



Arizona Wildlife News

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SUMMER 2001



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AWF MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Arizona Wildlife Federation is to educate, inspire and assist individuals and organizations to conserve, enhance, manage and protect wildlife and other natural resources of our State and Union.

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Cover: Photo by Bruce D. Taubert

Northern Goshawk - *Accipter gentiles*

Goshawks are a robust hawk with long narrow tails and short rounded wings an adaptation for maneuvering within the dense forests. Shown here with one of its prey species an Abert's squirrel, it also preys on rabbits, small mammals and birds. Goshawks can be found where ever there are Ponderosa Pine trees and in many areas where Pinion Pine and Juniper dominate the landscape.

Arizona Wildlife News

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“HIGHLIGHTS” of Governor’s Elk Symposium

By Steve Gallizioli

The first thing that struck me as odd as the GOVERNOR’S symposium got underway was the fact that governor Hull had failed to show up for so much as a five minute introductory welcome speech. Nor was there even a governor’s aide to fill in.

The second thing was that something else was missing: Representatives from the Forest Service. Apparently the Forest Service hadn’t been invited. The AWF hadn’t been specifically invited either, but a half dozen of us showed up anyway. But, no Forest Service! The agency that administers virtually all the elk habitat in Arizona?! In his closing comments Pete Cimellero said “all stake holders need to be included”. The Forest Service isn’t a stake holder?! No one bothered to explain why both Governor Hull and Forest Service were conspicuously absent.

On registering we were given three survey sheets to fill out, with questions applicable to the concerns of ranchers, hunters, and Game and Fish. The answers are to be included in a report, which will be made available to all attendees sometime in the future.

Next came three presentations labeled as: (1) Sportsmen Presentation, Doug Stancil; (2) Landowner Presentation, Dan Daggett; Arizona Game and Fish Presentation, Brian Wakeling.

Stancil, representing the sportsmen, devoted his entire talk to discussing the ranch where he grew up. It was obviously a beautiful place in a remote area of Montana with lots of wildlife and clear trout streams. He described it eloquently and vividly and I could well understand how enchanting it must have been. As he matured he went off on his own, and, evidently, relatives who ran the place finally decided to sell the ranch. Some 15

years ago he ventured back to see what the place looked like and was shocked out of his boots at the change. It had evidently been sold to a developer who had converted Doug’s Shangri La to a developer’s idea of progress, including a golf course and an airfield. I’m sure everyone in the audience empathized with Doug, but—what was the point? Ranchers have been selling off their properties to developers for many years. All it takes is an offer of enough money. I’m sure most of the hunters in the audience were there primarily because of their concerns about the likelihood of the Game and Fish Commission turning over elk permits to ranchers to sell for big bucks. Stancil made no mention of this widespread concern, nor about anything else that might be a burr inside the hunters’ Levis.

Dan Daggett used his time to tell us about the U-Bar ranch on the Gila River in New Mexico. He introduced his remarks about the ranch by telling us about the endangered southwestern willow flycatcher, saying that environmentalists blamed livestock grazing for their plight. According to Dan, there were more willow flycatchers on the U-Bar than in the rest of the world combined. He tried to make the point that the reason for the flycatcher’s abundance was because the area’s being grazed by livestock.

At the break I had occasion to discuss the issue with Dr. Bob Ohmart of ASU and learned he was familiar with this ranch. Bob reported the birds are using large old cottonwood trees along the Gila River. There are no young trees because cattle find sprouting cottonwoods to their liking, preventing the establishment of new trees. Now, do you suppose Daggett, a self proclaimed wildlife biologist, was unaware that the only reason for these birds presence was not because of (or in

spite of) livestock grazing but simply because the old trees made excellent nesting habitat? And why, do you suppose, did the ranching community, well represented at this symposium, find it necessary to have a wildlife biologist speak for them? And why did Dan find it necessary to try to make a point about livestock grazing by using an ounce and a half bird at an elk symposium?! One can only wonder.

The third speaker, Brian Wakeling, gave a run-down on the Game and Fish Department’s elk management program. Nothing new here that I could see.

The rest of the day was given over to workshops with the people divided into three groups and three sessions per group. Facilitators were provided for each group to handle concerns voiced by the participants. Each concern was then written on large sheets of paper. Since the purpose seemed to be simply to record the concerns of the audience (most of which had already been expressed on the survey sheets already filled out) it was less than clear to me what this was supposed to accomplish. All of these comments are also to be included in the final report. Perhaps it will all be clear at that point.

The last thing we were asked to do was to use the sticky-note papers we had been given and to indicate positive or negative views on various aspects of the symposium. These were stuck on large sheets of paper next to the exits doors—negatives on two different sheets (two doors) and positive on two others. I didn’t try to count them, but it was clear by just a glance at these sheets that there were far more negative comments (like two or three negatives to one positive).

I think I could have spent the time more profitably reading, perhaps a book about elk problems—or about the plight of the southwestern willow flycatcher!

Visit us at our website: azwildlife.org

Check out the new Millenium Edition of Arizona Wildlife Trophies on Page 7

Join the AWF and help preserve your hunting priviledges on Page 23

Order AWF sportswear - Shirts and hats on Page 24

President's Column

By Jerry Thorsen

It is an honor to serve as the new president of AWF. I am happy to have the job because we are at a critical juncture for wildlife in Arizona. Antelope, deer and elk will need all the help we can provide to maintain, or restore, population numbers at satisfactory levels. The Anderson Mesa antelope herd in particular needs immediate attention by the Coconino National Forest to prevent its extirpation. With Don Farmer leading the way as Antelope Committee Chairman, we hope to persuade the Coconino to concentrate on restoring antelope numbers to a satisfactory level.

I lived in Minnesota for most of my life and have been a big game hunter since 1964. In 1984 my work lead me

and my wife Jane and my daughters, Sara and Laura to Mesa. I immediately joined the Mesa Varmint Callers and in doing so became an affiliate member of AWF. In 1993 I became treasurer of the Mesa Varmint Callers and in July of 1994 I joined the AWF board of directors as treasurer. Serving as the AWF treasurer for seven years has given me intimate knowledge of the workings of the AWF. I am still the acting treasurer, however, so if you are interested in serving wildlife conservation as the treasurer of the AWF please contact the AWF office at (480) 644-0077.

I am an avid hunter (bow and rifle) and also enjoy helping family and friends when they are lucky enough to get drawn for any big game hunt. I have found that

helping someone else with a hunt is almost as rewarding as hunting on my own. I am also a member of the Howard Lake, Minnesota Sportsman's Club, Chandler Rod and Gun Club, the National Rifle Association, and I am a life member of the Arizona Trappers Association.

The AWF is a pleasure to work with, because it is always in the forefront in support of wildlife conservation, particularly in its efforts to protect or enhance wildlife habitats. Some people believe that sportsmen and sportswomen must give up their rights in the political process to gain what they want. I believe that sporting people are first class citizens fully entitled to all the rights guaranteed by the constitution.

Letters to the Editor

June 26, 2001

Arizona Wildlife Federation
644 N. Country Club Drive #E
Mesa, Arizona 85201

To Whom It May Concern:

With great reservation, I have enclosed a check to renew my membership. In most every newsletter I receive there's some type of article trashing ranching in Arizona. This makes me believe your organization is truly run by big developers.

When a ranch goes under or is sold, it is the developers who purchase it. The Arizona antelope herd is not falling in numbers primarily because of ranching or over grazing. It's that more and more antelope habitat (old ranches) is being developed into forty-acre lots. Old windmills and water holes are no longer being maintained. In some instances ranchers hauled water and that no longer occurs.

Arizona is a desert and ranchers developed a lot of water sources for cattle and wildlife. They once maintained most hiking trails on forest service and BLM land. Also look at a map of Arizona that shows ownership of the land. Most of the best antelope habitat is private land or State land. Most of the private land was ranch land; it is now for sale. Most of the State land will be sold off to developers. (All State land is for sale). There is about ten million acres of State land left without ranchers renting from the State. Most if not all will be sold to developers in the next fifty years.

Take a drive from Kingman to the New

Mexico border on I-40. Most of that land if not all is for sale. It once was all ranch land and antelope habitat. Now it's just forty-acre ranches with no water and little wildlife. If we want to protect and preserve wildlife in Arizona we must protect the land. Every time we lose a ranch in Arizona, you can be sure that in the near future we will lose the wildlife on that ranch.

Thank God for National forests and BLM land. But look at a map a little closer. You will notice private land mixed throughout it. Most ranch land, when those ranchers are forced off federal land, these private holdings are put up for sale and usually bought by developers. I'm afraid this trend in our state is to far along to stop. I do believe that wildlife supporters should also be the ranch supporters.

Tim Diehl - Peoria, Arizona

Mr. Diehl:

The Arizona Wildlife Federation (AWF), the Arizona's oldest conservation organization, is comprised of people concerned about the wise use of all natural resources, especially wildlife. That means we look at developers in much the same way we do poachers. The only difference is that poachers can be fined or even jailed if convicted. Unfortunately, the damage done to wildlife habitat by developers does not constitute a crime and they cannot be treated as criminals.

We agree with some of the remarks you made in your recent letter especially that: "If we want to protect wildlife in Arizona we must protect the land." A concern for

wildlife habitat ("the land") is the most important issue driving the AWF. The reason we are critical of livestock grazing is because of the frequent damage to wildlife habitat through "overgrazing". Consider one area and one species of game the AWF has been particularly concerned about for the past couple of years: Anderson Mesa and the pronghorn antelope.

The herd of antelope on this area is today at an all time low of 150 head, according to counts by the Game and Fish Department. Over the past 50 years or so it has been estimated as high as 5000. About 40 years ago the Department issued 200 buck permits and 100 doe hunt permits. This year they will issue five, yes that's five as in 5. A study by the Department some 20 years ago, when numbers were a little higher, found that fawn survival was poor and that coyotes were responsible. No other source of fawn mortality was found. The researchers also found that hiding cover for newborn fawns was scarce, making fawns extremely vulnerable to coyote predation. Since then things have gotten even worse and fawn survival over the past 11 years has averaged only 12 fawns per 100 does. Biologists have determined that it takes 30-40 fawns per 100 does to maintain a stable population.

Now what could possibly be responsible for the scarcity of hiding cover for fawns? What removes the grasses and forbs (weeds) that make up ground cover in antelope habitat? There are a number of things including jackrabbits, cottontails, rodents of several species, grasshoppers and other insects, antelope, and livestock.

Response - Continued on Page 22



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For the August 17-19 Workshop
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Summer Workshop
August 17-19, 2001

Becoming an Outdoors Woman is an Outdoor Skills Clinic for women. The objective of the program is provide women with an opportunity to learn basic outdoor skills in a fun, non-threatening manner. We are looking for women who have never had an opportunity to experience the “out of doors” and are willing to learn basic outdoor skills with us.

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Big Fence Project on Arizona Game and Fish Department's Raymond Buffalo Ranch

By Ken Haefner

The best fence for an antelope is no fence at all. When faced with a fence while in flight from predators or in natural migrations, even adult pronghorn antelope will almost always choose to go under rather than jump over. This proves difficult if not impossible when the fence is the typical four strand barbed wire stock fence found on public lands.

Where not modified, most fences on public land have the bottom strand of barbed wire 6-8 inches above the ground. These fences do not allow pronghorns to safely and quickly pass to the other side. They deny or at best complicate fence crossing.

Antelope researchers have shown that if the bottom wire of any per-

manent fence were made of smooth wire (no barbs) and adjusted 16-20 inches above the ground, the antelope could pass through the fence more readily.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department recently became aware that within the boundaries of their own Raymond buffalo ranch there were

a number of interior fences that served no purpose and could be removed. Also that many of the ranch's boundary fences needed to be modified to meet accepted "antelope friendly" standards.

The Arizona Antelope Foundation (AAF), an Arizona Wildlife Federation (AWF) affiliate, has been work-

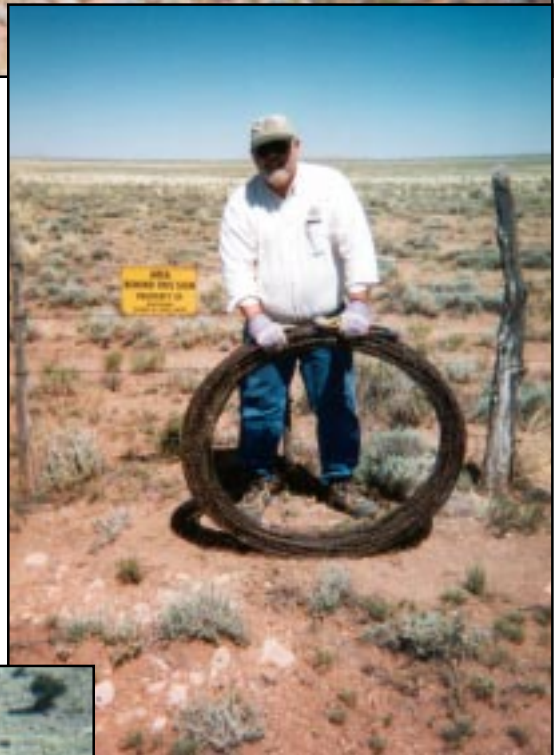


Clockwise from above: Lee Kohlhasse of Mesa and John Sampanes of Paradise Valley rolling up a downed fence with stays attached; John easily clips t-post clips with bolt cutters, freeing the wire; Lee and John pulling a stubborn t-post with two high lift jacks and using a special plate that is designed to quickly and easily grip the post and allow them to be "jacked" out of the ground; Another faster method of removing posts utilized a front loader and a logging chain. The plate is dropped over the post with chain attached then pulled from the ground, easily slid out, and deposited into the bucket. (close up center); A two man team can over a mile of fence posts in a little over an hour; Right: A morning's accumulation of fence.





*Clockwise from the top: Three man team pulling t-posts at walking speed; Author with removed roll of barbed bottom strand of wire on boundary fence; Typical interior fence, estimated 40 years old; Crossing Yeagar Canyon (fence going up the other side).
Photos by: John Sampanes*



ing diligently throughout the state to modify fences to facilitate antelope movement for a number of years. The AAF offered to help the Department organize a volunteer work project to include their own members as well as other volunteers to bring these fences into compliance. The photos tell the story.

The Arizona Antelope Foundation provided the evening meal. A spread of veggies, chips and dips, cheese crisps and salsa—Salsa—Oh the salsa—followed by delicious steaks, baked potato and beans. The finale

was some very special brownies.

In its ongoing efforts to arrest the decline of antelope on Anderson Mesa southeast of Flagstaff the AWF has been pushing the Coconino National Forest to modify fences as a portion of the problem. AWF work projects to improve some of the many fences on Anderson Mesa that are obstacles to antelope movement are scheduled for this summer. The next one is scheduled for July 21 and 22nd near State Highway 87 and the Coconino National Forest boundary between Clint's Well and Winslow.

Visit our website for details at (www.azwildlife.org) and a link to the Arizona Antelope Foundation's website.

Wildlife Agency Targeted for Destruction

By David Wolf

Did you ever see the movie, *Conspiracy Theory*? Mel Gibson plays an eccentric taxi cab driver who constantly comes up with wacky conspiracy ideas. Wacky until one of his theories turn out to be right on the money.

According to some, the Arizona Game and Fish Department is under attack.

The conspirators are the ranchers and the legislators who support ranching and who also love to hate the Game and Fish Department. As the old saying goes, "There is no reason to be paranoid just because everyone is out to get you."

Here are some of the current predictions and those who are reported to be behind the conspiracies.

Conspiracy theory No. 1. The Arizona Game and Fish Commission will vote to withdraw the Arizona Game and Fish Department from the effort to re-introduce the Mexican gray wolf to eastern Arizona at its August meeting.

You have to wonder how many of the Commissioners have read the Mission statement of the Arizona Game and Fish Department? It reads, "The Department's Mission. To conserve, enhance, and restore, Arizona's diverse wildlife resources and habitats through aggressive protection and management programs, and to provide wildlife resources and safe watercraft and off-highway vehicle recreation for the enjoyment, appreciation, and use by present and future generations."

The Commission, at its May meeting, revealed its hand when Commissioners repeatedly made derogatory comments about the Fish and Wildlife Service and its effort to re-introduce the Mexican Gray wolf to Arizona. So much for, "restoring Arizona's diverse wildlife resources." All because the ranchers of eastern Arizona are crying to our lame duck Governor and to those of our state legislators who are inflicted with a mentality diametrically opposed to the Mission of the Game and Fish Department.

Conspiracy theory No. 2. The Arizona Legislature votes no confidence in the Arizona Game and Fish Department's ability to manage Arizona's wildlife responsibly and reduces as many funding sources as possible.

The Department was audited by the state auditing agency recently and was found to have spent \$4 million on wildlife habitat for species that, the state auditor says, never inhabited the land purchased. The Game and Fish Department says that is incorrect. U.S.

Fish and Wildlife says the lands purchased were historical habitat for the Colorado River spinedace and the mountain plover. Plans for the property included the construction of ponds in an effort to restore the spinedace and habitat restoration for the plover, which requires the removal of livestock.

Whether the plan to build the ponds to restore the native fish makes sense is irrelevant to a Legislature that has a long history of animosity toward Game and Fish. They will use it as a weapon to dismantle the Commission and the Department.

Conspiracy theory No. 3. The Arizona Game and Fish Commission votes to give Arizona's ranchers elk permits that the ranchers can then sell to the highest bidder.

Another state audit says the Legislature needs to establish a task force to resolve elk conflicts. The auditors' recommendations include compensation to land owners.

The Department has maintained the elk herd in a healthy state, much to the chagrin of ranchers and their legislative buddies. The 1990 management plan called for an elk herd of 30,000 to 35,000 post hunt animals. The 2006 plan calls for 25,000 to 30,000. The ranchers think they have the momentum and their next push will be for the Department, or the Arizona Legislature, to give them elk tags that ranchers can sell to the highest bidder. It does not matter that most Arizona ranchers own very little private land and that they graze their cattle on public lands. If we give ranchers elk tags do we give homeowners near Prescott javelina permits? They have had javelina problems for decades too.

The ranchers may have another ally in their effort to obtain elk tags: professional hunting guides who see the big dollar potential.

On June 23 there will be an elk symposium at the Phoenix Civic Plaza. Every rancher and every guide in the state will be there to push their agenda. They know that hunters are opposed to ranchers having elk permits to sell but they also know the average hunter will not show up at the Civic Plaza in June to voice their views. And to make sure they get all that public comment—there is a cover charge for walking in the door.

Conspiracy theory No. 4. The Arizona Wildlife Federation sues the Forest Service and the Arizona Game and Fish Department due to inadequate steps to save the Anderson Mesa pronghorn antelope herd.

The AWF will likely sue the Forest Service and the Department over antelope. The AWF wants both agencies to think outside the box and, despite the great strides being made in the development of the Diablo Trust Management Plan, it is still a livestock management plan driven by livestock interests rather than a wildlife plan driven by Game and Fish and the Forest Service.

Conspiracy theory No. 5. A move is made to abolish the Game and Fish Commission and replace it with a Natural Resources Department under a redesigned Arizona State Land Department.

The move to abolish the Game and Fish Commission and create a Natural Resources Department will be made by some of our legislators because, in the past, Game and Fish has met its Mission. In fact, despite a few trips and stumbles, the Department, under the Commission system, has done a very good job. By abolishing the Commission the Department can be controlled by the legislature and the ranchers will be tickled to death to have direct control over wildlife management in Arizona.

Not a promising picture. In fact, it is downright depressing. All of these scenarios are possible—some are even likely—if you do not pay attention and stay on top of what is the most pro-rancher, politically influenced Game and Fish Commission in recent memory, if not in the history of Arizona.

Gov. Jane Hull has stacked the Commission with pro-ranching commissioners. Hull, while campaigning, stated she would do everything she could to save ranching in Arizona. Was this part of her plan?

If Hull does not go on to be the U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand—another rumor—she has the opportunity to appoint one more commissioner when Dennis Manning leaves the commission. This appointment will be critical. The commission is out of balance now and Hull can finish her Game and Fish demolition job if conservationists give her the opportunity.

Will all this happen? Maybe. Will any of it happen? Very likely. How severe the damage will be is up to you.

Reprinted from Arizona Daily Sun/Flagstaff 6/15/01 -www.azdailysun.com/outdoors. David Wolf can be reached by e-mail at ddwolf@earthlink.net.

Bipartisan Majority Signed-On -- Cosponsors of Landmark Conservation Funding Legislation

WASHINGTON, D.C. – “Congress is on track to pass the most comprehensive conservation funding legislation in history,” Mark Van Putten, President of the National Wildlife Federation, said here today with the announcement that a majority of the House of Representatives have signed-on as cosponsors of HR 701, the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA).

“Because it provides long-term conservation investments for the states and local communities, CARA should be a hand in glove fit for the Bush Administration,” Van Putten said. “It does not require a dime in new taxes. As its majority support in the House shows, CARA means unity for progress on conservation.”

As of mid-week, more than 220 members of the 435-member House have become CARA cosponsors. Last year, virtually identical legislation passed the

House by a two-to-one majority and more than 60 members of the Senate voiced their support for it, but the legislation was side-tracked in a last-minute deal struck in a closed-door appropriations conference committee. CARA was reintroduced early in the 107th Congress. House Resources Committee Chairman James V. Hansen (R-UT), a CARA supporter, will hold hearings on the bill today and expects a mark-up in July.

“We have no illusions that passing CARA will require an all out effort,” Van Putten said. “We must overcome the entrenched interests of those who do not want to give the states an assured source of conservation funding by surrendering their influence over yearly appropriations power struggles. We also know that no conservation legislation in recent history has gained such a broad base of support

at the grassroots, among state and community leaders and in the Congress itself.”

CARA would use a portion of current offshore oil and gas drilling lease revenue to provide just over \$3 billion in annual conservation investments through the year 2015.

A substantial majority of the funds would flow directly to the states and local communities to provide reliable investments for wildlife management, open space, parks, ball fields, environmental restoration and historic preservation.

The nation’s largest member-supported conservation education and advocacy group, the National Wildlife Federation unites people from all walks of life to protect nature, wildlife and the world we all share. The Federation has educated and inspired families to uphold America’s conservation tradition since 1936.

Interior Secretary Norton’s Decision Sends “Chilling Message”

Grizzly Bear Recovery Shelved In Northern Rockies In Favor Of “No Action”

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Interior Secretary Gale Norton’s decision to shelve grizzly bear recovery in central Idaho and western Montana “sets a dangerous precedent in vetoing a major conservation initiative in a way that undermines the purposes of the Endangered Species Act,” Jamie Rappaport Clark, the National Wildlife Federation’s Senior Vice President for Conservation, said here today.

In her first major wildlife decision since assuming office, Secretary Norton announced earlier in the day that she is abandoning plans to reintroduce grizzly bears in the Selway-Bitterroot Ecosystem of the Northern Rockies in favor of an official position of “no action.”

“Imperiled wildlife in the United States is not brought back from the brink of extinction by no action,” Clark said. “Gray wolves would not be thriving in Yellowstone National Park and central Idaho today if Secretary Norton’s policy

had been in place when that recovery got underway. Her decision not only deals a severe blow to grizzly bear recovery, but sends a chilling message for other wildlife recovery efforts across the country.”

Last November, after years of study and public comment both in the region and nationally, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of the Interior Department issued a final record of decision to move forward with grizzly bear recovery in the Northern Rockies. Grizzly bears are listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The plan calls for reintroducing five bears for each of five years into huge areas of designated wilderness known as the Bitterroot Ecosystem on the border between Idaho and Montana. The plan’s goal is to establish a population of about 250 bears over the next half-century in an area in which the last grizzly bears were killed 60 years ago.

The centerpiece of the recovery plan adopted last November by the Fish and Wildlife Service but abandoned by Secretary Norton today is its adoption of a local Citizens Committee to manage grizzly bear reintroduction. Eight years ago, the National Wildlife Federation helped initiate the citizen management approach in negotiations involving the regional timber industry, timber workers and Defenders of Wildlife. Under this approach, the governors of Idaho and Montana would nominate local citizens to serve on the committee to manage grizzly recovery in order to give the people in those states confidence that their interests and concerns would be taken into account in decisions involving bear reintroduction. The plan allows for existing land uses such as timbering, ranching, hunting and other recreation on public lands to continue where compatible with grizzly recovery.

Grizzlies - Continued on Page 22

National Fish Hatchery Provides More Opportunity for Rare Apache Trout

By Craig Springer,
US Fish & Wildlife Service

There's only one place you can fish for the rare Apache trout—the high country streams of eastern Arizona.

The tall peaks of the White Mountains capture storms in winter that feed all summer the fine coldwater streams that rim the mountain range. Only mere hours from Phoenix, Albuquerque, and El Paso you can wade a stream or paddle a lake and fish for this rare golden native trout.

Though the Apache trout is considered a federally “threatened” species, many populations of Apache trout are fishable with some harvest allowed. This unique opportunity is due in great part to the work of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Alchesay-Williams Creek National Fish Hatchery, located on the Ft. Apache Indian Reservation.

Recent spawning of Apache trout at the Alchesay-Williams Creek National Fish Hatchery promises to bear fruit for fishermen. Fish biologists spawned over a combined 1,600 males and females to produce 509,000 live eggs. Over 248,000 of those eyed eggs were deliv-

ered to Tonto State Fish Hatchery, operated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department, where they will be grown out and stocked in streams of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. This year's spawn will be stocked in spring and summer 2002.



“The spawn was a little better this year than in 2000,” said fish biologist Mike Ternes. “That translates to more stockable fish in the future.”

The hatchery grows Apache trout up to 14 inches long before releasing them into streams and lakes on the Ft. Apache Indian Reservation, home to the White Mountain Apache Tribe. Biologists expect to stock well over 100,000 Apache trout this summer.

“If fishing for rare and unusual trout is your thing to do, then the Apache trout is your fish,” said tribal member and fish biologist, Tim Gatewood. “Apache trout pulls people from all around for a unique fishing opportunity.”

The Apache trout is a story in successful conservation. The White Mountain Apaches closed off Apache trout to fishing in the 1940s, and since then the fish has come a long way. Originally listed as an “endangered” species, this trout could soon be the first species taken off the federal list of threatened and endangered species.

Alchesay-Williams Creek National Fish Hatchery is one of 70 national fish hatcheries managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, along with 64 Fishery Resources Offices, nine Fish Health Centers, and seven Fish Technology Centers across the country.

For more information on fishing for Apache trout and licenses, contact Hondah Ski & Outdoor Sports Shop (520)369-7669, the White Mountain Apache Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation Division (520)338-4385, or Arizona Game and Fish Department (520)367-4342.

IN MEMORIAM—Robert A. Jantzen

By Steve Gallizioli

Former Game and Fish Director, Bob Jantzen, died June 7, 2001 at his home in North Carolina after a long illness. Bob was born in Phoenix in 1928. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II, attended the University of Arizona after leaving the Corps and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Management. He was hired by Arizona Game and Fish in 1951, moved rapidly up the ranks to Chief, Game Management Division and, in 1968, to Director, the top position in that agency. He served in that position until 1981, when he was picked as Director of the federal Fish and Wildlife Service. Bob lived in Scottsdale and was actively involved in the community. He served for many years on the Board of Directors of the Boy's Clubs of America. He

was also active with the Scottsdale Jaycee's, and in 1964 served as chairman of the Parada del Sol rodeo. During his tenure with Game and Fish he served a term as president of the Arizona-New Mexico Section of the Wildlife Society and also as president of the National Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and as president of the Western Association. In 1991 Bob retired and moved to North Carolina where he spent his remaining years. He is survived by his wife Suzanne, two sons, James and Keith by a previous marriage to Esther (Bo) Jantzen, and two grandchildren, Lindsay and Lucas. No local services. Charitable donations may be made in his name to the National Kidney Foundation or to other charities of personal choice.

Bob was an avid hunter and angler and those of us who knew him well and

hunted and fished with him remember him best for his contributions to well ordered hunting and fishing camps, especially his expertise as a cook. Bob loved to cook and usually sacrificed the best hunting hours in late afternoon so he'd have enough time to prepare dinner. He was a whiz with Dutch ovens, even turning out biscuits and apple pies in them. Not only was he renowned for his chili, but he would even turn out flour tortillas to go with the chili. When he moved to Washington D.C. to take over as head of Fish and Wildlife, other members of his hunting group were forced to learn the rudiments of camp cooking. That's when we really appreciated what an asset Bob had been on our hunts!

National Kidney Foundation
911 East 86th Street
Suite 100
Indianapolis, Indiana 46240-1840

Crayfish: Game and Fish Requests More Utilization

By Mike Perkinson

A few words about the crayfish, aka crawfish, crawdad, mudbug, freshwater lobster, or langosta, and its status in Arizona. There are over 300 species of crayfish native to North America, none of which are native to Arizona. Furthermore, there are no crayfish native to any part of the Colorado River Basin. Despite this, they are found in nearly every body of water in Arizona.

Around 30 years ago, the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) introduced crayfish to Arizona waters. Now, AZGFD recommends that

the advancement of their range and that their absolute numbers be reduced.

Crayfish— even in their native ranges— create several problems. They live in streams and ponds throughout the world, hiding under stones during the day and feeding at night. Crawfish eat decaying plant and animal matter in addition to small fish, snails, insect larvae, and worms. Their feeding habits allow them to completely denude a pond or stream of all plant and animal life thus eliminating previously healthy fisheries. Their burrowing ruins canals and hastens bank destabilization and erosion in streams.

There are also concerns that some crayfish are hosts for fish parasites and may be vectors for other diseases. AZGFD researchers determined that the crayfish introduction is doing more harm than good. Therefore, AZGFD has started a public information campaign to get people to harvest and utilize more crayfish. This includes an article in *Arizona Wildlife Views*, giveaways, and a free video on crayfish cap-

ture and cooking techniques.

AZGFD is encouraging anglers to catch crayfish and utilize them as bait and for food. Catching crayfish is easy and there are several capture methods. Because they hide under rocks during the day and come out at night to feed, they need be coaxed

game species and can be a very tasty meal for us humans. If you are planning to eat your crayfish you may want to let them soak in a bucket of water with a little corn meal or salt added. This causes them to clean out their gut; commonly called the vein.

Since transportation of live crayfish

is prohibited in most of the state you must kill them before taking them home. This can be easily done by placing your catch on ice for about ten minutes. The ice freezes their gills and they die painlessly.

Now you are ready to prepare them using your favorite recipe or try out some of the recipes we have included.

I like to make Crawdad Scampi. I

bring a pot of water to a boil. Add a little crab boil then the crawfish. Cover it, take it off the heat, and remove the crawfish as soon as they turn red. Next, I peel the crawfish, this optional, and sauté in butter with a little onion and lots of garlic. (crab boil or lobster boil is available in the spice aisle of the grocery store)

I would like to thank Larry Riley, Fisheries Chief AGFD for information on crawfish capture and preparation and Bruce Argyle of UtahDiving.com for permission to reprint his recipes. More information on crawfish can be found by contacting AGFD or on the World Wide Web at <http://www.utahdiving.com/recipes.htm> or <http://www.gatewayno.com/cuisine/crawfish.html>.

Sweet and Sour Crayfish (4)

Ingredients

1lb raw crayfish, shelled& de-vein

2 oz plain flour

¼ tsp salt

black pepper

Crayfish - Continued on Page 20



Photo By George Andreko

out into the daylight with some bait. The most popular bait is just about any type of meat, ham, pork fat bacon, etc.- the fatter the better.

You can tie the bait directly to a string or use a No. Six hook. No pole is necessary but it helps. Look for a rocky area and dangle the bait near a rock and wait for a crayfish to come out and nibble on the bait. When it does, just lift it out of the water and place it into a pail. A dip net will help catch the ones that fall off prematurely. If you handle live crayfish be sure to watch out for the pinchers—those little devils can hurt.

They can be spotlighted at night and picked up by hand or with a net. For those of us who like to conserve energy a minnow trap can be modified for crawfish by widening the neck a little. Bait the trap then toss it into the water and wait awhile. You are even allowed to leave the traps unattended over-night if you want. After some time pull in your line and you should have plenty of crawfish.

Crayfish make excellent bait for most

Arizona Wildlife Federation Celebrates 78th Year at 2001 Convention and Banquet

MCCULLOUGH AWARD

PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY

Richard Ockenfels

Richard has been a biologist with the Arizona Game and Fish Department for nearly 25 years, all but five of them as a Research Biologist. He has studied javelina, white-tailed deer, mule deer, desert bighorn, Mearns quail and pronghorn antelope. His dedication has been especially beneficial while working on antelope. Richard has mapped pronghorn distribution, evaluated factors limiting pronghorn numbers and movements and summarized characteristics of what constitutes pronghorn habitat. The results of all these efforts have been freely communicated to the sporting public, and he has personally participated in numerous

workshops, public meetings, field projects, and translocation projects to benefit this species.

Richard has been a volunteer throughout his professional career, serving as a board member, secretary-treasurer, and president of the Arizona Chapter of the Wildlife Society. At one time or another he has been a member of the Arizona Wildlife Federation, Quail Unlimited, Desert Sheep Society, Arizona Bear Society, Audubon Society, Nature Conservancy and other conservation groups. He is a charter member of the North American Pronghorn Foundation and currently sits on the BOD of the Arizona Antelope Foundation where he is a Charter member. He has acted as liaison between the Antelope Foundation and the Arizona Game and Fish Department. He has par-



ticipated in numerous fence modification projects, pronghorn capture efforts, and pronghorn trouble-shooting studies.

For his many conservation activities, studies and especially for his efforts to promote pronghorn conservation, Richard Ockenfels was deemed most worthy of the Arizona Wildlife Federation's McCullough Award in the professional category.

MCCULLOUGH AWARDS

NON-PROFESSIONAL
CATEGORY

Nancy Lewis

Nancy Lewis has always harbored the American hunter's conviction that those who enjoy wildlife and hunting must contribute to its conservation. This she has done, both physically and financially, for more than 25 years, volunteering thousands of hours and raising hundreds of thousands of dollars for wildlife causes. She has been even more generous with her leadership. Having joined literally dozens of conservation organizations, ranging in political persuasion from the Audubon Society to Safari Club International, she has actively participated in a plethora of projects benefiting game and

wildlife habitat. Moreover, she has been an officer and served on the boards of most of Arizona's conservation hunting organizations. She is a Life Member of the Arizona Wildlife Federation, Arizona Antelope Foundation, Arizona Bighorn Sheep Society, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and National Rifle Association. A leading pro-hunting advocate, she has wisely and thoughtfully represented hunters at countless commission meetings, on several conservation boards, on various land management panels, and on numerous other governing bodies having to do with wildlife management. All this she has done solely for wildlife and at personal expense.



Her receiving the McCullough Award for the year 2000 is especially appropriate in that she has spent much of the last five years editing the Millennium Edition of the Arizona Wildlife Trophy Book published in 2000. She did this willingly and gratis for the Arizona Wildlife Federation's Trophy Book Committee.

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Rick Erman

Rick certainly needs no introduction to AWF members. He is one of the Federation's oldest members in terms of service, having been a member of AWF for more than 30 years. He has been on the AWF Board of Directors for most of those years, serving in many capacities, including two terms as president.

Probably least known of his many achievements is the role he played some 20 or more years ago in the lawsuit brought by AWF against a uranium mining company on the Kaibab Plateau. Rick was AWF president at the time when he learned that Pathfinder Mining Company had filed hundreds of uranium mining claims on the Kaibab Plateau. The type of mining operation envisioned by this company would have virtually destroyed the area created as the Kaibab Wildlife Preserve by Teddy Roosevelt. With Kim Graber, a local Phoenix attorney, they fought the mining interests through the Bureau of Land Management's Interior Board of

Land Appeals, the District Court and eventually the 9th Circuit Court in San Francisco. They won at each step of the process and the Kaibab has been free from the threat of mining activity ever since. It was a resounding victory for the AWF and Rick has never before been properly recognized for the role he played in this issue.

Shortly thereafter Rick and several other AWF old timers got involved in the Forest Service's Forest Plans. They found enough problems with the first drafts of these plans that the AWF was compelled to appeal all the plans except that of the Coronado N. F.

AWF's appeal of the Tonto N.F. forced them to get grazing numbers in line with capacity in 15 years instead of the proposed 30 years.

Later yet Rick was asked by Regional Forester Larry Hensen to be one of the civilian members on the Goshawk Task Force involved in the development of the Forest Services' Goshawk Management Guidelines. This was another long drawn out affair of monthly day-long meetings before the



Management Guidelines were brought to completion.

There is more: Falconers in Arizona owe their sport to Rick's effort to have the Department legalize the use of birds of prey for falconry; then there was his effort to get Congress to increase the funds appropriated for wildlife for use by the Forest Service. In more recent years he's been fighting on behalf of the state's antelope to get grassland habitat restored after 100 years or more abuse by livestock.

Rick's many and varied conservation achievements clearly made him deserving of the Arizona Wildlife Federation's Lifetime Achievement Award.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Doug Baker

Like Rick Erman, the other 2001 Lifetime Achievement Award winner, Doug needs no introduction to AWF members. Doug has been a member of AWF for so long the year he first joined is lost in the mists of time, somewhere in the early 1960s probably. He's been active in various capacities including President of AWF 1974-1976. In 1977 he was awarded the Thomas E. McCullough Award in the Non-Professional category.

Doug is probably best known as the father (mother too I suppose!) of the Arizona Wildlife Federation's Trophy Book. That

publication, featuring Arizona big game trophies, had its genesis in 1970. It has been updated every five years ever since and those older volumes are now valuable collector's items. Doug has been chairman of the Trophy Book Committee and has nurtured the publication of each volume through each painful gestation period to its successful birth in publication. His crowning achievement is the latest Trophy Book, the Millenium Edition, published in the closing months of the year 2000. This is an artistically beautiful book, which, in addition to updating the lists of big game trophies, contains a



biographical account of 20 outstanding hunter-conservationists. It is sure to be a highly valued addition to any hunter's or conservationist's library.

DOUG BAKER—A most deserving AWF recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award.



2000-2001 Board of Directors: Clockwise, Top Left: Don Farmer, President; Jerry Thorson, Treasurer; Web Parton, Region V Director; John Stephenson, Federal Agency Liaison; Al Crossman, Director at Large; Lee Kohlhasse, Vice President of Conservation; Dave Brown, Region VI Director; Jack Simon, Legislative Liaison; Mike Perkinson, Director at Large; Rick Erman, Director at Large; Mark Hullinger, Director at Large; Steve Gallizioli, Director at Large and John Calkins, National Wildlife Representative.

The 78th Annual Arizona Wildlife Federation Convention was held May 19th, 2001 at the Tempe Fiesta Inn. One of the conventions features was a facilitated meeting aimed at improving communication and cooperation between various sportsmen's groups and organizations. The meeting was moderated by Ms. Ina Windrich, of the Arizona State University's School of Public Affairs. The results of the meeting are being distributed to the participants and further meetings will be planned.

Big Game Trophy Awards

Awards presented by Dave Conrad. Photos by Ken Haefner

Right: **Bill Hudzietz** of Mesa, Arizona accepts **Bronze Award Trophy for Javelina**



Left: **James Herrick** of Tempe, Arizona accepts **Bronze Award Trophy for Elk, Non-Typical**





Left: **Don H. McBride** of Carefree, Arizona accepts **Bronze Award Trophy for Coues Deer, Typical**



Right: **Kenneth Clay** of Winslow, Arizona accepts **Bronze Award Trophy for Mule Deer Typical**



Left: **Steve Juarez Rico** of Globe, Arizona accepts **Bronze Award Trophy for Elk, Typical**



Right: **Orlando J. Lujan** of Clifton, Arizona accepts **Bronze Award Trophy for Cougar**



Left: **Brian Bingham** of Mesa, Arizona accepts **Bronze Award Trophy for Antelope**



Right: **Larry L. Holland** of Taylor, Arizona accepts **Honorable Mention Award for Mule Deer, Typical**

“Kids Fishing Day 2001” Huge Success Over 300 Kids And Parents In Attendance



Left: Happy Anglers! This brother and sister duo teamed up to catch more than 20 catfish during the four hour fishing event. **Bottom:** The Winners! These young anglers all won prizes of rod/reel combination and/or tackle boxes after catching some of the special tagged catfish in the Kids Fishing Day 200. **Middle:** More Winners! Some of the many winners of rod and reel combos that were given away during the Kids Fishing Day 2001 event. Standing in the boat is Shane Moline, a member of the Kingman Bass Club, who is sponsored by Gary Yamamoto Custom Baits. Yamamoto donated over 150 packets of lures for the kid's event.

Photos by Don Martin

It was all part of the Kingman Bass Club's annual fishing event. The Kingman Bass Club is one of two affiliate clubs of the Arizona Wildlife Federation located in Mohave County in north-west Arizona.

It was called “Kids Fishing Day 2001” and was the kick off of the celebration of National Fishing and Boating week, June 1-10. Held at a pond in an upscale housing development called Vista Bella on the outskirts of Kingman, one hundred thirty-one kids from all over Arizona, ages six through fourteen signed up for the event.

This program, conducted for the past six years by the bass club and eagerly supported by the Arizona Wildlife Federation, lets kids go fishing. The organi-

By Don Martin,
Region III Director

“I got one, I got one,” came the cry from the 7-year-old who just landed the first fish he had ever caught, a fat two pound channel catfish.



zations recognize the value of all outdoor recreational opportunities for kids.

Don Farmer, who was president of the A WF when this event was planned, immediately pledged the support of the A WF to the project.

Every young angler received a T-shirt and a special commemorative hat courtesy of the Kingman Bass Club. The Arizona Game & Fish Department provided fishing tackle and bait and everyone had a great time!

Special guests attending the event were Chuck Sperrazza, owner of the Mavit Corporation, which owns Vista Bella, and Hays Gilstrap an Arizona Game & Fish Commissioner.

Sperrazza, very pleased with the program; brought a huge round of applause from the grateful parents and kids when while addressing the crowd he said, "Lets do this again next year!"

Gilstrap, who lives in Phoenix, told the crowd that he was very impressed the event and was happy to see all the kids having such a good time.

The Arizona Wildlife Federation's continued support of affiliate clubs programs like this one will enhance our efforts to recruit and keep kids active in sport hunting and fishing. Lynn Tonkinson, a member of the National Wild Turkey Federation who was at the event working with the young anglers said "The kids are the future of hunting and fishing in America, we *all* need to help out everywhere we can."

Photos By Don Martin

Clockwise: Bluegill angler! This happy young angler showed his prowess by catching a number of bluegill. Trophy Bluegill! Another angler decided to try her luck for bluegill and landed this "trophy". Region II Director, Don Martin was presented this plaque by the Kingman Bass Club in recognition of the AWF's support of the event. Lots of anglers! Over 300 people and 100 kids were present.

Cochise County Comments:

BRINGING WHOOPING CRANES BACK TO ARIZONA

By Jerome J. Pratt

Perhaps there never was an abundance of whooping cranes, but when the first Europeans settled in America these birds ranged across most of the continent, including visits to Arizona. Because of its peculiar demeanor it did not coexist with human development and soon vanished from most of its range.

By 1930 only slightly more than a dozen of these birds could be accounted for in one migrating flock and about half that many in a sedentary flock in Louisiana. But the Louisiana remnant population perished soon thereafter. The migrants wintered in Texas, but the breeding ground in Canada was not discovered until 1954.

In 1975 an experiment was undertaken to reestablish a Rocky Mountain flock by placing whooping crane eggs in sandhill crane nests for the chicks to be reared and taught the migration route by foster parents over a route between Idaho and New Mexico. It worked, and by 1983 there were 32 whooping cranes in the Rocky Mountain Region.

However, when it was discovered that the whooping cranes had been imprinted on their sandhill crane foster parents and did not recognize their own kind as mates, the bureaucrats in the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service abandoned the program. There are now only two survivors in the flock.

The Whooping Crane Conservation

Association's aviculturists and biologists offer a solution to the imprinting problem through a proven method of forced pairing. Also in 1997, it was demonstrated that to avoid the imprinting, the whooping cranes could be taught the migration route by following an ultra-light aircraft. Even though it appears that the Rocky Mountain Region is the best hope for another migrating population of whooping cranes, the Fish and Wildlife Service chose not to continue the program, but instead to move the experiment to the Eastern United States.

Pleas from some of the most knowledgeable persons in crane dynamics to give the Rocky Mountain Region priority over the Eastern United States has fallen on deaf ears. However, a group called "Wild Friends" in New Mexico have taken on the fight. Wild Friends is a network of more than 650 students and teachers sponsored by the University of New Mexico Center for Wildlife Law. They presented U.S. Senator Pete V. Domenici with petitions containing more than 3,700 signatures requesting him to help return whooping cranes to the Rocky Mountains. The Socorro Chamber of Commerce has joined the Wild Friends in calling for political intervention to reinstate the program.

The whooping crane experiment has had a positive economic impact on communities along the migration route. Thou-

sands of sandhill cranes have been using the Rocky Mountain route of the Pacific Flyway with little attention being paid to them. That changed in 1975 when whooping cranes commenced showing up. Birders from all over the world came to view them at their resting stop in Colorado and winter home in New Mexico.

The people in Monte Vista, Colorado recognized the eco-tourism value of the birders and inaugurated an annual crane festival. Socorro, New Mexico soon followed. Both festivals continue as major community events bringing visitors in large numbers each year. Occasionally, a whooping crane has arrived with sandhill cranes in the Sulphur Springs Valley. It was Pat O'Brien of the Arizona Game and Fish Department who suggested to the Wilcox Chamber of Commerce that they should take advantage of these birds that visit Arizona. They took Pat's advice, and the "Wings Over Wilcox" has become a major annual festival in Cochise County for nearly a decade.

Community leaders in Wilcox and Colorado should join with Wild Friends and Socorro in requesting their Congressional Delegations to urge the Secretary of the Interior to return a self-sustaining population of whooping cranes to the Rocky Mountain Region. Cranes wintering in the Sulphur Springs Valley have an auspicious economic impact on Cochise County.

SAVIOURS OF SAN PEDRO RIVER DISSOLVED

The group responsible for preventing the destruction of the riparian habitat along the San Pedro River has been dissolved. Twenty-eight years ago the Cochise Conservation Council was organized and affiliated with the Arizona Wildlife Federation. Among the group's priority objectives was to establish a hunter education program and save the San Pedro River.

The local group's affiliation with the Arizona and National Wildlife Federations was responsible for the interven-

tion that stopped the removal of the vegetation along the river in preparation for development and agriculture. If it had not been for this timely action the surface flow of the river would have vanished.

Organizers of the Council were: Paul O. Blankenship; Kenneth F. Brown; Frank V. Bucciarelli; Charles W. McMoran; Donald R. Newcomer; Jerome J. Pratt; and Hans Wege. By the end of 1973 the organization had grown to 86 members. However, as other organizations were formed, such as an

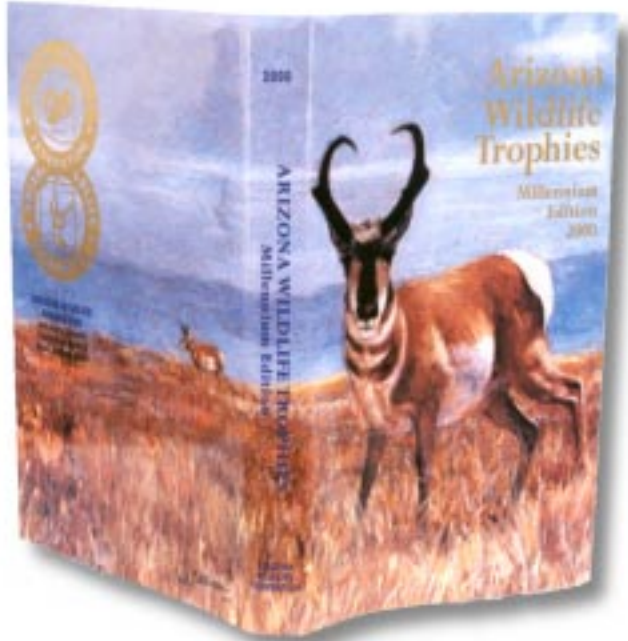
Audubon Society chapter and a Rod and Gun Club, the Council's membership dwindled.

Because of declining memberships and increasing operational costs, on June 1, 2001, Donald R. Newcomer, Secretary, notified the Arizona Wildlife Federation that the Cochise Conservation Council has been forced to dissolve. Former members are encouraged to continue supporting conservation through membership in the Arizona Wildlife Federation as individual members.

New Arizona Trophy Book Now Available!

Compiled and Published by the
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of the **Arizona Wildlife Federation**
in cooperation with **Arizona Game and Fish Dept.**
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Crayfish - Continued from Page 11

oil for deep frying

- 2 red peppers, seeded and sliced
- 1 red chili, seeded & finely sliced
- 1 tsp rice wine or dry sherry
- 8 fl oz sweet & sour sauce
- 1 tsp sugar
- 1 tsp sesame oil
- 1 tsp corn flour
- 1 Tsp water

Instructions

Slash along the back of each crayfish, then wash and dry them. Mix together the flour, salt and pepper. Dredge the crayfish in the seasoned flour and then deep fry them in about 1" hot oil until golden. If using a wok do them in batches. Drain.

Heat 2 T oil in a wok or frying pan. Cook the peppers and chili together for 2-3 minutes. Add the rice wine or sherry and sweet and sour sauce. Season to taste with the sugar and pepper and bring to the boil.

Mix together the oil, corn flour and water and add to the sauce. Stir until thickened. Toss the crayfish back into the pan and heat through, stirring, for 1-2 minutes before serving.

Crayfish with Feta

Ingredients

- 2 lbs crayfish
- 4 fl oz dry white wine
- 4 T virgin olive oil
- 2 onions, finely sliced
- 3 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1 lb 2 oz tomatoes, peeled & chopped
- 2 T parsley, finely chopped
- salt and pepper
- 6 oz feta, crumbled

Instructions

Put crayfish and wine in a large sauté pan over a high heat and cook covered for about 5 minutes. Remove crayfish with a slotted spoon. When they have cooled a little remove shells.

Add olive oil, onions and garlic to the crayfish cooking liquid. Cook, stirring over a medium heat until most of the liquid has evaporated. Add the tomatoes and parsley. Simmer, covered, for 10 minutes then uncovered for 20 - 30 minutes until you have a not too liquid sauce.

Add a little salt, plenty of pepper and the shelled crayfish. Mix well and put the mixture in 4 small dishes or ramekins. Sprinkle with the feta.

Bake in a preheated 450 degrees F oven for about 15 minutes, until the

cheese has melted and begun to brown on top.

Braised Crayfish (4)

Ingredients

- 1 lb raw crayfish
- Sauce
- 8 fl oz chicken stock
- 1 Tsp rice wine or dry sherry
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 Tsp sugar
- 1 Tsp dark soy sauce
- 2 tsps rice vinegar
- 2 T finely chopped spring onions
- 1 Tsp finely chopped ginger
- 2 tsps finely chopped garlic
- 1 tsp corn flour blended with 2 tsps water
- 2 tsps sesame oil
- 1 tsp light soy sauce

Instructions

Peel the crayfish, then wash and pat dry.

Combine the sauce ingredients in a wok and bring to a simmer. Add the crayfish and braise slowly over a low heat for 5 minutes.

New Mexico Crayfish Cocktail (6)

Ingredients

- 1 c Water
- 1 ea Clove garlic; finely chopped
- 1 x Pepper; dash of
- 1 ea Avocado; peeled and chopped
- 1/4 c Tomato; chopped
- 2 T Carrot; finely chopped
- 2 T Vegetable or olive oil
- 1 x Lemon or lime wedges
- 1/3 c Lime juice
- 2 tsp Salt
- 24 Crayfish tails
- 2 ea Jalapeno chilies
- 2 T Onion; chopped
- 2 T Cilantro; fresh, snipped
- 1 1/2 c Lettuce; finely shredded

Instructions

Crayfish should be peeled and deveined. Remove seeds from the Jalapeno Pepper and cut into strips. Heat water, lime juice, garlic, salt and pepper to boiling in a 4-quart Dutch oven; reduce heat. Simmer uncovered until reduced to 2/3 cup.

Add crayfish. Cover and simmer 3 minutes; do NOT overcook. Immediately remove crayfish from liquid with slotted spoon; place in bowl of iced water.

Simmer liquid until reduced to 2 T; cool. Mix reduced liquid, crayfish and remaining ingredients except shredded lettuce and lemon wedges in a glass or

plastic bowl. Cover and refrigerate at least 1 hour. Just before serving place 1/4 cup lettuce on each of 6 serving dishes. Divide crayfish mixture among dishes. Garnish with lemon wedges.

Cajun Crayfish (15)

Ingredients

- 1 lb large crayfish tails, peeled
- 1 T Fresh lime juice
- 1/2 tsp Garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp Onion powder
- 1/4 tsp Thyme
- 1/4 tsp Salt
- 1/4 tsp Red pepper
- 1/8 tsp Black pepper
- Lime wedges

Instructions

Toss the crayfish with the lime juice in a bowl. Mix the garlic powder, onion powder, thyme, salt, red pepper and black pepper in a small bowl. Sprinkle over the crayfish and toss to coat well.

Spray a large skillet with non-stick cooking spray. Heat until hot. Add the crayfish and cook for 3 minutes, or until the crayfish are pink, stirring constantly. Spoon into a serving dish. Chill, covered, for 1 hour or longer. Garnish with lime wedges.

Crayfish Teriyaki (10)

Ingredients

- 1/2 c Soy Sauce
- 2 T Sugar
- 1 T Vegetable Oil
- 1 1/2 tsp Cornstarch
- 1 Clove Garlic, Crushed
- 1 tsp Minced Fresh Ginger Root
- 2 T Water
- 2 lb Crayfish tails, Peeled And Deveined

Instructions

Blend soy sauce, sugar, oil, cornstarch, garlic, ginger and water in small saucepan. Simmer (while stirring constantly) about 1 minute until thickened, then cool. Coat crayfish with sauce and drain off excess. Place on broiler pan. Broil 3 to 4 minutes on each side, or until crayfish are opaque and cooked. Serve immediately with wooden picks.



High Quail Call Counts Breed Optimism

High quail "call counts" in some areas of southern Arizona by Arizona Game and Fish Department biologists have created an air of optimism for the fall Gambel's quail season.

Jim Heffelfinger, Tucson regional game specialist, said that an analysis of the call-count data collected is some of the highest recorded for Gambel's quail during the last 30 years in the Oracle Junction area.

"Traditionally, very high counts result in an over estimate of the average bag limit for the hunting season. Very low counts result

in underestimates," Heffelfinger explained.

The call counts translate into an anticipated bag limit of seven birds per hunter per day average in the Freeman Road area and 6.1 birds per hunter day in the Willow Springs area near Tucson.

"As always, the predicted daily bag is merely to provide the public some idea of what to expect in the fall. The bag will probably fall short of these predictions, but this fall should still be a good one for Gambel's quail in the Tucson area," Heffelfinger said.

A multi-year drought resulted in poor Gambel's quail seasons in Arizona the last several years. Game and Fish biologists have pointed out that in most of the Gambel's habitat throughout the state, the expectation is for a "normal" or slightly below normal quail year.

However, some hunters and biologists alike have said that "normal" will seem "great" compared to the last several years and could be "fantastic" compared to other parts of the nation – it's all relative.

Dove Season Adopted: Outlook Pretty Good

The Game and Fish Commission on June 23 set the dove season as expected with no changes or surprises from previous years and the outlook for this fall is pretty good for Mourning doves and fair for white-wings.

"The dove outlook for those who get out now and scout – with a rabbit gun in hand – will probably be the best," advises Small Game Supervisor Ron Engel-Wilson.

Engel-Wilson explains that the recently planted agricultural fields of grains and melons will become harvested and "abandoned"

fields by the Sept. 1-15 season. Those hunters getting afield now to hunt rabbits will not only have an opportunity to locate such fields, but also establish relationships with farmers that can pay dove dividends come September.

"Right now the farmers might really appreciate those hunters who harvest bunnies that are eating their freshly sprouting crops. So go hunt rabbits, talk to these guys, establish a relationship, and get keyed into the best dove spots for September," Engel-Wilson suggests.

The dove season will once again be half-

day shooting during the early season for the lower elevations, and all-day shooting in the higher elevations. However, junior hunters will be able to hunt all day long throughout the state, just like last year. The idea is to make it handy for youngsters to hunt after school during the week.

Don't forget that again this year you will need a Migratory Bird Stamp affixed to your hunting license for hunting doves. This year's stamps will be available starting July 1 at the license dealers throughout the state.

Good news/ Bad news: A "fully funded" Land and Water Conservation Fund

For the first time in more than a decade, \$450 million may be allocated as matching grants for land acquisition and recreation/conservation projects at the federal and state levels, reports the Wildlife Management Institute. On April 9, the Bush Administration released details of its proposed budget for fiscal year 2002. The budget emphasized full funding (\$900 million) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). However, the welcome news was offset by the fact that the President's budget proposal also terminates funding for programs under the Land Conservation, Preservation and Infrastructure Improvement Title of last year's Interior appropriations bill. That title supports three state grant programs of particular importance to wildlife interests: (1) the State Wildlife Grants Program (aimed at nongame and declining species); (2) the North American Wildlife Conservation Fund (focused mostly on waterfowl and other migratory birds); and (3) the Coop-

erative Endangered Species Fund. Under the Bush budget proposal, each state would be encouraged, but not mandated to fund these wildlife programs using its LWCF dollars.

Conservationists appreciate the Bush Administration's desire to address wildlife conservation at the local level, but believe that, in rushing to accommodate state and local governance, the Administration is forcing unwise, unfortunate and unnecessary competition between recreation and wildlife projects. Conservationists believe that the title wildlife programs should be funded as separate entities under the auspices and budget of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as Congress intended. But if Congress approves Bush's LWCF proposal, every state could fund solely urban park and recreation projects, solely wildlife related projects or a combination of the two. This would be under the authority of the National Park Service—the lead agency for the LWCF—which has

neither the staff nor process to administer wildlife programs at the state level. There would be no assurance that state wildlife agencies would receive monies needed to keep nongame species, such as songbirds, and such declining species as sage grouse off the endangered species list.

Because Congress soon will initiate discussions on next fiscal year's Interior appropriations, conservationists believe that now is the time to deliver a distinct message to Congress that the best approach is continuation of state grant programs that prioritize wildlife conservation and successfully leverage local dollars for each federal dollar that Congress appropriates.

For additional information on the Bush Administration's budget proposal with respect to the Land and Water Conservation Fund, contact Kathryn Reis, Wildlife Management Institute, at 202-372-1808.

From May 18/01 – Outdoor News Bulletin of the Wildlife Management Institute

Wolf Recovery Program Up for Discussion

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is holding 11 community open house meetings as part of a process to determine how to improve the three-year-old program that established an experimental population of Mexican wolves in southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico.

When the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program was getting started, the Service agreed to review progress after three and five years to determine whether the program should continue, continue with modification, or be terminated.

A scientific review that concluded the program should continue but with modifications was recently conducted by three independent scientists under contract with the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group.

The purpose of the community meetings is to gather input on what is working well in the program and should be

continued and where improvements can be made. The Mexican Wolf Management Rule, the Rule-making process, and how the public will be involved will be shared as well as the scientific findings of the three-year review. The detailed report is not yet available but is expected before the first meeting. When published, it will also be available under Hot Topics on the Service's website at <http://southwest.fws.gov>.

"This is an important time for communities to voice their issues with the wolf recovery program," said Brian Kelly, Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Coordinator. "In addition to the science, we need the local views and recommendations on what changes to make to the management plan."

Arizona Meetings were held:

June 25, Monday, at The Phoenix Zoo, 455 N Galvin Parkway, Phoenix

June 26, Tuesday, at the Old Train Depot, 100 N Coronado Blvd., Clifton

June 27, Wednesday, at the Chief Alchey Center, Whiteriver

June 28, Thursday, at the Cottonwood Center, Cibecue

June 29, Friday, at the Blue School, Blue All remaining meetings will be held from 5 to 8 p.m.

New Mexico Meetings

July 10, Tuesday, at the Aquarium and Botanical Gardens Educational Center, 2601 Central Avenue NW, Albuquerque

July 11, Wednesday, at the Civic Center, 400 W. 4th. Truth or Consequences

July 12, Thursday, at the Bayard Community Center, 209 Hurley Ave., in Silver City

July 16, Monday, at the Glenwood Community Center, Glenwood

July 17, Tuesday, at the Reserve Community Center, Reserve.

Grizzlies - Continued from Page 8

covery. The plan further adopts the ESA's flexible management provisions that provide for the removal and relocating, and in extreme cases the killing, of bears that come into conflict with people.

"It is especially troubling that Secretary Norton, who claims to want to pay greater heed to local concerns, has abandoned a plan that can serve as a model for local decision making in wildlife recovery efforts," Clark said. "Secretary Norton has walked away from a golden

common sense opportunity to balance the needs of wildlife and people by using local citizen management to recover an imperiled species. Americans have a right to expect more than 'no action' from the person who should be nation's chief advocate for wildlife."

Earlier this year, Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne had the state file a federal district court lawsuit seeking to stop the recovery effort. Secretary Norton's announcement today effectively concedes entirely to his position. "Secretary

Norton has entered dangerous territory with the appearance that governors may exercise a veto power over the enforcement of a national commitment to protect and restore imperiled wildlife," Clark said.

The nation's largest member-supported conservation education and advocacy group, the National Wildlife Federation unites people from all walks of life to protect nature, wildlife and the world we all share. The Federation has educated and inspired families to uphold America's conservation tradition since 1936.

Response - Continued from Page 4

*The AWF is convinced the range cow is the chief culprit. Why? Because other possible users of range forage were also present 125 years ago in pre-livestock days without apparently having any effect on forage conditions or having any depressing effect on antelope numbers. How do we know this? The historical evidence is found in the journals of the people who traveled through this country at that time. A lot of that information is available in a book by a graduate student at the University of Arizona, Goode P. Davis, **Man And Wildlife In Arizona**. This book is in the process of being reprinted by the Game and Fish Department and should be available around September or October. Those journals spoke glowingly of lush grasslands and of an abundance of antelope. They also reported the presence of coyotes and even*

wolves. I'm sure there were also rodents, rabbits and grasshoppers but neither they nor predators seemed to have a depressing effect on antelope numbers. There's other evidence that seems to point the finger at livestock having been directly or indirectly responsible for low antelope numbers today.

Recently a Flagstaff botanist examined vegetation data in the files of the Coconino National Forest comparing data from 1961 to other data from the same study plots in 1999. He found that perennial grass species had declined by 25 percent over that span of time, while forbs (weeds) had declined 41 percent. Forbs make up about 50 percent of antelope diet on a year round basis. Those are startling numbers and make us wonder how much grasses and forbs had declined totally since livestock were introduced in the late 1800s.

What you seem to be suggesting is that the AWF should be supporting livestock grazing regardless of its impact on wildlife, otherwise ranchers will be forced to sell their private holdings to developers. This ignores the fact that ranchers have been selling out to developers for a good many years. You, yourself say that most of the deeded land from Kingman to New Mexico along I-40 is already for sale. The reason they are selling is not because of anything AWF has said in its publication. The reason simply economics: there is little money to be made from ranching and a lot to be made from selling to developers. I hope I have at least convinced you that AWF members are not closet developers!

Steve Gallizioli

Editor, Arizona Wildlife News

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Arizona Wildlife Federation is the State Affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation

* AWF is a nonprofit 501 (c)3 organization. Contact your tax consultant regarding contributions' deductibility.

GREAT NEWS FROM PINAL COUNTY FOR ARIZONA CONSERVATIONISTS

As the this issue of the Arizona Wildlife News was about to go to press, we received some really good news from AWF Board member Web Parton who has been watch dogging the proposed monster development on the Willow Springs Ranch near Oracle Ranch. If this huge development were to go through as envisioned by its supporters, it would wipe out one of the best Gambel and

scaled quail areas in Arizona, an area that is home also to a multitude of other wildlife species. Here's the news as reported by Webb:

The referendum drive regarding the Willow Springs rezoning is a success!

The large city planned for Central Pinal county, which would destroy an important desert quail, mule deer, and javalina hunting area, will be put on

hold until the Nov. 2002 general election. Area citizens delivered over 5900 signatures on referendum petitions, nearly double the 3,030 required, to Pinal County officials today. After a 15 day period during which the signatures will be verified, the County will make an official announcement that the rezoning has been referred to a public vote. --- Web

Embroidered AWF Sportswear Now Available!



- M-44 Short Sleeve Basketweave Pique Sport Shirt by Hanes. Features: 65% cotton, 35% polyester, 7 oz., three button placket, woodtone buttons, welt knit collar and cuffs in contrasting stripes. Sizes: M, L, XL, XXL. Color: Pebble/ Navy.
- M-106 Short Sleeve Denim Shirt by Three Rivers: 100% cotton, 7.25 oz. Washed denim fabric, left chest buttoned pocket, button down collar. Sizes: M, L, XL, XXL. Color: Khaki.
- M-110 Long Sleeve Denim Shirt by Camp Creek. 100% cotton, 6.5 oz., left chest pocket. Sizes M, L, XL, XXL. Color: Natural.
- M-211 Ladies Long Sleeve Classic Denim Shirt by Three Rivers: 100% cotton, 7.25 oz. washed denim fabric. Sizes M, L, XL, XXL. Color: Khaki.
- H-101 Baseball Hat Washed Canvas , adjustable strap w/metal snap. One size fits all. Color: Khaki with Forest Green Bill

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| H - 101 | 1 | SIZE FITS ALL | \$15.00 | |
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