

NOV. 22, 2008

MANZANITA EROSION CONTROL PROJECT

BENSON, ARIZONA

FIELD DAY CELEBRATION

Welcome to our neighborhood! As you tour our learning lab, discover how we have developed strategies to prevent severe erosion on our lands and decrease the amount of sediment being transported to the San Pedro River.

The project area has experienced an increase of both natural and human induced disturbances. Drought conditions, development of additional homesites, yard maintenance, and road construction have reduced vegetative ground cover, reduced infiltration, accelerated the run off, and increased erosion.

Individual owners had attempted stormwater management and erosion control with little knowledge of best management practices and structural designs, and without an understanding of watershed impact or consequences to downstream properties.

Eight neighborhood property owners of approximately 180 contiguous acres, the Community Watershed Alliance, and partners saw the need to replace an ineffective trial and error approach with on-site training and implementation of best management practices from a small watershed perspective.

Our ADEQ Title 319 grant provided \$27,000 spendable monies while the neighborhood and partners provided over \$18,800 of in-kind match. With hundreds of volunteer hours, we have achieved all of our desired outcomes:

- Bank stabilization and soil treatments,
- Culvert sizing to prevent undermining banks and channel scour
- Gully plugs (gabion baskets, wire sausages) to prevent head cutting
- Reseeding where appropriate
- Addition of network of small check dams to slow runoff and capture sediment
- Road design and maintenance strategies for low-standard rural road



Consulting Partners:

BLM

USGS

NRCS

ADEQ

ADWR

USDA-ARS

U of A—NEMO

Kartchner State Parks

The Nature Conservancy

Apache Nitrogen Products

Cochise County Government

Cochise County Cooperative Extensions

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FIELD DAY FINALE WITH FRIENDS AND GUESTS!

Thirty folks met for coffee, donuts, and an overview of the project before boarding the wagons for two primary sites.



Riding thru the neighborhood illustrated the challenges faced

by the property owners and confirmed the need for a collaborative plan. Great weather, snacks, and friendly faces were a bonus!!!



It was a day for the property owners to tell their story - their erosion issues, what they have learned, their solutions, what changes they have seen, what tweaking needs to be done, and what they have planned for the future.



A special thank you to NRCS- Dave Matthews and team for continued oversight and technical support.

Additional thanks to project partners:

- ADEQ**
- Maccaferri Gabions,**
- Zeedyk Ecological Consulting,**
- WaterWise,**
- Mike Goodman Enterprise,**
- Lil Don's Diggin',**
- Juddscape Landscaping,**
- Rockin' R Mercantile,**

This network of best practices reduces sediment transport to the river by over 28 tons per year.



and to all those volunteers who donated the hundreds of hours to make this possible!