



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Southwest Region



Arizona Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office American Recovery and Reinvestment Act FACT SHEET

Project Description

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s (Service) Arizona Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office will utilize \$139,000 in Recovery Act funds to conduct Gila trout restoration in the Pinaleno Mountain creeks of Ash, Frye and Marijilda in southeastern Arizona.



The Gila trout (shown above) will be stocked in three creeks in the Pinaleno Mountains in Arizona.

The project will be performed by the Arizona Game and Fish Department and includes habitat surveys on the streams, selective chemical renovation planned on Ash and/or Marijilda, and fish stocking activities in at least two of the streams.

The fish stock will come from the Service’s Mora National Fish Hatchery and Technology Center in Mora, New Mexico. The hatchery’s mission is to protect and rear imperiled southwestern fish, and the native Gila trout is the focus of restoration and recovery activities at the Center. The trout, found only in the headwaters of the Gila River in Arizona and New Mexico, was upgraded from “endangered” to “threatened” in 2006 due to decades of conservation activities.

The project, which started at the end of May 2010, is expected to be completed in February 2011. Fish stocking activities are planned for late fall 2010.

Project Benefits

The Service expects the Gila Trout Restoration Project by Arizona Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office to introduce the trout to its native, historical range and create the first fishable populations of Gila trout in Arizona. As a benefit to the habitat, the fish will provide an additional food source for waterfowl and wildlife. The project has also created two wildlife technician positions with the Arizona Game and Fish Department to perform ground work duties related to Gila trout restoration efforts.

Budget Information for Project

Original Project Estimate: \$139,000



For More Information

Melanie Dabovich
Recovery Act Media Specialist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Southwest Region
505.248.6428

Melanie_Dabovich@fws.gov

<http://recovery.doi.gov/press/bureaus/us-fish-and-wildlife-service/>

Southwest National Fish Hatcheries

