



**TROUT UNLIMITED'S MISSION IS TO CONSERVE,
PROTECT AND RESTORE NORTH AMERICA'S
COLDWATER FISHERIES AND THEIR WATERSHEDS**

Restoring The Urban South Platte River Phase 1: South Platte Park



AGENDA

- Overview
 - Current Conditions
- Our Vision of the Urban South Platte River
- Demonstration Project: South Platte Park
- Partnerships



Current Conditions



Photo by Tim Romano As featured in Field and Stream Online

- Mr. Teasdale's fly-fishing hole is on the South Platte River, at the mouth of a 6-foot-wide corrugated-metal drainpipe and downstream from a wastewater-treatment plant. The water has elevated levels of E. coli bacteria, according to government surveys. When Mr. Teasdale walks alone past the graffiti-covered overpass and down the littered trail in this Denver suburb, he brings his Glock 9mm pistol to ward off "shady characters."

– May 19th 2009, Wall Street Journal





Our Current Resource



Photo by Tim Romano As featured in Field and Stream Online







Our Current Resource!





SOUTH PLATTE PARK: “PHASE 1”



OUR GOAL

To improve the aquatic and riparian habitat for recreation while stabilizing banks and reducing sediment.



LONG TERM RESTORATION

- Long term restoration enhancement of 2.5 miles of river starting with 3 Demonstration Projects



CURRENT CONDITIONS - CHALLENGES



- Dewatering of the river during winter months
- Lack of structure
- Lack of refuge
- Erosion
- Water Quality





OUR VISION OF THE URBAN SOUTH PLATTE RIVER



NATURAL BASED RESTORATION

We are a proponent of natural based restoration vs. structural control of riverine systems.

- Significant improvement over the purely structural channel modifications completed previously.
- More sustainable, provide greater natural resource benefits.
- Improvements will promote angling, boating, and passive recreation, such as bird watching.
- Result is a river that is much more aesthetically pleasing and in unison with the setting.



BEFORE RESTORATION



AFTER RESTORATION



CHANGES TO THE RIVER

- Low flow channel for depth, cover and lower water temperatures. A low flow channel will extend the boating season.
- High flow channel to mimic natural inundation cycles in adjacent areas in the park.
- Sediment removal benefits all aquatic life.
- Small boulders to provide refuge areas during high flow.
- Structures for cover, oxygenation and refuge.





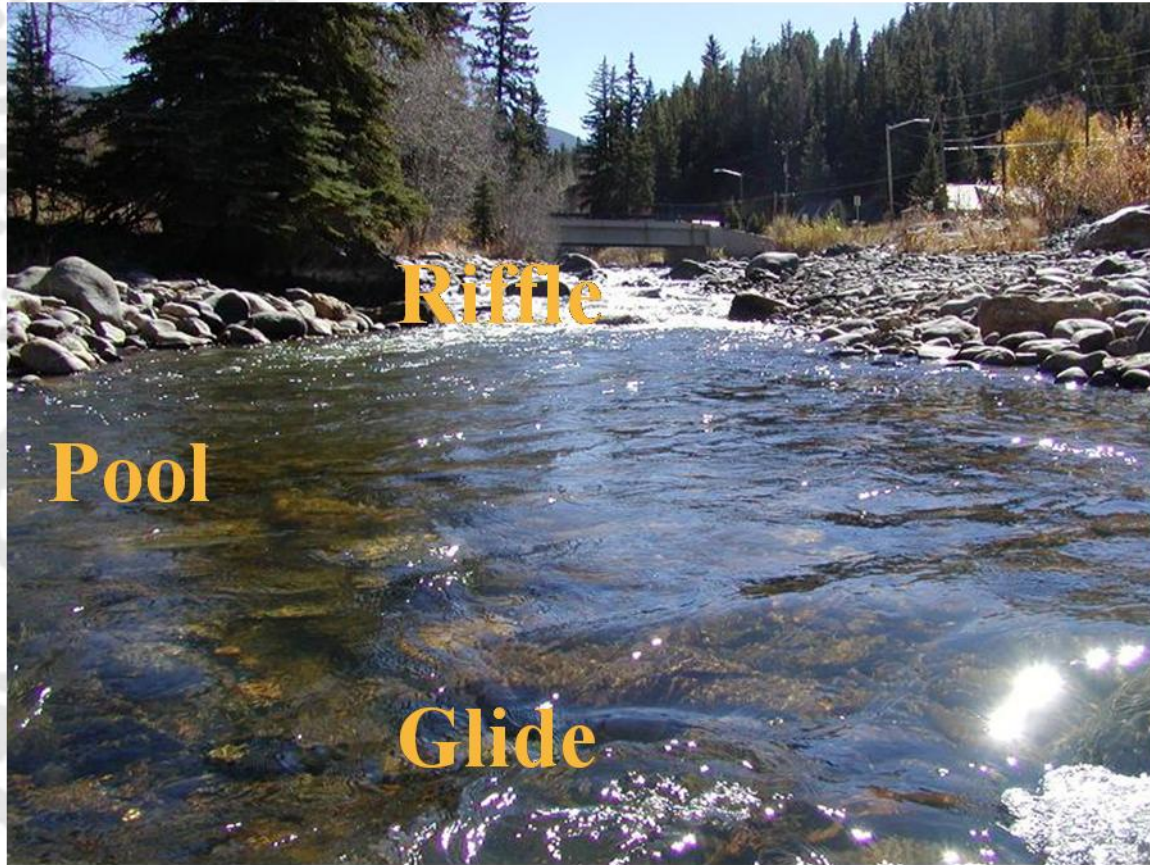
DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS



PROJECT 1: HANDICAP ACCESS WITH IN-STREAM HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS



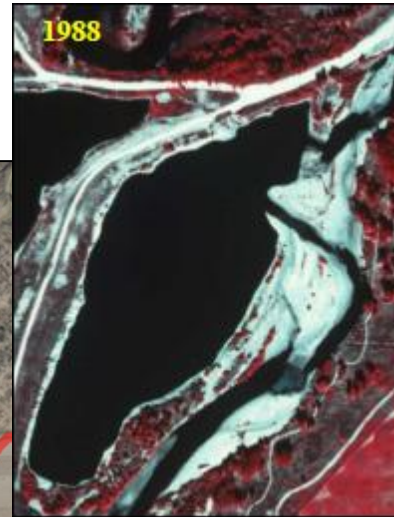
PROJECT 1: RE-ESTABLISH HABITAT VARIETY



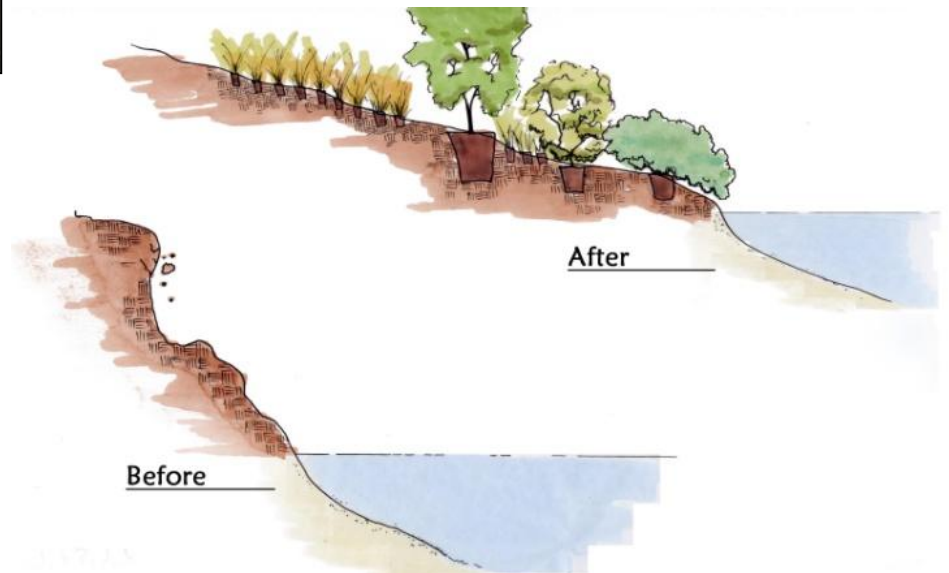
PROJECT 2: POND CONNECTION & WETLAND FRINGE



PROJECT 2: POND CONNECTION & WETLAND FRINGE



PROJECT 3: BANK STABILIZATION AND FLOOD TERRACING



FUNDING STATUS

- Thanks to the help of all of our friends, volunteers and a host of government agencies, including the Colorado Water Conservation Board, the City of Littleton, Urban Drainage, South Suburban Park and Recreation, the Federal Fishing is Fun Program, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, Cutthroat Chapter of TU, and last but not least, Denver TU, the project is just about to launch.





PARTNERSHIPS



EXISTING PARTNERS

- South Suburban Park and Recreation Dist.
- Urban Drainage and Flood Control
- The Army Corp of Engineers
- The Colorado Water Conservation Board
- The Colorado Division of Wildlife
- Denver, Cutthroat and Colorado Trout Unlimited
- The Greenway Foundation



Why?

- Urban Residents need exposure to outdoor recreation resources for their own enjoyment
- Urbanization and resource degradation has disconnected potential users from our aquatic resources
- Urban Residents need exposure to riparian places in order to understand the “big picture” of how our environment works
- And ultimately.....



Our future
recreational
enthusiasts,
biologists and
stewards need
direct access to
their future
passion

