

## **Project Summary**

### **Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** Restoration of priority habitats for Neotropical migratory birds in the Madrean Sky Island region, northwest Mexico

**Type of Project:** Research/Technical Assistance/Education  
**Discipline:** Natural Resources  
**Funding Agency:** US Fish and Wildlife Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** University of Montana  
**Effective Dates:** 9/1/2011 - 9/1/2013  
**Funding Amount:** \$189,810

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

FWS Contact:

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**Project Abstract:** The Sky Island region of northern Sonora, Mexico provides the northernmost wintering habitats, a diverse range of breeding habitats, and critical stopover areas and migratory pathways for more than 100 species of Neotropical migratory birds (NMB). To advance conservation of the NMB in this region, we will integrate existing education, outreach and research programs with focused efforts to restore degraded riparian areas that are critical to NMB. With the help of local landowners, citizens, and government agencies, we will construct restorative fencing and erosion control along .20 miles of riparian areas with potential to support broadleaf gallery forest. To monitor the effectiveness of restoration and guide future efforts, we will gather baseline data on abundance and richness of breeding in migratory NMB, vegetation, and geomorphology in these populations. We have the knowledge and resources to maintain and replicate these efforts. In concert with restoration, we will implement workshops focused on the ecology and management of NMB and on specific techniques to restore and maintain habitat for NMB. These activities will enhance prospects for NMB conservation in northern Mexico by augmenting the capacity and knowledge of these communities.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:** 9/1/2013

**Keywords:** Neotropical migratory birds, maintenance, management, restoration, broadleaf riparian forest, research/monitoring, community outreach, education, US Fish and Wildlife Service, University of Montana