



Position Statement on Constitutional Right to Hunt
February 2008

The Arizona Wildlife Federation (AWF) is proud to carry a historically significant role in the creation of the Arizona Game and Fish Commission and Department, and is the oldest conservation organization in Arizona.

Founded by sportsmen in 1923 on a belief system that political influence and connections have no place in the management of Arizona's wildlife and habitat, and on support of science-based management of these precious resources, the AWF respectfully opposes any attempt at this time to introduce or adopt a Constitutional Amendment to the Arizona State Constitution based on a "constitutional right" to take wildlife and requests such actions be deferred due to the catastrophic affect this may bring to bear on the ability of the Arizona Game and Fish Commission to formulate and direct policies and activities of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

The consequences of a constitutional change of this nature and scope have not been studied nor documented sufficiently to determine the short and long term affects on wildlife, habitat, the broadbased public interest, and the Arizona Game and Fish Commission /Department.

It is the AWF's position that any such changes would not be in the best interests of Arizona's wildlife and habitat, the public, or the Arizona Game and Fish Commission and Department.