

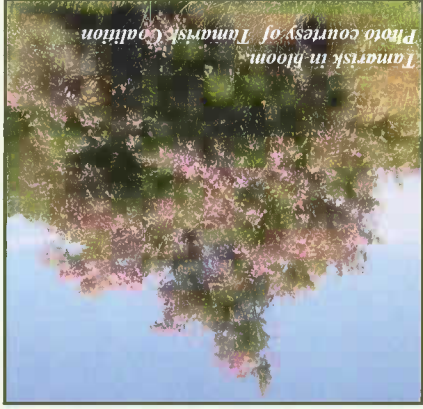
Learn more at www.arkwipp.org

The ARKWIPP Team has developed an informative website to assist landowners with identifying their infestation problem and determining control and revegetation methods for restoration.

Visit www.arkwipp.org to get started!

The ARKWIPP website provides:

- The ARKWIPP Plan & Other Regional & State plans
- The Problem with Tamarisk & Russian Olive
- Various Problem Solutions: Control Methods, Bio Control, Biomass Potential, Riparian Restoration, Long-term Management, Success Stories
- Current Relevant Events
- Arkansas River Watershed Tamarisk Infestation Maps
- Research & Resource Materials

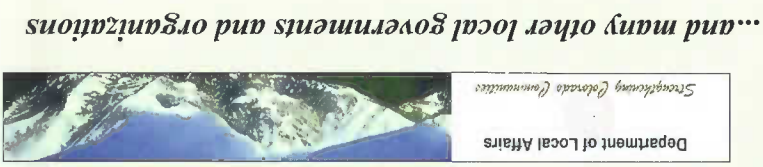


Tamarisk in bloom.
Photo courtesy of Tamarisk Coalition



SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO
WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

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Department of Local Affairs
Strengthening Colorado Communities



...and many other local governments and organizations

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Arkansas River Watershed Invasive Plants Plan

Working Toward A Restored
Arkansas River Watershed Riparian Ecosystem



Photo Courtesy of NRCS



Photos Courtesy of CSFS



www.arkwipp.org



A Joint Effort

In August of 2007, a partnership formed to develop a strategic plan for the Arkansas River watershed's riparian areas impacted by non-native, invasive trees, principally tamarisk (*tamarix* spp., aka salt cedar) and Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*). The plan is known as the Arkansas River Watershed Invasive Plants Plan (ARKWIPP).

ARKWIPP was developed with the input of over thirty partners from Southeastern Colorado.

A Shared Vision

The shared vision is an overall Arkansas River watershed restored as a thriving and diverse riparian ecosystem containing minimal infestations of non-native invasive species in order to protect water resources, native riparian species and habitat, communities from wildfire and flooding, to enhance agriculture productivity, and improve recreational opportunities.



Photos of tamarisk thickets, before and after restoration efforts on the Arkansas River in Otero County



Photos Courtesy of CSFS

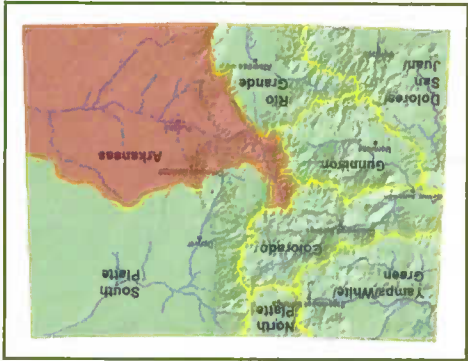
ARKWIPP Goals

The Goals of ARKWIPP are to:

- Provide a mechanism for communication and coordination among diverse parties and land managers throughout the watershed to bring about the ideas set forth in the vision statement.
- Develop a strategy pairing timely and cost effective riparian restoration with well designed monitoring and maintenance processes.

Tamarisk in the Arkansas River Watershed

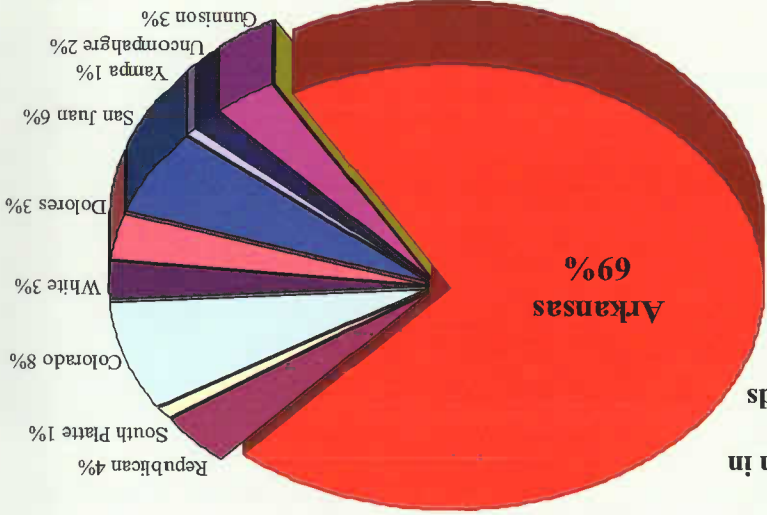
ARKWIPP geographically focuses on the Arkansas River watershed in southeastern Colorado. The Arkansas River watershed, at 26,286 square miles is the largest watershed in the State. It extends from the Continental Divide near Leadville, Colorado to the Kansas state line.



The Tamarisk Coalition inventoried over 1,633 miles of tamarisk and Russian olive trees within the watershed. The inventory brought to light the massive extent of the infestation revealing that **66,457 acres** of invasive trees exist within the Arkansas River watershed.

This accounts for **69%** of Colorado's total infestation! Annual water losses are estimated to be **76,600 acre-feet**. The estimated cost to control tamarisk within the watershed is estimated to be **\$70 million**.

Comparison of Tamarisk Infestation in Watersheds



Controlling tamarisk is essential to reduce future water losses and to restore the riparian ecosystem. If the Arkansas River watershed is to remain a healthy and viable watershed, the time to act is now!