



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 (AZFWCO) utilized \$139,000 in Recovery Act funds to conduct Gila trout restoration in the Pinaleno Mountain creeks of Ash, Frye and Marijilda in southeastern Arizona in cooperation with the Arizona Game and Fish Department and U.S. Forest Service’s Coronado National Forest.



This Gila trout (shown above) was one of hundreds stocked in Frye Mesa Reservoir in the Pinaleno Mountains in Arizona on Feb. 23, 2011.

The project was performed in large part by the Arizona Game and Fish Department and included habitat surveys on the streams, selective chemical renovation planned on Ash and/or Marijilda, and fish stocking activities in Frye Creek and other streams.

The fish stock was supplied by 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 Basin 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 the fall of 2011. Fish stocking activities at Frye Creek and Frye Mesa Reservoir were completed on February 23, 2011.

Project Benefits

The Service expects the Gila Trout Restoration Project to reestablish the trout to its native, historical range to help meet the recovery criteria for Gila trout in Arizona. An additional benefit will be the creation of the first-ever Gila trout fishing season in Arizona in Frye Mesa Reservoir. The project has created two wildlife technician positions with the Arizona Game and Fish Department to perform the on-the-ground work duties related to Gila trout restoration efforts.

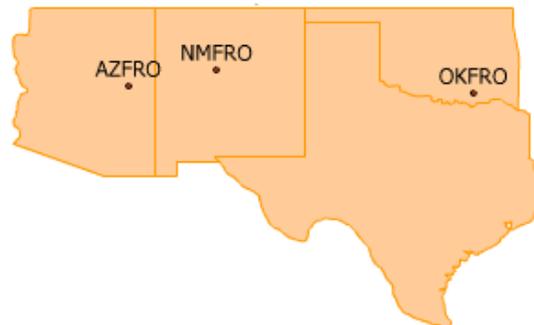
Budget Information for Project

Original Project Estimate: \$139,000



For More Information

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