



ARIZONA'S CONSERVATION DISTRICTS



District Conservation Action Plans

Arizona's Conservation Districts
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Part 4

CHAPTER 4

CURRENT SITUATION

The objective for this chapter is to describe past, present, and planned conservation practices by the District and stakeholders. It is intended to be a “progress report” to help track how much has been done, how much is in the works, who is doing it, and where the funding sources may be.

Along with the analysis done in the previous chapters, it lays the groundwork for setting priorities and strategy for achieving goals to be included in the action plan.

OUTLINE FOR CHAPTER 4

It is difficult to be very specific on an outline for Chapter 4 since the situation is likely to be different in every District. A general outline might be as follows:

- Past land treatment projects and studies
- Ongoing and planned projects and studies
- Possible cooperators and/or funding sources



PAST TREATMENTS

Request from your local working group representatives of BLM, USFS, NRCS, AZGFD, or other agencies, NGOs, and cooperators' information on past treatments. The success of this will depend on how cooperative they want to be.

Examples:

- Wildfire perimeters and dates – maps and shapefiles
- Brush management treatments – maps, shapefiles, treatment applied, success
- Range seedings – maps, shapefiles, treatment applied, success
- Wildlife habitat improvement projects – type, location, success
- Water developments for wildlife
- Water developments and fencing projects for livestock – number installed, type, general location (i.e., watershed)
- Flood control and/or recharge structures built – number, location
- Studies or survey completed – e.g., ground water studies, road conditions, etc.

Fire History - Rincon Mountains

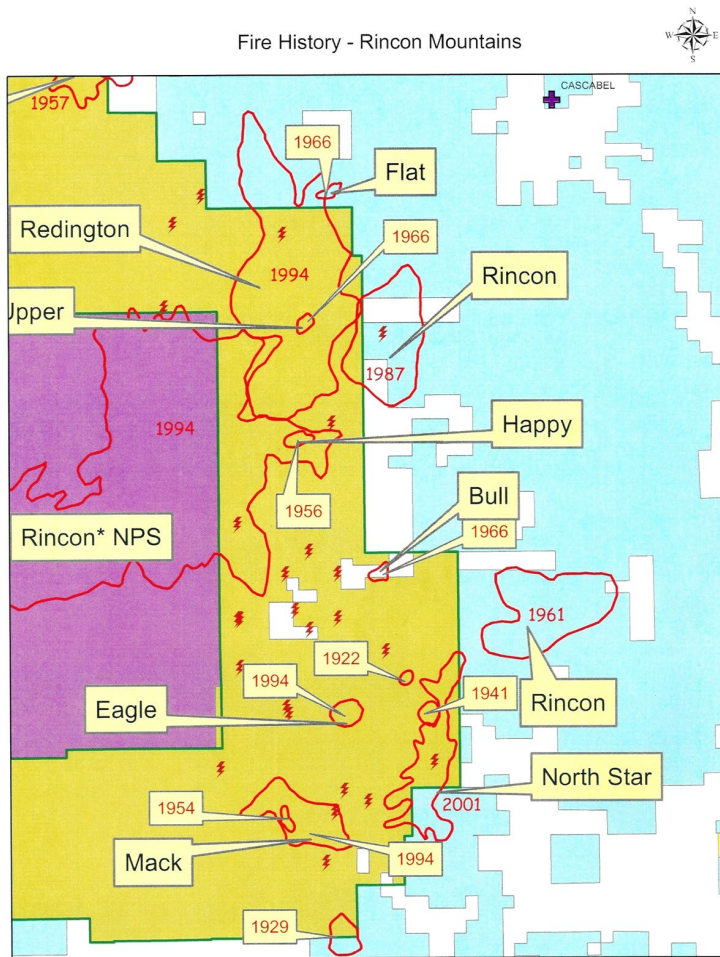
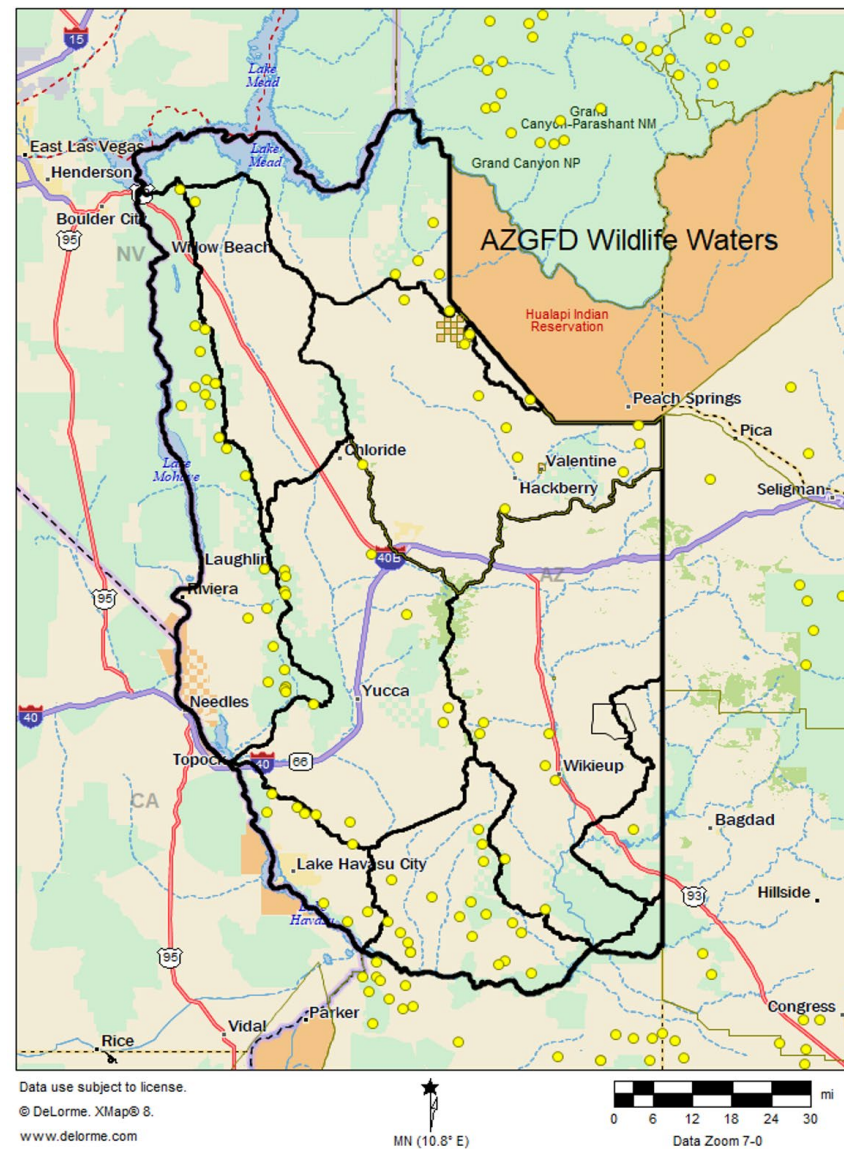


Figure 9. Forest Service fire history – Rincon Mountains.

Fire history for a portion of the Redington NRC

Wildlife waters put in by AZGFD in Big Sandy NRC



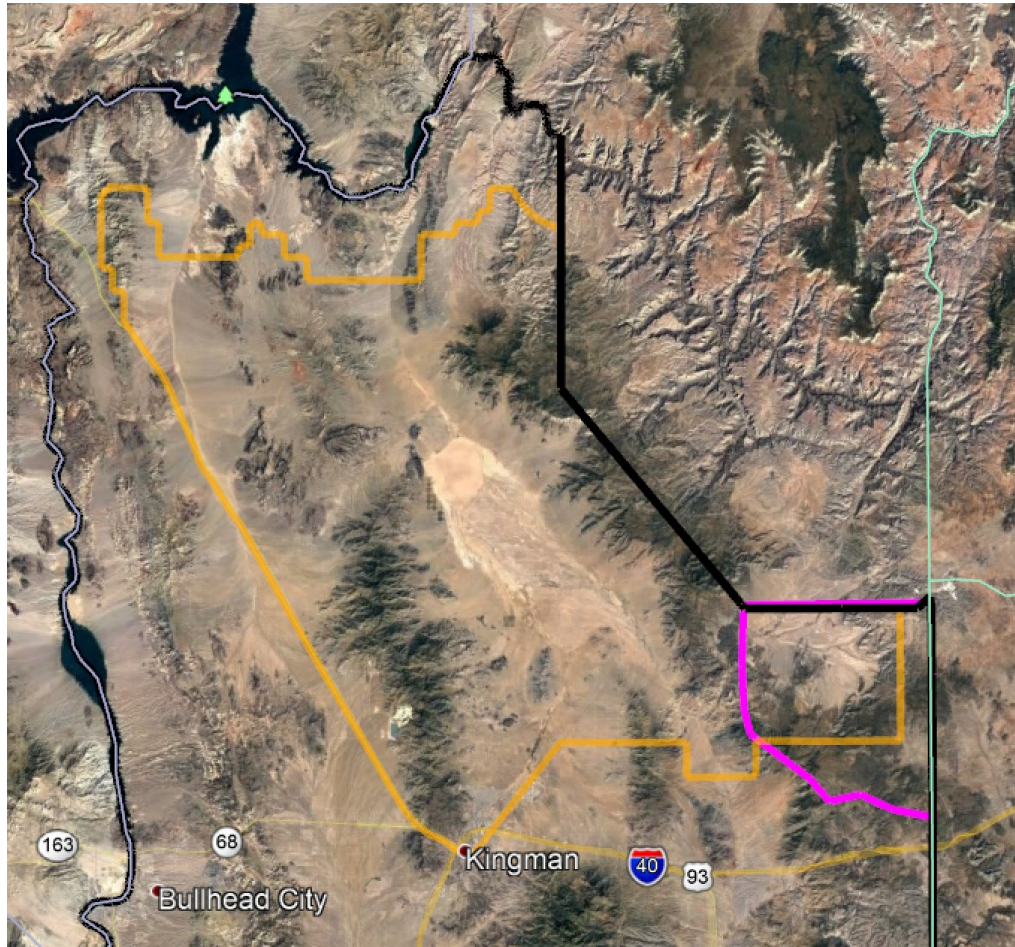
ONGOING AND PLANNED PROJECTS

Ask stakeholders, or other entities such as ADWR, USGS, USFWS, etc., to supply information about any active or planned conservation treatments, including research or administrative studies. The topics would be similar to those examples in the previous slide.

For each project or study ask for the following:

- Starting date or anticipated starting date and anticipated completion date
- Location – shapefiles, maps, legal description
- Treatments applied or objectives of study
- Plan for monitoring the results of land treatments
- Contact person to provide further information
- Estimated cost of the project and source of funding

EXAMPLE OF TYPE OF INFORMATION NEEDED



PROJECT INFORMATION	
Project Title: Unit 18A Habitat Enhancement Project	
Region and Game Management Unit: Region 3 GMU 18A	
Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC): • Kingman HPC	Was the project presented to the LHPC? YES[X] NO[]
Has this project been submitted in previous years? YES[] NO[x]	
Project and Action Type: Habitat enhancement through mechanical tree grinding, water distribution and WL friendly fence replacement.	
Brief Project Summary: This multi-year project will enhance habitat on a landscape scale by addressing the need for grassland restoration in historic grassland, browse release in overstocked juniper/pinyon woodland, water development, replacement of old sheep fence with wildlife friendly fence and fawn enhancement where practical. This is a multi-directional (<u>habitat, water, fawn enhancement, and connectivity</u>) approach to quickly enhance limited or restrictive habitat. This is the type of comprehensive project that every land manager wants to do, but can get never get the stars to align.	
Primary Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit: Deer 60%, Pronghorn 20%, and Elk 20%	
Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year): Project Start Date: As soon as the Department approves the work and Agreements are fully executed. (ASAP) Project End Date: 06/15/26	Environmental Compliance: NEPA Completed: Yes[] No[] N/A[NA] Completion Date or Projected Completion Date: <u>NA- ASLD Permit</u> State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance: (Provide Attachment) Yes[] No[] N/A[x] Completion Date or Projected Completion Date: <u>Treatments meet SHPO exemption based on tree canopy/ground cover surveys- Department is coordinating closely with ASLD and SHPO on this project and it is ready for implementation.</u> Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist:

Both BLM and AZGFD supplied shapefiles delineating areas where they were working or planning to work, mainly to improve wildlife habitat. The orange area is BLM and the purple is AZGFD – they overlap. On the right is a portion of the document outlining AZGFD proposed actions and timeline.

IDENTIFY POSSIBLE PARTNERS AND FUNDING SOURCES

List those state, federal, county or other agencies, landowners, nonprofit groups, trade associations, businesses, clubs, etc. who have been identified as having an interest in conservation practices. Try to describe what they are interested in doing:

- What problems do they want to solve?
- What kinds of treatments or data collection are they interested in?
- Do they have resources, either financial or in kind, to commit?
- On what terms are they willing to cooperate?

Also, keep up with notices from government or other funding sources for grants or contracts that the District can obtain on their own or with partners. AACD will help to keep Districts advised on these possibilities and help develop proposals.

This chapter will be one that will have to be continually revisited and updated as new information arises or situations change due to government policy changes, economic conditions, emergencies such as flooding, wildfires, drought, etc.

The information in Chapter 4 will be critical both for adding new information to Chapter 2 and 3 and for helping to set priorities and strategy that form the action plan to be developed in Chapter 5.