



WESTERN RIVERS CONSERVANCY

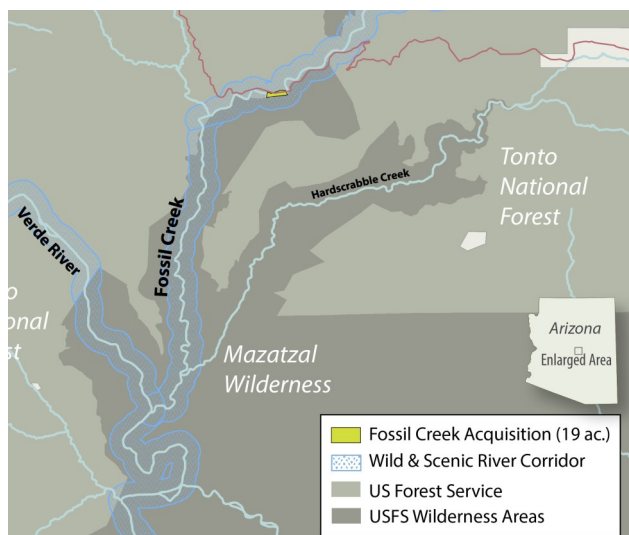
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Project Report Photos
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Fossil Creek, Arizona: Success on Arizona's Wild and Scenic Fossil Creek

This fall, Fossil Creek, one of only two Wild and Scenic Rivers in Arizona, will at last be protected along its entire length. Western Rivers Conservancy is set to convey the final unprotected stretch of this unique stream to the Coconino National Forest Service for permanent protection within the Fossil Creek Wild and Scenic River corridor. The project area is a small but critical cap on a much larger effort to restore Fossil Creek after it was dewatered by a hydroelectric project for nearly a century. Beginning in 1999, state and federal agencies and restoration groups embarked on what would become the largest river restoration effort in the Southwest. Since then, Fossil Creek has returned to the exquisite stream it once was, a delicate ribbon of crystal-clear, aquamarine mineral water flowing through the parched landscape of the Sonoran Desert.

Reid Helm Photo



Hood River, Oregon: A Decade-Long Effort on Oregon's Hood River is Complete

Over 100 years in the making, Punchbowl Falls Park, on Oregon's Hood River, finally opened to the public this summer when Western Rivers Conservancy conveyed 102 acres of riverland to Hood River County. WRC and the county created the park to protect Punchbowl Falls and the confluence of the East and West Forks of the Hood River and to ensure public access to this scenic stretch of the Hood. Today, the park is open to all, and this important stretch of the Hood River will be forever managed for the Hood River's cold water, unique fish and wildlife and outstanding recreation.

Steve Tarrill Photo

