



Position Statement on the Heritage Fund  
March 2005

The Arizona Wildlife Federation, in the year 2005, continues to support the Arizona Heritage Fund Act of 1990 (AHF). Since the voters approved the AHF program by a two to one margin in 1990 it has been a reliable source of funding for the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the Arizona State Parks.

With the addition of these AHF voter-approved Arizona Lottery dollars, the two respective agencies have provided the citizens of Arizona with outstanding and improved park facilities, acquisition of sensitive and priceless habitats, preservation of historic landmarks, resource education programs and many other assets that improve our quality of life as Arizonans.

The Arizona State Legislature has not respected the wishes of the voters with regard to AHF. That body annually attempts to divert the funding from its intended beneficiaries and makes continued efforts to dismantle the program outright. Due to the success of AHF and its tremendous citizen support, the state legislature's attempts at destroying AHF have failed.

It is in this spirit that the Arizona Wildlife Federation strongly endorses all efforts to maintain and enhance the AHF for its intended mission. This endorsement is intended to specifically preclude the Arizona State Legislature from interfering in the allocation of AHF funds. AHF funds are to be distributed on behalf of the people of Arizona only by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission and the Arizona State Parks Board in accordance with the Arizona Heritage Fund Act of 1990.