ERWP: Upcoming Priorities

Synthesis of 2021 Coordinating Committee and Full Partnership feedback

Southwest Decision Resources
3/22/22
Escalante River Watershed Partnership

- Uplands Restoration
- Riparian Restoration
- Native Fish & Wildlife
- Climate Change

- Springs
- Aspen Fire
- Data Management
- Spring Restoration
- Stewardship & Community Engagement
- Education & Outreach
- Volunteerism

Coordinating Committee

Full Partnership
What we’re doing well

• Collaborations have made it easier to find and secure grant funding and share successes in projects
• Strong scientific expertise
• Committed and energetic members
• Russian olive successes
• Huge contributions from GSEP with invasive removal, finding funding and managing grants, co-coordinating committees
Full Partnership feedback

- Full Partnership meetings have been useful; in person > virtual
- Committee meetings somewhat useful
- Newsletter and website useful for some and not useful for others
Partnership’s Role in Additional Issues

Recreation Impacts

Full Partnership feedback
• Increased visitation is an issue
• High interest in this topic

Needs
• Education
• Maintenance of recreation areas
• Protection of ecosystems

How to address
• Incorporating into Stewardship Committee
Partnership’s Role in Additional Issues

Recreation Impacts

Opportunities

• Leave No Trace education through campground/campfire programs (volunteer-based), signage, materials for distribution
• Work with schools and youth groups
• Social media
• Encourage “voluntourism” for cleanup/maintenance work in recreational areas
Partnership’s Role in Additional Issues

Tribal Engagement

Full Partnership feedback

• Of very high interest to the Full Partnership

How to address

• Actively invite Tribal partners to committees, including Coordinating Committee
• Support partner efforts
Partnership’s Role in Additional Issues

Grazing

Full Partnership feedback
• Of moderate interest

Needs
• Management support/advising
  • Feral cattle
• Science and monitoring support

How to address
• Maintain neutral position
• Help collect data to track ecosystems in light of climate change
Partnership’s Role in Additional Issues

Full Partnership feedback
- Addressing development impacts (lowest interest)
- Tracking and combating loss of habitat (moderate interest)
- Regional collaboration beyond ERWP (moderate interest)

Opportunities
- Partner with local landowners for site visits (Boulder Mountain Ranch)
- Rebuild relationships with local government and the local community
- Support GSENM RMP process
Leverage Capacity to Continue Invasive Plant Removal

New Concerns
• Siberian elm and other invasive species (of moderate interest to the Full Partnership)

Needs
• RO monitoring and maintenance
• Tamarisk removal

Considerations
• Identified as a critical role for ERWP; continues to be a priority
• Most dramatic successes here
Leverage Capacity to Continue *Upper Sand Creek RNA*

**Feedback from Full Partnership**
- Managing for a changing climate of high interest

**Needs/Opportunities**
- Continue biodiversity assessment efforts
- Focus on possible management modifications to adapt (i.e., grazing)

**Considerations**
- Bioblitz and regional planning and research related to climate change identified as a critical role for ERWP
Leverage Capacity to Continue *Springs Work*

**Needs**
- Spring inventory
- Monitoring in light of climate change
- Maintenance

**Considerations**
- Possibly incorporate into Climate Change Committee
Questions?