

# Communicating with the Community: Complex Collaborative Conservation at the Creek

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# Agenda

1. Geographic and Geological **Context**
2. North Sand Creek Restoration **Partnership**
3. The OHV User **Community** at North Sand Hills
4. Our **Solutions** to Stabilize the Dunes
5. Questions!

# Geographic & Geological Context

- North Sand Creek (NSC)
- Eolian dune complex (NSH)
- Variable weather and runoff
- 21,000 OHV visitors/year at NSH
- Dune surface has destabilized
- Sediment loads rose in 2010
- Agricultural water right at risk
- Listed under CWA 303(d)







# Collaboration Formation

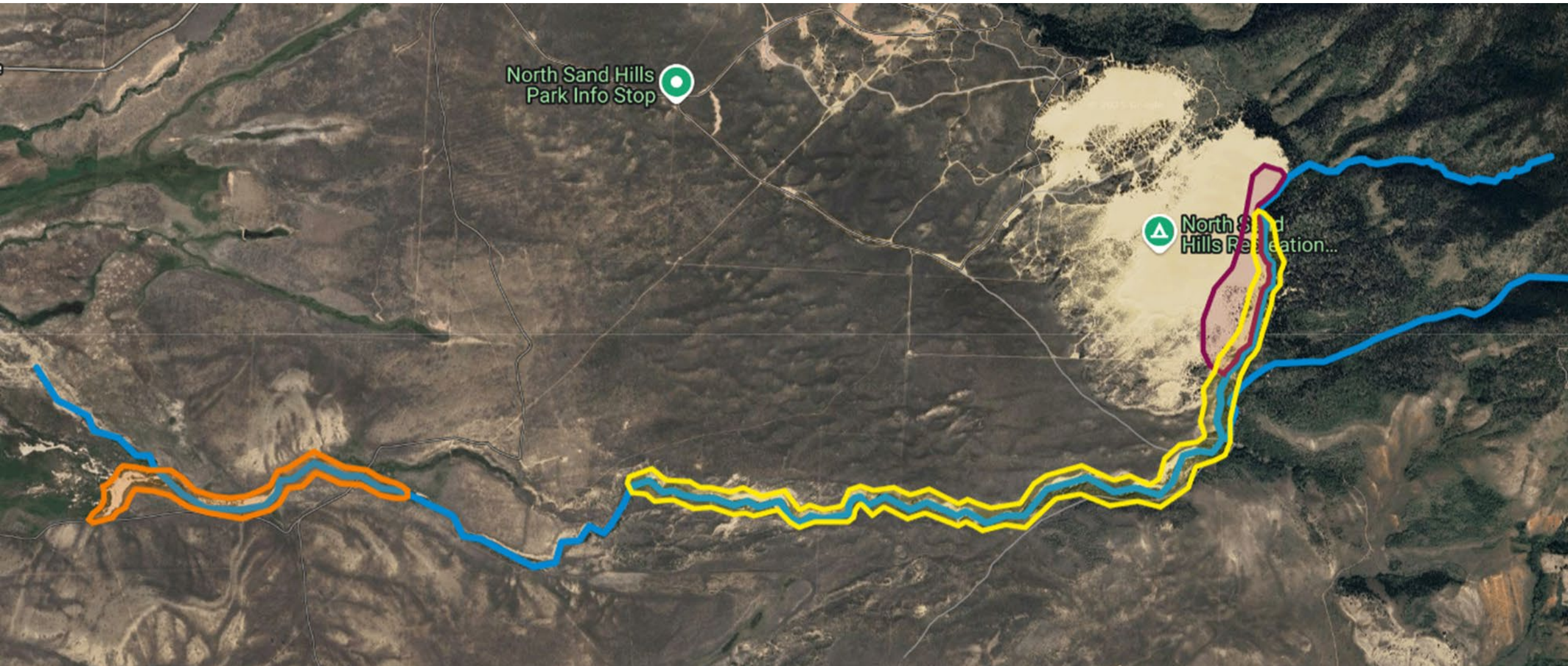


# Partnership Goals

Dune Stabilization

In-Stream Restoration

Diversion Rehabilitation



North Sand Hills  
Park Info Stop

North Sand  
Hills Recreation...

 **North Sand Hills**   
 **Recreation Area**  
**Public Lands Access**

**STAGE I**  
**Fire Restrictions**  
**Now in Effect**

-  Fire Allowed  
Only in  
Developed  
Campgrounds  
and Picnic  
Grounds
-  No Smoking

 **NOTICE**   
**THIS ROAD WILL BE CLOSED**  
GATE IN ONE MILE  
**FROM DECEMBER 15 TO APRIL 15**  
FOR INFORMATION CALL 724-3437

# The OHV Community

Largely from  
Fort Collins  
and Laramie

Not involved in  
OHV clubs

Many speak  
Spanish, some  
exclusively

Family vibe by  
day, party by  
night





# Solutions

- Passive restoration of vegetation
- Dune exclosure
- New trails map
- Pilot listening trip
- Future responsible recreation activities



WELCOME TO  
THIS RESTRICTED TRAIL  
IS PROTECTED TO MAINTAIN  
NORTH SHORE DUNE PLANT  
LIFE AND A DUNE CO  
ECOSYSTEM UNDER THE  
COLORADO WATER SAL  
PLEASE RESPECT THE SP  
THIS AREA BY  
IT IS UP TO EVERYONE  
THANK YOU FOR  
AND YOUR KIND RESPECT  
THE NORTH SHORE



# Key Takeaways



1. Conflict can lead into strong collaboration
2. Understanding human behavior is key to restoration outreach
3. Students can make a huge difference in innovation & success



**Q & A**