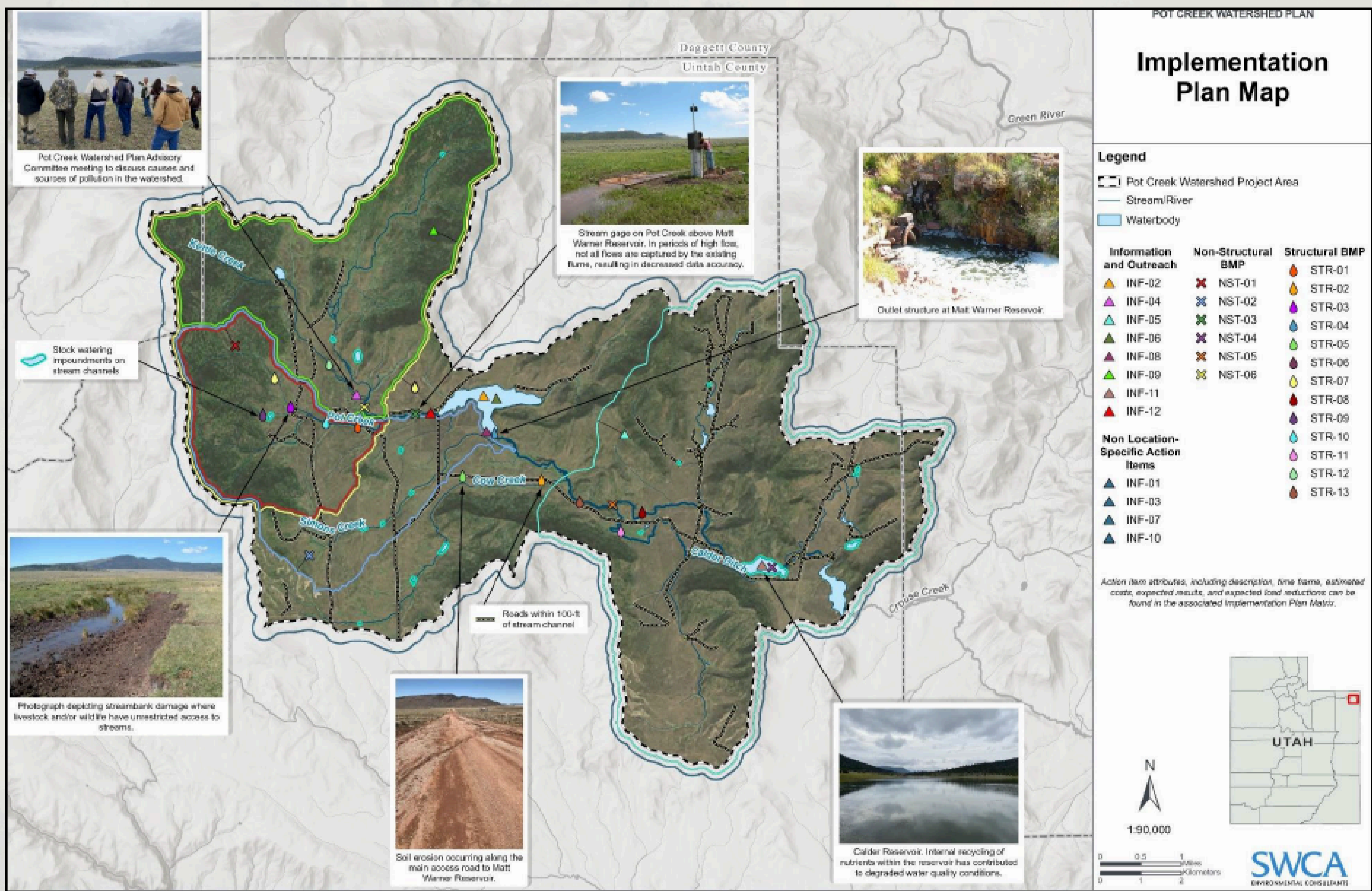


Community-Based Efforts to Address Phosphorus Levels in Matt Warner Reservoir

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Introduction

Matt Warner Reservoir in Uintah County experiences annual harmful algal blooms due to high phosphorus levels. The Utah Department of Environmental Quality - Division of Water Quality has determined the reservoir does not meet water quality standards. Agriculture has been identified as a major contributor to phosphorus levels, prompting a community-driven initiative to mitigate the issue.

Objective

- Reduce phosphorus runoff into Matt Warner Reservoir
- Implement conservation strategies to prevent soil erosion in Pot Creek
- Address stakeholder challenges to improve adoption of best management practices (BMPs)

Findings & Challenges

- Nutrient Sources: High phosphorus levels in Pot Creek soil contribute to eutrophication.
- Mitigation Strategies: Fencing to restrict livestock access, alternative watering sites, and soil conservation practices have been implemented.
- Stakeholder Challenges: Landowners and lessees disagree on funding responsibilities, delaying conservation adoption.

Implementation Timeline

- Short-term (1-2 years): Outreach efforts, data collection on phosphorus trends.
- Mid-term (3-5 years): Expansion of conservation efforts, BMP adoption.
- Long-term (5+ years): Continued monitoring, stakeholder alignment strategies

Partnerships



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