



ERWP Monitoring Panel 5/23/2023

John Leary

Restoration Coordinator

jleary@riversedgewest.org

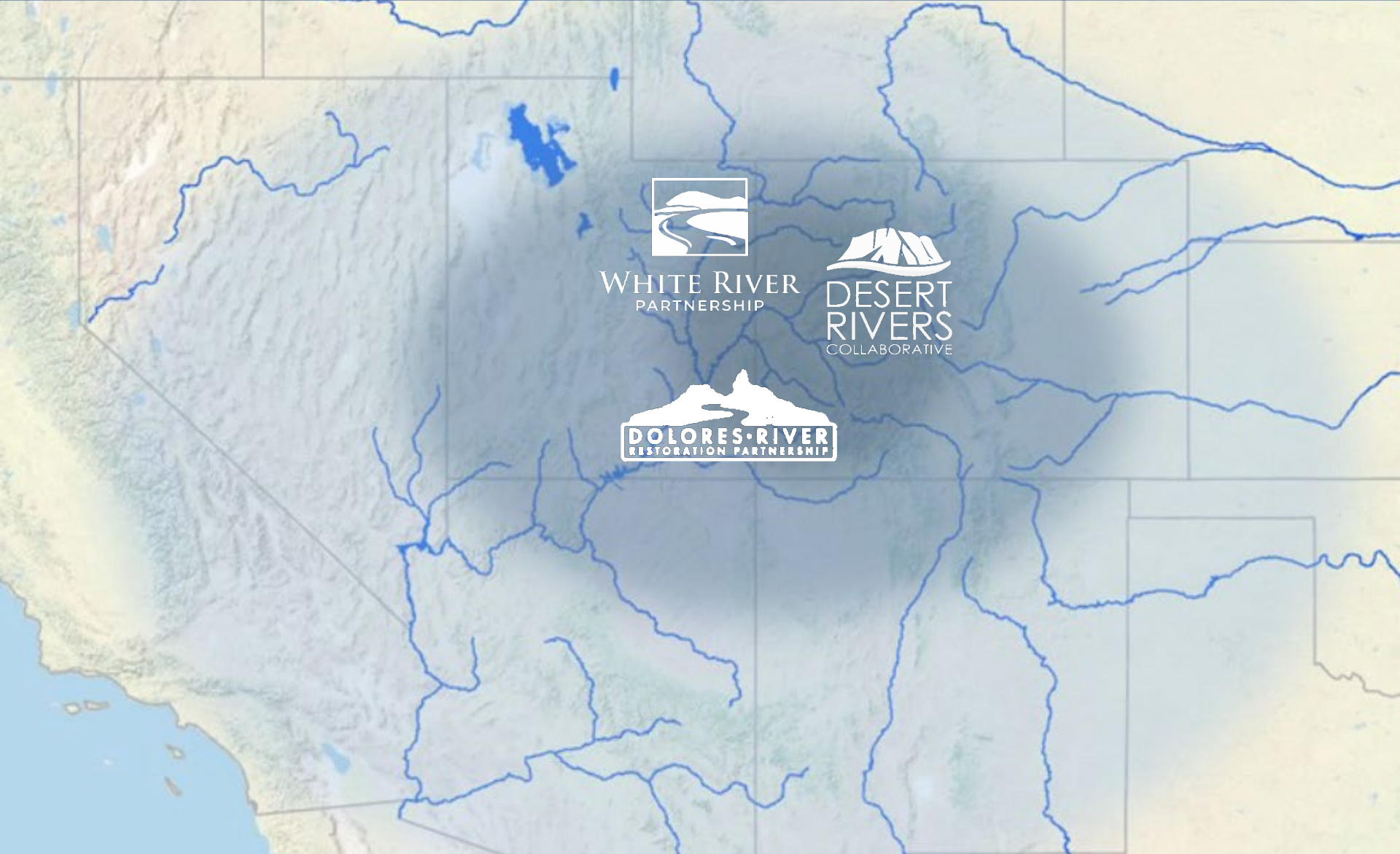


RiversEdge West

RESTORE + CONNECT + INNOVATE



Partnerships we lead



WHITE RIVER
PARTNERSHIP



DESERT
RIVERS
COLLABORATIVE



DOLORES RIVER
RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP



Rapid Assessment

- **Qualitative assessment of riparian vegetation**
- **Ocular Assessment of each treatment polygon**
- **Relative cover of prominent invasive and native species**
- **Absolute vegetation cover**
- **Additional observations**

Monitoring Sites: Each site (e.g., Las Colonias) will be broken into smaller polygons based on past treatments, geographic features, or land manager/owner input.

DRC Rapid Assessment

DRC_Polygon_ID
Relative_Cover_Native
Native_Species_1
Native_Species_2
Invasive_Species_1
Relative_Cover_Invasive1
Invasive_Species_2
Relative_Cover_Invasive2
Invasive_Species_3
Relative_Cover_Invasive3
Invasive_Species_4
Relative_Cover_Invasive4
Evidence_Natural_Recruitment
Absolute_Veg_Cover
Year
Acreage
Owner
Beetle
Weevil
TRO_Resprout_Notes
Wildlife
Logistics
Cottonwood_Gallery
Active Revegetation



Lessons Learned Rapid Monitoring

Helpful for providing a “snapshot” of current conditions at river scale.

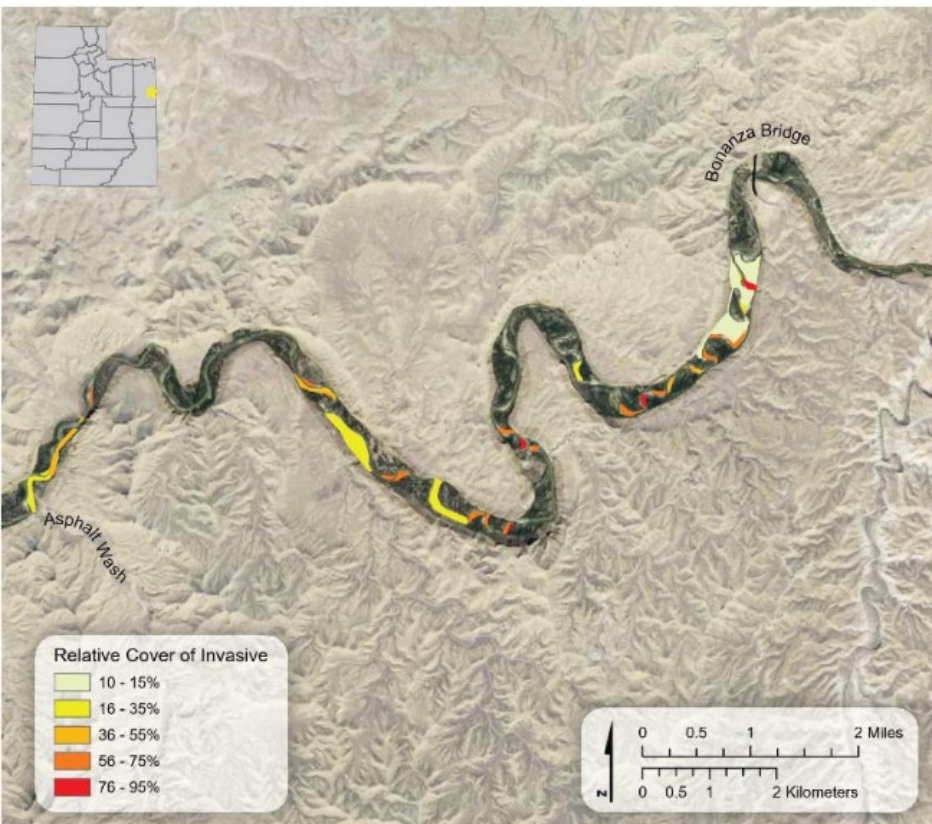


Figure 6. Relative cover of woody invasive species at treatment sites and bar features that were assessed on the May 9-12, 2022 vegetation-

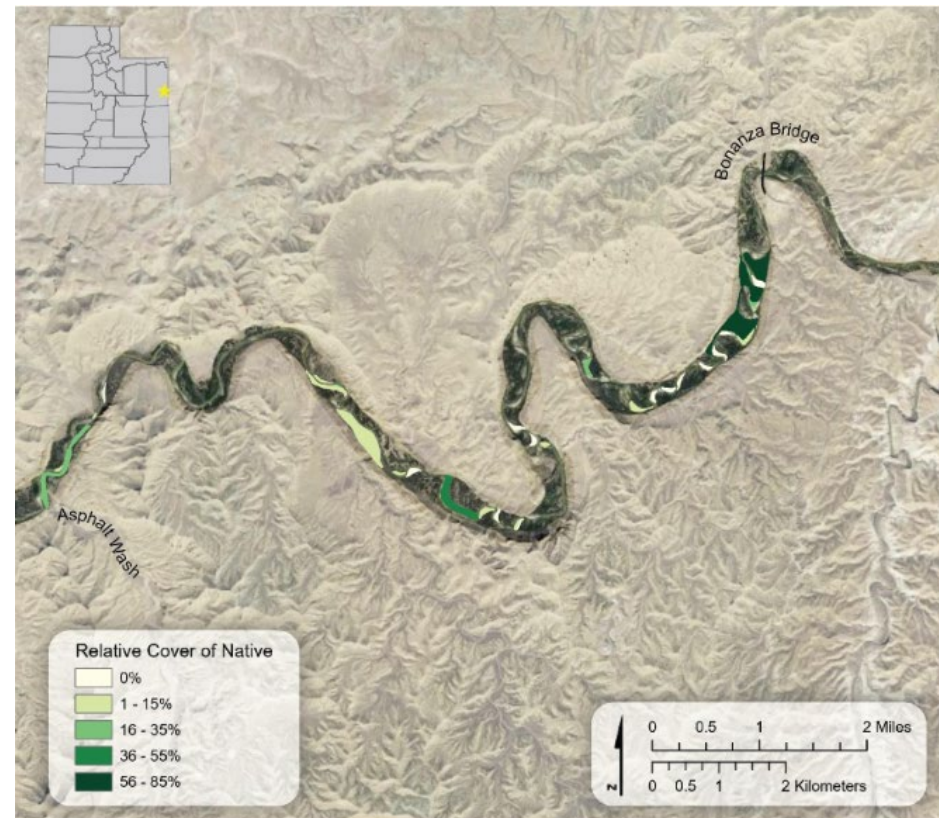


Figure 7. Relative cover of native woody species at treatment sites that were assessed on the May 9-12, 2022 vegetation-monitoring trip.



Lessons Learned Rapid Monitoring

Site-scale conditions.

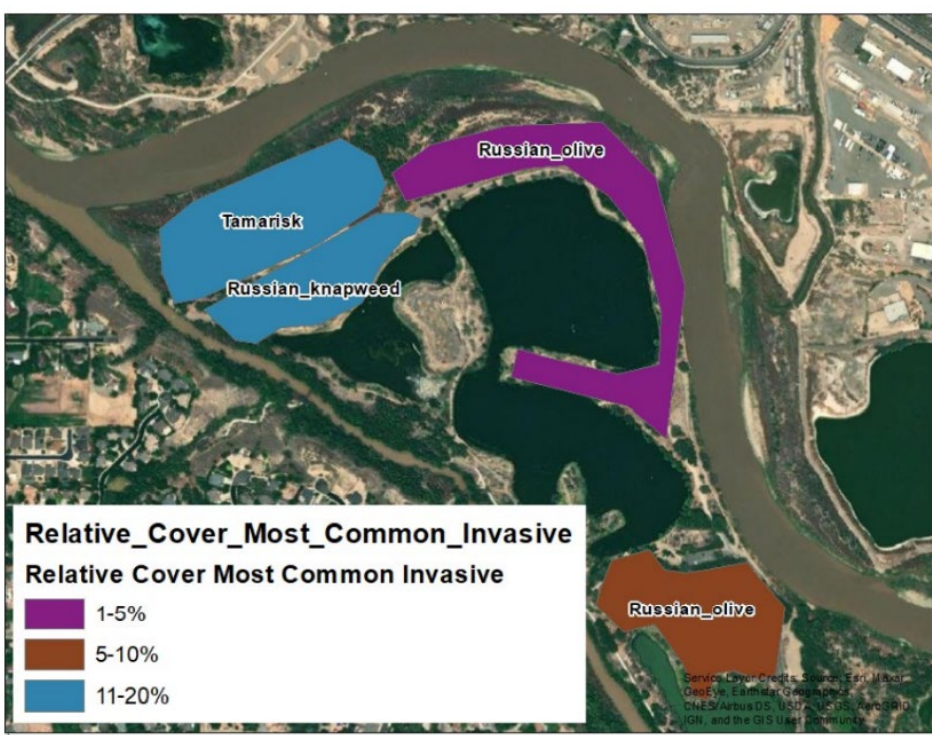


Figure 4 The most common invasive plant in each polygon and its relative cover

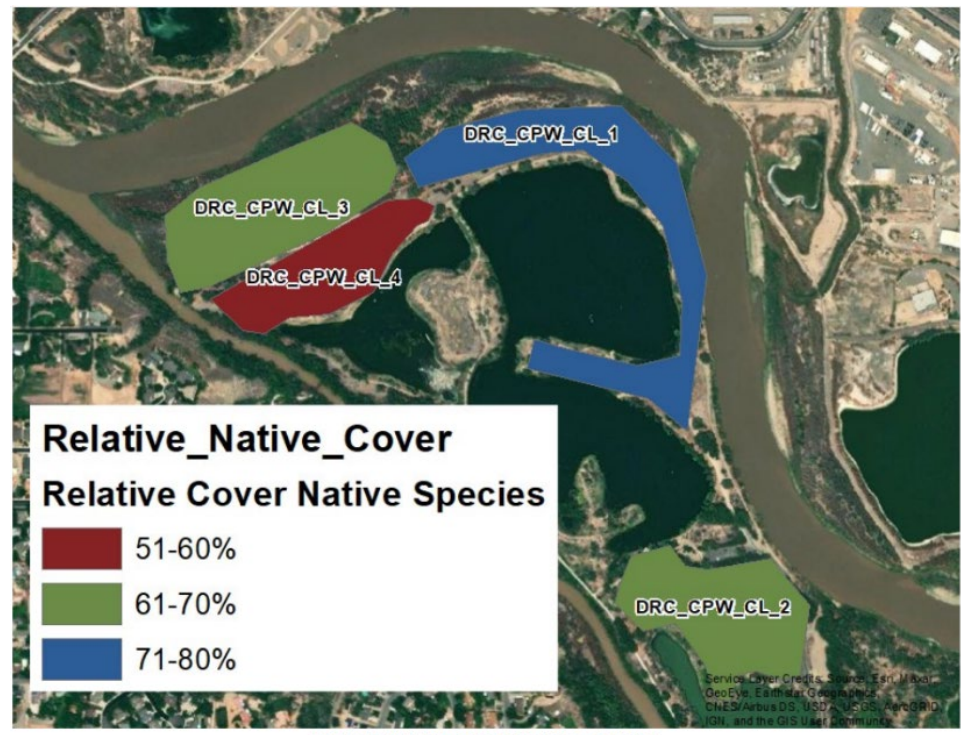


Figure 3 Relative cover of native vegetation



Lessons Learned Rapid Monitoring

Sites should be monitored the same way each year

2018

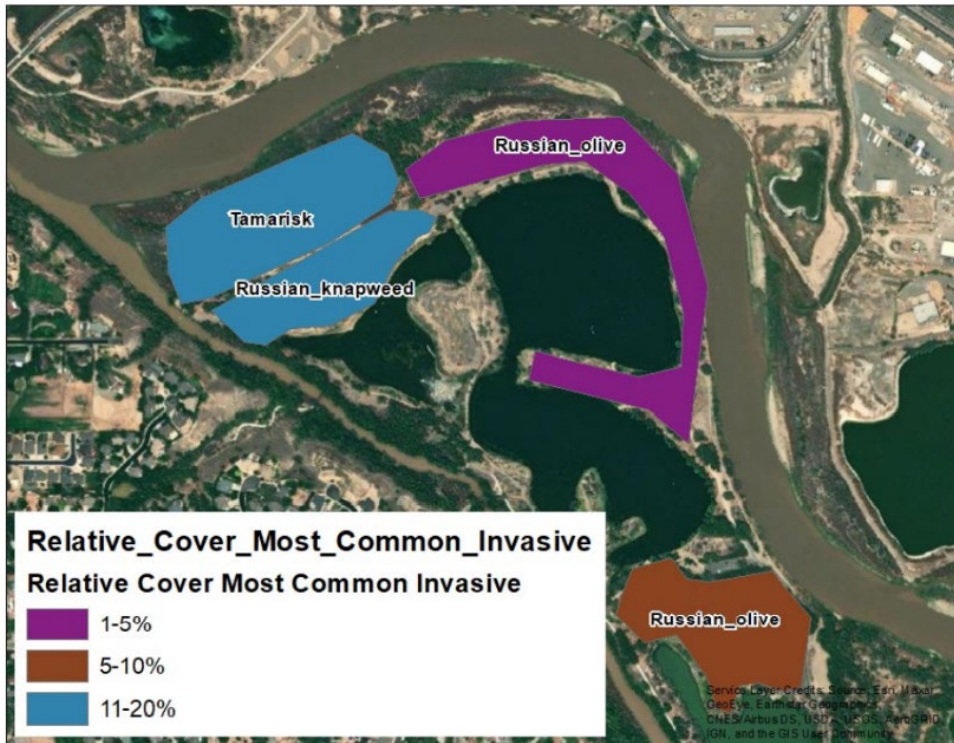


Figure 4 The most common invasive plant in each polygon and its relative cover





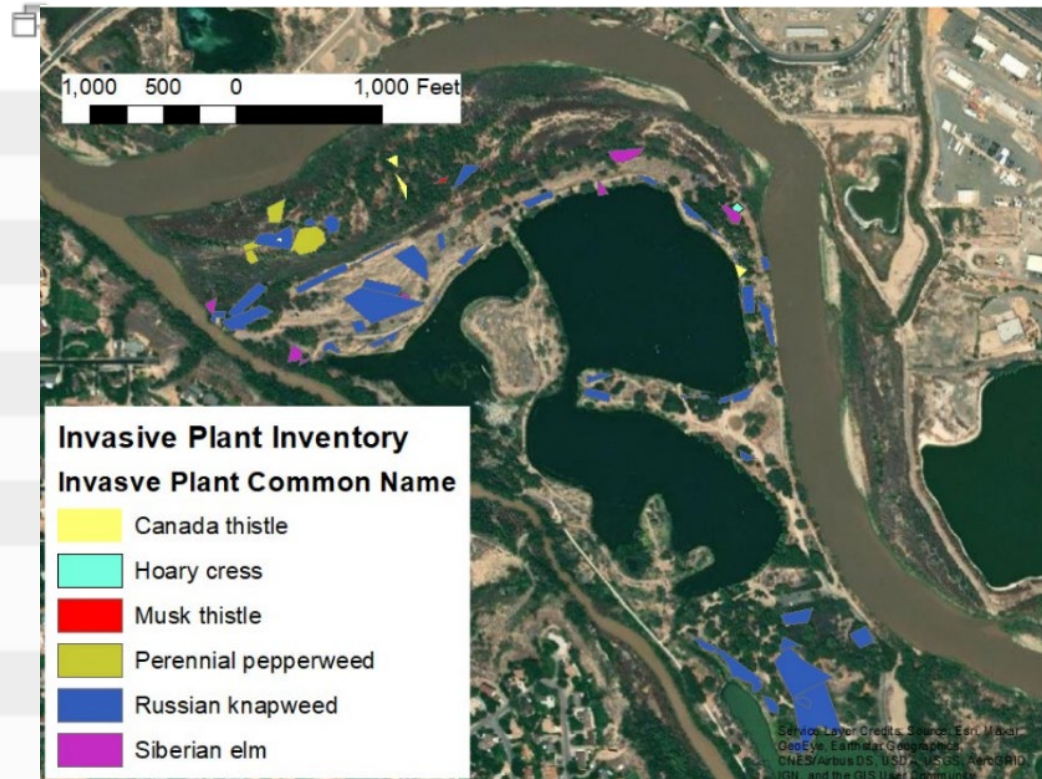
Lessons Learned Rapid Monitoring

Passive Recruitment

Invasive Plant Inventory

Passive Recruitment DRC view - Point layer

BANK TYPE	Undercut
Box_Elder	none
Comments	
Cottonwood_Count	>50
Date_Collected	July 6, 2021
Inventory Count Rigor	THRESHOLD MET
Native Grass Count	>50 sq ft
SALINITY/ALKALINITY/WHITE CRUST	None
Skunkbrush	>15
Willow_Count	>100





Lessons Learned

Rapid Monitoring

Benefits

- Baseline data and initial scouting
 - Quick way to get monitoring started and cover a large area
- Site and river-scale progress over time
- Budget friendly
 - Model allows for cost-share
- Informs site prioritization
- Adaptable across watersheds and land management within watersheds
- Engagement-provides internship and learning opportunities

Questions and room for improvement

- Can this be accomplished more quickly/cheaply/easily/accurately with satellite photos and/or drones?
- Are ocular estimates accurate?
- Need consistent monitoring polygon and photopoint locations
- Often not granular enough for site planning-still need to see the site
- Connecting to other partner/land mgmt. priorities (e.g. geomorphic and fish habitat goals, wildfire)

