



Arizona's arm for the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), Arizonans for Wildlife (AfW) came out with an enews this past week addressed to the "Wild Cat Protectors" (WCP's). One has to wonder just how much time and money these "Protectors" have spent on wildlife and "wild cat" conservation and habitat enhancement? Quite likely nothing, and they do not want you to spend any money on it either, let the taxpayer pay, not the sportsman or woman!

Professional scientific wildlife management by the AZ Game & Fish biologists will become even more important as Arizona pushes towards 7 million residents in our State. It will be imperative for the conservation and protection of Arizona's wildlife that science guides the future, not emotion based ballot box initiatives!

Here's how you can help:

- Educate the non-hunting public with factual information (resources can be found [HERE](#))
- Tactfully and courteously interact with WCP's
- Send us signature gathering locations you've come across, and details of your encounters with signature gatherers.
- Expose HSUS misinformation, lies and innuendo ([Humane Watch](#) is a good resource)
- Continue social media factual blitz, link, like and share ([AZSFWC Facebook Page](#))
- Advise us of newspaper, radio or other media opportunities
- Publicize "Decline to Sign"

Here's an update on some other issues impacting Arizona:

Meet Commission Chair Jim Ammons on December 16th at Bass Pro

Shops in Mesa, in the Fine Gun Room from 11 am to 1 pm. If you have a question, here's your chance to ask it!

Grand Canyon Bison, the NPS is collecting able bodied marksmen for the culling, and in the meantime, our Senators await a response to some questions on the matter. January 2018 is our legislative target for the Senators to add Grand Canyon Bison Management Act language to the Senate Energy Bill.

Tonto National Forest planning plods on, and we remain engaged on the process. Most recently target shooting limitations were announced.

National Monument legislation is moving through the U.S. House to refine and redefine the Antiquities Act process.

Reforestation legislation has passed the House and is moving on to the Senate.

Rio Verde Ranch is being considered for purchase by the Prescott National Forest using the Land and Water Conservation Fund. This purchase would provide additional access points along the Upper Verde River for sportsmen.

Lees Ferry- the National Park Service is seeking comment on a Non-native Aquatic Species Management Plan and Environmental Assessment south of Glen Canyon Dam. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Commission Candidates were recently interviewed by the Commission Appointment Recommendation Board and two candidates have been forwarded to Governor Ducey, Leland "Bill" Brake of Elgin and James E. Goughnour of Payson.

For more information on all these issues, visit our website, and remember "Decline to Sign"!

Jim Unmacht
Executive Director

A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing
by Kurt Bahti, retired Arizona Game Warden

We all know that there are anti-hunting



groups out there and we may have dealt with them in the field before. One of the most dangerous groups, or maybe the most dangerous, is the Humane Society of the United States, HSUS. I remember having to work a hunt in Arizona north of Tucson where a group vowed to harass hunters. The 'harassers' were woefully unprepared to follow hunters in the rough terrain, which was actually quite entertaining to us, BUT they got their moment of fame by coverage on the nightly news which is what they wanted. I don't recall the name of the group but that was the start of my education about anti-hunting groups.



When Arizona hosted the 2012 NAWEOA summer convention we were offered some monetary support from HSUS. I was on the committee when this was presented and I spoke strongly against them as I had done research on the organization and their activities. A couple officers supported taking their donation as we needed monetary support. In the end we turned them down and for dang good reasons.... [Read more.](#)

Grant Award Report

Kahuna's Kids Mentoring Kids Fishing Derby



On Saturday, October 14, 2017 Kahuna's Kids and Del Norte Bass Anglers introduced 28 underprivileged children to the joys of fishing and the wonders of the outdoors! All of these children are members of a program which has paired them with adult mentors to foster their growth and well-

being. So not only are the children exposed to the thrill of fishing, but their adult mentor is able to experience this with them as well, providing an enriching bonding experience for both. Participants were greeted at Patagonia Lake with breakfast snacks and given all the tools they would

Patagonia Like breakfast snacks and given all the tools they would need for a fun day of fishing on the lake. Upon their return to shore, they were fed a BBQ lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs. Each child was sent home with fishing rod & reel, tackle pack, event t-shirt, plaque with a photo from their day on the lake, and a memorable experience. Thanks to the grant from AZ Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation, we were able to purchase our own life vests to loan to the participants for the day. Previously, we had to drive to Phoenix to borrow jackets from the AZ Game & Fish Department.

JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS - NEW RAFFLE



ARIZONA Sportsmen
for Wildlife Conservation

MK4 Rifle Raffle



**Battle Tested Equipment MK4
with Leupold VX-R Patrol**

- Billet 7075 Receiver
- 15" Free Float MLOK hand guard
- 16" match grade nitride barrel
- BTE 3.5lb match trigger
- BTE Recoil Management System
- 45° Offset Rapid Deploy Sights
- FDE and OD Green
- proudly handmade in America
- Sleek designed Leupold scope with daylight-capable illumination, patented 1-button design minimizes bulk, and 8 intensity settings, including a low/high indicator

Tickets \$10
Up to 500 tickets
will be sold

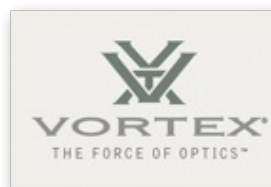
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Winner must pass federal background check and make arrangements with Outdoorsmans to receive the firearm

(non-local winner is responsible for any shipping costs)



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Welcome new member Arizona Predator Callers!

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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 Adventures	AZ Outdoor Sports	AZ Predator Callers
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)
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Got Wildlife?
Get Your License Plate

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: <http://www.servicearizona.com> 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.

