



Hereford Natural Resource Conservation District

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July 15, 2020

Jason S Kepler
Financial Assistance Programs Manager, RCPP Coordinator
USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
230 North 1st Avenue, Suite 509
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Dear Mr. Kepler,

The Hereford NRCD fully supports the Arizona Land and Water Trust's application to the NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). The goals of this RCPP proposal are to address resource concerns of insufficient water quality as well as fish and wildlife habitat. This proposal seeks to do so by improving surface and groundwater quantities in the San Pedro River watershed through restoration and protection of working ranches and development of innovative water conservation transactions on rangelands and pasture lands; and by protecting and improving wildlife habitat and movement corridors through restoration and protection of working ranches and enhancement of water and cover availability on rangelands and pasture lands.

The Hereford Conservation District helps to coordinate and fund conservation efforts in the San Pedro River valley by taking a holistic and collaborative approach to the challenges producers and conservationists face. The Natural Resource Conservation Service's RCPP is an opportunity for landowners to address on-farm, watershed and regional resource concerns.

The Hereford NRCD supports this RCPP proposal, as it aligns with our objectives to preserve the working and rural character of the landscape, and strengthen economies of surrounding communities, ranches and forests.

Sincerely,

John Ladd
Chairman