Our Mission

Advancing the restoration of riparian lands through collaboration, education, and technical assistance.

Our Vision

We envision a network of healthy riparian ecosystems throughout the American West.
Who We Are

• Small/Med 501(c)3, non-profit with 10 staff
• Based in Grand Junction, CO
• Arizona based staff person
• In 1999, the Colorado Riverfront Commission, a volunteer board of Mesa County, committed to securing the right of way and building a trail system along the Colorado Riverfront.
  • A subcommittee was created to study the problem of invasive tamarisk infesting the main stem of the Colorado River.
  • The group was called the Tamarisk Coalition and decided to incorporate as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization in early 2002.
• Time for change! Scope and scale expansion
• RiversEdge West as of March, 1 2018
What we do

We help restore rivers and riparian areas impacted by invasive plant species.
Life Span of Restoration

1. Planning & fundraising
2. Invasive plant removal & treatment
3. Native plant restoration
4. Evaluation of success: vegetation and geomorphic monitoring
5. Stewardship

Native plant restoration

Evaluation of success: vegetation and geomorphic monitoring

Stewardship

Life Span of Restoration
How we work within the restoration framework

• Focus on a landscape-scale
• Collaborate with diverse partners
• Connect with other local/regional related watershed initiatives
• Understand the other threats to river systems
• Set goals and evaluation metrics
• Fundraising

• Phases of riparian restoration
  • Control invasive plants
  • Revegetation with native plants
  • Monitoring and adaptive management
  • Repeat monitoring and steward the land indefinitely
Our Partners

• Local, State and Federal governments
• Private Land Owners
• Tribes
• Colleges and Universities
• Non-profits
• Private businesses
How RiversEdge West contributes to advancing riparian restoration

• Technical assistance

• Educational programs

• Coordination, capacity, and planning
Technical Assistance

• Restoration Resources
  • Website Resource Center
  • How to videos - YouTube

• Plant Materials

• Monitoring

• Funding Program

• Planning

• Technical writing/reports

• Annual Conference
  • Feb. 5-7, 2019 Desert Botanical Garden, Phoenix, AZ
YouTube Channel

https://www.youtube.com/user/TamariskCoalition/videos
Educational Programs

- Training and Workshop Series
  - TRO removal
  - Plants and re-vegetation
  - Monitoring
  - Weed and Plant ID
  - Planning
- Tamarisk Beetle Education
  - Monitoring Resources/Techniques
  - Mapping
- Stewardship
  - K-12 education
  - College students engagement
  - Conservation Corps Programs
Educating Youth and Professionals

1,067 youth participated in our education programs in 2016

1,978 practitioners from 15 states were educated via our training series, annual conference, and outreach events in 2016

Helping people make land management decisions

Teaching future stewards how our rivers work and inspiring them to care for these important places
Coordination, Capacity, and Planning

• Partnership facilitation, support
  • Dolores River Restoration Partnership
  • Desert Rivers Collaborative (Colorado, Gunnison)
  • White River Partners
  • Arkansas Watershed Partners (Arkansas, Purgatoire, Tribs)
  • Escalante Watershed Partnership
  • Verde River Watershed Partnership
  • Gila Watershed Partnership

• Cross Watershed Network
Cross-Watershed Network

• XWN connects people to share lessons and build lasting relationships between watersheds through workshops, field visits, and an online Practitioner Directory
• Match.com for Restoration Practitioners
• Arizona Summit Fall of 2018
• Spring 2019- Virgin River?
• Sign up today!  www.crosswatershed.net
The Power of Collaboration

RiversEdge West 2018 Partnerships

- White River Partners
- Virgin River Partners
- Verde Watershed Rest Coalition
- Upper Gila River
- Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership
- South Platte Partnerships
- Save Our Slopes Taskforce
- Dolores River Restoration Partnership
- SE Utah Riparian Partnership
- San Rafael Watershed
- Republican River Watershed
- Paraguanas Weed Management Collaborative
- North Fork Gunnison River
- Middle Colorado Watershed Council
- Mancos River Partners
- Lower San Rafael
- Escalante River Watershed Partnership
- Arkansas Partnership
- San Juan Woody Invasive Initiative
- Desert Rivers Collaborative
Verde Watershed Restoration Coalition

- Steering committee
- Grant development
- Project planning
- Technical aspects of restoration and invasive plant treatments
- Crew training
- Event organization
- Resource sharing
- Connection to peers
The Gila Watershed Partnership of Arizona

- Steering Committee
- Funding assistance
- Technical aspects of restoration and invasive plant treatments
- Crew training
- Event organization
Benson Riparian Restoration and Tamarisk Beetle Workshop

• Purpose is to provide information on aspects of the tamarisk beetle and its movement into southern Arizona.
  • History and introduction to the beetle
  • Spread and monitoring of the beetle
  • Fire Ecology
  • Potential effects to wildlife, T&E species
• What can be done
  • Riparian restoration techniques
  • Site visits to see and share
WELCOME!

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