



Department of the Interior Recovery Investments *Investing in America's Economic Recovery*



Habitat Restoration Projects

Need

The need to restore native Arizona desert grasslands and other areas makes these projects part of the Healthy Landscapes in a treasured landscape. Some Healthy Landscapes projects are part of a multi-state cooperative effort between BLM-Arizona and adjoining states, encompassing 3.5 million acres. The Arizona Healthy Landscapes portion is a non-fire adapted ecosystem, which lost over one million acres to fire in 2005 and 2006. The goal of these projects is to protect and restore remaining valuable habitat within the Healthy Landscapes area, including critical Mojave Desert Tortoise Habitat and valuable isolated riparian areas.



Recovery Act Funding

These habitat restoration projects have been allocated \$2.8 million through ARRA funding.

Benefits

Significant benefits will be gained by protecting and restoring the remaining Mojave Desert within the initiative area, including increased Mojave Desert Tortoise Habitat and better protection of valuable riparian areas.



More Information

The project actions include: development of strategically placed fuels breaks; strategically located rapid-response single-engine air-tanker (contract); an improved remote fire station (to decrease fire response times); protection of rehabilitation investments; contracted invasive plant species control; developing sources for suitable plant materials; monitoring to measure success; 14 miles of tortoise fencing along highway to prevent vehicle associated tortoise mortality.

For more information on this BLM project, contact: Samuel Burton, Arizona ARRA Coordinator, Arizona State Office, 602-417-9618, sam_burton@blm.gov.