

FINAL REPORT

DELTA CONSERVATION DISTRICT INVASIVE PHREATOPHYTE CONTROL PROGRAM GRANT PURCHASE ORDER # OEPDA14000000049

Since getting the IPCP grant contract in the spring of 2013 the Delta Conservation District has treated and retreated 60 parcels of land, according to Delta County's tax map, along the North Fork of the Gunnison River. All initially treated parcels under the ICPC grant were retreated at least once and some parcels initially treated under other invasive removal grants were retreated two additional times. Initially treated parcels under the ICPC grant were all retreated a second time. Most parcels were privately owned, but also included state highway department land, Delta County Public School land, Town of Paonia land, North Fork Park and Recreation land, Paonia River Park land owned by the NFRIA-WSERC Conservation Center, now the Western Slope Conservation Center and lands in conservation easement. Silverleaf buffaloberry starts were planted on two parcels to promote native species diversity.

Treatments of the parcels involved mechanical removal of Russian olive, tamarisk and occasional Siberian elm utilizing chain saws. Following chain saw removal, stump cuts were treated with herbicide, normally Garlon Ultra 4 with methylated seed oil and blue marker dye. In warmer weather above 85 degrees Polaris was used as the herbicide in place of the Garlon. Areas of retreatment utilized Garlon Ultra 4 with Milestone and Bios 90. In areas where large Russian olive trees would have fallen into the river, girdling of the trunks was utilized to kill the trees. Slash was collected and put in habitat piles. Work crews were utilized from the Western Colorado Conservation Corps (WCCC). When the WCCC had staffing problems and could not provide any crews for 6 weeks of promised work in the fall of 2014, four former crew leaders total from the Southwest Conservation Corps and the WCCC were utilized to progress the work before the end of March 2015.

Two public education outreach sessions educating members of the public were conducted in addition to a newspaper article and an internet article. The first was in Orchard City on January 20, 2015 with 38 attendees and the second on February 3, 2015 in Delta with 42 attendees. Presenters covered the steps of Integrated Pest Management to control List A and B invasive weeds. Dr. Thomas Grant, professor in the Master of Environmental Management program at Western State University, John Rizza, Regional Specialist in Small Acreage Management at Colorado State University, and Shannon Hatch, Restoration Coordinator with the Tamarisk Coalition, presented in Orchard City with some emphasis on Russian olive control because of the heavy infestation in the Surface Creek drainage. Melissa Werkmeister, the former Mesa County Weed Coordinator and current Bureau of Reclamation Resource Use Technician, gave a comprehensive session on Invasive Weed identification and control in the city of Delta, assisted by John Rizza and Shannon Hatch. The Tamarisk Coalition identified excellent educational materials which were reproduced in bulk by the Delta Conservation District and distributed at both workshops.

Because of the heavy native revegetation by narrow leaf cottonwood trees and willows along the North Fork of the Gunnison River, no focused revegetation program to date has been found to be

necessary. In two areas, however, small native silverleaf buffaloberry trees were planted. It is anticipated that selective additional plantings of these native trees will be continue to be done as the trees become available. Several healthy stands of buffaloberry have been identified along the river, which provide excellent bird habitat. Work crews have all been instructed on the difference between invasive Russian olive and native silverleaf buffaloberry to avoid inadvertent removal of this valuable native species.

The below is the list of land parcels by tax record owner where initial and subsequent retreatment of Russian olive and tamarisk removal have taken place. Some few parcels may have changed owners since the parcel list was current as of 2013. Several owners possess multiple parcels with the number of parcels indicated parenthetically. They are described from the north in the direction of the Paonia Reservoir Dam to the south with alternating East (E) and West (W) designations reflecting their location on the bank sides of the North Fork of the Gunnison River.

WEST BANK

EAST BANK

Bradley Investments LLC, Black Bridge Road (BBRd), Paonia	Melvin A. Bencich, Black Bridge Road (BBRd), Paonia
Michael P. Arnold, BBRd, Paonia	Antonia Holgate, BBRd, Paonia
Jon David Logan, BBRd, Paonia	Scott Manupela, BBRd, Paonia
Keith H. Seibert, Paonia	Mary McCartney, Paonia (2)
Harold Ellena, Paonia	United Companies of Mesa County, Paonia
Paonia Friends Church	NFRIA-WSERC Conservation Center
NFRIA-WSERC Conservation Center	Town of Paonia
Delta County Joint School District	Dept. of Highways State of CO
Old World LLC, Paonia	
James Windhurst, Paonia	
Linda Payle, Paonia	Pearl Breton, Paonia
Diane Wetzel, Paonia (2)	Arnold Kirkstatter, Paonia
Susan Aglietta, Stahl Road, Paonia	Town of Paonia
Robert Orlando, Stahl Road, Paonia	Andrew Theliveris, Peony Lane, Paonia
Arvin L. Stahl, Stahl Road, Paonia	Robert Justman, Peony Lane, Paonia (3)
Cecil B. & Patricia M. Farnsworth Trust Hwy 133, Paonia (2)	Cecil B. & Patricia M. Farnsworth Trust Hwy 133, Paonia
Howard Head Hwy 133, Paonia	Volunteer Park Delta County, Paonia
Phyllis Velez, Burgess Lane, Paonia	Heather Maynard, Burgess Lane, Paonia
Miguel Velez, Burgess Lane, Paonia	Phyllis Velez, Burgess Lane, Paonia
Edward Ogrodny (Redwood Arms Motel), Hwy 133, Paonia	Mary Fender, Burgess Lane, Paonia
George Hall, Hwy 133, Paonia (3)	
Lund Family Trust, Lund Lane, Paonia	
Town of Paonia Sewer Plant	
Margaret Mitchell, Hotchkiss	
Feather Farms LLC, Hotchkiss	
Richard E. & Marilyn L Curry Living Trust,	Thomas E. Curry Living Trust, Hotchkiss (2)

Hotchkiss (3)	
Carsten Ranch Family Partnership LLC, Hotchkiss (4)	Oldcastle SW Group, Hotchkiss Gravel Operation
Maloney Property – Delta County, Hotchkiss	Timothy McDaniel, Hotchkiss
Richard Hotchkiss, Riverside Dr, Hotchkiss (W/E)	Jonathan Hickam, Hotchkiss
	North Fork Pool, Park and Recreation Commission, Hotchkiss

Budget

The revised budget request showed \$40,000 in other funding. Colorado River Water Conservation District provided a total of \$15,000 in funds from 7/30/2012 to 1/22/2014 in three installments. In 2014, the Gunnison Basin Roundtable contributed \$20,000 in two installments and the National Wild Turkey Foundation donated \$5,000 on 8/30/2012. The following table shows that all CWCB funds were expended and invoiced for. When accounting for in-kind funds, the total amount was over the required amount.

Project Name : Curry Easement Woody Invasive Removal For the West Side of the N. Fork of the Gunnison River Project

Grantee: Delta Conservation District

Contact: Suzie Bilberry

Address: 690 Industrial Boulevard
Delta, CO 81416

Phone No.: (970) 874-5726 ext 121

CWCB Contract or Purchase Order

No.: OEPDA14IBC000049

Tamarisk Grant - Eradicate Russian olive, Siberian elm & other woody 13 miles North fork of the Gunnison

Grant Amount: \$41,500.00

Other funding cash: \$40,000.00

In-kind Match: \$5,900.00

Originally requested	CWCB funds	Other funding Cash	Other Funding In-kind	Total
Task 1: Identify Parcels	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$480.00	\$2,880.00
Task 2: Remove Invasives	\$34,700.00	\$33,800.00	\$2,880.00	\$71,380.00
Task 3: Reveg & Maintenance	\$4,400.00	\$5,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$10,900.00
Task 4: Ed. & Public Outreach	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$840.00	\$1,440.00
Task 5: Reporting	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$800.00
TOTAL	\$41,500.00	\$40,000.00	\$5,900.00	\$87,400.00

Spent	CWCB funds Invoiced	Other funding Cash	Other Funding In-kind	Total
Task 1: Identify Parcels	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$510.00	\$2,910.00
Task 2: Remove Invasives	\$34,700.00	\$33,800.00	\$3,130.00	\$71,630.00
Task 3: Reveg & Maintenance	\$4,400.00	\$5,000.00	\$1,660.00	\$11,060.00
Task 4: Education & Public Outreach	\$600.00		\$1,522.00	\$2,122.00
Task 5: Reporting	\$600.00		\$300.00	\$900.00
TOTAL	\$41,500.00	\$40,000.00	\$7,122.00	\$88,622.00

Difference	CWCB funds used	Other funding Cash	Other Funding In-kind	Total
Task 1: Identify Parcels	0	0	-30	-30
Task 2: Remove Invasives	0	0	-250	-250
Task 3: Reveg & Maintenance	0	0	-160	-160
Task 4: Education & Public Outreach	0	0	-682	-682
Task 5: Reporting	0	0	-100	-100
TOTAL in-kind in excess of request				1222

Also attached in Appendix A are selected images of areas before and after mechanical removal and herbicide treatment.

Appendix A

DELTA CONSERVATION DISTRICT FINAL REPORT PHOTO IMAGES

ICPC GRANT P.O. # OEPDA1400000049 –TAMARISK GRANT ERADICATE RUSSIAN OLIVE,
SIBERIAN ELM AND OTHER WOODY 33 MILES NORTH FORK OF THE GUNNISON RIVER



MARGARET MITCHELL PROPERTY BEFORE REMOVAL – WEST BANK OF N.F. OF
GUNNISON RIVER



MARGARET MITCHELL PROPERTY BEFORE REMOVAL – WEST BANK OF N.F. OF GUNNISON RIVER



MARGARET MITCHEL PROPERTY AFTER REMOVAL – WEST BANK OF N.F. OF GUNNISON RIVER



RICHARD & MARILYN L CURRY LIVING TRUST BEFORE REMOVAL – EAST BANK OF N.F.
OF GUNNISON RIVER



RICHARD & MARILYN L CURRY LIVING TRUST AFTER REMOVAL – EAST BANK OF N.F. OF GUNNISON RIVER



RICHARD & MARILYN L CURRY LIVING TRUST BEFORE REMOVAL – EAST BANK OF N.F.
OF GUNNISON RIVER



RICHARD & MARILYN L CURRY LIVING TRUST AFTER REMOVAL – EAST BANK OF N.F. OF GUNNISON RIVER



RICHARD & MARILYN L CURRY LIVING TRUST AFTER REMOVAL – EAST BANK OF N.F. OF GUNNISON RIVER



Western Colorado Conservation Corps Work Crew in front of habitat piles from slash on Old World LLC Property – West Side of North Fork of Gunnison River