



Escalante River Watershed Restoration

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The Escalante River Watershed is located in south central Utah and encompasses Dixie National Forest (DNF), Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument (GSENM), Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (GCNRA) and private inholdings. The River begins west of Escalante, UT and runs approximately 90 miles to Lake Powell. In the mid 1990's GCNRA began removing Russian olive and tamarisk from Coyote Gulch, a tributary to the Escalante River. From the confluence of Coyote Gulch they began removing Russian olive from the Escalante River, working upstream. In 2006 GSENM partnered with DNF and the Student Conservation Association, Wilderness Volunteers, and Utah Backcountry Volunteers to remove Russian olive from the Escalante River and its tributaries. Funding has been provided through the Utah Partners for Conservation and Development to continue this work along with planting willow pole cuttings and cottonwood seedlings. Between all the federal agencies more than half of the River has been treated and recovery of willows has been more than expected.

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