

22350-2009-090 - [NFHAP: Gila Trout Restoration in KP Creek; Investigation into Habitat Improvement in Raspberry Creek](#)

Proposed Accomplishment Summary:

This project will increase the occupied range of the Spruce Creek lineage of Gila trout by 9 miles and create a donor population of Gila trout for future recovery streams, improve public awareness with interpretation signs, assess if habitat restoration would improve trout habitat in Raspberry Creek, and support continued development of partnerships between AZ and NM Game and Fish Department's, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and US Forest Service, through NFHI and WNTI.

The importance to the Resource:

Protection and range expansion of Spruce Creek lineage will decrease the likelihood of natural catastrophe affecting recovery of the species. Creating a self-sustaining population will count towards Gila trout recovery and established population can be used as a donor population to establish future recovery streams.

The problem:

Only two replications of Spruce Creek lineage Gila trout currently exist; both are small and vulnerable to the same threats that would pose a risk to Spruce Creek. There has been an inability to create a hatchery broodstock of this lineage due to its 'wild' nature. Establishing additional replications of Spruce Creek is necessary for recovery.

The objective:

KP Creek will provide 9 miles of habitat for Spruce Creek lineage Gila trout and has low possibility of impacts or loss from high severity fire due to recent fire history if. Evaluation of Raspberry Creek with recommendations and on methods of habitat improvement that would enhance current Gila trout habitat and enable abundance to increase.

The method:

KP Creek will be treated with a piscicide to remove nonnative salmonids. After successful completion

Fund	Totals
Totals	\$170,800

Estimated length: 3

Partner	Matching	In Kind
Arizona Game and Fish Department	\$0	\$25,000
Federation of Fly Fishers	\$0	\$0
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	\$8,500	\$0
New Mexico Department of Game and Fish	\$0	\$0
Trout Unlimited	\$0	\$5,000
U. S. Forest Service	\$0	\$10,000
Western Native Trout Initiative	\$0	\$0
Total:	\$8,500	\$40,000

TOTAL Partner + FWS across all years: \$219,300

Plan #1: Gila Trout Recovery Plan

Plan #1 tasks to be worked on by this project:

Number: 1.2

Type: Science & Technology Development

Number: 1.3

Type: Stocking: Marking/Tagging

Number: 1.3

Type: Science & Technology Development

Number: 2.0

Type: Other

Number: 2.3

Type: Stocking: Post Stocking Survival

Number: 2.4

Type: Other

Number: 3

Type: Science & Technology Development

Number: 4

Spruce Creek lineage Gila trout and other native fishes will be stocked. Evaluation of habitat in Raspberry Creek will result in recommendations and design for habitat restoration that would improve Gila trout habitat.

Further description:

KP Creek supports a population of nonnative trout. Establishment of Gila trout within KP Creek will provide a population of Spruce Creek lineage and increase the security of this lineage. To further increase the distribution and protection of this lineage, productive donor streams are necessary. This is a multi-year project in which environmental compliance will be obtained in year 1, piscicide application year 2, and stocking year 3. This project satisfies the NFHI and WNTI Joint Venture's goal of building, funding, and implementing collaborative conservation efforts. This is consistent with the Service's Fisheries Program Vision for the Future and the NFHI.

Raspberry Creek supports a small population of Gila trout from the Spruce Creek lineage. An evaluation of the habitat in the lower 3 miles of stream will determine if habitat can be improved to create more pools and cover, thus expanding suitable trout habitat throughout the stream. For this project at this stage, this objective would result in evaluation of the habitat by a habitat restoration organization that would make recommendations and the implementation design for habitat improvement.

Primary Species/Population Benefited:

Gila trout ([Oncorhynchus gilae](#))

Population:

Gila trout - Spruce Creek [\[view\]](#)

Secondary Species/Populations Benefited:

Speckled dace ([Rhinichthys osculus](#))

Sonora sucker ([Catostomus insignis](#))

Type: ANS

Measure		Totals
5.1.3	Number of habitat assessments completed (not acres)	4.0
5.1.4	Total number of miles of in-stream/shoreline habitat assessed	26.0
5.1.10	Total number of in-stream/shoreline miles restored	9.0
5.2.4	Total number of population assessments completed	2.0
P-5.3.1.1	Number of all tasks implemented, as prescribed in Fishery Management Plans (Fisheries PART)	15.0
P-5.3.1.7	Number of all tasks implemented, as prescribed in Fishery Management Plans (FWMA)	15.0
P-7.12.5.1	Number of all tasks implemented, as prescribed in Recovery Plans (Fisheries PART)	15.0
P-7.12.5.7	Number of all tasks implemented, as prescribed in Recovery Plans (FWMA)	15.0
	Number of aquatic T and E population assessments completed	3.0
	Number of instream miles enhanced	4.0
	Number of instream miles restored	9.0
	Number of instream/shoreline miles restored for populations of management concern	9.0
	Number of miles of in-stream habitat assessed	39.0
	Number of miles of in-stream/shoreline habitat assessed to benefit populations of management concern	39.0
	Number of population assessments completed	4.0

Desert sucker ([Catostomus clarkii](#))

Nuisance Species Managed:

Rainbow trout (outside native range)
([Oncorhynchus mykiss](#))