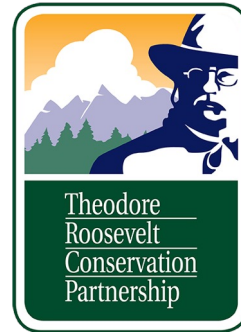


Cross-Watershed Collaboration

Reducing Barriers to Scale Watershed Restoration Efforts in Arizona



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Federal Funding Opportunities

BILLIONS in funds available for a range of restoration and conservation efforts

- Low-tech process-based restoration
- Forest health/fuels management
- Aquatic organism passage enhancement
- Climate-smart agricultural practices
- Environmental flow enhancement



Photo: Sarah King

AZ Watershed Capacity Assessment

Goals:

1. Identify **capacity challenges** for riparian and aquatic restoration in AZ
2. Identify **barriers** to accessing BIL and IRA funding
3. Learn & share **successful strategies** to address challenges
4. Solicit **policy recommendations**



Photo: Sarah King



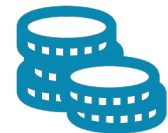
Barriers to Leveraging Funding → Capacity Building Strategies for Local Watershed Restoration



Workforce Capacity



Financial Capacity



Funding Program Focus & Requirements

Policy Recommendations

Federal

- Continue/sustain new or expanded capacity building funding programs
- Refine focus of funding programs to cover capacity and project development
- Improve grant application timeline, process, and requirements
- Expedite permitting

State

- Federal Matching Grant Program
New Mexico legislation
- Statewide support and coordination of watershed health



Photo: Bureau of Land Management

Next Steps

Moving Forward: Arizona Cross-Watershed Network

- Build capacity through networking, cross-visits, technical assistance
- Connect projects & proponents to grants, funders, and funding navigators
- Identify collaborative opportunities to advance projects