

# Conejos River Partnership Project

Bringing new perspectives together through Stream Management Planning



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Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project



# Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project

- Non-profit watershed group
- Work with farmers and ranchers, local, state and federal agencies, and local stakeholders to implement projects identified through planning
  - Long history of watershed and stream management planning



Go to [www.menti.com](http://www.menti.com) and use the code 1609 5085

Have you been or are you currently involved in a Stream Management Plan process?



0  
Yes

0  
No

Together  
LIKE NEVER  
BEFORE | 2021  
SUSTAINING COLORADO  
WATERSHEDS CONFERENCE



Go to [www.menti.com](http://www.menti.com) and use the code 9071 5248

Have you been involved in implementing projects related to the Colorado Water Plan or a Stream Management Plan?



0  
Yes

0  
No

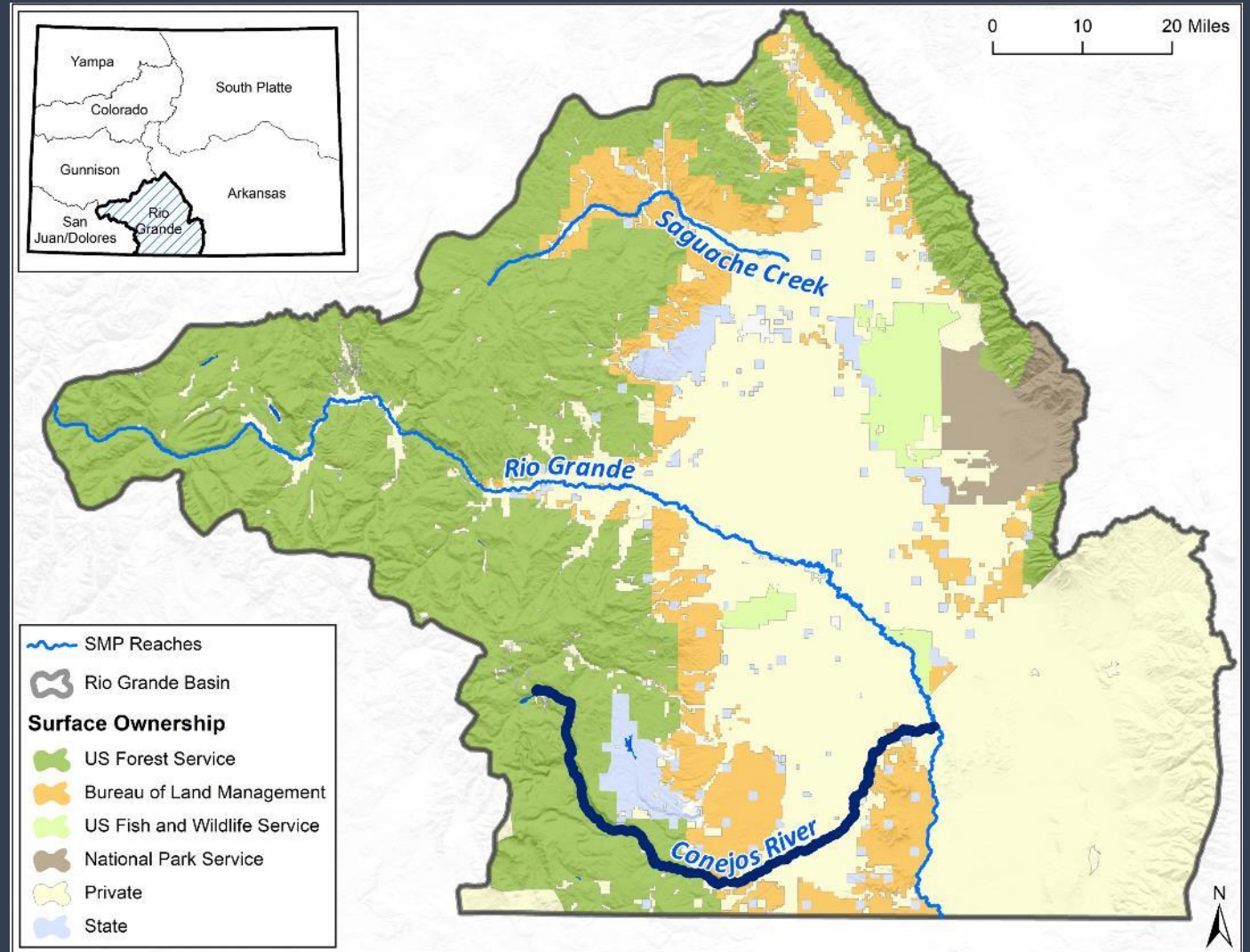
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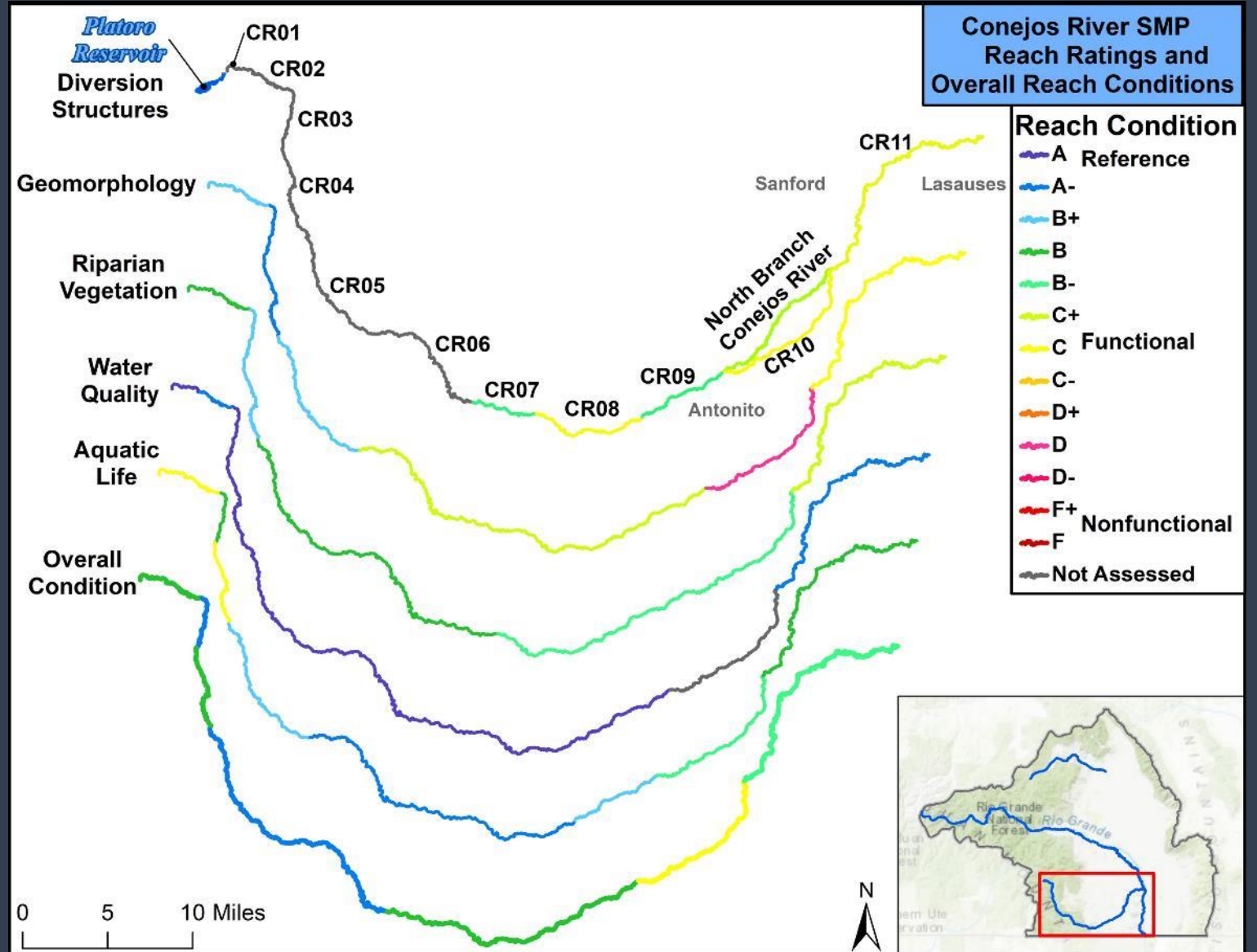
# Background

- Colorado Water Plan sets stage for SMPs
- Rio Grande Basin Roundtable identified rivers for initial SMPs, completed in 2020
- SMP efforts engaged stakeholders within each river system and across the basin



# Conejos River SMP Results

- River health and function ratings by reach
- Supported development of goals, recommendations, and projects





# Conejos River Partnership Project



- Conejos Water Conservancy District
- Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project
- Water Users and Landowners
- Colorado Division of Water Resources
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife
- Trout Unlimited
- Bureau of Land Management



# Project Needs

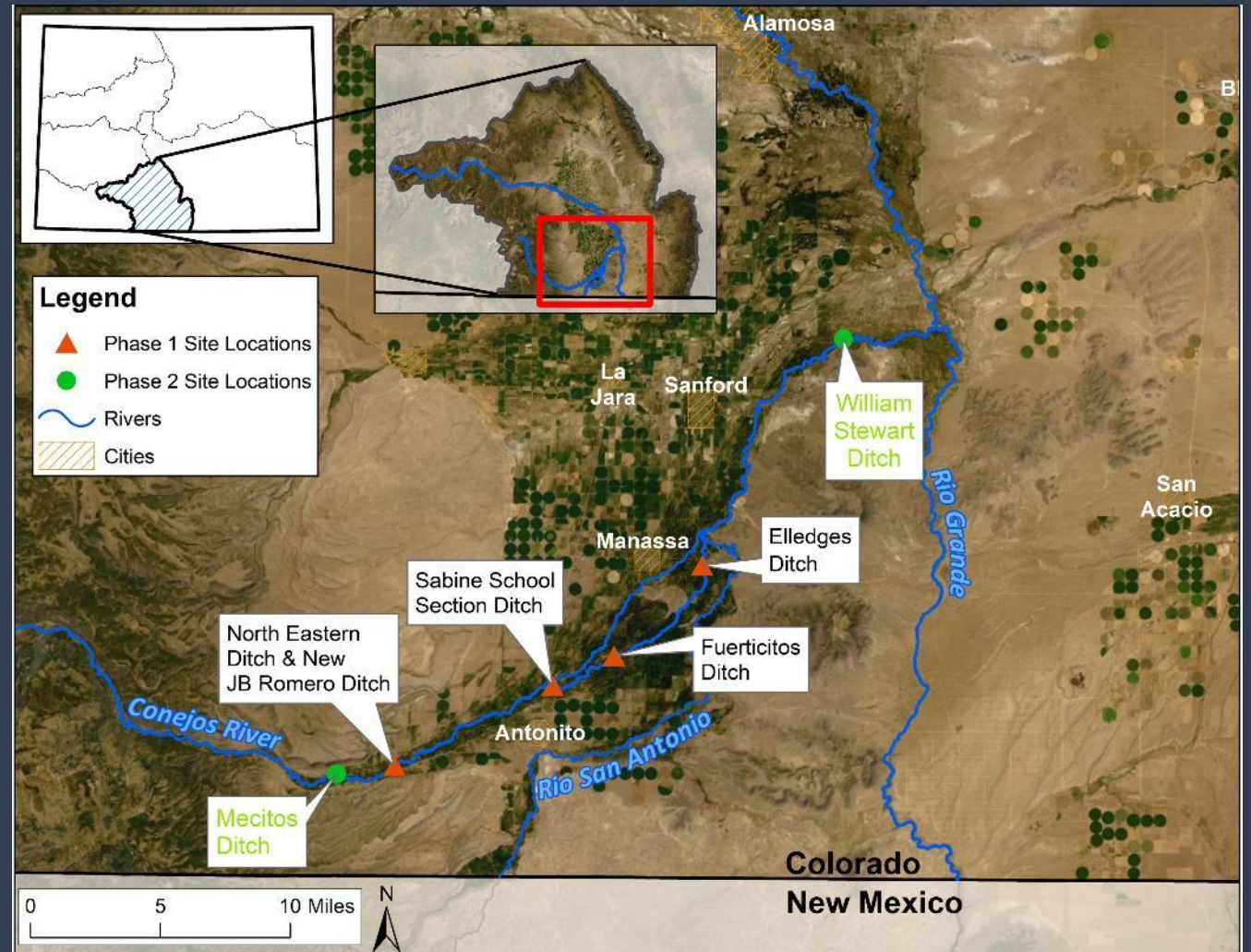


- Aging Irrigation Infrastructure
- Barriers to fish movement
- Low streamflow conditions
- Degraded riparian and aquatic habitat



# Conejos River Partnership Project Overview

- Replacement of diversion structures and headgates for 7 ditches
  - Including rectification of 3 fish barriers
- Restoration of aquatic and riparian habitat
- Improved water administration
- Complements partner efforts across watershed



# Ripple Effects

- Supports local agriculture and recreation economies in underserved community
- Builds lasting relationships critical to future SMP/CWP implementation
- Supports Roundtable and CWP efforts and goals





Thank you!



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