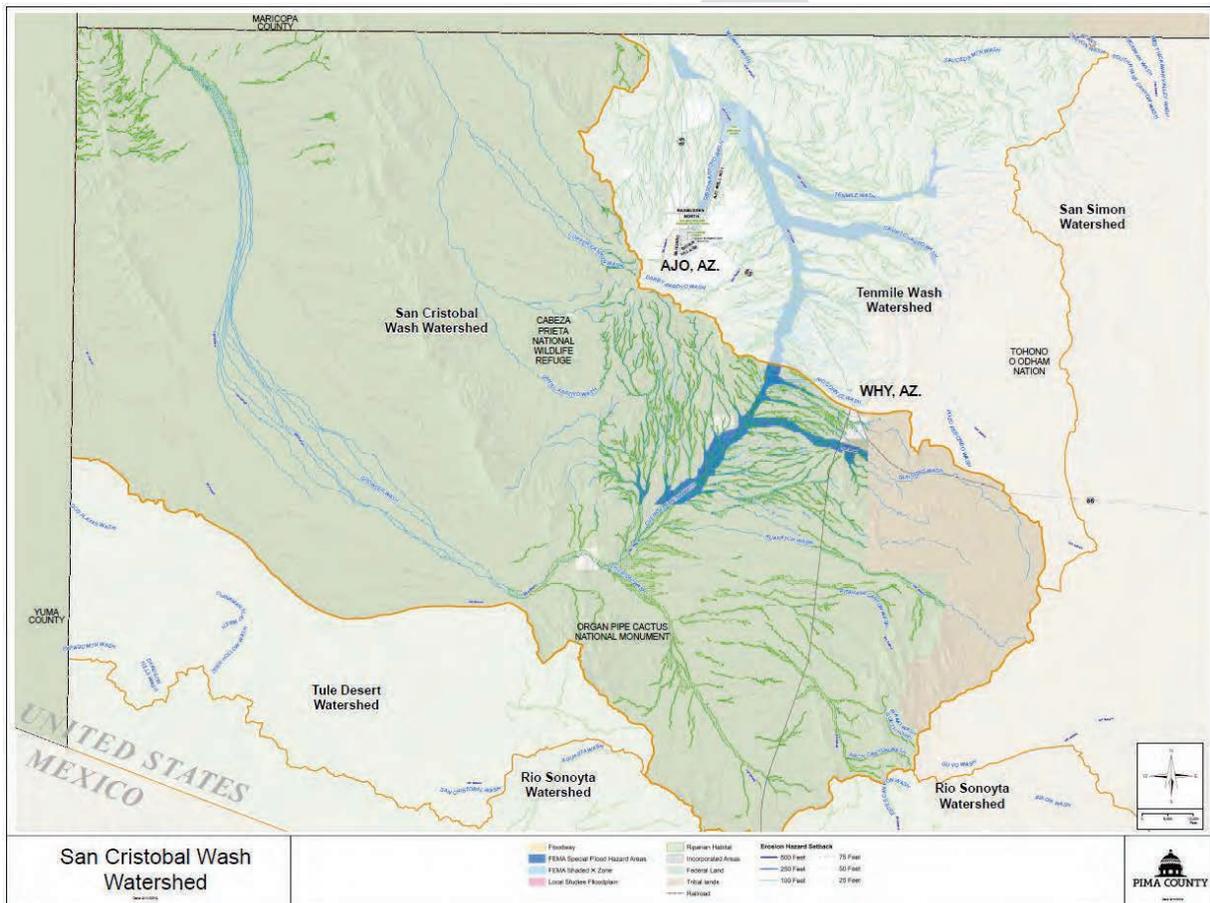


5.5.4 San Cristobal

The watershed includes the Growler Valley drainage system that extends from Ajo Mountain east of State Route 85 at the Western edge of the Tohono O’odham Nation across Valley of the Ajo, past the Growler Mountains and then Granite Mountains where it joins the San Cristobal. From these Valley Basins, this watershed then drains northward into Maricopa and Yuma Counties. The United States Geological Survey Near does not show San Cristobal Wash beyond the northwest terminus of the watershed as flows disappear into deep alluvium south of the theoretical confluence with the Gila River near Interstate 8, the communities of Dateland, Stoval, Mohawk and Kofa. Within Pima County, it is comprised of 579,168 acres (905 square miles).

Figure 209 - San Cristobal Watershed Map



5.5.4.1 Flood Characteristics

There is 5,432 acres of SFHA Zone A and no other mapped floodplains in this watershed. The table below provides a summary of historic USGS gaging station records.

Figure 210 - San Cristobal Watershed USGS Gages

USGS Gaging Station	Alamo Wash TRIB near Ajo, AZ 09520300
Period of Record	1963-08-15 to 1993-08-27
Watershed Area (sq. m)	.90
Flood Peak of Record (cfs)	510
Date	08-31-1972

There are no Pima County ALERT gages or regulatory discharges in this watershed.

5.5.4.2 Existing Development & Infrastructure Trends

Most of this watershed is located within the Cabeza Prieta Wildlife Refuge that is also a part of the Barry M Goldwater Missile Range and is therefore largely vacant.

Figure 211 - San Cristobal Watershed Population Distribution

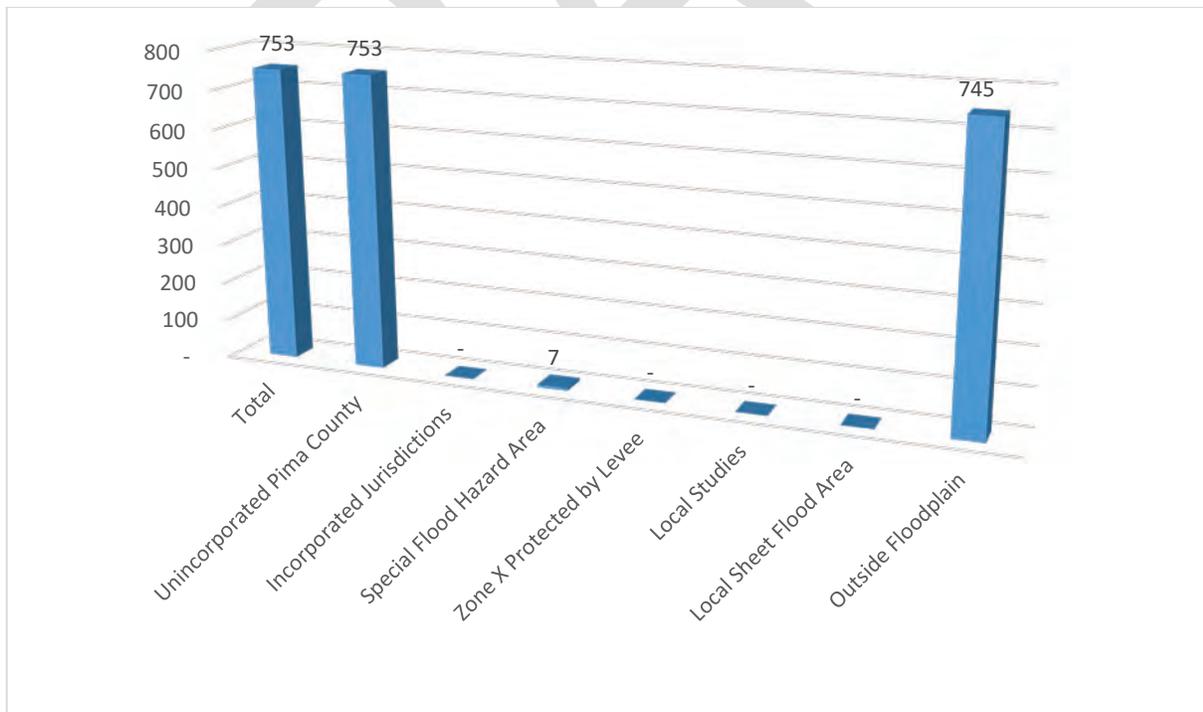


Figure 212 - San Cristobal Ownership in Acres

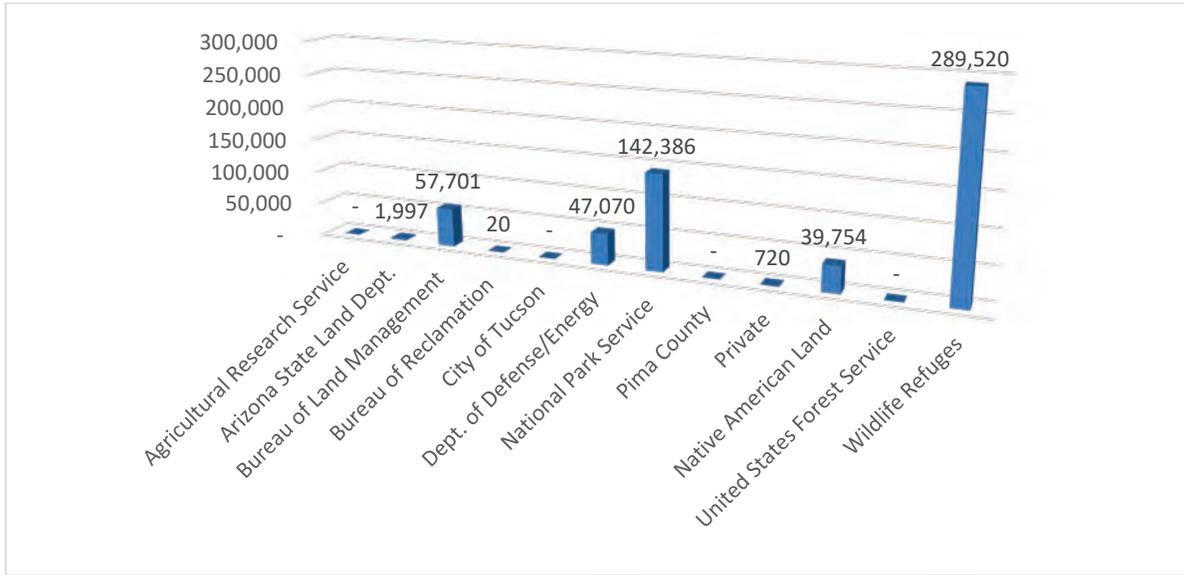
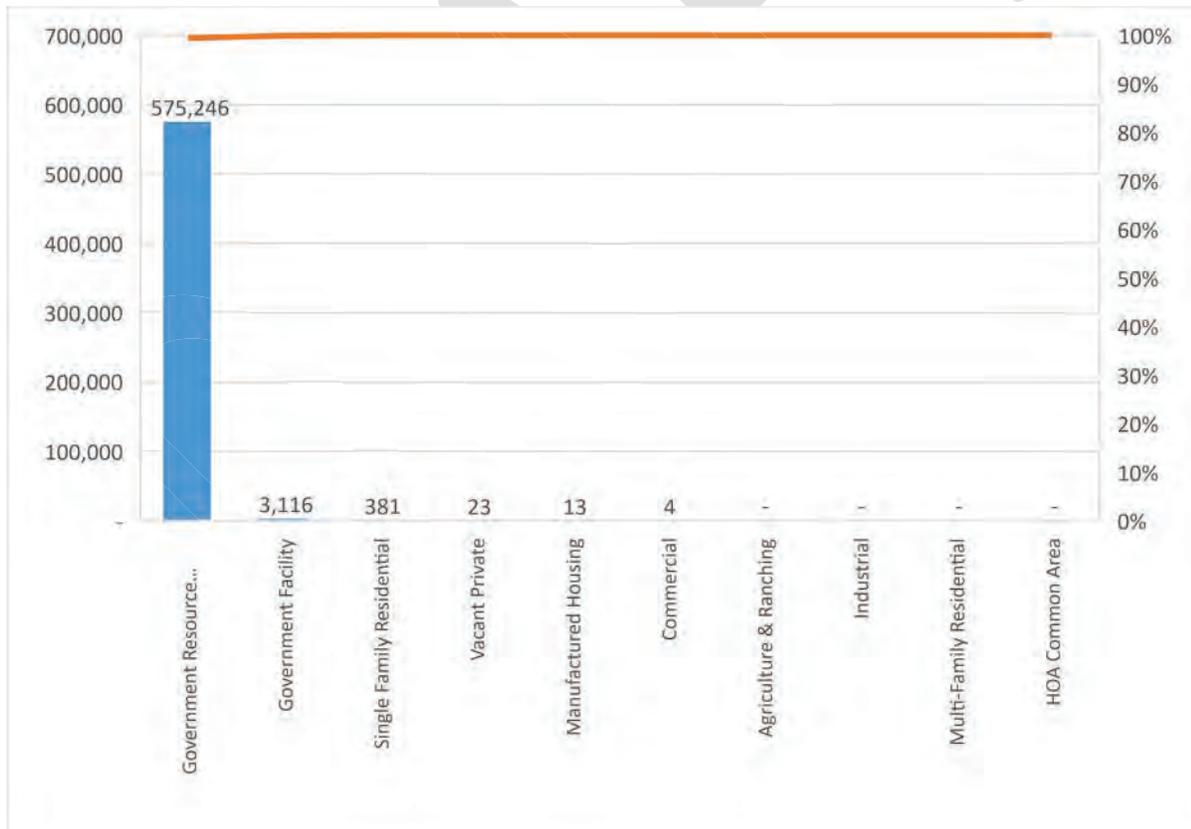
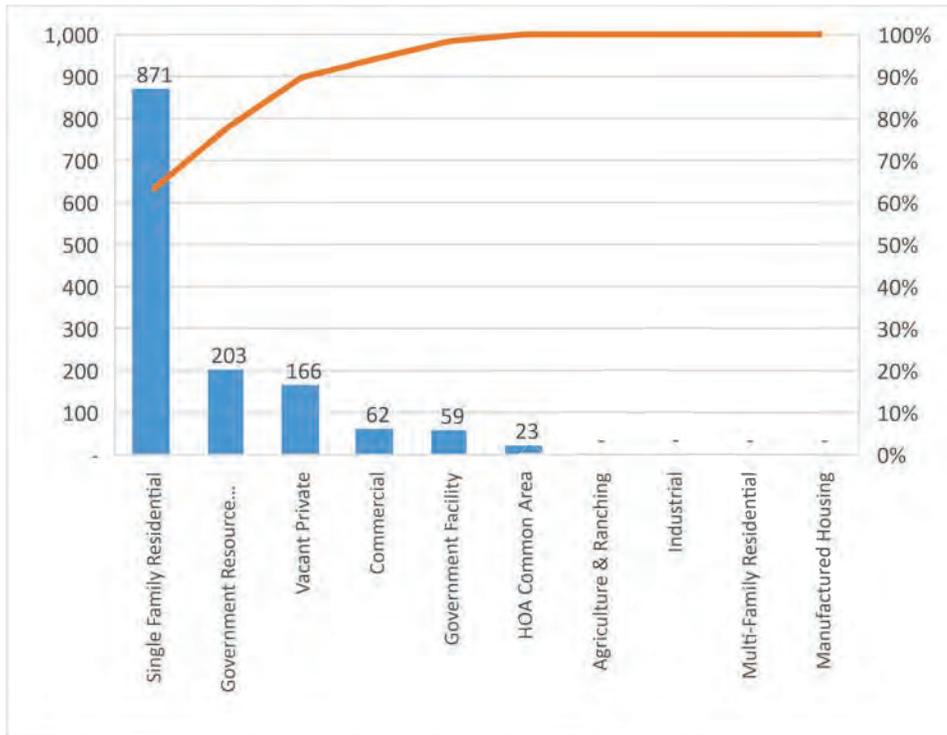


Figure 213 - San Cristobal Watershed Land Use in Acres



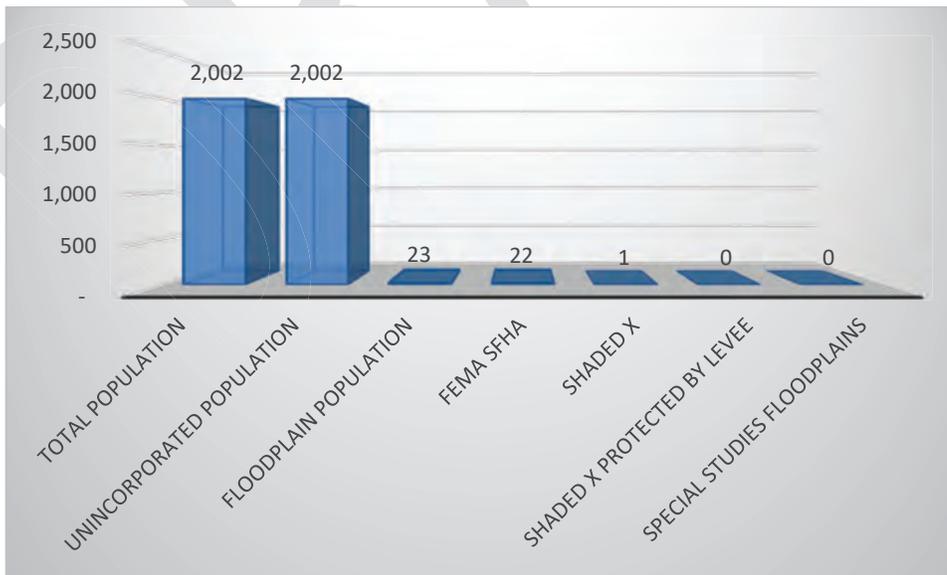
Government land uses predominate here and wildlife and Air Force practice space co-exist.

Figure 214 - San Cristobal Wash Floodplain Land Use



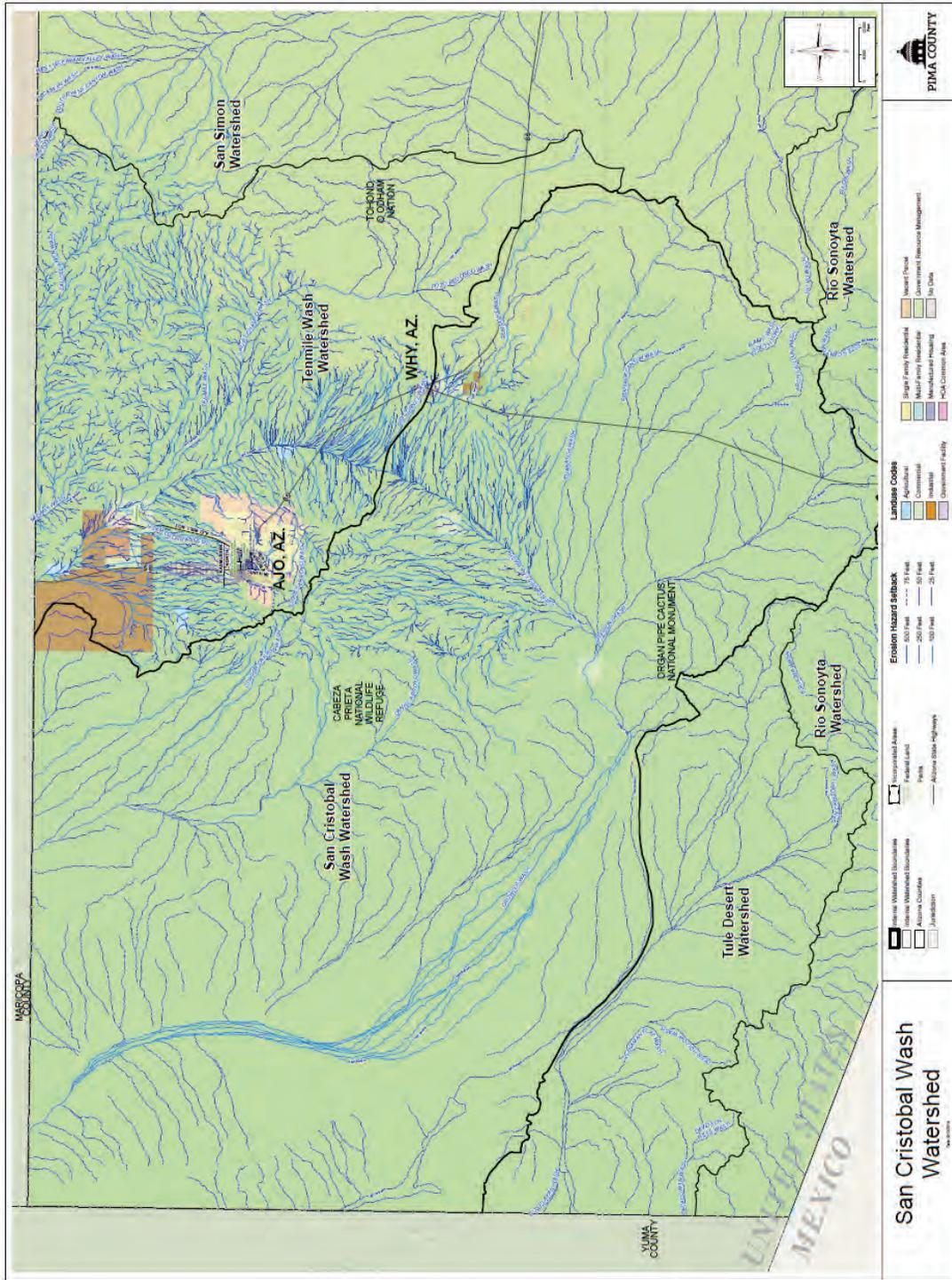
The chart below shows population distribution between incorporated and unincorporated areas. This chart also shows the distribution of residents within known floodplains.

Figure 215 - San Cristobal Wash Watershed Population Distribution



As indicated on the Land Use map below the inhabited area is in the southern half of the community of Why. This town serves travelers including ex-patriots living in Mexico, border workers and a small number of seasonal residents.

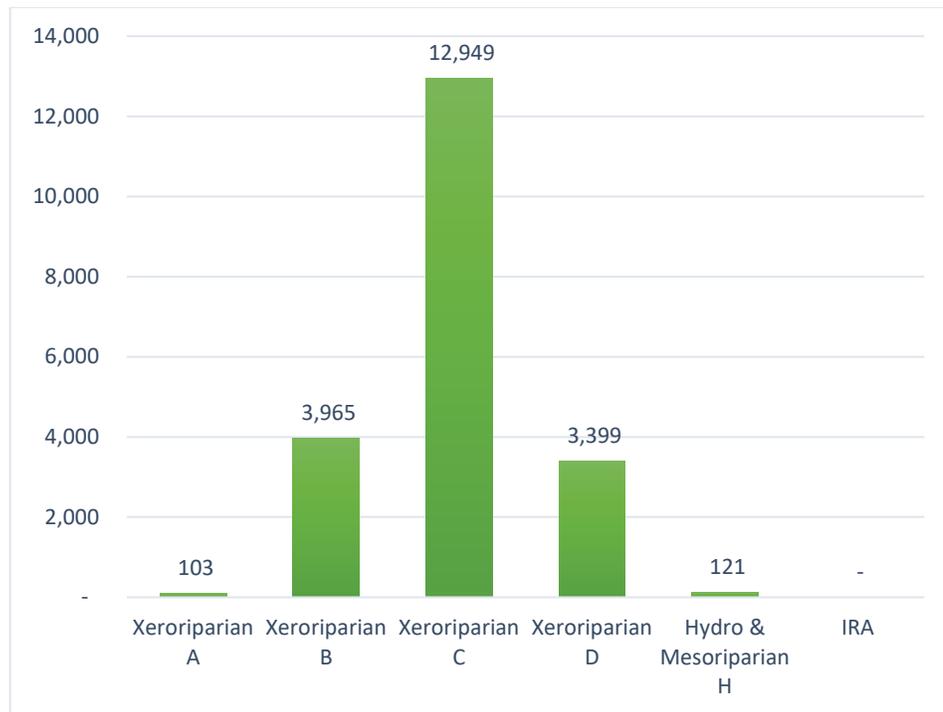
Figure 216 - San Cristobal Wash Watershed Land Use



5.5.4.3 Riparian Habitat and Natural Areas

As shown on the figure below, there are 20,538 acres of Pima County Regulated Riparian Habitat in this watershed. There are also 479,560 preserved acres in this watershed, and there is no regulatory floodplain.

Figure 217 - San Cristobal Watershed Riparian Habitat in Acres



5.5.4.4 Historic Floodplain Management Approach

While there are no drainageways in this watershed, there is 479,561 acres of preserved open space that is 83% of the whole area.

5.5.4.5 Needs – Capital Improvement

For each watershed; monitoring, frequently flooded structures and properties subject to damage, exposed infrastructure, and safety concerns have been described in full detail in the District’s Flood Response Field Manual (April 2019). Each of the areas so identified have addresses and geodetic coordinates associated with them and District personnel have them mapped in the Geographic Information System used. For planning purposes, specific items of concern follow; the complete report is in Appendix D. The 2019 Flood Response Manual identifies no specific items of concern in this watershed.

5.5.4.6 Floodplain Management

Future needs identified by District staff include:

- Historic and ADOT Berms
- Unpermitted development

