

# The Russian Olive Project

## *Restoring the Animas Watershed*

---

Announcing a great opportunity for landowners along the Animas River! We received grant funding to improve the Animas Watershed by removing non-native Russian Olive (and Tamarisk where applicable).



### How does this benefit you, the landowner?

- Free labor to remove non-native trees
- Assistance purchasing reduced-cost replacement trees
- Learn how to monitor for reinvasion

### Why remove Russian Olive from your property?

1. They are heavier water users than native trees, often choking out irrigation ditches and interfering with agricultural practices.
2. They have no nutritional value for livestock or big game species.
3. They grow quickly – outcompeting native trees species and agricultural crops, and spreading throughout your property.
4. They degrade wildlife habitat – displacing birds, pollinating insects, and other native wildlife.
5. They decrease tree & shrub diversity on river banks, which can result in more bank erosion and the moving of the river channel at an increased rate.

---

**For information please contact: Amanda Kuenzi, Mountain Studies Institute at [amanda@mountainstudies.org](mailto:amanda@mountainstudies.org) or (970) 387-5161 or one of our partner organizations:**

