

A brown trout with dark spots is swimming in a clear stream over a rocky riverbed. The water is shallow and clear, showing the rocks and the fish's fins. The title text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

CPW's Upcoming Instream Flow Efforts

2024 Instream Flow Workshop

Katie Birch

Instream Flow Program Specialist
Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Why does CPW participate in the ISF & NLL program?

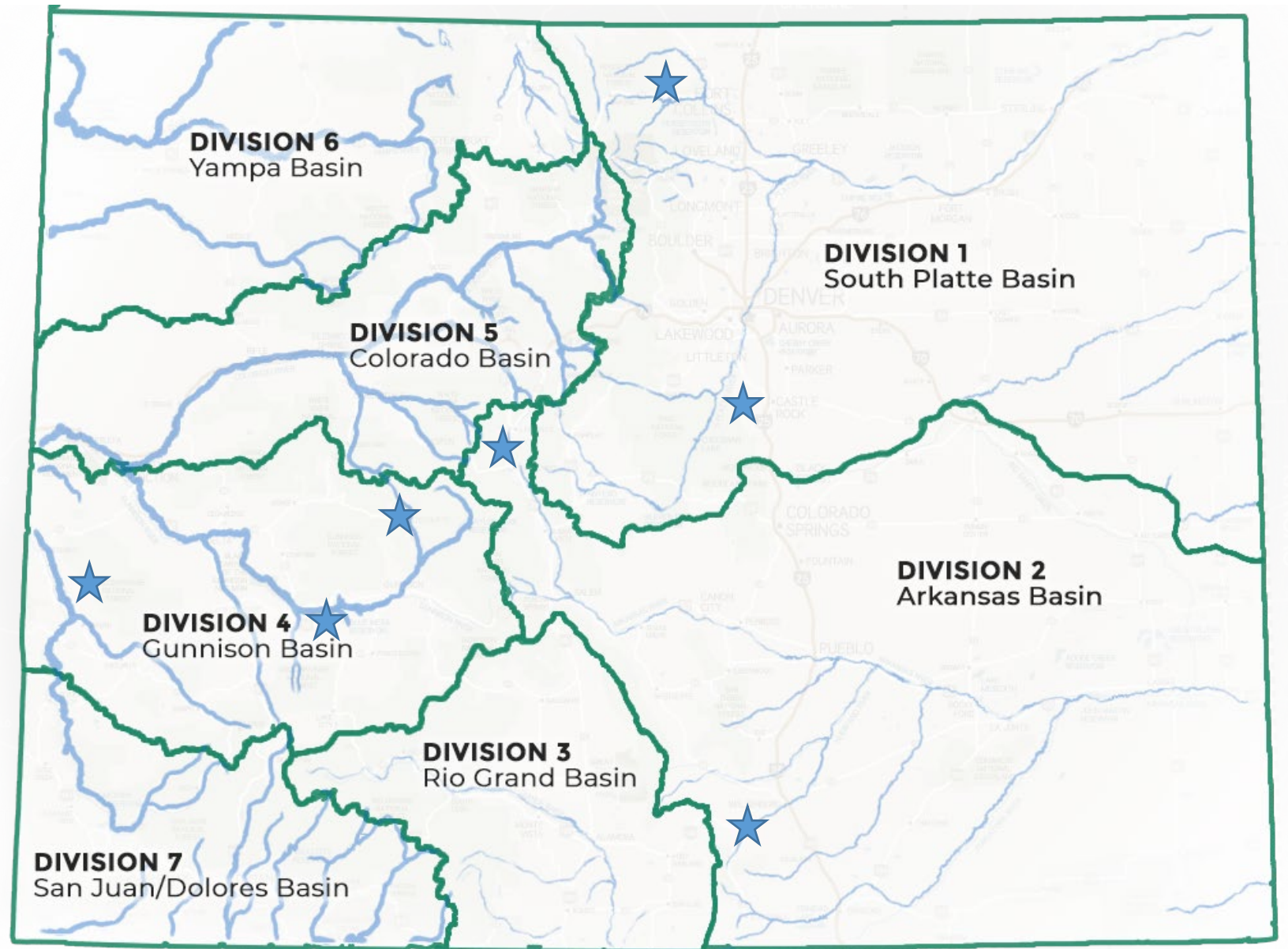
- Help fulfill CPW's statutory charge:
 - *“that the wildlife and their environment are to be protected, preserved, enhanced, and managed for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of the people of this state and its visitors”*
- CPW's strategic planning documents directs staff:
 - To *“conserve wildlife and habitat to ensure healthy sustainable populations and ecosystems”*
 - To *“protect and enhance water resources for fish and wildlife populations,” by pursuing, “partnerships and agreements to enhance instream flows, protect reservoir levels, and influence water management activities”*



❖ Focus on high conservation value fish populations

❖ Leveraging local knowledge

❖ Continue to work with interested partners (Local govts, NPS, USFS, BLM, SMP groups)

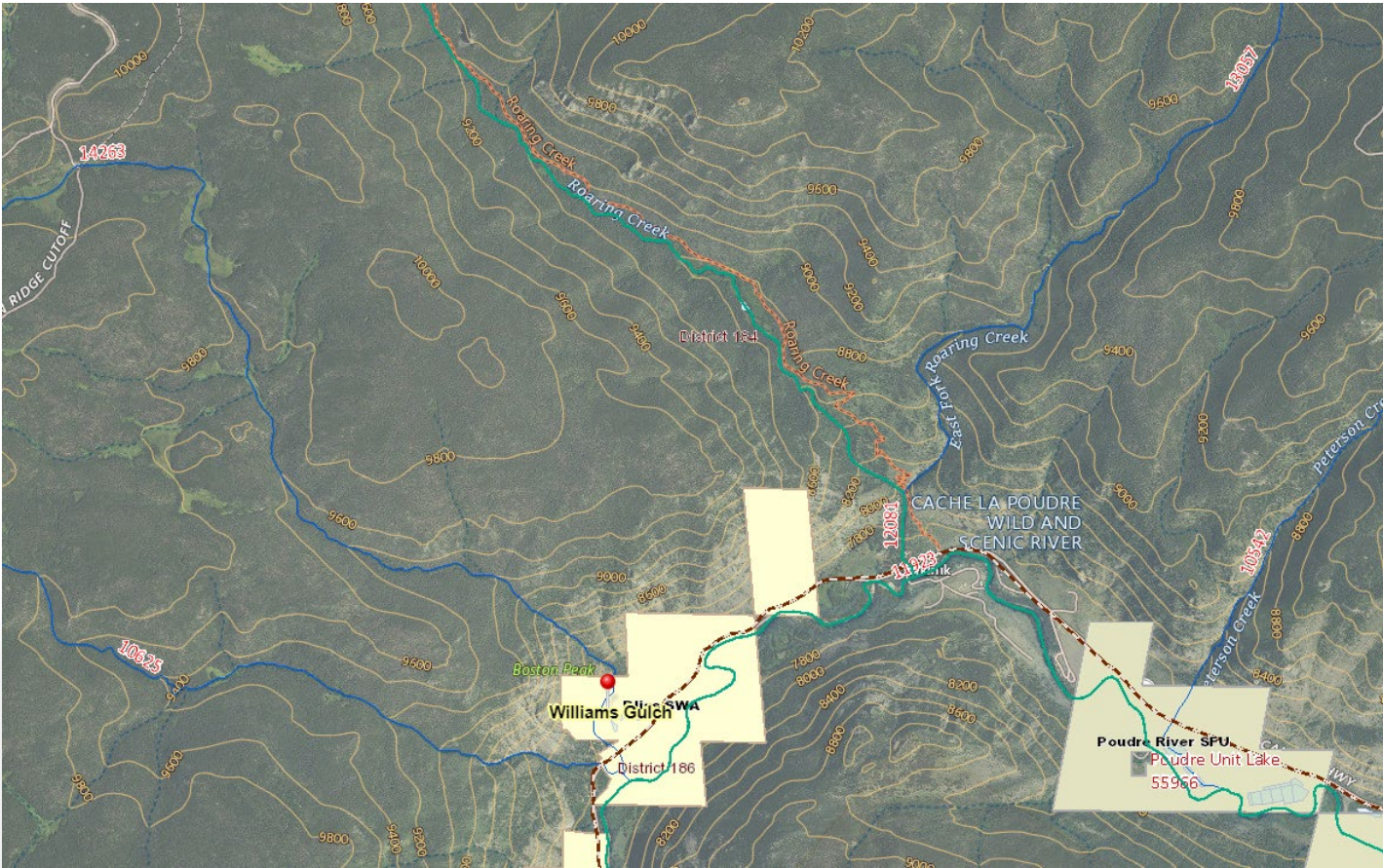


LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE

South Platte River Basin - Greenback Cutthroat Recovery



Greenback Cutthroat Trout



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE

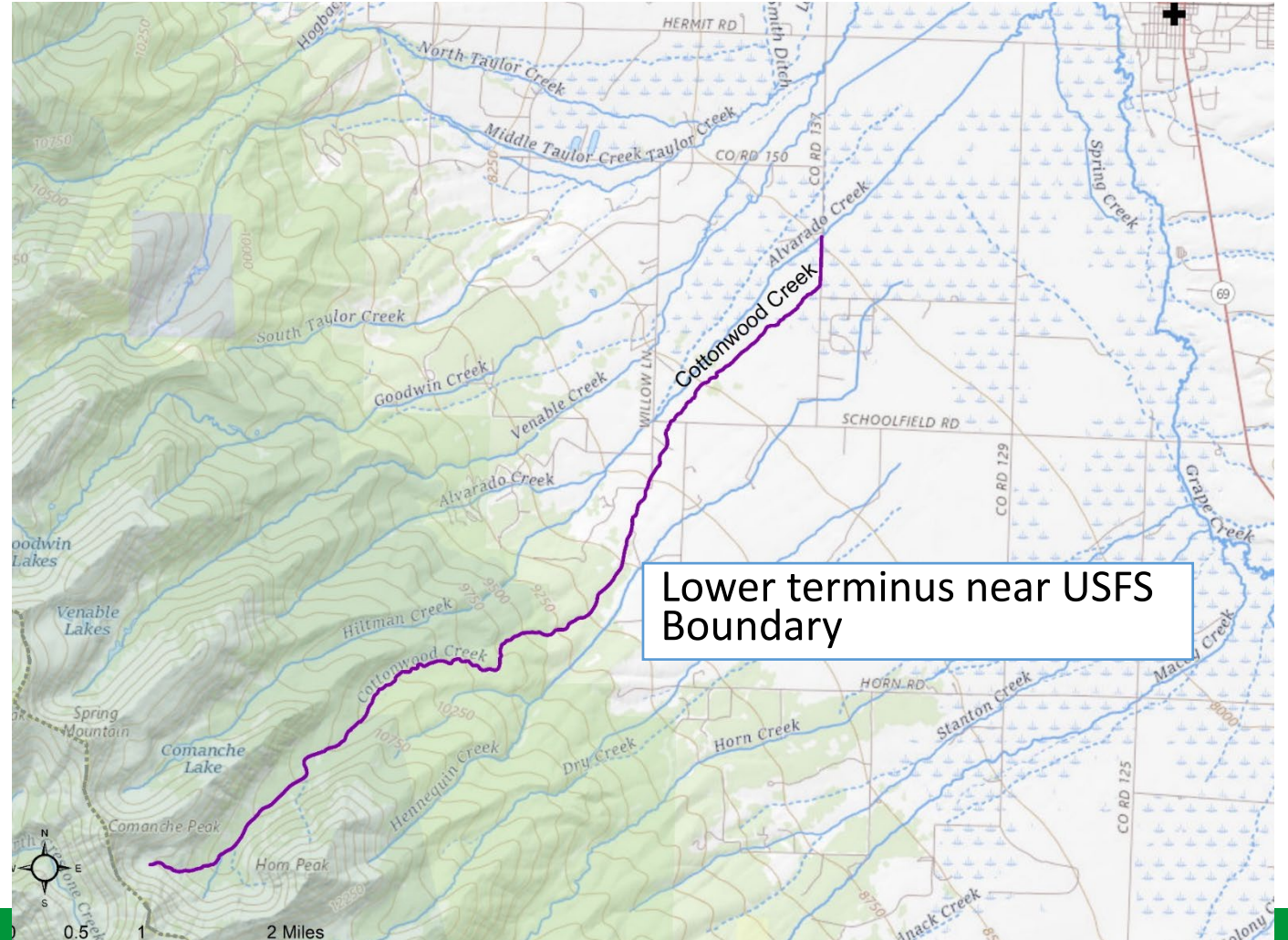
Arkansas River Basin

Cottonwood Creek



Hayden Creek Cutthroat Trout

Collect R2Cross data in 2024



Lower terminus near USFS Boundary

Collaborative Efforts

Gunnison River Basin - Pine Creek

Engagement with local constituents

- Private landowners, UMUT, NPS, & BLM
- Spring site visit to better understand goals off all parties

Preliminary R2Cross (Upper)

- Baseflow period = 0.6 cfs
- High flow period = 1.2 cfs

Preliminary R2Cross Results (Lower)

- Baseflow period = 0.7 cfs
- High flow period = 8.1 cfs



Native Species Conservation

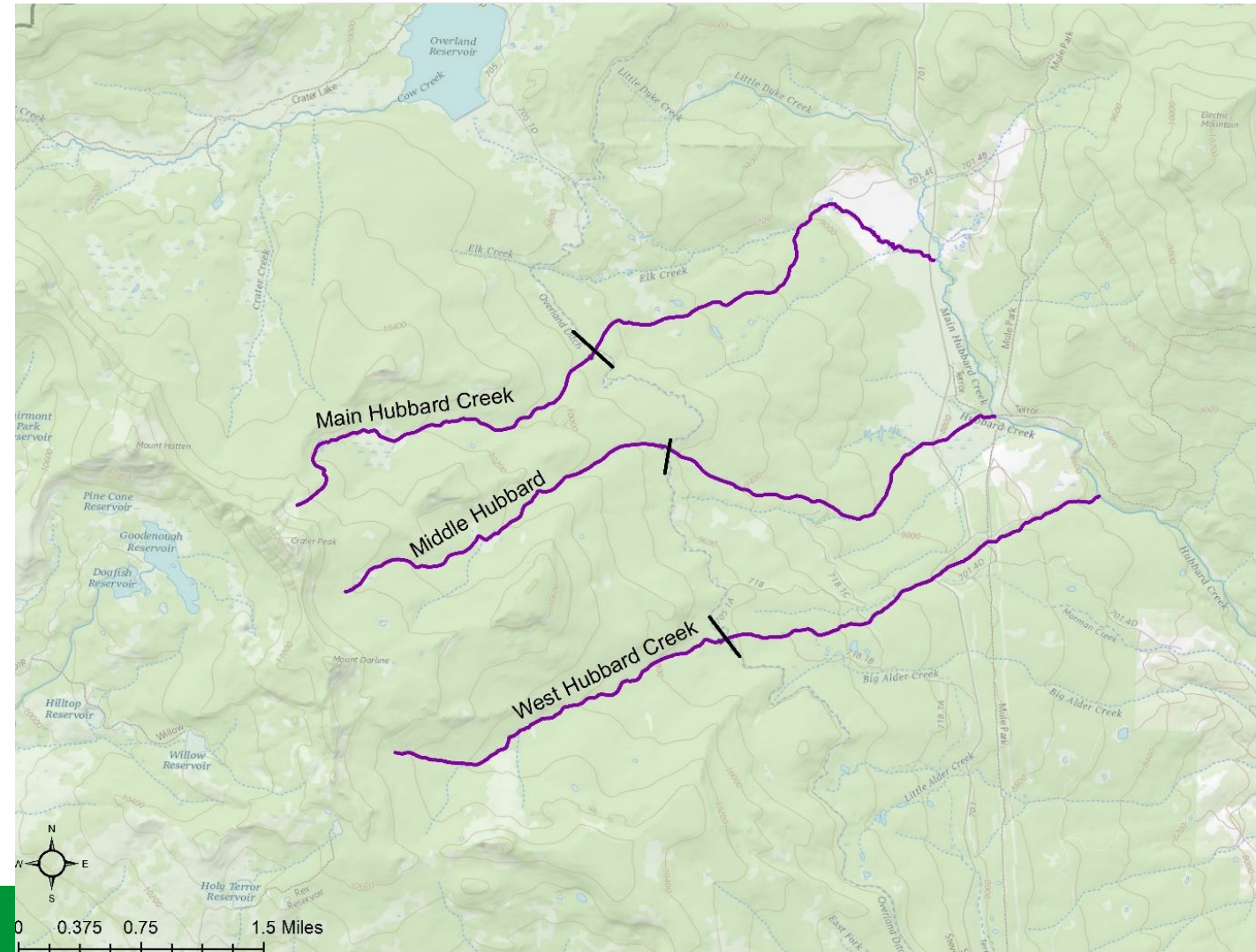
Colorado River Cutthroat Trout (Gunnison Basin)

Uncompahgre Plateau

- East Fork Dry Creek & Unnamed Trib to East Fork Dry Creek
- Beaver Dams Creek

North Fork of the Gunnison

- West Hubbard, Middle Hubbard, and Main Hubbard Creeks



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE

East Fork Dry Creek Basin - R2Cross Results

Preliminary R2Cross Results

Unnamed Trib. to EF Dry

- Baseflow period = 1.2 cfs
- High flow period = 2.5 cfs

EF Dry Creek

- Baseflow period = 1.2 cfs
- High flow period = 2.5 cfs

Beaver Dams Creek

- Baseflow period = 0.6 cfs
- High flow period = 3.5 cfs



West Hubbard Creek- R2Cross Results

Preliminary R2Cross Results

- Baseflow period = 0.4 cfs
- High flow period = 6.5 cfs

Collect R2Cross data for Main and
Middle Hubbard Creek in 2024



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE



Questions/Concerns/Comments?

970-252-6021

Katie.birch@state.co.us



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE