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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.

The front and back covers are courtesy of Linda Dightmon. These images are of West Clear Creek taken on a beautiful fall day in mid November of 2011.

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President's Corner

By Tom Mackin



It's hard to believe that Summer is probably over and while Valley temperatures will still remain close to triple digits for a while longer, here in Flagstaff we've already received 3-4 inches of "termination dust" on the Peaks. By the time this issue goes to print the beautiful golden aspens will have shed their leaves and another glorious Fall will be quickly heading towards Winter. This Summer and early Fall has been a period of much activity for the AWF and several articles in this issue will highlight some of those activities. Perhaps one of the most important roles we've played this year is the campaign to educate and inform Federal candidates on those issues important to many sportsmen in our state. Our newly elected Legislative Liaison Sarah Luna will discuss this more in her article but with so many positions coming up for election we felt it was really critical to make sure that those representing us in DC for the next several years have a very clear picture of what we feel is important and what we believe they should be doing to protect and conserve our natural resources. We strongly encourage all voters to not only cast their ballots but to also make sure that your vote is going to those who understand and commit to these important responsibilities.

Our September Board meeting was held in the White Mountains, continuing our efforts to meet in different Regions each quarter, with at least part of our goal to remind our Board that we are a statewide organization and while we don't claim to represent all sportsmen on all issues, we do share a concern for all wildlife species and wildlife habitat throughout our state. That being said, our roots that cover almost 90 years have always had a major emphasis on game species and the

same can be said today, hence we try to work very closely with the Arizona Game and Fish Department and Commission, the one agency that's responsible for all wildlife in our state. Through our affiliates we try to solicit feedback and involvement in order to maintain a well balanced approach to management needs and concerns across a wide spectrum of geographic areas and varied wildlife species. We all understand that what's good for one species or group is also very likely to provide benefits to other species. Recent discussions and activities drove home that point when it was pointed out that, "what's good for trout, is good for wildlife and vice versa". If our forests are healthy and our water supplies protected many species benefit and many different recreationists get to enjoy their favorite pastimes.

In closing, I want to thank our members and partners for their support and cooperation. No longer can any one group expect to resolve significant issues without that support and we've been very fortunate to have a high level of cooperation from many different groups and agencies.

ARIZONA WILDLIFE NEWS

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Woody Ridge Wildlife Corridor

By Tom Mackin

Summer 2012

For several years now, the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) has been working with other local partners including the Forest Service, Coconino County and several NGO's to identify important wildlife corridors in the area surrounding Flagstaff. These linkages are important for many species of wildlife, providing migration, travel, rearing areas, forage and water access. The corridor between the San Francisco Peaks and the Rim above Sedona has been identified as one of these critical areas by numerous partners and stakeholders. The AZGFD in cooperation with the Arizona Wildlife Federation (AWF) and the Arizona Sportsmen For Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) was successful in submitting a matching grant totaling \$57,440 to the National Forest Foundation in late 2011. With AZGFD staff providing Project Management, the various partners established a plan to improve this corridor. Six areas were identified within this corridor and on the ground activities commenced in early 2012. The first phase, in cooperation with Coconino County Parks and Recreation, was to modify a existing livestock allotment fence along Woody Mountain Road near Rogers Lake. Over 25 volunteers and agency staff, including several AWF members

were successful in rebuilding over 1 ½ miles of fence utilizing established wildlife friendly standards. While rebuilding the fence, gates were installed to minimize vehicle access to several miles of forest roads, improving resting and feeding areas as well. The roads and surrounding 640 acres will see further improvements with the planting and new growth of native grass seed.

The next area treated was at the Centennial Forest of Northern Arizona University (NAU) where almost 2 ½ miles of wildlife friendly fencing was installed/improved over 6 work days. The improved fencing will restrict previously unregulated grazing by over 500 domestic sheep, improving the availability of forage for wildlife during the rearing season of early to mid-summer.

Several volunteers spent another day along W. Rt. 66 near the new Clay Avenue detention basin removing old barbed wire fencing that was never removed when a new buck and pole fence was built, creating a significant hazard to wildlife as they moved through this area. The skeletal remains of at least three wild ungulates were discovered during the process of removing approximately ¼ mile of old fence. This project was handled by the Coconino Sportsmen and they partnered with the City of Flagstaff for proper disposal and recycling of the old wire.

The next area for treatment was north of I-40 near A-1 Mountain where 1 mile of an active grazing allotment fence was rebuilt to wildlife standards, improving accessibility for the many pronghorn, elk and mule deer in the area. Again several AWF members provided assistance with this daunting task. An additional benefit of this project was the reduction of vehicle access to important meadows and wetlands adjacent to the fence. Further enhancements were provided by volunteers who removed invasive Dalmatian Toadflax over several acres near this fence as well. This phase saw cooperation with the Coconino National Forest who provided clearances and oversight.

The next project moved south of I-40 once again to another portion of the NAU Centennial Forest near Budweiser Tank, an important summer range area for wildlife with a large earthen water tank and extensive meadows. Unfortunately this area has been severely degraded with trash, off road use and years of shooting in a large old quarry and nearby wooded areas. Over 40 volunteers from NAU and agency staff spent in excess of 250 hours removing 6 tons of trash and debris from this area. The 5 roads leading to the quarry were closed with large rocks and signs advising that these former abuses are illegal were placed near the quarry and other nearby shooting areas which

were also cleaned up. Invasive crawfish were removed from the earthen tank and they provided an interesting appetizer for lunch.

The final phase of this project was the rebuilding of almost 1 mile of old allotment fence on the boundary of the Arboretum. The fence was in disrepair with old posts, barbed wire and other debris littering a large open meadow with several earthen water tanks present, many fed by

spring runoff and summer monsoons through Sinclair Wash. A new three wire fence was installed on the boundary with over three truckloads of old wire and debris removed and recycled. Once wildlife patterns are established, all rebuilt fences will have wildlife jumps installed for use by deer and elk and smooth PVC pipes will be installed on the new bottom smooth wire that was raised to a minimum of 18-20" for use by

pronghorn (who don't jump fences, they go under), elk calves and deer fawns. All cooperating land management groups received instruction, spare supplies and tools so they can provide ongoing maintenance and upkeep on the fences.

In closing the members of AWF should be proud of their involvement in this great multi-agency/group cooperative effort to improve the lands surrounding Flagstaff.



Volunteers removing old fencing near Sinclair Wash and the Arboretum in Flagstaff



Volunteers preparing for fence modification along Woody Mountain Road adjacent to Rogers Lake

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Sportsmen: The Original Conservationists

by John Gale, NWF Regional Representative

What influences sportsmen more – gun rights or conservation? When asked to choose between protecting public lands and prioritizing energy production, which do conservative-leaning sportsmen choose? How do they feel about the future of conservation in America as children spend more time indoors and the impacts of climate change the places they hunt and fish?

Sportsmen, who tend to be Republican and conservative voters, view conservation as important as gun rights. They express support and concern about a number of conservation issues including access to public lands, climate change solutions, Gulf clean-up, clean water protections and protecting our children's future according to a national survey recently completed by a large Republican firm.

- Hunters and anglers favor restoring Clean Water Act protections to wetlands and waterways in order to protect our health and important fish and wildlife habitat.
- A plurality of sportsmen think protection of America's public lands should be given a priority, even at the risk of limiting the amount of energy supplies such as oil, gas and coal that the United States produces.
- Anglers and hunters believe climate change is currently occurring and they believe we have a moral responsibility to confront climate change to protect our children's future. And, they overwhelmingly believe the economy can be strengthened and jobs created by investing in renewable energy while reducing climate change pollution.
- BP should be held accountable and fined the maximum amount allowed for the 2010 Gulf oil spill and be required to pay to restore the Gulf to ensure the recovery of fish and wildlife populations.
- Children not spending enough time outdoors is a problem and a threat to wildlife conservation in America.

Hunters and anglers tend to be conservative, Republican or Independent. And, they vote.

- 42% of those interviewed indicated they were Republican, 32% indicated they were Independent with 18% indicating they considered themselves Democrats. 27% indicate

they split their ticket when voting

- 50% consider themselves conservative, including 22% who consider themselves very conservative.
- 60% vote in every election with an additional 21% indicating they vote in almost all elections.

Conservation is just as important to these hunters and anglers as gun rights.

- 47% believe that gun rights are important, but conservation is just as important. 37% believe that gun rights are the most important issue facing sportsmen, while 13% believe that gun rights are not as important as conservation issues.
- A partisan divide is evident here with 56% of Democrats indicating that gun rights and conservation are equally important while 50% of Republicans believe that gun rights are the most important issue. 50% of Independents believe the two issues are equally important as do 54% of ticket-splitters.

The sporting public favors restoring Clean Water Act protections to wetlands and waterways including smaller creeks and streams.

- 79% favor restoring Clean Water Act protections including 57% who strongly favor this.
- We again see strong bi-partisan support with 94% of Democrats, 78% of Independents and 73% of Republicans favoring restoring Clean Water Act protections to wetlands and waterways.

Hunters and anglers want public lands protected and they want access to public lands that to date have been inaccessible and they want the government to take their needs and desires into account when issuing oil and gas leases. Outdoor recreation in this country contributes \$730 billion a year to the U.S. economy.

- 49% believe protecting public lands should be given priority, even at the risk of limiting the amount of energy supplies such as oil, gas and coal the United States

produces. Just one in three (34%) favor development of energy supplies even if our public lands suffer.

- 79% of these hunters and anglers support allowing them access to public lands that to date have been inaccessible. 58% strongly support this action.
- Opening up access is not a partisan issue with 83% of Republicans, 79% of Independents and 71% of Democrats supporting open access. And, those voters not aligned with one party (ticket-splitters) favor this access by a margin of 77% to 18%.
- 88% agree that prior to the federal government issuing an oil or gas lease to drill on public lands the various resources and uses of the land should be considered including fishing and hunting, protection of wildlife habitat and insuring air and water are kept clean.
- Hunters and anglers overwhelming across all demographic groups agree including 91% Democrats and 87% of Republicans and Independents.
- 84% want the federal government to make it a priority to conserve fish and wildlife habitat and manage public lands for fishing, hunting and other outdoor recreation.
- Again we see strong agreement across all demographic groups including among 90% of Democrats, 84% of Independents and 82% of Republicans. And, 85% of those that do not vote a straight party ticket (ticket-splitters) agree by a margin of 85% to 11%.

These hunters and anglers believe climate change is occurring and believe we have a moral responsibility to confront climate change to protect our children's future. They also believe that climate change is a cause of the recent hot temperatures we have experienced.

- 59% agree that climate change is occurring.
- Majorities in every region of the country, both men and women and all age groups agree that climate change is occurring as do 86% of Democrats and 61% of Independents.
- Republicans split on this question with 45% agreeing and 49% disagreeing.
- Ticket-splitters agree climate change is occurring by a margin of 67% to 28%.
- 66% agree with the statement "We have a moral responsibility to confront climate change to protect our children's future".
- Majorities of all partisans agree with this statement, though there are clear partisan differences. 90% of Democrats agree while 53% of Republicans agree. Those voters available to either party (ticket-splitters) agree with this statement by a margin of 75% to 20%.
- 57% of these hunters and anglers believe climate change is a cause of the hot temperatures we have experienced recently including the hottest July on record.
- 72% agree that we can improve the environment and strengthen the economy by investing in renewable energy technologies that create jobs while reducing climate change pollution.
- Strong bi-partisan agreement is shown on this question, though Democrats (90%) agree in higher numbers than Republicans (67%) or Independents (65%). Ticket-splitters fall between Democrats and Republicans at 81% agreement.

- 57% want the President and to enforce the authority granted to the EPA by the Supreme Court to limit carbon dioxide and other air pollutants.
- Support for this enforcement is partisan based with Democrats favoring enforcement while Republicans are split. 55% of Independents favor enforcement as do 67% of Ticket-splitters.

Hunters and anglers want BP held accountable and want monies collected from fines used for Gulf restoration and not spent on roads, bridges, ports and convention centers.

- 81% of hunters and anglers agree that BP should be held accountable and fined the maximum amount allowed for the 2010 oil spill and required to restore the Gulf to ensure the recovery of fish and wildlife populations.
- Bi-partisan agreement is shown on this question with 97% of Democrats, 75% of Republicans and 78% of Independents agreeing that BP should be held accountable. 81% of ticket-splitters agree BP should be held accountable.
- And, 87% of these hunters and anglers want the monies collected to used exclusively to restore fish and wildlife habitat and not for infrastructure such as roads, bridges, ports and convention centers.
- Strong partisan agreement is shown here with 88% of Republicans and 81% of Democrats agreeing with this statement.

Children spending hours each day in front of the television or computer screen and not enough time outdoors is a problem and a threat to the future of wildlife conservation in America.

- 87% of hunters and anglers believe it is a very serious or serious problem that children today are not spending enough time outdoors and away from television, computers and video games.
- Partisans of all stripes agree this is a problem with 91% of Democrats, 88% of Republicans and 83% of Independents viewing this as a problem.
- And, 91% are concerned a great deal or somewhat that this lack of connection to nature and the outdoors is a threat to the future of wildlife conservation in America. 65% are concerned a great deal.
- This strong degree of concern extends across partisan lines with 68% of Republicans, 64% of Democrats and 60% of Independents expressing a great deal of concern.

This national public opinion poll conducted among 800 self-identified hunters and anglers was conducted by Chesapeake Beach Consulting from August 23 through September 1, 2012 for the National Wildlife Federation. The sample for this survey was randomly drawn from a list of self-identified hunters and anglers. To qualify, a respondent must have indicated they were a hunter, an angler or both as well as a registered voter. All interviews were conducted by telephone, including 15% of the interviews by cell phone. The margin of error for this study is plus or minus 3.2% at the 95% confidence level.

33% of these respondents indicated they only were anglers while 12% were only hunters. 55% indicated they both fished and hunted.

Talking the Talk *on Federal Policy*

by Sarah Luna, AWF Legislative Liaison



In Your Own Words

We heard from a hunter in Flagstaff who said “public lands are held in trust for all Americans and are essential to the well-being of not only the multitude of wildlife species but also to human beings who need a place to go to get away from the stresses of life...Don’t make Arizona like other states such as Texas where only the wealthy are allowed to hunt and fish...”

An AWF member in Oro Valley said “any Congressman who thinks they can claim that they represent hunters and anglers and also sell off public lands should think again. THERE IS NO SINGLE ISSUE more important to me than keeping my public lands open for my use, not Second Amendment Rights, nothing is more important.”

A Tucson member said “I hunt throughout the west and in particular southeastern Arizona. Public lands are critical to my hunting of Coues deer and Javelina and sharing those hunts with family and friends. This Fall I have Arizona/New Mexico and Montana deer tags and those hunts will occur on a mix of public and state lands. I spend at least \$5 to 10K a year in hunting pursuits across the west. It is absolutely criminal to sell off our public lands!!”

A Tempe member said “the Grand Canyon is our country’s Crown Jewel. All efforts which might compromise this masterpiece need to be avoided. I occasionally fish Lee’s Ferry and have hunted North and South of the Canyon. These areas are to be preserved at all costs.”

And a member from Mesa said “the economic benefits of uranium mining near Grand Canyon National Park are limited to just a few, the damage that it causes affects everyone and everything....Back in the 1980’s uranium mining particularly north of the Grand Canyon was in a boom period. The mining companies filed claims on

almost the entire game preserve – i.e. the North Kaibab – and had they been successful we would have lost some of the best deer and turkey hunting and wildlife watching would also have been threatened...”

This is a very short sample of the more than 50 responses we’ve received thus far to a survey sent to AWF members, our affiliates and partners across the state as part of our project to educate Arizona’s Congressional candidates and elected officials.

Candidate Education Grant

In July AWF was awarded a grant to put together a team of sportsmen and women from AWF and other groups across the state to communicate with Congressional candidates this election season about federal policies impacting Arizona’s resources, wildlife habitats and access to public lands.

Armed with a packet of information about our different groups and miscellaneous issues of concern to each of us (the issue packet is available here: <http://www.azwildlife.org/ht/d/sp/i/119217/pid/119217>), our communications team has been on the road traveling across Arizona since August. We’ve met with eight Republican and Democratic U.S. House candidates and key staff for a U.S. Senatorial Candidate. We have reached out to at least the same number of additional House/Senate candidates and are working to schedule additional meetings over the next several weeks.

Some of the specific issues we’ve covered in our meetings include the moratorium on uranium mining near the Grand Canyon, the importance of hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation activities to Arizona’s economy, the Land & Water Conservation fund and other issues related to public lands.



AWF Legislative Liaison Sarah Luna, CD 1 Republican Candidate Jonathan Paton, AWF Conservation Chair Brad Powell, and Jim Walker AZ Leadership Council of TU. Not pictured: AWF Region V Director and Arizona Antelope Foundation BOD Glen Dickens.

Continue to Talk the Talk

If you haven't already done so, please take a few minutes to go on line and complete the survey (<http://www.azwildlife.org/ht/d/DoSurvey/i/119390>).

We are compiling your personal stories and putting them into survey summaries to give to candidates and elected officials. These have been very positively received thus far leading one staffer to comment that personal stories from constituents are exactly the kind of information needed to truly represent Arizonans in Washington. It's a pleasure working with you and don't hesitate to contact me with any thoughts, questions or concerns. As the "new kid on the block," I need your advice and input.

Respectfully,

Sarah

You may contact Sarah at: lsarah@msn.com



CD 1 Democratic Candidate Ann Kirkpatrick, Sarah Luna, AWF President Tom Mackin, and AWF Conservation Chair Brad Powell.

WHADDA' YA' KNOW?

1. What is the largest natural lake in Arizona?

2. Is it a bad sign when water in a lake is greenish and has reduced water clarity?

3. What is a fish's chance of survival if you forcefully remove a hook it has swallowed?

4. How many rainbow trout do Arizona's Game & Fish hatcheries produce annually?

5. What is the main cause of non-sustainable condor populations in Arizona?

6. How can you help reduce lead poisoning in Arizona's Condor population?

(Answers found on Page 16)

AWF Life Member Wendell Swank Honored For Career Of Service To Wildlife

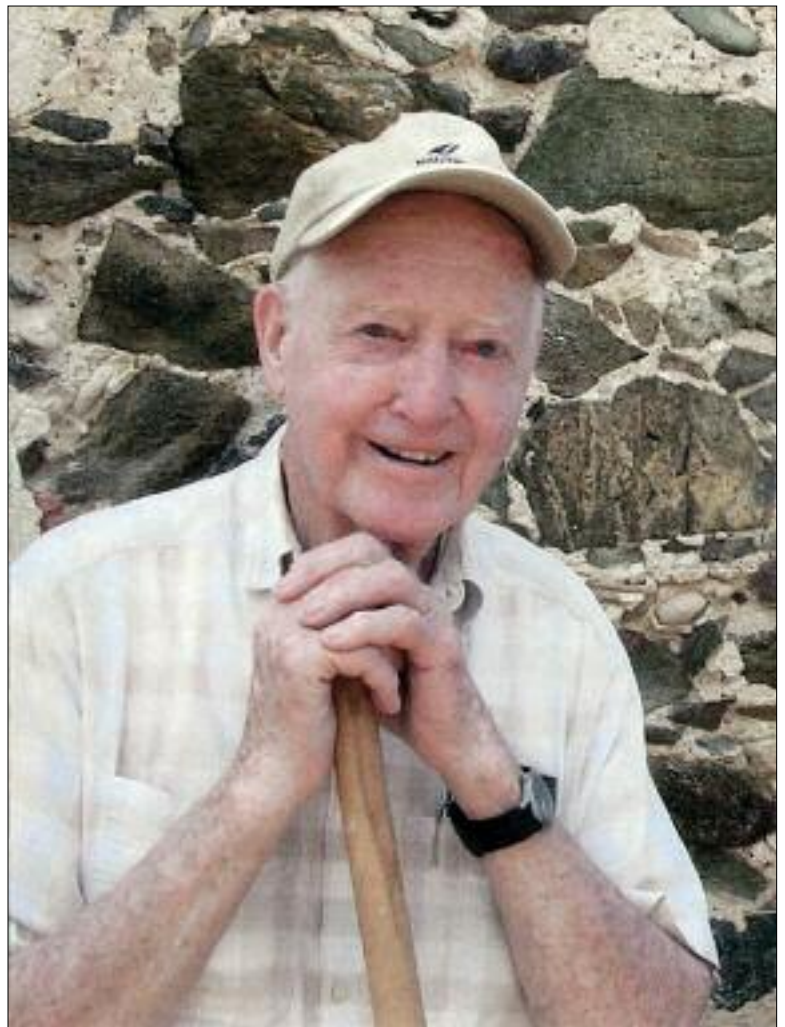
by Steve Hirsch, President, Wildlife For Tomorrow

Sometimes one's legacy is not apparent during the course of their active work years; the importance of their accomplishments in context does not fully reveal itself until later in life. Former Arizona Game and Fish Department Director, Wendell Swank, fits this description. Decades after his directorship, his role in the transition of the Department to a science-based wildlife management model has emerged as a milestone in the course of wildlife conservation in Arizona.

Swank was inducted into the Wildlife for Tomorrow Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame at the Foundation's fifteenth annual induction banquet at Scottsdale Chaparral Suites on August 25. During the course of the evening, his contributions to moving the Department from a group of largely enforcement officers to a college-educated, science-based agency were celebrated by the diverse group of Foundation's supporters.

Swank graduated from Texas A&M University and was a member of the first group of college graduates hired by the Game and Fish Department as game managers in the 1950's. This does not seem like a remarkable proposition today, but it was unusual in that era. He was a research biologist and the author of a book, *The Mule Deer in the Arizona Chaparral and an Analysis of Other Important Deer Herds*. He became Assistant Director of the Department under Director Robert J. Smith in 1957.

The late 1950s and early 1960s brought a change in direction in the Department's administration. Swank was instrumental in that evolutionary process. Specifically, he was in charge of implementing the new wildlife manager program for the Department. He made sure that



wildlife manager trainees were recruited from colleges all over the country, not just from Arizona schools. Swank also instituted a training protocol where each wildlife manager trainee was exposed to a six-month education program, during which time each new employee worked with department employees in different regions of the state. This extended training

period, together with a summer law enforcement program, strongly influenced the next generation of department leaders.

Swank was named Department Director in 1964, and served in that role for four years. As Director during the middle 1960's—a time of tremendous growth and transition in Arizona—his leadership was essential as the Department continued its transformation into science-based wildlife management.

After 15 years with the Department, including four years as Director, Swank was offered a job he couldn't refuse. In 1968, he took over the world's largest wildlife management post: the United Nation's administration of the wildlife program for the emerging nations of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika in Africa. In that role, Swank worked with African governments in Nairobi as a supervisor and coordinator of a program designed to enhance the living standards of the people and to improve wildlife management in that region. He served in several prominent positions during his time with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, including Wildlife Advisor to the government of the British West Indies and Project manager for the Kenya Wildlife Management Project.

His path eventually led him back to Texas A&M University as a professor in the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences. His time was devoted equally between teaching and research. His classes at the graduate level included wildlife law and policy and

supervising graduate student research. Swank's professional research included studies on Eastern wild turkeys, northern bobwhite, kit fox and fox squirrels. As a retired Professor Emeritus at A&M, he continues to work on field surveys and share his vast knowledge of wildlife through lectures and his writings.

The Hall of Fame Induction plaque was accepted by Dave Swank, Swank's son. "The Swank family thanks Wildlife For Tomorrow and the Arizona Game and Fish Department for recognizing the role Dad played in the Department's growth and development in the years he worked there," Swank told the 200-plus crowd in attendance. "He is truly honored to have a place in the Outdoor Hall of Fame."

Also inducted in the 2012 WFT Hall of Fame Class were tireless Arizona Bighorn Sheep advocate Ed Shannahan, Anglers United organizer and promoter Dave LaMorte, knife maker extraordinaire and outdoor supporter John Toner and the Arizona Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. These five inductees joined 64 existing Hall of Fame members recognized by the Foundation, the charitable foundation arm of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Also receiving awards of special merit at the August 25 banquet were Sarah Gorby, the State's first licensed wildlife rehabilitator, and Paul Miller, recognized as the oldest known and likely last surviving of the original Arizona Game Rangers.

2012 Hall of Fame

Ed Shannahan is pictured right, centered with family. Lower right is Dave LaMorte. Lower left is John Toner. The Arizona chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation is pictured left during a seminar.



Why Predation Management?

By Brian Wakeling

Photographs by George Andrejko/Arizona Game and Fish Department

Originally published in the Sept/Oct 2012 issue of Arizona Wildlife Views magazine



The mere mention of predators invokes strong emotion. Predators fascinate people. Some people love them, some people love to fear them, and others dislike them or what they are capable of doing. The fact that predators make their living by preying on other animals that live lower on the food chain is part of their allure, and their cryptic habits add to their mystique.

Published scientific literature recognizes their importance in the overall stability, regulation and health of ecological communities. Predators interact with prey, and prey species interact with the vegetation on which they rely for sustenance. Predators compete with one another, as do prey, for limited resources. As early as 1948, Aldo Leopold shared his appreciation of the role that predators play rather poignantly in his description of wolves and deer in “A Sand County Almanac.”

Yet, what we know about predators is but one aspect of our fascination. Unfortunately, what we know about predators is far more limited than what we know about many prey species, and there are often contradictory or confusing scientific interpretations. Consequently, people use their imagination to fill in the gaps. More anthropomorphic attributes are given to predators than to virtually any other guild of species.

Richard Louv, in his 2008 book “Last Child in the Woods,” identifies that a larger proportion of the general populace are aware of nature today than in many previous decades, yet a much smaller proportion have any real experience in nature. The use of imagination to fill in knowledge gaps is of particular concern for a wildlife management agency. Accuracy is not always a goal in Disneyesque interpretations. Emotion can play a strong role in public perception, and public perception remains an important consideration for the Arizona Game and Fish Department because we manage Arizona’s wildlife in the public trust. In taking management actions, we have to consider public perception.

We Have To Increase Our Knowledge

The science of wildlife management continues to evolve, building on knowledge gained through research and management. When the Arizona Game and Fish Department takes an action, such as to pursue a translocation to extend the range of a species, it is a result of a management decision. Similarly, taking no action in a particular instance, such as deferring that same translocation and allowing the species to expand its range by natural exploration and colonization, is also a

management decision.

Management decisions must take into account the likelihood of natural events (such as the likelihood that natural colonization will occur, considering the natural and manmade obstacles), the available budgets and human resources to support alternative actions, risks to the population should the event not occur, and myriad other considerations. These are all based on scientific knowledge that the biological community has amassed.

A consideration when managing any wildlife population is the factors that influence the population’s mortality rate. The critters are dying: why? One possible reason is predators and predation. Predators and predation can influence the persistence of an existing or newly established population of any wildlife species from fish to bison, including predators.

Historically, predators were viewed by some as bad for other wildlife, and people used predator control in an indiscriminate fashion to eradicate predators wherever possible. Several species, such as wolves and grizzly bears, were eliminated from large portions of their range. Today, many populations of these predators are increasing. Even populations of predators that were never in jeopardy, such as mountain lions and black bears, are expanding their range and abundance. Wildlife managers must take these changes in predator populations into account when managing the persistence and abundance of prey species.

Wildlife management agencies now consider a broader perspective than simply predator control due to those decades of research and experience. That broader perspective is termed “predation management.” Predation management is a series of management decisions that collectively move a prey population toward increasing numbers by reducing the effect of predators. These management decisions may include a suite of actions, from limited lethal removal of predators to disease monitoring and treatment, habitat enhancement, manipulation of water availability, livestock management, translocations of prey species and hunting.

In short, it can involve any activity that may alter a relationship between predator and prey in a way that is designed to favor the prey (or, in some cases, the predator). Predation management does not try to eliminate a predator from the landscape; only to change the effects of predation.

Recognizing the importance of this distinction in terms, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission adopted a predation

management policy in September 2001. The policy affirms the commission's appreciation of predators and desire to manage for their continued persistence.

So Why Manage Predation?

So why does a wildlife management agency engage in predation management? Frankly, it is a series of tools we can use to meet a goal. For example, when the number of pronghorn fawns born and surviving to breed within an area is below the level at which a population can sustain itself, that population begins to decline. While all populations of all species fluctuate annually, an extended decline can reduce a population to dangerously low numbers. At low numbers, a population is at greater risk of extirpation from a catastrophic event such as a disease outbreak or a wildfire. It is more difficult for that population to recover once favorable conditions return. We are also learning more about the implications of genetic isolation and increased frequency of harmful genes when populations reach low levels.

Predation management, including limited lethal removal of predators, can be used to accomplish goals such as reduced fawn mortality for a pronghorn population, which in turn may prevent that population from incurring the risk associated with low population numbers.

Other approaches to managing predation can be used as well, but some have added challenges. For instance, translocations of prey species from areas where they are plentiful can be a useful tool, but the process of capture and relocation places biologists in risky situations where an injury or even death is possible. Further, restoration efforts can be expensive, and establishing self-sustaining populations may be difficult without addressing predation at a later date. Whenever possible, keeping a prey population from declining dramatically is a far better, and less costly, management option. Limited lethal removal of predators can be a relatively inexpensive and temporary approach to boosting prey population recruitment, with fewer risks to biologists.

Managing the relationship between predators and prey can be compared with managing the relationship between grazing ungulates and their habitat. Left unchecked, elk numbers increase to levels at which they can have undesirable effects on their habitat. So, wildlife managers routinely use hunting to manage populations of big game ungulates such as elk. And as there are places in Arizona where elk were not present historically and their abundance is currently managed to attain extremely low numbers (for instance, game management units 28, 31 and 32), similarly there are portions of the state where specific predators were not common historically and these predators are managed toward objectives with low numbers as well (for instance, mountain lions in southwest Arizona). Hunting seasons have been liberalized in some areas for mountain lions and coyotes to effect a change in prey populations; population and harvest demographics are carefully monitored in such areas to ensure the sustainability of both predator and prey populations.

Do Humans Need To Intervene?

Well-meaning individuals may argue that a natural balance among populations of predator and prey used to exist, and if we were to simply allow nature to take its course, then all would be well. Across broad landscapes unmarred by human influences such as highways, canals, railroads, housing developments and introduced plants, historically these species existed in what scientists call a "dynamic equilibrium." In other words, it was not a balance, but a

relationship that fluctuated, sometimes dramatically.

Today, habitat fragmentation and alteration are probably the biggest factors threatening most wildlife. Trying to retain critical corridors plays an important role in predation management, because prey species can re-colonize habitats with less effort and more rapidly when linkages remain intact. Lacking specific management actions to enhance connectivity, such as a highway overpass for bighorn sheep, an underpass for elk or pinyon-juniper thinning to facilitate pronghorn movement, ungulate populations are isolated, genetic interchange is reduced and the effect of predation is more pronounced.

Even relatively natural habitats are dramatically different today than they were 100 years ago, before fire suppression, timber treatments and unregulated grazing altered the landscape. Today's livestock producers and timber managers, having learned from their predecessors' good intentions, now have far better knowledge, skills and tools to improve habitat. But to simply walk away from managing livestock, forests, rangeland, ungulates, threatened species or even predators fails to recognize the importance that planned management plays in retaining those things that society desires. Nature can certainly take its course if left unmanaged. Yet the results may be undesirable. It is more expensive and time consuming to restore wildlife that has been extirpated than to enhance its chances of survival before it reaches low population levels.

As humans, we have spent much of our evolutionary existence in an effort to modify the natural environment to favor our desired objectives. We've learned to build fire, hunt, tend crops, treat disease, educate ourselves and reach for the stars. The Arizona Game and Fish Department manages toward desired outcomes instead of hoping for an eventual one that meets its goals. While an eventual outcome may be the same as the desired outcome, it may not arrive as quickly or with as much certainty if we don't guide it. That is why our trucks bear the slogan, "Managing Today for Wildlife Tomorrow."

■ Brian Wakeling is chief of the Game Branch of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.



Managing the effects of coyotes and other predators on prey such as pronghorn is a challenge.

Instructor Profile: Stan Schepers

by Linda Dightmon



It started with a simple 'want ad' in the 2009 winter edition of this publication. Our much beloved camping instructor had relocated to California and we needed a new one. The ad read something like this, well it read exactly like this:

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

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

It wasn't long before I received an email from Stan Schepers. He was interested! He explained that he loved teaching and was ready for a new challenge. Now, from our want ad you can see that this is not an easy class. Not only does the camping instructor volunteer time and knowledge, we ask that they use and haul their own gear! BOW has some tents but that is about it. The formal camping session happens on Friday afternoon. This is when the class sets up a camp, from pitching tents, making fire rings to changing mantels. Then the participant has the choice of sleeping in the tents one or both nights. So, this class in reality can last the entire weekend. It takes a dedicated instructor and a rabid camper to teach this class.

We worked it out where Stan would come as an observer for the April 2010 workshop. He could stay the whole weekend or just a couple of hours to see if he really wanted to do this. It also gave the BOW staff a chance to get to know him. Stan is a long time AWF member, an avid hunter and camper, active in Arizona Predator Callers and an instructor for the Arizona Trapping Association. He is also a heck of a nice guy. We liked him, now to see if he liked us. He has a soft spoken easy demeanor and I hoped that our participants wouldn't scare him off.

He ended up staying the weekend, visiting with the participants and hearing from them just how wonderful Kristina (his predecessor was). On Sunday, I asked if he was still interested and I was delighted to hear him agree to do it. I encourage instructors to make the sessions their own and teach to their strengths. We will often change descriptions to tune them into the style of the instructor. He wanted to move from the meadow to the woods so that it would be more like a primitive camp. His reasoning was that the meadow looks like a golf course and who camps on a golf course? I thought that sounded like a great idea and told him so.

Then, he looked through me with those baby blues and turning very serious he said. "I don't know anything about

s'mores. I don't even know what they are?"

"Dude," I said "You just get some marshmallows, some chocolate, melt them together and put the gooey mess on a graham cracker."

"I was told that Kristina had a special way of making them."

OK, there is no denying that Kristina is the queen of S'moredome. But I assured him that while he could never hope to reach that plateau, we would make sure that he would get proper training in the art of making s'mores.

That August Stan brought his girlfriend, Dannette, for backup and I assume moral support. He had a pickup full of gear and towed another pickup bed full of stuff. As Mark Hullinger would say, he was loaded for bear.

There is a group of women that come to the summer workshops and opt to pitch tents in the meadow rather than stay in the cabins. These ladies were appalled that Stan would move "Kristina's camp" from the meadow. They informed him that the camping class always stays in the meadow. Stan said that they were welcome to stay at his camp but it was not going to be in the meadow. Thus begins the campsite location war. Stan held his ground and instructed the class away from the meadow. A few of his students did sleep in the tents and we sent Holly his way to help with s'mores.

In almost every workshop there is a crisis. This crisis d'jour for this one was the last minute absence of a hiking/backpacking instructor. Stan and Danette stepped right into the role and we avoided the unhappy task of cancelling a class and overloading others. This is the type of talent so desperately needed at BOW. Needless to say, I was thrilled when he

agreed to teach the camping class the next year.

This past September there were significant storms just before the workshop. This caused a little wash out on the way to Stan's camp. He made a 'bridge' so that his students could get to the campsite without getting wet feet. There was also a custom metal sign showing the way. We checked out the s'more supplies. We found flavored marshmallows and gourmet dark chocolate. There was even a bottle of Merlot. We decided that he is over the s'more thing. After three years he is now a seasoned BOW instructor and the camping class location wars are now a fun inside joke. "I would have won them over," he quipped, "If it wasn't for the water in the road."

For the 2013 September workshop we will be using Stan's talents for a predator calling session. There are plenty of resident coyotes to talk to and it will be held at Stan's camp that is not in the meadow.



Stan owns S & S Steel services, a small welding business where he crafts fences, gates, iron metal works on windows, fireplace doors or anything else he or his customers can dream up. You can reach him at:

StanTheSteelMan@gmail.com (480-461-8730)

Donations Needed

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

Contact Linda at azodlady@yahoo.com
or
Call Kim at 480-644-0077



Want to help at BOW?

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

Contact Kim at: 480-644-0077

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Did you know that scholarships are available for first time BOW participants? Applications for April will be accepted between February 1-18 and for September between June 26 - July 10. Visit: www.azwildlife.org for more information.

2012 Arizona Becoming an Outdoors-Woman in Review

by Linda Dightmon

The Becoming an Outdoors-Woman program in Arizona is doing well. We planned and executed three workshops throughout the year. Each were three day events beginning Friday afternoon and ending Sunday at noon. The Deluxe was held in January and the two traditional workshops were held at the Friendly Pines Venue near Prescott. One was in April and the other in September.

The Deluxe workshop was held at Saguaro Lake Ranch in January. This smaller workshop filled up at 35 participants. We were blessed with chamber of commerce Sonoran desert weather. We offered a javelina hunting class and an evening presentation about this unique desert dweller. Many thanks go out to the 'bird lady' Tice Supplee for doing this for us. Several ladies at the workshop were signed up for the women's mentored javelina hunt that took place in February. It was a good lead in for them. This hunt is free to the participant and sponsored by one of our instructors, Amanda Moors of coueswhitetail.com. By partnering with people like Amanda we work together to get more women in the field. Kathy Greene did a great job coordinating the workshop giving me some much needed breathing room.

The April workshop was once again soft in numbers, with 56 participants. The weather was a little too warm for April but still cooler than the valley. We lost the use of the indoor rifle range in Prescott Valley at the last minute and planned a makeup class. I was pleasantly surprised to see most of the class make that extra trip to Ben Avery the following Sunday for the rifle class. We found a wonderful new hiking/backpacking instructor in April. Her name is Stacy Boone. Stacy hails from Colorado where she owns and operates Step Outdoors, <http://stepoutdoorscolorado.com>. Stacy is a leave no trace fanatic and a perfect fit for our program. She was originally going to just observe but when we needed an instructor for

campfire cooking, she stepped right in and did a wonderful job.

In August, Kathy and I traveled to Nova Scotia for a coordinators conference. We were introduced to Celtic culture, experienced a sailing adventure in the harbor, ate parts of a lobster that one would not think was edible, went fishing, hiking and oh yeah worked really hard. There were about 30 coordinators from Canada and the US present. Round table discussions on recruitment and retention, Beyond BOW, using Facebook, marketing and instructor training were some of the topics covered. It was interesting to see how each state or province tackled the same issues. We had a great time and brought back a lot of ideas to make our program better.

The summer workshop this year for the first time was held in September. We are still reeling from the registration response. Six weeks before the workshop date we were booked up with a full complement of 100 women! We are still not sure if it was because of the later dates or some other reason. Survey responses were on par with other workshops. The ratio of new participants to repeats was about the same. Newbies make up about three quarters of each three day event. All weekend the weather threatened to make things interesting. We registered the entire camp in pouring rain but when it was time for the first session the rain stopped. Things were a bit soggy at first but the huge monsoon thunderheads kept their distance the entire weekend. There was not even a hint of complaint from any of our 100 participants. BOW LADIES ROCK! Taking advice from the Newfoundland coordinators we tried a live auction on a fly fishing package and were pleased with the results.

Dates are set for 2013. The Deluxe will be January 25th- 27th. Kathy will be coordinating the spring BOW to be held April 19-21. We are keeping the summer workshop in September, with the dates

being 6-8. We will be offering a new class in 2013 beginning with the January event. We are going to teach the ancient skill of stand-up paddle boarding. Go to Jimmy's SUP at <http://www.paysonmarketplace.com/marketplace/businesses/jimmys-sup/> to check it out.

As always any member of the board is welcome to join us for any BOW workshop. Come for the entire weekend or just join us for a Dutch oven treat or maybe some laughs at the evening follies.

WHADDA' YA' KNOW? Answers

1. Mormon Lake in Northern Arizona
2. It means the planktonic algae community that supports a food chain that allows fish to feed, reproduce and grow is present, so the lake is productive.
3. 50%
4. One Million (1,000,000)
5. Mortality due to lead poisoning
6. By using non-lead ammunition when hunting in the condor's core range, or alternatively by removing your entire game carcass and gut pile from the field.

(From Page 9)



ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

MANAGING TODAY FOR WILDLIFE TOMORROW

www.azgfd.gov



Federal Government Targets Sportsmen's Dollars to Reduce Deficit

Oct. 24, 2012

Conservation of wildlife resources and your outdoor recreation heritage is at risk!

"The Greatest Story Never Told" is the mantra being extolled by the nation's wildlife conservation community in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Fund (WSFR). Farsighted and forward-looking sportsmen worked with Congress in 1937 to pass the Pittman-Robertson Act, whereby excise taxes on hunting equipment flow into a trust fund that is one of the most significant sources of funding for state wildlife conservation efforts. Subsequent amendments of the act and passage of the Dingell-Johnson Act and the Wallop-Breaux Act have since added excise taxes from fishing equipment, archery tackle and motorboat fuel to grow the funding available for wildlife conservation. By law, your dollars are allocated to each state to support important conservation work on the ground and to keep critical wildlife programs going. Since 1939, the State of Arizona has integrated these funds, along with dedication of license-based revenues, into the core of our financing for wildlife conservation. With these resources, the state has been able to restore elk and bighorn sheep populations, construct and operate boat ramps and shooting ranges, restore native trout species, develop a modern hatchery program and continue conservation of our wildlife heritage.

Your funds have been untouched in the 75 year history of the WSFR fund and have been used only for conservation. In order to participate in the program and receive these funds, each state and territory made legal, binding commitments that these funds (and license fees) would be used only for wildlife conservation in specific, approved programs. Ironically, the current administration's Office of Management and Budget has decided that your funds must be withheld (sequestered) under provisions of the Budget Control Act of 2012. While this action only keeps funds from being allocated to state wildlife agencies (for now) and does not in and of itself divert your funds, it does set the stage for future Congressional action which could sweep these funds from the trust accounts into the federal treasury. The fact that this diversion is occurring during the 75th anniversary of the WSFR Act is the ultimate irony. Federal agencies charged with the fiduciary protection of this trust fund are now the architects of the only authorized diversion in the fund's history.

Because of explicit language in the original acts, these funds are to be allocated to the states and are not subject to annual Congressional appropriation. It is difficult to understand how these funds are now subject to the provisions of the Budget Control Act of 2012. Excise taxes would still be collected from manufacturers of hunting and fishing equipment and excise

taxes would be paid by hunters, anglers, archers, boaters and shooters. Interest will still accrue in the various accounts. However, the new action of the Budget Control Act automatically denies the full allocation of funds to each state for their intended purpose of fish and wildlife conservation. This should be a critical concern to all sportsmen and conservationists. Under the Department of Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service, every state would see funding reductions in administration, multi-state grants, boating safety, wildlife and sport fish restoration (WSFR) that will directly affect the department's ability to do on-the-ground conservation, permanent agency jobs, agency resources and agencies' ability to provide public access for hunting, fishing, boating and shooting. Conservation of wildlife resources and your outdoor recreation heritage is at risk, no matter what your choice of hobby, sport or pursuit. For Arizona, the impact for 2013 could be as much as \$3 million with cuts to Wildlife Restoration, Sport Fish Restoration, Boating Safety and other programs.

State wildlife agencies have been working diligently with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Department of Interior to exempt State Trust Funds from being sequestered, but to no avail. Remember, these are your dollars as a sportsman or as a manufacturer of hunting and fishing equipment. If you are an Arizona citizen, your dollars support wildlife-related recreation that is a \$2 billion economic driver annually; more than golf, more than professional sports. The federal administration needs to know how the sequestration of these funds and the impacts on your programs here in Arizona will affect you personally (contacts listed below). You may also want to contact your Congressional Representatives on this issue.

DOI Secretary Ken Salazar
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240
Phone: (202) 208-3100
Email: feedback@ios.doi.gov

USFWS Director Dan Ashe
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
Phone: 1-800-344-WILD
Email: <http://www.fws.gov/duspit/contactus.htm>

White House – Council on Environmental Quality
Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, DC 20503
Phone: (202) 395-5750
Email: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/submit-questions-and-comments>



Historical Tales

Reproduced by Ryna Rock from Arizona Wildlife Sportsman March 1947

The Great Land Grab

By William Carr (Part 1)

When a small group of individuals seek to grasp large tracts of public land for private and commercial use, it seems that the matter should be investigated by the persons who own the property—the taxpayers of the affected State and of the Nation. There is a move on foot in Arizona and in several nearby regions to acquire millions of acres of our national forest and other federally supervised lands, ostensibly for State possession. Congressional bills have been drafted to legalize this procedure and proponents of the measure have traveled throughout the territory urging various organizations to pass resolutions favoring it. The vast majority of the people, who would lose tremendously by any such change, have not been informed concerning the real significance of the proposals. As a resident of Arizona I cannot stand by and watch this acquisition program go forward, in my state, without offering a protest and a challenge.

PRIVATE OWNERSHIP REAL ISSUE: I debated the issue, "Federal versus State Ownership of Lands in Arizona" on the University of Arizona Round-Table Radio Forum in Tucson on December 9, 1946. My opponents were the State Land Commissioner and the Vice President of the State Cattle Growers Association. One thing I soon learned was that the title of the debate was in error. The word "State" should have been omitted. I had been led to believe that the movement to acquire our public forests was a State project; that the land, if ceded by the Federal government, would revert to the State of Arizona. My belief

was entirely wrong. The stockmen's representative admitted freely that the proposed move was but the initial step to *private ownership*. A question immediately flashed through my mind: If the lands are to be privately owned, what of the small land holders, grazing permittees, sportsmen, picnickers, and thousands of others involved in endless ways in this scheme; what of them?

I moved to the microphone and began to debate and ask questions — keep in mind it was two against one. The records repeatedly show that the gentlemen who opposed me were seeking not State ownership, but ownership by the few—I emphasize this statement for it should be clearly understood. This bold declaration astounded me for I had considered that State possession of these particular lands would be bad enough! The idea of private ownership of some of the most wonderful national forests in all America was overwhelming and unthinkable for numerous reasons.

The Land Commissioner said, "We *only* want the lands in the national forests that are usable for grazing purposes." As a matter of fact practically every inch of the national lands in Arizona from the highest mountains to the desert are now grazed. Just where he would draw the line he did not say, although he did remark that "we do not want timber lands." It would be interesting to know exactly what he does want.

STATE VERSUS FEDERAL FUNDS: I asked the Commissioner whether he thought the people of

Arizona, at their own expense, could maintain for unique multiple use the national forests and similar properties as scientifically as the taxpayers of the entire Nation. I said I did not believe that this State or any other State could secure sufficient funds to adequately support the necessary research, operations, development, and maintenance of these regions. It could have been added that tourists from the entire country contribute more than 60 million dollars annually to Arizona business operations, largely thanks to Federally sponsored improvements and facilities in the various scenic and recreational spots. The Commissioner blandly remarked that the State could do a far better job. However, he did not say with what funds or how it could be done, especially if the lands were owned by a privileged few.

NO ROOM FOR SMALL OPERATORS: Without hesitation, the stockman said that large cattle companies would eventually secure the lands, once an acquisition bill had passed in Congress. He continued that it had been demonstrated that small operators could not make a living on limited parcels of land. He stated that history had shown only the large cattle outfits could make a "satisfactory income" and, as a consequence, the "little fellow" had been forced out while the large groups had bought up or otherwise used the lands. I recalled that cattle wars had been fought over this very proposition. I wondered what assurance these individual cattlemen may have that they will not be charged more for the land, or that they can get

it at all. I was told that there were "proposed bills to care for all of this." Would that all the proposed bills in the world would "take care" of the things they were intended for!

Thoughts of the desires or rights of persons other than stockmen never entered his head. He seemed totally unaware of the enormous stake that the people as a whole have in this problem—people from all over the country as well as Arizonans. Neither he nor the Land Commissioner had anything to say regarding the question: Would the people of the State and Nation be attracted to our outstanding regions of scenic and recreational value if the Federal government had not developed them at great expense and maintained them for public as well as commercial use?

REAL RIGHTS: It was here that the Commissioner put up considerable of a smoke screen labeled "States' Rights". We were all for States' Rights; there was not the slightest question about this point, no argument at all. We wished the State to have all the rights it could acquire and we knew that one certain way to deny many of these same vital rights would be to take over the wholly impractical financial burden of operating the public lands when we are not able to obtain so much help from all people. It would seem that Arizona has more financial headaches than we can cure right now, and this matter of securing added land without machinery to operate it, and no funds to obtain the machinery, is nothing short of a fatal policy. There is an immensely practical as well as political consideration in this brand of States' Rights wherein the welfare of the public is concerned. States' Rights, in this instance, really mean more rights and power and privilege in the hands of a few. This is especially true when one considers that the ultimate goal is private ownership.

There have been hungry eyes on this public property for a long time. The great voiceless groups most affected by any scheme to change ownership of these lands are the majority of the people. They are not aware of all that is involved. To date they have been informed only by highly vocal pressure groups, men who wish to dictate the land policy of the United States. Stockmen have spearheaded this drive

and are the prime movers in the entire matter, for they think they stand to benefit greatly.

Representative of the special interests have pushed this campaign from the start in an effort to influence various civic bodies to support the proposals. Many groups have gone on record as endorsing this movement. They have been unduly swayed by prejudiced persons. They have made no effort in most instances to hear the other side of the story, but have permitted resolutions to be railroaded through. Organizations that now cry for return of the public domain include powerful interests from the East, only too anxious to gain control for financial "killings". Arizona would lose its birthright (speaking of States' Rights) if she gave up this land to a selfish few.

An anguished howl was shortly raised about "Bureaucrats, and more Bureaucrats!" We were able to agree wherein this complaint was justly due but we were not discussing bureaucrats; we were talking about Arizona public land, its condition, and who should have the rights to it. Then the State-employed Commissioner complained bitterly about "that Foreign Government in Washington." I remembered that many boys and men and women died in a war scarcely concluded and many wars before that for this same "Foreign government." His outburst did not set so well with me. I also thought about the 16 million dollars that the Government had spent in national forests alone in this State, to say nothing of the additional millions for endless reclamation projects, for reservoirs, and other objectives that have so greatly aided in making the State what it is and have resulted in untold good to thousands. I somehow felt that the "States' Rights" outcry was dictated by more than regional sentiment and independence of spirit. In reality it was a case where the shout for freedom from any and central governmental management was actually a bid for added personal power for the few.

PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE:

The Commissioner had much to say about past history and its bearing upon the present problem. I am also concerned about the present and the future. With enormous, incalculable forces of destruction now abroad in the

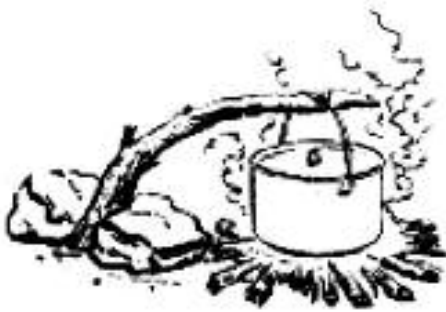
world we, the citizens of the United States have little enough national resources, thanks to prodigal waste in the past. It is unthinkable that we should contemplate relinquishing some of the potentially best land we possess, in order to pad the pockets of private interests.

Many who seek this Arizona land have repeatedly demonstrated their complete inability to husband it wisely. The State official commented bitterly upon the sum total of lands operated by the government at Federal expense. He referred to a comparison between Eastern and Western states in this respect. The fact is that the Eastern states have, of course, larger and more diversified populations and have been established far longer. They are inhabited by *enough* people and *enough* interests to demand that State governments heed the welfare of all and not cater to the special requests of the few. This is particularly apparent wherein the ownership of land is concerned. Steps have long since been taken to prevent the very folly that the Commissioner advocates hereby a small, prejudiced group seeks to gain large parcels of public property for their own exclusive use. To date the Federal, not the State government has prevented this abuse of the people's land rights in Arizona and in other Western states. As a matter of record, the Federal government does own and manage large areas in the East, in regions where the population is not great, for the same basic and sound reasons that concern all states: to protect and guarantee the heritage of all the people from the insatiable desire for land on the part of the few who are oblivious to public welfare and future fundamental needs of America as a whole.

WILLIAM CARR, the writer of this article, is a past president of the Arizona Wildlife Federation (Arizona Game Protective Association). He was formerly an Associate Curator of Education, American Museum of Natural History and jointly Park Naturalist, Palisades Interstate Park Commission. He made his home in Tucson for a period of time. His profession was writing and he was a specialist in Interpretive Land and Wildlife conservation. (Part Two of this article will appear in the next issue of AWN)

Camp Cook

By Ryna Rock



Potato Chicken Casserole

- 1/2 lb bacon, cut into chunks
- 1 (10-oz) can cream of chicken soup
- 8-10 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
- 1 (10-oz) can cream of celery soup
- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 1 c sour cream
- 1 can mushrooms, drained
- 1-1/2 tsp seasoning salt
- 1-1/2 tsp poultry seasoning, divided
- 1/2 tsp garlic salt
- 12-14 medium potatoes, peeled and sliced
- salt and pepper to taste
- 2 c grated cheddar cheese

Heat a 12-inch Dutch oven until hot. Fry bacon until brown. Cut chicken into bite size pieces. Add chicken, onions, mushrooms and 1/2 teaspoon of the seasoning salt. Stir, then cover and cook until onions are translucent and chicken is tender. Add potatoes. Stir in soups, sour cream, and the remaining seasonings. Salt and pepper to taste. Cover and cook for 45-60 minutes using 8-10 coals bottom and 14-16 coals top heat. Stir every 10-15 minutes. When done, cover top with cheese and replace lid. Let stand until cheese melts.

Craisin Bread Pudding

- 6 eggs
- 1/2 c craisins or raisins
- 1/2 c sugar
- 1/2 c walnuts, chopped
- 1/2 c sour cream

- 3/4 c brown sugar
- 1 c half-and-half or milk
- 1/2 c butter, melted
- 1/2 loaf bread

In a small mixing bowl, mix together eggs, sugar, sour cream and half-and-half. Line a 12-inch Dutch oven with heavy-duty aluminum foil. Layer ingredients in this order: 1/2 of the bread, craisins or raisins, walnuts, premixed liquids, sugar, and butter. Repeat in the same order using remaining ingredients.

Heat Dutch oven over 9 hot coals. Cover with dutch oven lid and place 15 hot coals on the top, creating a 325 degree oven. Bake covered, 30-40 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Serve warm. Serves 6-8.

Oven size	Number of briquettes	
	Top	Bottom
10-inch	10 to 12	8 to 10
12-inch	12 to 14	10 to 12
14-inch	14 to 16	12 to 14
16-inch	16 to 18	14 to 16



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www.facebook.com/azwildlife

Streams and Game Trails

By John Underwood



FALL FISHING

This is a time of the year when the fish are deciding just where to hang out. Take Bass for instance, they chase the shad into the coves so as to feed up for the coming winter months, or so it is suppose to be. Tricky fish they are, as some like to hang out in 20 to 30 feet of water and don't seem to do much. Others are feeding on top water early and late in the day and others are staying with the brush, tree and rock ledges. So where do you start?

My fishing partner and I spent 3 days at Roosevelt Lake and we can honestly say that we tried every place starting at daylight until mid afternoon, (as we were tired out from throwing most everything in our tackle boxes). Our success rate was fair to low on our catch and release, however we learned a lot for later trips. The Lake was at 45%, lowest I have seen it since, well can't remember when, and still going lower. This left only 2 really usable ramps open for launching, Windy Hill and Cholla.

You can check out the water levels and ramp info by going to: <http://www.srpwater.com/dwr/report.aspx?dt=10/24/2012>

TIDBITS

Sometimes no matter how quickly you set the hook, a bass has engulfed your bait to the point where extraction is difficult. Once the hook is removed the fish will often times begin to bleed. A tip that might save that fish is to keep on board a soft drink that contains citric acid (Mountain Dew, Sprite, 7UP for a few). Once the fish begins to bleed from the gills or gullet, pour the soft drink on the affected area. The acid in the drink will make the capillaries shrink, reducing and maybe eliminate the hemorrhage. Thus saving the fish for another day.

Chemicals in tobacco, sunscreen and insect repellent are among the most common offenders, but did you know the cheese curls you pack next to the salami sandwich and Gatorade in the boat cooler are a fierce fish repellent? Turns out gamefish don't like the smell of the preservatives used to keep all kinds of snack foods from going stale as they sit on the shelves of your local gas-n-grub.

Fish-attracting agents can cover up some of the man-stink on a lure, but it's a better idea to keep things clean in the first place. In other words, don't tie on that ½-ounce jig during your lunch break, and consider a scent eliminator like 'No Trace' that's supposed to eliminate noxious fish-repelling odors, even DEET, at the molecular level.

"*The Sportsmen's Daily*" offers a searchable database where you can determine what has been happening in your state. The popular "Eye-on-the Antis" articles continue to

expose the methods and tactics of radical anti-hunting and anti-trapping groups.

The best news is that *The Sportsmen's Daily* can be delivered to your computer each morning much like the newspapers of yesteryear landed on your door step. Use your mouse to make this your home page and to help you make accurate decisions on what action to take—or what to pursue that day. Take a tour at www.ussportsmen.org.

NCPA

National Center for Policy Analysis has taken issue with the claim that traditional lead-based ammunition poses a risk to wildlife. NCPA Senior Fellow Sterling Burnett observed that the EPA was not allowed by Congress to regulate or ban lead ammunition. Even if they did, Burnett said, "there is little evidence supporting the claim that lead ammunition poses a significant harm to animals and humans."

"Condors," he said, "are one of the few species in which lead ammunition is arguably doing harm - but protecting them does not justify a call for a nationwide ban."

Perhaps, Burnett observed, limited restrictions in the condors home range might be justified to prevent harm. He also observed something that hunters and conservationists have known for decades: banning lead would actually be harmful to wildlife.

Hunters and shooters pay excise taxes on all ammunition they purchase. That money is used to directly fund wildlife conservation programs. According to Burnett's research, a ban on lead ammunition would endanger much of the \$1.66 billion per year in wildlife management and conservation funding from taxes and fees on guns, licenses and ammunition.

Please read more for yourself at: <http://www.ncpa.org/pub/ba768>.

SMALL GAME

Not much to report at this time. The early Dove season produced some excellent shooting and bag limits. Whitewing were still in the area I hunted between Phoenix and Tucson, however with all the rain during that time, the areas were very muddy and lots of standing water. Late Dove season begins on November 23rd and runs until January 6, 2013.

No Quail reports, Open now until February 10th 2013.

While you are in the field, pick up a few Cottontails along with your Dove and Quail. Good hunting.

Take a Kid Hunting or Fishing with you for the Thrill of a Lifetime.

Until next time, Be Safe and Enjoy the Great Arizona Outdoors

Green At Work!

Did you know that you can support the Arizona Wildlife Federation at your workplace? AWF is among 28 leading environmental and conservation nonprofits that make up the Environmental Fund for Arizona – a vibrant partnership of Arizona’s ‘green’ organizations working all across the state to improve our natural environment.

Since 2001, thousands of Arizona employees have been offered a ‘green’ choice through EFAZ as part of their workplace giving campaigns, and collectively have raised over \$1 million for the vital environmental work being done by our member groups, including AWF.

American Express
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State of AZ
City of Chandler
City of Goodyear
City of Phoenix
City of Flagstaff
City of Mesa
City of Tempe
City of Scottsdale
City of Surprise
City of Tucson
Town of Queen Creek
Coconino County

Pima County
Maricopa County
Desert Botanical Garden
DMB Associates
JP Morgan Chase
Maricopa County Federal Employees
Maricopa County Community Colleges
Prescott College
Raytheon
Boeing
Southern AZ Federal Employees
United Health
Wells Fargo

You can donate through EFAZ in the workplaces listed below. Also, if your current workplace doesn’t offer a ‘green’ choice yet, contact EFAZ to learn how easy it is to start an EFAZ program!

To learn more, visit www.efaz.org.

Please contact Laine Seaton at the Environmental Fund for Arizona if you’re interested in starting or including EFAZ in your workplace giving campaign!

(480) 510-5511 or laine@efaz.org

Welcome New Members

Eric Ahlstrom	Apache Junction	John Gannaway	Phoenix	Shauna Mendoza	Gilbert
Lisa Andersen	Phoenix	Jeff Grant	Chandler	Steve Miller	San Tan Valley
Kathe Anderson	Scottsdale	Louise Gutawski	Scottsdale	Marcie Moody	Prescott
Leslie Baker	Show Low	Sheree Hanson	Lake Havasu City	Michael Munroe	Gilbert
Don Billick	Phoenix	Coral Hanson	Lake Havasu City	Sandy Myers	Tempe
Duane Blau	Mesa	Patricia Hassing	New River	Diane Novak	Gilbert
Gail Brockmeyer	Gilbert	Jim Hawkins	Scottsdale	Philip Olson	Tucson
Jeff & Roxanne Browne	Flagstaff	Carol Hess	Maricopa	Barbara Peltier	Lake Havasu City
Ron Buckner	San Tan Valley	Shannon Hollihan	Phoenix	Michelle Pollard	Gilbert
Julie Carter	Prescott	Shirley Howland	Mesa	Feather Proctor	Scottsdale
Vincent Cattolica	Pinetop	Anne Hull	Chandler	Hank Scutoski	Scottsdale
Suzanne Chitty	Phoenix	Kris Kidder	Lake Havasu City	Sandy Smith	Gilbert
Shelly Clayton	Phoenix	Bill Larson	Phoenix	Mike Trafficano	Mesa
Ellen Cohen	Dragoon	Jim Littlejohn	Tucson	Chris Vermeer	Chandler
Linda Cremir	Sun City	Lois Lorenz	Gilbert	Vera Walters	Apache Junction
Nicole Earls	Phoenix	Karen Luffman	Chandler	Ruth Whisler	Yuma
DeAnne Falise	Chandler	Lynn Lydon	Phoenix	Jennifer Wirtz	San Tan Valley
Katt Fedor	Gilbert	Klaudia Malanowski	Phoenix	Robyn Wyman	Tempe
Roberta Flood	Prescott	Jaime McAdams	Scottsdale	Kirsten Wyman	Bagdad
Pamela Foreman	Cave Creek	Jeannie McGehee	Avondale	Jeff Yamamoto	Glendale
Walter Gallaher	Mesa	Kate McMichael	Mesa		



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 _____

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

- \$ 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

All Membership fees may be tax deductible

Arizona Wildlife Federation Life Members

Alan Abel	Tucson	George Flener	Mesa	Don Luke	Phoenix	Wendell G. Swank	Cottonwood
William Acheson	Flagstaff	Chris Fonoti	Chino Valley	Jerry Marquis	Page	George L. Sypherd	Sun City West
Patsy Apple	Phoenix	James E. Frye	Mesa	Christina Mathew-Bowers	Phoenix	Lewis N. Tenney Jr.	Heber
Jeff Augustine	Scottsdale	Steve Gallizioli	Fountain Hills	Patricia A. McNeil	Payson	Larry Thowe	Page
James Baldree	Phoenix	John Gannaway	Phoenix	Duke Mertz	Chandler	Robert D. Tucker	Buckeye
John Bauermeister	Scottsdale	Gilbert F. Gehant	Mesa	David & Victoria Morgan	Anthem	Charles W. Tyree	Tucson
David Beaty	Mesa	Fred Gerhauser	Peoria	Sandra Nagiller	Parks	John B. Underwood	Scottsdale
Diana Beatty	Kingman	Donald Gerould	Sun City	Allen Naille	Flagstaff	Ken Vensel	Flagstaff
John R. Beck	Peoria	J. David Gibeault	Tucson	Jack Naperala	Scottsdale	Mark T. Vi t t	Scottsdale
Donald Billick	Phoenix	Rene G Gilbert	Anthem	Mike Neilson	Dewey	Stephen T. White	Scottsdale
Bruce H. Bishop	Tempe	Hank Gonzales	Tucson	Fred Nobbe	Phoenix	Brian H. Williams	Scottsdale
E Clark Bloom	Hereford	Kim Graber	Phoenix	Daniel & Annalee Norton	Scottsdale	Robert A. Witzeman	Phoenix
Clarence Bowe Jr.	Scottsdale	Raymond E. Grice	Mesa	Donald J. Parks Jr.	Peoria	Larry M. Wolfe Sr.	Phoenix
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Howard Darland	Mesa	Roy G. Jones	Phoenix	Lary & Betty Lou Scott	Scottsdale	Jaren Vanderlinden	Amarillo, TX
Anthony Diana	Phoenix	Thomas Kalos	Paradise Valley	Walter Scrimgeour	Prescott	Tom Ward	Orange, CA
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Linda Erman	Phoenix	Lee A. Kohlhase	Mesa	Duane Shroufe	Glendale		
Rick Erman	Phoenix	William Lacy	Mesa	Jack H. Simon	Phoenix		
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Honoring the memory of sportsmen and sportswomen through a \$500 Benefactor Membership

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