

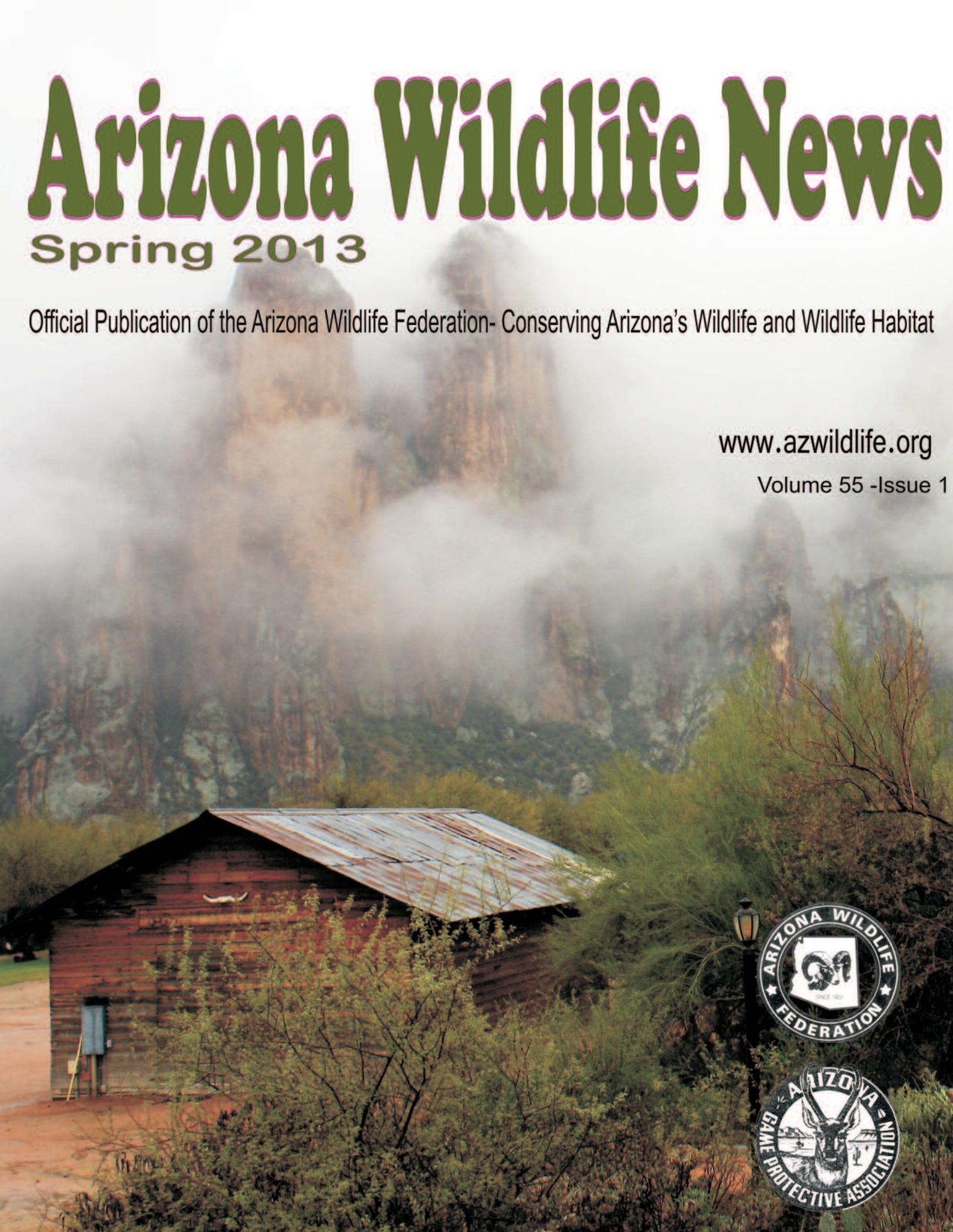
# Arizona Wildlife News

Spring 2013

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## ARIZONA WILDLIFE NEWS

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## In This Issue

Page 3	President's Corner
Page 4	Hunting Ethics
Page 5	AWF Position Statement
Page 6	But is it Hunting?
Page 7	Regional Roundup
Page 8	Wildlife for Tommorrow
Page 12	BOW Happenings?
Page 14	Sandra Jean Nagiller
Page 15	Ed Shannahan
Page 16	Camp Cook
Page 17	Historical Tales
Page 20	Streams & Game Trails
Page 22	Members

### 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.

The front cover is courtesy of Ruth Hirsch. This image of the Bulldog cliffs was taken at the 2013 Deluxe BOW held at Saguaro Lake Ranch during a Photography class.

The back cover taken on the Colorado River near Lees Ferry is courtesy of Ryna Rock.

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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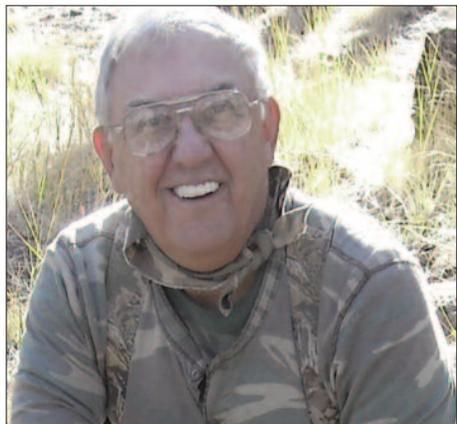
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# President's Corner

By Tom Mackin



**F**or many residents living in Northern Arizona, the winter months are a time to kick back, get caught up on reading, sewing or other indoor projects. If they're more active, they may enjoy the winter opportunities for skiing, hiking or biking in the Verde Valley/Sedona area or in some cases, temporarily relocating to a second home in Mesa, Tucson or other warmer areas of the state.

For me the winter months following the fall hunts are a time to deal with the numerous grants, meetings, proposals, articles and planning for the new year. For over 10 years now, I've been involved with the AZGFD Habitat Partnership Committee process, successfully applying for funding to be used for water developments, pipelines and other critical habitat enhancements.

Each year either an interim report or a final report needs to be completed and submitted along with invoices for expense reimbursements. In addition, as an Affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation (NWF), we need to submit our annual affiliate plan, covering past achievements, new activity goals and organizational improvements. During many years, this is also the time to complete the applications for other various grants, including matching grants with the National Forest Foundation, mini-affiliate grants with the NWF and numerous other opportunities that a non-profit such as ours must seek out if it hopes to continue efforts to improve wildlife habitat.

In addition to the activities above, this is also the time of year we start to plan for field activities and projects, building alliances with other wildlife groups and agencies to assist with volunteers, funding and coordination of efforts throughout our state. With most projects occurring on public lands, the time line for permits, applications, justifications and MOU's are frequently very long and this is an important facet of accomplishing these tasks. The

AWF holds it's Annual meeting each June at which time we elect our Officers, present changes to our By-Laws, propose Resolutions, approve a new budget and all of these items take time and involvement and taking care of these items 4-6 months in advance is not too far fetched.

For those of you that know me, you know that I'd much rather be outdoors working on a trick tank or fence project but with weather conditions the way they are during the winter, handling all of these other tasks is the way that I usually pass the winter months and I'd rather deal with these items now than during the other three seasons when I can be in the field. I hope you've all had a good winter and we look forward to seeing you during the coming year at one of our outdoor activities or events.

## Letters to the Editor

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:

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PO Box 51510, Mesa, AZ 85208

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# Hunting Ethics: Oops I've made a big mistake, now what should I do?

By Brian Wakeling

*Originally published in the Sept/Oct 2005 issue of Arizona Wildlife Views magazine*



**I**magine you are hunting mule deer. It is opening morning and you are watching a nearby hillside when a deer meanders into your line of sight. You see sunlight glinting off antlers as the animal looks your way and then drops its head to feed. Without moving your position, you locate a stump on which to rest your rifle. You gently ease into position, line up the sights, and make a perfect shot. The animal drops to the ground, and you approach it triumphantly. But as you get closer, you notice the animal does not have antlers after all. The glinting antlers you saw were actually the light tips of a mule deer doe's ears. The decisions you make regarding what to do next may influence your ability to continue to hunt.

This and similar scenarios happen to a few hunters each year. Arizona Game and Fish Department employees hear stories of hunters taking two deer when a bullet passes through one animal and into a second. Stories about taking a second shot at an animal that a hunter believes he missed or wounded, and later learns was a second animal, are relatively commonplace. Campfire discussions recount these events, and the answer to what the mistaken hunter should do next is as varied as personalities involved. The disturbing fact is that you have violated a game law! The hunting ethics in which most of us are steeped do not allow us to effectively deal with the knowledge that we committed such an act. The hunter commonly feels anxiety and panic, and this is not a good state of mind from which to consider appropriate behavior. Many thoughts run through your head. Maybe nobody saw it happen. If no one saw you do it, then nobody gets hurt, right? No matter what happens now, the deer is dead.

I suggest that every hunter consider the possibility of such an event before it happens to evaluate the implications of the action and your decisions.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department and Game and Fish commissioners want to maintain good relations with their hunting customers. Our interest is in compliance with existing laws and rules, not severe penalization for minor infractions. Make no mistake, a big game violation is a serious offense and can carry stiff fines, civil penalties, and the loss of hunting and fishing privileges for several years in Arizona and many other states that participate in the interstate Wildlife Violator Compact. However, your behavior and actions have a great deal of influence on officers', attorneys', and judges' decisions.

So, what should you do if you make an honest mistake and illegally take an animal? Frankly, each instance is different and no single set of instructions is appropriate for all situations. However, you should never place your tag on an animal that you did not legally harvest. Do not put your tag on an animal someone else killed or on an animal that was taken illegally. Putting your tag on a buddy's second deer can get you in a heap of trouble, and tagging a doe with a buck permit does not make it legal.

The first thing you should do is sit down where you are, set your hunting equipment aside, take a deep breath, and write on paper a description of what occurred. Now you have documentation of what happened and what you plan to do. Add your name and address to the note, and affix the note to the animal you inadvertently harvested. Then, contact the Arizona Game and Fish Department as soon as possible. Cell phones are tremendous assets. Call the

Department's Operation Game Thief line: 1-800-352-0700, and tell the dispatcher where an officer can meet you to discuss the events. Standard telephones work if you do not have a cell phone or cell coverage in your hunt unit. Stop any officer you encounter, he or she will be just as willing to help. The bottom line is you want to contact the department as quickly as possible. The note on the carcass will alert other hunters of your intentions if you are not available to answer questions; this is critical if someone observed your actions and contacted the department independently.

You are probably wondering what happens if you follow my advice. Although I can offer no guarantees, several things are likely. Expect to receive a citation and expect the animal to be confiscated. The citation carries with it the likelihood of a fine. The decision regarding the amount of the fine is at the judge's discretion. If you try to hide your mistake, the department may ask the commission to assess civil penalties for the loss of the animal and revoke your hunting and fishing privileges. The department does not routinely seek these penalties if

the hunter confesses his mistake.

Good hunters with honest intentions occasionally make mistakes. Mistaking your target is not an error that should be taken lightly. Try to avoid that error at all costs. If you do make that mistake, keep in mind you have not crossed the line into the "heinous bad guys" category. Department employees and law enforcement officers have made similar mistakes. These errors create mental anguish as we wrestle with our personal ethics. A good hunter should be honest. Making a mistake will come at some expense; being honest about your mistakes generally results in lighter penalties and no loss of hunting privileges. Decide your behavior and what course of action you will take before mistakes occur. Trust me, it is easier in the long run.

■ Brian Wakeling is the Game Branch Chief with the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Brian is an avid hunter and was prompted to write this article during his discussions with his two sons as they began to learn about hunting and the ethics involved with this exceptional heritage and privilege.



### **Arizona Wildlife Federation Position Statement on the August 20, 2012 USFWS Proposal for Designation of Critical Jaguar Habitat in Arizona**

The Arizona Wildlife Federation (AWF), a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation was founded in 1923 to take politics out of Arizona's Game and Fish Management and to promote the management of Arizona's wildlife and natural resources based on the principles of 'sound science'. The AWF got its start as the Arizona Game Protection Association and will celebrate 90 years of Arizona conservation activity in 2013.

The AWF has been following the USFWS Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for Jaguar process and draft proposal (77 FR 161; August 20, 2012). This latest analysis caused by a 2007 lawsuit filed by the Center for Biological Diversity and the March 30, 2009 court order telling the USFWS to conduct a critical habitat study in the states of Arizona and New Mexico.

### **Position**

The AWF concurs with the two previous decisions by USFWS in 1997 and 2006 that designation of critical habitat for the jaguar would not be prudent (62 FR 39147, July 22, 1997 and 71 FR 39335; July 12, 2006). We considered the biological justification presented then to be logical and based on 'sound science' and law. As such, we were disappointed that the USFWS chose not to reinforce those arguments when the court order was issued on March 30, 2009.

We also concur with the recent statement by Arizona Game and Fish Department that "the habitat occupied by jaguars in Arizona-New Mexico does not meet the definition of critical habitat as described by the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and should therefore not be designated. Under the ESA, critical habitat can only be designated for the U.S. However, this represents less than 1% of the entire (range-wide) habitat of the species. As is acknowledged in the notice, recovery of jaguar is entirely reliant on conservation action in the 99+% of its habitat found south of the international border. The less than 1% of potential jaguar habitat in the U.S. does not and cannot contribute substantially to recovery of the species".

In conclusion, the AWF does not support designating critical jaguar habitat in Arizona based on current information.

# But is it Hunting?

by Tom Mackin, AWF President

*Preface: I did not write this article to further divide the hunting community, to praise what I chose to do when afield or to minimize marksmanship skills. My goal was to provide a perspective on what a non-hunter may feel hunting is all about based on what they see on the TV today*

**A** recent battle with a nasty upper respiratory infection left me cooped up in the house for almost two weeks and rather than drive my wife totally crazy I spent a great deal of time reading and watching the various outdoor channels on satellite TV. It became quickly apparent that unlike all of the hunting I've been involved with for over 50 years now, there's a great many folks that engage in something else, "But Is It Hunting". In case you're wondering what it is I'm speaking of, all you need to do is tune to one of the numerous TV shows highlighting things such as elevated fiberglass stands, perched over huge bait feeders behind large tracts of high fenced lands leased to well heeled "hunters" who pay high five figure fees to shoot one or more farm/ranch raised white-tails or other similar animals. After speaking with some other friends and hunters I tried to get a better understanding regarding this other pastime and we came to several conclusions.

Our first observation is that this type of "hunting" is fairly regional, centered around Texas, Oklahoma and a few other mid-western states where laws and regulations allow such activities. We're blessed here in Arizona to have over 80% of our lands in public ownership, although they're not all open to traditional style western hunting, it's far better than the 5% or less of lands held open for the public in many of these other locations. In our free market society, it only stands to reason that some enterprising land owners would soon discover that the demand for hunting opportunity is high in many of these locations and with thousands of acres of deeded property available, they could meet this demand and do so with fairly high economic returns. For those hunter/shooters this was an ideal arrangement, drive just a few hours from a major metropolitan area on a Friday evening, stay in very comfortable quarters, get transported out to one of these elevated shooting condos at first light, look around for a while until the appropriate fee specific deer walks up to the feeder, take that 50-100 yard shot when offered, call the ranch manager and let him know the deed is done so he can drive out in his truck, side by side or other convenient vehicle, take some photos and transport the client and deer back to the lodge for processing and get the clients reservations handled for the next "hunting experience". Having no interest in this type of activity and therefore no first hand knowledge, I may be over simplifying this but to watch these shows, it certainly seems this is just about how it happens.

A variation of the scenario above that seems to be popular in some locations is the opportunity for a youth hunter to engage in this type of activity. I've been teaching the AZG&FD Hunter Education course for 27 years now and a vast majority of our students are youngsters, age 10-14, who are required to take this course in order to hunt big game in Arizona. A quick look on the web at the Texas regulations indicate that they also have a required Hunter Ed class for youth hunters and this is very good to see, the only difference is that the minimum age to hunt in Texas appears to be 9 instead of 10 as it is here in Arizona. The difficul-

ty I have with youth engaging in the above style of hunting is that there appears to be very little emphasis placed on things such as carrying capacity, ethics, care of game meat and other items a more traditional western style experience might entail. In all fairness, while I refer to a western style experience, I guess I'm seeped in that style and for decades now, the other activities could be considered "traditional" in that neck of the woods.

The next style of hunting that is increasingly popular, at least as portrayed on some shows, is the idea of long range "hunting". My earliest hunting experiences were in upstate New York, hunting woodchucks, squirrels and other small game with my first rifle, a single shot bolt action .22 that I still hunt with today. Our County was designated a shotgun only location for deer and bear so almost all opportunities came at under 80 yards or so, the effective slug gun range with open sights and a smooth bore for my shooting skill level. My Dad was a bow hunter and I developed an early interest in this short range pastime, an interest I've passed on to my oldest son and we still prefer to bow hunt even today. There's nothing like doing pre-season scouting, understanding game movement, bedding sites, watering locations and subsequently setting up within bow range for a close encounter of the best kind. Even when we do hunt with rifle for elk or deer, we use our bow hunting techniques and skills to afford an ethical shot within 100 yards or less with our bolt action 30-06's. I've spent time in the military and many hours at the range and I have the greatest respect for those shooters that can consistently punch paper under close to ideal conditions at yardages that seem unbelievable to me, many in excess of 500 or now even 1000 yards. This is all well and good under those conditions but taking a game animal at these ranges, especially when not necessary, is another story all together. Modern materials and technologies have allowed firearms and optics manufacturers to develop weapons systems that in most cases far exceed shooter abilities and the limit is only what the wallet can handle. For me, its all about spotting the game before they see me, understanding the wind and terrain, developing a plan to get me within 100 yards or so when a rifle is used, and making a clean, ethical shot after I've verified the target and what's beyond and that no other person or animal may be in danger once the trigger is pulled. Having lived and hunted in Alaska, I know that sheep and goat hunts can present unique marksmanship challenges but I do not see many of these same challenges prevalent when elk, deer or even bear hunting in many areas of the "lower 48", other than perhaps the extremely challenging rifle coues deer hunts of southern Arizona. Our conclusion here is that instead of taking a bear or elk at 500-600 yards or more when an additional hour or so could be spent stalking closer is more aligned with a hunters skills rather than a shooters abilities.

In conclusion, I know there are many variables and options for hunting numerous species around the U.S. but I think the question still warrants consideration, especially when what is shown on TV is the only source of information for much of the non-hunting public. So, based on what I've presented above, although a license and weapons may still be required," But Is It Hunting"?



# Regional Roundup

*With this issue we begin a new feature focusing on important news from your Region of the state. AWF Regions are directly correlated with the Arizona Game & Fish Dept.'s Regions, which enables our readership to easily identify their Region, or a specific Region they are interested in. We believe our membership will welcome efforts from the AWF to keep them informed on current events and issues throughout Arizona.*

## **Region 1 – Director Bob Vahle**

The Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest has completed a proposed Land Management Plan (LMP) and a programmatic Draft environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public review and comment. A comment period ending May 17, 2013, will lead to a final LMP, which replaces the current LMP from 1987, and will guide all land management actions for 10-15 years on the Forest. The AWF will review and comment on these documents.

The AZGFD statewide Habitat Partnership Committee (HPC) meeting was held recently to discuss ongoing and proposed habitat protection, restoration, and enhancement projects throughout the state that are funded through monies raised by sportsmen groups in Arizona and the special Big Game License Tag program. The 2012-13 funding cycle saw a total of 63 projects funded for a total of \$1,397,730.

I will be representing the AWF through "Teaming With Wildlife", which joins conservation partners such as the AWF, AZ Audubon, AZ Game & Fish, and Trout Unlimited in efforts to maintain funding for key wildlife conservation programs like State Wildlife Grants through a "Fly-In" held in Washington, D.C. each year that focuses on Arizona congressional legislators. Maintenance of a multitude of wildlife and fish population and habitat conservation programs depend on these efforts.

AWF President, Tom Mackin and I will attend the annual National Wildlife Federation meeting this Spring in

Albuquerque, NM. We'll meet with other NWF affiliate representatives from across the US along with NWF staff to discuss natural resource management and conservation topics that can impact wildlife populations and habitats.

## **Region 2 – President Tom Mackin**

My activity calendar has been overloaded of late, hence you'll find a list here of those I considered high priority items.

In December I attended an Arizona Watchable Wildlife Experience (AWWE) meeting with discussion about remaining NWF Affiliate Mini-Grant funds, signage for Mormon Lake Watchable Wildlife Area, plans for construction of a riparian area at Coconino County Rogers Lake Watchable Wildlife Area.

The AWF will be submitting an application for another such grant to fund AWWE brochure/map design and printing.

Also in December in Flagstaff, I attended a meeting of the 4 Forest Restoration Initiative to discuss a new facilitator, update the Stakeholder charter, Contractor status, and pending changes to key personnel.

In January, I attended a Friends of Northern Arizona Forests (FONAF) board meeting on which I currently sit as secretary. Discussed were opportunities for the 2013 work season.

Also in January, I met with Jessica Gist, AZGFD Habitat Specialist and Lynne Nemeth, Interim Director of Flagstaff Arboretum to summarize activities in conjunction with the Woody Ridge Corridor project and planning for habitat enhancements on or adjacent to Arboretum property.

End of January and first week of February, I volunteered as an instructor for the AZGFD Hunter Ed Program, which included a field day.

## **Region 3 – Loyd Barnett**

The proposed wind generation facilities along the Aubrey Cliffs alignment is an Important Bird Area as designated by the Arizona Audubon Society. AZ Game & Fish has been implementing studies on the degree and

location of raptor use.

On Yavapai Ranch, a large wind farm, solar generation and residential development has been temporarily approved by Yavapai County. The Ranch has been given up to 5 years to finalize their application. Residential development of the Ranch's intermixed private/public land sections greatly reduces the wildland values of the adjacent public lands, such as open space and unimpeded movement for species such as pronghorn. Yavapai Ranch is the site of a proposed land exchange with Prescott National Forest, which has never been finalized by the Ranch.

The Verde River Basin Partnership has partnered with the US Geological Survey through funding from the Walton Family Foundation to conduct studies with USGS scientists. A major study evaluating the effect of increases or decreases in groundwater withdrawals throughout the basin on Verde River streamflow and groundwater levels is to be released to the public at a meeting in Camp Verde April 11. Through another grant from the Walton Family Foundation, the Verde Watershed Restoration Coalition (VWRC) has implemented a program to combat invasive plants in riparian areas of the upper Verde Valley. Mapping is initially done, followed by targeted treatment. The majority of the work is on public land but about 30 % has been on private land where landowners agreed to the treatment.

The Prescott National Forest (PNF) is currently evaluating comments on their draft forest plan and will determine what adjustments are needed to the draft plan. A Biological Evaluation addressing the effects on threatened, endangered, and candidate species must be prepared and submitted to the fish and wildlife Service for consultation. The Forest is targeting the end of 2013 for issuance of the final plan.

Sportsmen/women's access to large blocks of

**Continued on page 10**

# Wildlife for Tomorrow: A Non-Profit with a Parallel Yet Unique Mission

by Steve Hirsch, President, Wildlife For Tomorrow Foundation



Students combine science with nature study at the Mesquite Desert Wildlife Oasis Education Center

**C**onsider an organization created to enhance the management, protection and enjoyment of Arizona's fish and wildlife resources. Consider a 501(c)(3) non-profit that fundraises to provide support for projects with an emphasis on youth educational activities where traditional resources are inadequate. Consider an organization whose principal purpose is to support important and worthy projects that make a difference to wildlife habitat in Arizona. The Arizona Wildlife Federation? You bet. But these statements also reflect the mission of the Wildlife For Tomorrow Foundation ([www.wildlifefortomorrow.org](http://www.wildlifefortomorrow.org)), the independent 501(c)(3) working closely with the Arizona Game and Fish Department to further these objectives.

Although WFT is younger than AWF, it has emerged in recent years as an effective ally of AWF and its affiliates in furthering the group's consistent missions. WFT operates in close conjunction with the Department, but was established to operate independently from the Department to further its goals. Learning more about the history, projects and leadership of WFT will help AWF's supporters expand their awareness of the many different avenues available to convey the conservation message to Arizona's citizens.

## *A History of WFT*

In the 1970's and 80's, the idea had emerged in a handful of states of creating of an independent non-profit organization tasked to work closely with the applicable state wildlife management agency. A plan emerged where the non-profit would provide a source of additional funding for wildlife conservation programs as well as furthering the mission of the state agency using fundraising methods and promoting programs that public agencies are not always free to employ under the regulatory schemes under which they are burdened.

To this end, Department employees and supporters incorporated the "Arizona Wildlife Conservation Foundation" on September 26, 1990. The listed incorporator was John Carr, who had spent 30 years with the Arizona Game and Fish Department as a wildlife manager, game biologist and supervisor. Long-time Department employee Pat O'Brien was the initial statutory agent and served as WFT's staff for many years.

The first interaction between AWF and WFT included a message being delivered that the "Arizona Wildlife

Conservation Foundation" was confusingly similar to another of the state's major conservation groups, and the fledgling Foundation quickly changed its name to "The Foundation for the Conservation of Arizona's Wildlife," which remains the official name of WFT. Given the lack of ease by which that moniker rolls off the tongue, the trade name "Wildlife for Tomorrow" was soon adopted and has been in use for the past 22 years.



Early leaders of the Foundation were John Bouma of the Snell & Wilmer law firm, who is still active on the President's Panel of WFT, Martin Whelan, then General Counsel of America West Airlines, long-time Arizona outdoorsman Mike Cupell and former Department Commissioner Tom Woods.

At the initial Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame Induction Banquet held on August 26, 1998 at the Mountain Shadows Resort in Paradise Valley, the WFT Officers and Board were listed as: Jim White, Chairman, Kurt Hoffman, Vice Chairman, Tom Woods, Treasurer, Tice Supplee, Secretary, and Board Members: Paul White, Mike Cupell, Sandy Froman, Duane Shroufe and John Bouma. Supplee, now Director of Bird Conservation at Audubon Arizona, has also remained consistently active in WFT since these early years. Froman went on to serve as President of WFT in the early 1990's, which she followed by the Presidency of the National Rifle Association. A bylaw revision provides that no more than 20 percent of the voting membership of the WFT Board can be employees of the Department.

In its early years, the Foundation served primarily as a 501(c)(3) fundraising conduit for donors wishing to aid the Department in furthering the common mission of the agency and the Foundation. The Foundation's budget was entirely dependent on donations, primarily from corporate supporters. Arizona Public Service has been a supporter of WFT since its inception. Woods helped engineer a large restricted gift from the Chaparral Sportsmen's Club in Scottsdale when it closed, and WFT continues to be the steward of those funds to this day.

## ***Principal Projects***

### **Hall of Fame**

A primary project of WFT is the maintenance of the Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame. For a list of the recipients visit: <http://www.wildlifefortomorrow.org/Halloffame.html>. From the first 1998 induction class of Ben Avery, Barry Goldwater, Arthur "Bill" Greene, Jr., Eva Patten and Larry Toshick, WFT has inducted 14 more classes into the Outdoor HOF. Inductees run the gamut of wildlife artists, political figures, community activists, educators, journalists and broadcasters, wildlife and habitat supporters and a wide range of conservation-focused organizations. The Sixteenth Annual Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame Induction Banquet will be held Saturday, August 17, at Scottsdale Chaparral Suites

### **Tres Rios Nature and Earth Festival**

In the early 2000's, spearheaded by Supplee, the Department and the Foundation envisioned a westside-based nature festival that would expand the message of preserving Arizona's wildlife to that growing area of our state. Following a negotiated Memorandum of Understanding and seed money provided by the Department, a group of WFT volunteers led by



**Visitors to the Tres Rios Nature and Earth Festival enjoy canoeing on the Gila River**

Heidi Vasiloff created the Tres Rios Nature Festival, now known as the Tres Rios Nature and Earth Festival. From its humble beginnings in 2004, the Festival has grown to stand on its own two financial feet and has become tremendously popular. This year's Tenth Annual event was held on March 9 and 10 at the B&M Wildlife area on the Gila and Salt Rivers on Avondale Boulevard near Phoenix International Raceway. The Festival annually features educational booths and activities including canoeing, kayaking, fishing, birding, hiking, entertainment, food and outdoor fun. It has always been free to the public. The City of Avondale has emerged as the Festival's most recent primary sponsor, and promises to

continue to grow the Festival in conjunction with other community partners such as the City of Goodyear, Luke Air Force Base, Town of Buckeye and the Department.

### **Mesquite Desert Wildlife Oasis**

The creation of the Mesquite Desert Wildlife Oasis Education Project presents a perfect example of the interplay between the Foundation, the Department and the public. San Diego-based Sempra Energy developed a 1,250 megawatt natural gas fired generation station near Arlington in the late 1990's. The development of Sempra's plant, known as Mesquite Power, required the acquisition of nearby farm acreage for water rights necessary for power generation at the plant. Land use stipulations added by Maricopa County for the development of the site included a proviso that a portion of the otherwise vacant "water property" be developed into one of a number of conservation-oriented uses, one of which was educational uses to be developed in conjunction with the Department.

Following introductions to the Department and the Foundation, Mesquite Power spent in excess of \$500,000 to develop an educational and wildlife habitat site on its property suitable for visitation by thousands of school-aged children and adults. The Mesquite Desert Wildlife Oasis features information concerning the area's local plant and animal life, as well as habitat and water resources. A staff overseen by the Foundation administers the program, which annually serves dozens of schools and some 3,000-plus students. The project is funded by Mesquite Power, which also contributes to other WFT programs such as the HOF banquet and Tres Rios. The Foundation met its goal of exposing thousands of young students to the Arizona outdoors and a conservation ethic while assisting Mesquite Power in meeting its development obligations: a win-win for everyone involved.

### **Arizona Scholastic Clay Target Program**

WFT was among the initial funding sources to provide shotguns used in the Department's Scholastic Clay Target Program, a team-based youth development program that uses the shotgun sports of trap, skeet and sporting clays to instill life skills such as discipline, safety, teamwork, ethics, self-confidence and other life values in high-school aged youth throughout Arizona. More recently, WFT leveraged its non-profit status to successfully apply for a \$220,000 grant from the Midway Foundation, which funds are being used to support SCTP teams and programs.

### **Ben Avery Clay Target Center Events Facility**

WFT recently served as beneficiary of remaining funds in the now-closed Phoenix Trap and Skeet Club following a resolution of that Board. These funds are earmarked for the purchase of a steel building that will be built on the BACTC campus later this year. Separate WFT funds will also underwrite other building components. Thanks to WFT and the hard work of BACTC volunteers such as Paul Doetsch, the days of sweaty events under canvas tents and eating hot dogs from a vending cart will soon be replaced with an air-conditioned events center with full food service capacity. WFT has worked closely with the AGFD Commission under a separate Memorandum of Understanding to fund certain of the building components consistent with procurement law governing Commission assets such as the Clay Target Center.

### Water for Wildlife

In the wake of the Rodeo-Chediski wildfire in 2002 and other smaller fires in the 2000's, WFT received thousands of dollars of donations that were used to purchase and place temporary water drinkers in areas of greatest habitat destruction. WFT-funded troughs and water trailers have also been stationed in Yuma, Phoenix, Prescott Valley and Flagstaff for emergency use by Department personnel for wildlife waters.

### Department Workshops, Grants and Affiliations

WFT also plays an important role in handling funds collected by the Department for its workshops, purchasing drinks and lunches outside of the formal bidding and procurement process for Department events, fulfilling smaller grants for areas of immediate need, and supporting the Department's Employees Association and the Arizona Watchable Wildlife Tourism Association, both formal affiliates of WFT.

### Looking to the Future

Perhaps the centerpiece effort for the Foundation since the late 1990's has been the development, funding and construction of the Arizona Wildlife Conservation Education Center at the Ben Avery Shooting Range facility in north Phoenix. Working with the Department and the original vision of veteran Arizona outdoor writer Bob Hirsch, WFT originally envisioned a multipurpose facility that would accommodate learning classrooms, an amphitheater, exhibits and offices devoted to the education of Arizona's school children and citizens of the importance of conservation to our future. WFT approached the Commission and secured a commitment to use an area adjoining the Department headquarters on West Carefree Highway for the new building. The project hit fundraising snags in recessionary times, but the Department

has recently rekindled the effort under the guidance of an experienced team of architects, designers and educators. Watch for further news of this important facility that will further the parallel missions of AWF and WFT into the future.



**A young girl receives instruction on her archery skills by Arizona Game and Fish Department employees at the Tres Rios Festival**

from page 7

private land continues to be an issue. The AZ Game & Fish Dept. continues to work on this issue with ranch owners and other stakeholders. Most notably the Dept. is working on an agreement for some access to the Big Boquillas Ranch, which contains nearly three-quarter million acres.

### **Region 4 – Valerie Morrill**

The Sonoran Desert Heritage is a group working on a large scale effort to establish special land designations in the greater Maricopa vicinity, and which the AWF has been tasked to work with as a liaison for sportsmen's/women's interests.

In the latest meeting, access and resource management issues were discussed and recorded. These concerns with regard to special land designations need to be resolved.

The Solar Working Group, represented by solar energy industry and environmental and land management interests, advises on solar energy

development in AZ and most specifically with respect to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In January, I participated in a work session focusing on the Section 368/Western Energy Corridors and the opportunity for the group to propose modifications to existing corridors and to suggest new ones. The group will check the status of the tabled AZ portion of the Paloverde-Devers transmission line as it could serve as an effective case study.

I attended the AZ Game & Fish Commission Yuma Community Forum, which showcased the high level of collaboration and cooperation ongoing in Yuma between the AZ Game & Fish Dept. and various civic groups and governmental agencies.

### **Region 5 – Glen Dickens**

Rosemont Mine has received its Air Quality Permit from AZ Department of Environmental Quality, which came despite many concerns from opponents. The permit follows a 2 year conflict with

Pima County. The state took over the permit last summer. Critics said the application hadn't adequately taken into account the potential for mine tailings to blow off the property as they have, periodically, at other mine sites near Tucson.

There was a need for the AWF to provide the National Wildlife Federation with a factual statement on the "biological facts" of Jaguars here in SE AZ for use by our NWF Regional and national staff. I provided that report following an unfortunate and uninformed press release by an NWF junior staffer.

After 13 years Pima County's Multi-Species Conservation Plan is now out for public review. The AWF will be providing a letter of support for the document to US Fish & Wildlife Service and Pima County. Comment period remains open on Pima County Conservation Plan.

\*If no Regional report is available or a Regional Director position is open, no report for that Region will be present in the Regional Roundup.

On December 1<sup>st</sup> of last year a well-deserved and long overdue Instructor Appreciation Dinner was held at the Buffalo Chip Saloon in Cave Creek. The unsung heroes of the BOW program are these volunteers and their families. Without them there would be no program. It was good to devote an evening at fireside and share some excellent BBQ & drinks with these wonderful folks. We will let the images tell the rest of the story. Let's do it again this year!



# Deluxe 2013

## It was a rainBOW!

by Linda Dightmon



The soggy weather may have kept us under cover but did nothing to dampen the spirit. Images on this page by Kimberlee Kreuzer.

**W**e live in a place where the sun shines over 300 days a year so when we are planning a BOW workshop rain is generally not factored in. There is the occasional monsoon storm in the summer and they can be impressive but usually short lived. The mantra is hats, sunscreen and be sure to hydrate no matter what time of year. Well, this year the BOW Deluxe was right smack dab in the middle of FIVE consecutive days of measurable rain. In 2005, there was 8 straight days of rain and we have to go back to 1926 to find the record stretch of 10 days.

Paul Walterbeek, our superman marketing volunteer arranged for Mike Rolfe, a video story teller to film the workshop. Mike contacted me the day before to confirm that we were going to have the event. So, I made up rule #5. *We do not cancel classes or events due to little weather!* It was with this attitude that I drove through thickening cloud cover to Saguaro Lake Ranch. The participants came prepared to have a great time and that is exactly what we did.

The rain held off for the Friday afternoon classes. It was when we pushed our luck setting tables for an alfresco evening meal when the weather gods said "nope". We quickly picked up tablecloths and snacks and dashed to the dining hall to eat. The rain let up for about two hours that



evening. Just long enough for a campfire and then it started back up. The rest of the time was continuous light showers with (thankfully) little wind.

After dinner on Friday, we were entertained by "Wildman Phil" from Desert Wildlife Presentations. He had many desert creatures in his pockets. Yes, they were all in his pockets. He kept getting skinnier as the presentation progressed. There was a scorpion, spiders, many lizards and quite a few snakes. And yes that is a live diamondback rattlesnake in the picture and no that one was NOT in his pocket. He is not that wild!

Saturday all classes were held and the ladies learned that many birds were out even in the rain. The Hiking class took a hike in the rain. The Desert Survival class built a fire and a shelter in the rain. The Archery class stood under tarps and shot arrows in the rain. The Predator Calling class called up coyotes in the rain. The Dutch oven Cooking class prepared the evening meal, learned that easy ups are not all

that easy, in the rain. The Trick, Track Trail class found out that tracking is pretty darn hard in the rain.

Saturday evening Tice Supplee taught us about the biology and habits of one of her favorite desert critters, the javelina. We also received tips on how to hunt and photograph these unique desert dwellers. Later we enjoyed some cheese and wine and held the traditional raffle/silent auction fund raiser. We made over \$500 for the BOW scholarship fund.

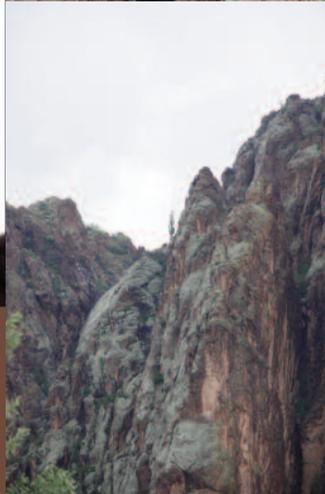
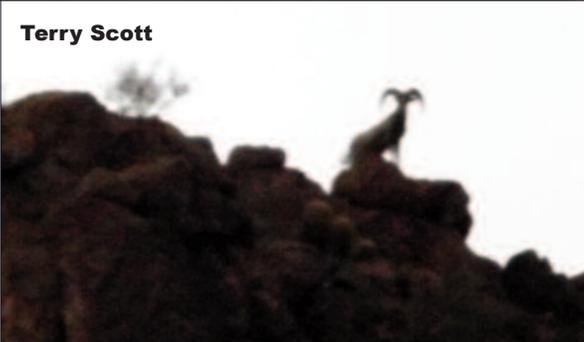
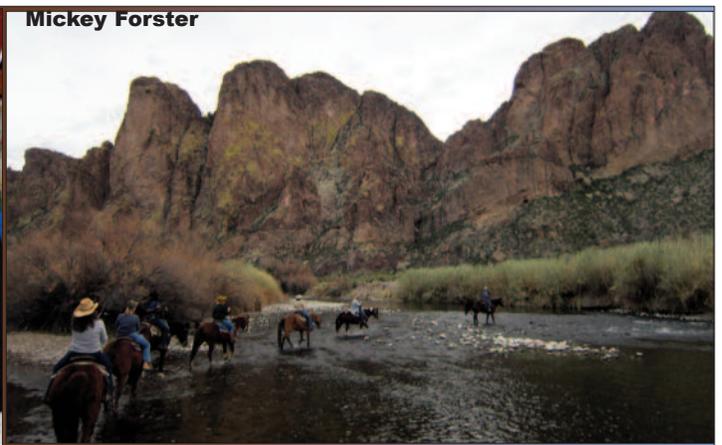
Sunday morning brought the continuing drizzle and once again no classes were canceled. The Flyfishing class went fishing in the rain. One member of the Still Water Paddling class commented on how much fun it was to paddle in the rain. She was able to creep close to shore-birds and truly enjoy the bay as there were no other people

there but our class. The Geocaching class found several geocaches and set one out in the rain. The trail riders put on their raingear and went on a three hour ride in the rain. They saw a herd of javelina and some bighorn sheep in the rain. The Photography class took some awesome pictures of the Bulldogs shrouded in low hanging clouds. (Check out the cover!)

The 2013 rainBOW was a splashing success due to the perseverance and always cheerful instructors and the can do attitude of our participants. I am so proud of everyone who attended this BOW. Not one person complained.

“Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass. It is about learning to dance in the rain.” – Author Unknown

And dance we did.



## Sandra Jean Nagiller: AWF Life Member 1955-2012

Sandra Jean Nagiller - January 25, 1955 - November 11, 2012

Sandra Nagiller was a life-long wildlife and outdoor enthusiast and Life member of the Arizona Wildlife Federation. At the time of her death, Sandra had been serving on the Board of Directors of the AWF for 3 years. Her expertise and knowledge, as well as her strength of character, were an invaluable addition to the Board. The Board of the AWF is made up of volunteers from all walks of life that are dedicated to conserving, enhancing, and protecting Arizona's wildlife and wildlife habitat.

In 1977, Sandra graduated from Arizona State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Wildlife Biology and a minor in Range Management. She held a variety of natural resource positions (wildlife technician, range conservationist, wildlife biologist, natural resource planner) over her 33-year career with the Federal government (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Forest Service). Most of her career was spent on the Coconino National Forest as the first female wildlife biologist where she designed and implemented many habitat improvement projects for elk, turkey, and antelope. Most of these projects were completed in cooperation with conservation groups, including the Arizona Wildlife Federation. More recently she worked with Northland Research, Inc (an environmental consulting firm in Flagstaff) as a wildlife biologist/NEPA specialist.

Sandra's favorite activities included: elk and spring turkey hunting, bass fishing, hiking, cross-country skiing, and

running her border collies in agility competitions. She enjoyed volunteering for the Arizona Border Collie Rescue

Her philosophy was that the wise use of natural resources is critical to the future of healthy ecosystems and that hunting and fishing activities are an integral part of the management of wildlife and fisheries populations.

To honor her life and her leadership in being one of the first to "break through" into an emerging group of highly skilled women in outdoor professions, the AWF has created a Becoming An Outdoors Woman scholarship fund in her name, and donations can be mailed to: Becoming an Outdoors Woman, PO Box 51510, Mesa, AZ 85208 or by visiting the AWF website at: [azwildlife.org](http://azwildlife.org)



### Donations Needed

Arizona BOW is building their own bone box. Do you have an animal skull or a pelt in good shape just laying around? The Arizona BOW would love to take it off your hands! We use these things for hands on learning in several of the classes that we offer.

Contact Linda at: [azodlady@yahoo.com](mailto:azodlady@yahoo.com)  
or  
Call Kim at: 480-644-0077



### Want to help at BOW?

**We are always looking for folks to help bring stuff to camp and drive the shooting class to the range.**

**Contact Kim at: 480-644-0077**

### SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Did you know that scholarships are available for first time BOW participants?

Applications for the September BOW will be accepted between June 26 - July 10.  
Visit: [www.azwildlife.org](http://www.azwildlife.org) for more information.

April BOW scholarships have been awarded to: Lori Mansell, Ashley Wallace, Meghan Quigley and Maureen Michael. The Sandra Nagiller scholarship was awarded to Lori Mansell.

## Ed Shannahan - Arizona Wildlife Trophies Committee Founder 1924-2012



Ed Shannahan – Arizona Wildlife Trophies Committee founder Passes Away

Over 100 friends and family celebrated and remembered the life of Ed Shannahan on January 26<sup>th</sup> in Scottsdale. Ed passed away on December 26<sup>th</sup>, just a few weeks before his 89<sup>th</sup> birthday. He had endured several health issues in the past few years and left us peacefully.

Ed's memorial service was a special blend of joy and sadness, with numerous remembrances from those who knew him best. Ed's son, Patrick, talked about Ed's early life and how he came to Arizona from his native Maryland. Patrick shared memories of early camping in Arizona in their "pre-pickup truck" days. Even then, Ed demonstrated that strain of borderline craziness that many have come to know and love; driving his family in and out of Bloody Basin in a passenger car. Pat also shared a few stories about Ed's fishing prowess, his remarkable aversion for grey hair until way into his 70's, and how he remained 39 years old as Pat and brother Barry moved into their 40s and 50s.

John Houzenga recalled his many years of experiences with Ed, their many camping, scouting, and hunting trips together. John's remarks were followed by an outpouring of Shannahan stories from many others in attendance. Some were very emotional and others were quite humorous. The event was a special experience for all who were there.

Ed was born in Baltimore, Md. on February 10, 1924 and grew up near Chesapeake Bay where he gained his love for the outdoors. He enlisted in the Air Force during World War II and was assigned to Luke Field in Arizona. While

stationed in Arizona, Ed met his future wife Virginia Walters of Phoenix. In fact, Pat Shannahan told the story that Ed was "busted" from Corporal to PFC for going AWOL while courting his future bride. After the war, Ed and his wife returned to Maryland where their sons were born and Ed worked as a government electronics inspector. With memories of Arizona in the back of his mind, Ed loaded his wife, sons, and all they could carry into a station wagon and trailer and returned to Arizona in 1960. He worked for Motorola as an administrator until he retired in 1994. After his retirement, Ed spent his winters in Yuma and summers in the White Mountains.

Ed was on the original Arizona Wildlife Trophies Committee starting in 1969, was an Official Measurer and was an active member of the Arizona Wildlife Federation for many years. In preparation to publish the original Wildlife Trophy Book in 1970, he traveled around the state measuring trophies to include in the book. In 1980, when the third edition of the Wildlife Trophy Book was published, he was chairman of the committee.

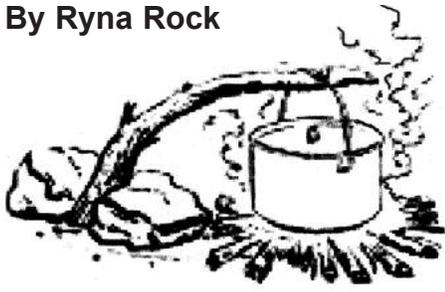
In addition to his work with the Arizona Wildlife Federation and the Arizona Wildlife Trophies Committee, he was an active member of the Arizona Guides Association in the 1960s and 1970s. He was a charter member of the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, it's fourth president in 1970-1971 and a tireless worker on Sheep projects. Ed was also a charter member of the Arizona Antelope Foundation, joining a handful of likeminded sportsmen to get that organization off the ground. The culmination of his many years of service to Arizona's wildlife was his richly deserved induction into Arizona's Outdoor Hall of Fame on August 25, 2012.

Ed is survived by son Patrick, Sr., his wife Sandra; son Barry, his wife Beth, and their children Katie and Lindsey; grandson Patrick, Jr. and his wife Lindsey.

by Don Johnson and Bill Keebler

# Camp Cook

By Ryna Rock



## Green River Chili Con Queso Omelette

- 1 doz eggs
- 2 (7 oz) cans whole green chilies
- ½ lb cheddar cheese, sliced
- 2 (4 oz) cans mushrooms (or ½ lb diced)
- 1 med onion
- ½ tsp cayenne pepper
- ½ c milk

Combine, mix, and beat all ingredients into one mess. Into a bowl, pan, or whatever you have. Heat griddle over fire coals; spread mixture on griddle and divide into 4 servings. Fold over and continue cooking until done or slightly browned. Serve with chili salsa and hot tortillas.

## Heating Tortillas on an Open Fire

Either let the fire die down to just coals or spread a small amount of coals off to the side of the main fire. Lay a flour tortilla directly on these coals for 5 seconds or so, depending on how hot they are. Use your fingers or a stick to turn the tortilla over and heat the opposite side for another 5 seconds or so. Do this twice for each side. Be careful not

to burn the tortilla, just heat it, although a few brown spots may be present. Remove from the coals and eat. The coals give a unique flavor to the tortilla.

## Salsa Casera

- 2 medium tomatoes, finely chopped
- 1 medium onions, chopped ( about 1/2 cup)
- 1 small garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 1 canned jalapeno peppers, seeded and finely chopped
- 1 tablespoon cilantro ( or more)
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon dried Mexican oregano ( regular will do)
- 1/2 teaspoon bottled hot sauce

Mix all ingredients. Cover and refrigerate in glass or plastic container. Refrigerate no longer than 7 days.

Note: you will know when the sauce is starting to go bad on you. Put your ear to the opened container, if it's going bad it will "talk to you", you'll hear something like Rice Krispies snapping and popping. Weird as it sounds, it's true!



**AZ BOW is now  
on Facebook!**

[facebook.com/pages/Arizona-Becoming-an-Outdoors-Woman/295848287943](https://facebook.com/pages/Arizona-Becoming-an-Outdoors-Woman/295848287943)

## Oven size                      Number of briquettes

	Top	Bottom
10-inch	10 to 12	8 to 10
12-inch	12 to 14	10 to 12
14-inch	14 to 16	12 to 14
16-inch	16 to 18	14 to 16

## WHADDA' YA' KNOW

1. How does Arizona rate in biodiversity?
2. What fish was known as an excellent food source in the 1800s is rarely eaten now?
3. What should you do if you witness a wild-life crime or unethical hunting behavior?
4. What are the top causes of boat accidents in Arizona?
5. What is the oldest known evidence of archery being used?
6. What is the White Mountain Grand Slam?



# Historical Tales

*Reproduced by Ryna Rock from Arizona Wildlife Sportsman March 1947*

## The Great Land Grab

By William Carr (Part 2)

### LAND IS THE THING

If private individuals or the "State" should succeed in getting control of the national forests it would soon result in ruination, now as in the past. It should always be remembered that the land itself is the thing; the land, the soil, the ground cover, and all that it represents to all people. There is nothing that will destroy it more quickly than unrestricted grazing and general overuse, especially the critically dry lands of our region. Areas at present controlled by the State and given over to grazing could scarcely be in more deplorable condition. When I pointed this out to the Land Commissioner, his only comment was, "Oh that has been said before!" Nothing concrete was indicated about improving the disgraceful condition of this land, except the pronouncement that "We have our plans for it." He did not say what the plans were but repeated that the State could manage far better than the Government. The condition of the terrain now controlled by the State hardly bears out this contention nor could it offer a better example of what would happen to the rest if it were to fall to similar auspices.

The stockman on the opposite side of the microphone said that private control would result in betterment of the land, this despite the fact that the Government had first taken over the ruined areas in order to rehabilitate them after they had been almost irreparably damaged by destructive use in many sections where there was private or unrestricted operation. The Land Commissioner said that similar ruination could never happen again. How could he make such a statement in the face of what is going on today is a mystery to me.

The State representative attempted to brush aside any further talk of land condition as of small consequence. I emphasized the obvious fact that the Federal Government through the employment of Civil Service assistance is the best "going concern" to supervise the current and long range management of the land, with the aid of trained scientists, many of whom devote their lives to the work. These men are not forced to relinquish their jobs through constantly changing national, State, or local politics. Certainly our Department of Agriculture has repeatedly demonstrated that it is by far a more permanent and better equipped institution than any similar agency possessed by individual States. This great Department is the best research group of its kind in the world and is so

recognized throughout the world; why not by those who would acquire this land?

What assurance will the people have that future State politics will not permit graziers and timber operators to permanently ruin the regions without a semblance of adequate control and constant study that has resulted in so much good? At least 80 percent of State-owned land today is in desperate condition.

Why haven't the people been told about this? There are many places where the Federal land is in bad shape too, largely through the fault of the certain Government administrators who have permitted their work to be hampered through the persistent, unwarranted influence of State politics and Big Business (which amounts to the same thing).

There has been entirely too much of this compromise and appeasement on the part of responsible persons who have yielded to the arrogant and often truculent demands of cattle groups. These compromises have resulted in heavy overgrazing in many areas where, actually, there should be little if any grazing at all, in regions where the value of the land as a source of water for large communities and for agriculture far out-distances its usefulness as grazing territory where adequate watershed management is scarcely possible if cattle are present. The very same cattle organizations responsible for bringing undue and willful pressure, to the detriment of these lands, are the identical ones that now seek national forest territory for their own exclusive use. The people should give solid support to conscientious administrators who endeavor to manage the land in strict accordance with scientific principles, regardless of political pressure. The position of Federal administrators is anything but enviable in the face of constant efforts on the part of cattle minorities to gain special privileges. The unfortunate appeasement has only served to embolden these cattle pressure groups in their present attempt to gain permanent control of national forest properties. A great deal of strength and courage is needed on the part of those who would properly administer this land.

### WATERSHED DESTRUCTION

An outstanding example of the workings of undue influence by pressure groups concerns the wonderful Tonto country of central Arizona, where efforts of Federal supervisors to reduce

overgrazing, in many areas where the very topsoil has practically vanished through overuse by too many cattle, has only brought about an outburst from politicians and resulted in continued overgrazing in an area where it should have been halted years ago. And this very land is the source of the Salt River that supplies Phoenix with water. If the State or private individuals were to take over this territory it would be nothing short of a national calamity.

I asked about the Salt River Valley Water Users Association. I inquired whether these people, who are dependent upon water from this river, know that the very source of their supply is seriously jeopardized, or whether they were aware that a very small group of men is doing all in its power to have these lands turned over to private ownership. I received scarcely any answer at all. If these water users, among others, could hear the unbiased, truthful conservation side of this story alone, could see the results of the misuse of this land today, and know the story thoroughly, they would be up in arms in overwhelming protest against the overgrazing of this country that is forcing millions of tons of priceless topsoil into the Salt River and filling the Roosevelt Reservoir with silt. The increasing amount of damage in this region is clearly visible to all who would examine the land. Overgrazing should be stopped upon this watershed, despite unreasonably indignant and hyper-sensitive toes that may be stepped upon in the process.

Conditions would be a thousand-fold worse if local politicians or private owners acquired the Tonto as they are trying to do now. One answer to my question about this Salt River land related to a complaint by local persons that there were "too many bushes preventing water run-off!" Here was an anti-soil conservation statement if I ever heard one. The pitifully sparse ground cover that now holds the soil in some degree, actually aids rather than hinders the amount of water to reach the reservoir. It is this outmoded, incorrect, and unscientific thinking that has caused so much damage, yet the Land Commissioner brought this old argument forward triumphantly as though to deliver a telling blow against my contention!

#### **MAIN QUESTION**

In reality there was one main question here, one that should be asked again

and again, and that question is," Would the land, now and in the future, be better cared for and more lastingly preserved under the State or Federal management? Component parts of this same inquiry would include two more questions: Would the great amount of erosion and other forms of land destruction be worse or better? What policy would result in the greatest good to the greatest number of people? There can be but one answer: The only adequate agency to operate these priceless lands is the Government of all the people, with its vast resources. Could this State or any other State ever hope to duplicate the advantages accruing to it that would ever equal the aid provided by our National Government? Other States, east to west and north to south, clamor for this aid. Why should we refuse it? It is true that cattle organizations in other western States are making a supreme try, at this moment of national unrest, when so many eyes are turned in other directions, to also acquire Federal lands. They have made the attempt before and now they should be circumvented once and for all.

#### **FEDERAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

I asked my opponents the following questions and again received highly unsatisfactory answers: How about the construction of roads and other endless improvements in the national forests? The Government has spent \$9,500,000 on 5,000 miles of road in these forests alone. Would the State ever have been able to build these roads and maintain them, or the 2,000 miles of telephone lines of vital use in rural districts at a cost of \$1,696,000; or some of the largest reservoirs in the world; or great recreational and range improvements costing \$4,166,000; and many other types of necessary work costing the taxpayers of the entire Nation millions upon millions of dollars, and incidentally providing employment for thousands of Arizonans and future Arizonans? Would the State have been able to pay for all this, for the tremendous reclamation and irrigation construction, or for the Colorado River project now advocated? Could the slightly more than half million Arizona residents pay for and support all of these things that have helped to bring the State to its present stage of prosperity? And yet it is urged that many of these regions and consequently all the expense involved in their upkeep, maintenance, and future development

be turned over to the State! It seems incredible.

Among other considerations it is only too apparent that the State is having plenty of financial difficulty in paying teachers and professors adequate wages. It has been declared that if all these millions of acres of publicly owned land belonged to private individuals, the teachers would be better taken care of! How? Taxes that could be levied upon these lands would not suffice to maintain improvements extant, not unless the present tax rates were greatly increased. In addition to initial and other outlays, the Federal government turns back to the State large sums of money annually for school districts, for maintenance of schools within those districts, for continued road and trail building, added telephone line construction and maintenance, fire fighting, the development of winter sports areas, forest camps, soil and water control, and other public service projects in counties where parcels of land are Government supervised. Could the State obtain all of this money and greatly added sums too in order to raise teacher's salaries or any other salaries? If this were possible there is no question about the fact that local taxes would skyrocket and, incidentally, grazing fees would rise correspondingly. A study of the present tax system reveals this very clearly. The economic reasoning that is entertained by the few who sponsor this land turn-over scheme, is so completely unsound and unrealistic that one wonders how their conclusions were reached! Their entire outlook in this matter is unreasonable and impractical to the extent that basic common sense is dealt a staggering blow.

#### **TIMBER**

I also wanted to know about the timber as well as the grazing problem, even though we hear that grazing is the only interest at present. Would the timber land be taken over too, so that logging would be unrestricted with the right to cut every marketable log in accordance with the custom that prevailed before the territory was supervised and scientifically managed in order to produce the most timber for the most people? These are fundamental national resources, not merely local political pawns! It is a fortunate thing that the Federal Government controls as much land as it does wherein timber is concerned. There would not be so serious a housing shortage as there is now if the

Government owned more forest lands, and consequently the people had greater access to productive timber regions. The truth of the matter is that many private owners have only too often demonstrated their ability to ruin forest areas and then, when the damage has been done and the lands are all but worthless, the Federal Government is asked to step in, take over the wreck, and rehabilitate the depleted regions over long periods of years, at great national expense.

If there is anything democratic about this procedure, I fail to see it. The Federal Government took over the management of the areas originally when a group of farseeing Americans, headed by Theodore Roosevelt, saw what was happening to the region through abuse and stepped in to preserve it and make it productive once again. That was some 40 years ago. Would all this work be undone? This is a vicious circle and there is no sense in it, or justification either, not the slightest. This is a vital matter and not one to be handled by inexpert or seeking hands.

**PUBLIC WOULD BE LOSERS**

I also asked about the general tax paying public in the event those same national forest lands were allotted to individuals. I inquired about a number of things: How about Mount Lemmon, near Tucson, for example, where the Government has built a most expensive road, with Federal funds, to enable all the people to take advantage, freely, of the endless opportunities for recreation in those mountains? What about the thousands who travel away from the summer-time desert heat to escape to these and other mountains? Will these people be able or willing to pay for services when the land is commercially exploited? Will they have any sense of freedom in these forests at all? Will they be free, as they are now, to ski and to picnic or just to stand and enjoy the charm of the place, own it? Will they, when "Private" and other restrictive signs dot the landscape? And how about the hundreds of other general recreation areas in national forests of Arizona? As things now stand, sportsmen can hunt and fish almost everywhere in the national forests. Demands of wildlife are actively recognized as a part of the range improvement program. What will happen here under private ownership? There are few more discouraging things than "NO Trespass" or "Keep Out" signs in regions of great scenic beauty.

Everyone should be grateful that our Government secured these lands for the use and enjoyment of all of us. In answer to these queries regarding the status of the public upon forest lands, in the event they are ceded, the stockman replied that there are a number of potential bills intended to guarantee these rights. For my part, I failed to see how any of these "bills" could apply if the lands were privately owned. Throughout the length and breadth of this country there is no "bill" that guarantees rights and privileges to outsiders on private lands; quite the reverse is true.

I believe that Arizona is one of the most fortunate of all States where, in proportion to its relatively small number of residents (in the fifth largest State in the Union and the youngest), the Nation as a whole has spent so very much money in land reclamation and preservation. National financial resources, far beyond the dreams of anyone, have been lavishly poured into this State to help make it what it is—one of the most wonderful places to live on this earth. Those who plan to experiment with this hard-won, established Federal assistance in a senseless attempt to secure public lands, should be made to realize that they have tackled a buzz saw! There is no room for private or "State" acquisition here, where there is so much that involves public interest and welfare. Any private acquirement of our national forests at this or any other time would only be a first step toward a more extensive property grab in the future.

**CITIZENS SHOULD HAVE RIGHT TO CHOOSE**

I, for one, fail to see why the cattle industry that now openly aims at private ownership of public lands should be favored over and above other groups. I do not believe that the individuals who control the cattle organizations are of more consequence to the community than citrus growers, agriculturists in general, or of hunters, fishermen, miners, lumbermen, dwellers in cities, or any others. I am certain that the cattle outfits are in no way deserving of the special privileges they now demand, at the expense of the people as a whole. I feel that all the people should make any final decision that in any manner affects our national forests. Even though one of my opposing debaters complained about, "The Foreign Government in Washington", I am still convinced that we are living in a Democracy and it is my opinion that all parties concerned should

remember this fact when grasping for special consideration, the granting of which would result in lasting, irreparable harm for the majority of our citizens. The position of these land seekers is indefensible.

**WILLIAM H. CARR**, the writer of this article, was a president of the Arizona Wildlife Federation. He was an Associate Curator of Education, American Museum of Natural History and jointly Park Naturalist, Palisades Interstate Park Commission. At the time of this writing, he had lived in Tucson for two years.

Mr. Carr's profession was writing and he was a specialist in Interpretive Land and Wildlife Conservation.

This article was written at the request of Arizona Wildlife Sportsman after the University of Arizona, Round Table Discussion on the public lands question. This debate was between O. C. Williams, State Land Commission; Carlos Ronstadt, representing the cattle industry; and William H. Carr for the people of Arizona.

*Historical Tales are chosen from the archives of the Arizona Wildlife Federation with an emphasis on conservation issues and events affecting or about wildlife that remain relevant to this day in Arizona.....The Editor*

**WHADDA' YA' KNOW?**

**Answers**

1. Third highest in the United States.
2. Carp were originally brought to the US to feed a growing population.
3. Immediately report it on the Operation Game Thief Hotline, 1-800-352-0700.
4. #1 Operator Inexperience; #2 Operator inattention
5. Arrowheads found in North Africa date back almost 50,000 years
6. Successfully catching all the legally fished trout species in the White Mtns.

# Streams and Game Trails

By John Underwood



## To a Friend in Northern AZ

Thank you Mr. Thowe, for your card and comments concerning the National Center for Policy Analysis that I wrote about in the AWN Fall 2012 issue. (See letters to the Editor) There are many special interest groups out there and most have wildlife interests at heart. If you or anyone would like a list of some good and some questionable, contact me and I will send them along. I can be reached at [Streamsandgametrails1@cox.net](mailto:Streamsandgametrails1@cox.net)

## RANDOM FACTS

**NONE** of the rare or endangered wildlife species are endangered because of hunting. ENVIRONMENTAL ALTERATION is the major cause.

**SPORTSMEN** have paid for the establishment of nearly 14,000 or more ACRES of prime habitat as special areas for wildlife of ALL KINDS. (Provided by G&F Sportsman's Pocket Fact Sheet Form 4069)

**SPORTSMEN** provide major support for the Arizona Game and Fish Department, yet about one-fourth of the Departments expenditures are for programs which involve NO HUNTING OR FISHING. (Please see G&F Revenue figures from last available Annual report)

Fiscal Year Revenues by Fund	2009-10	2010-11
Game and Fish Fund	27,132,427	26,918,142
Watercraft Licensing Fund	5,236,761	4,472,208
Game, Nongame Fund	205,572	157,478
Federal Assistance (Includes Matching Funds)	32,440,397	35,173,247
Heritage Fund	10,123,753	10,093,287
Off-highway Vehicle Fund	1,471,886	1,528,169
Capital Improvement/Conservation Dev. Funds	1,527,693	1,487,094
Wildlife Conservation Fund	5,635,240	5,583,115
Indirect Cost Fund	2,302,987	3,233,706
Other Funds (See Detail Below)	3,271,876	2,943,175
<b>Total Revenue All Sources</b>	<b>\$89,348,521</b>	<b>\$91,589,621</b>

**DUCKS UNLIMITED** is one single sportsmen's organization, that has spent nearly \$40 MILLION to build or restore more than TWO MILLION ACRES of waterfowl habitat.

**Fact.** Annual consumer spending in the outdoor recreation sector has grown at a rate of 5% annually between 2005 and 2011, with the latest annual total of over \$646 billion, generating 6.1 million direct jobs and over \$80 billion in Federal, State and local taxes (Data from the Outdoor Industry Association 2012 report prepared by Southwick and Associates)

## USFWS DIRECTOR DAN ASHE

The outdoor industry has more than \$120 billion dollars in annual sales on equipment, or that trips and travel-related spending accounts for another \$524.8 billion in sales of food/drink, lodging, souvenirs/gifts and transportation? It's also true that much of the spending on those activities requires vibrant locations to visit. And public lands are facing serious budget issues.

## LAUNCHING/RECOVERING YOUR BOAT

Always a challenge, especially early launch or recovery. When backing always keep your right or left hand on the bottom of the steering wheel so that when you move it to the right, the trailer will move to the right. Same if you move to left. By doing this you always know which way the boat and trailer are going. This is very helpful especially when you have a 3 or 4 lane ramp and all but one lane is occupied. You want to get into the water and get fishing so you need to back between the occupied lanes. By keeping your hand at the 6 o'clock you know your trailer will turn the direction you hand moves the wheel, thus making the launch much easier. Try it out. I know most of you already knew this however there are some of us that learn after much frustration.

**ANGLER ETHICS**

1. Keep Only the Fish Needed
2. Do Not Pollute- Properly Dispose of Trash
3. Sharpen Angling and Boating Skills
4. Observe all Safety Regulations
5. Respect Other Angler Rights
6. Pass on Knowledge and Angling Skills
7. Support Local Conservation Efforts
8. Never Stock Fish or Plants into Public Waters
9. Respect Property Owners Rights
10. Promote the Sport of Angling



**Proper Handling**

Some logic to holding a larger, heavier fish which can dislocate the jaw or damage internal organs; by holding one up for a photo. The trick is to support both the fore and the aft portions and shoot a horizontal, which looks better anyway. If it's going back, why not treat it right and assure that it's there the next time you might want to enjoy a big fish? Of course, if it's headed for the cooler- then hold the fish as you want. See Streams and Game Trails. Page 20, ARIZONA WILDLIFE NEWS VOLUME 52 \* ISSUE 2 Spring 2010. @ [www.azwildlife.org](http://www.azwildlife.org) for more information.



Roosevelt Lake, Az.  
[www.srpwater.com/dwr](http://www.srpwater.com/dwr)

**Lake Levels**

As of this writing, Roosevelt is at 46%, Bartlett at 68%, Alamo 7%, Apache 92%, Canyon 96%, Saguaro 95%, Pleasant 64% Roosevelt lake level is rising and hopefully much more.. Source: Salt River Project, Central Arizona Project, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S Bureau of Reclamation, U.S Army Corps of Engineers.

Daily Water Reports. Each day, you can access a report featuring water levels at the six lakes on the Salt and Verde River systems, plus the amount of runoff

<b>Ramp Information</b> <i>(boat ramp depths in feet at end of ramp)</i>			
<b>Roosevelt</b>		<b>Apache</b>	
Badger	53	Burnt Corall	12
Bobcat	-22	Marina cental	6
Cholla	45	Marina Main	11
Coyote	-12		
Grapevine	2	<b>Canyon</b>	
Indian pt	-8	Marina	24
Marina 4	7	Laguna	11
Marina dogleg	27	Ramp 1	21
Ringtail	22	Ramp 2	11
Schoolhouse	-10		

**Possible Marine Fuel Tax Refund in Some States says Discover Boating**

Recreational boaters who purchase fuel for use in their boats may be eligible for a full or partial refund of the taxes paid on the fuel: These taxes are usually used to repair highway damage caused by the wear and tear of automobiles. Because boats do not cause this damage, many states apply the tax on marine fuel to boating programs through the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund. In states where the money is not applied to these programs it is usually put into the highway improvement fund. A number of states, recognizing that it's unfair to use boaters' tax dollars for highway improvement, offer refunds on marine fuel taxes. Procedures and qualifications vary by state, but typically, a boater will need to save his/her fuel receipts as well as complete some type of paperwork (often available online). The following links list states that offer fuel tax refunds  
<http://www.americanboating.org/fueltax.asp>  
[http://www.boatus.com/gov/state\\_taxrefund.asp](http://www.boatus.com/gov/state_taxrefund.asp)  
 Though not included on the above sites' lists California also offers boater's tax refund. Get details at this site:  
<http://www.boe.ca.gov/pdf/boe770du.pdf>  
 Would this be a good fit for Arizona? Let me know and your legislators.

**Take a Youngster Fishing with you  
for the Thrill of a Lifetime.  
Until next time, Be Safe and Enjoy the,  
The Great Arizona Outdoors.**

## Because You Belong

Your Arizona Wildlife Federation membership entitles you to discounted premiums and/or enhanced benefits on a variety of our insurance products and financial services. For more information without obligation, call

**Agent: Art Mier**  
**Phone: 602-265-8223, Cell - 928-595-2026**  
**Toll free @ 1-800-224-1120-X240**  
**[art.mier@mutualofomaha.com](mailto:art.mier@mutualofomaha.com)**  
**[mutualofomaha.com](http://mutualofomaha.com)**

Tell us you belong to the Arizona Wildlife Federation  
ADN39774\_0610

# Membership



## AWF Celebrates its 90th Year Annual Meeting Notice

The Arizona Wildlife Federation announces its 90th Annual Meeting and Awards Event, June 28-30, 2013. Affiliates it's time think about delegates, getting your membership records updated, and resolutions you'd like to present or candidates for office you'd like to nominate. Information and instructions on requirements and activities will be arriving in your mailboxes soon.

This year we continue our "Back to Nature Camp Meeting" theme in Northern Arizona's cool pines. Watch for further communiqués from our office that will include directions and a map, an agenda, and other information relating to our Annual Meeting. The general location is easily reached by 2 wheel drive vehicles, and is a short, pleasant drive from Flagstaff. The actual location is the Hart Prairie Preserve, a beautiful, historic site overseen by The Nature Conservancy.

The usual business meeting will be taking place, including AWF elections, resolutions, and a post-Annual Meeting board of directors meeting. Beyond that we plan to have enjoyable speakers, great camaraderie, and the provision of some "kickback" time for your enjoyment. We encourage you all to bring your families to enjoy the available camping and beautiful area we will be staying in.

Saturday lunch, the awards event Saturday evening and Sunday morning breakfast will be the meals that will be provided for you and your cost will be included in your registration fees. This does mean you will need to bring your own supplies for other meals and your own food preparation equipment. Propane stoves are the best bet for your own cooking requirements.

I hope to see you all there!

Sincerely,

Tom Mackin  
President, Arizona Wildlife Federation

## Welcome New Members

Sandy Anderson	Mesa
Tania Barks	Mesa
Tim Benach	Gold Canyon
Casey Brooks	Tucson
John Brown	Glendale
Veronica Celaya	Phoenix
Heather Crane	Gilbert
Sue Daniel	Prescott
Sam Dohms	Phoenix
Lisa Evans	Phoenix
Mickey Forster	Green Valley
Roxanne Freiday	Kingman
Diane Garduno	Glendale
Carey Granda	Phoenix
Chuck Hagen	Mesa
Nancy Haler	Chandler
Shelly Hansen	Scottsdale
Larisa Harding	Phoenix
Robert Hedrick	Gilbert
Denise Hess	Gilbert
Barbara Hollenbeck	Payson
June Johnson	Mesa
Marian Kaftan	Payson
Marcia Klipsch	Tucson
Scott Leech	Tempe
Rian Lemmer	Flagstaff
Michelle Listiak	Yuma
Shawna Logsdon	Kingman
Donna Mallett	Payson
Lori Mansell	Tempe
RH McGilchristy	Mesa
Maureen Michael	Prescott
Beverly Morton	Kingman
Dee Mulverhill	Kingman
Amber Parker	Vail
Laura Patriquin	Kingman
Tina Peeler	Kingman
Nathan Pitney	Apache Junction
Floyd Pitney	Chandler
Leslie Praderio	Mesa
Meghan Quigley	Prescott
Dorothy Rhodes	Marana
Pam Richey	Goodyear
Cindy Lee Rottmann	Phoenix
Viola Rulon	Apache Junction
Vivien Scheuerman	Valley Farms
Terry Scott	Payson
Venus Scott	Phoenix
Kay Smith	Prescott
Jerry Snodgrass	Chandler
Sheila Soles	Kingman
Scott Wardlaw	Mesa
Liz Warner	Tucson
Sue Welsh	Mesa
Gent Zangen	Mesa
Sue Zislis	Mesa

## NEW MEMBERS FROM OUT OF STATE

Jackie Brownlee	Las Vegas, NV
Gary Clevenger	Acton, CA
Susan Jeffers	Herndon, VA
Anna King	San Diego, CA
Debi Mercer	Las Vegas, NV
Carolyn Phillips	Danville, CA
Mary Smith	Albuquerque, NM



# AWF Members

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed!

Please bill my  Mastercard  Visa  Discover

Expiration Date: / /

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

- \$ 15 Junior (17 & under)
- 30 Individual
- 75 Individual - 3 years
- 45 Family
- 110 Family - 3 years
- 100 Patron
- 500 Life Member
- 325 Distinguished Life Member (65+ or Disabled Veteran)
- 500 Benefactor
- 75 Small Business
- 500 Corporate

**Mail To:**  
**Arizona Wildlife Federation**  
**PO Box 51510**  
**Mesa, AZ 85208**

All Membership fees are tax deductible

## Arizona Wildlife Federation Life Members

Alan Abel	Tucson	George Flener	Mesa	Don Luke	Phoenix	George L. Sypherd	Sun City West
William Acheson	Flagstaff	Chris Fonoti	Chino Valley	Jerry Marquis	Page	Lewis N. Tenney Jr.	Heber
Patsy Apple	Phoenix	James E. Frye	Mesa	Christina Mathew-Bowers	Phoenix	Larry Thowe	Page
Jeff Augustine	Scottsdale	Steve Gallizioli	Fountain Hills	Patricia A. McNeil	Payson	Robert D. Tucker	Buckeye
James Baldree	Phoenix	John Gannaway	Phoenix	Duke Mertz	Chandler	Charles W. Tyree	Tucson
John Bauermeister	Scottsdale	Gilbert F. Gehant	Mesa	David & Victoria Morgan	Anthem	John B. Underwood	Scottsdale
David Beaty	Mesa	Fred Gerhauser	Peoria	Allen Naille	Flagstaff	Ken Vensel	Flagstaff
Diana Beatty	Kingman	Donald Gerould	Sun City	Jack Naperala	Scottsdale	Mark T. Vi t t	Scottsdale
John R. Beck	Peoria	J. David Gibeault	Tucson	Mike Neilson	Dewey	Stephen T. White	Scottsdale
Donald Billick	Phoenix	Rene G Gilbert	Anthem	Fred Nobbe	Phoenix	Brian H. Williams	Scottsdale
Bruce H. Bishop	Tempe	Hank Gonzales	Tucson	Daniel & Annalee Norton	Scottsdale	Robert A. Witzeman	Phoenix
E Clark Bloom	Hereford	Kim Graber	Phoenix	Donald J. Parks Jr.	Peoria	Larry M. Wolfe Sr.	Phoenix
Clarence Bowe Jr.	Scottsdale	Raymond E. Grice	Mesa	Art Pearce	Scottsdale	Chuck Youngker	Buckeye
M.J. Bramley Jr.	Mesa	Timm J. Haas	Willcox	Jim Pierce	Scottsdale		
Jay Brandon	Apache Junction	Donna J Hallman	San Tan Valley	Paul Prito	Scottsdale	George Boutonnet	Salinas, CA
Jonathan Brooks	Anthem	Western Hardwoods	Phoenix	Robert & Marilyn Recker	Sun City	Jim Breck	Alexandria, SD
Wade Brooksby	Phoenix	Cole Harvey	Casa Grande	Judith Riddle	Phoenix	Dale Hislop	Calgary Alberta, CN
Roger J Carroll	Sierra Vista	Miles C. Hauter S	Sedona	Bryant & Marsha Ridgway	Casa Grande	Terry Johnson	Costa Mesa, CA
Gary S. Christensen	Flagstaff	Kristan Hildebrandt	Tempe	Ryna Rock	Camp Verde	Roy Kommeyer	Blackhawk, SD
Louise Coan	Tucson	Jeffery L. Hinkley	Phoenix	Kent M. Rogers	Mesa	Phil Liles	Snyder, OK
Clifton E. Cox	Tucson	Mark Hullinger	Chandler	Sarah Ruhlen	Suprise	Glenn Napierskie	San Diego, CA
Don Cox	Peoria	Richard Humphrey	Tucson	Robert C. Schatke	Chandler	John W Nelson	Montrose, CO
Al Crossman	Tempe	Bunny Huntress	Tempe	Terry Schupp	Scottsdale	Ace H Peterson	Montrose, CO
Donald D Dalgleish	Scottsdale	Mike Johns	Phoenix	Lary & Betty Lou Scott	Scottsdale	Robert Stragnell	Hanover, NH
Howard Darland	Mesa	Roy G. Jones	Phoenix	Walter Scrimgeour	Prescott	Jaren Vanderlinden	Amarillo, TX
Anthony Diana	Phoenix	Thomas Kalos	Paradise Valley	David Seamans	Scottsdale	Tom Ward	Orange, CA
John E Dupnik	Phoenix	Peter S. Klocki	Dewey	Duane Shroufe	Glendale		
Linda Erman	Phoenix	Lee A. Kohlhase	Mesa	Jack H. Simon	Phoenix		
Rick Erman	Phoenix	William Lacy	Mesa	Jim A. Slingluff	Tucson		
Toni Erman-Kirch	Phoenix	Harvey J. Lawrence	Scottsdale	Dale Slocum	Phoenix		
Robb Evans	Flagstaff	Nancy L. Lewis	Phoenix	Randy Sosin	Sedona		
Donald Farmer	Scottsdale	Long Valley Service	Happy Jack	Wendell G. Swank	Cottonwood		

## Arizona Wildlife Federation Benefactors

Honoring the memory of sportsmen and sportswomen through a \$500 Benefactor Membership

Doug Baker	Tucson	Don Gerould	Sun City	Frank Murphy	Mesa	Gene Tolle	Phoenix
Burton Barr Central Library	Phoenix	Patti Ho	Chino Valley	Emmett Reyman	Mesa	John C Underwood	Tempe
Louise Coen	Tucson	Ivy Hanson	Carefree	Donald G. Roberts	Flagstaff		
Milton G. Evans	Flagstaff	Frank H Moore	Phoenix	SCI Periodicals	Los Angeles, CA		



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