

# Navigating Shortage

Wolcott Ranches  
Manos, Colorado



# Less Water

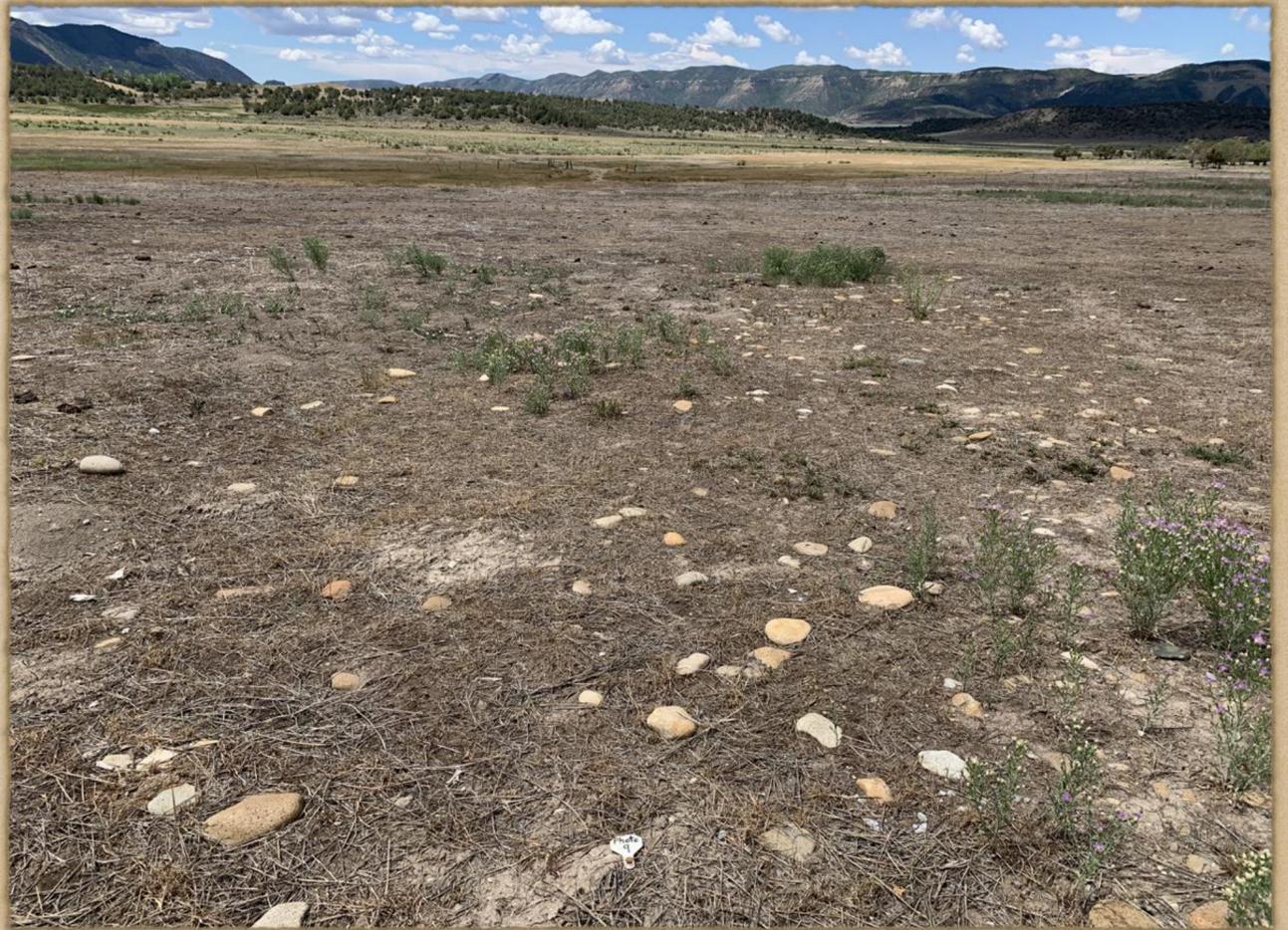
- Decreased Water
- Decreased Forage Production
- Stressed Populations
- Reduced Herd Sizes



# Water as the limiting resource

Knowing how much water is forecast is  
only half the battle: having a plan in  
place to act is essential.







# Dynamic Watersheds

Active management plays a key roll in successful production.

# Observations

- With less “moving parts” the system worked as expected.
  - Less water flowed for longer than it “should have”.
  - Rivers don’t always do what you would think.
- Once the river stops flowing, it takes more water to re-wet than expected.



# Effective Management

- Mancos Watershed Stream Management Plan
  - Can we better understand the timing and cycles of the river?
  - Smart Meter Project - Seeing more at once
  - Can we learn from what we don't yet understand and apply it to regular management?

# Opportunity

- On our ranch, “navigating shortage” means being willing to try new practices that allow the ranch to stay economically profitable and ecologically beneficial.

