

Arizona Water Quality Management Planning 604(b) Grant | Fiscal Year 2023 Project Updates

April 2024

The federal Clean Water Act section 604(b) allows the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to work with state agencies to grant funds for water quality management planning projects. This grant money is awarded each year to applicants across the state for water quality management planning in their respective regions.

Verde River Watershed Plan (\$80,000)

Recipient: Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG)

Northern Arizona's population growth and dry climate mean that effluent and stormwater are critical resources for the future of a healthy, flowing Verde River. NACOG worked with a contractor to produce a watershed-based planning process targeting optimization of water quality, availability, management, and sustainable river flows in the region. NACOG also worked with Tribal Nations, water utilities, water quality planners and consultants to design an inclusive and holistic watershed plan | [View Watershed Plan >](#)



Billy Creek Watershed Planning, Outreach and Education (\$80,000)

Recipient: Town of Pinetop-Lakeside



By integrating technical work, community outreach and education, the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside is providing a science-based decision-making process to the community to influence change for a healthy watershed. The Billy Creek Watershed is located in southern Navajo County and encompasses the town of Pinetop-Lakeside and unincorporated portions of the county. Based on the U.S. Forest Service's *Watershed Condition Framework*, Billy Creek is classified as "Functioning at Risk." With this grant, the town addressed algae in the lakes, declining stream flows, aging septic systems and a lack of community outreach addressing these issues | [Septic System Analysis](#) | [Hydrogeologic Cross Sections Report](#) | [Appendix](#) | [Summary of Outreach >](#)