

Wetland Restoration & Construction Workshop
Bat Conservation International,
American Museum of Natural History, Southwestern Research Station, Portal, AZ.

AGENDA

Day 1 – Tuesday, September 25, 2012

Objective: Learn of the many values of small wetlands to terrestrial and aquatic wildlife, how to identify sites for wetland restoration and enhancement, and wetland projects design, planning and implementation.

- 8:30 a.m. Welcome, Dr. Dawn Wilson, *Director, AMNH Southwest Research Station*
- 8:45 a.m. Restoring wetlands in forests, fields, and urban areas, *Tom Biebighauser , USDA-Forest Service/Center for Wetland & Stream Restoration*
- 9:15 a.m. Natural history and aquatic habitat needs of Arizona’s herpetofauna
Mike Sredl, Ranid Frogs Project Coordinator, Arizona Game and Fish Department
- 9:45 a.m. Native fish use of wetlands and off-channel habitats-*Heidi Blasius, Safford BLM*
- 10:00 a.m. Tour of SWRS Chiricahua leopard frog ranarium- *Dawn Wilson*
- 10:30 a.m. SWRS spring restoration and wetland pond creation project
- Safety discussion
 - Examine site and review design with heavy equipment operator
 - Begin construction with topsoil removal
 - Construct groundwater dam, wetland pond, disable past drainage features
- 12:00 Lunch, SWRS Mess Hall**
- 12:45 SWRS spring restoration and wetland pond creation project continues.
- Wetland design and construction discussion
 - Slope considerations
 - Using survey equipment; flagging wetland perimeters
 - Cattle management considerations of restored wetlands and tanks
- 6:00 p.m. **Dinner, SWRS Mess Hall**
- 7:30 p.m. **Special Presentation:** *How They Pulled the Plug*, an evening presentation on the history of wetland drainage with an emphasis on spring restoration, *Tom Biebighauser*.

Day 2-Wetland Restoration & Construction Workshop, Portal, AZ.
Wednesday, September 26, 2012

Objective: Learn how to find funding and complete environmental documentation for wetland restoration, and create wetland habitat for endangered native fish, bats, amphibians, and other wildlife.

7:30 a.m. **Breakfast, SWRS Mess Hall**

8:15 a.m. Steps toward restoration –Funding sources for wetland restoration and creation; USFWS Partners, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, other.

8:45 a.m. Environmental documentation for wetland construction; NEPA, Environmental Analyses, Biological Evaluations, Bureau of Reclamation 404 Permitting, etc.

9:15 a.m. SWRS Wetland restoration and pond construction and discussion

- Natural dam and Spillway
- Dam construction; shaping and packing
- Spread topsoil
- Large and small woody debris placement for herps, birds, and invertebrates, and for controlling OHV's
- Erosion control methods
- Planting native species

12:00 p.m. **Lunch, SWRS Mess Hall**

1:00 p.m. Wetland construction and discussions continues

While construction is taking place:

- Soil texture and identification
- Wetland and pond repair discussions

2:30 p.m. **Field trip** to Ash Springs and Willow Tank to discuss surface water and groundwater wetland planning, restoration and creation techniques.

4:30 p.m. End of Workshop

Bring: Boots you can get muddy in the field, water bottles, work gloves and hard hats if you have them. We will have extra hard hats and we'll have some extra work gloves as well. If you can, bring a High-Occupancy Vehicle that will help out with carpooling for the field portion.