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Form 990-EZ

Short Form

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

Sponsoring organizations and controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990. All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$1,000,000 and total assets less than \$2,500,000 at the end of the year may use this form. The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

OMB No 1545-1150

2008

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2008 calendar year, or tax year beginning 07-01-2008, and ending 06-30-2009

- B Check if applicable: Address change, Name change, Initial return, Termination, Amended return, Application pending

Please use IRS label or print or type. See Specific Instructions.

C Name of organization: The Rincon Institute. Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite: 13701 E Langtry Ln. City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4: Tucson, AZ 85747

D Employer identification number: 86-0684609. E Telephone number: (520) 647-7388. F Group Exemption Number

Section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ).

G Accounting method: Cash [] Accrual [x] Other (specify)

I Website: www.rinconinstitute.org

H Check [] if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

J Organization type (check only one): 501(c)(3) [x] (insert no) 4947(a)(1) [] or 527 []

K Check [] if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$25,000. A return is not required, but if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.

L Add lines 5b, 6b, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts, if \$1,000,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ. \$ 137,720

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (See the instructions for Part I)

Table with 3 main sections: Revenue (lines 1-9), Expenses (lines 10-17), and Net Assets (lines 18-21). Includes sub-rows for special events and inventory.

Part II Balance Sheets—If Total assets on line 25, column (B) are \$2,500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ

(See the instructions for Part II)

Table with 3 columns: Description, (A) Beginning of year, (B) End of year. Rows include Cash, Land and buildings, Other assets, Total assets, Total liabilities, and Net assets or fund balances.

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (See the instructions for Part III)		Expenses
What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? The Rincon Institute works to protect the natural resources of the Rincon Mountain Distrist of Saguaro National Park, the Rincon Valley and the Cienega Corridor We carry out research, ecological monitoring, outreach and cooperation with landowners, community education, and wildlife habitat restoration to accomplish this goal Describe what was achieved in carrying out the organization's exempt purposes In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, or other relevant information for each program title		(Required for 501(c)(3) and (4) organizations and 4947(a)(1) trusts, optional for others)
28 See attached (Grants \$ 79,892)	If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . <input type="checkbox"/>	28a
29		
(Grants \$)	If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . <input type="checkbox"/>	29a
30		
(Grants \$)	If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . <input type="checkbox"/>	30a
31 Other program services (attach schedule)		
(Grants \$)	If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . <input type="checkbox"/>	31a
32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)		32 79,892

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees. List each one even if not compensated (See the instructions for Part IV)				
(a) Name and address	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-.)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
See Additional Data Table				

Part V Other Information (Note the statement requirements in the instructions for Part VI.)

		Yes	No
33 Did the organization engage in any activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," attach a detailed description of each activity	33		No
34 Were any changes made to the organizing or governing documents but not reported to the IRS? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes	34		No
35 <i>If the organization had income from business activities, such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a (among others), but not reported on Form 990-T, attach a statement explaining your reason for not reporting the income on Form 990-T</i>			
a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more or 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements?	35a	Yes	
b If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year?	35b	Yes	
36 Was there a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or substantial contraction during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N</i>	36		No
37a Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions <input type="checkbox"/> 37a _____			
b Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?	37b		No
38a Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still unpaid at the start of the period covered by this return?	38a	Yes	
b If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	38b		40,000
39 <i>501(c)(7) organizations.</i> Enter			
a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9	39a		0
b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities	39b		0
40a <i>Section 501(c)(3) organizations.</i> Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under section 4911 <input type="checkbox"/> _____, section 4912 <input type="checkbox"/> _____, section 4955 <input type="checkbox"/> _____			
b <i>Section 501(c)(3) and (4) organizations.</i> Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year or did it become aware of an excess benefit transaction from a prior year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I.</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	40b		No
c Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 <input type="checkbox"/> _____			
d Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization <input type="checkbox"/> _____			
e <i>All organizations.</i> At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?	40e		No
41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed <input type="checkbox"/> <u>AZ</u>			
42a The books are in care of <input type="checkbox"/> The corporation _____ Telephone no <input type="checkbox"/> (520) 647-7388 13701 E Old Spanish Trail Located at <input type="checkbox"/> Tucson, AZ _____ ZIP + 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 85747			
b At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country <input type="checkbox"/> _____ See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.	42b	Yes	No
c At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside of the U S ? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country <input type="checkbox"/> _____	42c		No
43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 —Check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year 43 _____			
44 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds? <i>If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ.</i>	44		No
45 Is any related organization a controlled entity of the organization within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ.</i>	45		No

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only. All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 46-49 and

complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

	Yes	No
46 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I		No
47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II		No
48 Is the organization operating a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "yes," complete Schedule E		No
49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?		No
49b If "Yes," was the related organization(s) a section 527 organization?		No

50 Complete this table for the five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees, and key employees) who received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there are none, enter "None "

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
NONE				
Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000				

51 Complete this table for the five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there are none, enter "None "

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		
Total number of other independent contractors receiving over \$100,000		

Please Sign Here

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Signature of officer: ***** Date: 2010-05-12

Type or print name and title: John Carruth Chair

Paid Preparer's Use Only

Preparer's signature: Mike DeVries Date: _____ Check if self-employed:

Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4: DeVries CPAs of Arizona PC, 4349 East Fifth Street, Tucson, AZ 857112025

Preparer's PTIN (See Gen Inst X): _____

EIN: _____ Phone no: (520) 298-6200

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions Yes No

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990EZ)

Public Charity Status and Public Support

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

To be completed by all section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts.
Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. See separate instructions.

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
The Rincon Institute

Employer identification number
86-0684609

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (to be completed by all organizations) (See Instructions)

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (Please check only **one** organization)

- 1 A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **Section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2 A school described in **Section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E)
- 3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **Section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. (Attach Schedule H)
- 4 A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **Section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state _____
- 5 An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **Section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II)
- 6 A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **Section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7 An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **Section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II)
- 8 A community trust described in **Section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II)
- 9 An organization that normally receives (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975 See **Section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III)
- 10 An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety See **Section 509(a)(4)**. (See instructions)
- 11 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2) See **Section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h
 - a Type I
 - b Type II
 - c Type III - Functionally Integrated
 - d Type III - Other

e By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2)

f If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II or Type III supporting organization, check this box

- g Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?
- (i) a person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the the supported organization?
 - (ii) a family member of a person described in (i) above?
 - (iii) a 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?

	Yes	No
11g(i)		No
11g(ii)		No
11g(iii)		No

h Provide the following information about the organizations the organization supports

(i) Name of Supported Organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1- 9 above or IRC section (See Instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col (i) organized in the U S ?		(vii) Amount of support?
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Sonoran Institute	860684610	7		No		No	Yes		1
Total									1

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in IRC 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
 (Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I.)

Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
4 Total. Add line 1-3						
5 The portion of total contribution by each person (other than a government unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceed 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						
6 Public Support subtract line 5 from line 4						

Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4						
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV)						
11 Total Support (Add lines 7 through 10)						
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc (See instructions)					12	
13 First Five Years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here						<input type="checkbox"/>

Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public Support Percentage for 2008 (line 6 column (f) divided by line 11 column (f))	14	
15 Public Support Percentage for 2007 Schedule A, Part IV-A, line 26f	15	
16a 33 1/3% Test - 2008. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		<input type="checkbox"/>
b 33 1/3% Test - 2007. If the organization did not check the box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		<input type="checkbox"/>
17a 10% Facts and Circumstances Test - 2008. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		<input type="checkbox"/>
b 10% Facts and Circumstances Test - 2007. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		<input type="checkbox"/>
18 Private Foundation. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a or 17b, check this box and see instructions		<input type="checkbox"/>

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in IRC 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6 Total Add lines 1-5						
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of 1% of the total of lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12 for the year or \$5,000						
c Total of lines 7a and 7b						
8 Public Support (Subtract line 7c from line 6)						

Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6						
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after 30 June, 1975						
c Add lines 10a and 10b						
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12 Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)						
13 Total Support (Add lines 9, 10c, 11 and 12)						
14 First Five Years If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here <input type="checkbox"/>						

Computation of Public Support Percentage

15 Public Support Percentage for 2008 (line 8 column (f) divided by line 13 column (f))	15	
16 Public Support Percentage for 2007 Schedule A, Part IV-A, line 27g	16	

Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17 Investment Income Percentage for 2008 (line 10c column (f) divided by line 13 column (f))	17	
18 Investment Income Percentage from 2007 Schedule A, Part IV-A, line 27h	18	
19a 33 1/3% Tests - 2008. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
b 33 1/3% Tests - 2007. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3% and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
20 Private Foundation If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a or 19b, check this box and see instructions <input type="checkbox"/>		

Part IV **Supplemental Information.** Complete this part to provide the information required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b, or Part III, line 12. Provide and any other additional information. (see instructions)

Facts and Circumstances Test

Schedule L (Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Transactions with Interested Persons

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 25a, 25b, 26, 27, 28a, 28b, or 28c, or Form 990-EZ, Part V lines 38b or 40b.

Name of the organization The Rincon Institute

Employer identification number 86-0684609

Part I Excess Benefit Transactions (section 501(c)(3) and section 501 (c)(4) organizations only).

To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 25a or 25b, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 40b

Table with 3 main columns: (a) Name of disqualified person, (b) Description of transaction, (c) Corrected? (Yes/No)

2 Enter the amount of tax imposed on the organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under section 4958 \$

3 Enter the amount of tax, if any, on line 2, above, reimbursed by the organization \$

Part II Loans to and/or From Interested Persons

To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 26, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a

Table with columns: (a) Name of interested person and purpose, (b) Loan to or from the organization?, (c) Original principal amount, (d) Balance due, (e) In default?, (f) Approved by board or committee?, (g) Written agreement?

Part III Grants or Assistance Benefitting Interested Persons

To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 27.

Table with columns: (a) Name of interested person, (b) Relationship between interested person and the organization, (c) Amount of grant or type of assistance

Part IV Business Transactions Involving Interested Persons

To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 28a, 28b, or 28c.

Table with columns: (a) Name of interested person, (b) Relationship between interested person and the organization, (c) Amount of transaction, (d) Description of transaction, (e) Sharing of organization's revenues?

TY 2008 Other Assets Schedule

Name: The Rincon Institute

EIN: 86-0684609

Software ID: 08000091

Software Version: 2008v2.7

Description	Beginning of Year Amount	End of Year Amount
Prepaid Expenses and Deferred Charges	1,175	1,226
Mueller conservation easement	245,000	
Machinery and Equipment	10,728	7,997
Accounts Receivable	44,014	48,063

TY 2008 Other Changes in Net Assets Schedule**Name:** The Rincon Institute**EIN:** 86-0684609**Software ID:** 08000091**Software Version:** 2008v2.7

Description	Amount
Prior Period Adjustments	-232,000

TY 2008 Other Expenses Schedule

Name: The Rincon Institute

EIN: 86-0684609

Software ID: 08000091

Software Version: 2008v2.7

Description	Amount
Travel	2,217
Outside services	14,807
Office Expenses	4,396
Miscellaneous	1,195
Dues and publications	1,540
Depreciation	2,731
Conferences, Conventions, and Meetings	182
Advertising and Promotion	642

TY 2008 Other Liabilities Schedule

Name: The Rincon Institute

EIN: 86-0684609

Software ID: 08000091

Software Version: 2008v2.7

Description	Beginning of Year Amount	End of Year Amount
Secured Mortgages and Notes Payable	40,000	40,000
Due to Sonoran Institute	227,823	247,190
Deferred Revenue	41,123	12,707
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	30,364	30,328



Rincon Institute

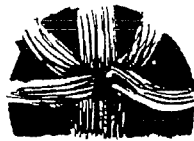
FY09 Annual Activities Report July 2008 – June 2009

Administration:

- **Staff**
 - Tory Foster, Urban Interface Coordinator resigned in July and Annie Wallace, Executive Director resigned in October. Lynsey Miller accepted the position as Executive Director.
 - Contracted with The Temp Connection to provide a temporary Office Assistant/Bookkeeper during October and November. Sandy Thomas filled the temp position and was hired as Rincon Institute's part-time Office Assistant/Bookkeeper in November.
- **Financials**
 - QuickBooks was installed and Rincon is now managing financials internally.
 - A Finance and Procedure Manual has been developed for the office
 - A Memorandum of Understanding between Sonoran Institute and Rincon Institute (regarding roles and responsibilities of each party during this financial transition) is completed and has been signed.
- **Fundraising**
 - Sent a Year End Ask letter with our Annual Report/Progress Report to over 1,500 members and local residents.
 - Sold almost all 500 of our Rincon Valley Community Calendars and brought in \$3,732 from sales.
 - Held monthly raffles at the RVFAM to raise funds for music and children's activities at the market.
 - Registered with GoodSearch.com – A new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the organizations its users designate.
 - Over 150 people attended our Annual Saguaro Blossom Fundraiser at the Academy Village and were able to raise about \$3,655 from this event.
 - The Market continues to raise funds through the Book Nook which benefits both the Market and the Acacia Library.
- **Strategic Plan**
 - The board adopted a new mission and vision for RI. The strategic plan is being revised due to board member requests to make the plan less detailed.

Natural Area Protection:

- **Saguaro National Park Expansion and Regional Study**
 - About 400 acres within the Rincon Mountain District were added to the proposed bill.
 - Currently the Saguaro National Park Boundary Expansion and Study Act of 2009 bill [HR 715] is waiting to go to a full House vote.
 - Rincon Institute has been working closely with National Parks Conservation Association, Sonoran Institute and the Tucson Mountain Association on this effort.



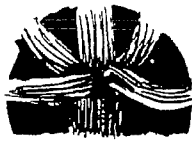
Rincon Institute

FY09 Annual Activities Report July 2008 – June 2009

- **Communication Tower Along Old Spanish Trail**
 - Rincon Institute took a neutral position regarding the Communications Tower being proposed along Old Spanish Trail on the property adjacent to the Rincon Valley Farmers & Artisans Market but made two requests to the Planning & Zoning Commission:
 1. That Rincon Institute be informed of all permit requests within the Rincon Valley – the 1,000 ft notification requirement from the County is not sufficient in an area that is comprised of large acre properties such as the Rincon Valley
 2. The Rincon Institute requests that the County develops a comprehensive plan for all future utilities for the Rincon Valley before another pole can be installed.
- **Conservation Easements**
 - Susan North Easement – The Natural Area Protection Board Committee recommended to the board to accept Susan North’s easement violation as a technical violation with the requirement that a plan for the removal of the Tucson Wildlife Center’s javelina rehabilitation temporary structure be created with projected dates and signatures from all parties agreeing to plan and timeline. The board approved this recommendation.
 - Mueller-Crookston Easement – The property is on the market. A letter was sent to the realtor giving background on Rincon Institute and conservation easements. Annual monitoring was completed using GPS coordinates.
 - Wendt Easement – Annual monitoring was completed using GPS coordinates.

Community Engagement:

- **E-Newsletter**
 - RI now reaches over 1,000 residents through Constant Contact with our monthly E-Newsletter called “Your Desert”.
- **2008 Fall Presentation Series: *Back to Nature***
 - Rincon Institute partnered with Colossal Cave Mountain Park and the Vail School District to implement this series. Presentations included: “In the Dead of Night: Who’s in Your Yard While You’re Asleep”, “Predators in Miniature: Spiders of the Colossal Cave Area”, “Living with Urban Wildlife”. We had approximately 40 residents attend the series.
- **2009 Spring Presentation Series: *Cancelled due to funds***
 - Colossal Cave Mountain Park who has partnered with RI on the Presentation Series in the past has decided to not continue with the series due to budget cuts.
 - We did however host a presentation/open house regarding the Pima County Multi-Species Conservation Plan: Draft V. About 25 people attended.
- **Naturalist Outings/Talks**
 - Organized 2 Naturalist Outings for over 30 people – Bird Hike along Cienega Creek and Geology Walkabout at Colossal Cave Mountain Park.



Rincon Institute

FY09 Annual Activities Report

July 2008 – June 2009

- Hosted a Community Meeting at the Academy Village regarding the fires in the Rincon and Catalina Mountains. Saguaro National Park gave an update on the fires, specifically the Chiminea Fire. Rangers also discussed the role of fire in the Rincon Mountains.
- Gave a presentation on “Land Trusts and Local Foods: A Natural Partnership” to the Vail Rotary Club.
- **Rincon Valley Community Photo Contest**
 - We received 53 photos for the photo contest this year (18 photos are from Cienega and Empire High School Photography students).
 - Over 100 people voted for their favorite photos at the Rincon Valley Farmers & Artisans Market.
 - The top 12 photos were announced at our Saguaro Blossom Event!
- **Cienega Corridor Conservation Council**
 - RI has continued to help facilitate the 4C meetings which now take place quarterly. We have chosen a different theme for each meeting which has attracted different residents to attend.
- **Outreach Events**
 - Vail Pride Day – Had a booth at this event and was able to reach out to 100’s of local residents and over 50 people to sign up on our mailing/email list from this event.
 - Cienega Watershed Celebration – Had a booth at this event handing out brochures and information to people. Only 350 people attended this year but the water presentation/water discussion panel was well attended.
 - Grijalva Appreciation Reception hosted by Friends of Saguaro National Park – Rincon Institute endorsed and attended this event.
- **Rincon Valley Farmers & Artisans Market**
 - Continues to engage the Rincon Valley Community with different festivals and events including Roasted Chile Festival, Harvest Festival, Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt, Cinco de Mayo Fiesta and more.
 - Annual Roasted Chile Festival – This event was a great success with 75 different vendors and about 2,000 attendants.
 - Regular Saturday events include: a Monthly Pet Day (the third Saturday of the month) with a local vet giving pet shots and a Community Sale behind the barn (now on the third and last Saturdays of the month) to give rural residents the opportunity to sell good quality used household goods.
 - We started to host a Community Information Day every few months to invite local businesses, non-profits, and school groups out to the Market.
 - The Lending Library is now called the “Book Nook” – The proceeds are still being split between Acacia Library and the Market. We host book readings in the book nook which are popular with the kids.



Rincon Institute

FY09 Annual Activities Report July 2008 – June 2009

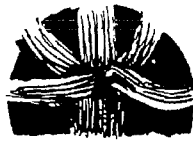
- Article in the July issue of Better Homes and Gardens. Quote from Market customers, Debra & Larry Divine: "We love the farmer's market. The homemade breads, honeys and fresh vegetables are so good and delicious. It makes us proud that we are supporting local farmers and artisans who are providing good nutrition." (pg. 11)
- Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (AZ FMNP) is now offered at the Market: The AZ FMNP is a program to increase fruit and vegetable intake in women and children participating in the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and in seniors who participate in the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP).
- A weekly E-Newsletter just for Market vendors and customers has been created and is currently being sent out to almost 250 people.
- Over 25 vendors with artisan products ranging from home décor, to handmade soap, crafted metal, stained glass, woodworking, and more.

Urban Interface Project:

- Designed and printed ParkWatch magnets with a number for people to call "For Crimes Against Park Resources".
- Developed and mailed the second edition of the Saguaro Sentinel: Neighborhood Edition to park neighbors within ¼ of a mile, reaching 1,176 households. This edition also included a ParkWatch magnet.
- Buffelgrass Eradication – We have developed a buffelgrass removal strategy for the Rincon Valley and are currently planning to organize a clean-up/training along Old Spanish Trail, Coyote Creek, and Academy Village.
- Flyers have been created and distributed at outreach events and available every Saturday at the Market.
- We are receiving additional funds (\$8,800) from the National Park Service to extend this project for three additional months, until September 30, 2010, for the purpose of continuing the outreach work to contact and develop relationships with more groups of park neighbors.

Research & Monitoring:

- **Phase II: Community-driven Restoration, Conservation, and Long-term protection of Rincon Creek**
 - This project, to remove exotic plant species from a 2-mile stretch along upper Rincon Creek, has been successfully completed.
 - Successfully recruited 103 volunteers to participate in this project, totaling almost 1,200 hours.
 - The following exotic plant species were successfully removed from this portion of the creek: buffelgrass (*Pennisetum ciliare*), onion weed (*Asphodelus fistulosus*), and salt cedar (*Tamarisk*).



Rincon Institute

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- Following the removal of exotic species, approximately 150 native plants were planted in the spring of 2008 from Weil's property to Egbert's property.
- Educated the general public about the importance of riparian habitats by publishing several articles about the effects of exotic plant species on riparian habitat, hosted a plant identification training for 20 people, distributed educational flyers at over 15 outreach events, and hosted one public presentation.
- **Leopard Frog Reintroduction**
 - Currently extending the deadline for this grant to June 30, 2010 (due to Saguaro National Park Biologist, Don Swann's 9-month absence).
 - Saguaro National Park (SNP) and the Rincon Institute are continuing to work with the local "Notch" neighborhood group, the Arizona Game and Fish Department, the University of Arizona, and the Tucson Herpetological Society to restore habitat in the park and to propagate frogs in back-yard ponds near the park for experimental repatriation back to the wild.
 - This project will start up again starting in August upon Don Swann's return.
- **Community Wildfire Protection Plan**
 - We received partial funding (\$8,000) from a grant from the National Park Service to facilitate and write a Community Wildfire Protection Plan for the Rincon Valley, including staff time, overhead, printing, and office supply costs.
 - Steps for developing the CWPP will include:
 1. Developing a workgroup consisting of the Rincon Valley Fire Department, Saguaro National Park, and Rincon Institute, which will evaluate existing resources, establish a core leadership team, and develop agency partnerships
 2. Engaging stakeholders and community members through educational outreach efforts and public meetings
 3. Establishing a community base map; including community risk assessment (already completed by Rincon Valley Fire Department); establishing community priorities and recommendations based on collaborative public and stakeholder meetings
 4. Developing an action plan and mitigation strategy to be implemented by community partners. Partial funding will also be designated for Rincon Valley Fire District ongoing educational activities and materials and Rincon Institute community outreach events, including two presentations on invasive plants and four invasive plant removal efforts.
 - This is a one-year grant which will begin in the fall.

Additional Data

Software ID:
Software Version:
EIN: 86-0684609
Name: The Rincon Institute

Form 990EZ, Part IV - List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees

(A) Name and address	(B) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(C) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-.)	(D) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(E) Expense account and other allowances
Annie Wallace 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Former ED 40 00	10,458	3,001	
Steve Anderson 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Ex Officio 1 00	0		
Sarah Craighead 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Ex Officio 1 00	0		
Luther Propst 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Director 1 00	0		
Chris Monson 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Ex Officio 1 00	0		
John Carruth 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Chair 1 00	0		
Margaret Davis 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Sec/Treas 1 00	0		
Mary Elizabeth Pollard 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Director 1 00	0		
Nancy Osgood-West 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Director 1 00	0		
Ted Hullar 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Director 1 00	0		
Lynsey Miller 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Executive Direc 40 00	36,392	9,464	
Katie Dusenberry 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Vice Chair 1 00	0		
Dave Cox 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Director 1 00	0		
Donald Diamond 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Director 1 00	0		
Calvin Baker 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Director 1 00	0		
Peter Backus 13701 E Langtry Ln Tucson, AZ 85747	Director 1 00	0		