ARIZONA WATER PROTECTION FUND COMMISSION

Business Meeting – June 6, 2026
Arizona Department of Water Resources
Thunder River Conference Room1110 W. Washington St., Ste. 310
Phoenix, AZ 85007
&
Virtual Meeting via Cisco Webex
Meeting Number (Access Code): 2532 261 2637
Meeting Password: P6KcG4R6Grn
1-415-655-0001 US Toll

Final Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Commission Voting Members Present
Rodney Held – Chairman
Stephen Turcotte – Vice-Chairman
Brian Biesemeyer
Shelley Blackmore
Pat Jacobs
Frank Krentz
Tina Thompson

Arizona Water Protection Fund Staff
Sharon Scantlebury
Reuben Teran

Commission Voting Members Absent
Rolando Flores
John Ladd

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rodney Held called the meeting of the Arizona Water Protection Fund (AWPF) Commission to order at 10:00 a.m.

COMMISSIONER MEMBER ROLL CALL

Mr. Reuben Teran called the roll of the Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission (Commission). Commissioners present at the time of roll call included Chairman Rodney Held, Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte (via Webex), Commissioner Brian Biesemeyer, Commissioner Shelley Blackmore, Commissioner Frank Krentz (via Webex), and Commissioner Tina Thompson (via Webex). A quorum of the voting Commission members was present. Commissioner Pat Jacobs joined the meeting later via Webex. There were no non-voting Ex-Officio Commission members present.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Chairman Held made a call to the public. No public comments were made.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION TO APPROVE THE MARCH 18, 2026 MEETING MINUTES

Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte made a motion to approve the March 18, 2026 meeting minutes, with a second from Commissioner Brian Biesemeyer. Chairman Held called for a discussion on the motion. Chairman Held stated he had some minor grammatical edits that would be forwarded to Mr. Teran. Chairman Held called for a vote on the motion:

Chairman Rodney Held	Aye
Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte	Aye
Brian Biesemeyer	Aye
Shelley Blackmore	Aye
Frank Krentz	Aye
Tina Thompson	Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

23-216WPF: TIMBERLINE-UPPER LITTLE COLORADO RIVER WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Mr. Teran stated the grantee has requested a grant award contract extension to March 30, 2027 and the current expiration date is August 30, 2026. He then introduced Mr. Daric Knight, Chairman of the Apache Natural Resource Conservation District, who apologized that this request is on the Commission's agenda again because the extension request made at the last meeting only accounted for the field work season of the project. He stated the new expiration date of March 30, 2027 will support the remaining field work season, reporting, and project closeout requirements. Commissioner Shelley Blackmore made a motion to extend the grant award contract to March 30, 2027, with a second from Commissioner Tina Thompson. Chairman Held called for a discussion on the motion. No comments were made. Chairman Held called for a vote on the motion:

Chairman Rodney Held	Aye
Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte	Aye
Brian Biesemeyer	Aye
Shelley Blackmore	Aye
Frank Krentz	Aye
Tina Thompson	Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

COMMISSION MEMBER ELECTIONS FOR CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

Chairman Held stated that it has been a privilege to serve as Chairman for the last year and was willing to continue to serve in that role for fiscal year 2027. He then opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to nominate Stephen Turcotte for Chairman, with a second from Commissioner Blackmore. Chairman Held called for a discussion on the motion. No comments were made. Chairman Held called for a vote on the motion:

Chairman Rodney Held	Aye
Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte	Aye
Brian Biesemeyer	Aye
Shelley Blackmore	Aye
Frank Krentz	Aye
Tina Thompson	Aye

The motion passed unanimously and Stephen Turcotte was elected to serve as Chairman for fiscal year 2027.

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to nominate Rodney Held to serve as Vice-Chairman, with a second from Commissioner Biesemeyer. Chairman Held called for a discussion on the motion. No comments were made. Chairman Held called for a vote on the motion:

Chairman Rodney Held	Aye
Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte	Aye
Brian Biesemeyer	Aye
Shelley Blackmore	Aye
Frank Krentz	Aye
Tina Thompson	Aye

The motion passed unanimously and Rodney Held was elected to serve as Vice-Chairman for fiscal year 2027.

Mr. Teran stated per the Commission's Policies and Procedure Manual, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman will also serve on the Executive Committee for the Commission, and the third member of the Executive Committee is to be appointed by the Chairman.

ARIZONA WATER PROTECTION FUND PROGRAM UPDATES

Legislative Update

Mr. Teran stated that budget bills for fiscal year 2027 have been introduced in the Legislature, and a $750,000 appropriation to the Arizona Water Protection Fund has been identified in the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) budget. He also stated that the introduced Environmental Budget Reconciliation bill identifies $336,000 may be granted to ADWR for program administration costs for fiscal year 2027.

FY 2027 Grant Cycle Update

Mr. Teran stated the grant cycle has been announced through a legal notice, ADWR press release, ADWR public notice bulletin board, and AWPF email distribution list. The press release was also highlighted in a capital media news document and in an Arizona Cross Watershed Network Newsletter. He also stated the AWPF website has all details posted along with the grant application manual and grant cycle schedule and

was working on developing the Euna/eCivis grants online application solicitation and review portal. He further stated a virtual grant application workshop is scheduled for next Wednesday, June 17th at 1:30pm and grant applications are due August 14, 2026.

Financial Update

Mr. Teran presented an update of the AWPF fund balance from July 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026. The beginning fund balance on July 1, 2025 was $3,143,011; total revenues were $846,091; and total expenditures were $982,492. The fund balance as of May 31, 2026 was $3,006,609. Existing grant obligations are $1,820,234 but Mr. Teran stated the table does not yet include an additional $766,520 as obligated funds since the remaining 2026 grant award contracts were just recently executed. The current uncommitted fund balance as of May 31, 2026 was $1,186,375. Commissioner Biesemeyer requested clarification that the outstanding $766,520 would reduce the current uncommitted fund balance to approximately $400,000. Mr. Teran responded that the uncommitted balance would be identified as $419,855 if those figures were included. Chairman Held requested that for future financial statements a line be included with the report to identify any unobligated grant awards to help the Commission see the full financial picture even though the funds are not technically identified or obligated in the state accounting system. Chairman Held inquired if the Commission had any questions on the financial statement. Commissioner Thompson requested clarification if the $419,855 total identified previously already includes program administration funds for the next fiscal year. Mr. Teran responded that it does not, and that program administration funding will be discussed in the next agenda item.

Commissioner Pat Jacobs joined the meeting.

ARIZONA WATER PROTECTION FUND ADMINISTRATIVE FUND UPDATE AND TRANSFER REQUEST

Mr. Will Palmisano, Finance and Administration Assistant Director, with the Arizona Department of Water Resources provided a presentation on the AWPF fund accounts and funding projections. He stated projected annual program administration costs are $225,000 and the projected fiscal year 2027 administration fund beginning balance would be $7,500. He recommended including a one-month administration cost cushion of $18,750 to ensure adequate funding was available to cover all and any other unexpected fiscal year expenses, and further recommended an administrative fund transfer of $236,250 for fiscal year 2027. Chairman Held inquired if the Commission had any questions on the presentation. Commissioner Blackmore inquired if the $236,250 is more than has been previously used in past years. Mr. Palmisano responded that it is more, but there is no increase in administrative costs and the additional funds are just to account for a buffer so that administration funds do not run out before the end of the fiscal year. Commissioner Biesemeyer requested clarification that the administration fund request proposed would be less than the legislative budget allowance of up to $336,000. Mr. Palmisano responded that the Commission would be well below the limit set by session law, the projections made are based on actual costs, and the Commission has the capacity to authorize a larger administrative fund buffer, if desired. Commissioner Blackmore inquired if funds are transferred into the administration account would any extra funds remain there. Mr. Palmisano responded that those funds would roll forward and remain in the administrative sub-fund and that amount would be used in calculations for future transfers. Commissioner Biesemeyer requested clarification that any rollover amounts would only be for program administration costs. Mr.

Palmisano responded yes. Commissioner Blackmore made a motion to transfer $236,250 from the grant account to the administration account, with a second from Vice-Chairman Turcotte. Chairman Held called for a discussion on the motion. No comments were made. Chairman Held called for a vote on the motion:

Chairman Rodney Held	Aye
Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte	Aye
Brian Biesemeyer	Aye
Shelley Blackmore	Aye
Pat Jacobs	Aye
Frank Krentz	Aye
Tina Thompson	Aye

FISCAL YEAR 2026 ARIZONA WATER PROTECTION FUND ANNUAL REPORT

Chairman Held inquired if there were any questions regarding the AWPF annual report. There were no questions. Mr. Teran stated that the last items to include in the report would be the financial statement that he will get from the ADWR accounting office and Chairman's cover letter for the report. Commissioner Biesemeyer made a motion to approve the fiscal year 2026 AWPF Annual Report with the understanding that the financial statement and final budget number on page 2 will need to be finalized, with a second from Commissioner Blackmore. Chairman Held called for a discussion on the motion. No comments were made. Chairman Held called for a vote on the motion:

Chairman Rodney Held	Aye
Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte	Aye
Brian Biesemeyer	Aye
Shelley Blackmore	Aye
Pat Jacobs	Aye
Frank Krentz	Aye
Tina Thompson	Aye

AWPF COMMISSION POLICY REVIEW FOR APPLICATION SCREENINGS

Chairman Held stated this was a future agenda item identified from the last meeting and wanted to discuss whether or not ADWR staff had the ability to screen grant applications, and if they were found ineligible due to policy or other issues that are outlined in the AWPF Policy and Procedures Manual that staff had the authority to do that with an understanding that anybody whose application was deemed ineligible had the ability to come back and present that to the Commission for reconsideration. He further stated that in reviewing the AWPF Policy and Procedures Manual the Commission has already established that but wanted to keep this on the agenda in case any Commissioners had any concerns with the policy as it is in place now. Commissioner Blackmore commented that it was good to know that this policy was already established. Chairman Held inquired if there were any other comments or questions about the existing policy. No other comments were made.

COMMISSIONER INTEREST IN SCHEDULING AWPF PROJECT SITE VISITS

Chairman Held stated that in earlier days the Commission used to host their meetings around the state and would try and couple them with an area or location close to an AWPF project site that had closed out to allow the applicants to showcase the project to the Commission with a field trip. He also stated that since he's been on the Commission there have been no Commission site visits and was inquiring if there was interest in having Mr. Teran reach out to any of our grantees who have closed out projects that would be willing to do that. Commissioner Biesemeyer stated that he is in favor of doing a site visit and commented that it would be helpful for him to see the site versus just pictures when something's completed. He further commented that it would also be good for the entire Commission because after you've seen that type of project, and when there may be similar projects, you would have a different prospective rather than just looking at a picture. Commissioner Blackmore agreed with Commissioner Biesemeyer's comments and stated that it would be a good thing to do. Chairman Held stated that site visits would probably not be ideal during the November timeframe given the grant application meetings, but maybe the March or June meeting dates would work best. He also stated that he is not opposed to having site visits separate from formal Commission meetings. Commissioner Thompson stated that she likes the idea of site visits and suggested the administration for organizing them should be whatever is easiest for staff, whether it is a separate site visit or tied to a meeting. Vice-Chairman Turcotte commented that he concurred with both sides, and that a happy medium would be finding some place the Commission could have a meeting and then doing a visit, granted that there could also be site visits available to different commissioners at different times, and suggested the Commission take a look at both options. Chairman Held stated that the Commission will need to figure out how to implement future site visits, and if there are any closed out projects any Commissioners would really like to look at as a potential site visit to please let Mr. Teran know.

CALL FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chairman Held inquired if there were any items that the Commission members would like to address at a future meeting. No agenda items were identified.

FUTURE MEETING DATE(S)

The next Commission meeting dates are currently set for:

- November 4, 2026
- November 17, 2026

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Chairman Held made a call to the public. No public comments were made.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, with a second from Vice-Chairman Turcotte. Chairman Held called for a discussion on the motion. No comments were made. Chairman Held called for a vote on the motion.

Chairman Rodney Held	Aye
Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte	Aye
Brian Biesemeyer	Aye

Shelley Blackmore	Aye
Pat Jacobs	Aye
Frank Krentz	Aye
Tina Thompson	Aye

The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Commission Members
Rodney Held, Chairman
Stephen Turcotte, Vice Chairman
Brian Biesemeyer
Shelley Blackmore
Rolando Flores
Pat Jacobs
Frank Krentz
John Ladd
Tina Thompson

Executive Director
Reuben Teran

Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission
1110 West Washington Street, Suite 310, Phoenix, AZ 85007
602.771.8528
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Ex-Officio Members
Thomas Buschatzke
Director
AZ Department of Water Resources

Robyn Sahid
State Land Commissioner
AZ State Land Department

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the Arizona Water Protection Fund (AWPF) Commission on **Wednesday, June 10, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.** Meeting room doors will open at 9:30 a.m. This meeting is open to the public, and in person or virtual attendance options are available. The meeting location and agenda are described below.

Meeting Location

Arizona Department of Water Resources Thunder River Conference Room 1110 W. Washington St., Ste. 310 Phoenix, AZ 85007	To ensure appropriate meeting space, please RSVP to sscantlebury@azwater.gov if you would like to attend in person.

Cisco Webex Meeting Information

Link: https://adwr.info/4wG9mEN Meeting number (access code): 2532 261 2637 Meeting password: P6KcG4R6Grn

or

Join by Phone

1-415-655-0001 US Toll	Access Code: 2532 261 2637

Dated this 2nd day of June 2026

ARIZONA WATER PROTECTION FUND COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

I. Call to Order –Chairman Rodney Held

II. Commission Member Roll Call – Executive Director

III. Call to the Public – Chairman Rodney Held
- Comments from the public will be limited to 3 minutes per speaker.

IV. Review and Consideration of Action to Approve the March 18, 2026 Meeting Minutes – Chairman Rodney Held

V. 23-216WPF: Timberline-Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project – Arizona Association of Conservation Districts
   - The Commission will be updated on the project status and may take action to approve a grant award contract extension.

VI. Commission Member Elections for Chairman and Vice-Chairman – All Commission Members
   - The Commission will discuss and take action to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for Fiscal Year 2027.

VII. Arizona Water Protection Fund Program Updates – Executive Director
   - Legislative Update
   - FY 2027 Grant Cycle Update
   - Financial Update

VIII. Arizona Water Protection Fund Administrative Fund Update and Transfer Request – Executive Director and ADWR Finance Staff
   - The Commission will be updated on the status of program administration funding and will discuss and may take action to approve the transfer of $236,250 of the unobligated Water Protection Fund balance to the program administration account for Fiscal Year 2027.

IX. Fiscal Year 2026 Arizona Water Protection Fund Annual Report – Chairman Rodney Held
   - The Commission will discuss and may approve or suggest revisions to the draft Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Report.

X. AWPF Commission Policy Review for Application Screenings – All Commission Members
   - The Commission will review, discuss, and may take action to update or clarify AWPF grant application screening policies when a grant application is determined to be found ineligible for funding consideration by AWPF staff.

XI. Commissioner Interest in Scheduling AWPF Project Site Visits – All Commission Members
   - The Commission will discuss its interest and availability in scheduling future AWPF project site visits and may take action or provide direction to staff.

XII. Call for Future Agenda Items – All Commission Members

XIII. Future Meeting Date(s) – Chairman Rodney Held

XIV. Call to the Public – Chairman Rodney Held
   - Comments from the public will be limited to 3 minutes per speaker.

XV. Adjourn – Chairman Rodney Held

- *The Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission may elect to go into Executive Session for the purposes of obtaining legal advice from its attorney on any of the listed agenda items pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3). Executive sessions are not open to the public.*

- *Agenda items may be taken out of order. No action may be taken on items unless specifically noted on the agenda.*

- *Members of the Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission may appear virtually or by telephone.*

- *Agenda and backup/supporting documents can be obtained by contacting Sharon Scantlebury at 602-771-8472 or sscantlebury@azwater.gov.*

- *People with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations such as interpreters, alternate formats, or assistance with physical accessibility. If you require accommodations, please contact Sharon Scantlebury at 602-771-8472 or by emailing sscantlebury@azwater.gov. Please make requests as soon as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.*

ARIZONA WATER PROTECTION FUND COMMISSION

Business Meeting – March 18, 2026
Arizona Department of Water Resources
Middle Verde Conference Room
1110 W. Washington St., Ste. 310
Phoenix, AZ 85007
&
Virtual Meeting via Cisco Webex
Meeting Number (Access Code): 2536 706 9976
Meeting Password: ehKze323xJM
1-415-655-0001 US Toll

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ATTENDANCE

Commission Voting Members Present
Rodney Held – Chairman
Stephen Turcotte – Vice-Chairman
Shelley Blackmore
Pat Jacobs
Frank Krentz
John Ladd
Tina Thompson

Arizona Water Protection Fund Staff
Lizette Fuentes
Reuben Teran

Commission Voting Members Absent
Rolando Flores
Brian Biesemeyer

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rodney Held called the meeting of the Arizona Water Protection Fund (AWPF) Commission to order at 10:06 a.m.

COMMISSIONER MEMBER ROLL CALL

Mr. Reuben Teran called the roll of the Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission (Commission). Commissioners present at the time of roll call included Chairman Rodney Held, Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte (via Webex), Commissioner Shelley Blackmore (via Webex), Commissioner Pat Jacobs (via Webex), and Commissioner Frank Krentz (via Webex), Commissioner John Ladd (via telephone), and Commissioner Tina Thompson (via Webex). A quorum of the voting Commission members was present.

There were no non-voting Ex-Officio Commission members present but Mr. Teran did introduce Mischere Kawas, who is the new Deputy Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources and attended the meeting.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Chairman Held made a call to the public. No public comments were made.

Review and Consideration of Action to Approve the November 5, 2025 & November 19, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Pat Jacobs made a motion to approve the November 5, 2025 meeting minutes, with a second from Commissioner Tina Thompson. Chairman Held called for a discussion on the motion. No comments were made. Chairman Held called for a vote on the motion:

Chairman Rodney Held	Aye
Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte	Aye
Shelley Blackmore	Aye
Pat Jacobs	Aye
Frank Krentz	Aye
John Ladd	Aye
Tina Thompson	Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte made a motion to approve the November 19, 2025 meeting minutes, with a second from Commissioner Jacobs. Chairman Held called for a discussion on the motion. No comments were made. Chairman Held called for a vote on the motion:

Chairman Rodney Held	Aye
Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte	Aye
Shelley Blackmore	Aye
Pat Jacobs	Aye
Frank Krentz	Aye
John Ladd	Aye
Tina Thompson	Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

Arizona Water Protection Fund Program Updates

Legislative Update

Mr. Teran informed the Commission that the Governor's Executive Budget has identified an appropriation of $750,000 for the Arizona Water Protection Fund (AWPF) through the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) budget. He also stated that as part of the budget session law there was a provision to continue to allow the Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission to grant to the Department of Water Resources up to $336,000 to be used for administrative costs.

Non-Voting Advisory Members Appointment Update

Mr. Teran stated that the AWPF Commission has two Legislative advisory member vacancies which include a member of the Arizona Senate and a member of the Arizona House of Representatives. He also stated that notification letters were sent to the appointing officials, whom are the Senate President and Speaker of the

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House of Representatives, on February 4, 2025 and again on February 10, 2026, and to date no official appointments have been made.

Status Updates for Active Grant Award Contracts and Fiscal Year 2026 Grant Awards
Mr. Teran stated that a document with status updates on all active AWPF grants and fiscal year 2026 grant awards has been provided to Commission members. Chairman Held inquired if Commissioners had questions about the project status updates. Commissioner Frank Krentz commented that staff has reached out to the grantee for grant 22-214WPF: Habitat Restoration in the Gila River Riparian Corridor with no response, and that the grant was awarded in 2022 and the project is set to expire in 2026. He inquired if there were any concerns with that grant. Mr. Teran responded that this grant is listed on the meeting agenda for discussion and possible action later today.

Financial Update
Mr. Teran presented an update of the AWPF fund balance from July 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026. The beginning fund balance as of July 1, 2025 was $3,143,011; total revenues were $629,837; and total expenditures were $705,462. The fund balance as of February 28, 2026 was $3,067,385. Existing grant obligations are $1,907,305 with an uncommitted fund balance of $1,160,081. Mr. Teran stated that the financial table does not identify the full fiscal year 2026 appropriation and the AWPF is still expecting a deposit of $187,500 for the last quarter of the fiscal year. He also stated the table does not include the fiscal year 2026 grant awards made by the Commission as obligated funds since the contracts are not yet executed but that amount is $994,564. Chairman Held inquired if the Commission had any questions on the financial statement. Vice-Chairman Turcotte inquired what has been the average expense for program administration costs. Mr. Teran responded that projected administration costs for the program have been approximately $218,000 per year over the last several fiscal years. Mr. Teran also stated that the funds identified for program administration costs on the table are expected to last until the end of fiscal year 2026. Vice-Chairman Turcotte commented that with an appropriation of approximately $700,000 and administration costs of about $220,000 he anticipated about $400,000 - $500,000 available for the coming year. Commission Jacobs inquired if the Executive Director concurred with that estimate. Mr. Teran responded that in general he is anticipating approximately $500,000 as uncommitted funds if the AWPF gets an appropriation for the next fiscal year. Chairman Held stated that this item will be added to the next Commission meeting agenda with an invitation to ADWR finance staff to help answer questions. Commissioner Tina requested clarification on the outstanding deposit amount that was not yet identified in the budget table. Mr. Teran responded $187,500.

23-216WPF: Timberline-Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project
Mr. Daric Knight, Chairman of the Apache Natural Resource Conservation District stated that due to weather events they were not able to complete work on the project site and the hired contractor moved to another work location. Of 1,800 acres proposed for the project approximately 1,200 acres have been treated and the contractor is now able to return to the project site to complete the remaining 600 acres of work. Mr. Knight stated they are requesting an extension of the grant agreement to the end of August 2026. Mr. Teran added that the grant agreement is currently set to expire on April 30, 2026. Chairman Held inquired if there we any questions from the Commission on the grant extension request. There were no questions and Vice-Chairman Turcotte made a motion to approve the request of the grant agreement extension to August 30,

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2026, with a second from Commissioner Thompson. Chairman Held called for a discussion on the motion. No comments were made. Chairman Held called for a vote on the motion:

Chairman Rodney Held	Aye
Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte	Aye
Shelley Blackmore	Aye
Pat Jacobs	Aye
Frank Krentz	Aye
John Ladd	Aye
Tina Thompson	Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

22-214WPF: Habitat Restoration in the Gila River Riparian Corridor

Mr. Teran stated that a project summary update on the project was provided to the Commission members as part of the meeting materials and he provided a brief update on the actions that have taken place over the last three years of the project. Chairman Held stated that it appears they have made progress on the project. Mr. Teran responded his understanding is that they have been working on the project using other funding sources and have not billed the AWPF. Commissioner Krentz requested clarification if they have received archaeological clearance in accordance with AWPF requirements. Mr. Teran responded that from the permitting side of the project staff was waiting for issued permits or validation that they did not need permits for the Endangered Species Act; 404 Army Corp of Engineers permit, if necessary; 401 Certification from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), if necessary; ADEQ Pesticide General Permit and filing of Notice of Intent for herbicide use; Open Burn permit; verification or current documentation that the water right for irrigation of the revegetation sites is available from Graham County Electric Cooperative, Inc; access agreements between Grantee and landowner(s); and if there were any subcontract agreements, if applicable. Mr. Teran further stated that State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) clearance was the only permit that AWPF had on file. Chairman Held stated that the grantee has been implementing this project out of compliance with the contract requirements, and technically they are not eligible for reimbursement of expenses since they are in violation of the provisions in the contract that state they cannot start until the permits are in place. Chairman Held's recommendation was that staff reach out to the grantee and notify them that they are not eligible for reimbursement to stop work until they have the appropriate documentation in place if they are actually doing any on-the-ground work. Commissioner Krentz stated that if they are moving forward with project work and funding it with other funding sources it means that they are in violation of the terms of the AWPF grant process and that would essentially make the AWPF contract null and void because they are already at phases beyond the implementation of the AWPF requirements. Chairman Held concurred with Commission Krentz's statements and stated that they should be notified that they are in violation with the contract and may not be eligible for reimbursement. Commissioner Krentz inquired if the Commission is a point where the contract needs to be terminated or does the Commission want to give them one more step of latitude to come into compliance. Chairman Held responded that is up for discussion by the Commission, and his feeling is that the Commission should provide them the opportunity to provide that documentation and if they don't then this issue can be taken up again at the next Commission meeting for consideration of termination but that is up for discussion by

the Commission. Vice-Chairman Turcotte stated that if they are really embedded into this project why aren't they talking to our staff, and because the grantee is in violation of the contract does that necessitate action on behalf of the Commission to cancel or to do other reparations. He suggested the Commission get a legal opinion to determine if the Commission would be in violation of their own bylaws and statutes if the Commission did not cancel the agreement, also to protect the Commission and the message it would send to the community about the requirements to follow the contract, to do what they need to do, and do it appropriately. He further stated if the grantee is doing ground disturbance without permits there are legal issues with that and he questioned if the Commission could be culpable in that. Chairman Held stated he agreed with those comments and believed the Commission did need to take action. He recommended the grantee be told to cease and desist work until they are in compliance with the contract, and stated the Commission would also need to review whether the grantee is eligible for reimbursement. He suggested the Commission get a legal opinion the reimbursement part of this issue. He further stated that the Commission needs to take action today and that would either be to have the grantee cease and desist work or to terminate the contract. Commissioner Blackmore agreed with getting legal advice on these issues. Commissioner Blackmore made a motion to get legal advice to see if the Commission should start proceedings of terminating the contract. Chairman Held responded doesn't think the Commission needs legal advice on whether or not to terminate the contract and the Commission can make that determination now since the contract is out of compliance, and stated the legal opinion the Commission would need is how to determine if the grantee is eligible for any reimbursement under the contract if the agreement is terminated. Commissioner Blackmore made a motion to terminate grant award contact 22-214WPF: Habitat Restoration in the Gila River Riparian Corridor, with a second from Commissioner Thompson. Chairman Held called for a discussion on the motion. No comments were made. Chairman Held called for a vote on the motion:

Chairman Rodney Held	Aye
Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte	Aye
Shelley Blackmore	Aye
Pat Jacobs	Aye
Frank Krentz	Aye
John Ladd	Aye
Tina Thompson	Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

AWPF Program Grant Application Guidelines Triennial Review Process

Mr. Teran provided the Commission an overview of the public outreach actions taken as part of the Triennial Grant Applications Guidelines review process which included:

- Mailing out approximately 160 Notice of Public Hearing and Arizona Water Protection Fund Grant Application Guidelines Request for Comments (Notice) letters to entities identified in Statute, including grant applicants who applied in the last 5 years;
- Sending the Notice to the AWPF email distribution list (~1,300 members);
- Posting the Notice on the AWPF website and Arizona Department of Water Resources public notice board;
- Publishing the Notice as a legal ad in the Arizona Republic statewide;

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- Publishing a press release of the Notice in coordination with the ADWR Communications team;
- Hosting a formal public hearing at the ADWR office on February 10, 2026; and
- Facilitating the 45-day public comment period.

Mr. Teran stated that the Commission received public comment letters from the Hassayampa Lake Recreation Association and the City of Phoenix – Office of Environmental Programs, with copies of those letters provided to the Commission as part of the meeting materials. Chairman Held asked the Commission if they had any comments or responses to the comments provided. Commission Thompson stated in response to the Hassayampa Lake Recreation Association letter that she always reads the staff summaries and the full application and the applicants have the opportunity to comment or refute the staff summary during the grant application presentation time and felt that was adequate. Chairman Held asked for clarification if the applicants receive a copy of the staff summary. Mr. Teran responded that copies are sent to both the Commission and the applicant. Chairmen Held agreed with Commissioner Thompson's statement and thought there was a lot of inaccurate information in the Hassayampa Lake Recreation Association letter. He stated there isn't a scoring criteria, there was no scoring of applications, the Commission did a ranking and evaluation based not only Mr. Teran's summaries but also on the Commissioner's own individual backgrounds and that was why the Commission had the roundtable discussion before the voting began so they could all discuss those opinions and get clarifications and then do a ranking of the applications. He stated the comments that the applications the Commission funded were not in line with AWPF statutes were, in his opinion, completely inaccurate and that they fall directly in line with the Commission's statutory mandate as well as the grant application guidelines. He further stated he thought there was a lot of misunderstanding on their behalf based on their comments and felt this could be cleared up if they would like a response. Commissioner Thompson stated that she wasn't present at the last voting meeting but wanted to address the comments when a Commissioner has to abstain from the vote that that the ratio of the ranking does not give an applicant a disadvantage in the ranking. Chairman Held stated that the Commission will need to double check on that and directed Mr. Teran to review this, and further stated that this was a good comment from the Hassayampa Lake Recreation Association. Commissioner Blackmore commented that from several concerns identified from the Hassayampa Lake Recreation Association it appeared they didn't have an understanding of what the AWPF is, for example "the applicant's did not appear to have received high scores from the Governor appointed Commissioners" and "they weren't aligned with the priorities of the State legislation that established the Water Protection Fund", and was wondering if they had a completely different idea or read it differently than what the regulations are. Chairman Held agreed with Commissioner Blackmore's comments and thought it was a big misunderstanding on their part. Chairman Held stated in regards to the City of Phoenix's comments he believed they had a recommendation that AWPF expand their grant category, but the grant categories are established in State statute and doesn't think the Commission can expand upon what is authorized in statute and not legally able to do that. Commissioner Thompson agreed with Chairman Held's comments and stated that the Commission is limited to how much can be spent on research, and also stated that the request to prioritize one specific area of the State was a big ask given the Commission has to work on issues statewide. She further stated that it would take an act of the Legislature to prioritize research, and empathized with the comments because it is a challenge to find funds for research but the Commission is bound by statutes to focus on capital projects. Chairman Held thanked Mr. Teran for his work on facilitating the Triennial Review process.

DRAFT

Grant Cycle Planning

Chairman Held stated that based on the last financial report he is hoping the Commission gets an appropriation for the next fiscal year to even consider having a grant cycle and recommended that as in past years the Commission should consider moving forward with a grant cycle even though it is unknown if there will be funding. He also stated that when the State budget is finalized, the Commission can react accordingly. Mr. Teran presented a proposed grant cycle schedule for fiscal year 2027 and indicated that it essentially mirrors the schedule that was used for fiscal year 2026. Mr. Teran stated that specific Commission meeting dates in November 2026 would be needed for the grant application presentations and grant award selections to be able to plan the rest of the grant application process schedule and develop the grant application manual. The Commission selected Wednesday, November 4, 2026 for the grant application presentation meeting, and November 17, 2026 for the grant award selection meeting. Commissioner Krentz made a motion to authorize planning a fiscal year 2027 grant cycle, with second from Commissioner Thompson. Chairman Held called for a discussion on the motion. No comments were made. Chairman Held called for a vote on the motion:

Chairman Rodney Held	Aye
Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte	Aye
Shelley Blackmore	Aye
Pat Jacobs	Aye
Frank Krentz	Aye
John Ladd	Aye
Tina Thompson	Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

CALL FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chairman Held requested a discussion on the grant application screening review process that could give staff the authority to identify and make a determination on grant applications that are not eligible for funding, with the caveat that the applicant has the option to come before the Commission to appeal that screening determination.

Chairman Held also requested a financial update, to include ADWR's financial staff, on the AWPF administration account to help determine how to move forward with program administration funding.

FUTURE MEETING DATE(S)

The next Commission meeting dates were set for:

- Wednesday, June 10, 2026
- November 4, 2026
- November 17, 2026

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Chairman Held made a call to the public. No public comments were made.

DRAFT

ADJOURN

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, with a second from Commissioner Krentz. Chairman Held called for a vote on the motion.

Chairman Rodney Held	Aye
Vice-Chairman Stephen Turcotte	Aye
Shelley Blackmore	Aye
Pat Jacobs	Aye
Frank Krentz	Aye
John Ladd	Aye
Tina Thompson	Aye

The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

DRAFT

Gmail

Reuben Teran <rteran@azwater.gov>

Re: AWPF Grant 23-216WPF-01

1 message

Deborrah Smith <director@aacd1944.com> Thu, May 21, 2026 at 4:28 PM
To: Reuben Teran <rteran@azwater.gov>
Cc: [redacted]

Dear Reuben,
Please accept this email as our formal request. I needed to correct the "Year".
Thanks!
Deb

Deborrah Smith
AACD Director
[redacted]
Follow us on social media @aacd1944

"Keep Calm and Carry On"
Sir Winston Churchill

On Thu, May 21, 2026 at 11:58 AM Deborrah Smith <director@aacd1944.com> wrote:

> Dear Reuben,
>
> The Arizona Association of Conservation Districts is requesting a timeline extension for Grant No. 23-216WPF, *Timberline – Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project.*
>
> During the previous field season, our contractor was required to leave the project site due to regional fire restrictions. As a result, work was shifted to other locations and the remaining treatment work could not be completed during the planned field window. Subsequent weather conditions also limited our ability to safely return to the site and complete the remaining mechanical brush treatments.
>
> To ensure the remaining work can be completed properly and under appropriate field conditions, we respectfully request an extension of the project timeline through **March 30, 2027**
>
> This additional time will allow the contractor to return to the project area and complete the remaining treatment work and associated reporting requirements.
>
> Please let me know if any additional information is needed to process this request.
>
> Thank you for your consideration.
>
> Deborrah
>
> **Deborrah Smith**
> **AACD Director**
> [redacted]
> **Follow us on social media @aacd1944**
>
> **"Keep Calm and Carry On"**
> **Sir Winston Churchill**

On Wed, May 20, 2026 at 4:06 PM Reuben Teran <rteran@azwater.gov> wrote:

> Deborrah,
>
> Were you still intending on requesting another contract extension to AWPF grant 23-216WPF-01: Timberline-Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project? If you are, please make that request in writing along with an explanation or justification for the request. The AWPF Commission will be meeting on June 10, 2026 but I suggest

that any written contract extension request be submitted ASAP so that it can be included in the meeting materials that will be provided to the Commission prior to the meeting. If you have any questions please let me know. Thank you.

Reuben

Reuben Terán | Executive Director

Arizona Water Protection Fund

Arizona Department of Water Resources

1110 W. Washington Street, Suite #310 | Phoenix, AZ 85007

602-771-8528 rteran@azwater.gov | www.azwpf.gov

Arizona Department of Water Resources
Water Protection Fund
FY 2026 Fund Activity
For the period July 1, 2025, through May 31, 2026

Description	1302-WPF Grants	1303-WPF Administration	Total
Beginning Fund Balance - 7/1/2025	**$3,022,194**	**$120,817**	**$3,143,011**
Revenues:			
Interest Income	$92,732	$3,359	$96,091
In-Lieu Fee Deposit	$0	$0	$0
General Fund Appropriation	$750,000	$0	$750,000
Transfers - Administrative Expenses	($109,400)	$109,400	$0
Total - Revenues	$733,332	$112,759	$846,091
Expenditures:			
Salary Expense	$0	$208,026	$208,026
Grantee Payments	$773,669	$0	$773,669
Travel	$0	$0	$0
Operating Expenses	$0	$798	$798
Total - Expenditures	$773,669	$208,824	$982,492
Fund Balance - May 31, 2025	**$2,981,857**	**$24,752**	**$3,006,609**
Less: Existing Grant Obligations	(1,820,234)	$0.00	
Uncommitted Balance	**$1,161,623**	**$24,752**	**$1,186,375**

Arizona Water Protection Fund
June 2026 Summary and Projections

Will Palmisano
Finance and Administration Assistant Director
Arizona Department of Water Resources
6/10/2026

Water Protection Fund (WPF)

- Established by Arizona Revised Statutes Title 45, Chapter 12
- Receives an annual $750,000 General Fund deposit
- Receives a portion of receipts from the fees for every acre-foot of CAP water purchased or leased by a multi-county water conservation district

Transfers to the Administrative Fund

- The FY 2026 State budget allows the Commission to grant ADWR up to $336,000 of the unobligated balance of the WPF for administrative costs
  - This is expected to occur each year
- With the Commission's approval, the amount needed for upcoming administrative costs is transferred to the WPF Administrative Fund
  - $109,400 was transferred in September 2025

Projections

- Annual Administrative Costs:
  - $225,000
- Projected FY 2027 Admin Fund Beginning Balance:
  - $7, 500
- Recommend 1 Month Admin Cost Cushion:
  - $18,750
- Recommended Transfer in July:
  - $236,250

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

From 1995 to 2026, the Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission (Commission) has supported 258 projects and awarded nearly $52 million toward the restoration, protection and enhancement of river and riparian resources in Arizona. As a result, Arizona citizens have realized many benefits from these investments through improvements in water quality, in-stream flows/water supplies, biodiversity, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, flood control and overall watershed functionality and sustainability. In addition, important socioeconomic benefits such as jobs and revenue streams are realized by many local communities through the implementation of Arizona Water Protection Fund (AWPF) projects.

The Water Protection Fund balance at the beginning of fiscal year (FY) 2026 was $3,022,194. Deposits into the fund for FY 2026 included a $750,000 appropriation from the General Fund in the Arizona Department of Water Resources budget. The fund balance as of June 30, 2026, was $XXXXXX.

At the beginning of FY 2026, 14 AWPF grant projects were being implemented across the State and one contract was in negotiation. With available funds and appropriations provided by the Legislature for FY 2026, the Commission was able to offer a grant cycle that resulted in the receipt of 13 grant applications (with $3,672,286 in funding requested) and $994,564 being awarded to four projects. Throughout the fiscal year, AWPF staff provided technical support to current AWPF grantees through the administration and project management of 19 grant award projects.

At the end of FY 2026 there were 15 active grant projects in Apache (2), Cochise (2), Coconino (2), Gila (3), Graham (1), Mohave (1), Pima (1), Pinal (1) and Yavapai (2) Counties. These projects are focused on implementing water conservation measures, removal and/or treatment of nonnative invasive vegetation, improving in-stream and stream bank habitats, native riparian habitat restoration and enhancement, enhancing degraded stream, wet meadow, and wetland resources, and enhancing forest and upland habitats for watershed improvement and health.

The AWPF Commission continued to meet throughout the fiscal year offering hybrid (in-person and virtual) meeting options, and at the end of FY 2026 the AWPF Commission included a total of 11 members with two Legislative Non-voting Ex-officio member vacancies.

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ARIZONA WATER PROTECTION FUND CREATION AND PURPOSE

The 1994 Arizona Legislature established the Arizona Water Protection Fund, and the Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission to administer the AWPF (A.R.S. § 45-2101 *et seq*.). In passing the enabling legislation, the Legislature declared that the policy of the State is to provide for a coordinated effort between State funding and locally led solutions for the restoration and conservation of this State's rivers, streams and associated riparian habitats, including fish and wildlife resources that are dependent on these important habitats.

The primary purpose of the AWPF is to provide an annual source of funds for the development and implementation of measures to protect water of sufficient quality and quantity to maintain, enhance and restore rivers, streams and associated riparian resources consistent with existing water law and water rights. The Commission may also provide funding to develop and protect riparian habitats in conjunction with a man-made water resource project if the project directly or indirectly benefits a river or stream and includes or creates riparian habitat. The Commission, supported by staff from the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR), solicits, reviews, and awards grants to any person, State agency, or political subdivision (excluding federal agencies) to implement local on-the-ground solutions to improve our State's rivers, streams, and watersheds.

PROGRAM ORGANIZATION

Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission

The 13-member Commission is the main policy-making body for the AWPF. The Commission is composed of nine voting members who, by statute, must be Arizona residents who represent a variety of land, water use, and socioeconomic perspectives. There are two non-voting ex officio members – the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources and the Commissioner of the Arizona State Land Department; and two non-voting advisory members – one from the Arizona State House of Representatives and one from the Arizona State Senate.

During FY 2026, the AWPF Commission held four business meetings and one Executive Committee meeting. Meeting minutes of the actions taken by the AWPF Commission can be found on the AWPF website at https://www.azwpf.gov/. Over the course of the fiscal year, the AWPF Commission was able to continue hosting hybrid meetings with both in-person and virtual meeting attendance options available.

There were no new appointments or re-appointments to the AWPF Commission in FY 2026. The Commission currently has two Legislative Non-voting Ex-officio member vacancies. A list of current Commission members and vacancies as of June 30, 2026, is provided in **Table 1**.

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Arizona Water Protection Fund Administration

ADWR provides the primary technical, legal, and administrative staff to the Commission. The AWPF program is managed by its Executive Director. Staffing for the program during FY 2026 included the Executive Director and ADWR legal counsel, with administrative support provided by the ADWR legal division.

FISCAL YEAR 2026 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

At the beginning of FY 2026, 14 AWPF grant projects were being implemented across the State and one contract was in negotiation. With available funds and appropriations provided by the Legislature for FY 2026, the Commission was able to offer a grant cycle. A grant application workshop webinar was held in June 2025. Staff also provided pre-application technical assistance to members of the public and potential grant applicants through numerous phone calls and e-mail inquiries.

The AWPF received a total of 13 grant applications for FY 2026 with $3,672,286 in funding requested. Following grant application presentations and Commission business meetings in November 2025, the Commission awarded funding to four projects totaling $994,564. The projects funded in FY 2026 are identified starting on page 13. Throughout the fiscal year, AWPF staff provided technical support to current AWPF grantees through the administration and project management of 19 grant award projects. One grant award contract was terminated, and three projects were closed out in Graham (1) and Coconino (2) Counties. Details regarding these projects can be found below starting on page 6.

Other activities completed by staff included the continued update and maintenance of the AWPF program website, project tracking database, and GIS database; responding to public records requests pertaining to the AWPF program; coordinating with the Arizona Cross Watershed Network about the AWPF program and riparian restoration funding opportunities; drafting ADWR's Watershed Improvement Program annual report; continuing to implement an electronic grant application submittal process via the eCivis/Euna Solutions grant management system; and working on records inventory and file management for the program.

DRAFT

Table 1. Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission Members as of June 30, 2026.

Commission Member / Affiliation	Statutory Category Represented	Appointing Authority	Term Expiration Date[1]
Rodney J. Held* Salt River Project	Agricultural Improvement District	Governor	June 30, 2023
Stephen Turcotte** Winkelman Natural Resource Conservation District	Natural Resource Conservation District	Speaker of the House of Representatives	October 15, 2023
Brian K. Biesemeyer	Member of the Public – B.S.in Hydrology – City Served by the Central Arizona Project	Governor	June 30, 2025
Shelley Blackmore Triangle Natural Resource Conservation District	Natural Resource Conservation District	Senate President	September 30, 2023
Rolando Flores Pascua Yaqui Tribe	Indian Tribe	Inter Tribal Council of Arizona	February 21, 2028
Pat Jacobs* Central Arizona Project	Multi-County Water Conservation District	District Governing Board	December 31, 2026
Frank Krentz Whitewater Draw Natural Resource Conservation District	State Association of Natural Resource Conservation Districts	Governor	June 30, 2025
John Ladd Hereford Natural Resource Conservation District	Natural Resource Conservation District	Speaker of the House of Representatives	February 7, 2025
Tina Thompson Willcox-San Simon Natural Resource Conservation District	Natural Resource Conservation District	Senate President	February 2, 2025
Thomas Buschatzke Director Department of Water Resources	Non-voting Ex Officio Member	A.R.S. § 45-2103(A)(7)	-
Robyn Sahid State Land Commissioner State Land Department	Non-voting Ex Officio Member	A.R.S. § 45-2103 (A)(7)	-
VACANT AZ Senate	Non-voting Advisory Member	Senate President	-
VACANT AZ House of Representatives	Non-voting Advisory Member	Speaker of the House of Representatives	-

*Chair, **Vice-Chair

[1] Pursuant to A.R.S. § 45-2103(B), a member may serve more than one term and may continue to serve beyond the expiration of the term until a successor is appointed and assumes office.

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Grant Projects Completed During Fiscal Year 2026

20-202WPF: Gila Valley Irrigation District System Optimization Phase I

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding Expended	Contract Expiration Date
208	Gila Valley Irrigation District	Graham	$262,281	September 30, 2025

Project Description: The Gila Valley Irrigation District (GVID) modernized part of its lateral gate water delivery system on two of its canals, Smithville and Dodge-Nevada, to increase on-farm irrigation efficiency and improve environmental flow conditions. The initial objective of the project was to implement improvements on 58 lateral gates along the two canals to provide improved sediment and water level control, flow control, and flow measurement. However, the Grantee was only able to successfully replace 30 wooden canal gates with modern fullerform gates due to project delays and unforeseen circumstances with project subcontractors. The modernization of these canal delivery systems now allows for future canal automation projects and on-farm water conservation projects that have the potential to improve water quality in the Gila River. The project also helped to improve the Gila Valley Irrigation District's operational efficiency and available flows at turnouts for on-farm deliveries, increased the efficiency of individual irrigators, and conserved water for downstream users.

20-207WPF: Harrenburg Wash Enhancement Project

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding Expended	Contract Expiration Date
213	Coconino County Parks and Recreation	Coconino	$129,190	December 31, 2025

Project Description: Coconino County Parks and Recreation (CCPR) improved the stability, productivity, and habitat quality of Harrenburg Wash, just upstream from its confluence with Pumphouse Wash, both of which are in the Upper Verde River Watershed and are the headwaters of Oak Creek Canyon. The wash and associated wetland habitat were impacted by several factors including the building, filling, and partial breaching of an existing earthen dam and a relatively large pond that was constructed by a previous landowner and was causing downstream channel erosion due to high water velocity; previous channel excavations that initiated channel head cuts and created areas of excess floodplain fill; and the invasion of non-native weed species. To restore Harrenburg Wash two headcuts and incised channels in the wet meadow were treated with rock structures along with gentle swales to raise the water table and spread flows over a wider area. The breach in the earthen dam, which now serves as the spillway for the pond, was stabilized with a rock sill to provide grade control. The project area was revegetated using wetland sod, native grass seed, and cottonwoods and willows. The public outreach component of the project was successful as CCPR staff kept the public, stakeholders, and partners up to date with the project, especially pre-, during, and post-construction via multiple media resources on on-site activities including organized weed pull events over four years. Project monitoring activities included annual photo monitoring along with tracking survival of the woody vegetation and measuring soil moisture in the restored meadow.

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22-212WPF: The Path to Protection at Oak Creek: Social Trail Rehabilitation for Watershed Health

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding Expended	Contract Expiration Date
218	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality	Coconino	$238,980	August 31, 2025

Project Description: In Oak Creek, a majority of social trails stem from unauthorized parking areas along Highway 89A and are exacerbated by increased visitation which causes soil erosion and transports sediment and *E. coli* into Oak Creek. In 2020, a joint project with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), Natural Channel Design, Arizona Conservation Corps, and the National Forest Foundation rehabilitated unpermitted social trails leading to Oak Creek. The Grantee and its partners built upon these past efforts by rehabilitating and improving additional unpermitted social trails along an approximate 12-mile stretch of Oak Creek on lands managed by the Coconino National Forest, Red Rock Ranger District. By the completion of the project, the project team had improved 81 trails to sustain safe, less erosive access routes to the creek and closed 363 formerly highly eroded, unsafe social trails for a total of 444 trails (8.1 miles) for this project. Additional project monitoring included measurements of *E. coli* contamination, monitoring and photographing pre- and post-decommissioned and improved trails, and modeling the reduction of sediment load levels in Oak Creek. This effort helped to complete a high-priority, essential project approved in the Coconino National Forest's Oak Creek Watershed Restoration Action Plan and improved riparian habitat for wildlife and protected stream water quality. Overall, this project has dramatically affected visitor behavior, and with sustained trail surveys and maintenance as required, this project will continue its success.

Active Grant Projects During Fiscal Year 2026

22-213WPF: Dye Ranch Erosion Control and Wetland Improvement Project

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
219	Arizona Game and Fish Department	Coconino	$76,945	December 31, 2026

Project Description: The purpose of the Dye Ranch Erosion Control and Wetland Improvement Project is to improve habitat along the ephemeral stream and meadow on Dye Ranch, a 35.92-acre parcel of the Chevelon Canyon Wildlife Area owned by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission. The project would involve restoration work along the stream channel, including repairing existing head-cuts, and restoring pool and wetland habitat so that they support year-round water. The project intends to reduce erosion, improve water quality, and aid floodplain development by allowing floodwaters to spread out. Monitoring components of the project will include habitat assessments and wildlife use. Following restoration activities, the Grantee will translocate and release Northern Leopard Frogs to the project area.

23-216WPF: Timberline-Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
222	Arizona Association of Conservation Districts	Apache	$261,000	August 30, 2026

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Project Description: The project is located on the Dobson Timberline Ranch, in Apache County, AZ, and the Apache Natural Resource Conservation District. The Grantee will treat invasive juniper trees on approximately 1,800 acres grassland habitat to support watershed restoration within the Little Colorado River Watershed, to improve watershed conditions, reduce overland flow, decrease soil erosion, increase water infiltration, decrease turbidity throughout the watershed, improve water quality, and increase water quantity. Juniper will be treated using equipment with rubber tires to masticate the juniper trees. The project area will be monitored pre and post treatment to document vegetative changes occurring due to project work, and to assess the success of the project. Treatment of these 1,800 acres will build on the previously funded Arizona Water Protection Fund grant #17-188WPF, which borders the project area, and build upon the landscape-level improvement of the watershed.

23-217WPF: Becker Lake Wildlife Area: Little Colorado River Habitat Improvement Project

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
223	Arizona Game and Fish Department	Apache	$388,075	March 31, 2027

Project Description: The Arizona Game & Fish Department (AGFD) is undertaking a project to improve wildlife habitat and riverscape function along a 1.2-mile corridor of the Little Colorado River (LCR) through Becker Lake Wildlife Area (BLWA). Since 2019 the AGFD and project partners have invested over $55,000 toward the completion of assessment, design, and compliance tasks for the project. The overall goal of the project is to improve the geomorphological and ecological diversity of the LCR riverscape through BLWA, and help build a resilient and sustaining riparian ecosystem that directly benefits stream and floodplain function, habitat for fish and wildlife, recreational opportunities for the public, and promotes the efficiency of working agricultural lands. Restoration practices will include floodplain/backwater connection, re-contouring, and enhancement; river walk trail improvements; streambank soil bioengineering; and native plant revegetation with riparian sod and willow clump transplants.

23-218WPF: Protecting and Restoring Habitat and Surface Flow in Tanque Verde Creek

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
224	Watershed Management Group	Pima	$195,246	December 31, 2026

Project Description: The goals of this project are to preserve intermittent flows in Tanque Verde Creek and enhance the area's riparian habitat through community-based restoration efforts. The project area falls within a shallow groundwater area that supports riparian habitats in Tanque Verde Creek. The Grantee will eradicate invasive giant cane (*Arundo donax)* from an intermittent upstream reach of Tanque Verde Creek stretching approximately 4 miles from Wentworth Road down to Houghton Road in the City of Tucson, AZ; implement approximately 4-6 stormwater restoration projects on the Tanque Verde Creek floodplain at various locations from Wentworth Road to Houghton Road, including down to and including private land parcel approximately 1.5 miles west of Houghton Road, to reduce erosion and stormwater flooding impacts from adjacent parcels and neighborhood street landscape areas; and increase stewardship of Tanque Verde Creek by deepening community connections through community science monitoring of flow permanence, implementing a native vegetation response plan to *Arundo donax* removal, and engaging residents and businesses in stormwater restoration efforts.

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24-219WPF: Big Sandy NRCD Improving Watersheds Through Restoration Projects

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
225	Big Sandy Natural Resource Conservation District	Mohave	$229,698	February 28, 2027

Project Description: A total of 123 open groundwater storage tanks under the control of 20 local producers have been identified to be removed and replaced within the Big Sandy Natural Resource Conservation District boundary. The Grantee intends to address water quantity loss from local groundwater basins via evaporation from open concrete groundwater storage tanks by replacing 10 of the 123 open concrete water storage tanks with closed galvanized steel water storage tanks on privately owned lands in the general vicinity of intermittent and ephemeral streams. By eliminating evaporation from these open water tanks the Grantee anticipates producers will pump less groundwater, and the groundwater saved will instead be directed towards the intermittent and ephemeral streams and associated riparian habitats.

24-221WPF: Pine Canyon Restoration and Watershed Protection Project

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
227	National Forest Foundation	Gila	$350,000	October 31, 2026

Project Description:
The purpose of the Pine Canyon Restoration and Watershed Protection Project is to protect the Pine Canyon/Upper Verde watershed and municipal water supplies for the downstream communities including the Towns of Pine and Strawberry by reducing the risk of high-severity wildfire. The National Forest Foundation (NFF) proposes to work with the Tonto National Forest (TNF) and local partners to restore approximately 177 acres within a total project area of approximately 473 acres in steep sections of Pine Canyon. Priority hazardous fuel treatments and reductions are planned to be accomplished through mechanical thinning, biomass removal, and/or mastication. Implementation of the project aims at helping to restore the forest to a balanced structure, increasing its overall health, protecting the primary watershed, and aiding in the prevention of high severity post-wildfire flooding and/or erosion that could jeopardize hydrologic functions and the future safety of drinking water supplies. The Pine Canyon Restoration and Watershed Protection Project is a multi-phased project, and this proposed AWPF project aligns with Phase 2 of the activities being undertaken by the TNF and NFF to address critical restoration needs in Pine Canyon:

- Phase 1: Build a temporary road system (in progress)
- Phase 2: Multi-year hazardous fuels reduction, mechanical harvesting, slash, and biomass removal
- Phase 3: Prescribed burn and maintenance by the Tonto National Forest

DRAFT

24-222WPF: Verde River Access Point Restoration

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
228	Friends of the Verde River	Yavapai	$555,000	January 31, 2029

Project Description: The Grantee will improve four Verde River recreational access points (Skidmore Lane, Bignotti, Beasley Flat, and Homestead) on USDA Forest Service, Prescott National Forest and Coconino National Forest lands. Improvement efforts proposed include installing four rock mats at three boating access sites (one at Skidmore Lane, one at Bignotti, and two at Beasley Flat), removing non-native invasive species around two boating access sites (Beasley Flat & Homestead) with re-treatments implemented if/when necessary, and revegetation with willow pole plantings and native seed. Rock mats are intended to build the durability of the access sites for boaters and reduce erosion into the river by holding soil, and indicating to users where they should enter and exit the river. Invasive plants treatments will focus on giant reed, tamarisk, and tree of heaven, as the applicant states these plants threaten the health and sustainability of riparian forests in the Verde Watershed. The Grantee will also implement a monitoring program to assess the effectiveness of the vegetation treatments; and to implement public outreach activities with two on-site events to educate recreationists about invasive species and the importance of the native riparian forest, using durable surfaces for recreational access points, and other Leave No Trace principles.

24-223WPF: West Turkey Creek Watershed Resiliency Project

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
229	Cuenca Los Ojos	Cochise	$246,750	June 30, 2027

Project Description:
The Grantee will facilitate project planning processes that will lead to the eventual construction and installation of erosion control structures in the upper tributary drainages of West Turkey Creek in the Coronado National Forest. The Grantee will conduct an archaeological resource survey, Lidar terrain analysis, and hydrologic modeling, followed by the identification, training and development of a trained watershed restoration labor force for work in the West Turkey Creek watershed. The funding for this specific project will be used to complete a comprehensive West Turkey Creek watershed drainage assessment, with the intent of having a proof of concept of a large, landscape-scale watershed resiliency model that can be replicated throughout the Chiricahua Mountains in this zone of public lands that exists between private deeded land and the wilderness area boundary. Although funds for actual on the ground restoration have not yet been identified, future goals of the Grantee are to 1) bring together the support and resources of public agencies, nonprofit organizations, private landowners, the community, and local government to address watershed health and resiliency in West Turkey Creek and all the critical drainages within the Chiricahua Mountains; and 2) implement practical, cost-effective, nature-based solutions to make the Chiricahua Mountain ecosystem resilient to climate change.

25-224WPF: Verde River and Oak Creek Riparian Restoration

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
230	Friends of the Verde River	Yavapai	$249,373	January 31, 2028

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Project Description: The Grantee will inventory riparian invasive plant species including, but not limited to, tamarisk, giant reed, Russian olive and tree of heaven at the Parsons Preserve (owned by the Town of Camp Verde) on the Verde River and on two private landowners' properties along Oak Creek. Following the inventories the Grantee will treat invasive plant species using contracted crews to remove biomass and then treat the cut stumps with approved herbicide on all three project sites. Restoration efforts may also include spreading native seeds or planting willow poles in the treated sites. The project will improve the Verde River's health by reducing channelization, restoring natural stream geomorphology, increasing floodplain connections, and indirectly support riparian habitat for species such as Southwestern willow flycatcher, Western yellow-billed cuckoo, Northern Mexican garter snake, and bald eagle. This project will also include vegetation monitoring in conjunction with a maintenance component to re-treat invasive plant growth at all three project sites. Two volunteer and public outreach activities will also be conducted at the Parsons Preserve to educate recreational users on the importance of the riparian forest and Leave No Trace principles. These proposed actions are intended to affect approximately 42 acres of riparian habitat and build upon the work completed and underway by the Grantee and their Verde Watershed Restoration Coalition partners while accomplishing the common goal of cooperatively managing invasive plants and improving watershed conditions.

25-225WPF: WNRCD Lower San Pedro Restoration Project

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
231	Winkelman Natural Resources Conservation District	Pinal	$79,963	March 31, 2028

Project Description: The Grantee will remove salt cedar along the Lower San Pedro River utilizing a combination of mechanical removal (grubbing with heavy equipment) and manual methods (hand cutting and herbicide stump painting) and replace it by planting and irrigating native vegetation on two separate private properties owned by Winkelman Resource Management Center totaling ~25 acres. The Grantee will also continue the development of a long-term Salt Cedar Management Plan that details effective treatment methods, identifies priority restoration sites, sets revegetation goals, and establishes monitoring and long-term maintenance strategies for the WNRCD. Restoration activities will include monitoring and follow-up salt cedar treatments completed within the project period on the two identified parcels.

The overall goals of the project are to:

- Maximize water savings and reduce water loss along the Lower San Pedro River by removing invasive salt cedar and replacing it with native vegetation that requires less water and supports natural hydrologic functions.
- Continue the development of a long-term salt cedar management plan to formalize and implement a strategic plan for ongoing salt cedar removal and maintenance, ensuring collaboration among ranchers, farmers, local governments, non-government organizations, and community members.
- Strengthen ecosystem resilience by restoring native habitats to improve biodiversity, reduce wildfire risks, and create more resilient riparian zones that can withstand future environmental challenges.

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25-226WPF: Little Green Valley Fen Restoration Phase 2 Implementation

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
232	National Forest Foundation	Gila	$250,530	June 30, 2027

Project Description: The National Forest Foundation's (NFF) Little Green Valley Fen Restoration Phase 2 Implementation project aims to restore the hydrologic function of the Little Green Valley wet meadow system, located east of Payson, AZ, within the US Forest Service, Tonto National Forest's (TNF) Green Valley Creek watershed. In 2022, the Grantee received AWPF grant 22-211WPF: Little Green Valley Restoration Feasibility Study to gather technical information and expertise needed to develop and implement a plan to restore the wet meadow system. This feasibility study provided scientific information on the Little Green Valley wetland complex and developed the restoration options being proposed for this Phase 2 project.

The current watershed condition for the Green Valley Creek Watershed is Class 2 (Functioning at Risk) and the target condition is Class 1 (Functioning Properly). Phase 1 of the Little Green Valley Wet Meadow Restoration Implementation (to be implemented with external funding sources) focuses on repairing and restoring a ~20-foot-deep head cut on TNF lands. This work was scheduled for Fall 2024 and utilized both private and federal investments to hire a contractor to repair the head cut. On-site materials will be used to fill the head cut, restoring the lower portion of the wet meadow to near historic levels and preventing further erosion. This initial phase sets the stage for Phase 2 and work proposed under this AWPF grant project, which continues wet meadow restoration on upstream privately owned lands and adjacent TNF lands. On-site material will be used to fill in the incised portion of Green Valley Creek to bring it back to historic elevation and reconnect the floodplain. Excess material throughout the Phase 2 project area will be distributed across the site to restore overall hydrologic function of the meadow and Green Valley Creek. This Phase 2 effort stands as a pivotal element within the broader restoration efforts on TNF and adjacent lands.

26-227WPF: Cordelia Water and Forest Resiliency

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
233	Salt River Project	Gila	$350,000	May 31, 2031

Project Description: The Grantee has partnered with the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) and the U.S. Forest Service - Tonto National Forest, Payson Ranger District (USFS) to provide funding for forest thinning projects to reduce wildfire risk and protect water supplies. The Greater Payson Mastication Project consists of five phases, all of which are located within eight miles of the Town of Payson and covers 14,386 acres of ponderosa pine and juniper woodlands. The Cordelia Project (formerly known as Payson Noth) is the second phase of the five-phase effort, covers 4,432 acres north of Payson, AZ, and spans the watershed boundary between the East Verde and Salt River watersheds. The Grantee will provide funding, through DFFM, for project partners (USFS and DFFM) to implement hazardous fuel reductions to remove encroaching junipers and brush species adjacent to high value private land and infrastructure through mechanical mastication and hand-thinning (lop and scatter) using USFS silvicultural treatment prescriptions to restore ponderosa pine and woodland habitat (to an average of 10-70 trees per acre) and the associated watershed. This project will create conditions for a healthy, vigorous ponderosa pine and woodland forest with a structure that is sustainable for the next 10-15 years

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that will reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, improve key watershed functions, and increase water resiliency for the local ecosystem in the local area.

26-228: Enhancing Rangeland and Riparian Health Along the Babocomari River

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
234	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality	Cochise	$372,979	June 30, 2030

Project Description: To reduce contamination and restore flows in the Babocomari River, the Grantee, Watershed Management Group (WMG), three private land owners, and the Arizona Land and Water Trust (ALWT) are partnering together for a project to restore natural hydrological function and reduce erosion across 1,000 acres of private and Arizona State Trust lands within the Babocomari watershed and directly treat 0.6 miles of Babocomari River to enhance riparian health. Restoration actions to be implemented include improving drainages, realigning floodplain diversions, stabilizing advancing headcuts, installing in-channel post-assisted log structures, and removing invasive, water-intensive mesquite trees. The overarching goal is to reestablish broad, shallow surface flow (conditions typical of healthy desert floodplains) to enhance infiltration and reconnect riparian vegetation and stream channels. Anticipated long-term benefits include reduced vegetation stress, improved ecological function, and protection of downstream water quality. Overall, the project proposes addressing approximately 3.5-miles of upland ephemeral drainage, treating 16-acres of ephemeral floodplain, reducing gully headcutting, benefiting up to 330-acres of sacaton floodplain upstream of the Babocomari River, and improving up to 10-acres of riparian habitat along the Babocomari River.

26-229: Upper Aravaipa Creek Watershed Restoration Demonstration Project

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
235	Aravaipa Watershed Conservation Alliance	Graham	$43,541	March 31, 2028

Project Description: The Aravaipa Watershed Conservation Alliance (AWCA) will implement a demonstration project to show local stakeholders relatively simple methods for using small rock structures (e.g., Zuni bowls, one rock dams, and check dams, etc.) and minor topography modifications (e.g., rolling dips, contour strips, etc.) to reduce erosion at two project sites on privately owned land parcels in Graham County. This project intends to demonstrate mitigation methods for common erosion issues, reduce soil erosion, slow runoff, retain overland storm surges, and develop education resources for local landowners related to these methods to address erosion concerns near the upper watershed, improving watershed function and conditions. All project plan designs, monitoring data, and construction reports will be made available to the public to help augment available resources to address the local issues in this watershed. AWCA will also host educational workshops and tours at the two project sites to help disseminate this information and lessons learned from the project more widely. Once these conservation methods have been disseminated, the applicant anticipates that community members will implement similar small-scale projects to improve erosion conditions in the upper watershed. By encouraging broader stakeholder participation, AWCA intends to continue to seek opportunities to implement larger scale projects to improve watershed function and address stakeholder concerns.

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26-230WPF: Bodaway/Gap Colorado River Riparian Restoration Project

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding	Contract Expiration Date
236	Grand Canyon Wildlands Council (of Wild Arizona)	Coconino	$228,044	September 30, 2029

Project Description: The Grantee, in partnership with the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources (NNDNR), will conduct a collaborative riparian restoration project on Navajo Nation lands along the Colorado River at Colorado River Mile 0.0L to -0.5L, across from Lees Ferry. The Grantee will restore natural shoreline configuration, native riparian ecosystem function, and natural riverside habitats through the removal of approximately 10-acres of dying or dead salt cedar stands in the project area. This will be accomplished by burning the salt cedar followed by removal of any remaining vegetation or stems using chainsaws or other manual methods. After the salt cedar has been removed, the site will be revegetated with native riparian seeds and trees. The Grantee will also implement invertebrate, vertebrate, photo, and vegetation monitoring, and incorporate an extensive public outreach and education component that includes volunteer engagement with Native American and local youth in hands-on learning and skills training in the restoration activities.

Grant Award Contracts Terminated in Fiscal Year 2026

22-214WPF: Habitat Restoration in the Gila River Riparian Corridor

Map #	Grantee	County	AWPF Funding
220	Gila Watershed Partnership of Arizona	Graham	$97,455

The AWPF Commission terminated the grant award contract and no AWPF funds were expended.

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CONCLUSION

From 1995 to 2026, the Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission has supported 258 projects and awarded nearly $52 million toward the restoration, protection and enhancement of river and riparian resources in Arizona. The Commission has funded a wide range of projects including stream channel restoration, riparian revegetation, wetland creation/restoration, fencing and other grazing management improvements, upland and watershed restoration, erosion control, conservation education, applied ecological research, and infrastructure improvements to benefit water conservation and wildlife habitat. A complete list of projects and a general project location map are included in **Appendix A**. Project final reports generated since the inception of the program can be requested from ADWR via the ADWR Public Records Request Form (azwater.gov).

With available funds and appropriations provided by the Legislature for FY 2026, the Commission was able to offer a grant cycle that resulted in the receipt of 13 grant applications and $994,564 being awarded to four projects. Throughout the fiscal year, AWPF staff provided technical support to current AWPF grantees through the administration and project management of 19 grant award projects (with three projects closed out and one grant award contract terminated). A financial statement as of June 30, 2026, is included in **Appendix B.**

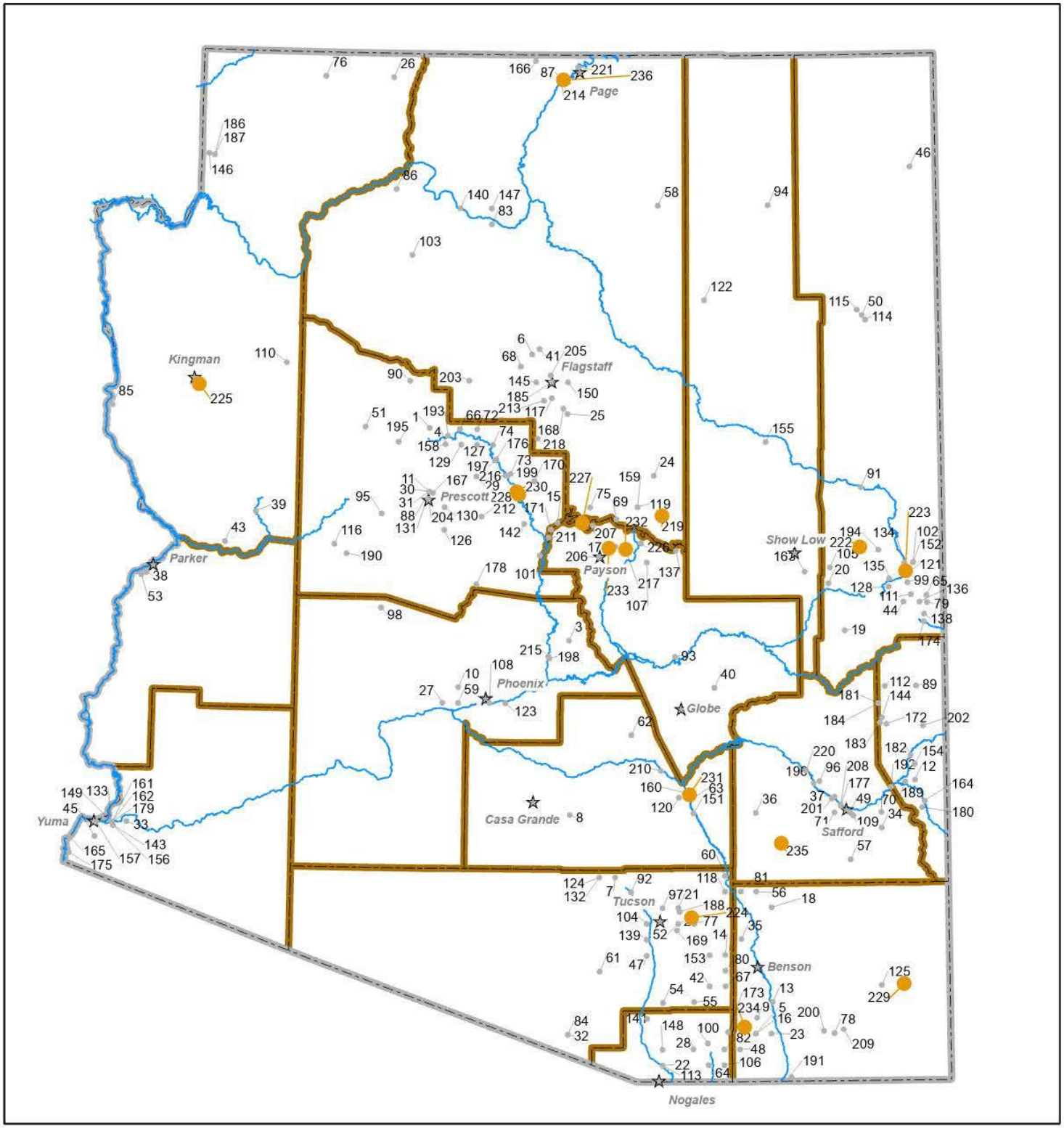
Arizona citizens continue to realize many benefits from the AWPF investments through ongoing improvements in water quality, in-stream flows/water supplies, biodiversity, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, flood control, and overall watershed health. Not only do communities rely on the State's watersheds and riparian areas for a general water source, but also for recreation, eco-tourism**,** fishing, hunting**,** birdwatching, and agricultural operations. The Commission is committed to approving projects that are fiscally responsible and beneficial to the citizens of Arizona and will work to continue making progress toward the restoration, protection, and enhancement of river and riparian resources throughout the State.

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APPENDIX A: MAP AND LIST OF AWPF PROJECTS

The following map and list of AWPF projects contain a compilation of grant award projects from 1995 – 2026.

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AWPF Project Location*

- Active Projects
- Closed Projects
- City
- River
- Arizona
- County

*See following map key for project descriptions

0 12.5 25 50 75 100 Miles

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Arizona Water Protection Fund Project Locations

GIS Unit
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Map #	Grant #	Project Title	Grant Amount	County	Project Status
1	95-001	Stable Isotope Assessment of Groundwater and Surface Water Interaction: Application to the Verde River Headwaters	$21,508	Yavapai	Complete
2	95-002	Partnership for Riparian Conservation in Northeastern Pima County (PROPIMA)	$78,100	Pima	Complete
3	95-003	Sycamore Creek Riparian Management Area	$115,522	Maricopa	Complete
4	95-004	Road Reclamation to Improve Riparian Habitat Along the Hassayampa and Verde Rivers	$45,693	Yavapai	Complete
5	95-005	Preservation of the San Pedro River Utilizing Effluent Recharge	$333,863	Cochise	Complete
6	95-006	Critical Riparian Habitat Restoration along a Perennial Reach of a Verde River Tributary	$102,535	Coconino	Complete
7	95-007	High Plains Effluent Recharge Project	$189,000	Pima	Complete
8	95-008	Picacho Reservoir Riparian Enhancement Project	$2,400,000	Pinal	Terminated
9	95-009	Regeneration and survivorship of Arizona Sycamore	$34,617	Cochise	Complete
10	95-010	Assessment of the Role of Effluent Dominated Rivers in Supporting Riparian Functions	$46,750	Maricopa	Complete
11	95-012	The Comprehensive Plan for the Watson Woods Riparian Preserve	$33,267	Yavapai	Complete
12	95-014	Gila Box Riparian and Water Quality Improvement Project	$157,223	Greenlee	Complete
13	95-015	San Pedro RNCA Watershed Rehabilitation/Restoration Project	$286,000	Cochise	Complete
14	95-016	Refinement of Geologic Model, Lower Cienega Basin, Pima County, Arizona	$7,390	Pima	Complete
15	95-017	Restoration of Fossil Creek Riparian Ecosystem	$59,693	Yavapai	Complete
16	95-018	Autecology and Restoration of *Sporobolus Wrightii* Riparian Grasslands in Southern Arizona	$53,734	Cochise	Complete
17	95-019	Quantifying Anti-Erosion Traits of Streambank Graminoids	$14,910	Gila	Complete
18	95-020	Teran Watershed Enhancement	$142,378	Cochise	Complete
19	95-021	Lofer Cienega Restoration Project	$161,204	Apache	Complete
20	95-022	Gooseberry Watershed Restoration Project	$126,406	Apache	Complete
21	95-023	Sabino Creek Riparian Ecosystem Protection Project	$16,385	Pima	Complete
22	95-024	Potrero Creek Wetland Characterization and Management Plan	$75,300	Santa Cruz	Complete
23	96-0001	San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area Watershed Protection and Improvement Project	$89,250	Cochise	Complete
24	96-0002	Completion Phase: Hi-Point Well Project	$77,844	Coconino	Complete
25	96-0003	Hoxworth Springs Riparian Restoration Project	$31,545	Coconino	Complete
26	96-0004	Hydrologic Investigation & Conservation Planning: Pipe Springs	$50,000	Mohave	Complete
27	96-0005	Tres Rios-River Management and Constructed Wetlands Project	$1,000,000	Maricopa	Complete
28	96-0006	Hydrogeologic Investigation of Groundwater Movement and Sources of Base Flow to Sonoita Creek and Implementation of Long-Term Monitoring Program	$155,715	Santa Cruz	Complete
29	96-0007	Ash Creek Riparian Protection Project	$19,248	Yavapai	Complete
30	96-0008	Watson Woods Vegetation Inventory	$16,115	Yavapai	Complete
31	96-0009	Watson Woods Riparian Preserve Visitor Management	$8,556	Yavapai	Complete
32	96-0010	Rehabilitating the Puertocito Wash on the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge.	$83,432	Pima	Complete
33	96-0011	Lower Colorado River - Imperial Division Restoration	$435,928	Yuma	Complete
34	96-0012	Eagle Creek Watershed and Riparian Stabilization	$80,626	Graham	Complete
35	96-0013	Happy Valley Riparian Area Restoration Project	$64,697	Cochise	Complete
36	96-0014	Klondyke Tailings Response Strategy Analysis (RSA)	$77,614	Graham	Complete

Map #	Grant #	Project Title	Grant Amount	County	Project Status
37	96-0015	Abandonment of an Artesian Geothermal Well	$113,360	Graham	Complete
38	96-0016	'Ahakhav Tribal Preserve	$1,131,477	La Paz	Complete
39	96-0017	Big Sandy River Riparian Project	$92,000	Mohave	Complete
40	96-0018	San Carlos Spring Protection Project	$131,540	Gila	Withdrawn
41	96-0019	Response of Bebb Willow to Riparian Restoration	$33,752	Coconino	Complete
42	96-0020	Cienega Creek Stream Restoration	$210,700	Pima	Complete
43	96-0021	Riparian Vegetation and Stream Channel Changes Associated with Water Management along the Bill Williams River	$14,788	Mohave	Complete
44	96-0022	Saffell Canyon and Murray Basin Watershed Restoration Project	$24,316	Apache	Complete
45	96-0023	Watershed Restoration at the Yuma Conservation Gardens	$31,050	Yuma	Complete
46	96-0025	Tsaile Creek Watershed Restoration Demonstration	$152,775	Apache	Complete
47	96-0026	Riparian Restoration on the San Xavier Indian Reservation Community	$591,319	Pima	Complete
48	97-027	Lyle Canyon Allotment Riparian Area Restoration Project	$60,359	Cochise	Complete
49	97-028	Creation of a Reference Riparian Area in the Gila Valley – Discovery Park	$182,000	Graham	Complete
50	97-029	Demonstration Enhancement of Riparian Zone and Stream Channel along a stretch of Pueblo Colorado Wash at Hubbell Trading Post	$91,110	Apache	Complete
51	97-030	Walnut Creek Center for Education and Research - Biological Inventory	$50,580	Yavapai	Complete
52	97-031	Lincoln Park Riparian Habitat Project (a.k.a. Atturbury Wash Project)	$154,580	Pima	Complete
53	97-032	'Ahakhav Tribal Preserve - Deer Island Revegetation	$228,800	La Paz	Complete
54	97-033	Proctor Vegetation Modification	$11,487	Pima	Complete
55	97-034	Oak Tree Gully Stabilization	$42,491	Pima	Complete
56	97-035	Watershed Improvement to Restore Riparian & Aquatic Habitat on the Muleshoe Ranch CMA	$128,315	Cochise	Complete
57	97-036	Stable Isotopes as Tracers of Water Quality Constituents in the Upper Gila River	$27,338	Graham	Complete
58	97-037	Talastima (Blue Canyon) Watershed Restoration Project	$310,192	Coconino	Complete
59	97-038	Tres Rios Wetlands Heavy-Metal Bioavailability and Denitrification Investigation	$117,028	Maricopa	Complete
60	97-040	Bingham Cienega Riparian Restoration Project	$84,679	Pima	Complete
61	97-041	Altar Valley Watershed Resource Assessment	$88,730	Pima	Complete
62	97-042	Queen Creek Restoration & Management Plan	$207,595	Pinal	Complete
63	97-044	San Pedro River Preserve Riparian Habitat Restoration Project	$336,127	Pinal	Complete
64	97-045	Santa Cruz Headwaters Project	$100,445	Santa Cruz	Complete
65	98-046	EC Bar Ranch Water Well Project	$20,300	Apache	Complete
66	98-047	Upper Verde Adaptive Management Unit	$115,300	Yavapai	Complete
67	98-049	Empire/Cienega/Empirita Fencing Project	$54,850	Pima	Complete
68	98-050	Watershed Restoration of a High-Elevation Riparian Community	$304,775	Coconino	Complete
69	98-051	Evaluation of *Carex* Species for Use in Riparian Restoration	$47,907	Coconino	Complete
70	98-052	Tritium as A Tracer of Groundwater Sources and Movement in The Upper Gila River Drainage	$41,028	Graham	Complete
71	98-054	Fluvial Geomorphology Study and Demonstration Projects to Enhance and Restore Riparian Habitat on The Gila River from The New Mexico Border	$449,872	Graham	Complete
72	98-055	Horseshoe Allotment: Verde Riparian Project II	$82,561	Yavapai	Complete

Map #	Grant #	Project Title	Grant Amount	County	Project Status
73	98-057	Upper Verde Valley Riparian Area Historical Analysis	$44,019	Yavapai	Complete
74	98-058	Effects of Removal of Livestock Grazing on Riparian Vegetation and Channel Conditions of Selected Reaches of the Upper Verde River	$116,500	Yavapai	Terminated
75	98-059	Verde River Headwaters Riparian Restoration Demonstration Project	$204,629	Coconino	Complete
76	98-061	Watershed Enhancement on the Antelope Allotment	$137,307	Mohave	Complete
77	98-062	Partnership for Riparian Conservation in Northeastern Pima County II	$54,734	Pima	Complete
78	98-066	Hay Mountain Watershed Rehabilitation	$116,525	Cochise	Complete
79	99-067	EC Bar Ranch Wildlife Drinker Project	$30,500	Apache	Complete
80	99-068	Lower Cienega Creek Restoration Evaluation Project	$83,272	Pima	Complete
81	99-069	Riparian and Watershed Enhancements on the A7 Ranch - Lower San Pedro River	$521,197	Cochise	Complete
82	99-070	Lyle Canyon Allotment Riparian Area Restoration Project --- Phase 2	$214,211	Santa Cruz	Complete
83	99-071	Protection of Spring and Seep Resources of The South Rim, Grand Canyon National Park by Measuring Water Quality, Flow and Associated Biota	$238,953	Coconino	Complete
84	99-072	Leopard Frog Habitat and Population Conservation at Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge	$120,485	Pima	Terminated
85	99-073	Colorado River Nature Center Backwater ---- Phase 2	$41,500	Mohave	Complete
86	99-074	Proposal to Inventory, Assess and Recommend Recovery Priorities for Arizona Strip Springs, Seeps and Natural Ponds	$101,856	Coconino	Complete
87	99-075	Glen and Grand Canyon Riparian Restoration Project	$371,285	Coconino	Complete
88	99-076	Watson Woods Preserve Herpetological Interpretive Guide and Checklist	$31,255	Yavapai	Complete
89	99-077	Blue Box Crossing	$150,000	Greenlee	Complete
90	99-078	Aquifer Framework and Ground-Water Flow Paths in Big and Little Chino Basins	$188,140	Yavapai	Complete
91	99-079	Little Colorado River Riparian Restoration Project	$404,587	Apache	Complete
92	99-080	Cortaro Mesquite Bosque	$486,650	Pima	Terminated
93	99-083	Cherry Creek Enhancement Demonstration Project	$263,225	Gila	Complete
94	99-084	Assessments of Riparian Zones in the Little Colorado River Watershed	$79,443	Navajo	Complete
95	99-085	Kirkland Creek Watershed Resource Assessment	$131,430	Yavapai	Complete
96	99-086	Abandonment of Gila Oil Syndicate Well #1	$333,790	Graham	Complete
97	99-087	Rillito Creek Habitat Restoration Project	$293,000	Pima	Withdrawn
98	99-088	Wickenburg High School Stream Habitat Creation	$69,100	Maricopa	Complete
99	99-089	Town of Eagar/Round Valley Water Users Association Pressure Irrigation Feasibility Study & Preliminary Design	$320,540	Apache	Complete
100	99-090	Redrock Riparian Improvement	$62,350	Santa Cruz	Terminated
101	99-091	Effects of Livestock Use Levels on Riparian Trees on the Verde River	$41,417	Yavapai	Complete
102	99-092	Little Colorado River Enhancement Demonstration Project	$348,627	Apache	Complete
103	99-093	Coconino Plateau Regional Water Study	$134,200	Coconino	Complete
104	99-094	Santa Cruz River Park Extension	$434,684	Pima	Withdrawn
105	99-095	Brown Creek Riparian Restoration	$34,037	Apache	Complete
106	99-096	Upper Santa Cruz Watershed Restoration	$184,950	Santa Cruz	Withdrawn

Map #	Grant #	Project Title	Grant Amount	County	Project Status
107	99-097	Dakini Valley Riparian Project	$66,130	Gila	Terminated
108	99-098	Rio Salado Habitat Restoration Project	$950,408	Maricopa	Complete
109	00-099	Gila Reference Riparian Area, Discovery Park	$152,850	Graham	Withdrawn
110	00-100	Willow Creek Riparian Restoration Project	$33,480	Mohave	Complete
111	00-101	Murray Basin and Saffell Canyon Watershed Restoration Project	$260,727	Apache	Complete
112	00-102	Upper Eagle Creek Restoration on East Eagle Allotment of Four Drag Ranch	$66,330	Greenlee	Complete
113	00-103	Riparian Restoration on the Santa Cruz River - Santa Fe Ranch	$49,008	Santa Cruz	Complete
114	00-104	Continued Enhancement of Pueblo Colorado Wash at Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site	$69,349	Apache	Complete
115	00-105	Hubbell Trading Post Riparian Restoration with Treated Effluent	$81,951	Apache	Complete
116	00-106	Tres Alamos Ranch Dirt-Tanks-To-Aquatic-Habitat Conversion	$69,220	Yavapai	Complete
117	00-108	Lake Mary Watershed Streams Restoration Project	$253,119	Coconino	Complete
118	00-109	Lower San Pedro Watershed Project	$249,871	Pima	Complete
119	00-110	Upper Fairchild Draw Riparian Restoration	$35,515	Coconino	Complete
120	00-111	Cooperative Grazing Management for Riparian Improvement on the San Pedro	$228,701	Pinal	Complete
121	00-112	Town of Eagar/Round Valley Water Users Assoc. - Additional Mapping for Water Quality Improvements in the Watershed	$151,829	Apache	Complete
122	00-113	Polacca Wash Grazing Management	$267,511	Navajo	Terminated
123	00-114	The Papago Park Green Line Project	$229,152	Maricopa	Complete
124	00-115	Tucson Audubon Society North Simpson Farm Riparian Recovery Project	$127,409	Pima	Complete
125	03-116	Cottonwood Creek Restoration	$185,772	Cochise	Complete
126	03-117	Lynx Creek Restoration at Sediment Trap #2	$179,771	Yavapai	Complete
127	03-118	Verde River Riparian Area Partnership Project	$111,221	Yavapai	Withdrawn
128	03-119	Wet Meadows for Water Quality and Wildlife - A Riparian Restoration Project	$137,027	Apache	Complete
129	04-120	Verde Headwaters 3-D Hydrogeological Model Framework and Visualization	$46,634	Yavapai	Complete
130	04-121	Lynx Creek Restoration	$266,020	Yavapai	Complete
131	04-122	Watson Woods Riparian Preserve Restoration Feasibility Project	$183,523	Yavapai	Complete
132	04-123	Tucson Audubon Society, Santa Cruz River Habitat Project, North Simpson Site, Phase 2	$130,786	Pima	Complete
133	04-124	Yuma East Wetlands Riparian Revegetation Project	$285,878	Yuma	Complete
134	05-125	Wilkins' Family Little Colorado River Riparian Enhancement Project	$293,618	Apache	Complete
135	05-126	X Diamond Ranch LCR Riparian Enhancement Project	$352,119	Apache	Complete
136	05-127	EC Bar Ranch Reach 8 Water Well and Drinker Project	$22,235	Apache	Complete
137	05-128	Canyon Creek Riparian Restoration Project, Reach 4-5	$106,919	Gila	Complete
138	05-129	Georges Lake Riparian Restoration Project	$168,636	Apache	Complete
139	05-130	Riparian Restoration on the San Xavier District - Project Two	$36,353	Pima	Complete
140	05-131	Management & Control of Tamarisk and Other Invasive Vegetation at Backcountry Seeps, Springs and Tributaries in Grand Canyon National Park	$245,500	Coconino	Complete
141	05-132	Esperanza Ranch Riparian Restoration Project	$279,411	Santa Cruz	Complete

Map #	Grant #	Project Title	Grant Amount	County	Project Status
142	05-133	Verde Wild and Scenic River Fence Exclosure	$63,888	Yavapai	Complete
143	05-134	Quechan Indian Nation Yuma East Wetlands Restoration Project - Phase I	$263,803	Yuma	Complete
144	06-135	Double Circle Ranch Riparian Fencing Project	$84,448	Greenlee	Complete
145	06-136	The Arboretum at Flagstaff Wetland Habitat Enhancement	$116,000	Coconino	Complete
146	06-137	Pakoon Springs Restoration Design and Implementation Project	$262,103	Mohave	Complete
147	06-138	Management and Control of Tamarisk and Other Invasive Vegetation at Backcountry Seeps, Springs, and Tributaries in Grand Canyon National Park - Second Year of Phase II	$258,397	Coconino	Complete
148	06-139	Coal Mine Fence	$187,013	Santa Cruz	Complete
149	06-140	Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area Yuma East Wetlands Restoration Project - Phase I	$256,790	Yuma	Complete
150	07-141	Picture Canyon Rio De Flag Meander Restoration Project	$330,225	Coconino	Complete
151	07-142	Reduction of Erosion and Sedimentation along the Lower San Pedro River Through Hydrologic Restoration of Modified Ephemeral Washes	$396,409	Pinal	Complete
152	07-143	Little Colorado River & Nutrioso Creek Riparian Enhancement Project	$198,996	Apache	Complete
153	07-144	Evaluation of Riparian Habitat and Headcutting on Lower Cienega Creek	$23,972	Pima	Complete
154	07-145	Kaler Ranch Erosion Control Project, Phase II	$284,332	Greenlee	Complete
155	07-146	Little Colorado River Project on H-Y Ranch River Property	$53,000	Navajo	Withdrawn
156	07-147	The Effects of Restoration on Wildlife Recovery at the Yuma East Wetlands Restoration Project	$68,016	Yuma	Complete
157	07-148	South Channel Phase II Restoration Project	$603,487	Yuma	Complete
158	07-149	Control of Tamarisk on 12 Miles of the Upper Verde River	$366,390	Yavapai	Complete
159	07-150	Fairchild Draw Riparian Restoration Project	$172,674	Coconino	Complete
160	08-151	Test of Riparian Recovery Following Cessation of Groundwater Pumping, Lower San Pedro	$61,795	Pinal	Complete
161	08-152	AWPF Yuma East Wetlands 68-acre Riparian Revegetation	$746,667	Yuma	Complete
162	08-153	The Effects of Restoration on Herpetofaunal and Mammalian Community Recovery	$156,833	Yuma	Complete
163	08-154	Billy Creek Natural Area Riparian Restoration Project	$248,826	Navajo	Complete
164	08-155	Restoration of the Gila River at Apache Grove	$744,747	Greenlee	Complete
165	08-156	Cocopah Colorado River Restoration	$296,708	Yuma	Complete
166	08-157	Paria River Exotic Removal Project - Phase I	$293,960	Coconino	Complete
167	08-158	Watson Woods Riparian Preserve Restoration Project	$798,988	Yavapai	Complete
168	08-159	Hoxworth Springs Stream Channel Restoration Project	$142,543	Coconino	Complete
169	08-160	Atturbury Wash Riparian Stewardship Project	$390,839	Pima	Complete
170	08-161	Montezuma Well Riparian Pasture Restoration Project	$296,155	Yavapai	Complete
171	09-162	Middle Fossil Creek Riparian Habitat Protection and Restoration	$250,348	Gila	Complete
172	09-163	Double Circle Ranch Erosion Control Project	$35,356	Greenlee	Complete
173	09-164	Babocomari River Riparian Protection Project	$118,125	Santa Cruz	Complete
174	09-165	Alpine Ranger District Riparian Improvement	$372,579	Apache	Complete
175	09-166	Hunter's Hole Riparian and Wetland Restoration Project	$683,345	Yuma	Complete
176	09-167	Tavasci Marsh Wetland Restoration Project	$374,838	Yavapai	Terminated
177	09-169	Gila River Water Conservation Education Program	$148,612	Graham	Complete
178	09-171	Black Canyon Riparian Restoration Project	$291,700	Yavapai	Complete

Map #	Grant #	Project Title	Grant Amount	County	Project Status
179	11-172	Avifaunal and Butterfly (Lepidoptera) Recovery in Restored Wetland and Riparian Habitats	$100,758	Yuma	Complete
180	11-173	Invasive Weed Control - Gila River Corridor, Greenlee County	$261,995	Greenlee	Complete
181	11-174	Eagle Creek Riparian Restoration at Filleman Crossing	$265,776	Greenlee	Withdrawn
182	11-175	E. Coli Reduction on the San Francisco River through Alternative Livestock Water on the Kaler Ranch, Phase II	$137,594	Greenlee	Complete
183	11-176	Double Circle Ranch Erosion Control Project Phase II	$36,866	Greenlee	Complete
184	11-177	Eagle Creek Riparian Protection Project	$136,714	Greenlee	Complete
185	11-179	Inventory of Tamarisk Leaf Beetle and Effects on Riparian Habitat in the Colorado, Verde, Salt and Tonto Rivers	$141,972	Coconino	Complete
186	11-180	Pakoon Wash and Pakoon Springs Restoration and Enhancement Project	$306,353	Mohave	Complete
187	11-181	Hidden Slough and Leopard Frog Marsh Restoration in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area , AZ	$348,901	Mohave	Complete
188	14-182	Arundo Eradication & Riparian Restoration of Sabino and Bear Creek, Tucson, AZ	$51,262	Pima	Complete
189	14-183	Menges Ranch Water System Maintenance Project	$28,546	Greenlee / Graham	Withdrawn
190	14-184	Date Creek Riparian Restoration Project	$147,877	Yavapai	Withdrawn
191	14-185	Horseshoe Draw Flood Control, Restoration and Erosion Mitigation Study and Design Project	$198,625	Cochise	Complete
192	15-186	Phase Two Gila River Corridor Invasive Weed Control	$133,338	Greenlee / Graham	Complete
193	15-187	Upper Verde River Habitat Improvement Project	$169,325	Yavapai	Complete
194	17-188	A&NC Focal Area Watershed Improvement Project	$303,975	Apache	Complete
195	17-189	Erosion Control to Stabilize Soils and Restore Historic Grasslands in the Upper Verde River Watershed	$138,183	Yavapai	Complete
196	17-190	River Restoration through Hazardous Fuels and Invasive Species Removal	$94,903	Graham	Complete
197	17-191	Verde River Habitat Improvement Project	$246,448	Yavapai	Complete
198	17-192	Lower Verde River Riparian Restoration Project	$134,571	Maricopa	Complete
199	19-193	Verde River-Oak Creek Confluence Habitat Improvement Project	$292,451	Yavapai	Complete
200	19-194	Davis Cattle Co. Grassland Restoration	$341,626	Cochise	Complete
201	19-195	Gila Valley Irrigation District Rapid Appraisal for Modernization	$32,982	Graham	Complete
202	19-196	Do Native Fish Facilitate the Persistence of Endangered Spikedace by Resuspending Food Particles	$32,496	Greenlee	Withdrawn
203	19-197	Bill Williams Mountain Forest and Watershed Restoration Project	$315,000	Coconino	Complete
204	19-198	Granite Creek Corridor Enhancement Master Plan	$79,401	Yavapai	Complete
205	19-199	Headwater Stream Restoration: Coyote Springs, Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff	$31,846	Coconino	Withdrawn
206	19-200	American Gulch Channel and Riparian Enhancement	$202,556	Gila	Complete
207	19-201	Webber Creek Sediment Control Project	$166,057	Gila	Withdrawn
208	20-202	Gila Valley Irrigation District System Optimization Phase I	$623,702	Graham	Complete
209	20-203	Sandhill Farm Water and Wildlife Conservation Project	$35,254	Cochise	Complete
210	20-204	Winkelman Natural Resource Conservation District Riparian Restoration	$205,844	Pinal	Complete
211	20-205	Upper, Middle, and Lower Fossil Creek Invasive Plant Removal	$98,662	Gila	Complete

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Map #	Grant #	Project Title	Grant Amount	County	Project Status
212	20-206	Quantifying Benefits for Brush Management on Arizona Rangelands	$50,000	Multiple	Withdrawn
213	20-207	Harrenburg Wash Enhancement Project	$129,190	Coconino	Complete
214	20-208	Paria Beach Riparian Restoration	$187,699	Coconino	Complete
215	20-209	Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Lower Verde River Riparian Restoration Project	$237,246	Maricopa	Complete
216	22-210	Verde River Riparian Restoration - Highway 89A to Bignotti Picnic Site	$247,350	Yavapai	Complete
217	22-211	Little Green Valley Fen Restoration Feasibility Study	$77,003	Gila	Complete
218	22-212	The Path to Protection at Oak Creek: Social Trail Rehabilitation for Watershed Health	$238,980	Coconino	Complete
219	22-213	Dye Ranch Erosion Control and Wetland Improvement Project	$76,945	Coconino	Active
220	22-214	Habitat Restoration in the Gila River Riparian Corridor	$97,455	Graham	Terminated
221	22-215	Ravenna & Pampas Grass Control along the Colorado River from Glen Canyon Dam to Diamond Creek	$43,178	Coconino / Mohave	Complete
222	23-216	Timberline-Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project	$261,000	Apache	Active
223	23-217	Becker Lake Wildlife Area: Little Colorado River Habitat Improvement Project	$388,075	Apache	Active
224	23-218	Protecting and Restoring Habitat and Surface Flow in Tanque Verde Creek	$195,426	Pima	Active
225	24-219	Big Sandy NRCD Improving Watersheds Through Restoration Projects	$229,698	Mohave	Active
226	24-220	Christopher Creek Restoration Project	$174,924	Gila	Withdrawn
227	24-221	Pine Canyon Restoration and Watershed Protection Project	$350,000	Gila	Active
228	24-222	Verde River Access Point Restoration	$555,000	Yavapai	Active
229	24-223	West Turkey Creek Watershed Resiliency Project	$246,750	Cochise	Active
230	25-224	Verde River and Oak Creek Riparian Restoration	$249,373	Yavapai	Active
231	25-225	WNRCD Lower San Pedro Restoration Project	$79,963	Pinal	Active
232	25-226	Little Green Valley Fen Restoration Phase 2 Implementation	$250,530	Gila	Active
233	26-227	Cordelia Water and Forest Resiliency	$350,000	Gila	Active
234	26-228	Enhancing Rangeland and Riparian Health Along the Babocomari River	$372,979	Cochise	Active
235	26-229	Upper Aravaipa Creek Watershed Restoration Demonstration Project	$43,541	Graham	Active
236	26-230	Bodaway/Gap Colorado River Riparian Restoration Project	$228,044	Coconino	Active

NOTE: The "Grant Amount" column represents the full grant awarded for each project. Some grants have been completed for less money than the amount budgeted, while others have been withdrawn by the grantee or terminated by the Commission prior to expenditure of funds or expenditure of the full grant amount. The Grant Amount column has not been changed to reflect these situations.

APPENDIX B: FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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Chapter VI. Application Review and Grant Selection Process

600 Application Screening

ADWR staff screens the applications for meeting certain criteria, including:

- Completeness,
- Adequate demonstration of control and tenure,
- Activities that are risky, unlawful, or outside the scope of the AWPF,
- Consistency with Commission policies including those in Section 552 of this document,
- Correct categorization of project type, and
- Compliance with five percent administrative costs maximum.

Generally, screening takes place within two to three weeks after receiving the applications. However, applications may be screened out anytime prior to applicant presentations.

ADWR staff will eliminate any applications from further consideration that are incomplete, clearly violate statutory requirements or Commission policy/program requirements, and any determined to be unlawful. ADWR staff will work with the Executive Committee to eliminate from further consideration any applications that appear to be inconsistent with Commission policy/program requirements.

610 Application Technical Review

611 Internal and external technical review

During application screening, ADWR staff will determine the scope of review for each application. ADWR has requested review by ADWR Hydrology, ADWR Active Management Areas, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and federal land management agencies. ADWR staff will consider these comments when conducting its technical review for the Commission.

612 Technical consultants

When an application requires review that is outside the expertise of the current staff, ADWR consults an expert in that technical field. ADWR staff seeks to obtain the expertise at no cost to the AWPF. Alternatively, acting with the approval of the ADWR Assistant Director, ADWR staff will pay for technical assistance from administrative funds if the expense is reasonable. If the costs or time needed to retain an expert with appropriate expertise are prohibitive, ADWR will notify the Commission. The Assistant Director may also determine that ADWR is unable to adequately respond to an application for lack of appropriate expertise or for other reasons, and will so notify the Commission.