

San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area Trailhead and Trail Reconstruction and Maintenance Project

In 2010, approximately \$772,000 was obligated for two Bureau of Land Management (BLM) projects within the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (SPRNCA) from funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area Trailhead Reconstruction Project received \$590,000, and the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area Trail Reconstruction and Maintenance Project received \$182,000.

The trail reconstruction and maintenance project engaged youth to construct and improve the entire 58-mile SPRNCA trail system.



Youth Organization Conservation Corps Crew Conducting Trail Work

This project, which will be completed during the late summer 2011, has brought over 40 miles of SPRNCA trails back into compliance with BLM trail standards, as well as providing for the removal of faded, exfoliating fiberglass trail markers, incongruent with the natural landscape. The crew replaced useless trail markers with permanent steel trail markers, laser-cut with the beloved SPRNCA logo.

The SPRNCA Trailhead Reconstruction Project funded the reconstruction of the ten trailheads providing access to the conservation area for the public.



As a result of ARRA funding, the reconstruction of the SPRNCA trailheads included: removal of old sub-standard fencing and parking barrier materials, replaced with permanent, steel pipe rail; grading and resurfacing of rutted access roads; construction of one shade ramada; replacement of rotten wooden picnic tables with permanent concrete tables; revegetation of several sites with native trees for shade and beauty; placement of an ADA-accessible cobbled sidewalk at the San Pedro House; replacement of plastic porta-potties with permanent CXT vault toilets at four locations; and the construction of equestrian trailhead amenities such as hitching posts and small corrals at several trailheads frequented by the equestrians.



New picnic tables and ramada at Palominas Trailhead

The environmental and social benefits resulting from the completion of these projects include: greater recognition of the singular significance of the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area by the visiting public due to the consistent physical design and aesthetics now present at each SPRNCA trailhead; greater protection to the fragile natural and cultural resources of the conservation area from motorized and livestock trespass; compliance with BLM standards for

accessibility and safety for the visiting public; and the added benefit of local economic stimulation as well as youth engagement.



Finished Hereford Bridge Trailhead with ramada in background, informative kiosk, and pay station