

Coordinated Effort by:

Community Watershed Alliance and member agencies including:
Ariz. State University
University of Ariz.-NEMO
US Geological Survey
USDA-Agricultural Research Service
The Nature Conservancy
Local Landowners

PURPOSE

PROJECT FACT SHEET

The Community Watershed Alliance is a community-based regional organization that promotes collaboration and cooperation to advance research, education, and policies for the sustainable health of our watershed.

In the spring of 2006, the CWA is launching a network of riparian (streamside) monitoring stations to better understand the following important factors:

- Conduct an inventory of riparian vegetation within the Benson Sub-watershed to determine where healthy cottonwood and willow forests remain;
- Monitor the ground water conditions associated with this vegetation over the long-term to track changes; and
- Better quantify how much water is actually used by riparian vegetation, to better develop a regional ground water model.

Similar research along the San Pedro has already been conducted in areas upstream, near Sierra Vista, and downstream of the Narrows. This Project will help bridge the information gap and better define the role of the river in the overall hydrologic system.

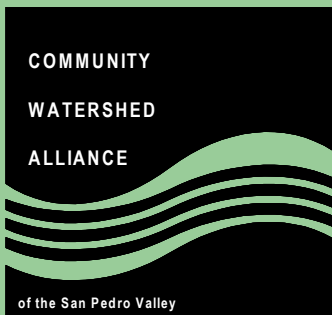
Community Riparian Monitoring Network

COMMUNITY WATERSHED ALLIANCE

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The geographic extent of the project will include various sampling locations near St. David and Benson, Arizona.

Data to be collected includes vegetation measurements, and measurement of groundwater levels at small groundwater monitoring wells (PVC pipe).

Repeated sampling will occur at the same locations, every one to five years, indefinitely, to determine if and how vegetation and groundwater conditions change over time.

Metal rebar stakes with caps, approximately two feet in length, will be driven into the ground near the river to mark the sampling locations. All of the information collected will be provided to both the participating landowners and the CWA. No additional types of information will be collected without the landowner's permission.

FOR LANDOWNERS:

- **Voluntary participation**
- **No financial contribution**
- **Very limited quantity of plant materials will be collected to aid in the accurate identification of plant species**
- **Physical access to sampling locations requested in advance of each data collection**

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