

Winter 2009

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



[www.azwildlife.org](http://www.azwildlife.org)



*Season's Greetings*



Arizona Wildlife News





Images by  
Joseph Berke  
Ruth Hirsch  
Kimberlee Kreuzer  
Tracy Unmacht

# 2009



## BOW Deluxe: February 6-8

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

## Traditional BOW: April 3-5 & August 14-16

\$240, which includes instruction, program materials, lodging in rustic cabins and meals. This workshop will be held at Friendly Pines Camp in the tall pines of the Bradshaw Mountains.

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



For more Information:  
Visit our web site  
[www.azwildlife.org](http://www.azwildlife.org)

Arizona Wildlife Federation  
P O Box 51510  
Mesa, AZ 85208  
480-644-0077  
Email: [awf@azwildlife.org](mailto:awf@azwildlife.org)

# Discover Arizona

Becoming an Outdoors Woman is an Outdoors Skills Clinic for women. The objective of the program is to provide women with an opportunity to learn basic outdoor skills in a fun, non-threatening manner.

# Discover You!

# ARIZONA WILDLIFE NEWS

EXECUTIVE EDITOR John Underwood  
MANAGING EDITOR Ryna Rock  
EDITOR Linda Dightmon  
COPY EDITOR Kim Kreuzer  
DESIGN & LAYOUT Linda Dightmon  
PRINTING Lithotech

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#### AWF Mission Statement:

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

**On the Cover:** This issue of the Arizona Wildlife News we once again dig into the archives of the *Arizona Wildlife Sportsman*. This one is from November 1953. Larry Toschik is the artist.

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

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

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# Sportsmans Mail Pouch

John Underwood

## An Answer

RE: *Whose Public Land Is It*

A simple answer, not a solution would be to not sell permits for game hunting in the non-accessible public lands that are in dispute. If you and I can't get to the area to hunt, then no one can hunt in that area. That would take some back bone to make that happen, which I don't see from the powers at hand.

Paul Andrews

## Passing it on

Dear Editor,

Here is a picture of Cory Kreuzer's first deer which was harvested in the Kaibab in the beginning of November.



His brother, Ryan, found a new interest in Geocaching during the camp. I was introduced to Geocaching at the Becoming an Outdoor Woman event in Prescott. I shared my knowledge of how to use the GPS with the boys while sitting at the campfire. One used it for hunting animals and the other used it for hunting treasures. I have also included a picture of one of the cache's we found near Jacob Lake.

Thanks to Becoming an Outdoors

Woman for the great instruction that they offer. I am proud to be part of it.

Kimberlee Kreuzer  
Arizona Wildlife Federation



## Farm Bill

Dear Editor,

Since the 2008 Farm Bill was passed last spring, the rules for the new program that provides federal funds to states to benefit hunter access programs have been taking shape at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Known as the Open Fields program, it will provide \$50 million over the next four years to states seeking to build or improve these voluntary walk-in incentive programs.

Sportsmen Welcome New Access Incentive for Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) On Oct. 3, the USDA announced a brand-new incentive for expanding sportsmen access to private land and tied it to the health of our nation's largest conservation program, CRP. The USDA's plan provides for up to 7 million acres of land enrolled in CRP be made eligible for increased incentives if landowners allow public hunting and fishing access on them.

The CRP program itself has seen its total enrollment numbers decline in recent years as high commodity prices and demand for other land uses has dissuaded

landowners from enrolling their land in conservation. The average per-acre CRP payment is currently \$50 and has not proven competitive against the high returns farmers can yield from planting corn or other crops. It is imperative that CRP's payment structure and rental rates be modernized to compete with market forces.

This additional incentive is a good step toward increasing interest in the vitality of CRP. Both landowners and sportsmen have a greater stake now than ever before.

Sincerely,

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership



We urge our readers to communicate to us cheers and even jeers (given in good taste, or course). 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:

Sportsman's Mail Pouch  
Arizona Wildlife Federation  
PO Box 51510  
Mesa, AZ 85208

Send your email to:  
Editor@azwildlife.org

It is our goal to provide a well-written informative magazine and your feedback will help us do that. This is your magazine, let us hear from you.



# From The President

Ryna Rock

I'm sitting in my pick-up in a parking lot behind the Executive Tower of the Arizona State Capitol complex. I often get to spend some time this way as driving to Phoenix from Camp Verde is always a guessing game; will traffic be heavy or light, will there be a fender bender that stops traffic, will some other unplanned for occurrence take place, will the pick-up be my "faithful steed" one more time and get me to the meeting on time? With some time to kill, it seems like a good opportunity to do some thinking and start on my Arizona Wildlife News article.

From where I sit, my view is of two busy downtown Phoenix streets and I am reminded that while we have invited all these people I can observe coming and going to share our landscape here in beautiful Arizona, we have not planned very well for adequate infrastructure or with a clear vision of how we want our fair state to feel and look in the not too distant future. It is all changing faster than any agency can visualize, plan for, or respond to. While planners, legislators, citizen representatives, governmental staffers, etc., sit in meetings discussing what can be done, get bogged down in the cost and legalities of it all and who should be responsible for what, "they" just keep moving in, settling in every "nook and cranny" development that exists or putting money down for some that don't exist yet, but will very soon. I mean "they" in a non-hostile way. "They" are people of every origin and persuasion, some just starting out, some restarting, some seeking a new start, while others are just up for new adventures in a new place.

My reason for being in this parking lot is to attend a meeting of stakeholders who are discussing and expressing views/needs related to the evolving plan outlined in the Western Climate Initiative (WCI) and our Governor's efforts to finalize and jump start the process. I am absolutely positive you all have an opinion on this, and even on the AWF Board, as with all of you, those opinions range from one end of the spectrum to the other. In Arizona, the topic of climate change remains controversial. We can all spend our time arguing about the pros and cons forever, just like the folks I speak of in the foregoing paragraph, while the climate change continues around us, regardless and because of whatever the causes.

Arizona is a special place and its climate is changing. This is causing major problems for our wildlife and wildlands. Left unaddressed, the climate issue will severely impact our natural surroundings and the hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, and boating opportunities that Arizona is famous for, and why a lot of you and the folks I am observ-

ing from my parked truck moved here. I have lived here a long time, and the beauty of the wilds of Arizona is a large part of what keeps me here too.

Most climate scientists are in the camp that believes human caused emissions are at least partially responsible for the changing climate. I state this claim based on the position of Arizona's own Dr. Jonathan Overpeck of Arizona State University, the National Academy of Sciences, and hundreds of scientists on the International Panel of Climate Change.

Whether or not you believe that carbon emissions are causing Arizona's climate to change, it is undeniable that Arizona is warming. And, it has only just begun. Just about everyone I know who spends any time at all in the outdoors has noticed some change, often in small ways that begin to "nibble" at the edge of our consciousness. Insects or plants that have either appeared or disappeared within fairly recent years in our locales, or wildlife behavior that we notice being different than what we have come to think of as "normal". None of us can help but notice the severity and increased size of wildfires in Arizona and the western United States. The list goes on and on.

We must take steps to help our wildlife and wild places adapt to these changes. Key migration corridors and important habitats for fish and wildlife must be conserved to maintain viable populations and diversity. Invasive plants such as yellow star thistle, cheatgrass, and other noxious weeds need to be controlled. Man-made water sources may be needed in areas where natural water sources have dried up. These all are issues sportsmen-women conservationists and environmental groups are discussing right now. There are as lot of good people in Arizona who can contribute to this discussion – hunters, anglers, farmers, ranchers, public land managers, state wildlife officials, land trust officials, environmentalists, and many more. We must come together for a discussion about the best ways to keep our wildlands healthy and to conserve and support habitats that are resilient to warming temperatures.

While current federal efforts to conserve fish and wildlife through annual appropriations for State Wildlife Grants are having dramatic results, they will not be enough for what is needed for helping wildlife survive and adapt to climate change. The Arizona Wildlife Federation has been an active member of the "Teaming With Wildlife" program, partnering with other groups and the Arizona Game & Fish Department  
*(Continued on page 21)*





# Historical Tales

REPRINTED FROM AGPA'S  
ARIZONA WILDLIFE SPORTSMAN September 1950

## Why -- Game Management?

Reproduced by Ryna Rock

Here in the west we are fortunate in that interest in a sound conservation program developed before the resources were completely exhausted. This has not been the case in some states and has resulted in large expenditures for restoration and habitat improvement. There are still many problems facing us, however, if we are going to maintain hunting and fishing possibilities for the future.

One of the most important factors which must be considered in building a sound wildlife program is that the human population of the country is continually increasing; and as the human population increases their demands on the soil, forests, and water for economic purposes increase.

**It is evident to all of us that the more people we crowd onto the land, the less room there will be for wildlife. A given piece of land will support only so much life.**

Another factor of considerable importance to those interested in this resource is the constantly increasing number of license buyers. The number of people participating in this activity has doubled in the last ten years. This means that even if the supply remained constant, the amount of fish and game available for each license buyer would only be half of what it was in 1938.

The third important factor is that wildlife managers are dealing with a living resource. Birds, mammals and fish all have mobility and freedom of action. They do not necessarily follow human ideas of what is good for them. They can only be increased above present numbers by better protection of breeding stocks and improvement of habitat for the entire season. To the

extent that man destroys living quarters, wildlife will decrease, no matter how much money is spent or how much talk is indulged in by interested groups. Resolutions will not produce wildlife on the pavement of city streets or a super highway stretching from coast to coast. Many groups have been of the opinion that increased artificial propagation and more intense control of predators was the answer. Their methods under particular conditions may be of some value but they fail completely in meeting the problems caused by increasing land use.

**The first requisite to securing good management is to get and keep good men to run the program.**

The life of the average game administrator is less than that of governors or other elective officials. Game department funds have been used in some states to build partisan or personal political machines and that has resulted in incompetent men being appointed in some cases and the discharge of trained, experienced personnel.

There is much talk about taking conservation out of politics, which is a little confusing. Conservation will never be out of politics as long as America has a democratic form of government. Differences over the relative values of ideas are bound to occur and this is politics of one kind that will always be present. There is, however, no excuse to continue to use wildlife funds and wildlife administration for building partisan or personal political machines.

**Adequate authority is also a necessary requisite of sound administration.**

It is not possible for a legislature to

make the regulation on an annual or a two-year basis and meet the constantly shifting factors that affect, adversely or otherwise, wildlife populations. An adequate long time program should be planned and carried out as fast as income will permit. Once established, the program should not be changed to meet suddenly developed demands of local sportsmen's groups. The program should be sold to those groups—with the implication that it will not be changed except as new information makes it advantageous to do so.

One of the biggest handicaps in carrying on sound projects is the feeling of many sportsmen's organizations that something should be done each year for their locality. That something is too often a waste of funds unless the group's leadership is unusually intelligent.

Another important essential is **continuity of employment**. At present, states that provide continuity of employment and the federal services have a strong tendency to continually drain the best-trained and most experienced men from those which do not. Such states act as training schools to the advantage of others which are wiser and more far-sighted.

In addition to these essentials of good management there is one more and that is **intelligent public support**. Sportsmen's pressure groups have been responsible for much good and much bad administration. Sportsmen's groups by organizing pressures to secure unwise privileges and by causing the unsound expenditure of funds have been responsible for an appalling waste of funds.

*(Continued on page 18)*



By John Underwood



## Streams and Game Trails

### Salt River Lakes Get Slot Limits for 2 Years

Anglers enjoying the popular Salt River chain of lakes may want to keep a ruler handy starting in January 2009 when Arizona's new fishing regulations go into effect. The Arizona Game and Fish Commission voted on October 11 to create slot limits at Saguaro, Canyon and Apache lakes just like the one already in place on Roosevelt Lake in an effort to give these popular fisheries another nudge down the comeback trail after being blitzed by golden algae blooms in recent years.

The Game and Fish Commission adopts the fishing regulations for a two-year period. For 2009 through 2010, the whole Salt River chain of lakes (Roosevelt, Apache, Canyon, and Saguaro) will have a 13 to 16 inch protective slot limit, with anglers being allowed to keep one slot-sized bass. These slot limits will automatically sunset after two years (the slot limit and newly added one fish possession provision at Roosevelt Lake does not sunset).

### Wildlife Watching

Wildlife watching is the fastest growing recreational activity in the world. In the U.S., wildlife watching generates more than \$45 billion a year. Roughly one out of three Americans 16 years of age and older, or 71 million, participated in wildlife watching in 2006. Expenditures on wildlife watching are equivalent to the amount of revenue from all spectator sports (football, baseball, and other sports), all amusement parks and arcades, casinos (except casino hotels), bowling cen-

ters, and skiing facilities.

### Theodore Roosevelt

With the election of a new U.S. President, America's hunters need little reminder there will never be another like Theodore Roosevelt. During his career, T.R.: Oct. 27, 2008. (This date marks the sesquicentennial of Theodore Roosevelt's birth!)

Founded the Boone & Crockett Club.  
Doubled the size of the national park system.  
Provided federal protection for almost 230 million acres—a land area equivalent to all the East coast states from Maine to Florida.

Wrote books such as *Hunting Trips of a Ranchman*.

Was renowned as a naturalist and world authority on large North American mammals. He led prominent scientific expeditions in South America and Africa—both included ample hunting.

Raised all of his children with a respect for hunting and conservation.

Honor Theodore Roosevelt and the heritage of hunting and conservation that's still treasured today by learning more about the accomplishments and philosophies of one of America's greatest presidents!

### More Quail

Quail hunters are finding plenty of young birds in their harvest, according to Arizona Game and Fish biologists. Nearly 80 percent of the birds checked by hunters over the October 4-5 opening weekend were juveniles.

Gambel's quail harvest results, collect-

ed at two of the Arizona Game and Fish Department's check stations, reflect improved bird populations this hunting season compared to last year. Data collected at the Freeman Road check station, near Florence, and the Willow Springs Road check station, near Oracle, show the total number of birds reported was up 75 percent from last year's results (492 total birds versus 276). Biologists calculate that hunters harvested 1.9 birds per hour on average compared to the 1.2 birds an hour last year.

### All-In-One GLOCK Tool

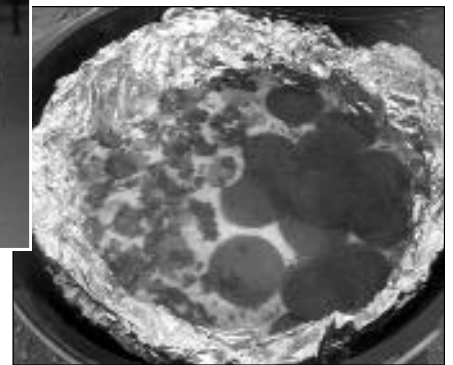
Brownells announces its Gun-Specific Driver Set for Glock®. While few tools are needed to maintain the Glock pistol, there are tools that make the job easier. You get a nut driver for the front sight nut, a punch for the frame pins, one to help with magazine disassembly, a flat blade to push the mag catch spring aside and two Allen bits for various adjustable rear sights. All the "bits" fit into the full-size, hollow handle, with a short shank, to keep you close to the work for maximum control.

### Last but not Least

As the year comes to a close, let us all remember to include the youngsters in our outdoor plans. With Christmas just around the corner, now is a good time to stock up on camping, fishing, hunting and hiking gear with the intentions of getting those most precious to you, the young folks, ready for outdoor adventures. You will experience the thrill of a lifetime. Until next time, Be Safe and Enjoy Arizona's Great Outdoors.

# Passing it On!

By Holly Dickenson



**W**e all looked intently at our GPS units. The arrow showed that we were right on top of the cache (treasure)! Our faces were filled with excitement as we stopped looking at our units and started looking in all the cracks and crevices we could find. We looked on the ground, above us around the railing, and everywhere close to us within a couple of arms length. We knew we were close to the treasure. Now we just had to find the hiding spot. We looked around to make sure other people weren't watching us. We wouldn't want to give away the hiding place. We noticed a little boy watching us as he wondered what we were doing. So we tried to be discrete. The excitement ran deep. We refused to stop looking. We were absolutely determined to find this cache!

As we all continued looking in different spots, Katarina yelled out, "I found it!"

We all ran over to her, to see what it was we had been searching for all this time. The owner of the cache had hidden it in a very clever spot. We all jumped up for joy! This was our very first cache ever found together as a group! We were pumped now. The excitement ran through our veins. We signed the miniature log sheet with our geocaching group name and the date. We also wanted a group picture to remember the special moment. We then carefully put the microcache of about 2 inches in size, back into its clever spot.

This was so much fun! We all jumped into the car so

that we could hurry to the next coordinate on our GPS units in order to find another hi-tech treasure. "Follow the compass. It says to go left, no, go right. It must be in that mall parking lot." We hopped out of the car quickly after parking, adrenaline flowing. We split into groups, this time into groups of two. Armella and I, went one way. Katarina and Gloria went another way. Natasha and Chelsea went another way. Only one of us was right, but who? We all thought we were following the compass and coordinates. Eventually we all ended up in the same place.

Just before that, Armella and I ran into a security guard. While trying to explain why we were behind this store and what we were doing there, we had a chance to share our excitement about geocaching. First, we had to explain what it was and how it worked, and then she understood a lot better. She was very impressed and in awe that there was such a thing out there like this. Kindly excusing ourselves, we hurried on our way to follow our arrow closer to the coordinates. Again, our GPS units showed that we were right on top of the cache. So once again we looked in every place that someone could imagine.

Then, as we were all intently searching, we heard another yell from Katarina, "I found it!"

We all went over to her again. We were so excited to see what this cache entailed. This one was bigger. Instead of just a logbook, this one had some little treasures. We looked through all the things and found something we really liked. The rule of geocaching is that if you take something



out of a cache, you put something in to trade. So we put in an item to replace the one we traded. We signed the log-book, took another picture, and carefully put the cache back in its secret hiding place. After that, we stood there and talked about what we had found. It was a profound item; simple, yet profound. Its message spoke volumes. Armella and I used this as a teaching moment. What we had traded from the cache was a flat penny. The penny had been inscribed with these words: "What would you do, if you knew you could not fail?" So we posed the question to each of the girls in the troop. Going around the circle, each of us answered the question from our hearts. It was a moment of introspection.

When we finished sharing our thoughts, we looked at our GPS units for the next set of coordinates. Our adventure continued. Later we logged our cache finds on the geocaching site ([www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com)).

Our day of learning wasn't over yet. We went back to our camp-out location. As I worked on getting the coals all fired up and hot, ready to put under the dutch ovens, the girls worked on the recipes and putting the food into the dutch ovens. We spent the next several hours cooking five delicious dutch oven pizzas and a half-and-half cherry/peach cobbler. We were all amazed at how scrumptious the pizzas turned out. Who would have ever thought you could make pizza in a dutch oven! We were shocked, but elated!

Not only was it a day of adventure with high-tech treasure hunting/geocaching, but also a day of yummy dutch oven cooking. It was amazing that we had so much fun and could be learning at the same time.

The above story is just one example of the many adventures on which I take my Girl Scout troop.

Twice a year, I instruct a course (Outdoor Essentials) at a women's outdoor weekend (BOW). While there, I also


take courses to continually grow in knowledge and growth of the "outdoors". I have made it an essential part of my life to be constantly learning. I do this because I love the outdoors with a passion that most people cannot understand. I love to share that passion with others.

Sharing this knowledge comes in many different forms. The sharing doesn't just happen at BOW weekends, but happens several times a week. As a Girl Scout Leader of many different aged girls and as a Venturing Crew Leader, I love to share my knowledge and passions about life and the outdoors. I love to guide girls towards seeing all the amazing beauties, wonderful opportunities, skills and joys of quality leadership. I like to help them to have their eyes wide open. As a mother of 4, I have also instilled this appreciation of the outdoors in the hearts of my own children.

I love to pass on many other outdoor skills and joys as an archery instructor/trainer, Leave No Trace instructor/trainer, Girl Scout Council Outdoor Trainer and in the past as a Cub Scout Leader, Cub Scout Summer Camp Program Director, Boy Scout National Camp School Trainer and recipient of the special Silver Beaver Award. Although it is fun to work with adults and share my knowledge and passion of these things, my favorite opportunities are in working with kids. It is important to share the things we love and appreciate with those of the future generation. They will more likely take on a love and joy of the outdoors and show more appreciation for it, if we share this knowledge with a passion in our hearts.

My suggestion: **PASS IT ON.** Pass on the passion. Pass on the knowledge. Pass on the appreciation and respect. Pass on the joy and the love you have for nature, for being in the great outdoors. Who is going to care for it in the future? How else can we plant this seed of love and respect in others, unless we **PASS IT ON?**

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



**Bashas'**  
**Thanks**  
**A MILLION**  
**FOR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS**

**WHADDA' YA' KNOW?**  
WHADDA' YA' KNOW?

1. How many life zones exist on the San Francisco Peaks in Northern Arizona?
2. What type of fir tree exists on the San Francisco Peaks that exists in only three places in the world?
3. Who was the first explorer to pass through Oak Creek Canyon, above Sedona?
4. Why is there so many acres of "checkerboard" land in Northern Arizona?
5. In the Southwest, what percentage of threatened and endangered species depend entirely on riparian habitat?
6. Besides providing habitat directly, what other value do intermittent or ephemeral streams have?

(Answers on page )

## BOW DELUXE

# The Sonoran Desert

**A** rizona is blessed with a huge diversity of landscapes or as the biologists say, life zones. One thing for sure, you do not have to be a biologist to appreciate it. From sand dunes to Alpine meadows; Arizona has it all! The venue for the BOW Deluxe is smack dab in the middle of one of our most interesting and unique places, the Sonoran Desert.

Did you know that the Sonoran Desert has more plant and animal types than any other desert in the world? There are more than 2000 plant species, 60 mammals, 350 birds and we haven't even mentioned the herps (snakes and lizards.) It is truly a wondrous place and the more we learn about it, the more fascinating it becomes.

The 2009 BOW Deluxe will be held at Saguaro Lake Ranch. The lodging is B & B style with real sheets and mattresses and two women to a room. The ranch is located on the banks of the Salt River just below Stewart Mountain Dam. The Bulldog Cliffs are the backdrop of this amazingly scenic place.

Like the traditional BOW workshops, we will begin at Friday noon and end on Sunday noon. The dates are February 6-8. This is a great time for outdoor desert activities and a great time to thaw out if you live in the cold climates. This is a smaller workshop, with a maximum of 40 participants.

I am really excited about the wildlife sessions that we are offering. Members of the Phoenix Varmint Callers will take participants out into the desert and set up a stand. Trust me... it is really FUN to 'camo up', go out in the field and make loud weird noises. This will be a photo opportunity. Last year we called up a bobcat!

There will also be a session on hunting desert critters. We will practice glassing techniques and discuss the special ways of desert hunting. You might be surprised to learn how much game lives in our desert.

The Arizona Falconers Association will also be there,

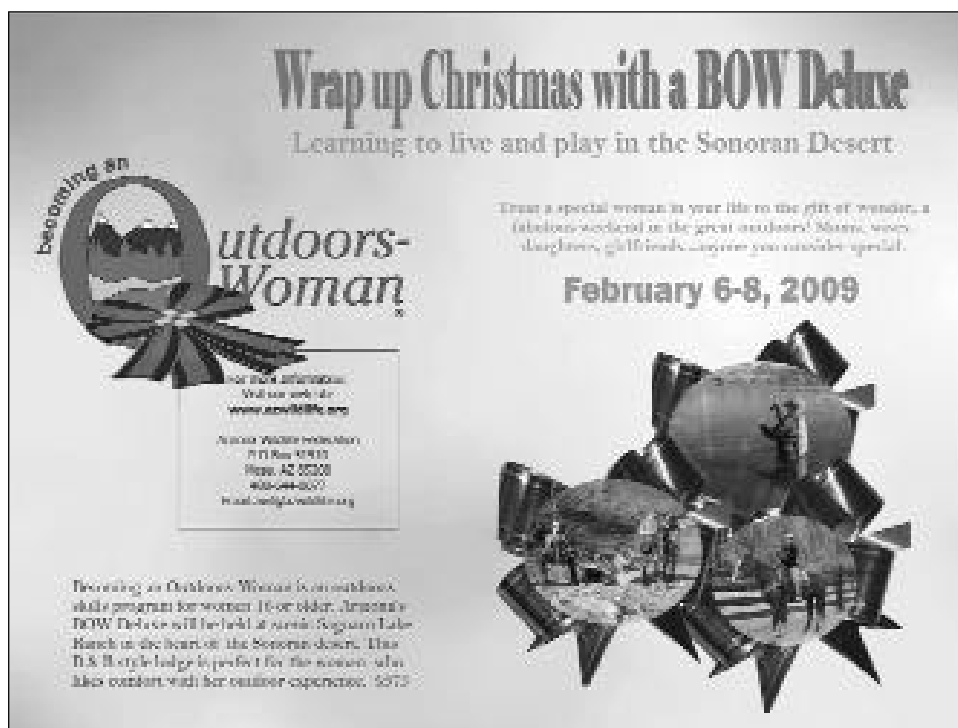
teaching a class on the 'sport of kings'... We have lady falconers lined up to teach this class. This is going to be an ACTUAL HUNT! So, it is not for the squeamish. There will also be an evening presentation from these ladies and their feathered hunting buddies.

If hunting isn't your bag (pun intended). There is lots of other stuff to do. The Sonoran Audubon Society will lead a birding session on Sunday morning. We will have a session on desert survival and another on geocaching. The vistas here scream for an outdoor photography class, which is offered on Friday afternoon. The Dutch oven cooking class will prepare the Saturday evening meal. There will also be archery and a handgun session for you shooters.

I am delighted to have Jean Groen and Don Wells back in 2009. They penned a book titled *Foods of the Superstitions* and have a wonderful session about edible and medicinal desert plants.

With Saguaro Lake and the Salt River so near, we had to have some water-in-the-desert classes. There will be boating and beginning fishing and fly fishing classes.

As always there will be evening activities and a Saturday night fund raiser. I hope to see you there!



**Wrap up Christmas with a BOW Deluxe**  
Learning to live and play in the Sonoran Desert

Wrap a special woman in your life in the gift of wonder, a fabulous weekend in the great outdoors! Make, wine, laugh, love, gift friends... anyone you consider special.

**February 6-8, 2009**

**becoming an outdoors-Woman**

For more information:  
Visit our website:  
[www.bowdeluxe.org](http://www.bowdeluxe.org)

Arizona Wildlife Institute  
P.O. Box 47410  
Phoenix, AZ 85060  
480-944-8377  
[info@awilife.org](mailto:info@awilife.org)

Becoming an Outdoors-Woman is an outdoor, wildlife program for women 16 or older. Arizona's BOW Deluxe will be held at scenic Saguaro Lake Ranch in the heart of the Sonoran desert. This B & B lodge is perfect for the woman who likes comfort with her outdoor experience. 5875



## The Navajo County Natural Resource Conservation District by Ty Rock

**The preceding Arizona Wildlife News magazine dealt with the first Arizona Association Conservation District (AACD) to be formed – the Verde Natural Resource Conservation District (NRCD). As reported, it was established in December of 1941 and remains one of the most active, dedicated and goal-oriented NRCD organizations in Arizona. 1941 seems like a very long time ago and from that perspective, the Verde NRCD would probably be considered the grandfather of the Arizona conservation movement; however, if that is so, then the Navajo NRCD would be considered one of its siblings!**

Organized in 1942 and headquartered in Holbrook, the Navajo NRCD encompasses a huge portion of Arizona including 2,179,979 acres of private and public lands in Navajo County. Agricultural use of these lands is divided into several categories including irrigated cropland (7,500 AC), irrigated pasture/hay land (3,500 AC), nonfederal rangeland (1,334,263 AC) and nonfederal woodland (78,000 AC). Currently, the district numbers approximately 112 cooperators covering a broad spectrum of individuals, including homeowners with residential lots, farmers, ranchers, irrigation districts, municipal water districts, schools and livestock producers.

The Navajo NRCD maintains viable partnerships with a wide variety of organizations which includes the USDA-Forest Service, Arizona State Land Department, Arizona Game & Fish Department, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Little Colorado River Plateau

Resource Conservation and Development Council, Little Colorado River Multi-Objective Management Group, Silver Creek Watershed, Navajo County Board of Supervisors, Arizona Association of Conservation Districts and the National Association of Conservation Districts. Wow! This is an organizational list that would daunt even the current president of the AWF, who may not even be aware of a few of these organizations!

The accomplishments of the “Navajo” are also commendable, a partial tally of these achievements includes the following: sponsoring of the Navajo NRCD Education Center; pasture and cropland improvement programs; conservation of groundwater resources through efficient application of irrigation water; planting of “cover” crops (winter wheat) to reduce the invasion of noxious and invasive weeds; conservation planting assistance to reduce soil erosion; convening local workshops to further the implementation of the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) and the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP); following the devastating Rodeo-Chediski fire, assisting in the disbursement of \$1.3 M in funding, through the Emergency Watershed Protection program (EWP), to those affected by the disaster. Most recently the “Navajo” has held workshops concerning wildlife water catchments, brush management and various grazing programs.

Currently the “Navajo” is negotiating with Apache County & the Hopi Tribe to collaborate in maintaining and staffing a viable NRCD education center. It is felt that this cooperative effort between the participants will more readily serve the various partnerships, citizenry and urban areas without unnecessary duplication.

A historical side note was conveyed to this author by a Navajo County NRCD employee, concerning the passing of Helen Lois Crofford in February of 2007. Ms Crofford was a member of the “Navajo” for over 50 years and was named as the first woman president of the old Arizona Association of Conservation Districts (AACD) – since designated the Arizona Natural Resource Conservation Districts State Association. Phew! A perfect example of one of the adages regarding bureaucracy – “All Constants Are Variable”!

At this time urbanization does not appear to be of great concern in the Navajo NRCD, as it is in the “Verde” NRCD; however other concerns, such as the lingering drought, groundwater recession with declining stream flows, erosion control and soil quality, over-grazing issues, wildlife and aquatic habitat improvement and the stagnant and declining economy will all keep the Navajo NRCD very engaged for the foreseeable future.

(Questions on page 9 )

### **WHADDA' YA' KNOW? Answers**

1. Seven
2. White Cork Bark Fir
3. Antonio de Espejo in 1583
4. To encourage railway construction, Congress offered the railway companies title to alternate sections of land on both sides of the railroad right-of-way, north and south.
5. 70 %
6. Providing an interface between land and water and upstream and downstream habitats for many organisms



# Out Where the Critters Don't Have Shoulders

By Jim Walkington



**S**o, you've moved to the desert to give yourself some elbow room and to get away from the crush of civilization. Or you hike in the desert to commune with nature, or you go hunting with your dog. Congratulations, now you have a new set of problems—the locals.

The locals to which I'm referring are the native animals that inhabit the desert. Many of these critters are poisonous or venomous. What's the difference? Poison is taken in via the mouth or absorbed through the skin. Venom is injected through a stinger or fangs.

For example, some toads are poisonous. They release a poisonous secretion from their skin when mouthed or grabbed by a predator, or your dog. Rattlesnakes are venomous; they inject their venom via hollow, syringe-like fangs.

Of course, not all desert snakes are venomous. Many, like milk snakes, and gopher snakes are harmless. But how do you tell the difference? It depends on the direction the snake is going.

If you see the head of a non-venomous snake it will have a slender spade-like head, while a rattlesnake's head is triangular, like a handmade arrowhead.

The tail end of the rattlesnake is also distinctive. Most rattlesnakes will have rattles (except perhaps baby rattlesnakes that may have only a single button.) Adult rattlesnakes sometimes lose rattles because of predator encounters or the rattles have simply broken off. So don't always count on seeing rattles. Also, don't depend on the snake giving a warning rattle before striking. Rattlesnakes will strike if they feel threatened. The most common rattlesnake in this area, the Western Diamondback, has a series of black and white stripes on the tail, just before the rattle.

It's this black and white pattern that gives the Diamondback its "coontail" nickname.

In the United States, more pets than humans suffer

venomous snakebites. Every year, venomous snakes bite approximately 12,000 dogs, with the highest **fatality** rates occurring in Arizona, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, South Carolina and Texas. In dogs, 70-80 percent of bites happen on the face and head, and 20-30 percent occur on the legs, with only rare cases occurring on the body. Among the venomous U.S. snakes that bite dogs, rattlesnakes top the list at 80 percent.

Dogs are bitten on the face and head because they are curious, but mostly because they are trying to get close enough to smell this strange creature they've discovered.

A rattlesnake bite to a human or a dog is a medical emergency. Take the human victim to an emergency room and the dog to a vet.

Dogs can be effectively trained to avoid rattlesnakes. The process goes by several names: snake proofing, snake breaking, snake training, or snake avoidance training.

There are two schools of thought when training dogs to avoid rattlesnakes. Both versions agree that live rattlesnakes are a must when training dogs to avoid rattlesnakes. Both methods use an electronic collar which delivers a harmless shock to the dog when they approach the live reptile. The difference between the two methods is whether the dog has to actually see the snake on the ground.

When the snake is on the ground, the viper must be rendered harmless by removing the reptile's fangs. Rattlesnake fangs grow back (between one to three weeks they replace lost fangs) so fang removal is an ongoing process for the trainer that puts the snake on the ground. Some trainers actually allow the defanged or muzzled snake to strike the dog then administer the correction via the collar.

The other training method confines the rattlesnakes in a container, a cage for example, then takes the dog downwind of the cage, lets them "find" the snakes, then administers the correction.

Of course, there are variations on these two major themes. But just remember, first and foremost, the trainer has to use live rattlesnakes. Then, if the snakes are on the ground how does the trainer provide for everyone's safety? Both methods of training work if they are done correctly.

Here are the major arguments from both camps.

Snake on the ground: The dog is trained to use his sight, hearing and smell to detect the snake. After training, the dog knows what a snake looks, sounds, and smells like. The dog is worked down wind of the snake so any breeze blows the snake smell in the dogs face. This camp argues that this is the most realistic training method.

Caged Snakes: This group is adamant that the dog doesn't have to see the snake to learn to avoid them. Smell is the dog's highest developed sense. This training method dovetails nicely with the snake's habit of being under cover; behind a rock, under a bush and not usually lying out in the open. The dog learns immediately what rattlesnakes smell like and to avoid them. And secondly, the dog learns not to expect the snake to be lying out in the open. Of course, during this training, the dog is worked downwind of the snakes. If the snakes rattle from the cage while the dog is investigating them, great, that's gravy on the biscuit. The caged snake contingent argues, "what are you going to do if you're out at night and the dog is dependent on his vision to find

snakes?". Search and rescue groups in Arizona work their dogs at night to avoid the heat because the high temperature dries out the mucous membranes in the dogs nasal cavity reducing their sense of smell. Also, they work at night because it's really, really hot!

Both methods of snake proofing work if done correctly. As a dog owner, do your homework. When you find a trainer who does snake proofing call them and ask questions. If the person seems to resent the questions or seems evasive, find someone else. While the process is not one hundred percent effective—some dogs are bitten even after training—it does work probably in the 99 to 99.5% category.

A trained dog has the odds in his favor of not being bitten. A dog ignorant of rattlesnakes is just skating down the thin edge of luck.

Jim Walkington is the owner/operator of Viper Voidance, a business in New River, Arizona, that trains dogs to avoid rattlesnakes. Walkington keeps his snakes in cages to train the dogs.

## "Ambushed on the Jaguar Trail"

a book by:

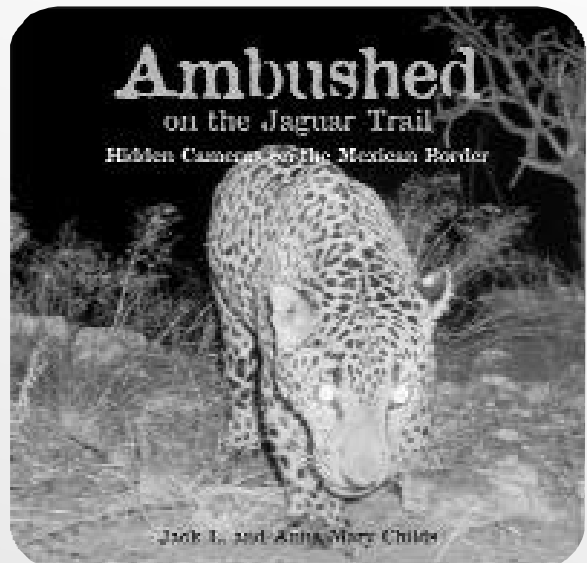
Jack L. and Anna M. Childs  
Rio Nuevo Press, Tucson

Jack and Anna Childs went hunting for the elusive Southwestern jaguar, but what they found was bigger than the rare spotted cat, and even more surprising. Founders of the Borderlands Jaguar Detection Project, the Childs set up "camera traps," or remote-sensor cameras activated by motion and body heat, along the U.S.-Mexico border. They did capture the first live, wild jaguar ever photographed this way in the U.S. Their non-invasive, candid cameras also captured fascinating animal behavior across the entire ecosystem. The jaguar, it seems, is a minor figure in a habitat that supports over 20 other large mammals. Black bears, mountain lions, bobcats, javelinas, coyotes, and human beings were also caught in behavior and misbehavior that are characteristic to their species. The book contains over 130 photographs and 151 pages.

To order go to: Treasure Chest Books website ([www.treasurechestbooks.com](http://www.treasurechestbooks.com)) and receive a 20 % discount (\$15.96) or order by phone @ 1-800-969-9558 and pay full price of \$19.95.

On the web, click on "place order here for 20 % discount". Type the word "jaguar" in the search box in the upper left hand corner. *Ambushed on the Jaguar Trail* will come up. Enter the number of copies, click buy and check out. Enter your email address and create a 6-digit password. Click next and fill out billing and credit card information.

Editor note: *Jack and Anna Childs, were guest speakers at the 2006 AWF annual meeting where he gave a presentation "On The Trail of The Jaguar." He is author of the book "Tracking The Fields of The Borderlands." Mr. Childs is recognized as an expert on the Jaguar.*



# Whose Public Land Is It?

*This is the second of a two-part series on public lands access in Arizona.*

by Larry Audsley

*This is the second of a two-part series on declining access to public lands in Arizona. Part One described the growing practice of private landowners locking gates on traditional access routes to public land and, in some cases, charging the public fees to cross their property en route to public land. Many of the roads now closed were open to the public for decades and were maintained with county funds. Some landowners use their control of access to convert public lands to their own private use by granting access only to family, friends or professional hunting guides with whom they have contracted. In southern Arizona, major portions of public lands, including most or all of some entire mountain ranges, are currently inaccessible to the general public. Two thirds of Coronado National Forest's motorized entry points can be legally reached only with the permission of private landowners. Access to BLM lands is in similar shape.*

Public lands belong to all of us. When private parties have the ability to restrict access to public lands, they hold the key to privatizing public lands and even privatizing wildlife.

Loss of access to portions of public lands results in concentrating public visitation in the remaining areas where there is still access. This results in more intensive use of the accessible areas, which in turn leads to overcrowding and requires more intensive regulation. Many may feel the quality of the outdoor experience is diminished by crowded conditions and may stop visiting and supporting public lands altogether.

Some may believe our public lands would be better off without the public. But that belief assumes the public will continue to support maintaining large tracts of public lands as an abstract idea. Future support for retention of public lands may require the public's continued ability to visit and enjoy these lands in person. Separating people from public lands could lead to growing acceptance of proposals to put public lands to other uses.

The growing crisis over public lands access in the West reflects issue neglect by both the public and the various governmental bodies, and power struggles between private and public interests. This article looks at the key players and what can be done to improve access.

## THE PLAYERS

### Federal Lands Agencies

Federal agencies such as the US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife, National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management hold our public lands in trust for all of us and for future generations. As trustees, they have a duty to ensure that use of our public lands is not taken away from us for the benefit of a few. These agencies recognize this duty and are generally supportive of public access to the lands they manage.

Although state and local governments, not Federal lands agencies, have responsibility for roads outside the boundaries of Federal lands, Federal lands agencies have many good reasons to support public access to their boundaries.

The Forest Service and BLM are mandated by Congress to manage for multiple use. Principal uses include timber, minerals, recreation, grazing and watershed. Allowing a single use, such as grazing, to suppress other uses such as recreation, would be contrary to their mission.

Federal agencies developing land management plans should be concerned about lack of permanent legal access to their boundaries. How can an agency claim to have a valid plan for land uses or travel management when access to major portions, and to any approved road system, depends on entry points that could disappear at a landowner's whim?

Any time Federal lands become completely landlocked by private lands, roads on Federal property essentially become private roads. How can the Federal government justify maintaining roads that benefit only a select few?

Lack of access to Federal lands can create de facto roadless areas. And while the land agencies may accept that roadless areas are a legitimate part of the Federal lands system, there is an established process for defining and approving their location. Roadlessness by obsolescence is not part of that process.

Furthermore, access to wilderness areas is lost whenever cherry-stemmed roads (roads purposefully left outside wilderness boundaries) are made obsolete by private road closures outside the Federal land boundary. This introduces another burden for responsible planning for wilderness areas.

Cowboy Bob's National Forest Entrance

Daily Rates

Hunters \$50

Hikers and Birdwatchers \$25

Campers \$100

Ladies half price on Tuesdays

Since the Federal government has the power of eminent domain, the Forest Service or BLM could assert ownership over a private stretch of road, paying landowners prices deemed fair and reasonable through an orderly legal process. But for various reasons, Federal land agencies are reluctant to use this tool. Executive branch agencies are not typically activist in nature and fare best when they stay well within the mandates given them by Congress and the courts. Absent any clear legal mandate to provide access to their boundaries, Federal land agencies are unlikely ever to undertake the expensive and politically painful process of condemning and seizing private property for the public good. And even if they were willing, they don't presently have the funding to purchase even a fraction of the rights-of-way needed.

Despite the growing seriousness of limited access to their boundaries, neither the BLM nor the US Forest Service has pressed hard for a solution at the national level, and it's unlikely they ever will without prodding from the outside. Federal agencies are the public's allies in the fight for public access, but don't expect them to lead the fight. They are responsible for offering a public lands program, but they aren't responsible for getting us there.

### State Land Department

Access to state trust lands is important in two ways. First, the public may wish to go *on* state trust lands for recreation. Second, the public often needs to go *across* state trust lands in order to reach Federal lands. Both issues can be problematic.

Most Arizonans think of state trust lands as public lands, but the State Land Department's interpretation of its mission holds otherwise. SLD's website page for recreation states unequivocally that "State Trust Land is not public land!"

The State Land Department manages state trust land with a single-mindedness not unlike private business. SLD doesn't mind cooperating with other agencies, but its first obligation is to the financial interests of the trust and its beneficiaries, chiefly K-12 education. SLD is not inherently opposed to recreation as long as it doesn't damage natural resources or diminish the land's capacity to generate revenue. Public access requires the purchase of a recreation permit at \$50 annually for individuals



and \$75 for families. Hunters and anglers with valid state licenses may actively pursue fish and game without purchasing a separate permit. But even licensed hunters and anglers need a separate recreation permit to camp or hike on state trust land any time they are not actively hunting or fishing.

State trust land generates most of its income from grazing fees and from being sold for development. In its grazing leases, SLD authorizes ranchers "to use means which are reasonable and which do not result in a breach of the peace" to protect the land against waste, damage and trespass. Although ranchers may confront and question people as to whether they have the proper licenses or permits and even ask unauthorized or misbehaving individuals to leave, grazing lessees are prohibited from interfering with the authorized activities of other licensed or permitted users, which includes hunters and other recreational visitors. But denial of access is the ultimate interference, and lessees are allowed to lock gates on their own private property, even on roads that provide the only access to the state trust land they're leasing.

A few years back there was an effort to pass a law that would require grazing lessees on state trust land to grant public access across the lessee's private property as a condition of the lease. That effort failed to get through the legislature.

Closure of a road that is on state trust lands is sometimes sought to protect resources. G&F Regulation R12-4-110 prescribes the process for approving closures. Private individuals who lock gates on state trust land, not their private property, without prior approval will be challenged by Game & Fish and SLD, and can even be prosecuted for persistent unauthorized closures. But the process is slow moving, and landowners have been known to illegally lock gates at the start of deer season and keep them locked until the season ends, while the process plays out in an exchange of correspondence and threats. It is illegal for private individuals or Game & Fish to cut someone's private padlock, even for an unauthorized closure.

Arizona Game & Fish often finds it necessary to ask SLD for permission to construct alternate roads across state trust lands in order to get around private property blocking access to the state and Federal lands beyond. SLD has granted many requests for alternate roads, but not all. Characteristically, SLD considers these requests strictly in terms of its revenue impacts on the trust. SLD also tends to insist on road designs that exceed what is needed for recreational access in order to increase trust land values. This creates added expense for the Heritage and Game & Fish funds.

With more than nine million acres at its disposal, some may wonder why can't our

State Land Department be a little more generous about sharing trust land with the public while it waits for the bulldozer. Arizona has one of the most restrictive trust requirements in the nation, which makes generosity for non-trust purposes difficult and legally risky. There have been lawsuits over this issue, and lately the State Land Department has been taking a strict-constructionist approach to its mission as defined in Arizona's constitution.

Arizona's State Land Department may acquiesce to specific requests for cooperation with other agencies on public access, but it does not actively advocate for access either to state trust lands or to contiguous Federal public lands.

#### **Arizona Game & Fish Department**

Of all the government agencies, Game & Fish is by far the most active advocate of access to public lands.

G & F monitors the status of public lands access at the various entry points and tries to resolve closures on a case-by-case basis. Citizens, including non-hunters, who find their access to public lands blocked can usually get a status as well as advice on alternative routes by calling Game and Fish.

G & F uses Heritage funds and its own G & F funds to purchase right-of-way across private and state trust land. But unlike the Federal land agencies, G & F has no legal authority to exercise eminent domain. G & F can only build alternate roads where landowners are willing to grant or sell right-of-way.

Game & Fish offers landowners and grazing leaseholders incentives for allowing access across private land. Incentives can be money, technical assistance, environmental approvals, labor and materials for projects benefiting both livestock and wildlife, and cooperation with landowners in controlling nuisance wildlife. By allowing the public to cross their private land, ranchers can get help building or maintaining water sources, brush control, grassland re-seeding, fencing and other rangeland and habitat work. Hundreds of thousands of dollars and considerable man-hours are spent each year for projects that benefit ranchers as well as wildlife. But to take advantage of these programs, landowners must allow access.

G & F also tries to minimize landowner complaints about vandalism and resource damage. The agency furnishes signage and kiosks with sign-in/sign-out sheets at entry points. Hunter education classes stress sportsman respect for property and habitat. In the interest of maintaining good relations, wildlife managers frequently find volunteer organizations to reimburse ranchers for damages to property or livestock, even in cases where it is deemed unlikely the damage was caused by hunters. G & F's landowner/lessee relations committee, which includes a G & F commissioner

and representatives for sportsmen, land agencies and ranchers, meets several times a year. At one of the meetings, a commissioner even suggested discussing trespass fees for private landowners, but this didn't seem to go anywhere.

Overall, G & F has pursued nearly every means possible to maximize public access to public lands. Yet each year, fewer temporary easements are being renewed and more gates are being locked.

#### **Ranchers**

The public's view of a grazing permittee's relationship to public lands may often be somewhat at odds with the permittee's view. Although a grazing permit is technically and legally a privilege, revocable by the issuing agency at any time, many ranchers have come to view it as a right, and to perceive certain rights of ownership pertaining to leased land. Many live on private parcels adjoining leased public land, and often their families have ranched those same lands for generations. They have come to see the leased public lands as part of their ranch, which in a certain sense is correct.

While grazing permits might only be a privilege and theoretically temporary at that, Federal lands agencies have been so willing to perpetuate leases that banks will loan money based on anticipated future earnings from the lease. And when a rancher dies, the IRS assigns a value to his Federal grazing lease and taxes the rancher's estate accordingly.

Although most ranching infrastructure on Federal land belongs to the land agency, ranchers sometimes own portable equipment such as generators or solar pumps that can be damaged or stolen. And even if the government owns the fence, it's the rancher's cows that get out on the highway when someone cuts it.

During hunting season, ranchers will see and hear people coming and going at all hours. The ranch dogs will bark at every deer hunter that passes through on his way to camp long after most have gone to bed. As the hunting season progresses, ranchers will see more and more evidence that the land has been shared with the public. Roads that were driven on while wet will be rutted, and a few campsites will be left messy. Occasionally someone will shoot a hole through a metal stock tank, or even a cow.

But this is all part of public lands ranching. The public lands surrounding a rancher's deeded property is what the ranch's original owners, perhaps the rancher's own ancestors, chose not to buy when they homesteaded. The rancher pays a grazing fee for the right to graze livestock, but he does not own it. He does not pay property tax on it.

Anti-grazing activists like to point out that grazing fees on public lands are signifi-

cantly lower than on comparable private lands. This comparison is unfair because public lands grazing leases should be cheaper for many reasons. One of the reasons is that public lands ranchers have to share their leased land with the public.

Most of the problems ranchers complain about are not new. There was always some level of misbehavior on public ranchlands, and there have always been a few locked gates. So why are so many gates suddenly being closed now?

Ranchers have cited Arizona's increasing population, which has tripled in the last thirty years. But the number of hunters has not tripled. Deer tag numbers are just a little more than a third of what they were twenty-five years ago. Most authorities agree that participation in outdoor recreation is declining in favor of other activities. Although the many people still visit the outdoors for recreation, their numbers have not grown as fast as ranchers' lack of tolerance for them.

ATVs are often mentioned. These didn't exist prior to the 1990s. But if it's ATVs that are making life hell for ranchers, one would have expected the Arizona Cattlegrowers Association to support recent legislation providing for education, licensing and enforcement associated with ATV use. They did not. And if ATVs were really the big problem, ranchers could still non-ATV users instead of denying access to everyone.

The complaint that probably receives the most sympathy from hunters is increased border traffic. Hunters are keenly aware of the litter and general lack of security wherever thousands of desperate people trudge through week after week. But if the problem is border traffic, why are so many gates being locked in places like Graham County, which is neither near the border nor on any principal migration route for undocumented aliens? And why is there a concurrent public outcry over locked gates in states like Montana, Wyoming and Idaho?

Another issue is control over land that some ranchers have worked all their lives on a daily basis. And then there's money.

Those in the business say ranching profits are thin. Casual observance of ranchers' homes and lifestyles seems to lend credibility to this claim. Most ranchers seem to just be getting by like average folks. There are ranchers who became wealthy from previous pursuits, but most indications suggest that public lands ranching is probably better suited for squandering fortunes than generating them.

The U.S. Farm Bureau urges ranchers to supplement their income by taking up "ranching for wildlife." In states where private ranches hold vast amounts of high-quality wildlife habitat, private landowners have been able to negotiate "landowner tags" from state wildlife agencies. An owner of a million acres of elk habitat can offer limited access and hunting opportunities to the

general public in exchange for elk tags that can be sold at high prices on a national market.

But in Arizona, as in most states, wildlife by law belongs to the people of the state. Private individuals with grazing permits do not own the wildlife any more than they own the timber, minerals or other assets they have not paid for. Even if Game & Fish commissioners were so inclined, they are not free to hand out big game tags without receiving in return something that benefits the people and wildlife of Arizona.

Despite years of effort, Arizona ranchers have been unsuccessful in getting "ranching for wildlife" going here. A key obstacle is inadequate private acreage with high-value game species. Without the leverage of vast private land hunting opportunities, the state has little incentive or justification to bestow gifts of big game tags on private landowners.

But even though Arizona's ranchers don't own many huge tracts of wildlife-rich private land, lately they've been showing off their ability to control hunting on large portions of public land by controlling access. Perhaps some believe this might provide them the leverage needed for landowner tags.

#### **State Legislature.**

Ranching and property interests have historically done very well in interest group competition at the legislature. Sportsmen and other public lands clientele are not as well organized or influential. Barring an explosion of public outrage over access, it is unlikely Arizona's legislature will soon be wanting to challenge property rights or spend tax revenues for that purpose. However, the legislature could be helpful attacking some of the narrower aspects of the problem such as maintenance of historic access to important sites, and perhaps penalties for landowners illegally locking gates on state trust land.

#### **County Boards of Supervisors**

Having authority over rural roads, county governing bodies have a wide range of tools for securing permanent public access, including eminent domain. Moreover, it is their responsibility to ensure that citizens have reasonable access to important destinations. But county governments have many disincentives for the exercise of that authority.

One disincentive is cost. Acquiring a roadbed via eminent domain is expensive. Most counties simply do not have the money to go around buying up rights-of-way, especially through adversarial proceedings. Then there's road maintenance expense. Many of the traditional public lands access routes were historically maintained at county taxpayer expense, including the portions crossing private land. This was considered legal and accepted as long as the landowner was allowing the public to use the road.

But once a landowner denies the public use of a section of road, the landowner becomes responsible for the cost of maintaining that section, thus relieving counties of some maintenance costs as well as liability.

There are political disincentives as well. Depending on the case, keeping a historically public road open may or may not be perceived as serving the local constituency. Many locals may be able to obtain access from private landowners. Access for non-local members of the public doesn't have much support in rural areas.

Many county supervisors may themselves own land that blocks access to public lands, or have friends or relatives who do. Certainly all county supervisors have locally powerful constituents who relish the opportunity to control access to public lands. Elected officials in rural areas might very well lose votes by supporting "shared access."

On legal matters, county supervisors generally follow the advice of the county attorney, who is also an elected official and shares the supervisors' concerns with constituent sentiment. The taking of private property is politically sensitive and is typically approached very cautiously by elected officials.

Most property condemnations by Arizona counties involving roads are for development purposes. County road condemnations aimed at maintaining public recreation opportunities on public lands are virtually unknown.

But despite all these disincentives, county governments can also be the heroes who preserve access when no one else can. For one thing, county officials are among the few having authority to invoke Federal Reserve Statute 2477 for roads that qualify, if and when they choose to do so.

RS 2477 sends shivers down the spines of many environmentalists because it has been used as a weapon against Federal land agencies intent on limiting motorized travel. But like all weapons, RS 2477 is no better or worse than the intentions of the persons using it. Some applications can restore or maintain critical access routes. Only state or local transportation authorities have the power to invoke it.

Under RS 2477, any road or path across public domain before private land was patented under the Homestead Act is considered a public road, and remains a public road even after homesteading. That would include roads leading to frontier forts, mining claims or old timber camps, many of which were traveled to prior to homesteading. If a road is shown on an original survey plat, and if the survey plat pre-dates the homesteading of the land that road crossed, the land may very well qualify for RS 2477. All that remains is finding a county board of supervisors willing to declare it as such. Some Arizona counties have

already made RS 2477 declarations.

### **The Public**

The public lands we have today grew chiefly from the American conservation movement of Theodore Roosevelt's era and shortly afterward. Since that time there has been considerable dialogue and legislation addressing how we should manage our public lands and wildlife, but very little discussion about maintaining the public's access. Aside from occasional land swap controversies or think tank proposals for privatizing public lands, the public seems to take for granted its permanent ownership of the national commons. In the meantime, private interests are quietly making inroads against that ownership by reducing a fundamental ownership right: the right of access.

Unlike gun rights or the environment, there are no national organizations devoted exclusively to maintaining public lands access. Instead there are only a few groups focused on specific places or jurisdictions. (Two of special note are the Montana Public Land/Water Access Assoc. [www.plwa.org](http://www.plwa.org) and the Public Lands Foundation [www.publicland.org/](http://www.publicland.org/). The latter group focuses on BLM lands only and its mission is broader than just access. Both websites provide valuable information and insights.)

Individual sportsmen, sportsmen's conservation groups and others engaged in outdoor pursuits frequently encounter access problems, but resolving access issues isn't their core concern. For them, an access problem is usually treated as an immediate obstacle to be circumvented as quickly as possible in order to resume pursuit of the original objective.

Shared access among all users needs to become a focus of our national conservation dialogue. So far that isn't happening. The public seems to be in the early stages of awakening to the problem and is probably still expecting that someone else, perhaps someone in government, will handle it. But as we've seen, our various governmental bodies and agencies tend to lack either the will or the ability to do so effectively.

The forefathers of America's conservation movement nobly attempted to bequeath a natural treasure to future generations of Americans. Unfortunately, they couldn't stick around to make sure we hung on to our inheritance. That part is up to us.

### **SOLUTIONS**

Public lands access needs to be addressed both on the ground and as public policy.

At the local level, every conservation or outdoor recreation group should have one person assigned to keep track of the entry points to state and Federal lands within their area of interest. Both new and existing access blockages should be investigated.

There are several tools available to access advocates. Unfortunately, most require research that can be time-consum-

ing. A call to the regional Game & Fish office, or to the responsible land management agency such as the Forest Service, BLM or State Land Department, can usually get you started by telling you who is blocking access and why. But getting something done about it will be largely up to you and whichever public authority you can persuade to take up your cause.

As stated earlier, county officials have the authority to invoke RS 2477. You will probably have to do your own road research including locating the original survey plat and homestead records of any properties in question. County recorders' offices should provide you access to sources of this information.

Access advocates need to be vigilant to changes in land ownership and rezonings. Whenever a ranch is sold, access policy may change. This is especially true of land being sub-divided for residential development. Citizens should appeal to rezoning authorities early in the process to ensure that continued public access to adjacent public lands is required in the developer's plan. Since sub-dividers typically do not care to provide public access, a group appearance to a county supervisors meeting may be necessary.

Counties must go through a formal legal process, including public notice, in order to abandon county roads they no longer wish to maintain or assume responsibility for. This provides another opportunity for citizens to be heard on access needs.

Vigilance and a willingness to speak up is a vital component of democracy. Sometimes our appointed and elected officials commit harmful acts, or neglect to perform beneficial acts, simply because the public slept through an event and didn't make known its needs.

On a broader scale, access advocates need to expand public awareness of access as a growing and important problem. In public meetings with the Forest Service and BLM, the public needs to insist that all land use and travel management plans specifically address the points of entry that have assured access, and that all plans include contingencies for future access losses.

At the Federal level, both the Forest Service and BLM should elevate the discussion to Congress and push back against demands to deliver land use or travel management plans based on speculative assumptions about future access. No responsible private land owner would accept a lack of legal access to his or her property. The public should not be forced to either.

In elevating the issue to Congress, Federal lands agencies should first quantify the problem using an inventory of all access points to their boundaries and classifying the legal access status of each. Neither the Forest Service nor BLM has done this.

The authority with perhaps the greatest

potential to improve access is Congress. The Federal government has both the legal authority and the fiscal capacity to do the heavy lifting that may be required for the most difficult cases. A Federal-local partnership wherein the Federal government would provide the funding needed to purchase rights-of-way in locations deemed necessary by the Federal lands agencies could eliminate most of the problems pertaining to Federal lands. The Federal government could claim the right of way, compensate landowners based on an equitable formula, and then transfer right-of-way ownership and maintenance responsibility to the counties.

But before Congress will take any action, someone has to convince them there's a problem. Except for dueling bills from a couple of New Mexico Congressmen on applying RS 2477, Congress has been ignoring the issue. The Forest Service, BLM and lobbyists for the various sportsmen and conservation groups need to create more awareness inside the Beltway.

At the state level, any future initiatives for state trust land reform should address access to and across state trust land. There is no reason why the people of Arizona should not have reasonable access to most of our state trust land. The State Land Department has been stingy about sharing trust land with the public chiefly because of its narrow constitutional mandate. The State Land Department should also be empowered to work cooperatively and in partnership with our Federal lands agencies toward maintaining access to Federal public lands. At present the State Land Department recognizes no legal obligation to support public access to our Federal public lands.

The state legislature could also lend a hand by making it a crime for anyone to lock a gate on state trust land without prior authorization under R12-4-110. This should put an end to the cat-and-mouse games some landowners have played where locks are put on temporarily and then later removed just in time to avoid repercussions to the landowner.

Finally, the conservation community needs to elevate access to a higher priority. If the present trend continues, conservation activists will gradually cease to know what is really going on behind those gates, and the rest of the public will cease to care.

*For the past several months, Larry Audsley has participated in a committee made up of sportsmen, ranchers, county supervisors and public lands officials devoted to studying public lands access issues. He is also a permanent member of Arizona Public Lands Access Committee, a southern-Arizona based group consisting of hikers, hunters, prospectors, 4-wheelers, equestrians and other outdoor recreationists.*



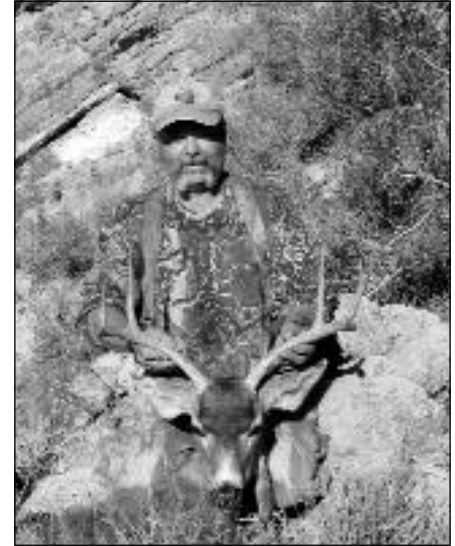


## National Hunting and Fishing Day

The September 27<sup>th</sup> National Hunting and Fishing Day event was held at Sportsman's Warehouse on 27<sup>th</sup> Ave, Phoenix. Volunteers Emily Wunder, Chris Fonoti, and Linda Dightmon represented the AWF by giving information about AWF and the BOW (Becoming an Outdoor Woman) program. Our thanks to Bruce Gibson, manager at the Sportsman's Warehouse for his help and support in location and setting up.



## Members in the Field



Ken Alexander (right) and his hunting buddy Mike with their desert Mule deer. Jimmy Unmacht shows off a Yuma pheasant while mom, Tracy Unmacht, poses with her first elk.

### New Ways to Join

The AWF considering a way for our members to save a little money on membership, have added the following to our membership levels:

3 year individual	\$ 75
3 year Family	\$110
Junior Membership (17 & under)	\$ 15
Distinguished Life Membership (65+ or Disabled Veteran)	\$325



(From Page 6)

It is a curious fact that a businessman or lawyer who would not think of telling their doctor how to treat a sickness will insist that he knows all the answers to wildlife problems simply because he hunts and fishes. There are so many constantly changing factors involved that a person who does not devote constant attention to the problems has almost no chance to correctly solve the problems. None of you would hire a man to build a house and then insist on telling him what tools to use. You would expect him to have intelligence enough to use the

proper tools. You would insist he use sound materials and do good work. Yet many sportsmen will insist upon dictating programs and insist upon prescribing both the program and the tools or methods to be used to accomplish the program.

There are only a limited number of methods that can be employed to influence favorably wildlife populations. The human harvest can be regulated by making and enforcing regulations. Predator control will help when predators are the immediate repressive factor holding down wildlife populations. Good existing habitat can be main-

tained and protected by our efforts. Marshlands can be protected from unwise drainage. Habitat can be improved by fitting wildlife programs into other land uses.

A strong sportsmen's organization with intelligent leadership can be the greatest asset to securing good wildlife administration. We who are interested in maintaining our vital wildlife resources must be constantly alert to prevent those who are not too friendly to the cause from destroying this part of our natural heritage.

# Tom Mackin, New Vice President of Operations



**J**im Unmacht has resigned as V.P. of Operations due to personal obligations. The AWF at the last board meeting in October selected Tom Mackin to fill Jim's vacated position. The board expressed their appreciation for Jim's dedication and support for AWF and the wildlife community at large.

In selecting Tom to fill the V.P. of Operation position, AWF came up with another winner. The Federation is fortunate to have many qualified people on the board and Tom is right there at the top of the list. Congratulations are in order and our thanks for accepting this important position along with all your other duties performed.

Tom Mackin is originally from upstate New York. He now lives in Flagstaff where he has lived for 23 years with his wife Margaret. He is retired from the Coconino Sheriff's Office as technical specialist for their computer and phone systems. He was a member of the Coconino County Search and Rescue for over 10 years.

Tom is a volunteer for the Nature Conservancy in Flagstaff, providing interpretive walks at the Nature Conservancy property on the west side of the San Francisco Peaks. He has been an active member and volunteer for the Arizona Elk Society and RMEF, and is a long time member and officer of the historic Flagstaff sportsmen's group, the Coconino Sportsmen. Over the past twenty years he has held every office on the board of the Coconino Sportsmen, and is currently the Secretary/Treasurer.

For many years he coordinated the Coconino Sportsmen Hunter Education program and is an active hunter education chief-instructor. This year they had the largest group of students ever at just under 130 students.

In the mid to late 1980's Tom served on the board of the AWF for a number of years as the Coconino County Director.

He currently holds the Region 2 Director position, is the chair of the Grants Committee, and is a member of the Habitat, Financial and Conservation Committees. Most recently, Tom headed up the strategic planning effort for the AWF and has compiled the results into a completed document that will be used to determine the future direction of the AWF. He was also instrumental in the accomplishment of Congressional District One's first ever Public Candidate Forum on Natural Resource Issues held in Camp Verde earlier this year.

Tom also serves the Arizona Game & Fish Department as an active member of the Flagstaff/Williams Habitat Partnership Committee. He now represents the AWF on that body. As a member he attends all the Flagstaff/Williams Habitat Partnership Committee meetings (HPC) and State HPC meetings. As part of his duties, he has written and been awarded several HPC grants, primarily for the funding of the maintenance for the Pat Springs pipeline and redevelopments of several wildlife waters around the Flagstaff area.

The Pat Springs pipeline is on the Coconino National Forest, North of the San Francisco Peaks. The pipeline provides water to countless numbers of wildlife including deer, elk, antelope, turkeys, mountain lions, bears, coyotes and many different species of birds. He and his family are currently the main custodians of this pipeline and they alone spend approximately 350 hours annually working on this pipeline. Tom has faithfully worked with the Arizona Game and Fish Department, the Coconino National Forest and the Navajo Tribe on the Pat Springs Pipeline. Worked with, is actually not entirely true. He, his family and members of the Coconino Sportsman Group have done ALL the work. The Game and Fish Dept., Forest Service and the Navajo Tribe have only provided technical support and materials as needed.

Tom was also responsible for initiating and currently maintaining the volunteer agreement between the Coconino Sportsmen and the Coconino National Forest that relates to the work done over the last 16 years on wildlife waters in the Flagstaff area. For the last two years he has been the grant writer and administrator for the AWF on the Anderson Mesa Wetlands Restoration Project, successfully acquiring funding from organizations such as the Arizona Game & Fish Dept. and the National Forest Foundation. He works on an ongoing basis with the wildlife biologists of both the Forest Service and the Game & Fish Dept., and with the AWF's project manager and the fencing contractor on all matters relating to this multi-year project. In August of 2007, Tom was inducted into Arizona's Outdoor Hall of Fame in recognition of his invaluable commitment and service to the wildlife and habitat of Arizona.

Most recently, Tom was appointed to serve on the Heritage Fund Public Advisory Committee, which is an advisory committee to the Arizona Game & Fish Commission. He is also representing the AWF on the Arizona Game & Fish Commission's newly formed Conservation Committee.



## Flashes of angling gold return to Silver Creek

**SHOW LOW** — Flashes of golden Apache trout returning to Silver Creek near Show Low in the White Mountains are a recent harbinger of the great fall-winter trout fishing opportunities anglers can experience in Arizona this year.

"The Arizona Game and Fish Department's catch-and-release Apache trout fishery along Silver Creek near Show Low is certainly a one-of-a-kind winter fishing opportunity you can't find anywhere else. The opening of this fishery each Oct. 1 has become a holiday-like event for dedicated Apache trout anglers," said Fisheries Chief Kirk Young.

However, Young added that most anglers are often amazed at the plethora of unique winter trout fishing opportunities Arizona offers from an improbable desert river fishery near Phoenix and gas-tank-friendly urban waters to a renowned tail-water trout fishery that draws anglers from around the world. There is even a lesser known fun stretch of river within casting distance from major gambling casinos.

"We even stock winter trout in two popular warm water fisheries – Saguaro and Canyon lakes," Young pointed out. "Do you want a fairly solitary winter hiking adventure where you can fish shaded canyon pools for feisty rainbow trout? Just try Beaver Creek or West Clear Creek in the Verde Valley."

But it's tough to top the artificial lure and fly, catch-and-release-only golden trout experience at Silver Creek (barbless hooks only please).

This year, the hard-working Silver Creek Hatchery crew outdid themselves – prior to opening day they stocked a couple of dozen Apache trout tipping the scales at around 3 pounds or so. It was line-stripping fun for anglers on opening morning even before the annual stocking took place later that day.

"It felt like Christmas morning when I was a kid," said one beaming fly angler who had the pleasure of fighting and then landing at least two of the trophy-sized golden beauties.

The early-bird anglers even got another treat at first light – a majestic bull elk was waiting for them as an unofficial greeter at the end of their hike through the dewy grass to the upper pool on the Game and Fish Department's Silver Creek property.

But it wasn't all pure action, fun and golden adventure.

A hard-working crew from Cabela's in Phoenix plunged into the hatchery ponds and helped to net, load, and then distribute the Apache trout and rainbows along this meandering creek barely one puddle-jump away from the Show Low Airport.

"There's no fishery quite like this," said Tim McGough, a Phoenix architect who comes to help out and fish on opening day each year. "This spring-fed creek is fishable all winter long. It's an amazing place to fish."

For those who aren't aware, the native Apache trout is Arizona's state fish. Although it is listed as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act, anglers can fish for it in certain areas, such as Silver Creek, the Little Colorado River in the Greer Valley, plus the East and West Forks of Black River.

In fact, the White Mountains of Arizona is the only place on this blue planet where you can readily angle for pure-strain Apache trout.

Apache trout are also on the brink of making history – they may become the first native fish in the United States to come off the endangered species list, thanks to a model cooperative recovery effort involving the White Mountain Apache Tribe, the Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and a long list of dedicated angling groups.

History notes notwithstanding, the anglers present on opening morning at Silver Creek did have one request – don't tell anyone. Oops, the trout's out of the stocking net as it were. So go catch some golden memories at Silver Creek, Greer or the East and West Forks. Don't forget about the classic Apache trout fisheries on the White Mountain Apache Reservation.

But as the season progresses, snow storms visit and higher elevation lakes ice-up, the spring-fed waters of Silver Creek will still be a viable Apache trout fishery worth experiencing.

This is also the leading edge of the Game and Fish Department's ambitious winter trout stocking program. For a list of what water is stocked when, visit the Game and Fish Department's Web site.

[http://www.azgfd.gov/h\\_f/stocking\\_schedule.shtml](http://www.azgfd.gov/h_f/stocking_schedule.shtml)





## Barbeque Beef and Biscuit Bake

- 3 lbs. coarsely ground beef (chili meat)
- ½ tsp. garlic powder
- 1 c. barbecue sauce
- 1 c. beef broth
- 1 c. ketchup
- 2 c. sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1 (7.5 oz.) package buttermilk biscuits (10 biscuits)

Heat a 12 inch Dutch oven over 9 hot coals. Brown the ground beef. Pour off drippings and add barbecue sauce, ketchup, onion powder, garlic powder, and beef broth. Cook 10 minutes, until steaming. Sprinkle cheese on top and arrange biscuits on top of the cheese. Cover with lid and place 15 hot coals on top. Cook, covered, for 20 minutes, or until biscuits are golden brown and cooked through. Serves 8.

## Campsite Lima Beans

- ½ onion, chopped
- 1 (1 lb.) cans lima beans, drained
- 1 Tbsp. butter or margarine
- 1 small jar diced red pimento
- 1 c. sour cream

Sauté onion in butter. When transparent, add lima beans and heat. When beans are hot, add pimento and sour cream and cook until heated through. Don't boil, as the sour cream will curdle.

## Tasty Campfire Apples in Tin Foil

- 3-4 apples
- 1 stick butter
- 1 c. chopped walnuts
- ½ c. maple syrup

Peel and cut apples into slices taking out the core. Combine the melted butter, maple syrup, and nuts in a bowl. Place a small handful of apples onto a piece of aluminum foil. Top the apples with a large spoonful of the nut mixture. Fold the foil, leaving an opening for ventilation. Place on the campfire and cook 30-40 minutes, or until the apples are soft but not mushy.

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*(From page 5)*

for a number of years to ensure this revenue stream continues.

New sources of funding are needed to put in place conservation and restoration activities essential to battle known and predicted impacts to fish and wildlife from climate change that will protect our valued resources in the future. It is logical that such needs be addressed through a statewide conservation adaptation strategy as part of the WCI. One avenue for these funds to come through would be the auction of "allowances to pollute" that some carbon emitting industries will need to purchase.

Our Governor doesn't have a crystal ball to view the future, but having Arizona participate in the Western Climate Initiative is an important step in the development of a consistent, regional approach to this multi-faceted issue. The WCI is being crafted by seven western states and four Canadian provinces, is based on a combination of approaches to pollution reduction, and incorporates a trading component that will allow for market-based incentives. This in turn will drive new technologies and job creation. At its heart, the WCI is a cap-and-trade system to reduce car-

bon emissions by 15% by 2020. The expectation we can have in all this – imperfection and compromise, but at least a starting point from which to move forward.

Today's meeting and others like it are aimed at "hearing" and considering the needs and views of all stakeholders. The Arizona Wildlife Federation is included in this group. I just checked my watch, and I better get upstairs or I'll miss the meeting. The one sure thing is that there will be many more of this type of meeting. As we proceed, I hope our discussion on the topic will be problem-solving instead of polarizing.

For my parting thought I will step out of my "President of the AWF" role. From my personal perspective, it's a huge gamble to do nothing while we wait for science to be absolutely certain one way or another as to who or what to blame for climate change. It is undeniable that Arizona's climate is changing. We are already "behind the eight ball" on this while we do what humans do, talk, study, plan, develop, take care of legalities, and then, perhaps, implement. I'm unwilling to gamble with the "high stakes" of our outdoor heritage, to me the most vital part of Arizona, and the very foundation of a way of life for most everyone I know.



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

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

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

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

The Arizona Wildlife Federation is:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### NEW MEMBERS

Levi Adamson	Phoenix	AZ
John Baer	Colorado Springs	CO
Chris Bagnoli	Pinetop	AZ
Keith Butler	Mesa	AZ
David Cadwell	Gilbert	AZ
Arnold Cason	Claypool	AZ
Casey Clark	Scottsdale	AZ
Gary Clevenger	Acton	CA
Mike Collins	Phoenix	AZ
Chris Costa	Phoenix	AZ
Emmanuel Diaz	Chandler	AZ
Ron Hermosillo	Costa Mesa	CA
Richard Herrera	Mesa	AZ
John Ho	Queen Creek	AZ
Clayton Hunt	Mesa	AZ
Pat Kingston	Mesa	AZ
Robert LaVoie	Phoenix	AZ
Charlie Molina	Chandler	AZ
Gerry Perry	Oro Valley	AZ
Kyle Schuder	Mesa	AZ
Steve Thompson	Gilbert	AZ
Jeff Welker	Mesa	AZ
Josh Welker	Mesa	AZ

**AWF Members wanting a full copy of Board Minutes, contact Kim at**

**480-644-0077**

**A summary is available at  
[www.azwildlife.org](http://www.azwildlife.org)**



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

## Arizona Wildlife Federation Benefactors

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

Louise Coen	Tucson	Don Gerould	Sun City	Frank Murphy	Mesa	Gene Tolle	Phoenix
Doug Baker	Tucson	Ivy Hanson	Carefree	Emmett Reyman	Mesa	John C. Underwood	Tempe
Milton G Evans	Flagstaff	Frank H Moore	Phoenix	Donald G Roberts	Flagstaff	Patti Ho	Chino Valley



Arizona Wildlife Federation  
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