Watershed Restoration
Restauración de la cuenca

On-the-ground restoration actions that enhance ecosystem function, provide habitat for wildlife, and affect water quantity and quality.

Acciones de restauración en el terreno que mejoran la función del ecosistema, proporcionan un hábitat para la vida silvestre y afectan la cantidad y calidad del agua.
Rio Grande Joint Venture

Bird Conservation Regions
- Chihuahuan Desert
- Gulf Coastal Prairie
- Tamaulipan Brushlands
- Tamaulipan Brushlands - Shared Management*

*Stewardship in this geography is cooperatively supported by the Rio Grande Joint Venture and the Gulf Coast Joint Venture.
Watershed Restoration
Restauración de la cuenca

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Río Grande Joint Venture Coordinator

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Texas Comptroller Office
RESTORATION OF THE RIO BRAVO-GRANDE ACROSS THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN TWO MEXICAN PROTECTED AREAS AND BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK

Javier Ochoa
El Paso, Texas
November 2017
Invasive species as a threatened for biodiversity

Landscape restoration and water conservation management
Geographic identification of the target species: 
*Arundo donax* and *Tamarix romosissima*
Organization
Training and building capacities
Monitoring and permanent improving
Challenges

• Coordination: communities/institutional partners
• Communication
• Weather conditions
• Annual dynamic of the river
• Specific control methods
- Improve communication tools and roads from Mexico
- Identify the best time framework

- Safety trainings for the community brigades
- Monitoring and assess new methods
- Keep a good communication with partners
Lessons learned

- Strategies
  Add, new partners with high professional capacities
  Permanent training of the current involved partners
  Integrate the topics of water conservation, and riparian restoration in environmental education activities
  Impulse the beaver habitat restoration topic as an opportunity to looking for funds
  Developed a contingency plan for the security of the river communities
  Promote the project under a binational focus
What's needed next

Keep under maintenance the sections of the river treated in the past

Improve the equipment

Evaluate the effectiveness of the method, and to test new ones

Start with the production of native plants for future restoration projects

Lessons learned
DO NOT TO BE PROTAGONIC, NETHER A HERO
Partnering with Farmers to Restore the Rio Grande Headwaters

Emma Reesor, Executive Director
Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project
Rio Grande/Rio Bravo Forum ~ November 8, 2017
VIDEO HERE
Challenges facing the Rio Grande Headwaters

- Variable water supply
- Groundwater sustainability
- Altered hydrology
- Habitat degradation
- Watershed Impacts (beetle kill, wildfire, mining)
- Climate Change
Success through Partnerships

- **Winter Flow Program**
  - Partnership between agriculture water users and Trout Unlimited to improve streamflows below three major reservoirs

- **Willow Creek Floodplain Project**
  - Addressed mining impacts for improve water quality, habitat, river health and community open space
Lessons Learned

- Data driven
- Building relationships across disciplines
- Results in creative solutions that address agricultural, environmental and recreation needs
Questions?

¿Preguntas?

2017 Rio Grande / Río Bravo Binational Forum | Foro Binacional
• Introduce yourself: name, segment of river, type of work.
• RECORD (http://bit.ly/RGRB2017): Is there an innovative watershed restoration project happening in your part of the basin? If so, describe it.
• Presentese: nombre, segmento del río, tipo de trabajo.