



PROJECT EXAMPLE

Prescott Creeks is a locally based, non-profit organization with a history of and a mission to preserve and protect the riparian habitats of the Granite Creek Watershed in North Central Arizona. This important headwater to the Verde River features Granite Creek and Watson Lake; both significant water bodies that have been listed by ADEQ as "impaired waters." Prescott Creeks has received funding to address pollutants contributing to the degradation of these water bodies. Through ADEQ grant awards, Prescott Creeks is implementing a variety of best management practices, providing education and outreach to community members, and developing a comprehensive monitoring program. Ultimate outcomes of these efforts include:

- A redesigned stormwater retention basin and outflow erosion area.
- The application of stormwater drain badges throughout the city of Prescott informing the public that stormwater drains empty into local creeks.
- An informational workshop and packet regarding manure management for owners of small urban farms and ranches.
- Water quality monitoring throughout the Granite Creek watershed.
- Restoration of the stability of the Granite Creek stream channel, resulting in proper hydrologic conditions and functions, stream morphology and channel characteristics, and floodplain function.
- Improved water quality in both Granite Creek and Watson Lake.

Prescott Creek has developed strong partnerships with The City of Prescott, Water Protection Fund, River Network, Arizona Community Foundation, Yavapai County Community Foundation, and Prescott College to implement these projects and contribute to their public education efforts.



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For more information please visit our Web site at:
<http://azdeq.gov/environ/water/watershed/fin.html>



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Water Quality Improvement Grant Program



Janet Napolitano, Governor
Stephen A. Owens, ADEQ Director

ADEQ WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM



NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION is polluted runoff that occurs when rainfall, snowmelt or irrigation water runs over land or through the ground, picks up pollutants and deposits them into rivers, streams and lakes or introduces them into groundwater.

"The Water Quality Improvement Grant Program provides much-needed funding at the local level to implement creative approaches to improve watersheds. Through federal, state and local partnership, we are achieving cleaner, safer waters and ensuring the long-term integrity of Arizona's precious water resources."

Steve Owens
ADEQ Director

INVESTING IN CLEAN WATER

The ultimate vision of the program is for all of Arizona's waters to be clean and safe. However, all journeys begin with small steps. To reach this vision, The Water Quality Improvement Grant Program strives to fund projects that implement sufficient, economically and scientifically sound management practices that result in quantifiable improvements to surface waters. Other outcomes of strong projects include education and public awareness of water quality issues, active citizen involvement, innovative approaches to problem solving, and the provision of project longevity.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL INVESTMENTS

- ◆ On-the-ground implementation component
- ◆ 40% nonfederal match
- ◆ Education & outreach component with specified projected results
- ◆ Demonstrated water quality improvements

PROJECT EXAMPLE

The Campomochos-Sacaton Stormwater Runoff Control Phase II is a continuation of an ADEQ 319 project in southern Arizona near the City of Willcox. The project works to mitigate erosion, gullying, and consequently sedimentation of soils in the upper areas of the Campomochos-Sacaton sub watershed; within the Willcox Playa watershed. Sedimentation from the upper elevation comes to a rest on low lying agricultural land and city streets causing damage to domestic and irrigation wells, septic systems and possibly water contamination.

In order to mitigate these problems, continued applications of best management practices (BMPs) are underway. BMPs include sediment retention structures in the upland to catch the sediment and restore gully erosion. In lower elevations, a BMP called ripping and seeding was employed. This method is used to create lower barriers in the ground to slow sheet flow, improve water infiltration, and create an environment for native vegetation to flourish.

Partnerships working on this water quality improvement project include Cochise County, El Paso Natural Gas, Arizona State Land Department and the Natural Resource Conservation Service to name only a few.

