

Borderlands Earth Care Youth (BECY) Programming



Photo Credit: Carly Schmidt



Caleb Weaver

*Education/Outreach Manager,
Wild Seed Harvester, &
Ecological Restorationist*



BORDERLANDS
RESTORATION

*Our goal is to
reconnect wildlife,
land and people in the
Arizona/Sonora
Borderland region by
involving people in
restoring the
ecosystem on which
we depend.*



1. *Restore Physical Properties*

Our Approach

2. *Restore the Ecosystem*

3. *Cultivate Connection*



Restoration Economy

A Restoration Economy is built on a recognition of the interdependence of people and the ecosystem services they derive from the natural environment. An implicit component of a Restoration Economy is the interdependence of rural and urban landscapes.

Recipe for a Restoration Economy in Patagonia:

- Improve grassland productivity
- Restore streams and streamside vegetation
- Restore degraded agricultural lands
- Create and support jobs tied to land health and conservation



Youth Programming Goals

- Foster stewardship, leadership & conservation land ethic as the foundation of a **Restoration Economy**
- Teach marketable job skills while restoring our home watershed
- Educate tomorrow's rural conservation leaders
- Create replicable model for other rural border communities



Borderlands Earth Care Youth (BECY) Programming

Paid internships for high school students living in the Sonoita Creek Watershed to learn practical, marketable skills in habitat restoration, sustainable agriculture and conservation land management and their supporting crafts, with many community leaders and practitioners.

BECY Institute

- Paid Summer Job for high school students
- 4 days a week for 4-6 Weeks
- Leadership & Stewardship Development
- Broad Focus on Skill-building
 - Watershed Restoration
 - Ecosystem Restoration
 - Food System Restoration

BECY Practicum

- Paid Academic-Year Business Incubator for high school students
- 1 day a week for 7 Months
- Narrow Focus on developing 1-2 Job Fields
 - Nursery Design & Management
 - Natural Beekeeping
 - Natural Building
 - Wood & Metal Working
 - Value-added products
 - Cistern & Grey Water installation
 - Marketing & Distribution

July 2014



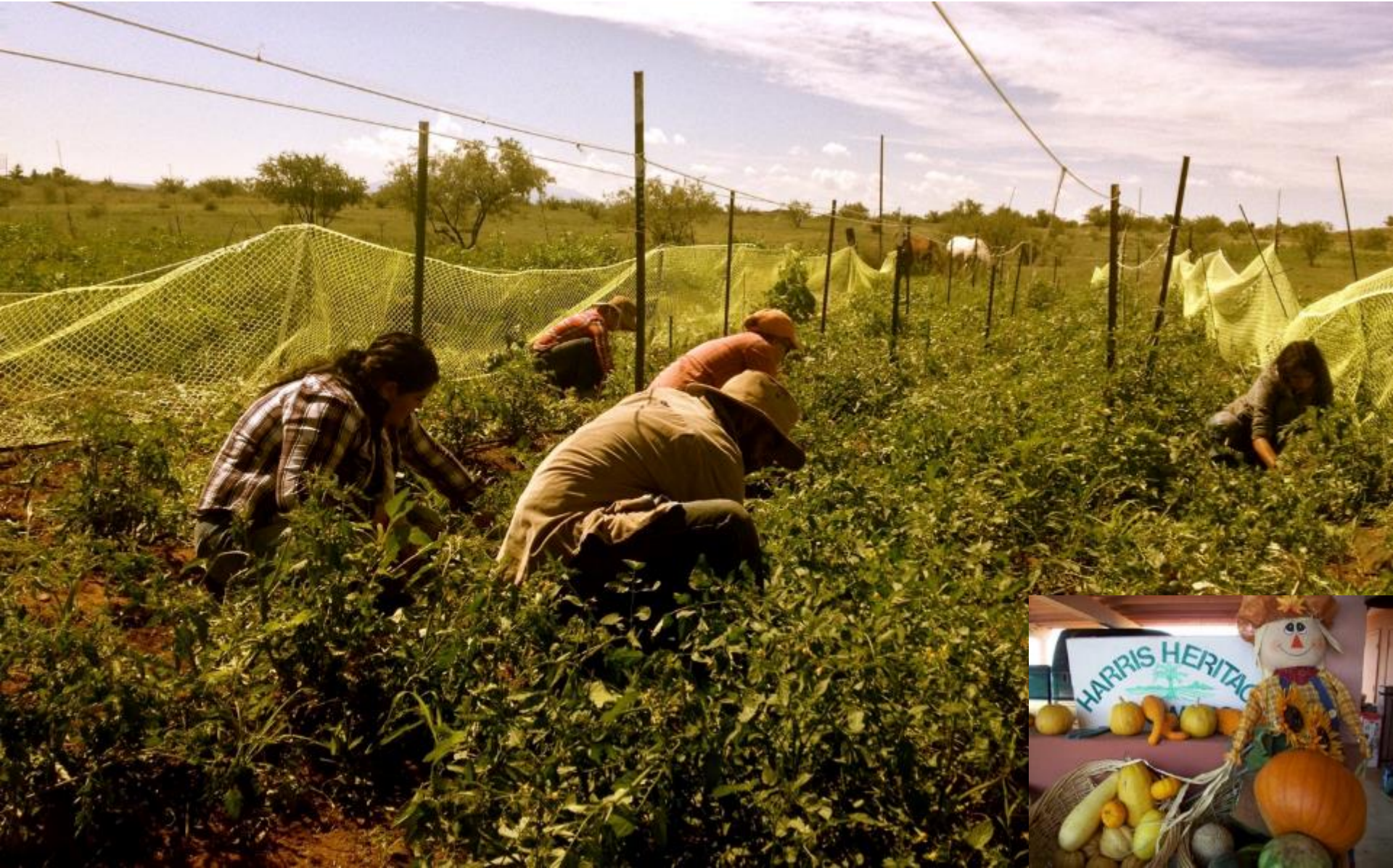
July 2015



BECY Institute Ecological Restoration



BECY Institute Food System Restoration



Community Restoration Project Graduation Requirement



2015 Graduation Ceremony



BECY Institute Funders



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
Southwest Center

and Many Generous
Individuals

Analysis of BECY Institute

Carly Schmidt – Seeking MS in Environmental Science and Policy in the School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Sustainability at Northern Arizona University

- Pre- and Post-Program participant studies



Preliminary Results: Knowledge gained, Info retained

- If I was asked to restore a stream, I would know where to start
- My generation is more environmentally conscious and responsible than my parents' generation
- Humans have a right to alter the environment to suit their needs
- I am a good and knowledgeable gardener
- Humans are part of the natural world
- I encourage my family and friends to take actions alight with environmental protection
- When I have a goal in mind, I stay focus until the goal is achieved
- I feel well-informed about different ways to help the environment
- I believe that my talents and skills make me an asset to environmental restoration
- I try to limit my own personal energy and water consumption

Watershed Living Laboratory at Patagonia Union High School – July 16, 2015





WATERSHED LEARNING LAB

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HEATHER
12/2010

of Bamboo 2010

Watershed Living Laboratory at Patagonia
Union High School – September 15, 2015



Watershed Living Laboratory at Patagonia
Union High School – September 21, 2015



Watershed Living Laboratory at Patagonia
Union High School – November 9, 2015



Watershed Living Laboratory at Patagonia Union High School – July 16, 2015



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BECY Douglas





BECY Practicum

