

The San Pedro: A Snapshot of Restoration

1. San Pedro River Preserve

The Conservancy is restoring this 6,900-acre property—formerly a catfish and pecan farm—and re-seeding it with native grass. Water is being restored to the river and the plant community is rebounding. **Partner:** Bureau of Reclamation

2. Aravaipa Canyon

Flanked at either end by a Conservancy preserve, this 58,900-acre wilderness is noted for its majestic cliffs, bighorn sheep and a creek which supports a thriving population of native fish. **Partners:** Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Game and Fish Department

3. H & E Land & Cattle

The Conservancy is restoring the natural washes and native grasses on this 570-acre property, thereby improving the floodplain and returning water to the river. **Partner:** Arizona Department of Water Resources

4. 7B Ranch

The Conservancy is managing this 3,100-acre property to eliminate invasive species and restore its wetlands and the largest mesquite bosque remaining in the Southwest. **Partners:** Resolution Copper Company, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management

5. Mercer Ranch

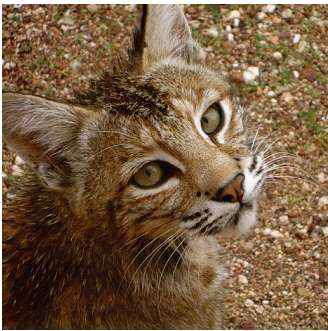
Rancher Mike Mercer has planted native grass along the river’s floodplain and is using significantly less water than on previous crops. (See story, page 12.) **Partners:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Mercer family

6. Buehman Canyon

From lands high up in the Santa Catalina Mountains, water flows down this canyon—a critical wildlife corridor—to feed the San Pedro. **Partners:** Pima County, Forest Service

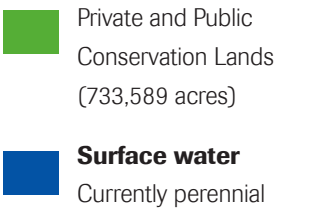
7. Bingham Cienega

This restored spring-fed marsh sits on 285 acres with cattails, native grass, mesquite, cottonwood and willow. **Partner:** Pima County



Top *The endangered southwestern willow flycatcher.*
© Mark Sagge/USGS

Above *Bobcats benefit from our collaborative restoration projects.*
© Kathy Pease



8. A-7 Ranch

The Conservancy purchased this 6,828-acre property to conserve the wildlife corridor extending from the forests of the Catalina Mountains to the river. It is now in county ownership. **Partner:** Pima County

9. Hot Springs Canyon

Five landowners and the Conservancy signed conservation agreements covering 1,700 acres of this critical wildlife corridor that connects the Muleshoe Ranch to the San Pedro River. **Partners:** Cascabel Hermitage Association, Saguaro-Juniper Association, Bureau of Land Management, private landowners

10. Muleshoe Ranch Cooperative Management Area

The Conservancy manages this 57,500-acre property in the Galiuro Mountains to restore native grasslands and streamside areas, creating excellent habitat for rare native fish. **Partners:** Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, Arizona Game and Fish Department

11. 3 Links Farm

The Conservancy purchased and placed conservation easements on 2,209 acres, restricting future development and restoring water to the river. Now this once-dry, six-mile stretch of river is permanently flowing, and the beavers have returned. **Partners:** Bureau of Reclamation, Salt River Project, private landowners

12. Babacomari Ranch

The Conservancy worked with the Brophy family to place conservation easements on 2,189 acres of this working ranch, which straddles the Babocomari River, a key tributary to the San Pedro. **Partners:** Department of Defense, Fort Huachuca, Bureau of Land Management, Brophy family

13. Canelo Hills Cienega Preserve

This property surrounds one of the few perennial tributaries to the Babocomari River and is home to the rare Gila chub and Canelo ladies’ tresses orchids. **Partners:** Audubon Society, Friends of Canelo Hills

14. Ramsey Canyon Preserve

High canyon walls flank Ramsey Creek, a spring-fed tributary to the San Pedro. An abundance of hummingbirds and a diversity of plant and animal life make this a popular spot for visitors. **Partner:** Forest Service

15. The Upper San Pedro Partnership

This group has implemented dozens of water conservation, reuse and recharge projects, as well as local water policy measures. **Partners:** Upper San Pedro Partnership and its 21 member agencies, including the Conservancy

16. The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area

The Bureau of Land Management manages this 57,000-acre landscape to conserve the river and the watershed. Groundwater is no longer pumped, and a beaver population is thriving. **Partners:** Bureau of Land Management, Friends of the San Pedro

17. Several Ranch Properties

These lands were purchased to preserve the important wildlife habitat and prevent potential water-using development. **Partners:** Game and Fish Department, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fort Huachuca, private landowners

18. Rancho Los Fresnos

The Conservancy purchased 9,000 acres of high-quality grasslands and wetlands. In addition to restoring the watershed, the partners are using the ranch as a demonstration site for outreach to neighboring ranches. **Partners:** Naturalia and BIDA (of Mexico)



Volunteers map the San Pedro River.
© Tana Kappel/TNC

BE A SAN PEDRO PARTNER

The Conservancy is seeking volunteers to help map the flows of the San Pedro River and some of its tributaries.

Volunteers will monitor streams at the Muleshoe Ranch June 17, 18 and 19, 2010, and at Aravaipa Creek June 29.

Volunteers must be in good hiking condition. Training sessions and a barbeque will be held prior to the monitoring dates.

The deadline to volunteer is May 15, 2010. For information, contact Dorothy Boone at (520) 547-3437 or dboone@tnc.org.

MAPPING THE FLOWS OF THE SAN PEDRO RIVER

Hundreds of volunteers and many groups participate in the annual mapping of the flows of the San Pedro. Last year’s effort, held June 20, showed 45 percent of the 119 river miles mapped in the U.S. and Mexico were “wet,” compared to 39 percent wet the year before.

In addition to the partners working on specific properties within the San Pedro watershed (see map & description), here are additional partners that helped with mapping.

- Community Watershed Alliance of Benson
- Cascabel volunteers
- Mexico partners, including BIDA & CONANP
- Conservancy members
- Volunteers
- Landowners



Online: See last year’s mapping results and a slide show at nature.org/arizona