

**Final Summary Report
To
Western Native Trout Initiative (WNTI)**

**\$2,950 Grant
to
5th Annual Native and Wild Trout Conference
April 24, 2014**

The 5th Annual Native and Wild Trout Conference was deemed to be another success with 104 attendees representing over 30 different conservation organizations, state and federal agencies.

The conference was extra special when keynote speaker Chris Wood, TU CEO, gave an enthusiastic message of wild and native trout restoration and protection work. The conference also included the inaugural awards for distinguished service in the conservation of native and wild trout.

The annual event has grown from 42 attendees in 2010 to over 100 representing 30 conservation organizations, state and federal agencies. This year twelve presentations from various conservation organizations and governmental agencies had a common theme – addressing the protection of wildlife from the challenges of climate change and forest fires.

Two conservation awards were instituted to honor an organization and an individual “*for their dedication to the conservation, protection and restoration of native and wild trout*”. The Apache Trout Award was presented to White Mountain Apache Tribe Game and Fish for taking the first critical steps to conserve the species in 1955 which led to the removal of the species from the endangered list to threatened in 1975. The Gila Trout Award was presented posthumously to Dr. Robert Behnke. The *TROUT* Winter 2014 headline described “Dr. Trout” in these words: “Nobody did more to elevate human understanding and appreciation of trout than Dr. Robert Behnke.”

The agenda, presentations and photos are available to the public and can be viewed beginning July 1st on the Trout Unlimited Arizona Council website at www.az-tu.org.



*5th Annual Native Trout Conference Attendees
April 24, 2014*

The \$2,950 grant from WNTI was to provide conference supplies, educational materials and conservation information to all event attendees. Acknowledgement of the WNTI grant was made several times throughout the event and on a *Thank You Funding Supporters* slide shown throughout the conference.

A summary of the budget and expenses is as follows:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Over (Under)</u>
Keynote Speaker	\$1,500.00	-0-	(\$1,500.00)
Artwork: Native Trout Banners	300.00	-0-	(300.00)
Awards	200.00	118.91	(81.09)
Logo Design	50.00	-0-	(50.00)
Travel Assistance	900.00	673.32	(226.68)
Conservation Books & Publications	-0-	799.09	799.09
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Total	\$2,950.00	\$1,591.32	(\$1,358.68)

There were numerous reasons for the reduced actual expenses and expenditure delays which planned to be incurred for the 2015 conference. The expenses associated with a keynote speaker were not required since the Trout Unlimited CEO did not want reimbursement for any expenses. Research to obtain artwork and logo copyright approval has proven to be a lengthy process and continues. Travel assistance was less due to travel restrictions placed on some governmental agency staff and conflicts with previously scheduled field work. We will be requesting that the funds (\$1,358.68) not spent be permitted by WNTI to be carried over for use as they were intended for the 2015 conference.

On behalf of the planning committee members from the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the Arizona Trout Unlimited Council we want to say THANK YOU to the Western Native Trout Initiative organization and the Grant Review Committee for providing the funds to conduct another successful event.

Any questions regarding the event or this report can be directed to:

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