

**UPPER SAN PEDRO RIVER WET-DRY MAPPING  
COORDINATION SUPPORT VOLUNTEER POSITION  
April to June 2019**

It's well known that the Friends of the San Pedro River are experts in connecting people with the River. With this in mind, I'd like to offer an enhanced role to support the coordination of the annual **Wet/Dry Mapping of the Upper San Pedro River** to a Friends of the San Pedro River volunteer (details about the event are below). The Nature Conservancy, Bureau of Land Management and the Friends have worked together over 20 years to organize this citizen science water data collection effort for the Upper San Pedro section of the whole watershed mapping. Our successful collaboration has resulted in the mapping data being regarded as defensible science alongside the peer-reviewed US Geological Service science that is used to protect and enhance the river's flows, groundwater and ecosystem. In recent years, the Friends volunteers have been in charge of assembling mapping team packets, hosting the training event dinner at the San Pedro House, and playing a role in our safety communication system. As The Nature Conservancy's and BLM's work has intensified to conserve our beloved San Pedro River, we find ourselves needing additional support to coordinate the formation of mapping teams. The process is well-established, and all the previous year's documents will be provided.

***We are seeking one (1) highly organized, detail-oriented, and outgoing Friends of the San Pedro River volunteer to manage the mapping team formation process.  
Requirements and responsibilities include:***

RESOURCES: Regular access to a computer, MS Excel spreadsheet program, email, phone

ESTIMATED TIME: Approximately 50 hours from April to June 2019. Work can be performed in bursts. Several key target dates will be established at the kick-off planning meeting.

**ROLES:**

- Attend the planning kick-off meeting (April 15 or 17) and final planning meeting (~June 7) at BLM office in Hereford
- Contact 2018 reach "team leaders" (provided) to inquire about leading a 2019 team, and share past team members' contact info with them
- With support from BLM & TNC, secure new team leaders for those without leaders, and recruit volunteers for teams with not enough recurring volunteers from 2018
- Coordinate with BLM Wet/Dry coordinator to make sure enough vehicles of correct capacity and BLM staff secured for teams that need BLM transport (and thus staff)
- Maintain/update "SPRNCA 2019 WD Team List" excel spreadsheet as teams are formed, and track training RSVP and BLM volunteer forms submissions
- Review and finalize team list with BLM and TNC by email/phone throughout April to June
- OPTIONAL: Participate in the river mapping, which includes participating in the training on 6/14 (~5:00 – 7:30 p.m.) and map a reach on Saturday, 6/15

***Thank You!***

***Questions? Contact: Brooke Bushman, The Nature Conservancy  
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## **Whole San Pedro River Watershed Wet-Dry Mapping Additional Details**

**WHEN:** Mapping occurs annually, every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of June. The 2019 mapping is scheduled for Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**WHERE:** Strive to map all 170-miles of the San Pedro River, from its headwaters in Sonora, Mexico to its confluence with the Gila River near Winkelman, Arizona. And, an equal number of tributary miles.

**WHO:** The Nature Conservancy coordinates the overall watershed mapping collection effort and conducts the results analysis. Partners from each major river “section” coordinate their section team formation, but The Nature Conservancy provides support as requested. The four main sections are Mexico, Upper San Pedro, Middle San Pedro, and Lower San Pedro. Partner coordinators include citizen-scientists, local, industry, state and federal agencies.

**HOW:** Teams of 3-4 citizen-scientists and partners take to the river early morning on what is typically the driest, pre-monsoon day of the year, to document where surface water is apparent in the San Pedro River. Teams each map a 2 to 6-mile reach of the river or a tributary. Teams are provided a GPS unit and data sheets to collect the data, and (on the SPRNCA) a BLM vehicle to access the reach start point and return from the end point. Teams’ safety is ensured by participation in a required pre-mapping training. In the Upper San Pedro, an emergency support system provided by the BLM and Friends of the San Pedro River.

**RESULTS:** Maps and statistical analysis are developed by The Nature Conservancy’s spatial analysts using the data captured with the GPS units that show where the lengths of wetted San Pedro River reaches are lengthening, shortening or staying constant. This information is one piece of data analyzed together with other data that helps water managers and scientists gauge the health of the river. Having an annual record also gives us a way to compare from year to year how water management decisions are working. Past years’ maps are available at [azconservation.org](http://azconservation.org).