Summary

Dolores River Dialogue

2005-2008

Primary DRD Science Participants

- Colorado Water Conservation Board
- Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- The Nature Conservancy
- United States Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Fort Lewis College
- Northern Arizona University
- Bugs Consulting

From the Working Core Science Document

"The fundamental process driving the Dolores River Dialogue are complex both politically and scientifically. Several interrelated factors such as flows, gradient, invasive species (flora and fauna) and human impacts, have a bearing on the available options for success within the lower Dolores River system."

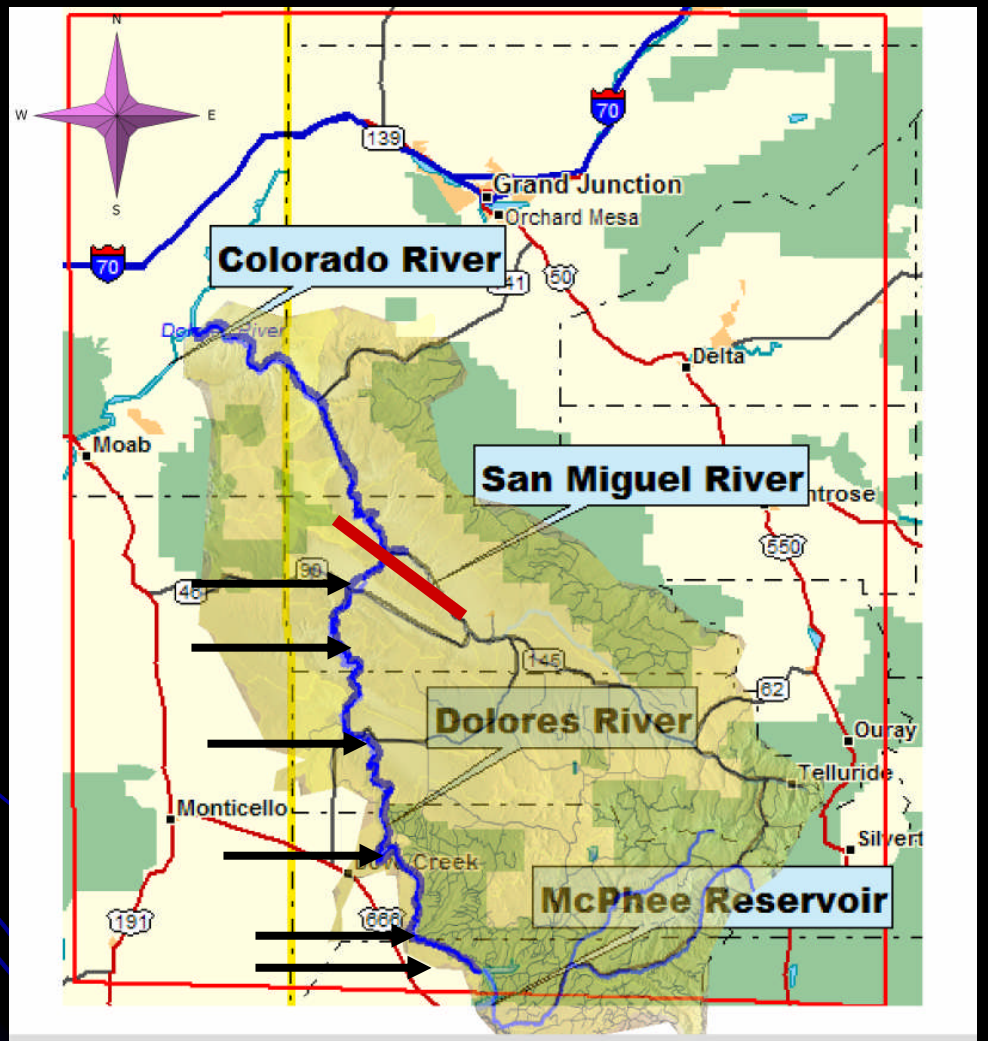
RJS

Major topics of discussion

- Geomorphology (Primarily sediment transport).
- Cold Water Fisheries (mainly Rainbow)
- Warm Water Fish
- Riparian Ecology
- Special Specie of Concern

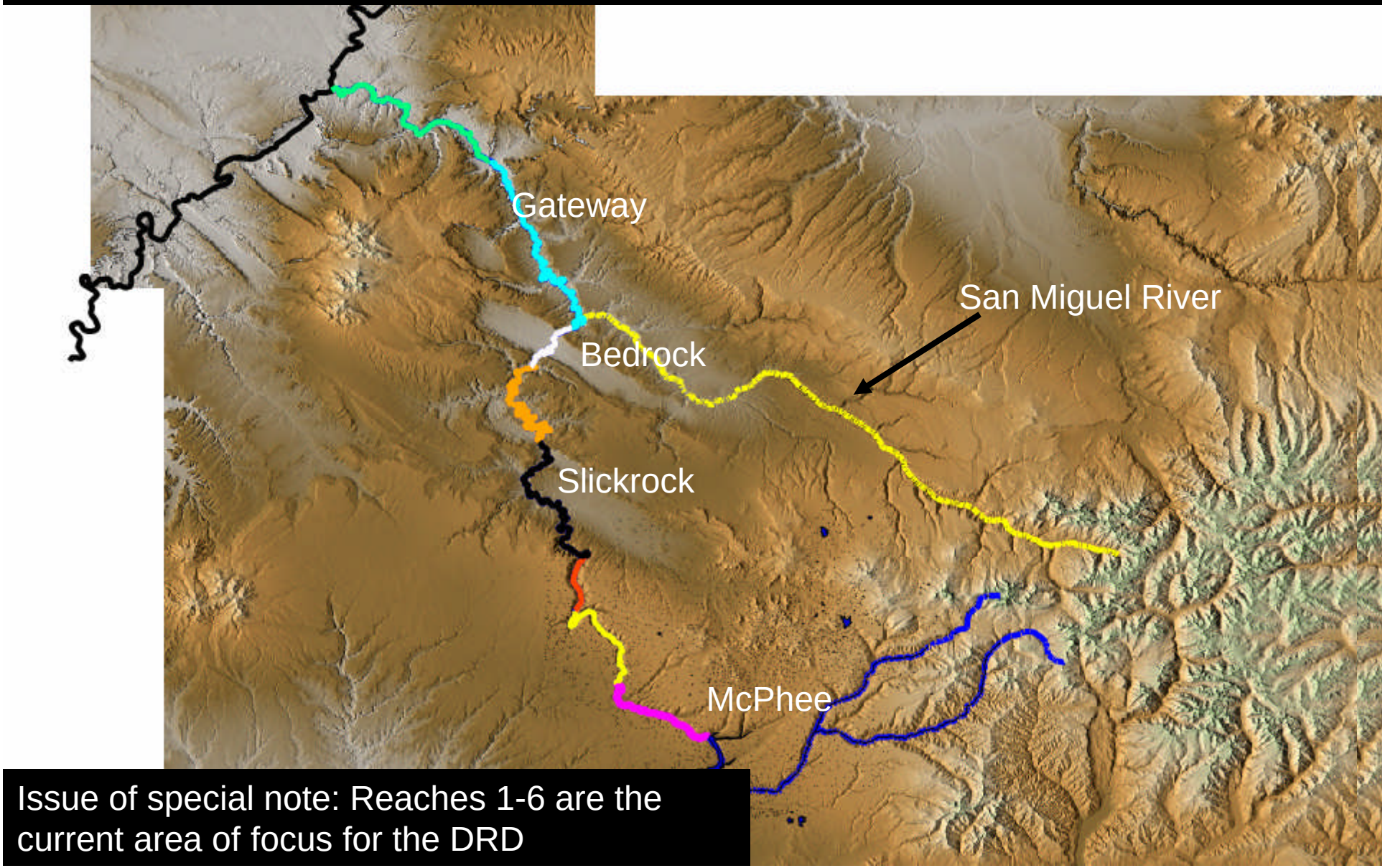
1. Round Tailed Chub
2. Flannel Mouth Sucker
3. Blue Headed Sucker

Study Area



Dolores River Dialogue General Study Area Map

Study Area



Issue of special note: Reaches 1-6 are the current area of focus for the DRD

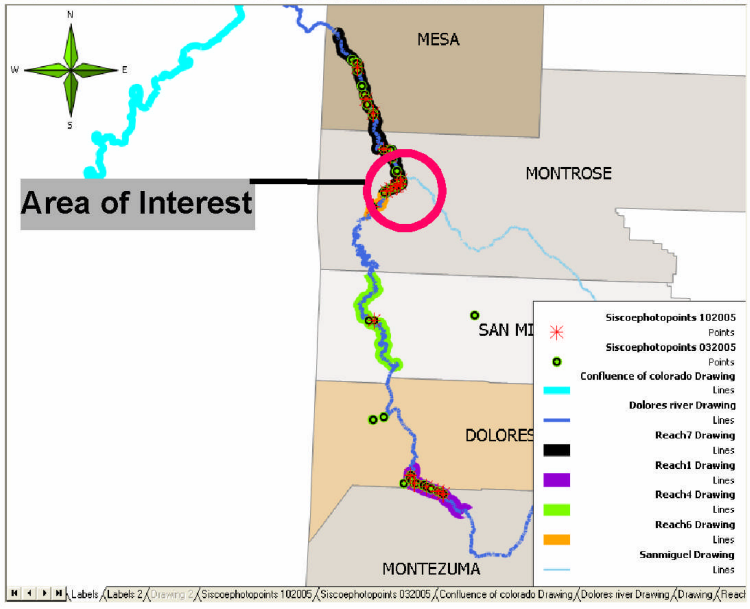
Upstream of Gateway

Area just below McPhee Dam

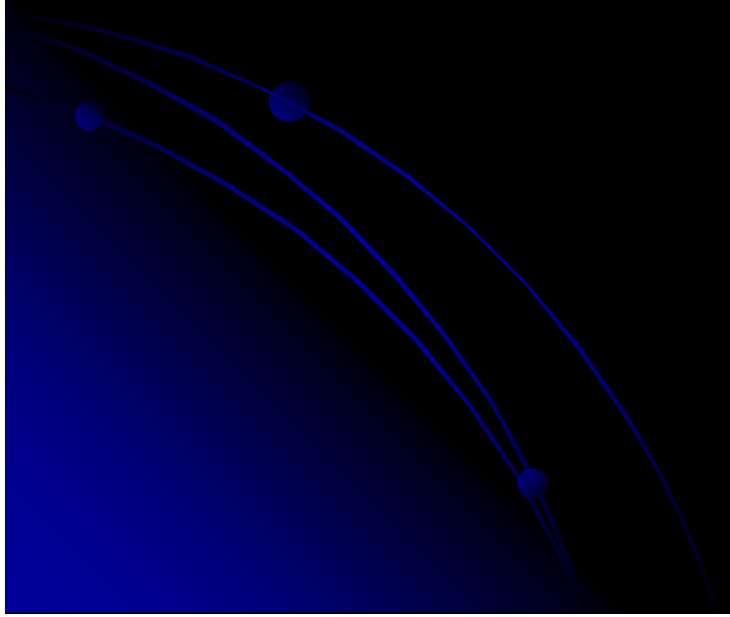
Example from the photo point study

03/2005 Reach 7 confluence of San Miguel looking downstream

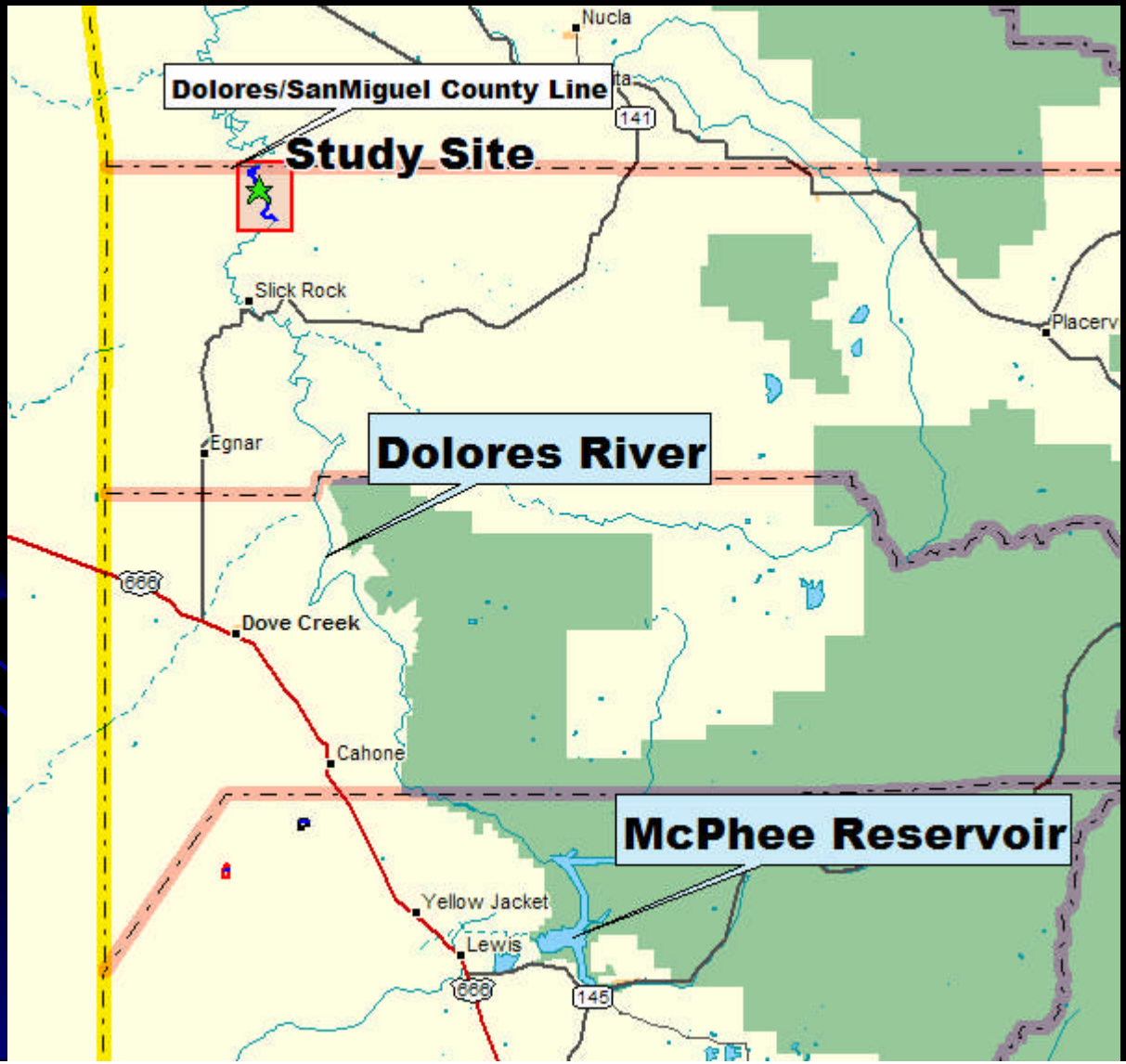
10/2005 Reach 7 confluence of San Miguel looking downstream



Big Gyp



Area of Interest



GIS Project

My thanks to the Suckla Family
for their support with this study

Lessons learned

- Timing of spill can be difficult.
- Spills < 50K af difficult to plan management options.
- Flushing flows can be negated due to late fall fine sediment loading.
- Individual Reaches have differing opportunities to achieve ecological targets.

Primary Questions 2008

- Temperature and river flow relationships
- Relationship between flows and Cottonwood requirement
- Relationship between flows and nutrients
- Many other questions are being discussed that are intended to look at both native and non native fish issues, Invasive species (i.e. tamarisk), PFC (proper functioning condition) and overall watershed health

Current (as of 10/8/08) Research or Monitoring Efforts on the Dolores River

Based on information from 10/8/08 DRD Science Coordination Meeting

Discipline	Lead	Question
Geomorphology		
and Cold Water Fish	D. Graf (CDOW)	How do flows affect geomorphic proecesses in Reach 1? Has the habitat improvement work at Lone Dome improved riffle/pool habitat for Trout?
and Riparian Ecology	S. Jensen (USFS)	How is BLM land management affecting geomorphology?
Riparian Ecology		
	A. Coble (NAU)	Has regeneration occurred for major native tree species on lower Dolores and what flow events are associated with that regeneration?
	J. Siscoe (MVIC)	Is there a link between riparian habitat and aquatic habitat, fish populations and/or water quality?

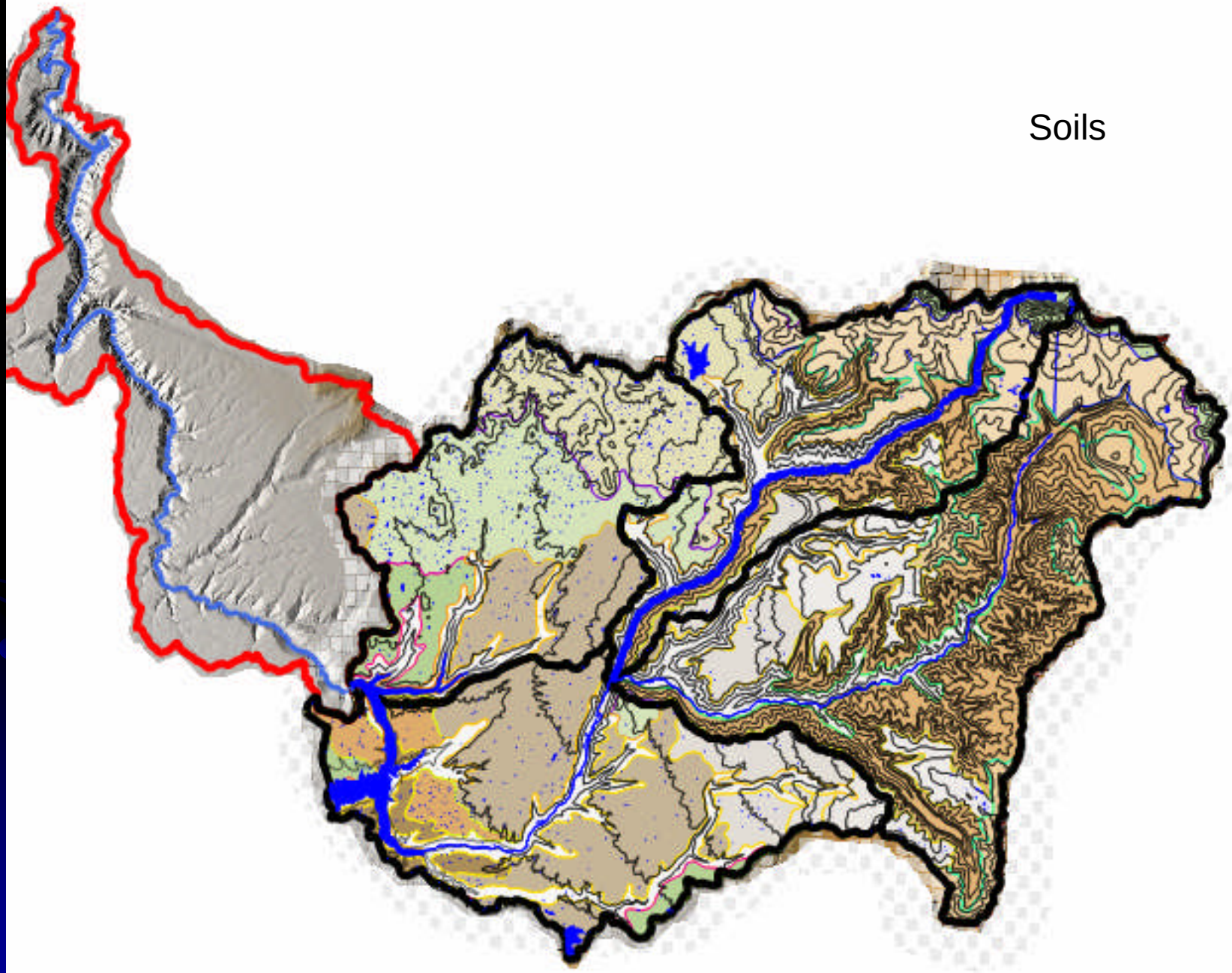
Warm Water Fish

	J. White (CDOW)	What is the status of 3 species of concern (flannelmouth, bluehead sucker, roundtail chub)?
	D. Kowalski (CDOW)	What is the status of 3 species of concern (flannelmouth, bluehead sucker, roundtail chub)?
and Cold Water Fish	C. Anderson (BUGS)	What is the WQ and what is the status of the habitat? What tributaries [perennial] are the most likely to be impacting the WQ on the Dolores?

Other Related to Dolores River

	S. Jensen (USFS)	Which sub-watersheds of Disappointment Creek are contributing the most salinity?

Soils




The stories I could tell