

LOBATOS BRIDGE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM & RECREATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

Presentation to the Rocky Mountain District Resource Advisory Committee



- Introduce RAC to The Great Outdoors Fund (TGOF) and its Partnership with BLM CO
- Raise RAC's awareness about Lobatos Bridge Outdoor Classroom & Recreation Enhancement Project



Photo courtesy of Geraint Smith

THE GREAT OUTDOORS FUND AT-A-GLANCE:



NONPROFIT

501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to expanding equitable access to the outdoors and improving recreation opportunities for the benefit and enjoyment of people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds

NICHE

Unique from any other charity in America with focus on enhancing recreation infrastructure and access through public-private partnerships – and first-of-a-kind crowdfunding platform – *think GoFundMe for Outdoor Recreation*

- 100% of all donations go directly to project as designated by donor

NEUTRAL FUNDING MECHANISM

Will help any agency responsible for managing outdoor recreation as well as their existing nonprofit partners and local stakeholders to enhance recreation access and opportunities in their community through collaborative fundraising

PROVEN TRACK RECORD WITH PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Skilled and nimble team with proven track record of raising \$20+ Million to help keep the great outdoors great

- More than 100 projects in Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Louisiana, Tennessee, Georgia, Maryland, and Florida and all across Canada
- Projects include: picnic areas and campgrounds, pavilions, trail and other recreation restoration work; construction of boat ramps and fishing piers; park and playground rehabilitation; post-fire restoration work and others



BACKGROUND ON PARTNERSHIP WITH BLM

- 2017 – TGOF is established
- 2018 – BLM WO awards assistance agreement to TGOF
- Significant Deliverables:
 - Develop **The Fund dB**, database for recreation-related projects
 - Merit-merit based process of prioritization
 - Connect **The Fund dB** to TGOF.org to accept project-specific donations
 - *Think Go-Fund-Me for outdoor recreation projects*
- 2022 – BLM CO establishes cooperative agreement with TGOF
- Synopsis of partnership with BLM CO:
 - Help complete wanted & viable projects as public-private partnerships
 - Start by helping SLV Field Office with project 40 years in the making

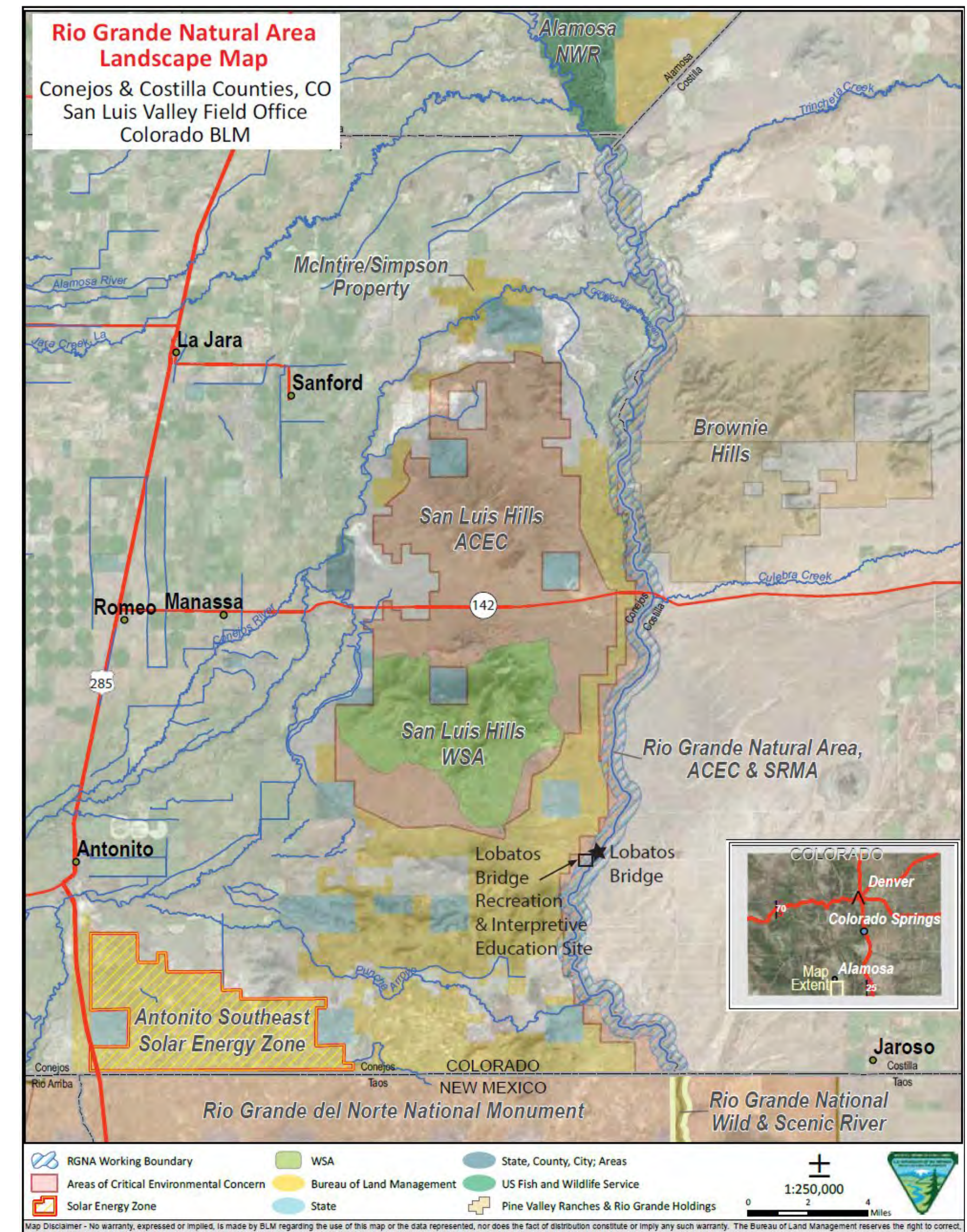
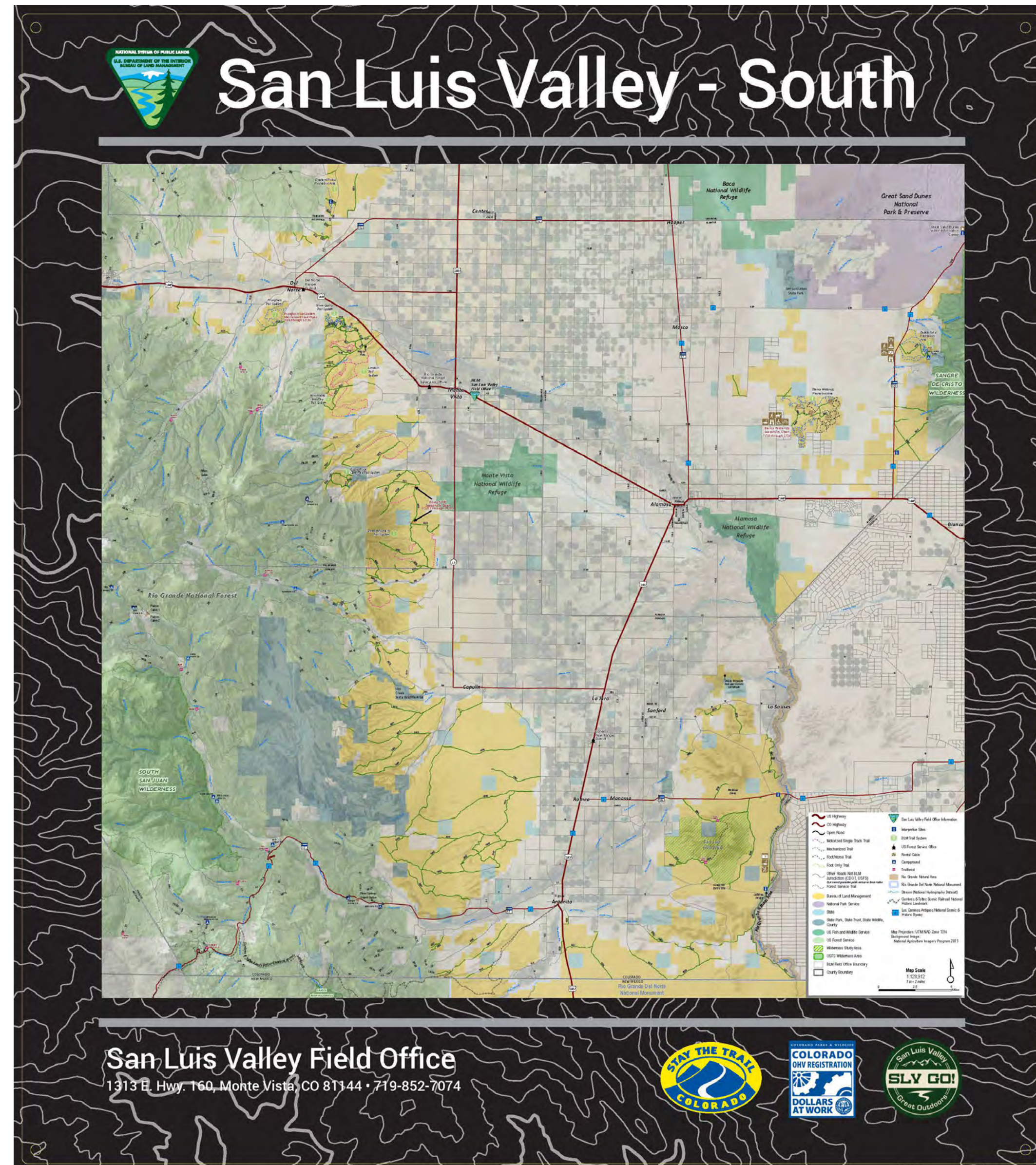
Leveraging Limited Resources
on Agency's Top Priorities



LOBATOS BRIDGE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM & RECREATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT



LOBATOS BRIDGE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM & RECREATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT



- **Develop Site for Resource Benefit**
 - Interpretive Site
 - Boat Ramp
- **Develop Site for Rec Benefits**
 - Social, Economic, and Environmental
- **Fulfill Plans**
 - RGNA Mgmt. Plan
 - RGNA Act
 - RG Corridor Plan
 - RMP
- **Heritage Tourism Destination**
 - CTO-Mystic Valley
 - SLVTA & County Tourism
- **HOL-Hands On the Land**
 - Nature-Based Classroom
 - Local Community Pride
 - Embajadores (GO! Equity in the Outdoors)
 - CCW and SdC-NHA
 - Generation Wild (GenWild)
 - ASU (Classes and Adventure Program)



- **Outdoor Classroom - Interpretive Panels**

- Story in Every Direction
- Petroglyph
- Boat Ramp/River Info

- **Boat Ramp**

- Improved Access to River
- Vehicles and Trailers

- **Picnic Sites**

- 3 x Tables
- Fire Rings

- **Parking Area**

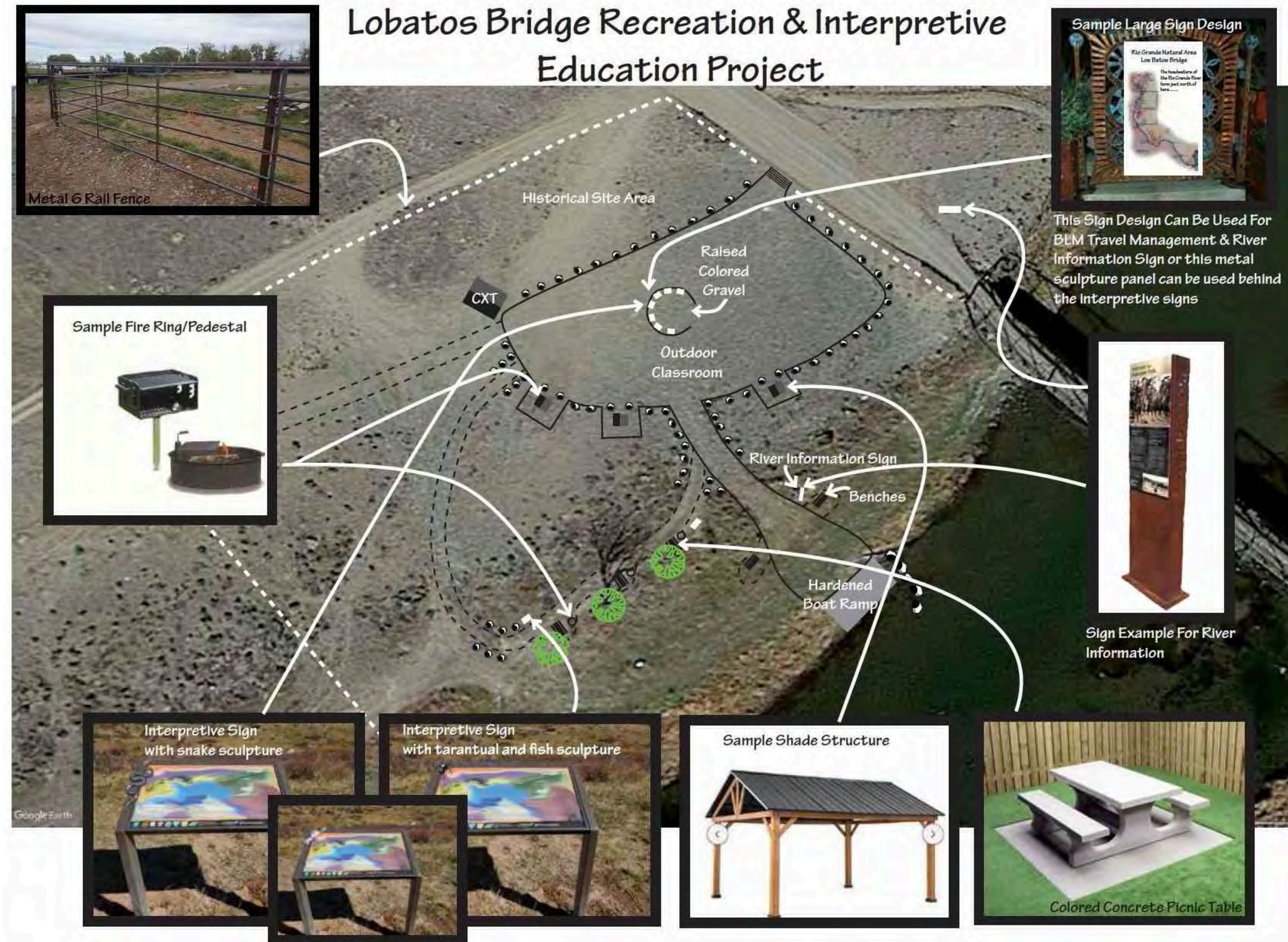
- Road Base
- Boulders

- **Fencing**

- Metal & Functional
- Cattleguard Replaces Gate

- **Vault Toilet**

- **Cameras**



Simulation of Boat Ramp Access at Lobatos Bridge



Simulation of Picnic Areas at Lobatos Bridge





CURRENT PARTNERS

- **The Great Outdoors Fund (TGOF)**
 - Primary Fundraiser
 - Reporting
- **Occidental**
 - Donor
- **Gates Family Foundation**
 - Donor
- **Sangre de Cristo NHA**
 - Donor
 - Interpretive Education Oversight Committee
- **Trichera Blanca Foundation**
 - Donor
- **RG Bank**
 - Donor
- **Counties**
 - Conejos – GOCO ‘Lead Applicant’
 - Costilla – GOCO ‘Co-Applicant’
- **SLV Great Outdoors (SLV GO!)**
 - GOAT’s – Field Crew/Implementation
 - Interpretive Education Oversight Committee
- **ASU Salazar RGdN Center**
 - 142 Bridge Project in 2020
 - Interpretive Education Oversight Committee



ZERO IN™

GATES FAMILY FOUNDATION



TRINCHERA BLANCA
FOUNDATION



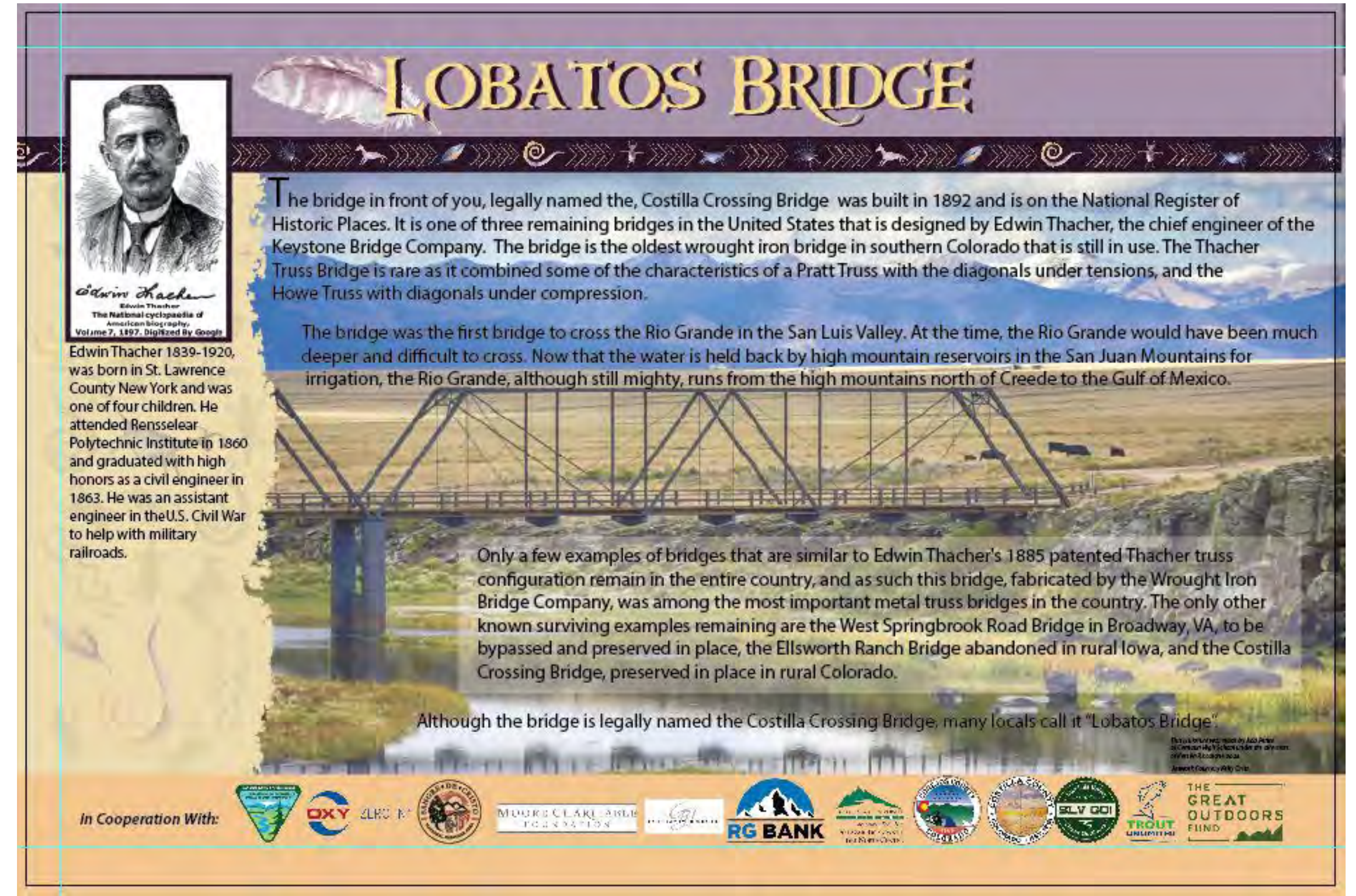
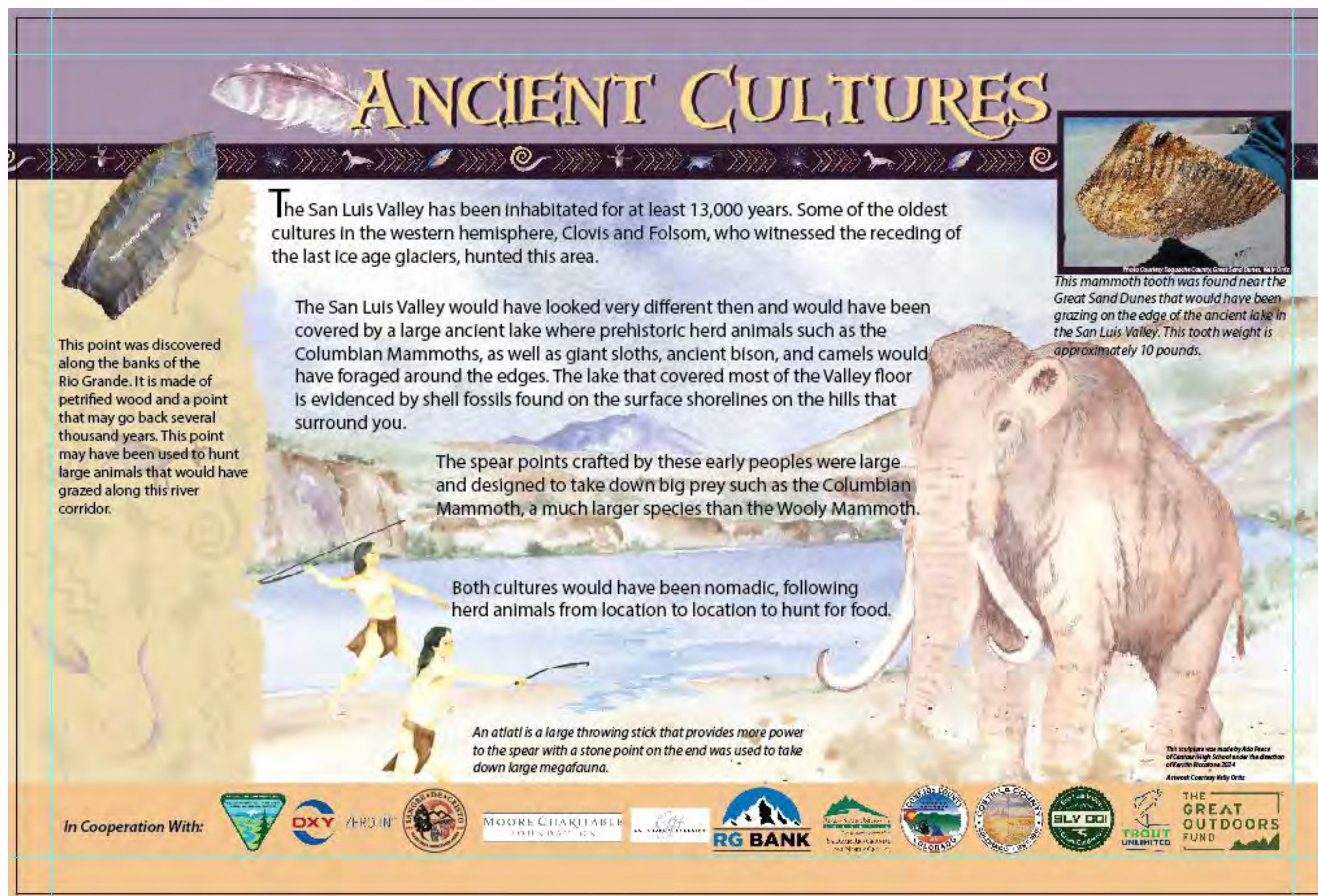
- **Community Support at all Levels**
 - BLM from Field Office to State Director
 - Conejos County & Costilla County
 - Elected Officials and many other stakeholders
- **Site Design & Budget**
 - January 2023
- **NEPA**
 - March 2023
- **Current Ongoing**
 - April 2023 – TGOF secures initial funding
 - May 2023 – Interpretive Education Oversight Committee formed
 - Design & development of interpretive panels begins
 - June 2024 – Completed Student | Mentoring Sculpting project
 - August – GOCO application process begins
 - Nov – Final approval of RGBRT grant
 - Early Dec – GOCO Community Impact Grant awards announced
- **Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony**
 - Late Summer/Early Fall ('25)



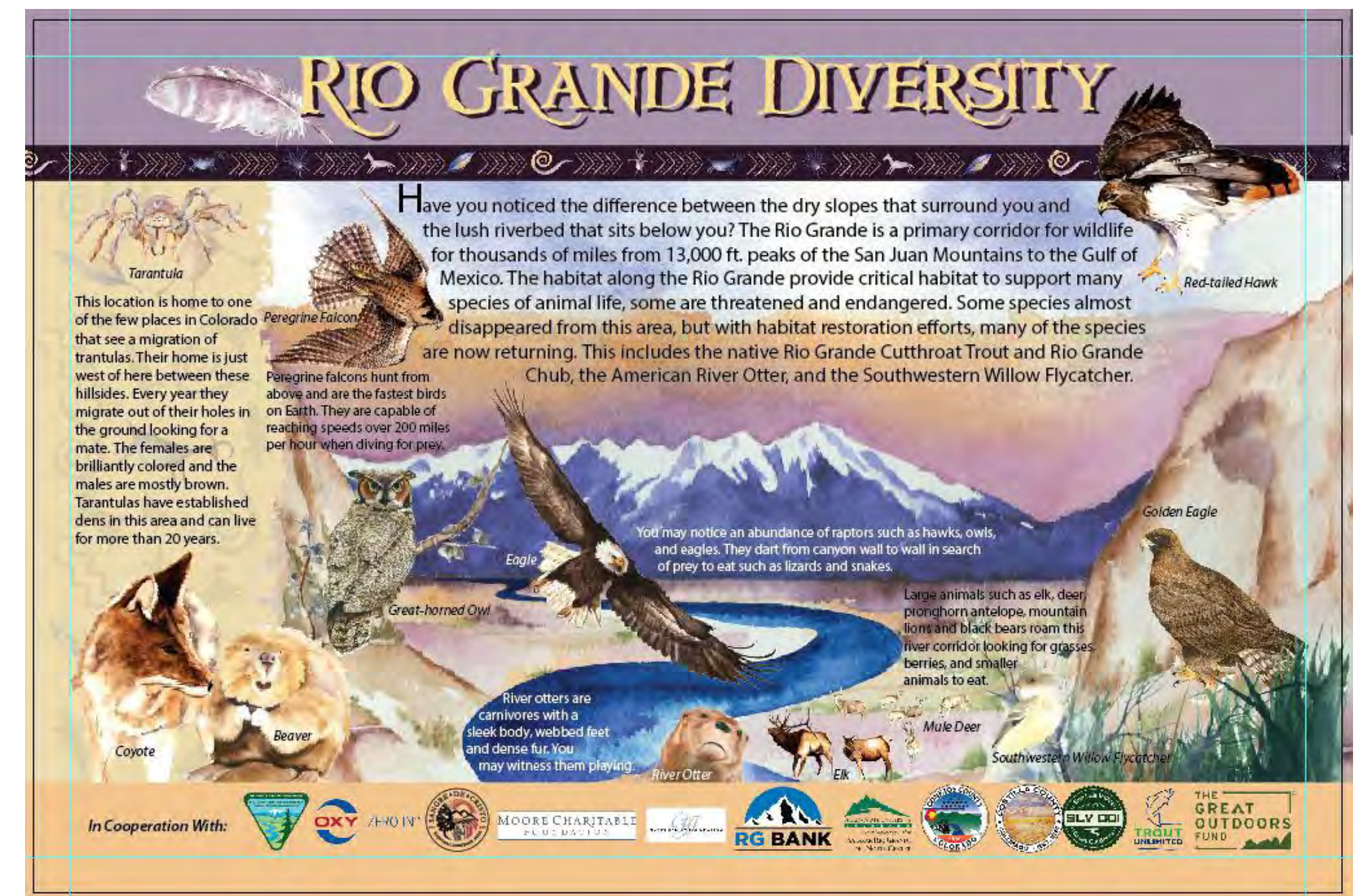
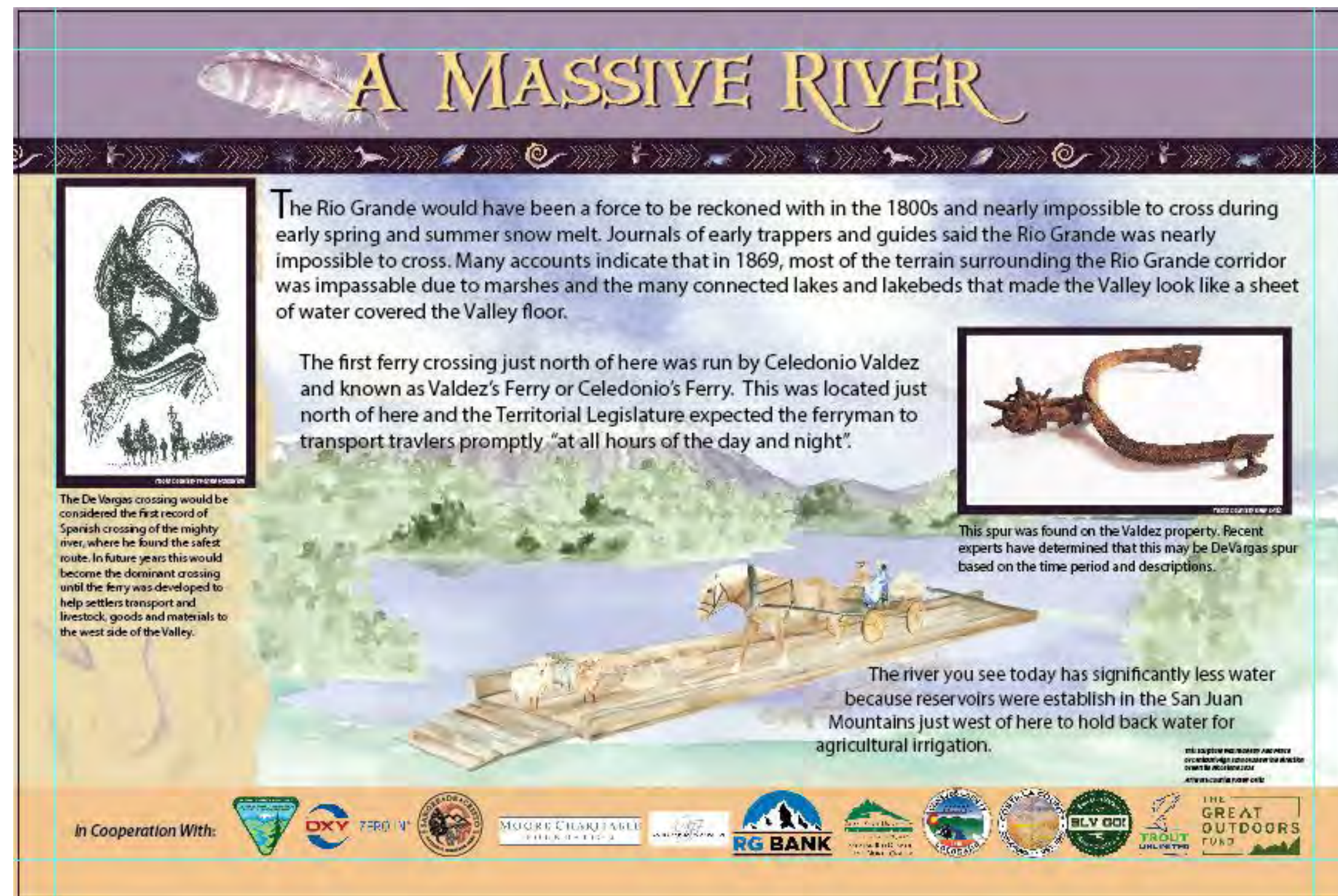
SAMPLING OF INTERPRETIVE PANELS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

All signs for Project Site:

- **Outdoor Classroom:** Ten (10) Interpretive Wayside Markers— 24" x 36"
- **Trail:** Three (3) Interpretive Wayside Markers – 24" x 36"
- **Boat Ramp:** One (1) Interpretive Kiosk – 36" x 48"



SAMPLING OF INTERPRETIVE PANELS UNDER DEVELOPMENT





PROJECT COSTS & FUNDING

Lobatos Bridge Outdoor Classroom & Recreation Enhancement Project		
ITEM	ESTIMATED TOTAL	BALANCE NEEDED
Project Designs		
Sub-total	\$ 5,850	\$ -
Perimeter Fencing		
Sub-total	\$ 70,608	\$ 30,608
Parking Area		
Sub-total	\$ 89,503	\$ 89,503
Recreation Amenities		
Sub-total	\$ 44,774	\$ 41,480
Trail Work		
Sub-total	\$ 28,265	\$ 28,265
Boating Access		
Sub-total	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Interpretative Education Site (Rotunda)		
Sub-total	\$ 126,250	\$ 79,450
Historic Mondragon Store		
Sub-total	\$ 4,350	\$ 4,350
Additional Signage & Sculptures		
Sub-total	\$ 20,500	\$ -
Fisher Petroglyph		
Sub-total	\$ -	\$ -
Toilets		
Sub-total	\$ 105,366	\$ 105,366
Project Administration		
Sub-total	\$ 96,000	\$ -
Miscellaneous		
Sub-total	\$ 35,785	\$ 32,500
TOTAL	\$ 677,251	\$ 461,522
Contingency	\$ 27,199	\$ -
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 704,450	\$ 461,522
Total Raised to Date		\$ 242,927.90

Donors	Contributions
Bureau of Land Management	\$ 115,079.00
Occidental	\$ 60,000.00
Gates Family Foundation	\$ 40,000.00
Sangre de Cristo National	\$ 20,000.00
Moore Charitable Foundation	\$ 4,000.00
RG Bank	\$ 3,500.00
Individuals	\$ 348.90
Total Raised to Date	\$ 242,927.90



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THANK YOU

