



Arizona Partners for Fish & Wildlife

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Region 2



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the lead Federal agency responsible for conserving and managing the nation's fish and wildlife resources. The *Arizona Partners for Fish and Wildlife* program provides technical and financial assistance to Arizona's willing private landowners who want to improve the fish and wildlife habitat on their property.

Prospective Partners

- Private landowners
- Tribes
- Non-Governmental Organizations
- Counties and Cities

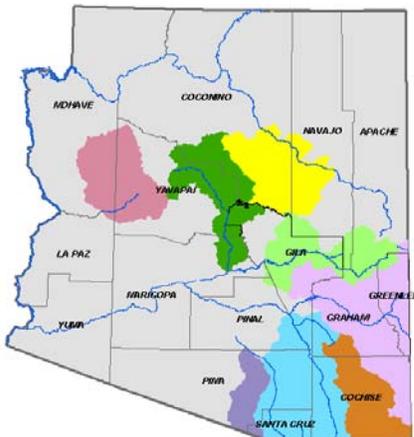
The *Partners* program focuses on implementing on-the-ground projects which protect, restore, and/or enhance wildlife habitat. The main goal is to have projects which will benefit federally listed species, waterfowl, migratory birds, and their habitats.

Program Accomplishments

Since 1992, the *Partners* program has protected or helped restore 22,557 acres of upland habitat and 1,780 acres of wetland and riparian habitat and over 150 miles of aquatic stream habitat in the State.

Emphasis on Focus Areas

Wise use of limited funding prompted the identification of geographic areas called Focus Areas. These areas were identified based upon the potential values to fish and wildlife resources. Projects located in these areas will receive higher consideration for funding.



Focus Areas in Arizona

Major Goals

- Protect Federal fish and wildlife trust species.
- Protect and restore habitat on non-Federal lands
- Restore biological diversity
- Reduce habitat fragmentation
- Implement habitat restoration in partnership with State and Tribal agencies
- Provide technical assistance to landowners
- Promote environmental education

Types of Partners Projects

- Fencing streams and wetlands
- Planting native vegetation
- Protecting wetland and riparian habitats
- Eradication of invasive weeds
- Closing unauthorized roads and trails
- Installing water developments for wildlife and livestock

Idea for a project?

Please contact a *Partners* biologist to talk over your idea and arrange for a site visit. The project should consider the species it will benefit, other agencies that will need to be involved (Arizona Game and Fish Department or Natural Resources Conservation Service), water sources that may be needed, and anticipated costs. The amount of funding from the Service through its *Partners* program is up to \$25,000 for each project. Landowners generally provide 25% of the cost-share funding and/or in-kind services.

If a project is selected for funding, a cooperative agreement is developed with the landowner. Other entities may be included this agreement. A *Partners* project must be in effect for at least 10 years.

For more information on the *Partners* program contact:

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And on our web site at

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

