

Invasive Plant Grant Program  
2014 Grant Application-ASFD

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY	
Dollar Amount Requested:	\$19,945
Matching Share:	\$23,632
Percent (%) Matching	54%%

Applicant Information	
<b>Applicant:</b>	Prescott Creeks Preservation Association
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Franklin Dekker
<b>Address:</b>	P.O. Box 3004
<b>City/Zip Code:</b>	Prescott, AZ 86302
<b>Phone (Work/Cell):</b>	928-445-5669
<b>Email:</b>	FDekker@PrescottCreeks.org
<b>Fax:</b>	

Project Information			
<b>Name of Project:</b>	Watershed Invasive Weed Control Project		
<b>Community Name:</b>	Prescott		
<b>County:</b>	Yavapai	<b>Congressional District:</b>	1
<b>Latitude (decimal degrees):</b>	34.54N	<b>Longitude (decimal degrees):</b>	-112.467W

Grant Contributors (Matching Share)							
(Federal dollars DO NOT qualify)							
Please specify each match contributor and the dollar amount of each contribution.							
Please DO NOT show grant requested funds in this table. This is for matching share only.							
<b>Contributors:</b> (Please specify)	Prescott Creeks	YWMA	Public Volunteers	Yavapai Contractors Associati	American Conservation Experien		<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Dollars (Hard Match):</b>	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>In-Kind (Soft Match):</b>	14717	225	6494	100	2096	\$0	<b>\$23,632</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$14,717</b>	<b>\$ 225</b>	<b>\$6,494</b>	<b>\$ 100</b>	<b>\$2,096</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$23,632</b>

Total Project Expense (break down matching share totals from block three)				
	Grant Share (\$ Amount Requested)	Match (from block three)		TOTAL
		Dollars	In-Kind	
<b>Personnel / Labor:</b>	10506	\$0	6719	<b>\$17,225</b>
<b>Operating / Supplies:</b>	\$2506	\$0	4050	<b>\$6,556</b>
<b>Travel:</b>	0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Contractual Services:</b>	5120	0	9696	<b>\$14,816</b>
<b>Equipment:</b>	\$0	\$0	825	<b>\$ 825</b>
<b>Indirect Costs:</b>	1813	0	2342	<b>\$4,155</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$19,945</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$23,632</b>	<b>\$43,577</b>

<b>Project Summary</b> (check all that apply and answer related questions in appropriate box)			
5	Is this a new project? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
	What is the duration of this project? (24 month maximum) 24 months		
	Number of acres to be treated:	40	Estimated cost per acre: \$210
	Are the acres to be treated contiguous (adjacent to each other)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If no, please describe their layout in block six (6).		
	Does this project have a current invasive/noxious plant management plan? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please attach the plan to this application.		
	Is this project managed by a professional land manager? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Please provide qualifications in block six (6).		
	Number of communities directly affected by this project:	1	
	Number of citizens to be reached:	8000	
	Number of residences affected:	8	

<b>Project Area Description</b>	
All information for the project should fit into the allotted character space provided below. Addendum may be submitted if more space is needed.	
6	<p><b>Provide an overview of the project and the project area.</b> 2500 characters</p> <p>Invasive plants have become established in riparian forest areas of Granite Creek and its tributaries, from the headwaters in Prescott National Forest downstream to the myriad of private, tribal and municipal owned properties. Noxious weeds including state priority species such as Scotch thistle, spotted knapweed and Dalmatian toadflax have found a convenient mode of dispersal in our streams where they establish in riparian areas and expand outward to upland forest. To address the widespread infestation, we propose a coordinated and comprehensive approach with private landowners and Yavapai Weed Management Area partners to control invasive weeds in our forested riparian areas.</p> <p>The Upper Granite Creek Watershed ranges in elevation from 5,100 feet at Watson Lake to 7,979 feet at the top of Mount Union. Forest vegetation grades from conifer-aspen habitat high in the watershed to pinyon-juniper woodlands and cottonwood-willow riparian forests at lower elevations. The intended project area is throughout Prescott on at least 8 private properties in the upper elevation Ponderosa Pine forests to Watson Woods Riparian Preserve, a large track of public city owned land in cottonwood gallery forest. Watson Woods Riparian Preserve is a 126-acre cottonwood and willow gallery forest upstream from Watson Lake in Prescott and the last remnant of the 1,000 acre gallery forest that existed at the time of settlement. The 8 private properties will be found higher in the watershed near USFS land in Ponderosa Pine forests. Properties across or bordering streams will be given priority to reduce the widespread dispersal of noxious weeds to the lower watershed.</p> <p>We plan to use a conservation crew to control invasive weeds with chemical application on at least 40 acres and follow up with manual control with volunteers organized by Prescott Creeks. All private landowners who participate will have signed a Habitat Improvement Agreement that encourages them to work on controlling invasive weeds on their property after assistance from the conservation crew. The Yavapai Weed Management Area (YWMA) partners will be consulted for a final decision on project sites. New emerging invasive weed populations in the watershed will be given priority. We also intend to hold several public education events and disperse various media about invasive weeds for Prescott area residents.</p>
	<p><b>Briefly describe the qualifications of the person(s) managing this project.</b> 500 characters</p> <p>Franklin Dekker has a MS in Geoscience with a strong background in watershed science, including invasive plant management. Previous employment includes Geoscientist in the Park for the NPS and Wilderness Fellow for USFWS in AK where job duties included invasive control and monitoring. During his time with Prescott Creeks Franklin has managed green infrastructure restoration projects that require weed management planning and has received training in invasive control methods.</p>

<b>Project Goals and Objectives</b> All information for the project should fit into the allotted character space provided below. Addendum may be submitted if more space is needed.	
7	<p><b>Provide a brief description of how this project meets the grant objectives and goals. 1500 characters</b></p> <p>Prescott Creeks' Watershed Invasive Weed Control Project will target and treat populations of state listed noxious weeds in riparian forest areas. The invasive weed control conservation crew will be educated on Prescott-area invasives by YWMA partners. The crew will use targeted herbicide application and manual control methods. As part of our integrated approach, following initial treatment by conservation crews, public volunteers will continue manual weed control and plant native seeds for long-term cultural control. On private land, homeowners will be instructed about weed control methods to keep their properties weed free following conservation crew assistance. The YWMA meets regularly and this grant will give us the opportunity to collaborate on locations where control efforts will yield the greatest results as well as working together on public education efforts. Our invasive weed control will also complement weed control efforts currently underway by the US National Forest Service (USFS). We plan to control weeds with the cooperation of private landowners high in the watershed, on lands adjacent to or surrounded by USFS land through conservation crew work and education outreach.</p>

<b>Scope of Work / Project Timeline</b> All information for the project should fit into the allotted character space provided below. Addendum may be submitted if more space is needed.	
8	<p><b>Provide a brief scope of work which clearly describes how grant funds will be spent: Types of treatments proposed, invasive/noxious plant of concern and any information and education activities. (This should be more specific than the project description) 1500 characters</b></p> <p>The proposed project will include funding for 103 hours of monitoring and planning, 532 hours of on the ground chemical, manual and cultural control and 133 hours of public invasive weed education and outreach. Expenditures will include, contracting a conservation crew, likely American Conservation Experience, for chemical and manual control, materials costs (ie. herbicide, trash bags, native seed, educational posters and signs) and Prescott Creeks staff. It will support staff in site planning, training volunteers to conduct monitoring, instructing the conservation crew, coordinating volunteer control events, public education and final reporting.</p> <p>A spring time chemical spot treatment by the conservation crew will target invasives in the rosette stage. During the summer and early fall months, volunteers will follow up with manual treatment to ensure no surviving plants go to seed at each site. The primary invasive species include Scotch thistle, spotted knapweed and Dalmatian toadflax, however if salt cedar, Siberian elm or common teasel are located at control sites they will receive treatment if time permits. To raise public awareness for the invasive weed problem in Prescott, Prescott Creeks staff will partner with USFS staff for several public presentations to educate the about invasive weeds and provide instruction on what landowners can do. We will also hold a booth at the annual home and garden show to reach an audience of over 15,000.</p>
	<p><b>Provide a timeline for the project. 1000 characters</b></p> <p>February 2015- Contacting landowners to schedule spring control; Coordinate with YWMA for site planning            April 2015 - Public Education Presentation; Pre-monitoring with volunteers; Public outreach through print and digital media; Conservation Crew Chemical and Manual Treatment; Coordinate with YWMA for education outreach            May 2015- Home and Garden Show (Goal: Educate several thousand members of the public)            June 2015- Public Education Presentation (Goal: Educate &gt;20 members of the public)            July 2015 - Private Landowner Follow Up; Volunteer Manual Control Event (Goal:contact 8 landowners; retreat 40 ac)            August 2015 - Volunteer Manual Control Events (Goal: Retreat 40 acres)            September 2015 -Volunteer Manual Control Events (Goal: Retreat 40 acres)            April 2016 - Public Education Presentation; Post-monitoring with volunteers; Volunteer Manual Control Events.            May 2016 - Final Report; Coordinate with YWMA for lessons learned</p>

## Collaborative Elements and Partners

All information for the project should fit into the allotted character space provided below.  
Addendum may be submitted if more space is needed.

- 9 **Specify the CWMA, private, local, tribal, county, state, federal, and non-governmental 501(c) 3 organizations that will contribute to or participate in the completion of this project. Describe briefly the contributions each partner will make (i.e. – donating time/equipment, funding, etc.).** **2000 characters**

Prescott Creeks, the applicant for the grant, is a 501(c)3 not for profit organization who will carry out this project. We contribute the majority of matching resources from volunteers we organize, as well as support with tools and gloves. American Conservation Experience (ACE), a non-profit organization, will provide a conservation crew and the necessary tools, housing and chemical applicator expertise at a rate below the federal value for volunteer time (\$22.55 per hour). Yavapai Weed Management Area (YWMA), based in Prescott, is a group who help publicize and respond to the increasing threat of invasive and noxious weeds. Its members include, Prescott Creeks, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Arizona Game & Fish Department, Arizona State Land Department, Prescott-Yavapai Indian Tribe, Arizona Department of Transportation, and several residents from the Prescott area. The roll of the YWMA will be to provide education to the conservation crew about invasive weeds in the watershed and to identify important or emerging invasive weed sites requiring control. Members of the YWMA will also be consulted for their expertise in control methods and timing to help ensure project success.

The US Forest Service, Prescott National Forest, Invasive Weed Management Coordinator, Dorothy Baxter will co-present at public education events on invasive weeds with Prescott Creeks.

The Highlands Center for Natural History, a non-profit science and education organization located in Prescott, are supportive of our invasive weed project and plan to have us host an invasive weed education event at their Learning Center.

The City of Prescott has been a longtime supporter of invasive weed control efforts and they will continue to allow Prescott Creeks to coordinate invasive weed control in city parks and open space.

The Yavapai County Contractors Association will provide a non-profit booth rate for Prescott Creeks at their annual Home and Garden Show.

## Project Longevity / Maintenance

All information for the project should fit into the allotted character space provided below.  
Addendum may be submitted if more space is needed.

- 10 **Clearly demonstrate how this project will remain effective over time.** **2000 characters**
- The noxious weeds of AZ require diligent control efforts for years to exhaust the invasive seed bank and restore native vegetation. There are three main ways Prescott Creeks plans to ensure our project will remain effective after 2 years, volunteer retreatment, monitoring, and education.
- Our invasive weed management strategy is an integrated multi-year approach designed to reduce the number of invasive plants reaching maturity and producing seed at each site. Volunteer weed pulling events provide us the affordable means to do just that. Initially, the conservation crew will reduce the population of invasive plants at each site, but repeat manual control treatment by volunteers throughout the growing season will leverage our success. After the 2015 treatment season more volunteer days will be planned and funding will be sought for additional control efforts to ensure the sites remain on a path toward eradication.
- To quantify our success and adapt the most effective methods we will rely on pre and post monitoring and mapping. We use a GIS database to track invasive weed populations that require control efforts. Prior to control, Prescott Creeks will direct volunteers in vegetation surveys to gather baseline weed density. We plan to store this information in a database along with dates of treatment and methods used. This organization will help us ensure overall invasive weed control success in a watershed with numerous landowners.
- Ultimately, our weed control efforts will be greatly multiplied and perpetuated into the future by the education and outreach component of this project. Through media releases and newspaper articles we will reach thousands of citizens about invasive weeds in Prescott. We will partner with the USFS on presentations to teach citizens how to control weeds on their own properties. The non-binding Habitat Improvement Agreements we will pursue with private landowners will help us keep the communication and education on invasive weeds going.

July 16, 2014

Arizona State Forestry Program  
Invasive Plant Grant Program  
Attn: John Richardson  
1110 West Washington, Suite 100  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Letter of Support for Prescott Creeks Application for the AZ State Forestry IPG Program

Dear Mr. Richardson,

This letter is intended to support the Prescott Creeks proposal titled "Watershed Invasive Weed Control Project" for funding and to document the participation of the Yavapai Weed Management Area (YWMA) as a project partner. The YWMA is a group of agency personnel and citizens who help publicize and respond to the increasing threat of invasive and noxious weeds on private and public lands. Formed in 1999, participants include natural resource specialists from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Arizona Game & Fish Department, Arizona State Land Department, Prescott-Yavapai Indian Tribe, Arizona Department of Transportation, and several residents from the Prescott area.

The proposed project will build upon current efforts to improve water quality and habitat conditions in the Granite Creek Watershed by providing a coordinated effort to address invasive species that threaten native ecosystems. Plant species of particular concern include State-listed noxious weeds such as Scotch thistle, spotted knapweed and Dalmatian toadflax. The YWMA will advise Prescott Creeks on various aspects of the project: treatment methodology, monitoring and assessment, etc. as well as providing educational opportunities to AmeriCorp weed control crews. To make efficient use of the Invasive Plant Grant financial support the YWMA will collaborate to determine the areas requiring immediate attention from conservation crews and on public education presentation and strategies.

The YWMA supports this project and I urge the reviewers to give this proposal their utmost consideration. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me (jsterling@ypit.com or 928.515.7452).

Sincerely,



John Sterling

Yavapai Weed Management Area