



*Expanding and Improving
Arizona's Native and Wild
Trout Fisheries*

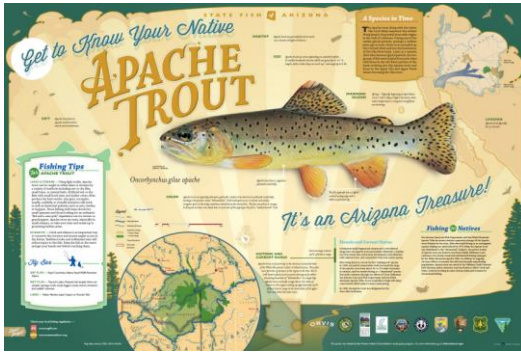
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Arizona Council of Trout Unlimited

2017 Annual Activities and Accomplishments: Selected Highlights Report

- **Trout in the Classroom Expansion.** Led by the Zane Grey Chapter, and greatly facilitated by grants from Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) AZ Conservation License Plate Fund and in cooperation with AZGFD, all chapters have expanded the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) Program to 33 Classrooms statewide. TIC now directly involves over 4000 students, and reaches over 10,000 additional family members and friends.
- AZTU Hosted TU's Annual **Western Regional 2017 Meeting** in Scottsdale AZ, with approximately 200 attendees, including TU's CEO Chris Wood and a number of National Officers and Staff Vice Presidents. Event included a significant Fund Raising Banquet, Educational workshops and a showcase for work done by a number of groups and collaborating organizations.
- TU National Annual Meeting Recognition for John Doss – John received **TU's Annual Communications Award** for Digital Communications Media.
- 4FRI Rim Country EIS **Aquatics Resources Field Trip.** With AZGFD and the 4FRI Planning Work Group, campaigned for, helped plan, and sponsored a major 4FRI field trip on Canyon Creek. Stream restoration work done there over several years by AZGFD and Natural Channel Design Co provided a variety of restoration tools to demonstrate management and tools for the 4FRI Aquatics Flexible Toolbox.
- TU Volunteers made presentations to the 4FRI Stakeholders Group Multi Party Monitoring Board to help launch **Water & Aquatics Resources Monitoring** techniques for the Rim Country EIS, were invited to present to the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP) Washington Office Staff field review for the 4FRI, and contributed to the development of the joint 4FRI SHG / USFS first ever Strategic Plan.
- **Lees Ferry – Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program** – The Recreational Fishing representatives sponsored by AZTU proposed significant actions for Fisheries Management and helped define and finalize the Tri-Annual Work Plan for research and monitoring work on the Colorado River. The group caused the convening of a major joint AZGFD & Federal Agency scientific workshop on Brown Trout Management, and was able to secure an extension of the comment period on an NPS proposed Environment Assessment for managing invasive species, especially Brown Trout, in the Lees Ferry RBT Fishery area.
- **Major Arizona Conservation Events:** The AZ Council was a Gold Sponsor for the Arizona Game and Fish Annual **Commissioner's Awards Banquet**, with a large delegation of Council members in attendance. The Council also sponsored the **AZSFWC** fund-raising banquet. And with the AZGFD, co-sponsored the **8th Annual Native and Wild Trout Conference**, with the largest ever attendance of some 130+.

- An **Apache Trout** and a **Gila Trout** information Poster with Life History, Range and Conservation Status were published featuring artwork by Joseph Tomelleri with funding assistance from the Western Native Trout Initiative. These posters will help raise the awareness of Arizona's Native Trout, and will be learning aids for TIC.



- **Grants** were received by the Council and/or Chapters from:
 - The AZSFWC for TIC and for the 8th Annual NWTC
 - The Western Native Trout Initiative for Apache & Gila Trout Posters
 - The TU Science Staff, the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, and the Desert Fly Casters for Stream Temperature Monitoring
- Continued Chapter Based "**Restore**" and "**Protect**" Project Works on the ground & waters:
 - Lakes / Tanks Restoration in Flagstaff area - Grand Canyon TU / Northern AZ Fly Casters
 - Streams Restoration and monitoring in White Mountains Area - Old Pueblo TU in cooperation with the Apache-Sitgreaves NF
 - Stream Temperature Monitoring Project Launched - Gila Trout TU / Payson Fly Casters in cooperation with AZGFD, the 4FRI Team, Apache-Sitgreaves, Coconino and Tonto National Forests
- Continued **Outreach & Advocacy** Efforts:
 - Continued Diversity and Women's Initiatives
 - The Council and the Zane Grey Chapter have started a Stream Girls Program with the Girl Scouts,
 - All Chapters have continued active support of Project Healings Waters Veterans activities
 - Gila Trout / Payson Fly Casters Youth Initiative – Elementary School Fly Fishing classes
 - Legislative Days with Arizona Wildlife Federation, Western Rivers Action Network, and others
 - International Sportsman's Exposition.
- **LOSSES** - Native Gila & Apache Trout Stream Losses to Fire:
 - Gila Trout Stream Habitat losses on: Frye Creek, Ash Creek, and Grapevine Creek
 - Apache Trout Stream Habitat losses on Grant Creek
- **But Continued Successes**, with repeated AZGFD Gila Trout Stockings on:
 - West Fork Oak Creek and on Dude Creek
- And finally, **2017 Volunteer Hours** Contributed through Council and Chapters again increased, bringing the **8-year** total to over **75,000 hours**, with an **8 Year Total value of more than \$1.6 Million Dollars**.

Gila Trout

Grand Canyon

Old Pueblo

Zane Grey