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Comments: The UVR (upper Verde River) is extremely out of equilibrium geomorphologically and ecologically. It is deprived of sand and gravel sediments essential to aquatic and riparian health. Invasive plants and animal species dominate native plant and animal species. Without carefully planned restoration actions the UVR will continue its trend away from natural conditions and continued loss of native flora and fauna.
Any designation from Perkinsville upstream to the Forest boundary should not preclude riparian and aquatic habitat restoration activities that include:
- Use of heavy equipment to conduct stream channel modifictions necessary to restore fluvial system processes;
- Cutting trees, use of herbicides to remove invasive tree and herbacious plant species;
- Installation of physical structure (weirs, monitoring stations, traps, etc.) in order to restore form and functions of riverine habitats, and conduct future studies and monitoring.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on this proposed study.