment provided detailed evaluations and scores for riparian and floodplain habitats, which are essential for supporting federally threatened species like the yellow-billed cuckoo and multiple federally endangered fish species.

The results are now guiding efforts to identify multi-benefit conservation and restoration projects that support both ecological and community resilience.

Beyond technical assessments, the RCI focused on building capacity and raising awareness in 2024. Key initiatives included applying for additional grants, producing a promotional video, and launching a website. These efforts aim to advance projects that address water quality, in-stream flow, and habitat needs while supporting the ecological and community health of the river corridor.

Thanks to the collaboration and shared commitment of the community and its partners, the RCI continues to lay the groundwork for a thriving and resilient Grand Valley.



# Restoring PRIVATE LANDS

RiversEdge West's (REW) Private Lands Biologist (PLB), in partnership with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), plays a vital role in restoring and protecting our region's riparian landscapes. By offering unique incentive funding opportunities, this collaboration helps landowners control invasive species, create and improve wildlife habitat, and protect the health of river corridors—critical investments in the resilience of our environment and communities.

In 2024, the PLB supported 24 landowners totaling 83 acres and managed six active restoration contracts, securing over \$53,000 in federal incentives to bring these projects to life. Beyond the numbers, these efforts help reduce wildfire risks, conserve water, and enhance habitat for threatened and endangered species.

REW's PLB guides landowners through every step of the restoration process, from planning and setting project goals to securing essential funding. Additionally, the PLB hosts multiple workshops where private landowners can connect, learn about the restoration process, and [discover resources](#) tailored to their needs.

In Colorado, where over half of the land is privately owned, collaboration with landowners is essential for connecting restoration efforts along our river systems across private and public lands. Through clear communication, thoughtful planning, and a commitment to long-term stewardship, the PLB ensures that landowners can achieve long-term success in managing wildlife habitat on their properties.





# PRIVATE LANDS SPOTLIGHT:

## Jeff Becker

Jeff Becker and his wife run a resource management company and farm near Hotchkiss, Colorado, where they have long been involved in invasive plant removal and restoration.

In 2024, Jeff cleared over 16 acres of Russian olive and tamarisk along the Gunnison River near Austin, CO, transforming an unusable riparian area into a space for wildlife, livestock, and recreation.

Jeff stated that the invaded riparian area “was, for all intents and purposes, unusable for wildlife, livestock and recreational uses. Within days of starting clearing operations, the wildlife showed up to see what was happening, they are very curious by nature and visited often to check out the progress.”

Using NRCS’s Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), he received funding to support his efforts. With guidance from RiversEdge West (REW), Jeff continues to manage invasive regrowth and implement long-term restoration, ensuring the land’s health and sustainability for years to come.

Jeff has already noticed an increase in wildlife, including deer, drawn to the renewed river access and growing native habitat. His efforts have created a thriving environment that benefits both humans and wildlife. Reflecting on the project, Jeff enthusiastically shared that it's "money well spent if you wish to invite wildlife on your property!"



**JEFF BECKER**

BKR Management LLC/Heritage  
Hay and Cattle Co.  
Hotchkiss, CO



Photo: Jeff Becker (right) and a retired Colorado Parks and Wildlife biologist (left) visit a restoration site on Jeff's property where tamarisk and Russian olive have been removed, contrasting with neighboring property where invasive plants still dominate.



Photo: Cottonwoods and bulrushes have begun to re-establish within a riparian wetland on property managed by Jeff Becker.



# BRIDGING THE GAP

*Connecting, educating, and inspiring restoration professionals through our 2024 Riparian Restoration Conference*

RiversEdge West's Biennial Riparian Restoration Conference brings together hundreds of experts and innovators from across the U.S. to tackle the complex challenges facing our rivers.

This gathering is more than just an opportunity to share knowledge—it's a powerful space for brainstorming fresh strategies, fostering partnerships, and driving research and restoration projects forward.

Beyond presentations and panels, the conference serves as a hub for meaningful connections. Attendees leave inspired by new ideas, energized by collaborations, and equipped to turn those relationships into lasting positive impacts for riverside ecosystems.

Our 2024 Conference, Restoration for the Future, focused on promoting resilience in our rivers and communities. Scientists, land and water managers, local, tribal, state, and federal government representatives, students, watershed groups, and consultants from over 125 organizations joined us to discuss how we can support climate resilience in our restoration work and ensure that the work has lasting impacts that benefit both ecological and human communities.

Attendees shared evolving practices in riparian restoration that bridge science and practice. With over 240 attendees from 10 states, this was our largest conference to date!



## “CONFERENCE TESTIMONIALS”

“The diversity of groups in attendance is unlike any other conference I've been to! You can rarely get everyone from consultants to those in education, scientists, government, land management, and on-the-ground practitioners in the same room together and the RiversEdge West Conference does it successfully every time!”

*- 2024 Conference attendee*

“The REW conference was so organized and well planned. Not only were there top-notch presentations from researchers and practitioners alike, but there was really great time built in for networking, viewing posters (more great student/faculty research), and fantastic snacks! I've never been so well fed.”

*- 2024 Conference attendee*





# PROVIDING RESTORATION RESOURCES

RiversEdge West's online [resource library](#) remains a go-to hub for the latest information and research on restoration, the tamarisk beetle, and southwestern willow flycatchers. Whether you're a restoration expert, scientist, or simply curious about the environment, our library offers a wealth of knowledge, including planting guides, scientific papers, presentation slides from our conferences, field guides, and more!

In 2024, the Resource Library saw a 55% increase in users and views, equipping users with practical tools and knowledge to tackle restoration challenges. Whether guiding on-the-ground restoration or advancing research, the library continues to drive progress in riparian conservation.



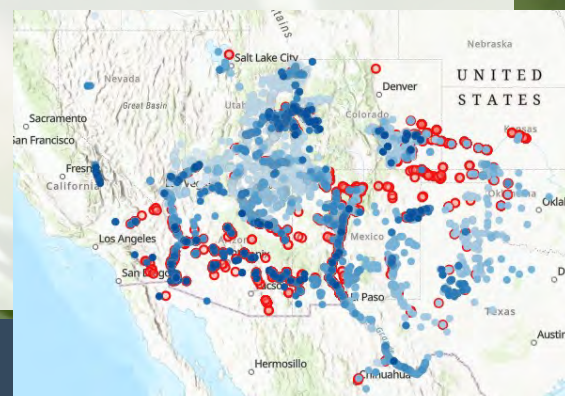
## MONITORING THE TAMARISK BEETLE



Since 2007, RiversEdge West has tracked the movement of the tamarisk beetle (*Diorhabda carinulata*) across the southwest by producing an annual map. This map relies on presence and absence data provided by partners and interested members of the public.

In March 2024, REW released the 2023 Tamarisk [Beetle Map](#) as an interactive online tool, making it easier to share and utilize the extensive data collected over the years. With more than 2,500 views in 2024, the map has proven to be a valuable resource for scientists, restoration practitioners, and stakeholders across North America.

To ensure the map meets a wide range of needs, REW conducted a survey among our partners, gathering feedback from 63 respondents. This input is now guiding enhancements to future versions of the map, ensuring it continues to serve as a helpful tool for tracking beetle activity and providing educational opportunities about invasive species and biological controls for managing them.





# Thank you to our generous DONORS & MEMBERS!

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City of Fruita  
City of Grand Junction  
City of Montrose  
Colorado Canyons Association  
Colorado Mesa University  
Colorado Northwestern Community College  
Colorado Parks & Wildlife  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
Colorado River District  
Colorado State Forest Service  
Colorado Water Conservation Board  
Colorado Watershed Assembly  
Colorado West Land Trust  
Community Shares Foundation  
Conservation Legacy Southwestern Conservation Corps  
Cropworx  
Desert Ecosystem Analysis and Restoration  
Dolores River Boating Advocates  
Ducks Unlimited, Inc.  
El Pomar Foundation  
Escalante River Watershed Partnership  
EUREKA! McConnell Science Museum  
Forever Our Rivers Foundation  
Fort Lewis College

Friends of the River Uncompahgre  
Garfield County Vegetation Management  
George S. and Dolores Dore Eccles Foundation  
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Home Loan Insurance  
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Hoskin Farina & Kampf, PC  
Kiwanis Club of Grand Junction  
Lawrence T and Janet T Dee Foundation  
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Mesa County Partners  
Mesa County Valley School District 51  
Mesa County Weed and Pest  
Mighty Arrow Family Foundation  
Montrose County, CO  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
Natural Resource Conservation Service  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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Pablo's Pizza  
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Palisade Insectary  
Ramblebine Brewing Company  
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River Collective Co.  
River Network  
"Ruth Powell Hutchins Water Center at Colorado Mesa University"  
Shaw Construction  
Southwestern Water Conservation District  
Strategic By Nature, Inc.  
Stray Wild – TJ Smith  
SWCA Environmental Consultants  
Tetra Tech  
The Hot Tomato  
The Kroger Co.

The Nature Conservancy  
The Ohio State University  
Third Sector Innovations  
Town of Meeker  
Town of Palisade  
Town of Rangely  
Tri-River Area Colorado State University Extension  
Trout Unlimited – Grand Valley Anglers  
Two Rivers Wildfire Coalition  
Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership  
US Department of Agriculture, Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Utah Conservation Corps  
Utah State University  
Ute Water Conservancy District  
Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado  
West Slope Outdoor Volunteers  
Western Colorado Community Foundation  
Western Colorado Conservation Corps  
White River Alliance  
White River and Douglas Creek Conservation Districts  
Xcel Energy Foundation

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To make a tax-deductible contribution or leave a legacy gift, please visit [www.riversedgewest.org](http://www.riversedgewest.org) or contact Cara Kukuraitis at 970-256-7400 or [ckukuraitis@riversedgewest.org](mailto:ckukuraitis@riversedgewest.org).

## IN-KIND DONORS

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Mt. Garfield Greenhouse  
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OARS  
Ouray Hot Springs  
Palisade Bluegrass Festival  
Palisade Brewing Company  
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Pour Fellows  
Ramblebine Brewing Company  
REI Co-op  
RepYourWater  
Rick Lafaro  
Rimrock Adventures  
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The Hot Tomato  
The Palette  
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Thomas Hunn Jewelers, Inc  
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Trail Life Brewing  
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Yoga V

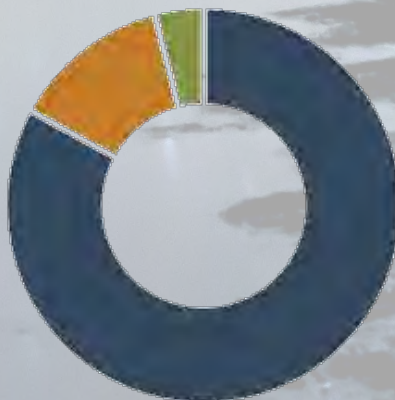
## 2024 STAFF

- **Cara Kukuraitis**, Director of Development and Communications
- **Christa Brown**, Private Lands Biologist
- **Erin McDermott**, Associate Director
- **John Leary**, Senior Restoration and GIS Project Manager
- **Kate Hampson**, Business and Grants Manager
- **Melissa Neubaum**, Restoration Coordinator
- **Nicole Cook**, Education and Outreach Coordinator
- **Rusty Lloyd**, Executive Director
- **Sara Jurca**, Restoration Coordinator
- **Former Staff:** Joe Leonhard and Shannon Wadas

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- **Jay Thompson**, CO
- **Lacie Lochard**, CO
- **Yasmeen Najmi**, NM
- **Emeritus Members:** Robb Parsons and Isabel Clark

## 2024 FINANCIALS | \$1,506,761



- **Programs (\$1,244,193)**
- **General Administration (\$192,963)**
- **Fundraising (\$69,604)**





# RiversEdge West

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