



VERDE VALLEY LAND PRESERVATION INSTITUTE

<http://verdevalleylpi.org/>

"...to preserve and enhance the natural open space setting of the Verde Valley."

Open Space Resource Library

Developed to compile a list of existing resources for use in open space mapping and policy planning. Funding from the Yavapai County Community Foundation.

Resources investigated included the various general/community plans for cities within the Verde Valley and for Yavapai County. In addition, numerous national, state and regional agencies or organizations were contacted for Verde Valley-specific studies or reports regarding land deemed important open space. Organizations contacted and researched include:

- Arizona Game and Fish Dept.
- Arizona State Parks
- Arizona State Trust
- Arizona Wilderness Coalition
- Audubon Society
- Center for Biological Diversity
- Coconino National Forest
- National Park Service
- The Nature Conservancy
- Prescott National Forest
- Salt River Project
- The Sierra Club
- US Fish & Wildlife Service
- US Forest Service

Partnerships:

Verde River Basin Partnership, AZ Water Institute, and The Nature Conservancy

Univ. of AZ, AZ Dept. of Environmental Quality, AZ Cooperative Extension, and Water Resources Research Center

Arizona Game and Fish Dept.

<http://www.gf.state.az.us/>

AZGFD-designated Wildlife Areas includes Page Springs Fish Hatchery:

http://www.azgfd.gov/outdoor_recreation/wildlife_area_page_springs.shtml

Wildlife & Conservation heading under drop-down menu on left side of homepage; click on Research button for reports categorized by Habitat, Birds, Mammals, and Fish:

http://www.azgfd.gov/w_c/research.shtml

Heritage Data Management System (HDMS)

http://www.azgfd.gov/w_c/edits/species_concern.shtml

The HDMS is part of a global network of more than 80 Natural Heritage Programs and Conservation Data Centres. HDMS information identifies elements of concern in Arizona and consolidates information about their status and distribution throughout the state. Includes species data lists and status and ranking definitions and Plant and Animal Abstracts, Distribution Maps & Illustrations.

Site also invites data requests, offers environmental review tools.

Contact: Jeff Pebworth 928-692-7700, ext. 2303

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION

Arizona State Parks

<http://www.azstateparks.com/find/map.html#regional>

Parks in the Verde Valley:

Dead Horse Ranch State Park <http://www.azstateparks.com/Parks/DEHO/index.html>

Fort Verde State Historic Park <http://www.azstateparks.com/Parks/FOVE/index.html>

Jerome State Historic Park <http://www.azstateparks.com/Parks/JERO/index.html>

Red Rock State Park <http://www.azstateparks.com/Parks/RERO/index.html>

Slide Rock State Park <http://www.azstateparks.com/Parks/SLRO/index.html>

Verde River Greenway State Natural Area

<http://www.azstateparks.com/Parks/VERI/index.html>

AGENCY / ORGANIZATION

Arizona State Trust

<http://sco.az.gov/website/parcels/viewer.htm>

Possibly useful in mapping portion of project. Contains parcel-level detail.

AGENCY / ORGANIZATION

Arizona Wilderness Coalition

<http://www.azwild.org/>

Verde Valley-related links:

Central Mountains/Sonoran Region

http://www.azwild.org/regions/central_sonoran.php

Our Regional Work

...The Verde River Comprehensive Management Plan... have also been part of the ongoing work for our office.

Tonto National Forest

<http://www.azwild.org/resources/TontoNF.php>

Facts about:

(Sections include water, federal wilderness, roadless areas, wildlife, grazing, mining, timber, wildfire, and recreation)

“Major Rivers: Verde and Salt Wild and Scenic Rivers: Lower portion of the Verde River (This is the *only* Wild and Scenic river in Arizona...”

Other potential resources (not online):

Roadless Trails map.

Upper Verde River Wild & Scenic Status Proposal. Covers river to Clarkdale.

AGENCY / ORGANIZATION

Audubon Society

Northern AZ chapter

<http://nazas.org/>

No reports or studies found online.

Book of all Important Bird Areas in AZ available online.

Offline reports:

Lower Oak Creek, Important Bird Area

Tuzigoot, Important Bird Area

Contacts: Anita McFarlane 282-4063

Roger Radd webmaster@nazas.org.

AGENCY / ORGANIZATION

Center for Biological Diversity

<http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/>

Miscellaneous:

Slideshow: “Protecting the Verde River” (concentrates on Upper Verde)

See Public Lands:

Map of Verde River watershed
links to USGS hydrology reports

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION

Coconino National Forest

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino/>

Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) – “The current SOPA Report contains a list of proposed actions that will begin or are currently undergoing environmental analysis and documentation.” Links to HTML and PDF files. Updated quarterly.

Includes proposed actions in Verde Valley.

<http://www.fs.fed.us/sopa/forest-level.php?110304>

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION

National Park Service (NPS)

<http://home.nps.gov/applications/parksearch/state.cfm?st=az>

Includes Tuzigoot National Monument <http://www.nps.gov/tuzi/index.htm>

and Montezuma Castle National Monument (also Montezuma Well)

<http://www.nps.gov/moca/index.htm>

Montezuma Castle Centennial Strategy, Aug. 2007 [242k PDF file]

http://www.nps.gov/moca/parkmgmt/upload/MOCA_Centennial_Strategy.pdf

Part of NPS’s Centennial Initiative 2016. Describes significance of Montezuma Castle and Well and Tuzigoot NM, with goals and objectives regarding stewardship, environment, recreation, education, and professionalism.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

Numerous studies, reports and databases covering the area including Verde Valley watershed. Main page:

<http://azconservation.org/projects/ecoregions/>

Reports:

Ecoregional Conservation Assessment Reports (1999-2004)

(Apache Highlands)

“Original reports summarizing the results of the six ecoregional conservation assessments completed for the southwestern U.S. and northwestern Mexico by The Nature Conservancy and partners.” PDF. 13 MB

Ecosystem Diversity Reports for National Forests in Arizona and New Mexico (August 2006)

(Forest data)

“Ecosystem diversity reports were developed to support the Forest Service’s need for information on the species and ecosystems that occur on National Forests in Region 3. The reports contain data summaries and analyses of a variety of regional datasets. Each report is packaged with an introduction and chapters describing methods and data sources.” Includes links to PDF files for Prescott National Forest and Coconino National Forest.

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Datasets:

Ecoregional Assessment Geodatabase for Western North America (January 2008)

“GIS dataset that aggregates the information from 19 ecoregional assessments across western North America packaged as a personal geodatabase for use with ArcGIS 9.x and Microsoft Access software products. *Note:* this data set replaces the six-ecoregion geodatabase formerly posted on TNC site.” PDF. 24 MB

Arizona Statewide Freshwater Assessment GIS Data Package (June 2006)

(Riparian-aquatic data)

“Includes 3 spatial datasets mapped to 1:100,000 scale hydrography for Arizona, including 1) the habitat for 33 native fish species, 2) former and current perennial surface flow for Arizona’s rivers, and 3) the distribution of threatened and endangered species that require aquatic or riparian habitats.” PDF. 10 MB

Grasslands Assessment GIS Data (December 2004)

(Grassland assessment data)

“A GIS data set depicting the results of a two-year study to delineate grasslands and evaluate their ecological condition in Arizona, southwestern New Mexico, and northern Mexico. This study was completed with the assistance of resource professionals from U.S. and Mexico universities and public agencies.” 1 MB

U.S. Forest Service Region 3 Species Database (May 2006)

“Provides an up-to-date, searchable excel database on the species that occur on Region 3 Forests in Arizona and New Mexico.” Excel file. < 1 MB

Historical Range of Variation for Potential Natural Vegetation Types of the Southwest (June 2007)

(Semi-Desert Grassland)

“Descriptions of the Historical Range of Variation or Variability (HRV) characterize the change over time and space in the condition of the Southwest’s major vegetation types and the ecological processes that shape those types. HRVs enable land managers and the public to understand the drivers of change in our region’s major vegetation types.” PDF.

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Contacts:

Dan Campbell, Heather Redding 928-717-2843

Note: According to Dan Campbell, TNC is about to launch a study of the entire Verde River.

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION

Prescott National Forest

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/prescott/>

Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) – “The current SOPA Report contains a list of proposed actions that will begin or are currently undergoing environmental analysis and documentation.” Links to HTML and PDF files. Updated quarterly.

<http://www.fs.fed.us/sopa/forest-level.php?110309>

AGENCY / ORGANIZATION

Salt River Project

<https://www.srpnet.com/Default.aspx>

Will need to make calls to find studies specific to VV. None found on site.

AGENCY / ORGANIZATION

Sierra Club

Grand Canyon Chapter

<http://arizona.sierraclub.org/>

No reports or studies found online.

Contact: Gary Beverly 928-636-2638 gbverde@cableone.net

US Fish & Wildlife Service

SW Region 1
AZ Ecological Services Field Office
<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/HCPs.htm>

See: Habitat Conservation Planning / Horseshoe - Bartlett Habitat Conservation Plan

Reports:

Fish and Watershed Committee Report in Support of the issuance of an Incidental Take Permit Under Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act - Horseshoe and Bartlett Reservoirs Verde River, Arizona. Author: Various. March 2006. PDF. 5.7 MB

Lower Verde River Riparian Vegetation. Author: Salt River Project. June 2004. 18.8 MB

Inundation and Substrate Stability Study To Support Verde River Vegetation Analysis. Author: Salt River Project. May 20, 2004. 3.3 MB

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Miscellaneous:

Yavapai County Threatened & Endangered Species List

<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Documents/CountyLists/Yavapai.pdf>

Conservation Agreements

http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Conservation_Agreements.htm

AGENCY / ORGANIZATION

US Forest Service

<http://www.fs.fed.us/>

Travel Management & Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Program

<http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/ohv/>

Includes Travel Management directives for trail, river and similar recreation opportunities and motor vehicle use maps (links to Word documents).

Directives found are not specific to Verde Valley.

Study involving Verde Valley:

Beaverhead Flat Road/Beaver Creek Road Environmental Assessment, prepared by Biozone Inc. as part of NEPA process.

http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino/nepa/beaver_ea.html

Includes sections on Cultural and Recreational aspects of project.

AGENCY / ORGANIZATION

Verde River Basin Partnership / Arizona Water Institute / The Nature Conservancy

Report:

Ecological Implications of Verde River Flows. February 2008. Executive Summary. PDF. 2.7 MB. Ecological Flows Report. PDF. 4.1 MB

http://azconservation.org/downloads/multi/category/verde_river/

From Executive Summary:

“This study identifies where the scientific information is clear as to the types and scope of change that would result from changes in surface and groundwater conditions on the Verde River, and where additional scientific studies are needed to resolve particular issues.”

From Introduction:

“The study’s purpose is to develop conceptual models of the Verde River ecosystem that link hydrologic variation to ecological response...”

Includes map of springs feeding Verde River.

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Bibliography:

Not available online.

Citation: Stevens, L.E. and K. A. Whitley, 2008. "Annotated Bibliography of the Verde River Basin." Museum of Northern Arizona. Excel file. 1 MB

Spreadsheet contains comprehensive bibliography for *Ecological Implications of Verde River Flows* Phase I report (Nearly 2000 discrete records). Sortable fields include author, title, reference source, library, form [document, map, etc.], Verde-specific, and key words [biology, general, cultural, etc.].

Contact: Jeanmarie Haney, TNC. jhaney@tnc.org

AGENCY / ORGANIZATION

University of Arizona / AZ Dept. of Environmental Quality / AZ Cooperative Extension / Water Resources Research Center

Report:

NEMO Watershed Based Plan - Verde Watershed Dec. 2005

<http://www.srn.arizona.edu/nemo/index.php?page=characterization#verde>

From Executive Summary:

"The objective of this study was to develop a watershed based plan for the Verde Watershed that includes a characterization and classification of the watershed features. This watershed based plan identifies areas that are susceptible to water quality problems and nonpoint pollution sources that need to be controlled, and management measures that should be implemented to improve water quality throughout the watershed."

From Section 5: Important Resources:

Discussion of five Natural Resource Areas, including:

Upper Verde River, which includes Oak Creek, Beaver Creek, and Sycamore Creek watersheds.

http://www.srn.arizona.edu/nemo/characterizations/verde/V_Sect5ResDec05final.pdf

“Factors that were considered in delineating these Natural Resource Areas include: legal status (Unique Waters, critical habitat for threatened and endangered species, and wilderness), the presence of perennial waters and riparian areas, recreational resources, and local values.”

Reference included in Section 5:

Stevens, L.E. and E.C. Omana. 2007. A biological inventory of 16 Verde River basin springs. Stevens Ecological Consulting, LLC, Flagstaff. Must contact firm directly to obtain.

SUGGESTED CONTACTS / RESOURCES (from Gary Beverly of the Sierra Club)

Michelle T. Harrington
Rivers Conservation Manager
Center for Biological Diversity
P.O. Box 39629 - Phoenix, AZ 85069
ph: 602-628-9909
fx: 602-249-2576
www.biologicaldiversity.org
(lots of literature & references on their web site)

Sam Frank
Central Arizona Director
Arizona Wilderness Coalition
Prescott, AZ
928.717.6076
www.azwild.org

Bruce Fahrni
Recreation Team Leader
Prescott National Forest
(928) 443-8070 desk
(928) 443-8008 fax

Charles Pregler
Community Networks Specialist
Prescott National Forest
VA Complex; Bldg. 70
500 Hwy. 89N; P.O. Box 9120
Prescott, AZ 86313
602-510-3122 (cell)
928-443-8218 (desk)

Sandy Bahr
Conservation Outreach Director
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter
202 E. McDowell Rd, Suite 277
Phoenix, AZ 85004
(602) 253-8633
fax (602) 258-6533
sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org

Tom Slaback
Chair, Yavapai Group
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter
prescottkid@peoplepc.com

Joanne Oellers
Verde Campaign Coordinator
Center for Biological Diversity
119 Grove Avenue, Ste. B
Prescott, AZ 86301-2902
928-772-8204
<http://savetheverde.org>

Jeff Pebworth
AZ Game and Fish Department
5325 N. Stockton Hill Rd.
Kingman, AZ 86409

Dan Campbell
Verde River Program - The Nature Conservancy
dcampbell@tnc.org
122 N. Cortez St.
Prescott, AZ 86301

Citizens Water Advocacy Group
<http://www.cwagaz.org/>

Central Arizona Land Trust
<http://centralazlandtrust.org/>

Also:

US Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality - database of aquatic invertebrate sampling