**Panel 2: Stakeholder Insights on Legacy Mine Lands – Making Improvements One Watershed at a Time.**

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4/6/22 – MMSA Annual AML Summit

# Trout Unlimited's Role on AML Projects

- Acting as a Good Samaritan, voluntarily cleaning up contamination at an Orphan Mine Site under CERCLA
- Altering the PRP mindset, where feasible….
  - Governor Basin – Ouray, CO. TU initially seeking a Good Sam ASAOC, but now working with EPA, USFS and OSMI as a willing PRP
- Working with agencies to streamline or create a more standardized approach for AML projects
  - EPA R8 making strides w/ two Good Sam OSCs
- Advocate for Good Sam legislation while continuing to complete AML reclamation projects

# 2021 TU CO AML Program Totals



- $1.31 Million towards sampling/analysis, design, and construction costs

- 10 projects across the State

- TU continues to build upon existing model that supports local businesses and economies.

  - TU CO AML program work has recently averaged $1.18 million to Colorado Economy.

  - Notably important to suppliers, contractors, businesses.

# Notable Successes in Other Aspects of TU AML Model



- TU Empowering lower income and rural communities where AML problems still exist.
  - Partnership in Creede, CO w/ Headwaters Alliance where TU in-kind funding has allowed for mentorship & education around AML and river projects.
    - Resulting in tangible designs, procurement documents, funding, and future on-the-ground restoration.
- Educating the next generation of AML practitioners
  - WCU guest lectures, University field trips, CSM graduate challenges, and CMC and CSU partnership
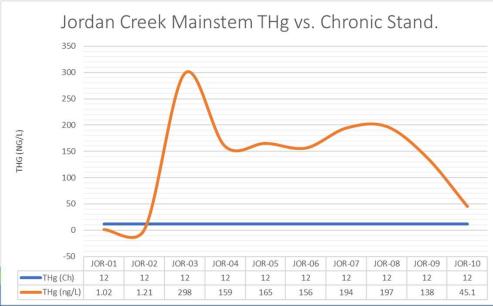
# Other Industry Collaborations – Redband Trout and AML

- Upper Jordan Creek Assessment near Silver City, ID partnering with Integra Resources/DeLamar Mining
  - Collaborating with IDEQ, IDFG, EPA and other stakeholders
- October 2021 low-flow sampling to bracket suspected Hg sources in upper watershed
  - Also monitored soil chemistry, stream/riparian health, & culvert conditions
  - Subsequent report recommending short & long-term approaches for reclamation based on Eco SSL, Human Health, WQ, etc.
  - Types of projects: AOP, habitat, THg source reduction, road improvements, and revegetation



### Jordan Creek Mainstem THg vs. Chronic Stand.

| | JOR-01 | JOR-02 | JOR-03 | JOR-04 | JOR-05 | JOR-06 | JOR-07 | JOR-08 | JOR-09 | JOR-10 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| THg (Ch) | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| THg (ng/L) | 1.02 | 1.21 | 298 | 159 | 165 | 156 | 194 | 197 | 138 | 45.1 |

# AML BMP Effectiveness Study

- Working with CDPHE and DRMS to determine effectiveness of current BMPs in the industry.

- Six 319 Non-point source funded projects across CO

- Looking at parameters such as:
  - WQ, loading, benthics, fish
  - Soil chemistry and vegetation success
  - Cap function and Run-on/Run-off longevity
  - Bulkheads

- Goal is to create standardized effectiveness measures to help tell the story of success.

# Questions/Comments?

Thank You! – Jason Willis – [jason.willis@tu.org](mailto:jason.willis@tu.org)

Motto: Our AML work is clean-enough for your…. Dog…