

The Working Lands for Wildlife Program



Crops in the Gila Valley

The world's farmers, ranchers, and forest owners are no doubt a great boon to society. They provide us with not only food and fiber, but provide wildlife with a habitat to flourish in.

Nearly two thirds of all species that have landed on the threatened or endangered species list currently reside on these kinds of private habitats.

Making an effort to conserve these creatures generates a large amount of revenue, through recreational activity, that is instrumental in sustaining the operation and growth of these areas; and for the communities and landowners that surround them.

Working Lands for Wildlife is a voluntary, incentive-based effort through which the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and its conservation partners will provide

landowners with the technical and financial services to:

- Help restore declining populations of wildlife species.
- Provide ranchers, farmers and forest owners with peace of mind that investing in conservation efforts today benefits them greatly in the long run.
- Protect and restore the productive capabilities of rural lands in order to bolster rural economies.

This project will be specifically targeting species whose decline can be reversed. Species with similar habitat needs will also benefit immensely from this project.

The NRCS will be using several strategies

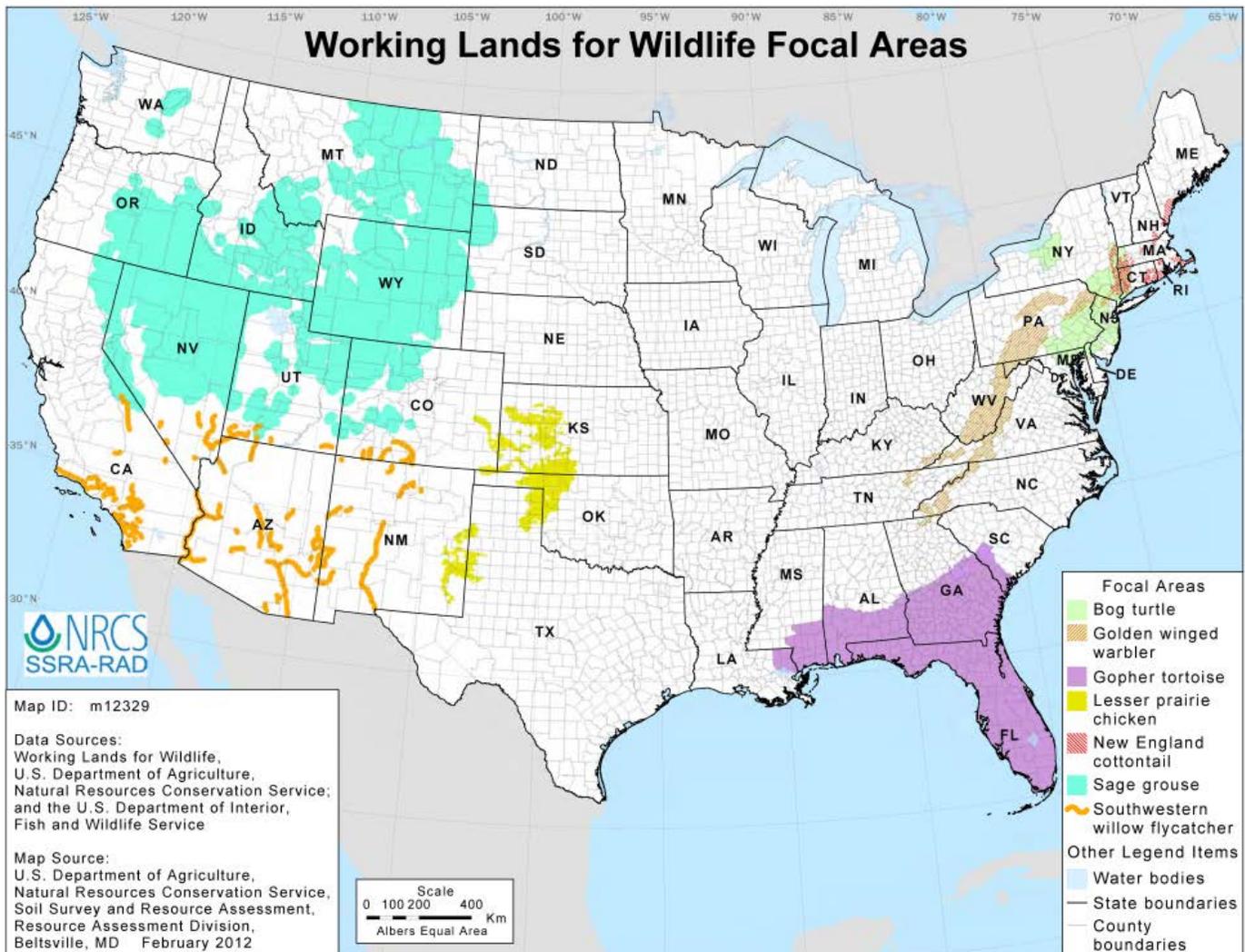
to work with and provide certainty to landowners regarding the implementation of NRCS conservation practices for protected species under the Endangered Species Act, or likely species for any such actions. These strategies would include informal agreements, conference opinions, biological opinions, Candidate Conservation Agreements, Safe Harbor Agreements, and Habitat Conservation Plans.

These strategies provide landowners with a large degree of certainty and they dispel a lot of confusion and conflict surrounding issues like the legal protection of certain species. The strategies employed ensure that the conservation practices they volunteer to implement will not harm the species or its habitat.

Taking action now, and preventing a species from declining, can be the greatest defense from the land use limitations and conservation expenses that may come as a result in the future.



The Gila River



Current Project Updates

FOR MORE INFO, SEE WWW.GILAWATERSHEDPARTNERSHIP.COM

Upper Gila Watershed Riparian Restoration

...funded by The Walton Family Foundation (WFF)

- will replace invasive tamarisk with native species to restore natural habitats
- cutting cottonwood poles to root out in the greenhouse in a hydroponic solution to ready them for planting in the coppice fields
- we have identified our first five restoration sites with many more to come
- the permitting process with USFW has begun

Apache Grove

...funded by the Arizona Water Protection Fund (AWPF) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFW)

- removed levies in order to restore optimal river flow, control erosion, and manage invasive species, while preserving agricultural land
- the new pipeline to a deeper well is complete

Clifton Restroom

...funded by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)

- is installing restroom facilities in a recreational area just outside of Clifton

San Francisco River Restroom

... funded by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)

- will install a second restroom for recreation on the San Francisco River Greenlee County and reduce the E.coli levels on the river and make river recreation safer for our community

Eagle Creek Riparian Restoration at Filleman Crossing

...funded by the Arizona Water Protection Fund (AWPF) and the U.S. Fish and the USFW Partners program

- will construct a river crossing to stop frequent wash-outs, benefiting both residents and wildlife
- construction will begin in early fall

Youth Pathway

...from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Great American Outdoors Grant, and USFW Partners program

- to encourage careers in conservation and land management through on-the-ground activities for school age kids high school through college
- a youth summit was a big success for April 22nd at Discovery Park

Water Conservation

... funded by Freeport McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc.

- this project is performing home and business water evaluations to help us all save water and money
- call and set up a free appointment today!

Upper Gila Water Appraisal Study

... funded by the US Bureau of Reclamation, with the study to be completed by the WRRC

- the WRRC will help us to better understand the water demand and supply in our watershed

WRRC Water Needs Assessment and Planning

... funded by the BOR Landscape Conservation Cooperative

- the WRRC will help us assess our future water needs and help us to be sustainable

Developing Greenlee County as a Bird Watching Destination

... funded by Freeport McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc.

- Steve Ahmann is holding a birding workshop this month in cooperation with Audubon

Menges Ranch Water System Maintenance

... funded by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) and the Arizona Water Protection Fund (AWPF)

- will replace diesel pumps with solar and add a telemetry system to reduce E.coli in the San Francisco and Gila Rivers

5 WAYS to conserve WATER in the KITCHEN

- 1.** Use your dishwasher – it uses less water than washing dishes by hand. Make sure it’s a full load before running it and you’ll save up to 1,000 gallons per month.
- 2.** If you have to wash some dishes by hand, turn the water off when you’re not rinsing.
- 3.** Wash fruits and vegetables in a pot of water rather than in running water.
- 4.** Cook vegetables in as little water as possible. It also will help retain nutrients.
- 5.** If you drop an ice cube on the floor, don’t throw it in the sink. Place it in a house plant instead. You can use the water you use to rinse your fruits and vegetables to water house plants too!



Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishment toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.

~Andrew Carnegie

Calendar of Events

Wednesday, July 9, 7 p.m. – Paul Buck, San Carlos Apache Tribe, will present on the completed Restoration Project in San Carlos

Wednesday, August 13, 7 p.m. – Brian Musser, Freeport McMoRan Copper and Gold, Inc., will present on activities at the Safford mine

Our partners include:

- Arizona Department of Agriculture
- Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
- Arizona Department of Transportation
- Arizona Game and Fish Department
- Arizona Geological Survey
- Arizona State Land Department
- Bureau of Land Management
- City of Safford
- Town of Thatcher
- Town of Pima
- Town of Clifton
- Town of Duncan
- Eastern Arizona College
- Farm Bureau
- Gila Valley NRCD
- Freeport McMoRan Copper and Gold Inc.
- Graham County
- Greenlee County
- Gila Valley Irrigation District
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- University of Arizona Cooperative Extension
- University of Arizona NEMO Project
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service – Apache-Sitgreaves and Coronado Forests
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- And many community members

Get involved in your watershed

For more information, contact Jan Holder at the Gila Watershed Partnership, 711 S. 14th Avenue, 85546, or email gilawatershed@gmail.com

www.gilawatershedpartnership.com