

Arizona Wildlife News

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Winter 2009/2010

Volume 52 - Issue 1

Kellie's Special Buck!
State Land Trust Reform?



Official Publication of the Arizona Wildlife Federation - Conserving Arizona's Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat



AWF Mail Pouch

Re: Kid Earth Global Warming article,
(AWF Enews article)

If the National Wildlife Federation and the Arizona Wildlife Federation buys into this nonsense and Al Gore's get rich scheme then I for one want nothing to do with these organizations. I hope a future issue will address AWF's stance on this issue. As you know it is a debatable polarizing issue and one that AWF should take a neutral stance on. I believe that by printing the article in the October Update, AWF is showing support for the global warming issue. That is an issue I will not support directly or indirectly. I hope AWF will rethink its support of this controversial topic.

Jeff Rundquist

Editor's Response: *It is true that the National Wildlife Federation has formally declared that combating global warming is one of its key organizational objectives. As a state affiliate, AWF sets its own goals and objectives that are tailored to its own mission for Arizona's wildlife. AWF's Board of Directors is a diverse group and thus reflects a diversity of opinions about global warming similar to what is found in the general population. You are correct that this can be a divisive and polarizing issue. However, AWF does not avoid issues because they are potentially divisive and polarizing. To the contrary, Arizona Wildlife News intends to be a forum for the opinions and viewpoints of the diverse constituency that makes up Arizona's wildlife advocates. That constituency contains some very strong opinions about other potentially divisive issues as well, such as predator management, wilderness and roadless designations and the border fence. We welcome thoughtful, well-written articles on these subjects and others, regardless of their point of view, in the hope that dialogue and discussion might occasionally lead us to some common ground.*

This is in response to an article in our AWF Enewsletter regarding our position on amending the Wild Horse & Burro Act
Hello,

Yes this is a huge problem on the Navajo reservation and our grazing representatives are not up to par on this issue, only because the elders say "Horses bring rain", but guess what "No Rain".

If the Arizona Wildlife Federation comes up with a solution please include our Navajo Nation. I have open range, soon to be closed, but as of now, I usually count up to or over two hundred horses on a 9,000 plus trust land on which I hold the permit.

Horse roundups have failed numerous times. Keep me informed and maybe we can all collaborate and find a solution to over-population of wild horses.

Thanks, Majel R. Brown

Dear Ryna, (Rock AWF President)

This letter of thanks is long overdue. The WMCL, Arizona Wilderness Coalition, Grand Canyon Wildlands Council, and the Sky Island Alliance appreciate your contribution of \$200 for the In the Footsteps of Leopold conference over Labor Day, 2009.

The Leopold conference energized many conservation-minded participants from a number of environmental groups. We had presenters who so thoroughly enjoy themselves, they declined reimbursement for travel expenses. In emails we

received from others, they shared that people were still talking about how great the event was.

The conference also had an important contribution to the scholarship about Aldo Leopold. One of Leopold's most influential essays was "Thinking Like a Mountain" from Sand County Almanac. In this essay, Leopold describes watching "a fierce green fire dying" in a wolf's eyes. He recalls this as a transformational moment that led him to realize the critical role predators play in a healthy ecosystem. Until recently, questions remained about whether or not the incident ever took place. One very significant outcome of the Leopold conference was the discovery of the location where the "fierce green fire" left the legendary wolf's eyes. This historic discovery developed as a series of previously undiscovered letters and documents surfaced earlier in the year. The scholars who participated in the conference used these letters, along with the help of Don Hoffman, to find the location where the incident occurred. We now believe that the shooting of the wolf occurred in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest along the Black River, just above where Bear Creek enters the river. Without the Leopold conference in the White Mountains, this location would still be unknown. Your donation contributed to this historic finding.

The WMCL has submitted a proposal for a new trail, The Green Fire Trail, based on the finding of this location. I have attached a copy of our proposal. Russ Winn and Don Hoffman met with the Forest Service on this proposal in early November. They went to the site and explored the possibilities. Chris Knopf was pleased with the proposal and we will be moving forward with this project.

Doug Scott, Policy Director for Campaign for America's Wilderness, delivered the keynote address on Sunday evening. His rich background and understanding of how new wilderness areas are designated contributed to our knowledge of issues and opportunities for expanding the Escudilla Wilderness. In addition, in the week following the conference, he was able to speak to a group of Forest Service employees on wilderness issues and expand their thinking about wilderness, its importance, and criteria that makes an area eligible for wilderness designation. Doug's visit to the southwest as part of the conference will help the White Mountain Conservation League move forward with its proposal to expand the Escudilla Wilderness and all of us who are working for the eventual inclusion of the Blue Range Primitive area into the wilderness system.

Again, we thank you for your contribution and wish you a great holiday season.

Billie Hughes and Russ Winn, WMCL



Keep your communications short and to the point. All must be signed. If you send us questions, we will seek answers and print them here. There may be times mail volume may prevent us from publishing every letter we receive, but we will do our best to print as many as possible. Send your 'snail mail' to: AWF Mail Pouch, Arizona Wildlife Federation, PO Box 51510, Mesa, AZ 85208

Send your email to:
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AWF Mission Statement:

AWF is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating, inspiring and assisting individuals to value, conserve, enhance, manage and protect wildlife and wildlife habitat.

On the Cover:

This image is compliments of Sedona resident, Darin Farnsworth, of the Mingus Mountain Longbeards. The 'cover girl' is Kellie Miner-Durkit of Peoria.

If you have a photograph or painting that you would like to submit for consideration on a future cover of Arizona Wildlife News, please contact AWF at the address below.

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The Arizona Wildlife Federation welcomes stories, art and photographic contributions. We will consider, but assume no responsibility for unsolicited proposals, manuscripts, art, photographs and transparencies. Contact the Federation office at 480-644-0077 for details.

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From The President

Ryna Rock

I depart from the norm this issue by devoting my space to a “must-read” article I found in my local Verde Valley newspaper by Jeff Schalaus who writes a weekly column titled Backyard Gardener. Jeff is a director and agent for the Agriculture & Natural Resources Department, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension, Yavapai County. His article appears courtesy of Sedona Red Rock News, Camp Verde Journal and Cottonwood Journal Extra. We present another article later in the magazine, same subject, different writer, providing a second view. These writers are unconnected in any way and unaware of each other’s articles. These articles are about climate change, a subject we must come to grips with since we are and will be dealing with the reality of it for the unforeseeable future in all aspects of our lives.



Lately we have received several letters from AWF members who are unhappy we are “buying into” the climate change movement. Sadly, those writers have never written to us to say what we are doing right, but now write their intention to withdraw their support unless the AWF remains silent and neutral on this subject. That is not possible, because in doing that, we would be denying our Mission statement of 86+ years. Our Mission states that we educate, inspire, and assist Arizonans to value, conserve, enhance, manage and protect wildlife and wildlife habitat. And, we do all that through the personal efforts of our volunteers and our support of a science-based management system. Upholding our Mission means doing our best to put wildlife first and sometimes it means taking a stance that makes some people uncomfortable. With that I invite you to read both articles with a mind open to new information and perspective, remembering that knowledge is power.

BACKYARD GARDENER SERIES JEFF SCHALAU

After hosting two eminent tree ring research scientists for an evening lecture on climate change Oct. 29, I have come to realize that people want to hear more than just the evidence related to climate change.

I think people also want to see an evaluation of the scientific evidence which supports and/or refutes climate change.

This is especially true when we enter into discussions about anthropogenic or human-caused climate change. In search of balance, we need to try to evaluate the merit of the science and seek a greater understanding of the scientific process. To that end, let’s examine climate change from a scientific perspective.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fourth Assessment Report (2007) states that the warming of the earth’s climate system is unequivocal. This report goes on to state that most of the observed increase in globally averaged temperatures since the mid-20th century is very likely due to the observed increase in anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations and predicts that world temperatures could rise by between 2.0 and 11.5 degrees F and sea levels will probably rise by 7.08 to 23.22 inches during the 21st century.

I think that a natural human emotion is to hope these predictions do not prove

to be true. It causes me great concern.

By the way, the IPCC was established in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, two organizations of the United Nations. The IPCC bases its assessment mainly on peer-reviewed and published scientific literature and their reports are widely cited in almost any debate related to climate change.

Over 97 percent of the climatologists that actively conduct research and publish agree that human activity is a significant contributing factor in changing mean global temperature (Doran and Zimmerman, 2009; see the online version of this column for more about this reference).

Doran and Zimmerman suggest the lack of communication between climate researchers and policy makers as a potential cause for this disparity and surmise that this may have led to a public that continues to mistakenly perceive debate among climate scientists. The debate among climate scientists over anthropogenic causes is very limited because they are largely in agreement. While respondents’ names were kept private, Doran and Zimmerman noted that the survey included participants with well-documented dissenting opinions on global warming theory.

In addressing the issue of peer-

reviewed and published scientific literature, the strength of this system is inherent. Scientists subject their research findings to the scrutiny of their peers, which includes disclosing the methods that they used to conduct the research, so their results can be checked through replication by other scientists. The insights and research results of individual scientists are thus confirmed or rejected in the peer-reviewed literature by the combined efforts of many other scientists.

This system seems to be working quite well for all other areas of science, so it should work just as effectively for climate science.

As a faculty member of the University of Arizona College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, it is my mission to promote the use of peer-reviewed research and accepted science to help improve the lives of the citizens of Yavapai County. In addressing the divide between climate researchers and the general public, I recommend that we marginalize our emotions and look at what the peer-reviewed science is telling us. Also, beware of blogs, editorials and other sources of biased information.

As a parting thought, when Albert Einstein was informed of the publication of a book entitled “100 Authors Against Einstein”, he is said to have remarked, “If I were wrong, then one would have been enough.”

Historical Tales



Reproduced by Ryna Rock from *Arizona Wildlife Magazine*, January 1933

IS IT FAD OR BIG BUSINESS? – BY WALTER P. TAYLOR Value of Arizona's WildLife

Is wildlife conservation a fad or is it a big business? According to the U.S. Forest Service there were present on the national forests of Arizona, December 31, 1925, the following big game species:

Antelope	1,809
Black Bear	1,233
Grizzly Bear	29
Kaibab Deer	30,000
Other Deer	19,638
Elk	797
Mountain Sheep	95
TOTAL	53,601

Remember that no big game not ranging on the national forests is included. Nor do the totals include any mountain lions or other predatory animals (which are coming to be increasingly popular as object of sport), peccaries, rabbits, fur-bearing animals, fishes, nor game birds (numerous ducks, quails and turkeys). It is not improbable that the totals representing the true present value of game in Arizona would reach several million dollars!

It is obvious that the business of recreation makes up a not insignificant total in the economic development of our State. Even a college graduate can see that for the best development of this business it is necessary to preserve and increase our forest, vegetation cover and wildlife. Scientific research and scientific application of results are as much needed in this field as in that of mining, forestry, agriculture, or any other large industry. This principle is eloquently stated by Aldo Leopold in a recent issue of *Fins, Feathers and Fur*:

“There is no more hope of raising game crops without science than of raising farm crops or forests without science. Let me state with all the emphasis at my command that game management research is a job of continental proportions. It involves every acre of rural and forest land in the country. This job is not going to be done, or even scratched, in the spare time of a few enthusiasts, or by a dribbling appropriation here and there. Agriculture and forestry began to apply science to their crops decades ago. Game management must do so now, or fail.”

The greatest values in wildlife, its conservation and increase, cannot be registered in dollars and cents. They are among those intangibles which are the most valuable possessions of mankind. What can compare with the sight of a timid deer in the mountain meadows in the early morning or the glimpse of a bear eating berries or leaves on the border of a clearing?

To many persons the wild creatures of the national parks

exceed even the magnificent scenery in appeal. They move, live, breathe. How immeasurable one's delight, to encounter a fine flock of wild turkeys, proceeding sedately, or otherwise, about their business? How fascinating are the great open spaces of our Arizona plains, when a herd of pronghorned antelope, found nowhere else in the world than in western America, may be seen, standing at attention, or flashing their "heliographs" from a distance? The call of the quail, on our Southwestern bajadas, initiates an irresistible thrill in the nerves of the out-of-doors lover. The sight of a mountain sheep on an arid, barren and precipitous desert mountain range speaks paradoxically but unmistakably of life and productiveness in areas which one might at first regard as hells of desolation.

The "More-Game" movement is founded not only on sound business principles, but on the basic needs of humanity for beauty and harmony of action, line, and color, for outdoors life, for contact with nature in as nearly as possible its original condition. Properly and scientifically approached, it is entirely feasible to work out the problems of "More-Game" in Arizona to the satisfaction of all reasonable sportsmen, nature-lovers, stockmen, businessmen, and citizens of the State.

When you check out at Bashas' donate one percent of your bill to AWF by using the AWF ID number:
29173

Bashas'

Thanks

A MILLION

FOR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS



Streams and Game Trails

By John Underwood



What a year this has been! The many accomplishments that your Arizona Wildlife Federation has completed, the continuing rise in membership, the back to the wilds with the annual meeting held in the Coconino National Forest along with the very deserving folks who were honored with recognition of their accomplishments both past and present.

During the year, I come across many items and ideas that could benefit anglers, hunters and many outdoors advocates. Here are a few that maybe you could use for stocking stuffers.

The Bushnell Backtrack is a hand-held global positioning system. It is much simpler to operate (and much less expensive) than a standard GPS. The Bushnell Backtrack will mark and remember three different locations. Then, the user can select whichever location desired, and the device will show heading and distance back to the chosen spot.

Suggested uses for this device include walking to a deer stand in the dark; motoring through a swamp to a duck blind; hunting/hiking in a wilderness setting; finding a car in a large parking lot, etc.

The Bushnell Backtrack is powered by two AAA batteries. Users should carry extra batteries with them in case the batteries in the unit lose their strength. (A battery charge indicator is shown on the face of the unit.) Also, marked locations will not be lost if the batteries go down.

Suggested retail price of the Bushnell Backtrack is \$65. This is a small price to pay for the peace of mind that you'll never get turned around again.

Rescue Tape is the Ultimate Multi-Purpose Self-Fusing Repair Tape!

Rescue Tape is a self-fusing silicone repair product with infinite uses. First used by the US Military and now seen at consumer and industrial trade shows across America, this is the most versatile and easy-to-use emergency repair product available. You can repair leaks on plumbing and hoses in a flash, use to insulate electrical wiring or as shrink wrap, wrap tool handles, and much, much more. Check it out.

\$24.95 + 5.95 shipping www.rescuetape.com

Rapala Introduces Charge 'N Glow For Glow Lures

Anglers who enjoy glow lures know the hassle of recharging. Never again will anglers have to charge their favorite glow lure with a flashlight, crossing fingers for a good charge. The Charge 'N Glow from Rapala® - hitting the shelves in mid-November - charges glow hard baits, soft baits, spoons and jigs with "why didn't I think of that" ease. Designed like a sunglass case, the durable Charge 'N Glow features eight LED bulbs that are powered by three AAA batteries. Simply place the glow lure in the spring loaded case with lock, push the power button and let the 28 lumens charge the glow bait. Yes, it's really that easy.

Suggested retail price: \$15.99

New AVID Gun Tool

As many tools as it takes to service your guns—from pin punches to choke tube wrenches to Torx and Allen wrenches—if you could buy one tool to do it all, you probably would. I have one and it works as advertised.

The Gun Tool is a versatile multi-tool designed specifically for shooters—you can carry it into the field or use it at the range—and it's loaded with 18 of the most frequently used long-gun tools, including:

- * Five Torx and Allen head wrenches
- * Four magnetic Phillips and flat screwdriver bits
- * Magnetic bit driver
- * A 6-in-one choke tube wrench for shotguns between .410 to 10 gauge
- * Pin punch
- * Scope turret tool
- * Claw-point knife
- * The Gun Tool

SureFire Introduces All-LED Aviator Light

SureFire, LLC, manufacturer of high-end illumination tools and tactical products, has announced the release of its new A2 LED Aviator® flashlight. The new Aviator is an all-LED evolution of the A2 Aviator® flashlight introduced by SureFire in 2003. It features a cutting-edge design with higher output, longer runtime, and increased durability over its predecessor.

The new A2 LED Aviator's primary LED has replaced the incandescent bulb and a fourth small LED has been added to the low-output secondary LEDs. These low-output LEDs generate a diffused flood of white, green, blue, or red light—depending on the model you choose. The red and blue LEDs produce three lumens of low-signature light while the white and green models produce ten lumens of output. When the high-output LEDs are activated—by pressing further on the tactical tailcap—the max outputs reach 110 and 120 lumens, respectively. A sleek fluted body made of high-strength aerospace aluminum rounds out the upgrade of this classic.

For more information, call 800-828-8809 or visit www.surefire.com

Parting Shot

NSSF reported on a story from the Grand Rapids Press entitled "Women Aim for Protection in Female-only Concealed Pistol Classes," written by Howard Meyerson. The story is about the growing interest among women in taking classes about safe and responsible handgun ownership. NSSF goes on to highlight the NSSF "First Shots" program and a study done of participants of that program. They found that 74% of women enrolled in First Shots due to an interest in personal protection.

That's an important trend to keep in mind.

Until next time, Be safe and Enjoy the Great Arizona Outdoors.

By Larry Audsley



Last month Arizona sportsmen were shaken by the news that nearly 160,000 acres in the northern parts of Units 4A, 5A and 5B will become Hopi Trust Lands, giving the tribe authority over wildlife in these areas. This essentially removes 500 square miles of prime pronghorn habitat from access by Arizona hunters since these lands and all affected State Trust lands cannot be accessed without tribal permission. The Hopi Tribe has the authority to close access to the area to all non-tribal public.

Pronghorn are among Arizona's most prized game animals, and they are already among the hardest animals to draw a tag for. This latest development promises to make it even harder. The Hopi are cooperating with the Arizona Game and Fish Commission for provision of some pronghorn and elk tags for Hopi tribal members.

Tribal game management in Arizona is known for pricing quality hunts beyond the reach of the average sportsmen. For some tribes, the objective seems to be getting the most money from the fewest non-tribal public. Trophy elk on the White Mountain Apache Reservation are accessible mainly to tribal members and celebrities willing to spend \$40,000 for a trophy bull. San Carlos offers the non-tribal public a wider range of hunting opportunities, but it too is pricey. Other tribes simply restrict hunting to tribal members only. For these reasons, Arizona sportsmen have come to equate tribal authority over wildlife with lost hunting opportunities at least for the average person.

For years it's been known that the Hopis were buying private ranches and state trust lands. What wasn't widely known was that these lands would eventually be placed in a federal land trust and designated as "sovereign tribal lands" under the 1996 Navajo-Hopi Land Dispute Settlement Act (PL104-301). It was not well understood that this designation would give the Hopis almost the same authority they would have on actual reservation land, including authority over wildlife.

When Arizona Game and Fish announced a voluntary cooperative wildlife management agreement, sportsmen – this one included – began linking tribal land purchases with tribal authority and wondered where this was leading. Can other tribes gain authority over wildlife just by buying up land? The Hualapai tribe owns private ranch property intermingled with state trust lands in Unit 10 and has been after landowner tags for years. Was this the beginning of landowner tags? And how do lands that are not part of a reservation become tribal sovereign lands with tribal authority over wildlife? Since the lands aren't part of the reservation, could a challenge to the Hopi's claim to wildlife authority be successful?

After reading the Settlement Act and talking with people who should know, answers to most of these questions turn out to be no. Hopi authority over wildlife stems entirely from the

terms of the Settlement Act, not the fact that they are an Indian tribe that owns the land. Other tribes can buy all the land they want but still won't have authority over wildlife unless they can persuade Congress to pass a law making the property their sovereign land. The Act was clear in giving full authority to the tribe for all aspects of governance, except where water is concerned. The Act specifies that water rights are not part of the bargain. Presumably the same could have been done for wildlife authority back in 1996 had someone asked and the parties agreed, but that didn't happen. No one I've talked to believes a court challenge today would have any chance of being successful.

On the bright side, the Hopi have expressed enthusiasm for partnering not only with Arizona Game and Fish, but also with the many conservation groups that have been doing wildlife projects in this region (AWF is one of these groups.) The Hopi have never managed a full-scale wildlife or hunting program and are looking for expertise in all areas. At least for a while, they are willing to grant access to non-tribal members as part of a cooperative arrangement with AGFD. Arizona sportsmen will have to wait and see what the Hopi decide to do once they've gotten the hang of managing for wildlife. It's possible AGFD and sportsmen's groups have enough assets (airplanes for surveys, auction tags on a national market) that they can always be useful enough to earn access for the regular guy on Hopi lands. This cooperative arrangement carries stipulations for both tribal members and general populace hunters alike, but does allow public hunting access throughout the entire unit, including that portion that is Hopi Trust Land.

In 2010 AGFD will recommend an increase in total antelope permits for regions 4A, 5A and 5B from 65 in 2009 to 70 in 2010, with 14 of the total permits going to Hopi tribal members. This isn't much considering there are typically around 800 to 900 antelope permits statewide, but the rest of the story is that the antelope herds in these areas are far below historic levels. Years of research and effort have turned up a lot of information (see AGFD's pronghorn management plan on their website), but the best efforts of the Department, land management agencies and conservation groups still haven't brought the herds back to their former levels. Perhaps the Hopis, who may be in a position to do some things other entities can't, can help make recovery efforts more effective. If adding Hopis to the team results in tripling pronghorn numbers throughout the three units, probably no one will much care how many permits they receive on their own piece of land.

And how does non-reservation land become tribal sovereign land? When the Navajo-Hopi land swap negotiations bogged down, the federal government felt the need to sweeten the pot with more land to go around. But since certain members of Arizona's Congressional delegation had promised constituents there would be no more reservation expansions, the feds felt they couldn't designate the additional lands as reservation. So instead they designated them as "sovereign tribal lands." Didn't see that one coming, did we?

State Trust Land Reform...Again

by Larry Audsley

Whereas, the Arizona Enabling Act and Constitution of Arizona have been interpreted to pose barriers to the use and conveyance of state trust lands for:

The conservation of natural, cultural and historical assets of the land.

The preservation of open space.

Long-range planning of rights-of-way and other uses...

So begins draft referendum SCR1030, which will ask voters to prohibit development on roughly eight percent of Arizona's 9.3 million acres of state trust land. The final language is still not complete.

For the last six months, Governor Brewer's administration has been holding stakeholder meetings in Phoenix to draw up this latest effort, which the governor has branded high priority. Meanwhile, the Senate Natural Resources Committee is still working on a companion bill, SB1077, that will spell out details and implement the changes. The statute would have constitutional authority by reference in the referendum. But for any of this to go into effect, the referendum must reach the ballot and pass, and the bill must be approved by the legislature and governor.

Most observers doubt either measure has much chance of progressing through a budget-obsessed legislature in 2010, but the effort is still important for several reasons.

In addition to updating the template for current issues and priorities, this year's effort marks the first time stakeholders specifically representing wildlife and sportsmen's interest have been directly involved in developing the language. In 2006, the AWF Board of Directors voted by a narrow margin not to support the ballot initiative because of concerns about access and a feeling that sportsmen and wildlife advocates had been shut out of the process. This time around AGFD Assistant Director Bob Broscheid and Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife lobbyist Suzanne Gilstrap have pushed for sportsmen's access and language that allows wildlife management activities. The National Rifle Association has put everyone on notice that any new barriers to sportsmen's access will guarantee the active opposition of its membership.

The Conservation Component

The key conservation questions are which lands will be set aside and what uses will be allowed on those lands.

Specific conservation lands will be identified in the statute, not in the referendum, and stakeholders have been advised that the list of lands is expected to change almost daily throughout the legislative session. However, the Arizona State Land Department's website www.land.state.az.us/news/2009/062609_reform.htm has a map showing what was initially proposed in SB1077. The on-line map is best examined with the aid of a list of place

names and acreages (see accompanying article). As of late November, approximately 698,000 acres have been identified. Some folks are disappointed that some of the lands that were included in the 2006 and 2008 efforts are not included this time.

The current referendum draft says "Conservation' means restricting the use of land against development." Unless the referendum drafters change their minds, anyone wanting a fuller definition of "conservation" will need to go to the statutes. Arizona Revised Statute 37-311 states that "Conservation' means protection of the natural assets of state trust land for the long term benefit of the land, lessees, trust beneficiaries, the public, and the unique resources each contains, such as open space, scenic beauty, protected plants, wildlife, archaeology and multiple use values."

Earlier versions of SB1077 defined conservation using this same exact language. The latest version shows this section crossed out but doesn't replace it. It is unclear whether the legislature still intends to define conservation in the enabling statute. Wildlife advocates may be dismayed that the word "wildlife" does not appear anywhere in the referendum draft. However, others have pointed out that wildlife was frequently mentioned in the justifications for setting aside most of the conservation areas named in the statute, and that this should assure that wildlife will have status as a conservation asset.

So if conservation is a restriction against development, what is "development"?

"Development' means buildings and other structures for residential, agricultural, commercial or public use..." So far, so good. But then it goes on to say "but (development) does not include buildings, structures or other improvements existing before November 2, 2010 or fences, paths, trails, trailheads, roadways, utility lines and associated facilities, mining on less than 20 acres, canals, drainage improvements, wells, pipelines, signage, range improvements, communications facilities, research or monitoring stations or associated equipment, public interpretive centers, improvements or actions to perform remediation or environmental conditions or, in order to facilitate reasonable public access, picnic, camping, hunting, fishing, parking, security, comfort, maintenance and similar facilities." Some feel these exemptions amount to car-nage rather than conservation, but trust land reform does not aspire to designate wilderness areas at the state level. Rather it is meant to deflect growth into areas having less conservation value and provide relief from the rampant conversion of desert grasslands, mesquite bosques and riparian areas into a sea of red tile roofs and shopping malls. No doubt wildlife and nature lovers would fare better without some of the exempted disturbances, but probably only marginally so in most cases. To the people responsible for bringing Arizonans water,

electricity and efficient transportation routes, taking nearly 700,000 acres off the table for potential rights of way when future needs aren't precisely known could be a deal breaker

The referendum provides for various types of conservation land designations. There is a provision for conveyance of development rights only to state agencies, counties, cities, towns and nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status. These lands remain in the ownership of the state, and the state will still have the right to administer leases and collect revenue from activities such as grazing leases and sales of rights-of-way, as these activities are deemed not to be development and therefore are consistent with conservation as defined in the referendum.

It would also allow the state to sell various lands designated for conservation at their true value without advertisement or auction, generally to cities and counties and possibly to state agencies such as Arizona Game & Fish. This would include the Arizona Preserve Initiative (API) lands that were approved by voters several years ago. It is believed that only a few cities and counties would have the money and desire to purchase trust lands outright at market prices, but this provision could be important in Maricopa and Pinal counties and in Pima County, which has a major county-administered conservation lands system.

The referendum tries to protect the state from lawsuits on behalf of conservation by stating that the "proposition does not, and shall not be interpreted to...authorize private legal actions to enforce the conservation of any trust lands or to compel any land management practice regarding the conservation of trust lands." In the section on lands stripped of development rights but still owned by the state, it says "The state shall administer these lands in a manner that is consistent with conservation, but the state is not responsible to manage for conservation and accepts no liability for the use of the land..."

Initial drafts of the referendum contained provisions for exchanges of state trust land for federal or private lands. Land exchanges are now gone from the draft and probably not coming back. Many are convinced that land exchanges, especially involving private entities, are a poison pill that could doom the entire proposition. Arizona voters have consistently voted down proposals containing land exchanges due to abuses in the distant past and the public's lack of understanding of the issues. No one has made a sustained effort to educate the public and press on the effects of checkerboarding on public access and wildlife management. Despite the need to consolidate some of the checkerboard lands in northern Arizona, it appears this opportunity will be missed.

Access and rights-of-way

There are multiple references to "reasonable public access" to the conservation lands that are being set aside. The referendum's third objective – long-range planning of rights-of-way and other uses – would also seem to be an invitation to remedy some long-standing problems with access to public (federal) lands. But this is not so easy.

Current referendum language includes the state's right to "allow reasonable public access across such lands to adjoining private lands and public lands held in trust by the federal government." Environmentalists are understandably concerned that allowing roadways without placing any limits or restrictions on the types of roads allowed could result in freeways going through the state conservation lands.

However, ranchers, sportsmen and others may need to travel across these lands to access BLM and national forest lands. Moreover, the provision allowing 501(c)(3) organizations to purchase trust lands outright could encourage groups opposed to hunting, grazing or mining to buy state trust lands with the specific intent to lock the gate where an existing road leaves the property and goes on to private or public land beyond. Vast portions of Coronado National Forest in southern Arizona are already inaccessible to the public due to gates being locked where roads cross private sections of land. It makes little sense for members of the public who enjoy outdoor recreation to support a measure that could make it even harder to travel across state trust lands to reach other destinations. No doubt this issue will receive more discussion.

Outlook for passage

Again, few observers believe it's likely this proposition will ever get to the voters. The Nature Conservancy, which bankrolled two previous failed attempts at ballot initiatives, is supporting and helping to facilitate the current effort. If the governor and legislature can get a proposition to the ballot, TNC can avoid another costly initiative drive. But they could also pull out any time they start feeling the language no longer serves their conservation objectives.

Most see lack of legislative priority as a major obstacle. In a normal year, state trust land reform might receive a high priority, but the state's fiscal crisis makes 2009 anything but normal. Calendars are already filling up with budget business.

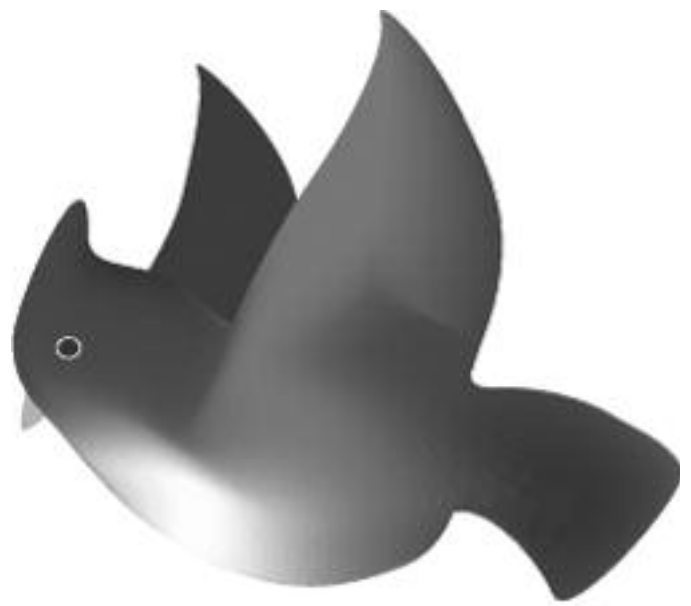
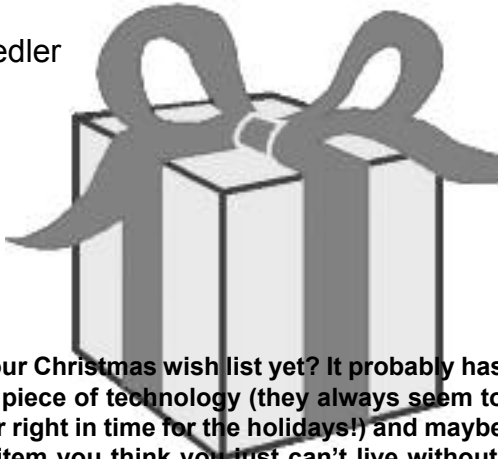
If it does get to the ballot, its fate with the voters is hard to predict. Although there are carrots for special interest groups, such as longer term grazing leases and protection from encroachment on military bases, key groups such as ranchers, homebuilders and educators seem to prefer the status quo. It is generally believed that no state trust land reform measure can succeed without the active support of environmental groups. So far environmental groups have given this effort a chilly reception, but a few have indicated they might come around if the final product is palatable.

Finally, there are the non-aligned voters being asked to approve a change to their state constitution. Arizona voters are instinctively circumspect about such matters. Opponents are sure to point out what appears to be a blatant contradiction between what the proposition seems sure to do, yet categorically states it will not. The preamble says "this proposition does not, and shall not be interpreted to, diminish the capacity of trust lands to generate revenue for the trust beneficiaries..." Then it begins chipping away at the trust's largest, if least consistent, source of cash: the sale of developable land at auction to the highest bidder.

This referendum asks voters to sacrifice a small amount of the subsidy given to Arizona back in 1912 in the form of trust lands from which to extract revenues. The federal government routinely placed lands in trust for frontier states entering statehood because taxable infrastructure was not yet adequate to fund public education. Nearly a century later, Arizona has a large tax base but is still receiving the trust land benefits, which today mainly serves as a subsidy for the general fund. The question is whether Arizonans now want to use a small portion of that subsidy to pay for conservation and let other revenue sources make up the difference. The referendum probably needs to come out and say that as bluntly as opponents are sure to say it.

Gifts for Wildlife

By Karen Schedler



Made your Christmas wish list yet? It probably has a new piece of technology (they always seem to appear right in time for the holidays!) and maybe some personal item you think you just can't live without. Does it also include a gift for wildlife?

Think about this for a minute. Winter is coming and your food source may be hiding or be gone altogether. You have no pockets to store any food and probably your pantry (if you even had one) is bare. Leaves have fallen from trees so you have no place to hide from cats and other critters that would like to munch you for their lunch. (Everything needs to eat!) So, it would appear that you have a choice: move along to a different habitat or try to find food, water, and shelter where you are. Such is the life of a bird and even small rodents and reptiles. As the holiday season approaches, now would be a good time to think about how we can give back to all the wildlife that makes our lives a bit richer.

Herps (reptiles and amphibians) have adapted strategies for surviving cold winters so they can probably manage quite nicely. Even though you may not see them unless the day is warm and sunny, you can entice them to take up residency in your back yard by creating small woodpiles or slashes. Even an overturned flower pot with a small hole offers protection from larger predators such as domestic or feral cats. They can survive for extended periods of time without eating but, once spring arrives and those pesky little insects appear, watch for lizards on your fences and trees. (And if you don't yet have one, consider adding one more item to your Christmas list: the Arizona Game and Fish Department's *A Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians in Arizona*. They also have a great guide for herps just in Maricopa County. These are available at any AZGFD office.)

Like herps, many mammals have adapted to life in wintery habitats by growing denser hair or fur or even changing the foods they eat. (Black bears, for example, are able to cope with whatever nature provides during any season. They do need those fatty acorns and nuts during fall to add a nice layer of fat to help them survive the winter. In the spring, they will take advantage of tender plants that erupt and then the insects that will follow.) Some mammals migrate to areas where they can find sufficient food (e.g., moving from the mountains down into more protected valleys). Others may hibernate in places protected from the harshest weather extremes. (Bats, for example, will often find protection in caves. If you ever explore

caves that may harbor hibernating bats, be very careful not to disturb them. Waking them up will force them to expend energy, and they may not be left with a sufficient reserve to survive until spring.)

Many of us have noticed the birds now migrating or visiting our backyard feeders. Whether they are temporary guests or year-round residents, birds take advantage of whatever habitat they can find. (Talk about complete trust! Have you ever planned a vacation trip and left without packing any food or extra supplies? That's exactly what birds do: they trust they can find whatever food, water, and shelter they will need on their journey. The least we can do is help make sure they have what they need.) So plan to provide a little water and food for those feathered guests, and remember to keep your cats indoors. And to help you with that food part, you might want to make one of the recipes we have provided or visit www.birdwatchersdigest.com for more. (We've selected some easy-to-make ones for you.)

Whatever is on your list this year, take some time to plan a special gift for wildlife. And we'll return to our energy stories in the next issue.

Happy holidays!

Recipes from the Birdwatcher's Digest at www.birdwatchersdigest.com

Raisin Oat Cake

INGREDIENTS

1 cup raisins
1 cup cornmeal
1 cup uncooked oatmeal
1/2 cup lard (unsalted)
1 cup skim milk
1 cup wheat germ
1 cup flour

DIRECTIONS

Mix ingredients together and blend well to form a thick batter. Add raisins dredged with flour. Grease a pie pan and flour lightly for baking. Pour mixture into pie pan and bake at 350 degrees for approximately an hour. Cool and break into large pieces. Place in mesh bags and hang in shrubs.

Peanut Butter Suet

INGREDIENTS

2 cups crunchy peanut butter
4 cups quick cook oats
2 cups lard
4 cups cornmeal
2 cups white flour
2/3 cup sugar

DIRECTIONS

Melt peanut butter and lard in a large pot over a low flame. Add the remaining ingredients. Place the mixture into square freezer containers, packing firmly to approx. 1 ½ inches thick. Cover and freeze. Raisins or chopped nuts are optional.

Bluebird Blend

INGREDIENTS

1 cup flour
4 cups yellow cornmeal
1 cup peanut butter
1 cup sunflower chips
1 cup tiny currants
1 cup peanut hearts
1 cup rendered (melted and skimmed) suet

DIRECTIONS

Mix ingredients well. Mixture should be granular but should stick together. If mixture is sticky, add cornmeal. Mixture can be placed into holes in a log feeder or on an open platform feeder.

Recipe compliments of Linda Janilla Peterson

Bluebird Miracle Meal

INGREDIENTS

4 cups yellow corn meal
1 cup all-purpose flour
1 cup lard or melted suet
1 teaspoon corn oil

Plus sunflower hearts, peanut hearts, chopped, soaked raisins.

DIRECTIONS

Melt lard and stir in other ingredients. Spike with sunflower hearts, peanut hearts, or chopped soaked raisins, as desired. Let set, cut into chunks, feed as suet.

WHADDA' YA' KNOW?

1. How are tree snags useful to birds?
2. What is a conservation easement?
3. What is an AUM?
4. How do you attract wildlife to your property?
5. Is livestock still allowed to roam free in Arizona?
6. What do you need before stocking a pond with fish?

Green Teen Video Contest and the 2nd Annual Youth Environment Summit, YES

(<http://desertmuseum.org/yes/>)

Green Teen Video Contest is a youth produced video competition for youth aged 12 to 18 designed to connect teens from around the region and world, so that they can share and develop their visions for a sustainable future. This is a contest in conjunction with the annual Youth Environment Summit held at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum.

Who Can Enter?

Anyone between the ages of 12 and 18

Why You Should Enter?

This contest gives you a chance to let your voice be heard, to connect with like-minded youth from around the world and gives you a chance to develop your film making skills through our FREE film making workshops hosted by Access Tucson.

All youth who worked on a winning film will be invited to the Youth Environment Summit, featuring a Red Carpet Premier on February 6, 2010 of winning videos to be held at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson, Arizona.

Out-of-town FILM CREWS invited to the Youth Environment Summit will be awarded a travel allowance of up to \$200 cash. (Applies to teams travelling more than 100 miles to the Desert Museum.)

PRIZES include:

\$1500 scholarships to our high school Earth Camp program

\$750 scholarships to our middle school Earth Camp program

Cash prizes of \$100 each

Other goodies (T-Shirts, Gift Cards, Books, etc)

Videos must be posted to You Tube by January 9th.

For all details see:

<http://desertmuseum.org/yes/>

BOW Happenings!

Beyond BOW Rappelling 103!



150 foot rappel

For the Beyond BOW Rappelling 103 class, we had set up two rappels--the first one was a 100-ft rappel and the second was a 150-ft rappel with three overhangs. I was amazed at how quickly the class roster filled up--it's a popular class. Everyone had a good time and were really supportive of each other. I know some of the students had a fear of heights, and we had set up rappels that were much longer than they had done in previous classes. It was quite an achievement for them to overcome that fear of heights and make multiple rappels that day. I'm very proud of them--they did great! At the end of rappel, their smiles revealed just how confident they were in their skills and capability...it was really empowering for them. My fellow volunteer instructors--Clay Crowder, Susan Zinn, Brian Marshall, and Allison--did a fantastic job and provided great encouragement and support. (Joy and Triska were out sick, but would have rather been out on the rocks with us). We plan to offer another Beyond BOW class in Spring 2010...before it gets too hot in Phoenix (dates TBD).

Jeff Sorensen, Rappelling instructor

The instructors for the Rappelling 103 event were amazing! We spent the entire day at Papago Park learning to rappel down more advanced areas than offered at the BOW camps in April and August. It was so nice to see the women I met at BOW and to be able to learn more skills from the instructors. I can't wait for more BOW classes!!

Thank you,
Cheryl Belanger

I went to my first BOW in August 2009. I signed up for most of the extreme events: Ropes, Zip line and Rappelling 101 and 102. We were encouraged beyond our own comfort zone. We had our instructors who not only gave instruction but also displayed trust and guidance. We had such a great time we asked if there was ever a 103? In October 2009 we were offered a Rappelling 103 class. Hiking the Phoenix Papago Mountains and rappelling down! This was an amazing class. It was an all day event, for the most of us we pushed ourselves way beyond what we thought we could do.

Again, our instructors were there keeping us focused and reassured this was something we could do and our self confidence soared. For someone who fly's and jumps out of planes. Rappelling 103 was another great experience I will never forget.

Thank you again to BOW and the wonderful instructors.

Cathryn Scheeler
Chandler, Arizona

Hello Everyone! I also want to thank the instructors for doing such a wonderful job! I really enjoyed myself and can't wait for the next one! Thank you once again, and I look forward to seeing everyone at the next BOW camp!

Cheryl

Go to this website for more pictures of the advanced rappelling class.

<http://www.cherylbelanger.com/Bow09/>



First Overhang

I would like to let you know how pleased my sister and I were with the Rappelling 103 class held this past Saturday. The main reason we were anxious to take this class to the next level is because of the exceptional instruction we received in the 101/102 classes one and a half years ago. Jeff Sorensen, Clay, and Brian were our instructors again this time and, in our opinion, it is because of their skill and patience that we were able to overcome extreme fears and have an amazing time. What a great group of people ~ including Allison and Susan~ who devoted a whole Saturday to making sure our group was safe and had fun. We cannot say enough about the experience or about the instructors. Thanks so very much to everyone who listened to us whine, encouraged us to go on, and ensured our safety!

Barb and Pam

It was the most awesome day I've had in a while...and to think it was with a bunch of daring women! Thanks Jeff for your dedication to continuing these events for crazy women!! And Joe, I thank you as well for your endurance and patience documenting our day!!

Lastly it couldn't happen without the support of our "instructors in training"!! Clay, Brian, Susan and Allison.

I'm very grateful for the opportunity to meet you all!!! Hope to see you all again, soon!

Diana

WHAT A HOOT!

Photo by
Amanda Moors

by Holly Dickinson, BOW Outdoor Essentials Instructor



It was a cold night. We were all bundled up in jackets. Our small group of Girl Scouts quietly hiked the dark trail with our flashlights. The excitement burned within us, but we had to be very quiet. As we approached the designated area, we all stopped and stood quietly, like mice. Our guide whispered to us what she was going to do. The air felt still, as if frozen. Certainly it was the anticipation that made us feel that way. Time seemed to stand still as well. As our guide began the call, our bodies were motionless, as if waiting for THAT amazing thing to happen. It wasn't difficult to be statues at that moment. The excitement was in our throats and our stomachs at the same time. We listened. All we heard was dead silence beyond her call . . . silence, not really a sound one would expect in the forest.

As we stood there watching our guide's amazing talent of hooting to the owls, we were in awe at the authenticity of the call. The sound of an owl came from this human standing before us. It was definitely a scene that none of us had ever witnessed before. We listened, hoping to hear the owls answer back, and we waited for what seemed to be an eternity, stiff as stone, and yet nothing. Amanda decided the owls were in a different location. We concluded that we should go to that spot next. So we followed her back on the thick tree-lined trail, in the quiet, exciting dark.

We hopped into the cars and drove to a "look-out" area. We pulled over to the side. Since it was very late at night, we didn't really have to worry about too many cars where we were. We all became quiet again as she began to call the owls, "hoot, hoot, . . . hoot, hoot." For a while we listened with the same anticipation and awe as before. THEN, the call came; an OWL, there in the dark, was answering HER call!

On the following day in the cabin, the girls were playing with the cute little mice. There were two for each girl. Amanda told them they probably shouldn't name the mice, since the mice would be a meal for an owl that day. The girls really didn't seem to mind. (Well, they didn't mind then, but surely would later.) After breakfast, we began to prepare for our day's adventure. Amanda packed up some mice to take with us. OUCH. Yep, each girl had to pick her least favorite mouse to feed to the owls.

As we hiked sideways across the top of Mt. Lemmon, the snow crunched under our feet. The fir trees were majestic as they reached into the sky. We followed Amanda through the trees. She was impressed at the ability of these girls to keep up. Every now and then we stopped to get a lesson about something around us. Each teaching moment was captured.



Eventually we came upon the feeding spot. We all crouched down, again being as quiet as possible. Amanda called the owl. It CAME, and landed on a branch high up in one of the trees. Then it was FEEDING time. I really don't think the girls fully comprehended what was about to happen. They found out soon enough. One at a time, Jordan, Katarina, Melanie, and Natasha each took their named mouse, and put it on the downed tree log. The girl then backed up quickly and carefully to watch.

SWOOSH! Down glided the owl. SNATCH! Gone was the mouse. The owl maneuvered back to the tall tree as he ate the little mouse in his beak. The first couple of feedings were a little devastating to those Girl Scouts, (who by the way soon realized why they shouldn't have named the mice), but they were OK after that.

Amanda explained to the girls that we were not there to feed the owls.. The point of using the mice is to get the adult owl to reveal the female on the nest or the young by taking the mouse back to them. "Mousing" is a standard technique used in the USFWS survey protocol to help find nests, young and also to allow a better view of the legs of the owl to read any bands that it might have.

Now, it was time for our meal. We all went back to the cabin. As we ate on the cabin porch, we watched some amazingly beautiful birds. The birds were very vocal and we learned about their personalities from Amanda's experience in bird observation. That day, the Steller's Jay species was imprinted on my mind because of the bird's incredible beauty.

What an unforgettable memory of spending two and a half days, in a cabin and hiking around at the top of Mt. Lemmon, with a professional wildlife biologist. What a marvelous thing Amanda Moors did for these Girl Scouts of Troop 490. This was a remarkable adventure!!

Amanda Moors and I met at an Arizona Wildlife Federation event, BOW (Becoming Outdoors Women), which is for women who are seeking new outdoors skills. Amanda was eager to help Troop 490 Girl Scouts earn their Wildlife Badge (Interest Project). Thank You, Amanda.

Outdoor Experience 4 All

Mary & Kellie

By Linda Dightmon

When a child is sick there is little beyond hand wringing that most of us can do. But when a sick child expresses a desire to hunt, we (the outdoor community) can make that happen. Arizona Game and Fish has a program where big game tags can be transferred to non-profit organizations for ill children. This is when Eddie Corona and *Outdoor Experience 4 All* gets involved. He finds big game tag donors and matches them with sick kids who want to hunt. <http://www.outdoorexperienceforall.org>

For me, it began with a phone call from Eddie asking for involvement from the Arizona Wildlife Federation and ipso facto the Becoming and Outdoors-Woman (BOW) program. This muzzleloader hunt was unique in that both young hunters were female. Eddie needed some women hunters in camp. His enthusiasm was oozing through the phone line.

"The camp will have to be close to Cottonwood because of Mary's health," he explained. "She really wants to go so we are going to make it easier for her. I really want these young ladies to see that women get out there and hunt too. You know, they need some role models! I will do all the cooking and cleaning, you just have to be there and look good."

I knew that I was being smoozed but how do you say no to that? The next evening, I met Eddie, Mary and her dad at Cabela's where I helped her pick out some gear for her upcoming hunt. She needed everything from base layers to boots. She started out a little shy but hey, shopping is shopping and she soon warmed up to the task at hand. We had fun while she tried on glamorous gear like long johns and sweat socks.

After getting a blessing from AWF President, Ryna Rock, I contacted Chris Fonoti, AWF board member, good friend and breast cancer survivor. As expected, she was immediately eager to go and on a beautiful October morning we found ourselves on a nasty washboard road rattling our way toward Deer Camp 2009 in Unit 6B.

Chris and I had just got our tent set up and were settling in when Kellie and her dad, Jeff, pulled up in a jeep. She is a charmer. Vivacious and bubbling with life and oh...that smile!

I have to admit. I had reservations. This is a great idea; it makes everyone involved feel good, feel charitable. But, what if the recipient of all this good will (in this case two teenage girls)... what if they just don't want to hunt? What if they are just coming along because they feel obligated? That was my biggest concern. I felt that Mary wanted to be here but I wasn't sure about the other girl. After meeting Kellie, all concerns evaporated. These girls were ready.

Eddie and company came in with a big trailer stuffed with gear. It is OE4A pride and joy, an outfitters dream. There were tents and tarps, tables and stoves, everything needed to feed



Eddie Corona, the man who wears many hats

and house a bunch of people. Soon, a big kitchen was set up and canvas tents sprouted like mushrooms on the high desert floor. Vince, Eddie's brother, made 'Sonoran hotdogs' for lunch. You take a hotdog and wrap bacon around it, grill it and top it with jalapenos! They were actually very good. One of the dads told his daughter that they would make these when mom wasn't around.

It wasn't long before the Calvary was there enjoying some Sonoran dogs. I wasn't the only one who had been smoozed. Eddie had been working hard on the locals. The Mingus Mountain Longbeards is the local National Wild Turkey Federation chapter. Turns out that these guys are pretty darn good deer hunters too. They were to be the guides for our young hunters. Some would take the girls out while others glassed in favorite honey holes.

Chris and I were to glass for Mary on this first afternoon. She was sitting over water, not too far from camp. We had an enjoyable afternoon and glassed up a herd of javelina but no deer. That evening we got the exciting news that Kellie's group had seen deer and she had gotten off a shot but missed. The decision was made to have Kellie use a scoped muzzleloader the next day.

That evening there were 17 people in camp for my elk stew dinner. Mary asked me if all of these guys were here just for their hunt. Her eyes got wide when I nodded back. It was pretty amazing support. Even better, was their attitude. They treated these young ladies as fellow hunters. There was no patronizing or coddling. Just, What do you need and how can we help? They were perfect.

Early Saturday morning Chris and I continued our glassing duties for Mary. We took the long way around hoping to push any deer ahead of us. Once again we had a wonderful time glassing up the local wildlife but we didn't find any deer. We came back in the early afternoon to an empty camp. I checked my radio and realized that it was not turned on. UGGGH! A couple of hours later the OE4A caravan came rolling in.

Everyone was talking at once but it was a euphoric young woman that got my attention. Kellie looked at me, pumped her fist and exclaimed. "I got 'em! I got'em!" Hugs and congratulations spilled out everywhere and for a moment hospitals and

illness were forgotten. She was just another junior hunter with her first deer.

Throughout the afternoon the details of Kellie's deer hunt came out. It goes something like this. Three bucks were spotted high on a mountain bedded down under cover. Kellie's guide looked up doubtfully and asked her if she really wanted to go up there. We all know the answer. They got within range and waited at least twenty minutes. The deer made no move whatsoever. Kellie was being very patient but she really had to pee. They threw rocks to make the deer move. Deer come out; Kellie shoots the biggest buck and then goes to pee. It was a long way up to these deer and Kellie truly earned this fine animal. Every person on that stalk commented on her patience and stamina, two qualities that every good hunter must have.

It soon became obvious to everyone that Mary was not feeling well. She was very pale and in pain, her appetite gone. She did not want to give up! That evening Mary and her dad went to sit her water hole. We all waited in camp hoping for the sound of a single gunshot. She had been practicing for months with her rifle and I knew if we heard a shot there would be a deer. But, it was not to be.

That evening we enjoyed seafood Jambalaya, courtesy of the Corona brothers. There was also a campfire. An important part of any hunt. Sitting around the campfire with your fellow hunters. There was good-natured teasing and folks networking, old school, without electronics. Our two young

hunters were taking it all in. We heard the hunt stories of today and of hunts years gone by. Soon the talk turns to health and hospitals. Of bills in the millions of dollars and parents trying to juggle siblings and jobs while their child is hospitalized. Then Kellie told us about her wish when she was stuck in that hospital bed. "I just wanted to get my driver's license and legally," as she cut her eyes to her father. "Legally blow by that hospital and tell them to eat my dust!" Not too many dry eyes after that!

Mary wanted to give it one more try in the morning but she was beginning to turn yellow and her Dad made the decision to call it off. I watched them drive away knowing that Mary's tears were not just because of pain, she really wanted to stay!

Putting together an event like this is a huge undertaking. *Outdoor Experience 4 All* has only been around for a couple of years but they did a great job. Many thanks to the Mingus Mountain Longbeards for their support. They provided an expert guide service and paid for the new camouflage gear that the girls received. I hope that BOW will be invited again. Getting to know these two courageous young women was a wonderful experience. I am proud to welcome them into the sisterhood of lady hunters.

There are some great images on the Outdoor Experience 4 All website. Click on photos and then Kellie and Mary 6B muzzle-loader link. There are images of the other hunts and events this organization does as well.



Her name is Mary Stine. Mary is sixteen years old and in the middle of a fight that nobody wants. She has Ulcerative Colitis/Inflammatory Bowel Disease & PSC (Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis). Her colon, gall bladder and appendix were removed in December of 2008. Her bile ducts were then reconstructed using part of her small intestine and attached to her liver. To learn more about Mary's condition and to see how she is doing, go to this website. <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/marystine>

Her name is Kellie Miner-Durkit, a beautiful girl with a million dollar smile. Kellie is 16 years old and battling serious illness. Kellie has Acute Myelogenous Leukemia, a cancer that begins in the bone marrow. Kellie got her first chemotherapy treatment in July of 2004 when she was 10. During her treatment she has had 131 blood transfusions and in September of 2006, a bone marrow transplant. Today, her cancer is in remission. You can learn more about Kellie at her website. <http://www.teamkellie.org>.

Aqua Fria New River NRCD

By Ty Rock



Last quarter I referenced a degree of difficulty in finding information, phone numbers, personnel or data on many of the Arizona NRCD's. This quarter the Agua Fria-New River NRCD exemplifies the dominance of this condition with a website that appears to not have been updated since 1998, posts an incorrect contact phone number and according to the website, has not held a supervisor's meeting since November 16, 2006. On the Meetings and Agenda page of the website is a notice that indicates minutes from the supervisor's meetings are available upon request; however, contact information is, notably, incorrect.

All of the above, being as it may, the Agua Fria- New River is, like many other NRCD's, one of the oldest conservation districts in the state. On October 19, 1944 the New River Soil Conservation District was officially organized, with the Agua Fria following soon after on June 23, 1945. In 1968, under the auspices of Hank Raymond and Glenn Smith, these two Soil Conservation Districts were merged into today's Agua Fria-New River NRCD. This consolidation would eliminate duplicate administrative work and, hopefully, increase the efficiency of the conservation efforts in each individual district.

Historically, this NRCD has had an influential impact on the conservation district movement in Arizona. Much of their efforts have been focused on water conservation, storm water management and conservation education to Arizona's school children. They worked with various agencies on the White

Tanks Watershed Project, Alta Vista Storm channel, Champion Flood Control, McMicken Dam project, Beardsley Cut-off Flood Control, as well as re-classification of the Buckeye Flood Control project. Their sponsorship of detention dams and widening of the New River and Agua Fria river channels led to the construction of new bridges for Indian School Rd. and Peoria Ave. In addition they sponsored the Hieroglyphic Mountain Development for the Morristown cut-off and Highways 60, 70 and 89 terminating at the Black Canyon Freeway. Their endorsements of Alvord Lake Park, a joint venture with the city of Phoenix, as well as Skunk Creek & Lake Pleasant Regional Park, have created many outdoor opportunities for the Valley of the Sun's residents.

Examples of this NRCD's role in education have included presentations of Goodyear Conservation Awards, scholarships for high school students in the District who wish to attend the Natural Resource Conservation Workshop, scholarships for teachers wanting to attend Resource and Environmental Education Workshops, the Earth Worm Tunnel Project (promoting composting technologies and providing information on soils and use of compost), and partnering with Sunfresh Farms and Sycamore Farms to develop a program to collect anecdotal and scientific data on on-farm compost systems.

Although not having received any response to e-mailing the most recent Supervisor's address, I elected to feature the Agua Fria-New River NRCD this quarter for historical and referential purposes. Hopefully, the future will afford improvements in many of the more obscure NRCD's throughout the State of Arizona.

State Trust Lands Proposed to be Set Aside for Conservation

Below are the descriptions and acreages of state trust lands initially recommended to be set aside as conservation lands. A spokesman for Governor Brewer has advised that these lands are subject to change during the legislative session. (all measurements in acres)	Lower San Pedro	17,335.7	Gold Canyon	708.1
	Malpai	21,267.7	Grand Canyon Scenic Cor.	2,537.6
	Mcdowell Sonoran Preserve	2,371.9	Homolovi Ruins St.Park	3,141.6
	Middle Verde	1,182.7	Kartchner Caverns Cor.	1,464.3
	Picacho Mountains	18,705.4	Lake Pleasant Rec Area	4,502.6
	Picacho Peak State Park	3,969.3	Lower San Pedro	9,667.5
	San Pedro Riparian nca	4,430.4	Lyman Lake State Park	203.9
	Santa Cruz Wildlife Cor.	8,769.3	Mcdowell Sonoran Prsv	12,034.7
	Sierrita Mountains	30,170.7	Mcdowell Sonoran Prsv Pt.	1,714.2
	Superstition Mountains	16,448.8	Patagonia Lake St. Park	3,072.4
	Upper Chino V Grasslands	40,148.0	Phoenix Sonoran	10,213.2
	Wickenburg	6,846.8	Springerville Grasslands	12,849.9
Development rights restricted	Available for sale without auction or advertisement at their true value to cities, counties, state agencies and non-profits		Spur Cross Ranch Con.	2,000.0
Burro Creek	Agua Fria River	653.6	Superstition Mountains	641.1
Castle Hot Springs	Cave Creek Rec Area	1,008.7	Tortolita Flat	10,458.0
Catalina Galiuro Corridor	Cienega Creek	20,640.2	Tortolita Mountain Park	7,762.0
Cienega Creek	Continental Mountain	622.6	Walnut Canyon Nat. Mon.	1,286.0
Daisy Mountain			West Desert Preserve	2,073.6
Dragoon Mt. Wildlife Cor.			White Tanks	2,217.5
Kartchner Caverns Cor.			Wickenburg	4,059.9
Leslie Creek				
Little Colorado River				



Camp Cook

by Ryna Rock

COCONUT PINEAPPLE CAKE

Cake Ingredients:

Topping Ingredients:

- 2 c. flour
- 1 can coconut milk
- 2 tsp salt
- 1 can crushed pineapple
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1 can sweetened condensed milk
- 5 eggs
- 1/3 c. regular milk
- 3/4 c. sugar
- 1 (8-oz) package coconut
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 (8-oz) package walnuts
- 1/3 c. oil, and add milk to desired consistency

Mix flour, salt, and baking powder. Set aside. Cream eggs and sugar. Add vanilla and oil. Add 1/3 of flour mixture. Mix. Add 1/2 cup of milk. Mix. Add rest of flour mixture. Mix. Add rest of milk. Mix. Bake like any cake. This can be made on top of stove, in a Dutch oven, or in the embers.

For topping, mix coconut milk and pineapple. In a separate container mix condensed milk with regular milk. While cake is still hot, punch many holes all over it with a fork, then pour pineapple and coconut mixture over cake slowly. With spatula, lift up cake around edges and pour liquid underneath also. Do the same with milk mixture. Sprinkle coconut and walnuts (broken) on top. Good? Yes, Indeed!

PORK AND GREEN CHILI CASSEROLE

- 1 1/2 lbs boneless pork, cut in 1/2" cubes
- 1 (8 oz) can diced green chilies
- 1 Tbsp cooking oil
- 1 c. quick-cooking brown rice
- 1 (15-oz) can black beans, drained/rinsed
- 1/4 c. water
- 1 (10 3/4 -oz) can condensed Cream of Chicken soup,
- 2-3 Tbsp salsa, or to taste Undiluted
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 1 (14 1/2-oz) can diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1/2 c. shredded cheddar cheese

In Dutch oven, sauté pork in oil until no pink remains. Drain. Add the beans, soup, tomatoes, chilies, rice, water, salsa and cumin. Cook and stir until bubbly. Place lid on Dutch oven and put coals on lid, and cook about an hour, or until pork is tender. Sprinkle with cheese and serve with flour tortillas.

BOW Deluxe, January 29-31, 2010 Saguaro Lake Ranch \$375

Bringing an
Outdoors-
Woman
In Arizona



Global Climate Change: Fact or Fiction?

By Karen Schedler

In more than 30 years as an environmental educator, I honestly cannot recall any issue creating such oppositional camps as that of climate change. Believers tell us this is THE most consequential event in human history. Opponents deny it is happening or feel helpless, thinking there is nothing one individual can do..... so why try?

Where exactly is the **truth** in this issue? Who should I believe and how do I know I'm doing the right thing? How can what I do affect anything?

FACT: Climate change was set in place at the dawn of our planet. Throughout geologic history, our climate has been in constant flux. It is hard for us to imagine an Arizona quite different from what it is now. Our life experiences differ from those of the mammoth hunters, the Anasazi, the Hohokam, the Sinagua, and other civilizations that once called this area "home" but who have now vanished. However, it is vitally important that we understand the natural resource base that allowed their civilizations – and ours – to flourish, (more on this later). Fluctuating weather patterns and long-term climate change created conditions that could be alternately conducive or detrimental to survival, especially with respect to food and water supplies.

FACT: *Weather* and *climate* are not synonyms! One giant rainstorm, the reservoir 100% full behind Roosevelt Dam, plenty of snowfall in one season do not individually or collectively signify that our long-running drought has ended. Those imply that our *weather* may be undergoing an El Niño effect – but our *climate* may remain unaffected.

It is helpful to have a basic understanding of how both El Niño and La Niña impact Arizona. In the simplest terms, these weather patterns in the Pacific Ocean have a great deal to do with the amount of precipitation we receive. We're all connected!

Weather is what's happening in the near term, such as temperatures and precipitation that we measure in our backyard gauges. **Climate** is the cumulative result of *weather measurements* over the long term. The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration uses a 30-year average to determine *climate patterns*, and updates those every 10 years.

So, the next time you read an editorial where someone says climate scientists are completely misguided about global climate change because we've had a cooler - or wetter - than usual season, remind them that there will be fluctuating *weather patterns* but our *climate* readings are based upon many different data points collected diligently over long periods of time.

FACT: There is not 100% agreement among the scientific community that climate change is directly impacted by human activity. You will frequently hear the term "anthropogenic" which implies that human activity is the basis for our escalating climate change.

So, if there is not unanimity within the science community, whom should I trust? My advice: what do the *climate scientists* advise? There are many with advanced degrees that weigh in on this topic – but do they have the credentials that would indicate they have a real grasp on this issue? Perhaps more importantly: *who is funding their work?* Follow the trail of money and see who is funding any research about climate science, no matter the position being espoused. You just might be surprised at who is putting up those dollars – and how much is being spent on this issue.

It's no wonder that people may be confused. I've been studying this issue for more than 12 years and still find data that makes me scratch my head. It is important to consult a number of different, *peer-reviewed* scientific reports. Reliance on only one or two may omit key data points and critical background knowledge important for understanding the overall science behind climate change and its implications. And it's critical that each of us decide what our standard criteria will be for determining scientific credibility.

Personally, I tend to place my confidence in those with no axe to grind: NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), USGS (US Geological Survey), TERC, and others who value scientific protocol, data collection and analysis. You will need to make your own decision but please let sound science – not raw emotion or political platforms – guide your way.

FACT: Our natural resource base supports all life. **Both quality and quantity are vital.** Natural resource managers (such as water and energy analysts) are more than just a little concerned about our generally lax attitude toward those precious resources, as modeling predictions indicate the American Southwest is in for prolonged warm and dry conditions.

The Colorado River, already overextended, cannot produce sufficient water to satisfy the allocations already promised. Our insatiable thirst for energy to power the latest techno-gadget is taxing the national grid beyond what it will be able to handle. We can't bring a "smart grid" to reality fast enough! Fire predictions for the West are harsh: hotter, drier conditions indicate that trees already stressed from long-term drought and pest invasions will have difficulty surviving. Invasive species exacerbate problems for our native species. All are in serious jeopardy if we fail to manage resources wisely, and a changing climate will tax our limited abilities and resources to an unsustainable level.

FACT: Every one of us can take actions that make a difference! Become a climate literate person by understanding the connections between natural systems. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and other reputable agencies have developed a matrix for climate literacy: <http://climateliteracynow.org/>. This starts in early

childhood as we engage children in learning about such basic topics as weather and the hydrologic cycle, and creates a foundation to develop a comprehensive Climate IQ as they enter adulthood. To understand climate change, it is necessary to have a solid background in earth systems and processes.

HELP! Always the optimist, I believe each of us can make a positive change to help mitigate impacts of climate change. Some basic steps every one can take:

Identify your carbon footprint or your ecological footprint (similar but not identical). One measures the amount of carbon, a critical factor in climate change, we use or release in our daily lives. The other looks at a bigger picture – choices we make about our food, water, shelter, transportation, and much more. There are a number of questionnaires you might use. It only takes a few minutes, so Google “carbon footprint” or “ecological footprint” and spend a few minutes assessing your own lifestyle. You might be surprised at how big your “feet” really are – even if you already consider yourself a “green” person or a conservationist!

Practice sound conservation measures with food, water, land, energy usage, everything you buy and use. Example: why do you want to spend a major portion of your food budget on *packaging* that simply gets discarded once inside your home? It makes both economic and ecological sense to

minimize waste.

Create a backyard habitat, even if you have only a small apartment balcony. Potted plants can be just as welcoming to birds and beneficial insects as acres of sunflower seeds but remember that native plants do best. Check with your local Master Gardeners group to learn about what plants do well in your area. Check out National Wildlife Federation’s Backyard, Schoolyard, and Certified Wildlife Habitat sites for good ideas and to learn how to become a Certified or Backyard Wildlife Habitat at www.nwf.org.

Find a good resource about climate change and learn all you can about this topic. One I find especially helpful for use with students (and teachers!) is [How We Know what We Know about Our Changing Climate](#). What can we learn from sediments, tree rings, ice cores, school children in Canada, and other sources (and all written in layman’s language that’s easy to understand!)?

FACT: Climate change is happening and won’t stop no matter what we do. The big question now is: what will YOU do about it?

Karen Schedler is President of the Arizona Wildlife Education Foundation and Program Manager for the Arizona Foundation for Resource Education

AWF No Longer AWF!

Before your heart stops beating, let me assure you that your AWF is still continuing to provide services to wildlife as just that: AWF (Arizona Wildlife Federation). It’s the other AWF that has changed its name. To avoid confusing the two entities, your “sister” organization is now AWEF, the Arizona Wildlife Education Foundation.

Having two similar names (AWF the Foundation and AWF the Federation) was a bit confusing for those unfamiliar with the inner workings of both and who thought the names were synonymous for the same entity. Thus, the “other” group has now become a separate nonprofit organization devoted to educating the public about Arizona wildlife and habitat issues. AWEF continues to work closely with AWF and values that relationship.

So, what exactly does AWEF do? Glad you asked!

Over this past year, we have awarded four **grants** that address educational needs for the community, relative to wildlife:

We gave a small grant to the Friends of the West Valley Recreation Corridor, working to build a multi-use corridor along the Agua Fria River. Similar to Tres Rios, Rio Salado, and Tempe Town Lake – all of which have seen diverse wildlife return in recent years – this 30-mile trail will provide additional opportunities for viewing wildlife and education within an urban setting.

We provided seed money for an Eagle Scout project, working with the Adobe Mountain Wildlife Center for site upgrades. Michael Clark initiated the project and met our challenge for matching funding.

We are partnering with Greenfire Productions, which produced “Lords of Nature” (a documentary portraying the role of predators within an ecosystem). We are developing a curriculum guide for secondary teachers for using this film in their classrooms to launch discussions and research about such issues as prey-predator relationships, intended vs.

unintended consequences, endangered species, carrying capacity and wildlife populations, wildlife management, and much more. We hope to be able to get one copy of the film and guide into every secondary school in Arizona.

We have partially funded a new endeavor between the Highlands Center for Natural History and local schools in the Verde Valley, which will address issues relative to the Verde River.

We have initiated a challenge for high school students to create a new **logo** for us. (The winner will receive a \$150 cash award and his/her teacher a \$100 award.) This is open to any high school student with some creative skills and an eye for design. If you know such a student (or if you are one yourself), please visit our website to get the details. Deadline for submission is early February.

We have created a **Calendar of Events** with opportunities to promote wildlife education throughout the state. While we’re a small band of trustees who cannot be everywhere, we hope to appear at events critical to promoting our mission. (If you’d like to represent us at any event – and have lots of fun meeting new people and promoting wildlife – please let us know. We’ll equip you with a simple-to-transport display and the handouts.)

We extend our heartiest **THANK YOU** to the “real” AWF who gave us a solid start and has been extremely supportive in our budding efforts. We have established an affiliate membership and will continue to support the tremendous work of AWF as well as our own.

2010 promises to be another exciting year for wildlife. We invite you to follow our progress as we work together with AWF in providing a healthy future for wildlife in Arizona. You can find us at <http://www.arizonawildlifeeducation.org/>.

Karen Schedler, AWEF President

ARIZONA WILDLIFE NEWS Magazine Advertising Rates

Full Page	\$ 275
Half Page Back Cover	\$ 225
Half Page	\$ 175
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Bus Card	\$ 50
Classified Ad per word Min 25 words	.40

Arizona Wildlife Federation
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(FAX) 480-644-0078
awf@azwildlife.org

The AWF retains the right to determine appropriateness of ad content consistent with our Mission statement and stated resolutions. AWN Editor and Executive Committee of AWF will determine final acceptance but will not discriminate as stated by existing laws.

Raise funds for AWF at absolutely no cost to you! Bashas' Shop & Give Group ID #29173

Bashas' Shop & Give program is part of Bashas' ongoing commitment to give back to Arizona. Through a combination of charitable efforts (and programs like Shop & Give), Bashas' has given back more than \$100 million to the communities it serves.

Bashas' Shop & Give fundraising program runs from now to April 30, 2010. Our hometown grocer has worked hard to make this program easy for everyone. All you have to do is:

On your next shopping trip to Bashas', present this notice along with your Bashas' Thank You Card to your cashier or give them **Group ID#29173**. You can also go online at www.bashas.com/charity. (Note: Even if you linked your Thank You card last year, you need to re-link it to earn funds for us).

The cashier will link our Group ID# into the computer, and then swipe your Bashas' Thank You Card. This will automatically link your Bashas' Thank You Card to our organization. After this, every time you shop at Bashas', 1%* of your grocery bill will be donated to our group.

Linking your Bashas' Thank You card only needs to be done once, at the start of the program. Our group ID# may be passed on to neighbors, relatives and coworkers to assist us in achieving our fundraising goals. The program ends April 30, 2010.

Through Bashas' Shop & Give program, we can earn up to \$5,000!

*Excludes Items such as alcohol, tobacco products, money orders, gift cards, gasoline, photo, pharmacy, lottery tickets, stamps and sales tax.

(Questions on page 5)

WHADDA' YA' KNOW?

Answers

- Over 85 bird species use them for nesting/roosting
- A legal document between you and the easement holder that specifies what future uses will/will not be allowed on your property.
- One Animal Unit Month is the amount of forage consumed by a 1000-pound animal in one month
- Provide Food + Water + Cover
- Arizona is an open range state. Adjacent landowners are equally responsible to maintain fences between them. Fence to keep livestock out.
- A permit is required to stock any fish in a private pond.



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Are you aware that because you are a member of the Arizona Wildlife Federation **YOU are eligible** for a reduction in premiums for Mutual of Omaha's Long Term Care policy called "**Mutual Care Plus**"?

Contact a fellow Arizona Wildlife Federation member, Bryant Ridgway at 602-989-1718 or 800-224-1120 x 210 for details.

For the Book

By Bill Keebler



The 2008 hunting season was another very good year for hunters in Arizona. Each year there is an annual competition. All entries received by May 1 of the year following the year an animal is taken are automatically entered in the competition. Entries received after the May 1 deadline are not eligible for the annual competition but are still entered into the next record book. The annual competition awards given each year are bronze awards and honorable mention awards. The bronze award is awarded only to outstanding trophies in each category at the discretion of the Arizona Wildlife Trophies Committee and any number of honorable mention awards can be awarded in each category. The bronze award is so titled because it is a bronze medallion presented in a shadow box. For 2008 there were 11 bronze awards presented.

The 2008 bronze awards went to:

Animal	Hunter	Score
Pronghorn	Dr. David Meyer	94 4/8
Typical Coues' Deer	Frank Macias	127 2/8
Non-typical Coues' Deer	Kyle Craig	127 7/8
Typical Mule Deer	Roger Cook	191 4/8
Non-typical Mule Deer	Ty DeWees	252 6/8
Typical Elk	Courtney M. Murry	372 1/8
Non-typical Elk	Preston Mercer	401
Desert Sheep	Shawn K. MacFarlane	183
Rocky Mountain Sheep	Jerry Macy	181 3/8
Bison	Jim Machac	110
Black Bear	Mindy Arthurs	21 8/16

In addition seventeen Honorable Mention awards were presented.

The Arizona Wildlife Trophies Record Book has been published every five years since 1970 by the Arizona Wildlife Trophies Committee of the Arizona Wildlife Federation. The next record book will be published in 2010. The deadline for entries to be included in it is May 1st, 2010.

The Arizona Wildlife Trophies Committee lowered the minimum score for Non-typical Deer from 220 to 210. This makes the 90% requirement for the Trophy Antler Award, the Trophy Heads and Horns Award and the Trophy Hunter Award 189. Any deer meeting the new minimum are eligible for listing in the record book regardless of when it was taken.

The requirement for trophy entries, minimum scores and a list of measurers are on the Arizona Wildlife Federation website at www.azwildlife.org. The price of the 2005 field copy of the record book has been reduced to \$15.00. The 2000 field copy of the record book is also still available for \$10.00. To order a copy of either an order form can be downloaded from the web site or you can call Kim at the AWF office at 480 644-0077.

Western Governor's Wildlife Council

AWF's National Wildlife Federation Rep, Bob Vahle, returned recently from a meeting of the Western Governor's Association's Wildlife Council where the main subject of discussion was identifying and protecting critical wildlife movement and habitat corridors in the western states in conjunction with energy development and transmission. On the front burner is development of state based wildlife "decision support systems" that will provide compatible wildlife data across political boundaries (state lines).

Commissions Conservation Committee

AWF President Ryna Rock, Vice President Tom Mackin, and Directors Glen Dickens & Valerie Morrill attended the most recent meeting of the AZ Game & Fish Commissions Conservation Committee, Nov. 7, where the topics of discussion were renewable energy developments in Arizona, the proposed amendments to the Wild Horse & Burro Act, and the Western Governor's Association's move toward development of state based wildlife "decision support systems"

Award of Excellence

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission met in September, 2009 to select recipients of their Annual Awards. The Arizona Wildlife Federation has been selected to receive the Award of Excellence for our multi-year Anderson Mesa Wetlands Restoration Project.

.Anderson Mesa is located within Coconino NF southeast of Flagstaff, Arizona. Naturally formed wetlands occur along the entire length of the mesa and are important to migratory birds, elk, deer, and antelope. The new wetland fencing is designed to allow wildlife safer passage either over or under fences and restrict livestock access to a small portion of the wetlands.

Before construction of the project's wetland fences, range managers were restricted to grazing pastures at the same time every year potentially reducing the vegetative diversity of the Mesa. The wetland fences will allow range managers more flexibility in implementing rest-rotation grazing strategies that should provide greater diversity and overall health of the ecosystem.

The award will be presented at the Annual Commission Awards Banquet to be held January 16, 2010 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2532 West Peoria Ave, Phoenix, Arizona. The awards ceremony will feature a short presentation about the project. Several AWF officers plan on attending to accept the Award of Excellence, along with key members of the working group who were instrumental in project planning, implementation, and completion.

Every Sportsman/Sportswoman in Arizona Should Belong To The ARIZONA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

The AWF is a statewide organization that was organized as the Arizona Game Protective Association in 1923 to safe guard our privileges of hunting and fishing by insisting on sane administration of the states natural resources, thus avoiding repetition of the almost total extinction of game experienced in many eastern states. There, organized sportsmen have brought back wildlife through organized action; here, Arizona's organized sportsmen have been responsible for the maintenance, and in some cases, the increase, of the state's wildlife. Thus the A.G.P.A. and AWF's results have not been so spectacular, but have been effective.

The AWF can rightfully be a little proud of its accomplishments. But leaders in conservation are agreed that the battle is not yet won, that it will probably never be won until every person recognizes that only through the proper use of our natural resources can we maintain prosperity.

AWF is so concerned with the broad aspects of conservation, because it recognizes that only with the highest type of land and water use can game and fish supplies be maintained. When land begins to go downhill, game and fish are the first to follow.

The Arizona Wildlife Federation is:

1. Representing AZ's Sportsmen and Sportswomen before the Game and Fish Commission, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Sportsmen's Organizations, Etc.

2. Maintaining a permanent state office in the Phoenix metro area, with six Regional Directors throughout the state, keeping abreast of factors affecting hunting, fishing, conservation issues and available for action when crises arise.

3. Disseminating information regarding hunting and fishing and conservation through press, radio, and it's own quarterly publication, Arizona Wildlife News, which goes to each Federation and Affiliate member, and selected sporting establishments.

4. Conducting frequent Executive Committee/Board meetings, and Annual Meeting/Convention, taking action on current developments affecting Hunters, Fishermen and Conservation.

5. Attempting to insure that every young Arizonan gets proper education in conservation problems and practices, through the Arizona Wildlife Education Foundation and the Arizona Wildlife Federation.

6. Informing state and national legislative bodies of problems and needs of Arizona sportsmen and women.

These and other AWF activities, require funds, of course. The only source of funds are, private individuals, corporate sponsors, affiliate organizations, fundraisers and membership. If you enjoy the outdoors, even if hunting and fishing are only secondary in your enjoyment, you'll want to help maintain our natural resources, for ourselves and our children. **YOU CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE BY SUPPORTING THE ARIZONA WILDLIFE FEDERATION.** By filling the following application for membership and sending it, with the dues, yearly, life, or benefactor, you will become a member of a worthwhile organization. If you are already one of our supporting members, get a friend to join up. If each member signed up just one new member, AWF would double our membership. So lets get out and get those new members and make a difference!

Welcome New Members

NEW MEMBERS

Phillip Bidegain	Claypool
Chuck Brackenbury	Scottsdale
Tim Dugan	Apache Junct
Lee Sharyn Duncan	Phoenix
J Christian Ensley	Gold Canyon
Victoria Fielder	Lake Havasu
Steve Halvorsen	Mesa
Stan Hardwick	Tempe
John Harry	Mesa
Frederick Huntress	Flagstaff
Barbara Krajewski	Phoenix
Lauri Lazarus	Scottsdale
Ted Lyons	Chandler
Greg Malenfant	Tempe
Garrett Miles	Gilbert
Jason Mosier	Phoenix
Carol Olson	Black Canyon
Anna Panka	Oro Valley
Adam Parker	Chandler
Rob Pickett	Chandler
Joshua Serdy	Apache Junct
Victoria W. Greenhow	Tucson

Welcome New Life Member
Raymond Grice

Thank You to New Benefactors
SCI Periodicals
Burton Barr Central Library

Welcome New Affiliate
Arizona Wildlife Education
Foundation

AWF Members wanting a full copy of Board Minutes, contact Kim at: 480-644-0077. A summary is available at www.azwildlife.org

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT. Cabin and Airstream trailers at Blue River Wilderness Retreat near Alpine, AZ. Pines, flowing streams, and bordered by National Forest. Outstanding hiking, fishing, and birding. Reasonable rates by week or month. www.blueriverretreat.com - j.hoffman@frontiernet.net - 928-339-4426.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY. The Arizona BOW program is looking for a basic camping instructor. Candidate must have basic camping knowledge, camping gear and a postive attitute. While the pay sucks, we guarantee lots of fun. And we will feed you! Contact Linda at azodlady@yahoo.com



Please take a moment to review the list of Life Members and past Benefactors to make sure we have not missed anyone.

If you want to add someone to the list or upgrade your own membership status, please use the membership form provided below.

AWF Membership Application

<p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>Phone _____ Email _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check Enclosed</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Please bill my <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Discover</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> </p> <p>Expiration Date: <input type="checkbox"/>/ <input type="checkbox"/>/ <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Signature _____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> \$ 15 Junior (17 & under)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 30 Individual</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 75 Individual - 3 years</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 45 Family</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 110 Family - 3 years</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 100 Patron</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 500 Life Member</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 325 Distinguished Life Member (65+ or Disabled Veteran)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 500 Benefactor</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 75 Small Business</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 500 Corporate</p>
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Mail To:
Arizona Wildlife Federation
PO Box 51510
Mesa, AZ 85208

All Membership fees are tax deductible

Arizona Wildlife Federation Life Members

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BOW Deluxe: January 29-31

\$375, which includes instruction, program materials, resort style lodging and meals. This workshop will showcase the wonders of our Sonoran Desert.

Traditional BOW: April 9-11 & August 13-15

\$245, which includes instruction, program materials, lodging in rustic cabins and meals. This workshop will be held at Friendly Pines Camp in the tall pines of the Bradshaw Mountains.

All workshops feature evening entertainment, campfires and other night time activities to round out your outdoor experience. Classes include hiking, fishing, hunting, shooting, outdoor cooking, GPS, wilderness survival, rappelling, birding, map and compass, camping, archery and many more!

Things you can do at a BOW workshop

Images by Cheryl Belanger



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