



Pecos Watershed Conservation Initiative

NFWF CONTACTS

Kirstin Neff
 Manager,
 Southwest Rivers Program,
kirstin.neff@nfwf.org
 303-222-6485

Chris West
 Director,
 Rocky Mountain Regional Office
chris.west@nfwf.org
 303-222-6484

PARTNERS

- Apache Corporation
- Chevron
- ConocoPhillips
- Corteva Agriscience
- Occidental
- Shell Oil Company
- XTO Energy, an ExxonMobil subsidiary
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Land Management

ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 5,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$6.8 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1133 15th Street, NW
 Suite 1000
 Washington, D.C., 20005
 202-857-0166

OVERVIEW

The Pecos Watershed Conservation Initiative (PWCI) is dedicated to restoring and sustaining healthy rivers, streams and grasslands that provide important wildlife habitat in the Pecos River watershed of southeastern New Mexico and West Texas. The fund was launched in 2017 to identify significant conservation opportunities that improve habitat, address water scarcity, improve water quality and engage local communities.

Since its inception, the PWCI has invested a total of \$6.49 million in 34 projects that address three priority strategies: habitat restoration and management of riparian and grassland systems; species intervention; and species information. These projects benefit migratory grassland birds like chestnut collared longspur and Sprague's pipit as well as pronghorn, and implement aquatic and riparian restoration activities that benefit Pecos pupfish, Pecos gambusia, Texas hornshell, Rio Grande cooter, and Bell's vireo.



Rio Grande cooter

The PWCI is an unprecedented and strategic partnership between the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), Apache Corporation, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Corteva Agriscience, Marathon Oil, Occidental, Shell Oil Company (Shell), XTO Energy, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management in New Mexico, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in New Mexico and Texas. Implementation partners include soil and water conservation districts, nonprofit organizations, state wildlife agencies in New Mexico and Texas, federal agencies, and universities.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The Pecos Watershed Conservation Initiative will:

- Strengthen the health of habitat along the Pecos River and its tributaries in West Texas and southern New Mexico, including some of the last remaining populations of fish and other aquatic species found only in the Chihuahuan Desert
- Improve the management and function of native grasslands, many of which have been negatively impacted by past management and fragmentation
- Address water quality and scarcity concerns for wildlife and agricultural uses
- Identify opportunities to re-establish species to areas of their range where they have been lost or bolster small remnant populations

PWCI investments are targeted primarily to tributary watersheds and grasslands within the region where investments in restoration are expected to realize the greatest return for species. The priority conservation strategies for the region were determined by a team of local partners with on-the-ground knowledge of conservation needs and opportunities and are detailed in NFWF's Southwest Rivers Business Plan.