# **Sportsmen's Connection**

## **June 2017**



Not the temperature, it surely is hot enough in Arizona right now.

On the Grand Canyon Bison front, we have commented and recommended a suggested third alternative to the National Park Service's Environmental Assessment. We are realistic enough to know the NPS will likely discount that input, however we don't believe the Secretary of the Interior will, nor will Congress, and optimistically, nor will the President.

We've sent Secretary Zinke our input. Representatives Gosar, Franks, O'Halleran and Schweikert are co-sponsoring bi-partisan legislation in the House with the Grand Canyon Bison Management Act.

If you live in the Congressional District of Representatives McSally, Grijalva, Biggs, Gallego or Sinema, please call them and urge them to join the other Arizona Representatives in cosponsoring this bill. It's unlikely we'll get Grijalva or Gallego to support it, but they still need to know where we stand, and you in particular if you're one of their constituents!

We also need to turn up the heat on Senators McCain and Flake and get them to introduce the same bill in the Senate. Please take a few minutes and give their offices a call.

Click on the links below to find contact information for your Representatives and Senators.

https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/AZ#representatives https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/AZ#senators

In other news, the Tonto National Forest (Tonto) is assessing all 3+ million acres for wilderness opportunities. We're keeping an eye on that effort, along with travel management planning, which is continuing across Arizona on BLM lands and now reopened again on the Tonto.

The deadline to submit funding requests from the Conserving Wildlife license plate grant fund is July 1st. Applications will be considered for approval at the August

22nd AZSFWC Board meeting. Any 501c3 within Arizona can apply for project or event funding as long as they are in good standing with the Arizona Corporation Commission. Click <a href="here">here</a> for information and a link to the application.

Finally, mark your calendars for our 1st Annual Sportsmen's Summit at the Ben Avery Clay Target Center in Phoenix on August 5th, <u>Click here</u> for information.

Yours in Conservation, Jim Unmacht Executive Director

## **Grant Success!**

A recent grant awarded to the AZ Antelope Foundation funded the cleanout and dam repair of the Back Pasture tank in GMU 30A. This project will enhance Pronghorn and Mule Deer habitat by providing yearlong, freestanding water to a portion of the Ten X Ranch that lacks an available yearlong water source. Estimated water storage that can



be realized upon filling is 900,000 cubic feet. The design of the tank cleanout resulted in a gradual slope along all sides which will allow easy access for wildlife and livestock. Additionally, the existing siltation trap that was part of this tank was preserved and maintained, preventing silt and debris from entering during flood events. Read the complete report <u>HERE</u>.

# **Upcoming Member Activities**



Only a few days left to be entered in this special incentive drawing for a Polaris Quad. All purchases for AZ Big Game Super

Raffle tickets between May 20 and June 30 automatically get you an entry. This is the only way to win so <u>BUY YOUR SUPER RAFFLE</u> TICKETS NOW.



2017 Campaign ends soon. Last day to buy online is July 10th, then your chance to win is gone until next year. <u>BUY HERE</u>.



# SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2017



# Sportsman & Recreation Day on the Land

Join us for a day of discussion on the relationship between landowners, sportsmen, recreators, and the natural resources we all value so much!

9:00AM - 2:30PM

- · learn about the history & science of waters on the ranches
- meet other sportsmen & recreators of Northern Arizona
- spend a day in the beautiful Coconino National Forest

Lunch will be served @ Kinnikinick Lake.



Please RSVP by 5:00PM Friday, July 07: info@diablotrust.org • (928) 523-0588

www.diablotrust.org/calendar/srday-17









# WILDLIFE HABITAT **VOLUNTEER WORK PROJECT**



# SLATE LAKES GRASSLAND RESTORATI



JULY 15-16, 2017

#### UNIT 7W OFF OF HWY 180 NORTHWEST OF FLAGSTAFF

#### -DESCRIPTION-

The Arizona Elk Society will be hand cutting small lack pine trees and lunipers to open grassland meadows to benefit wildlife by resetting the ecological clock for the grasslands. Over time the conifers from the surrounding forest invaded the grassland winter range and blocked vital connectivity for wildlife. The elk and antelope need our help to remove the invading trees to restore the grasslands.

-TOOLS-You can bring BRANCH LOPPERS & HANDSAWS and gloves if you have them. We have tools for everyone, (DO NOT BRING CHAIN-SAIUS) Please make sure to bring appropriate hats, long sleeve shirts, safety glasses, sonblock etc. Be prepared for cool mornings and possibly rain. Old clothes are recommended for those working with the trees and sharp tools.

#### -CAMPING-

Take HWV 190 NW out of Flansfalf about 30 miles to FR191 near Mile Marker 242.5. Head SW about 1/2 mil to CAMP, look for sizns. Seace will be available for vehicles, tents and RV camping. Porta-Johns and wash stations will be available in camp.

#### -MEALS-

We will be providing meals Friday night. Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner, and Sunday breakfast and some lunch on Sunday. Water and refreshments will be available in camp.

We are a family oriented organization; however projects are potentially dangerous working with sharp saws, barbed wire, power tools and vehicles Kids under 18 need to be supervised by an adult.

# - PLEASE RSUP -

Please register on the Website!

www.arizonaelksociety.org

Please preresister to net a count for food needs.

To get more information go to the website www.arizonaelksociety.org. Don't forget to sign up for the Arizona Elk Society email newsletter. For more information or to volunteer for one or all of the work projects please contact Tom Schorr at tomschorr@arizonaelksociety.org



First Annual Sportsmen's Summit August 5, 2017 Ben Avery Clay Target Center Click here for details.

## Huachuca Gould's Chapter of the NWTF Hunter Heritage Fundraising Banquet

August 5, 2017 Sierra Vista Knights of Columbus 4:30PM

The banquet is a casual dress, family oriented evening with a variety of quality merchandise offered through live and silent auctions, raffles, games, and drawings. This year a large variety of firearms will be offered, along with some outstanding bonus and super raffle packages. Evening activities geared toward all family members.

Funds raised from this banquet are used for a variety of Conservation and community activities throughout the surrounding area. These activities revolve around Conservation, Community and Education. Please review our many past and future activities on our website.

Ticket pricing is \$100 for a couple, \$135 for 2 memberships, \$70 for singles, \$35 for children 17 years old and younger. For larger groups' we are offering a Corporate Table which includes 10 seats and an exclusive package. Purchase tickets by July 23rd to receive our Early Bird package.

https://events.nwtf.org/3006110-2017.

For more information contact either John Millican at 520-508-4272, Wayne Kaiser at 520-678-9827 or visit our website at www.nwtfhuagoulds.org



<u>JOIN</u>

Sponsors & Supporters





# Members

Welcome to our newest members, Christian Hunters of America, Lookout Mountain Outdoors, The Ranch at Southfork and Western Hunter. We are happy they are on board along with the following:

1.2.3.Go	Anglers United	AZ Antelope Foundation
AZ Bass Federation Nation	AZ Big Game Super Raffle	AZ Bowhunters Association
AZ Catfish Conservation Assoc	AZ Chapter NWTF	AZ Chapter SCI
AZ Council of Trout Unlimited	AZ Deer Association	AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep Society
AZ Elk Society	AZ Flycasters Club	AZ Houndsmen's Association
AZ Outdoor Sports	AZ Shooting Sports Education Foundation	AZ Taxidermy Association
Back Country Hunters & Anglers	Christian Hunters of America	Coconino Sportsmen
Kahuna's Kids	Mohave Sportsman Cub	Outdoor Experience 4 All
Shoot Right	South Eastern AZ Sportsmen Club	SRT Outdoors Inc
Southwest Wildlife Foundation (YVRGC)	The Bass Federation Arizona	TRCP
Valley of the Sun Quail Forever	White Mountain Lakes Foundation	Xtreme Predator Callers

## **Affiliate Members**



American Precision
Target Systems











By purchasing this plate you will be making a contribution to Arizona's wildlife and wildlife habitat. Seventeen dollars (\$17) of each twenty-five (\$25) special license fee will go to AZSFWC's conservation fund. AZSFWC will review and approve all grants from the special license plate program revenues. These grants will fund important outdoor recreational and educational opportunities and on-the-ground wildlife habitat restoration and enhancement projects.

These plates can be purchased online and can also be personalized. To order an AZSFWC Conservation License Plate go to: <a href="http://www.servicearizona.com">http://www.servicearizona.com</a> Click on "Personalized/Specialty Plates" then if you wish to personalize it, check its availability. Once you have verified the availability of your personalization, or if you only want to order the AZSFWC Conservation Special Plate, click on "Order My Plate". Order your plate as a sequential shelf plate for \$25.00 per year or as a personalized plate for \$50.00 per year.

Here is another helpful link when ordering your special license plate. You can have many of your questions answered here:

https://servicearizona.com/webapp/vehicle/plates/showInfoPage.do

The AZSFWC Conservation Plate gives all Arizonan's an opportunity to contribute to programs that benefit our wild creatures. **Step up and support "Wild Arizona".** 

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation is a 501-c-3 not-for-profit organization whose mission is to educate and inform sportsmen, wildlife conservation organizations throughout the state and the public at large on important issues related to wildlife and wildlife habitat and to provide, via grants or other sources, funding to conserve Arizona's wildlife populations through habitat enhancement initiatives. The AZSFWC is responsible for managing the conservation license plate program (Wildlife Conservation Habitat Fund). The fund is derived from the sale of wildlife conservation license plates and member organizations as well as non-member organizations are eligible to apply for those funds.



