

Enhancing Habitat on Private Lands Working with the Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Kris Randall
Arizona State Coordinator
Partners for Fish and Wildlife
Tamarisk Coalition Webinar
April 25, 2013



Overview of Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program

- What is the Partners Program?
- How are projects selected?
- Examples of projects that have been funded

Partners for Fish & Wildlife

The US Fish and Wildlife Service provides technical and financial assistance to willing private landowners who want to improve the fish and wildlife habitat on their property.



Mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.



Importance of Private Lands

Half of the listed species have at least 80% of their habitat on private lands

Associate for Biodiversity Information and The Nature Conservancy, 1993.



Chiricahua leopard frog



Southwestern Willow Flycatcher

Program Principles

- Voluntary and Incentive-based
- Benefits federal trust species (listed species, waterfowl, and migratory birds)
- Private and tribal lands – no federal or state lands
- Leverage resources through partnerships
- Combination of environmental, economic, and social benefits
- Keep common species common and restore habitat for declining species

Nuts and bolts of the Partners Program

- Initiated in 1987
- Reimbursable program
- Financial and technical support
- Funds provided up to \$25,000
- Cost-share of 25 – 50% includes in-kind

Con't Nuts and bolts

- Project must have an on-the-ground component
- Agreement to maintain improvement for minimum of 10 years
- Projects developed in collaboration and with substantial involvement from Partners field biologists
- Partners biologists work directly with landowners
- Projects based on priorities and geographic focus areas identified in regional strategic plans

What Partners is NOT

- Not a traditional grant program
- Does not solicit projects through a request for proposals



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Funding Number	Opportunity Title	Agency	Open Date	Close Date
F13AS00011	Partners for Fish and Wildlife 2013	Fish and Wildlife Service	11/05/2012	09/28/2013

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SITE MAP

Partners for Fish and Wildlife 2013**Synopsis****Full Announcement****Application**

The synopsis for this grant opportunity is detailed below, following this paragraph. This synopsis contains all of the updates to this document that have been posted as of **11/05/2012**. If updates have been made to the opportunity synopsis, update information is provided below the synopsis.

If you would like to receive notifications of changes to the grant opportunity click [send me change notification emails](#). The only thing you need to provide for this service is your email address. No other information is requested.

Any inconsistency between the original printed document and the disk or electronic document shall be resolved by giving precedence to the printed document.

Description of Modification

Updated Funding Opportunity Description

Document Type:	Modification to Previous Grants Notice
Funding Opportunity Number:	F13AS00011
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary
Posted Date:	Nov 05, 2012
Creation Date:	Nov 15, 2012
Original Closing Date for Applications:	Sep 28, 2013 This date is the end of the Federal fiscal year. For application instructions, contact the local Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program office. For office contact information please visit: http://www.fws.gov/partners/contactUs.html
Current Closing Date for Applications:	Sep 28, 2013 This date is the end of the Federal fiscal year. For application instructions, contact the local Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program office. For office contact information please visit: http://www.fws.gov/partners/contactUs.html
Archive Date:	Oct 01, 2013
Funding Instrument Type:	Cooperative Agreement
Category of Funding Activity:	Environment Natural Resources
Category Explanation:	
Expected Number of Awards:	5000
Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$22,000,000
Award Ceiling:	\$0
Award Floor:	\$0
CFDA Number(s):	15.631 -- Partners for Fish and Wildlife
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	No



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

Habitat and Resource Conservation

Habitat and Resource
Conservation Home

Kids and Educators

About Us

Clean Water Act
Section 404

Coastal Barrier
Resources Act

Coastal Program

Communication Towers

Fish and Wildlife
Coordination Act

Hydropower Licensing

Marine Mammals

National Environmental
Policy Act

National Wetlands
Inventory

Oil and Gas

Partners for Fish and
Wildlife Program

Sikes Act

Status and Trends

Transportation
Planning

Water Resource
Development Acts

Wind Energy

Regional and State Contact Information

Click on the appropriate Region of the map below to find your Partners for Fish and Wildlife State Coordinator.



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<http://www.fws.gov/partners/contactUs.html>

Coastal Program and
Partners for Fish and
Wildlife Program
703/358-2201

Who is eligible?

Ranchers

Interested public

Tribal members



Schools

**Non-Government
Organizations**

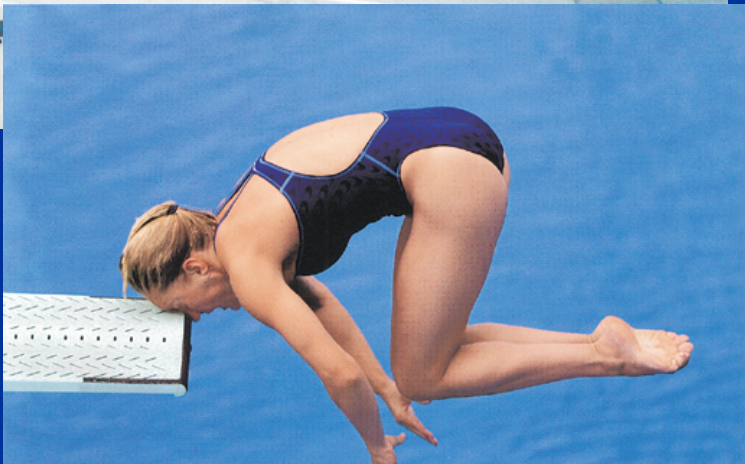
Land Trusts



How much funding is available?

- Each Region receives an allocation of funding that is divided amongst the states
- FY 2013 – Reduction due to effects of sequestration for USFWS
- Region 2 – Likely to have at least 15% reduction

Feel the pain....



When to submit projects?

Contact Partners biologist anytime throughout the year.

They can help you plan your project.

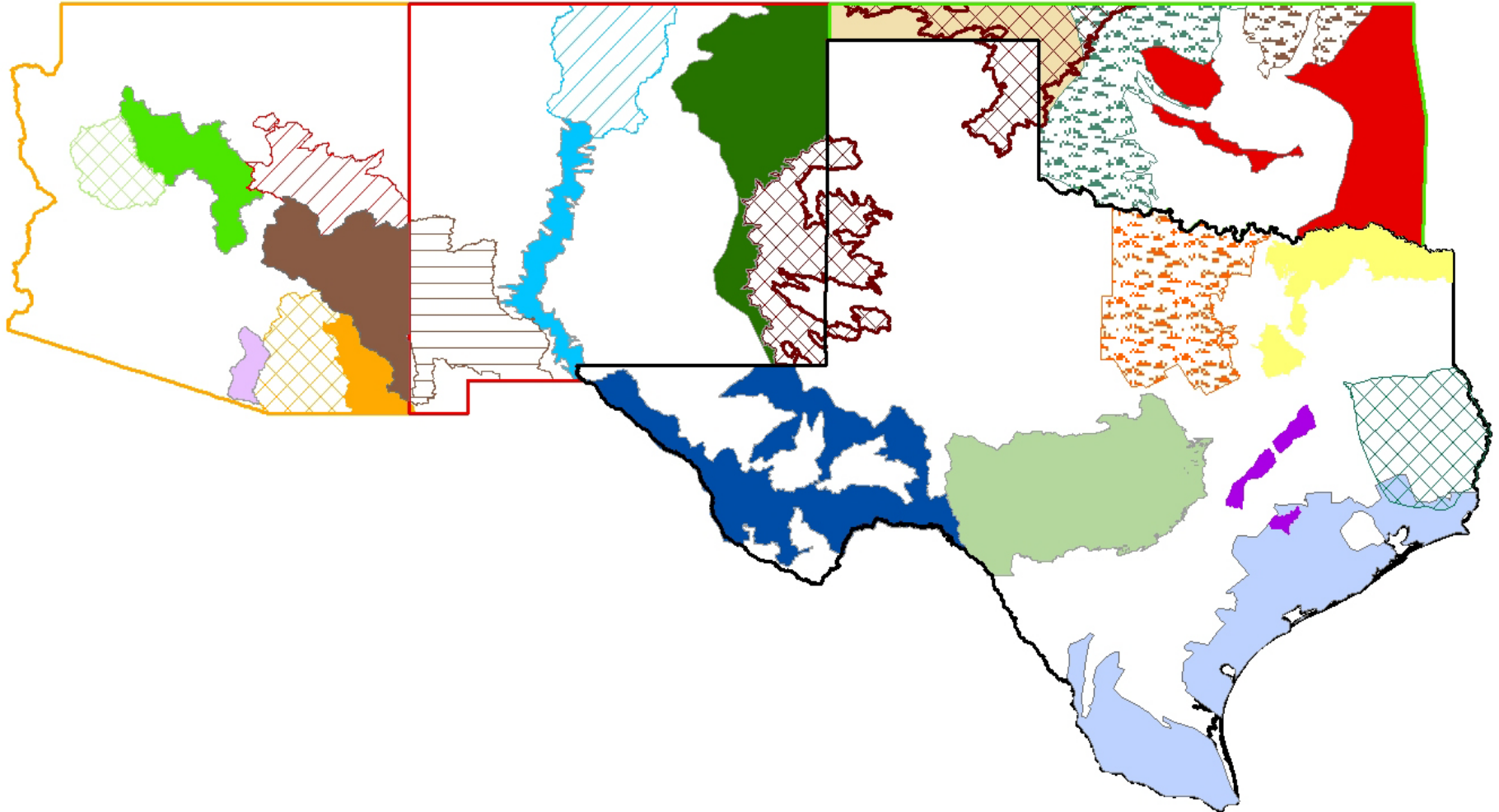


Key Selection Criteria for Partners Projects

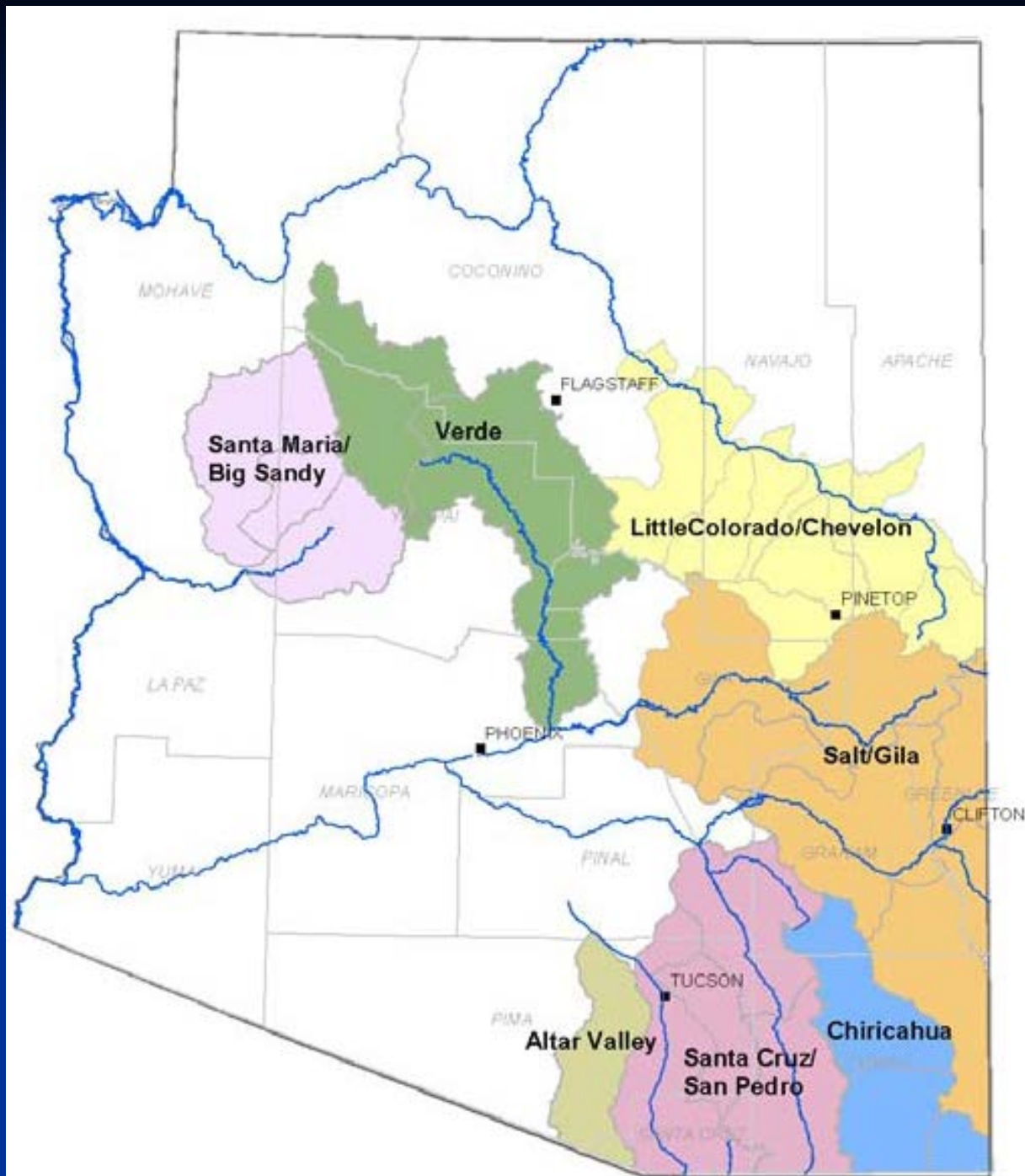
- Benefits to Federal trust species with emphasis on species at risk.**
- Benefits to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuge.**
- Located within identified Focus Area. **
- Self-sustainable

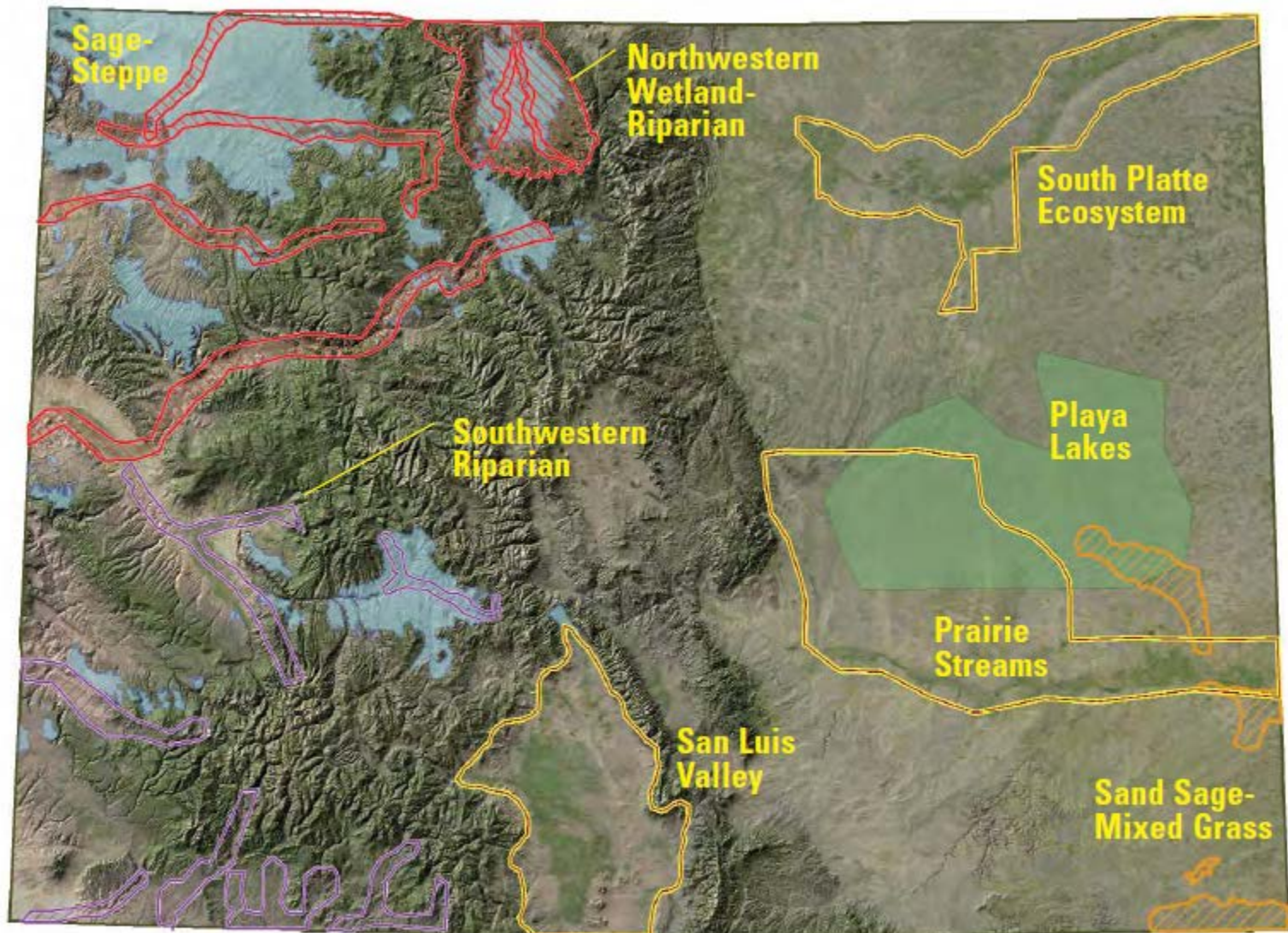


Focus Areas – Partners in Region 2



Focus Areas in Arizona





Colorado Partners Program Conservation Focus Areas

Selection of Focus Areas for Arizona

- Identified non-federal lands
- Emphasis on riparian and grassland habitats
- Priority Listed Species
- Existing conservation plans
 - AGFD – Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy
 - TNC – Grassland Assessment



When a project is selected for funding

- Landowner signs Cooperative Agreement
 - Term of agreement is 10 years
 - Landowner is agreeing to maintain project for the term of agreement
- Landowner must use Government financial system
- Reporting requirements

Reporting Requirements (Region 2)

- Annual financial reporting
- Annual performance reporting
- Contact with Partners biologist
- Monitoring of project
 - photo monitoring





Examples of Projects



Riparian Enhancement

Verde Watershed Restoration Coalition

Removed *Arundo*, *Ailanthus*, *Tamarisk*

Stump cut and spray with herbicide

Eliminate vehicular access

Provide education



Stream restoration on Gila River

Removed dike

Re-contoured streambanks

Removed invasive plant species

Provide improved habitat for southwestern
Willow flycatchers



- Partners provided both financial and technical assistance.
- Conducted surveys for SW willow flycatcher
- Working to provide Safe Harbor Agreement for the landowner
- Assisted landowner in understanding ESA



Take home message

Begin working with federal and state agencies early in the planning process. It is better to find out what compliance is needed before you send in heavy equipment.

- Timing for doing construction
- Areas to avoid

Working with Youth

■ Outdoor classrooms



Douglas High School Ranarium and Wetland Project

Construct pond as rearing facility for
Chiricahua leopard frog



Examples from Colorado

Upland Restoration



Wetland Restoration



Stream/Riparian Restoration



Fish Passage



Fish Barriers to Protect Native Trout Populations from Non-Native Fish

Photo: Scott Miller, USFWS



Restored Ranch Reservoir that CPW Now Uses as a Brood Stock Pond for Colorado River Cutthroat Trout



Stream Restoration to Benefit Colorado River Cutthroats



1.4 miles of Riparian Fencing with a Grazing Plan for Colorado River Cutthroat

Note Difference from fencing on right



South Park Fen and Stream Restoration – Created a New Meandering Channel



**South Park
Fen and Stream
Restoration**
Pre-project, Channelized Stream



South Park Fen and Stream Restoration – Post Project



Photo: USFWS

South Park Fen and Stream Restoration – Post Project



Stream Restoration Project for the Rio Grande Chub

1.5 months old



Same Project Now 3 Months Old



Riparian Fencing to Promote Willow/Cottonwood Recruitment



Post Project Photo



Native Plains Fish (Arkansas Darter)



Eastern Plains Riparian Fencing



Tamarisk/Russian Olive Removal Projects





Region 6 Partners for Fish and Wildlife Information

- Website: <http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/pfw/>
- Here you will find State Contact Information
 - Program Information
 - Featured Projects
 - The Region 6 PFW Strategic Plan
 - Links to the program in each of the 8 States in Region 6



“The management of private land is the key to wildlife abundance in the United States.”

Aldo Leopold



Accomplishments for Arizona Partners - 1992 to 2012

- 2,480 acres of wetlands
- 32,202 acres of grasslands
- 172 miles of streamside and in-stream habitat
- 206 landowner agreements



Partners Staff in Arizona

- Kris Randall – State Coordinator, Phoenix
- Jennifer Kaplan – Biologist, Phoenix
- Dominic Barrett – Biologist, Pinetop

Web site address:

<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Partners.htm>

Contact Kris Randall at
602-242-0210 ext. 250
kris_randall@fws.gov
to obtain information on
applying for funding



Questions?

