



Looking Forward – Governance, Scale, and Sustainability. Opportunities and Challenges in Restoring the Colorado River Delta

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NCER, New Orleans



Overview.....

- Governance
 - Trilateral cooperation
- Scale
 - Restoration goals
 - Value proposition
- Sustainability
 - Restoration spectrum, expectations
 - Cost and Sustainability



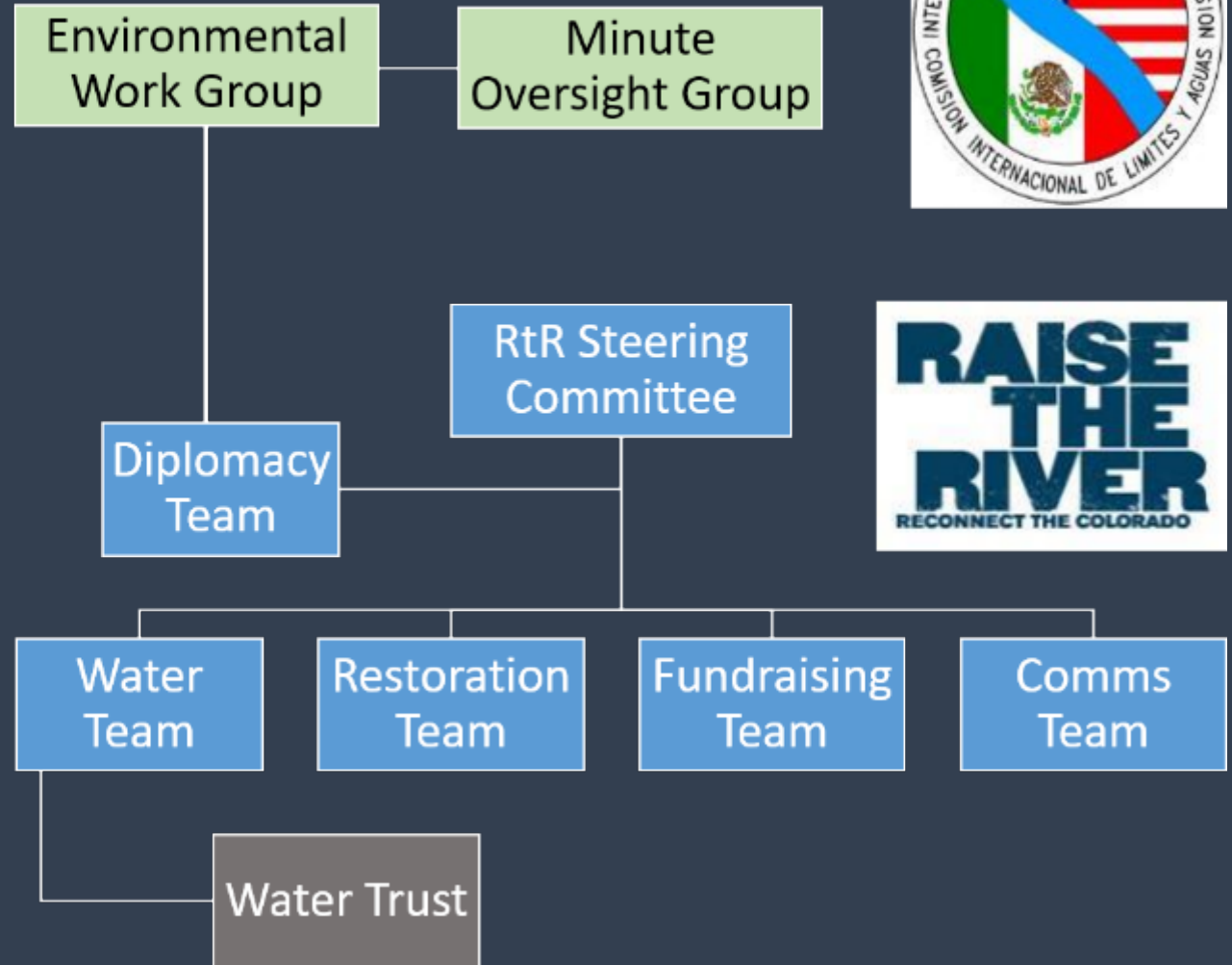
Governance - overview

- “Minute” agreements
 - Binational
 - Trilateral with NGOs
 - Template for binational ecosystems
- Term of agreements
 - M319 – 5 year pilot, 2012-17
 - M323 – 9 year term, 2017-26



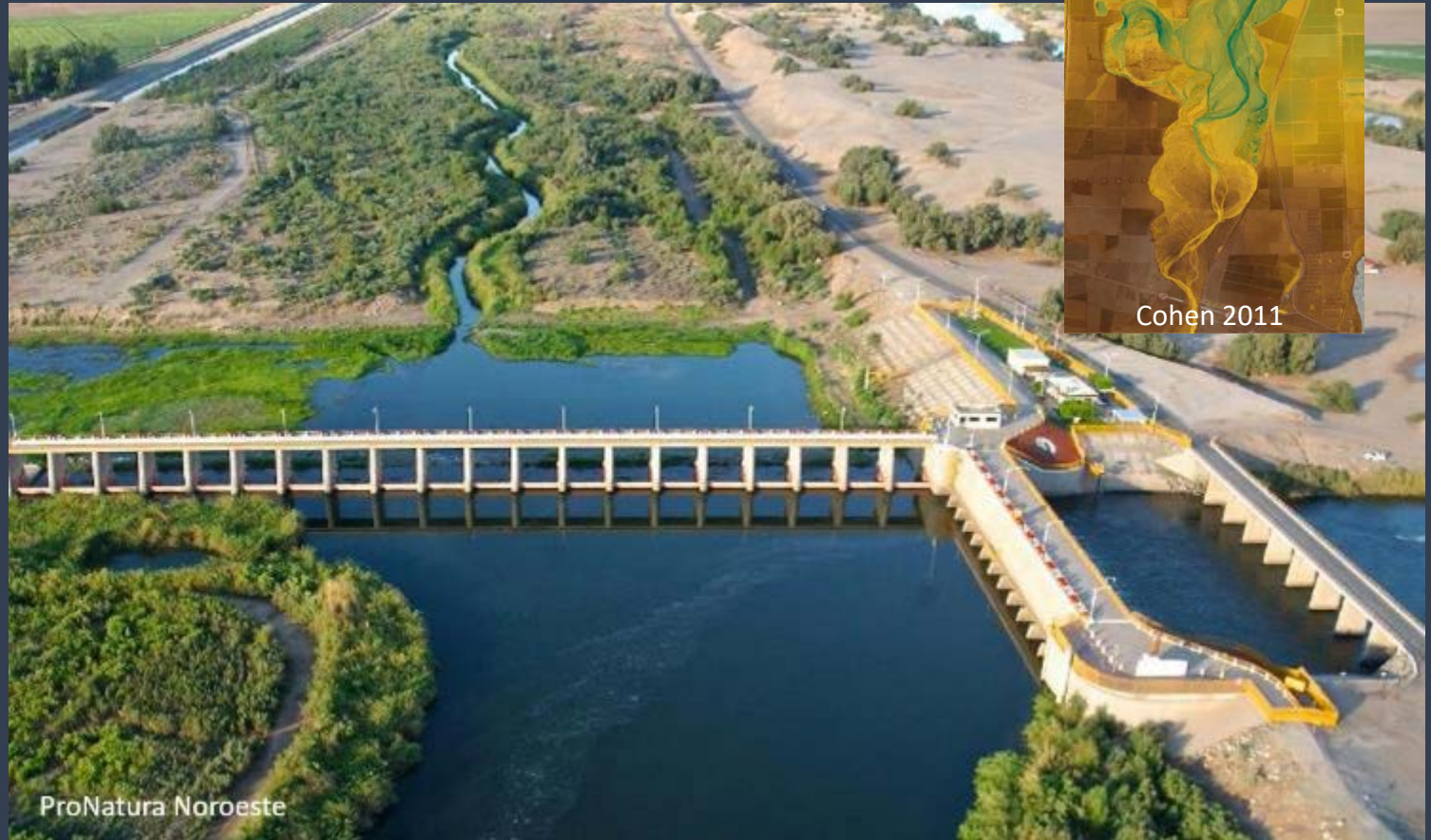
Governance – Institutions

- IBWC/CILA
 - Minute Oversight Group
 - Environmental Work Group
- Raise the River
 - 6 NGOs
 - Cooperative, collaborative
 - + Funders
- Water trust



Scale – Restoration challenge

- Water limited system
 - Diversion
 - Groundwater depletion
- Salt cedar invasives



Scale – Restoration

- 800,000ha wetland ecosystem, ~5% remains
- Raise the River goals
 - M319 - 446 ha riparian habitat
 - M323 – 1,360 ha new habitat
- 45,000 af/yr flow goal – M323



Scale - Cost

- Restoration - \$15,000-\$40,000/ha
- M323 estimate: \$50M - \$100M
- Funds committed (1/3, 1/3, 1/3)
 - \$9M for restoration
 - \$9M for science



Scale - Cost

- Relative cost –
 - LCR MSCP - \$165,000/ha
 - Other mitigation - >\$100,000 - \$1M/ha
 - Rio Salado -\$15,000-55,000/ha
 - Other, passive: \$2,000-\$8,000/ha
- Value proposition:
 - Habitat – threatened, migratory
 - ESA and MSCP
 - Recreation & Education
 - Local economic benefits
 - Global significance



Sustainability – restoration spectrum

Spectrum of restoration goals, opportunities and constraints

Conservation

Maintain natural process, minimize constraints/threats

Restoration

Improve degraded processes and conditions, reduce constraints, manage stressors

Creation

Create habitat where processes constrained

Breadth of Goals, Resilience, Cost:Benefit


Sustainability – Stewardship costs

- Stewardship cost
 - \$1,600/ha/yr
- Fundraising challenges
 - Funder interests
 - Compelling vision – TBD
 - Federal funding



Sustainability - Initiatives

- Stewardship Fund
- Restoration Certificates
- Voluntary offsets
- Project Finance for Permanence



Conservation Certificate #10789a-10889a

Vintage: 2016
Acres Supported: 100
Certificate Owner: Foundation X

Total Cost: **\$3.1 million**

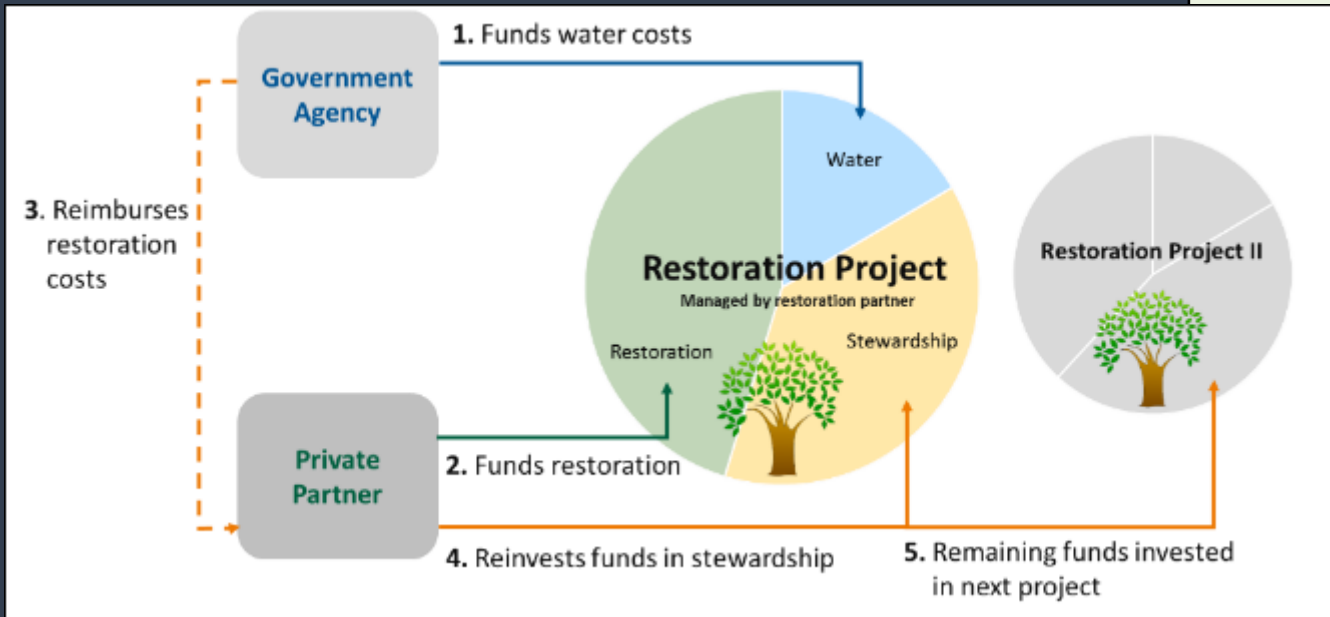
Total Project Acres: **200**

Total Project Duration (years): **30**

Location: Central Delta Conservation Zone
Restoration Schedule: 2016-2020
Stewardship Schedule: 2020-2045

Project Goal: Create a diversity of habitats to support native birds, while maximizing restored riparian habitat and minimizing irrigation requirements.

	Total Cost	Support Provided By Your Organization	Responsible Party	Acres Supported by Your Organization	Duration (years) Supported by Your Organization
Water	\$1,290,000	n/a	Restauremos el Colorado	n/a	n/a
Restoration	\$1,230,000	n/a	Pronatura Noroeste Sonoran Institute	n/a	n/a
Stewardship	\$560,000	\$11,200	Restauremos el Colorado	100	1
TOTAL	\$3,080,000	\$11,200		100	1



Summary

- Binational and NGO cooperation
- Raise the River Coalition
- Scaling from demonstration to measurable impact
- Vision and stewardship key to long-term funding



Thank you!



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