



Cochise County Board of Supervisors

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December 1, 2020

Pat Graham, State Director
The Nature Conservancy
Arizona Chapter
1819 E. Morten Ave #100
Phoenix, AZ 85020

Dear Mr. Graham:

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for The Nature Conservancy's support and partnership in our efforts to protect the flows in the San Pedro River. At the same time, efforts to protect the river also help to sustain the missions and viability of Fort Huachuca as the region's largest economic driver.

More specifically, TNC staff members Holly Richter and Brooke Bushman have collectively contributed more than two decades to the collaborative efforts of the Upper San Pedro Partnership, Cochise Conservation and Recharge Network and the Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape. TNC's involvement with these groups has enriched the ethic of conserving important county resources like the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area through strategic land protection, wet-dry mapping, modeling, education, funding assistance, and policy guidance.

As a member of the Cochise Conservation and Recharge Network (CCRN), TNC's science-based approach and assistance has bolstered and sustained the momentum of this group that also includes Cochise County, the City of Sierra Vista, City of Bisbee, the Hereford NRC and most recently Fort Huachuca. Without TNC's partnership and assistance, the county's recharge projects would likely not have come to fruition in their current timeframe or configuration. TNC-funded modeling has supported the important science-based decision-making behind the location and design of these projects.

The Cochise County Board of Supervisors sincerely hopes The Nature Conservancy will continue its commitment and partnership role with Cochise County and other conservation members within the Sierra Vista Subwatershed to continue working towards protection of the San Pedro River – a critical lifeline for southeastern Arizona's wildlife and economy.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Borer, Chair
Cochise County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Dan Stellar, Deputy State Director, TNC

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