



Arizona News



Youth prepare to hand-water native plants, Pueblo Colorado Wash

Recent Successes

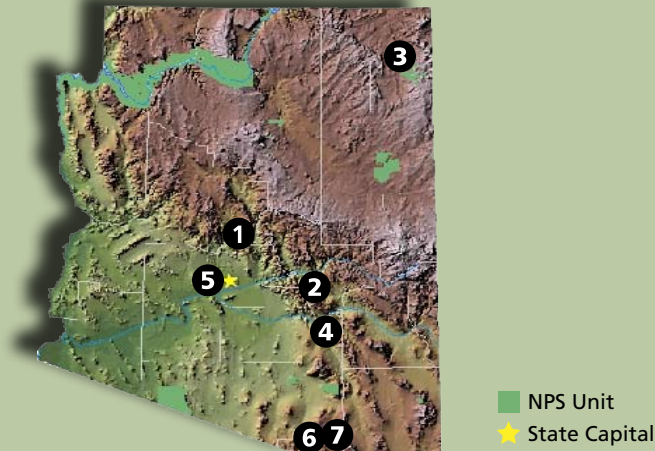
Pueblo Colorado Wash

A dozen Navajo youth in their mid-teens to early 20s worked in summer of 2009 to restore part of the Pueblo Colorado Wash in Ganado, Arizona. This youth summer job program was made possible through a multi-agency partnership that included Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site, the Navajo Nation, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The youth workers removed invasive non-native plants, planted native species, built baffles in the stream, and refurbished a single-track trail that connects the park to a local health clinic.

Black Canyon Heritage Park

Work to restore 25 acres of riparian habitat along half a mile of the Agua Fria River will go forward with a \$291,000 Water Protection Fund Grant from the Arizona Water Resources Department. This restoration is a major component of the Black Canyon Heritage Park that will also serve as a refuge for native fish and as a possible grow-out facility for the endangered top-minnow chub, Sonoran sucker, and pupfish.

continued on page 4



PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2010

CURRENT PROJECTS

- 1. Black Canyon Heritage Park**
Black Canyon Community Association
- 2. Bloody Tanks River Walk**
Genesis Group
- 3. Pueblo Colorado Wash Trail**
Ganado Chapter
- 4. Mammoth Arizona Trails System**
Mammoth Tourism Project
- 5. Monument Hill - Avondale Historic Preservation**
City of Avondale
- 6. Anza Trail Las Lagunas Conservation Project**
Paula & Cabot Sedgwick Family Foundation
- 7. Patagonia Montessori Youth Nature Park**
Patagonia Montessori School

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provide technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas and water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. We help communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects they initiate.

Current Projects

1. Black Canyon Heritage Park

Project Partner: Black Canyon City Community Association
RTCA Contact: Joe Winfield
Location: Black Canyon City

Project Goal

Restore 25 acres of riparian habitat, create a native fish refugia, develop five acres of visitor facilities including parking, a contact station, an amphitheater, picnic areas, trails, and a maintenance yard.

RTCA Role

Facilitate development of a partnership agreement to clarify roles and solidify specific support for Black Canyon Heritage Park.



Youth constructing an instream baffle

2. Bloody Tanks River Walk

Project Partner: Genesis Group
RTCA Contact: Cate Bradley
Location: Miami

Project Goal

Develop a one-mile trail along the Bloody Tanks Wash to connect downtown Miami, Arizona with other community destinations and recreation areas.

RTCA Role

Facilitate community partners developing the trail plan and help to identify funding sources.

Project Goal

A three-mile single track natural surface trail connecting Hubbell Trading Post NHS and Ganado Lake, and riparian and stream restoration work in the wash corridor.

3. Pueblo Colorado Wash Trail

Project Partner: Ganado Chapter
RTCA Contact: Joe Winfield
Location: Ganado



Historic bridge over Bloody Tanks Wash

“The assistance received from RTCA staff has been an invaluable asset to our organization. RTCA staff are extremely professional and provide a knowledge base that is beneficial to all involved in any given project. I have recommended their service to many other local governments and non-profit organizations and will continue to do so in the future.”

-Kent Taylor, Pinal County

Current Projects

RTCA Role

Help Ganado Chapter determine the feasibility of a trail from a local health clinic to Ganado Lake.

4. Mammoth Arizona Trails System

Project Partner: Mammoth Tourism Project
RTCA Contact: Joe Winfield
Location: Mammoth

Project Goal

A protected interconnected system of motorized and non-motorized trails.

RTCA Role

Convene stakeholders and help prepare a motorized and non-motorized trail system plan.

5. Monument Hill - Avondale Historic Preservation

Project Partner: City of Avondale
RTCA Contact: Joe Winfield
Location: Avondale

Project Goal

Improved visitor access and interpretation on of this site on the National Register of Historic Places.

RTCA Role

Convene stakeholders and help prepare a trail and interpretive plan for Monument Hill.

“RTCA assistance has been instrumental in bringing together different interests...we have discovered unknown partners within our community and developed strengths through new collaborations.”

- Mary Dahl, Santa Cruz County Community Development Director

6. Anza Trail Las Lagunas Conservation Project

Project Partner: Paula & Cabot Sedgwick Family Foundation
RTCA Contact: Cate Bradley
Location: North of Nogales

Project Goal

Protection of a native wetlands area, linking the site to the significance of the Anza Expedition and providing public access to an interpretive trail.

RTCA Role

Convening partners and wetlands experts and developing a youth involvement strategy.

7. Patagonia Montessori Youth Nature Park

Project Partner: Patagonia Montessori School
RTCA Contact: Cate Bradley
Location: Patagonia

Project Goal

Build a half-mile trail along Sonoita Creek as part of the campus nature park setting that will connect to the local trail system.

RTCA Role

Provide technical assistance in trail planning in a riparian area, and convene local and regional partners for input on recreation, conservation and education.



Anza Trail in Santa Cruz County

“RTCA helped us organize ourselves, stay focused, and partner with significant organizations. The results are: formation of META (Mountain Empire Trail Assoc.), completion of our first 2.5 mile loop trail, youth involvement in our trail, and a fledgling trail group that has become an area organization of substance.”

- Betsy McGee, META co-chair
page 3

We're Here For You.

Could your project benefit from RTCA Staff Assistance? Contact us to find out.

Cate Bradley

520.791.6472

cate_bradley@nps.gov

Joe Winfield

520.791.6471

joe_winfield@nps.gov

2009 Nationwide Partnership Success

3,441 Miles of Trail Developed

2,664 Miles of River Conserved

87,385 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected

97% Percentage of Community Partners Satisfied

Find more information online at

www.nps.gov/rtca



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Recent Successes cont.

Patagonia Rail Trail Project

Three generations of residents in Patagonia, AZ have been involved in planning and building a 2.5-mile trail. Half of the trail follows the old rail bed of the New Mexico & Arizona Railroad, which was active from 1882 until 1962. After the trail leaves the rail bed, it circles around and returns to Patagonia, passing along a trail easement granted by The Nature Conservancy and the Native Seed Search through their preserves. The entire trail is in the Sonoita Creek flood plain. Birding in the area is excellent.



Three generations of trail planners

Members of Mountain Empire Trails Association began in 2007 to plan for a rail-bed trail to connect the towns of Patagonia and Sonoita in southeast Arizona. Phase one of the Patagonia Trail Track Trail, named by the third graders of Patagonia Elementary School, opened to public use in spring of 2009. Phase two is scheduled to add another 1.5 miles of trail by spring of 2010, connecting downtown Patagonia to more land managed by The Nature Conservancy. Phases three and four are under discussion. Ultimately, up to 15 miles of trail will be built, providing excellent opportunities for outdoor recreation in the region.

Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona

RTCA has formed a partnership with the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail and the Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona. It will provide strategic planning help and organizational development to build stronger community relations along the trail and increase trail use.

Plans are under development in all five southern Arizona counties that contain the historic Anza Trail corridor. There are several key recreational sites, Tumaacacori National Historic Park, Saguaro National Park, Casa Grande National Monument, and the Bureau of Land Management's Sonoran Desert National Monument. Potentially, more than 100 miles of trail can provide opportunities for diverse interpretative stories, including Native American and Mexican American perspectives of the trail's effect on their communities and cultures.

"I would encourage National Park Service staff interested in community engagement to connect with their local RTCA office. They are people in the know."

- Naomi Torres, Superintendent,
Juan Bautista de Anza
National Historic Trail