

Sikes Act Projects

Habitat Stamp Program Update

19.34.6 NMAC

August 19, 2022

Stewart Liley

**New Mexico State Game
Commission Meeting**



S.Liley August 19, 2022

Review of Changes made to Program by SGC – Effective April 1, 2021

- Program is now statewide, no regional boundaries
- One Citizen Advisory Committee with 9 members
- Stamp Cost/Program Income
 - Stamp fee increased from \$5 to \$10
- New Requirement: 50% of funding to fish projects (calculated over a five year period)



Update on Progress since Program Renewal

\$4.75M of HSP funds prioritized to specific restoration projects since April 2021

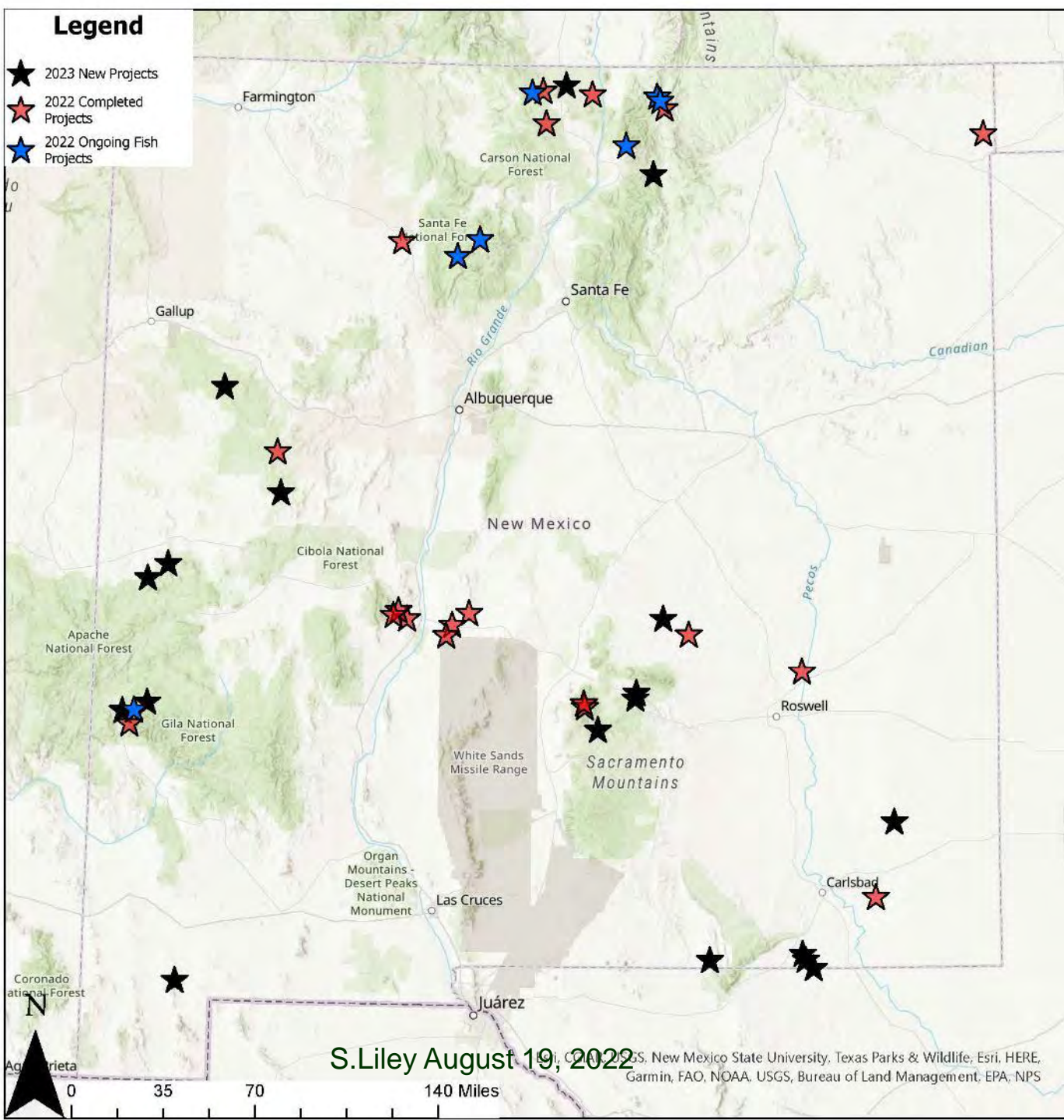
1. \$750K - CAC prioritized 19 projects in May 2021
 - Projects completed by end of FY22 with 95% funds used.
2. \$2.5M - CAC prioritized 7 fish projects in November 2021
 - Projects moving forward at various stages of engineering, permitting and implementation.
3. \$1.5M - CAC prioritized 14 new projects on August 8, 2022.
 - Projects will be implemented FY23.

**Eight Public CAC Meetings since Early 2021*



Legend

- ★ 2023 New Projects
- ★ 2022 Completed Projects
- ★ 2022 Ongoing Fish Projects



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Map data by Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA, USGS, New Mexico State University, Texas Parks & Wildlife, Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS





Forest Habitat Restoration — Landscape Scale Projects

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Water Infrastructure Installation/Renovation



Stream and Wetland Habitat Improvements



Constructed Riffle – Valle Vidal



Beaver Dam Analogs (BDA)





Increasing Wildlife Habitat Connectivity, Fence Modification Projects



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Comanche Creek Restoration Project

Planned for completion - August 2022

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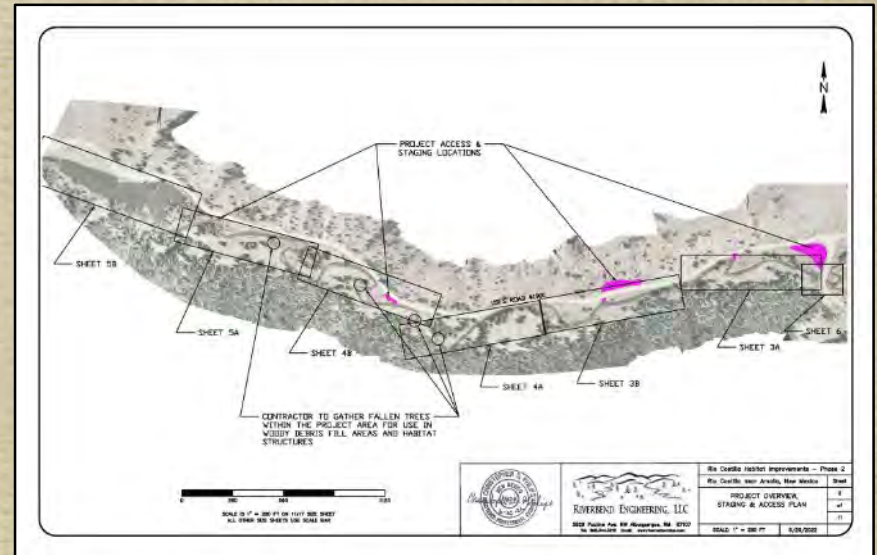
San Antonio Creek Instream Structures and Riparian Plantings

Final stage to begin this month, project completed by end of September 2022

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Costilla Creek Fish Habitat Restoration Project

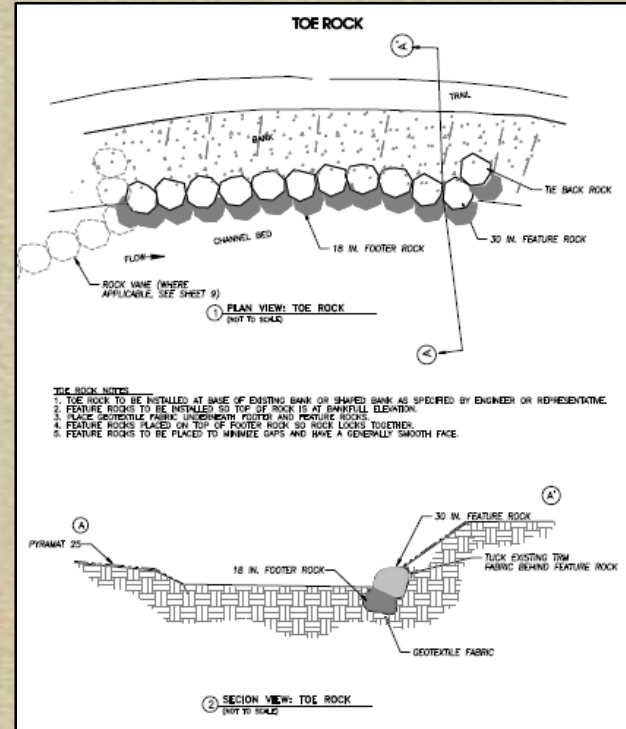


Final designs received, permitting process started. Will begin implementation in Spring 2023, and finish by Fall 2023.

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Willow Creek Fish Habitat Restoration Project

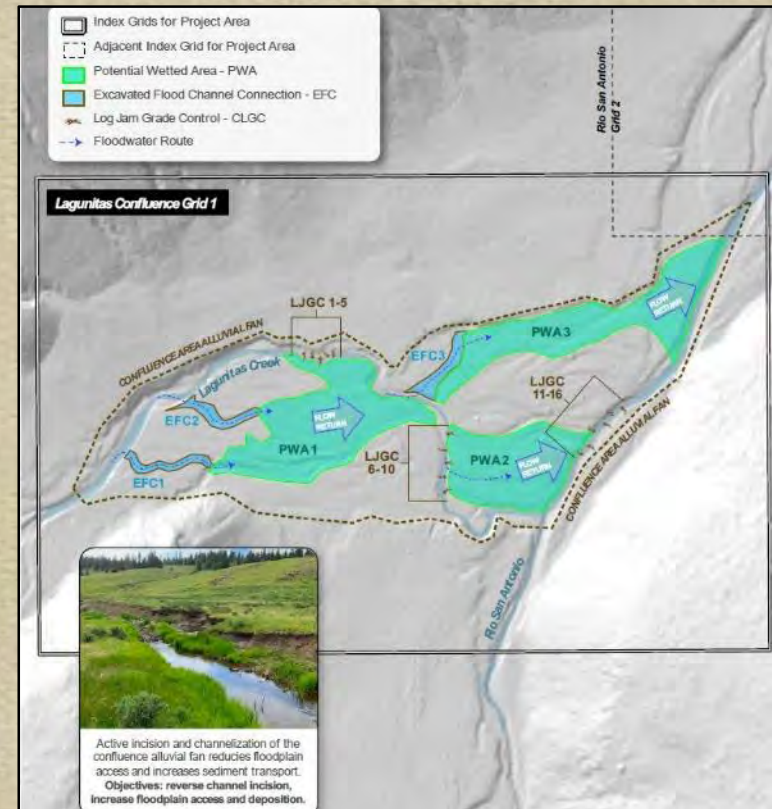


Preliminary Designs received, expect Final Designs by end of Winter 2022. Implementation expected to begin Spring 2023.

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Lagunitas/Upper Rio San Antonio Restoration Project



Final Designs Received. Expect implementation to begin summer 2023

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New Projects for FY 23

Big Game Habitat Connectivity
Fence Modification and
Removal



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Photo: Martin Perea



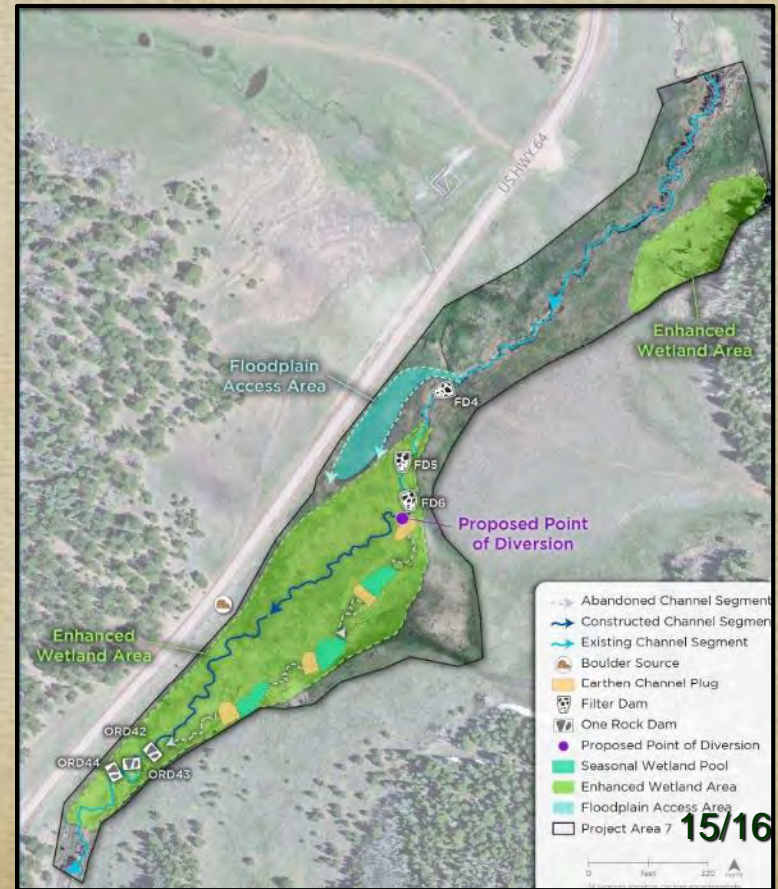
Wildlife Water Infrastructure Rebuilds

Fish Habitat Restoration Planning/Engineering

- Laying the groundwork for future fish habitat projects



Wetland Habitat Restoration



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QUESTIONS



1. FY22 Completed HSP Projects

- Forested Habitat Landscape Scale Restoration
 - 6 Projects, \$268,524
- Water Infrastructure Installation/Renovation
 - 4 Projects (9 Structures), \$136,826
- Riparian and Wetland Habitat Improvements
 - 6 Projects, \$205,790
- Wildlife Habitat Connectivity, Fence Modification
 - 3 Projects, \$104,991
- *\$716,130 spent (95% of allocation) -- highest percentage in a decade*



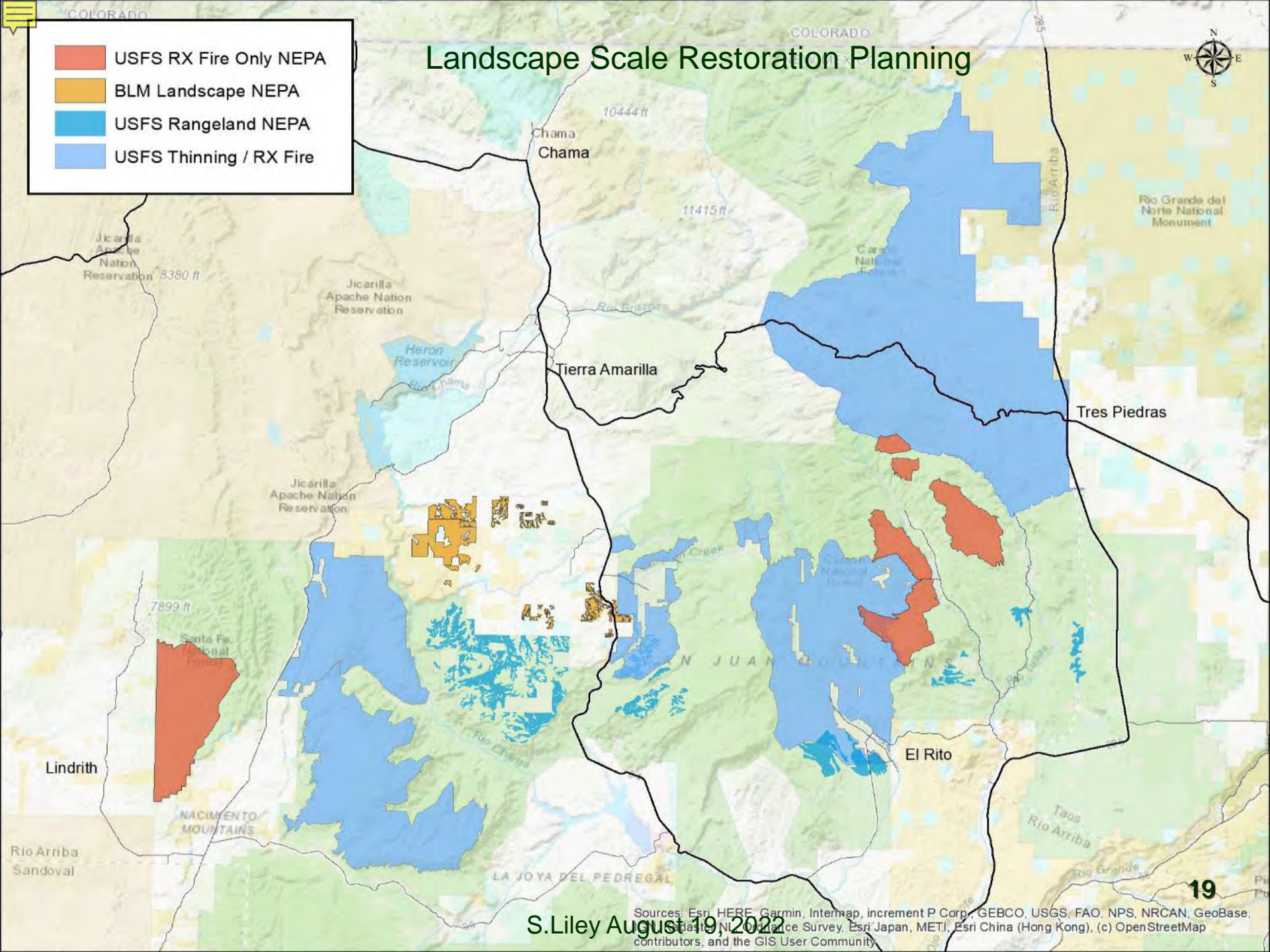
Fish Habitat Restoration Projects

CAC prioritized seven fisheries projects for implementation

- Located on Gila, Carson, and Santa Fe National Forests
- Projects currently being implemented
 - **Comanche Creek** – Carson National Forest
 - **San Antonio Creek** – Santa Fe NF
 - Will be complete by end of month
- Projects ready to be implemented in Spring 2023
 - **Costilla Creek** – Carson NF
 - **Lagunitas/Upper Rio San Antonio** – Carson NF
 - **Willow Creek** – Gila NF,
 - Planned Completion Fall 2023
- Projects planned for implementation in Summer/Fall 2023
 - **Rio Hondo Tributaries** – Carson NF
 - **Chihuahuénos Creek** – Santa Fe NF



Landscape Scale Restoration Planning



New Projects for FY 23

- On August 8th, the CAC prioritized projects for implementation in FY23
- Habitat Connectivity/Fence Modification Projects
 - 4 Projects, \$388,000
- Fish Habitat Restoration Planning/Engineering
 - 2 Projects \$200,000
- Riparian/Wetland/Spring Habitat Conservation
 - 6 Projects \$725,000
- Wildlife Water Infrastructure Rebuilds
 - 1 Project (3 Structures), \$120,000
- Forest Habitat Restoration Projects
 - 1 Project \$67,000

