

Water Quality Improvement Grant Award Recipients Cycle 2, 2001

The sixteen projects, listed by county, receiving grant awards are:

Apache

James W. Crosswhite "EC Bar Ranch Turbidity Reduction Project - Phase IV"	Grant Award \$63,108
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The primary goal of the project is to preserve, protect and enhance water quality by minimizing impacts of turbidity pollution discharged to surface and groundwater from nonpoint sources along a 2 ½ mile section of Nutrioso Creek. Practices include irrigation system improvements, riparian restoration practices, streambank erosion control measures, filter strips and buffer strips and gully repair. The educational and outreach requirement will be satisfied through various presentations using a Web site CD and Web site updates. The ECBarRanch.com site includes a "tour" of projects, grants, photos, watershed information, contacts and much more.

Coconino

USDA, Coconino National Forest Service "Sedona Gun Range Lead Removal and Site Restoration"	Grant Award \$145,437
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The goal of this project is to eliminate the potential for lead and aromatic hydrocarbon contamination and sedimentation into Oak Creek. The project will eliminate contamination at the project site as well as in Mormon Wash that flows directly into Oak Creek. This project will remove the contaminants from the Sedona Gun Range that was used for over 30 years and is contaminated with lead shot and clay pigeons. Once the site is decontaminated, it will be stabilized and adapted to serve as a key community and National Forest trailhead. Public outreach for this project will include press releases, news articles and the placement of interpretive signs at the site. For more information please contact Jennifer M. Burns, Sedona District Landscape Architect, at 928-282-4119 or jmburns@fs.fed.us.

Cochise

Engineering and Environmental Consultants, Inc. (EEC) "Fort Huachuca East Range Road Closure and Stream Crossing Mitigation Plan"	Grant Award \$183,856
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EEC, in cooperation with the Fort Huachuca Army Garrison, will plan and implement measures to reduce sediment load to the San Pedro River and work to restore a disturbed ecosystem. Reducing sediment load to the San Pedro River will be achieved through closure of 81 miles of the existing 267 miles of roadways within the Fort Huachuca East Range and implementing various degrees of rehabilitation and mitigation activities on these roads. The proposed GIS analytical work for the biological survey will generate several presentation quality graphics that will be ideal for educational purposes by demonstrating practical

applications of relatively new technologies. Exhibits, talks and articles will be the emphasis of the project's educational and outreach plan. For more information on the scope of work please contact: Fritz F Laos, Project Manager, (520) 321-4625, flaos@eectuc.com.

The Nature Conservancy

Grant Award

"Ramsey Canyon Preserve Parking Lot Runoff Reduction Project"

\$23,838

Runoff from the roof of the Ramsey Canyon Visitors Center and from the nearby forest road will be diverted and collected to reduce sediment transport to Ramsey Creek. Material retention systems will be installed to greatly reduce surface erosion to the creek and parking areas will be recontoured to direct runoff to planted areas. The project presents an excellent opportunity to educate the public about water harvesting, water conservation, urban runoff, and erosion.

Gila

Boy Scouts of America, Grand Canyon Council, Inc.

\$Grant Award

"Boy Scouts Camp Geronimo On-Site Sewer Improvements"

\$307,500

Plan to effectively eliminate any contamination to the ground water and to adjacent streams by upgrading the sewer systems at the camp. Modifications to include septic tank replacement, addition of secondary treatment facilities, additions to subsurface disposal facilities and conversion of individual campsite pit toilets to sealed vault and haul units. Project is located in a pristine ponderosa pine forested area at approximately 5800 feet elevation and will provide an example that can be applied to numerous Boy Scout camps throughout the state and nation. Outreach will include handouts and tours of the facilities to point out operational characteristics and environmental improvements.

Greenlee

USDA, Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest Service, Clifton Ranger District

Grant Award

\$34,390

"Coal Creek Riparian Corridor Enhancement "

The goal of this project is to isolate and recover the 2.5 mile, 265-acre riparian corridor by constructing a cattle guard and 5.5 miles of new fencing to allow for riparian and herbaceous species recovery and improved watershed function. Vegetation and wildlife diversity within the Coal Creek Riparian Corridor and watershed is expected to improve dramatically. The project will be announced in the local newspaper, the Copper Era, as well as in the Arizona Department of Transportation newsletter, highlighting the partners and accomplishments of the project. In addition, the site may be used for riparian education field trips for local schools.

Darcy and Gary Ely, Owner, 4 Drag Ranch

Grant Award

"Maylay Pasture Improvement"

\$45,750

Over-utilization of significant upland portions of the allotment by livestock and elk, has contributed to water turbidity, reduced the aquatic habitat of Eagle Creek and its upper

tributaries, and impacted the local survival of the spikedace and loach minnow. A reliable livestock/wildlife watering system, which includes a well, storage tanks, pipelines and drinkers will be developed to reduce turbidity in Upper Eagle Creek and improve the overall watershed condition. A State Water Protection Fund (WPF) Grant will provide matching funds for this project. A public presentation that provides for information transfer of project need, goals and objectives will be made at the Arizona WPF Information Transfer Meeting. Contact Darcy Ely at (520) 294-1039 or darcyely@aol.com for more information.

Cathy Cosgrove, HERO Consulting

"Martinez Ranch Water Quality Improvement"

Grant Award

\$124,460

HERO Consulting will implement best management practices (BMPs) at Martinez Ranch to reduce sediment movement and excess organic input to the San Francisco River. The project will also focus on BMPs to improve overall watershed health. This multi-faceted project will use fencing, revegetation, erosion control structures, and large woody debris to dissipate erosive energy, hold sediments and reduce downstream turbidity. As part of the educational effort, an information kiosk will be built to explain the project's goals and accomplishments. There will also be several presentations made, including the Greenlee County and Arizona Cattlegrowers Associations.

Mohave

Hualapai Department of Natural Resources

"Composting Restrooms for the Hualapai Reservation"

Grant Award

\$60,500

The Hualapai Tribe will construct two composting restrooms at remote tourist destinations along the Colorado River on the Hualapai Reservation. These restrooms will be similar to the one funded by the 319(h) grant program that was built on Spencer Beach. Each facility will contain a rotating carousel in which the waste composts with assistance from solar heating. The restrooms will prevent runoff of fecal coliform and E. coli from the sites and eliminate contamination to improve water quality. In addition to preparing and placing signs on the restroom facilities that describe the goals of the project, the tribe will prepare educational flyers that the helicopter companies will give to each of their clients to make them aware of the facilities.

Pima

Coronado Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.

"Palo Alto Runoff Control"

Grant Award

\$139,550

Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be implemented on a high priority area of the Alter Valley Watershed to control runoff that contributes sediment to the Santa Cruz River system. BMP's that will be implemented include water spreader dikes to control erosion and fencing for management to improve long-term watershed health. The objective is to reduce sediment production from gully erosion and headcutting on the historic floodplain of the Alter Wash on 1,370 acres of the Palo Alto Ranch. The outreach program will educate the public on the concept of functional ecosystems, the impacts and control of non point source pollution and emphasize the importance of being a stakeholder in a watershed.

Presentations and displays will be targeted at youth, agricultural producers and natural resource professionals.

Santa Cruz

National Audubon Society Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch "Protect the Watershed by Upgrading Perimeter Fence of the Audubon Research Ranch"	Grant Award \$18,967
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To safeguard the watershed and riparian habitats of O'Donnell Creek, staff of the Audubon's Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch (ARR), will upgrade the existing perimeter fence to a new wildlife friendly fence. Five miles of perimeter fence will be installed to exclude all large, non-native herbivores and discourage off-road vehicular traffic. The fences will allow free access to native wild animals. There are two aspects of public outreach and education that will be addressed through this grant, direct contact with students and indirect contact with a wider public through various media. The educational portion of this project will present the rationale for protecting riparian areas and watersheds using wildlife friendly fence techniques and will include construction instructions. This project relies heavily on volunteer labor contributed by college students participating in alternative break programs. Contact the Audubon Research Ranch at (520) 455-5522 or researchranch@audubon.org for more information.

National Audubon Society Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch "Installation and Outreach of Wisconsin Mound Septic System at the Audubon Research Ranch"	Grant Award \$13,650
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The Audubon Research Ranch will replace a failed septic system with a reliable, advanced system, the Wisconsin Mound System. As part of their *Get Grassrooted* educational series, they will develop a brochure and host workshops on groundwater protection and alternative septic systems. As a demonstration, they hope the new system will encourage neighbors in the Sonoita Valley to install advanced septic systems for new construction or replacements to help improve Arizona's water quality. Contact the Audubon Research Ranch at (520) 455-5522 or researchranch@audubon.org for more information.

Richard C. Collins, C6 Ranch "Water Development, Fencing, Erosion Control and Monitoring to Enhance the Implementation of Deferred Rotational Grazing on the C6 Ranch"	Grant Award \$55,546
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The name says it all! The grant seeks funds to improve water quality by 1) building fences around water sources and new critical areas to exclude livestock, 2) developing livestock water sources in the uplands, 3) building fences to facilitate control and movement of cattle, 4) constructing erosion control dams in gullies, and 5) implementing a comprehensive plan for monitoring. Field trips will be conducted for local 4-H clubs and college agricultural and natural resource students to see the improvements and results first hand. In collaboration with the University of Arizona Extension Service, the C6 Ranch will be used as an example and teaching opportunity.

Yavapai

Upper Agua Fria Watershed Partnership

“Pilot Project to Clean-up Dumpsites on the Big Bug Creek and the Agua Fria”

Grant Award

\$5,000

The Upper Agua Fria Watershed Partnership will develop a process to educate and organize local volunteers in the Upper Agua Fria Watershed (UAFW) to clean up three miles of scattered dumpsites in the riparian section of the Big Bug Creek. The Partnership plans to develop an “Adopt-A-Stream-Segment” program like a neighborhood watch, to discourage future dumping and to encourage watershed-wide prevention and clean-up initiatives. Members of the Partnership will speak to various local groups to seek volunteers and educate the public on nonpoint source water quality problems. Contact Mary Hoadley, UAFW Partnership Chair, at (928) 632-7135 for more information.

USDA, Coconino National Forest Service

“Fecal Coliform and Sediment Reduction for Oak Creek in Redrock County”

Grant Award

\$32,488

This project will decrease sediment delivery into Dry Creek. At least 10 acres of completely bare ground will be stabilized and restored at five sites resulting in decreased on-site soil erosion and improved long-term soil productivity. The Forest Service will also install three restrooms at popular trailhead sites to eliminate the potential for fecal coliform contamination. Public outreach for this project will include the placement of interpretive signs near the toilets. In addition, a press release will be prepared and sent to all Coconino National Forest contacts in order to inform the public of the grant. For more information please contact Jennifer M. Burns, Sedona District Landscape Architect, at 928-282-4119 or jmburns@fs.fed.us.

85% in Yavapai and 15% of affected area in Coconino

EcoResults! Inc.

“Upper Verde Collaborative Watershed Restoration Project”

Grant Award

\$55,700

This project will reduce sedimentation in the Upper Verde River Watershed through creation of new pastures for better time controlled grazing, juniper tree removal, and reclaiming gullied roadways and eroding rangelands through hay trampling. Public outreach through education workshops will be conducted to educate many area ranchers, agency personnel and other individuals from the Prescott and Chino Valley areas on the benefits of the methods used with this project. Contact Norm Lowe at (928) 527-0661 or loweflag@aol.com for more information.