



# Department of the Interior Recovery Investments

*Investing in America's Economic Recovery*



## Sky Islands and Desert Seas Restoration, Phase I: Gila Watershed Russian Knapweed Vegetation Treatment

### Need

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has detected invasive Russian knapweed on public land in and around Duncan, Arizona. The Gila River runs through Duncan and subsequently into the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area, which the BLM manages. The University of Arizona (UA) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) mapped approximately 900 acres in and around Duncan that have Russian knapweed and require treatment. The BLM, in cooperation with stakeholders, is taking measures to prevent invasive Russian knapweed from entering the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area. The BLM will contract labor to treat Russian knapweed on both public and private lands as lands are comingled in this area. Milestone (Dow Agro Sciences) and Glyphosate (Monsanto) herbicides will be utilized.



### Recovery Act Funding

The contract for this BLM-Arizona American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) project was awarded to CPS, Inc. for \$20,000 and work began in mid May.

### Benefits

The negative effects of this highly invasive species will be mitigated with the hopes of preventing its spread into the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area. The Duncan Weed Group will coordinate the success of this project with the NRCS, the UA, and the BLM partners.



### More Information

For more information about the BLM ARRA project, contact Lance Brady, Assistant Field Manager for Renewable Resources, at 928-348-4426 or [Lance\\_R\\_Brady@blm.gov](mailto:Lance_R_Brady@blm.gov), or Linda Johnson, AZ ARRA Coordinator, at 602-417-9576 or [linda\\_johnson@blm.gov](mailto:linda_johnson@blm.gov).