Grapevine Creek

The Old Pueblo Chapter of Trout Unlimited has adopted Frye Creek and Frye Mesa Reservoir as a Partnership Water. Frye Creek is a wild Gila Trout fishery located just west of Safford, Arizona on Mount Graham. Old Pueblo TU has been involved in several aspects of Gila Trout recovery on Frye Creek, including some of the initial stocking efforts in 2011, stocking recreational fish in the reservoir, and will now be assisting Arizona Game and Fish Department in monitoring the population both in the stream and in the reservoir. Gila Trout were first stocked in Frye Creek in 2009 and the population was subsequently supplemented in 2011 and 2014. On January 1, 2015, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission approved the opening of Frye Creek to catch-and-release angling, making it the first recovery stream in Arizona open for Gila Trout angling in Arizona. As a part of opening the stream, monitoring the population and the response to angling pressure is important to ensure that AGFD is maintaining conservation objectives while providing recreational opportunity to anglers. OPTU will assist in these efforts through focused angling days to determine survival and holdover rates in the reservoir and catch rates in the stream.