

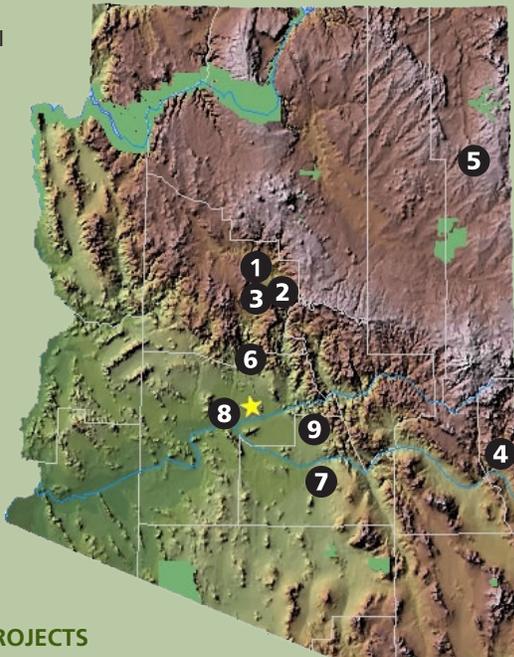


Arizona News

Youth trail crew pose by new Hubbell Trading Post pedestrian trail.
Photo: NPS

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2015

- NPS Unit
- ★ State Capital



CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Clarkdale Trails
2. Montezuma Crossing Trail
3. Verde River Access and Recreation
4. Greenlee County Birding Tourism
5. Cornfields Community Recreation Area
6. Black Canyon Heritage Park
7. Pinal County Watershed Protection
8. Maricopa County Estrella Mountain Regional Park
9. Peralta Regional Park

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

Recent Successes

Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site Awarded “Active Trails Grant”

Through the National Park Foundation’s Active Trails program, Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site utilized the enthusiasm and energy of 10 local high-school age Arizona youth to construct a 1.5-mile pedestrian trail and develop a brochure highlighting wildlife, plants, and park history.

The new trail improved recreation and education opportunities for park users and provides an important connection to existing community trails outside the park. Located in Ganado on the Navajo Nation, Hubbell Trading Post is an important destination for goods, trading, and social interaction. The project culminated with a trail dedication and luncheon hosted by the park.

The park was also able to strengthen partnerships with the Ganado Chapter and Western National Parks Association.

The National Park Service assisted the park with preparation of an Active Trails Grant application and a two-week training course.

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ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. Program staff provide technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas and water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. We help communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects they initiate.

Current Projects

1. Clarkdale Trails

Project Partner: Town of Clarkdale
NPS Contact: Joe Winfield
Location: Clarkdale
Congressional District: AZ - 1

Project Goal

Develop a 2-mile trail connecting the Town of Clarkdale with Tuzigoot National Monument.

NPS Role

Assist the Town of Clarkdale in convening partners to create a workable trail plan and locate funding for implementation.

2. Montezuma Crossing Trail

Project Partner: Beaver Creek Trails Coalition
NPS Contact: Dorothy Firecloud
Location: Rimrock
Congressional District: AZ - 1

Project Goal

Develop a 2-mile trail connecting schools, Montezuma Well National Monument, national forest land, residential neighborhoods, historical landmarks, and recreational resources.

NPS Role

Assist the Beaver Creek Trails Association in convening partners to create a workable trail plan and locate funding for implementation.

3. Verde River Access and Recreation

Project Partner: Town of Camp Verde
NPS Contact: Joe Winfield
Location: Camp Verde
Congressional District: AZ - 1

Project Goal

Improve access and coordinate recreation management for 18 miles of the Verde River, 2 miles of Beaver Creek, and 2 miles of Clear Creek.

NPS Role

Assist the town of Camp Verde in convening partners and developing a public involvement strategy so that recreation planners understand

the needs and interests of everyone impacted by the Verde River and its tributaries.

4. Greenlee County Birding Tourism

Project Partner: Greenlee County Flood Control District
NPS Contact: Joe Winfield
Location: Clifton and Duncan
Congressional District: AZ - 1

Project Goal

Develop 12 miles of trail in the communities of Clifton and Duncan to facilitate bird watching.

NPS Role

Assist the Greenlee County Flood Control District in convening partners to create workable trail plans and locate funding for implementation.

5. Cornfields Community Recreation Area

Project Partner: Cornfields Chapter Youth Council
NPS Contact: Joe Winfield
Location: Cornfield
Congressional District: AZ - 1

Project Goal

Develop a 3-acre park.

NPS Role

Assist the Cornfields Chapter Youth Council in articulating their vision for a community park by creating a workable plan and locating funding for implementation.

6. Black Canyon Heritage Park

Project Partner: Black Canyon Heritage Park Coalition
NPS Contact: Joe Winfield
Location: Black Canyon City
Congressional District: AZ - 1

Project Goal

Increase organizational capacity.

NPS Role

Assist the Black Canyon Heritage Park Coalition to develop a business plan with the aim of becoming more financially stable.



Public learns about recreation opportunities in Clarkdale. Photo: NPS

Current Projects cont.

7. Pinal County Watershed Protection

Project Partner: Pinal Partnership Open Space and Trails Committee
NPS Contact: Cate Bradley
Location: Pinal County
Congressional District: AZ - 1

Project Goal

Increase the level of watershed and habitat protection through new and focused policies to reduce flooding and encourage green infrastructure elements in new land use and development proposals.

NPS Role

Help develop a collaborative planning process with the key stakeholders: county staff, state and federal agencies, community organizations, and developers. Facilitate stakeholder meetings and other public input sessions to develop and prioritize goals. Research best practices and policies to guide policy recommendations to county decision makers.

8. Maricopa County Estrella Mountain Regional Park

Project Partner: Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department.
NPS Contact: Cate Bradley
Location: Goodyear
Congressional District: AZ - 3

Project Goal

Increase access to 20,000 acres of open space in the Phoenix metro area and assess options for backcountry camping opportunities. Improve connectivity within the trail system and promote more outdoor recreation for residents of Maricopa County.

NPS Role

Help to convene park users and other public as well as agency stakeholders to understand the desired uses and recreation needs of diverse populations. Establish the goals and roles of the partner agencies and public. Facilitate input on back-country camping access and opportunity.

9. Peralta Regional Park

Project Partner: Pinal County Open Space and Trails Department
NPS Contact: Cate Bradley
Location: Gold Canyon
Congressional District: AZ -4

Project Goal

Identify user groups and stakeholders to increase understanding of recreation priorities for this area. Increase public support for implementation of a recreation plan for the 480-acre area.

NPS Role

Help convene residents, outdoor recreation groups, and partners to facilitate agreement on the vision and goals for this park area.



Hidden Cove Park is a birder's paradise. Photo: Michael Odell

“The NPS’ technical support helped make plans to build a pedestrian trail for Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site by 11 American Indian youth come to life. Funding for this project was through the National Parks Foundation’s Active Trails Grant Program.”

- Lola Henio, Interpretive Ranger, Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site.

We're Here For You.

Could your project benefit from NPS Staff Assistance? Contact us to find out.



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2014 Nationwide Partnership Success

3,278.74 Miles of Trail Developed
2,046.25 Miles of River Conserved
9,411.06 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected

Find more information online at
www.nps.gov/rtca



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Recent Successes cont.

Colorado River Nature Center Celebrates National Public Lands Day

Old-timers remember the “Nature Center” as the Rio Lomas Beach with a nearly impassable dirt entrance road winding through approximately 500 acres of impenetrable brush and trees. Use of the park was governed by a “Wild West” mentality of anything goes.

Attitudes began to change in 2008 when the city of Bullhead City, the Arizona Game and Fish Department, and the Bureau of Land Management entered into a Cooperative Management Agreement to work together in managing the Nature Center.

In 2010, the city of Bullhead City requested the assistance of the NPS River, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program to convene partners and create a trails plan for the Colorado River Nature Center. The plan was completed and approved in about a year. With continuing assistance from the NPS program, the city applied for and was awarded grants from Arizona State Parks and the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The grants, totaling approximately \$115,000, were made to build a paved nature trail; plan, design, and install interpretive waysides; provide benches and shade structures; place two trailhead kiosks; and develop and print a custom plant and wildlife pocket guide for the park.

With the work nearly completed, the partners, including the Colorado River Heritage Greenway Trail Association, hosted a National Public Lands Day in September, 2014. The booths and activities included nature and history presentations, enjoyment of the spectacular view from an observation deck, bird watching, 3-D archery, a kayak trip, geocaching for kids, nature craft projects, and a hands-on archaeology display.



Preparing to kayak the Lower Colorado River. Photo: Helen Howard

“We had a very successful Public Lands Day with nature type activities for all ages. We still need to get our signage finished, but the park is very useable. The team (Friends of the Colorado River Heritage Greenway Trails Association, City of Bullhead City, Arizona Game & Fish Department, Bureau of Land Management, and the NPS) has done really well!”

- President Mary Ragusa, Friends of the Colorado River Heritage Greenway Trail Association