



## *Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation*



Arizona is blessed with many things including millions of acres of public land, unparalleled beauty, a rich history, and at least for now, tied with California for the most National Monuments (NM) in all the states, 18.

<https://nationalparkobsessed.com/list-of-national-monuments/>

The "18" is a fluid number, as the Chiricahua NM is on course to be transformed into a National Park (NP). Bipartisan legislation from our Arizona Congressional delegation is pushing the transition with Senator Kelly on the Senate side, and Representative Ciscomani on the House side.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/736/text>

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1479/text>

This type of transition, from NM to NP has happened many times before around the country, as well as in Arizona. The Grand Canyon, Saguaro, Petrified Forest, and Marble Canyon NM's became NP's. (Marble Canyon became part of the Grand Canyon)

<https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/hisnps/npshistory/righter.htm>

<https://www.go-arizona.com/National-Parks-Monuments-Historic-Sites/#>

<https://arizonajourney.org/arizona-national-parks-and-monuments/>

When a NM becomes a NP, the rules change. As a piece of land or place moves up the special designation ladder, the bureaucracy increases accordingly too. You can debate the merits either way, however oftentimes the bureaucracy simply creates roadblocks (literally and figuratively), and the managing agency proceeds with more restrictions.

Hence the importance of a NM's Proclamation language. What has the President proclaimed by invoking the Antiquities Act?

President Clinton went on a "monument spree" at the end of his term, particularly in Arizona, naming five new monuments. One is back in the spotlight again, the Sonoran Desert NM; because of what was left out of the proclamation, recreational shooting.

At least dating back to 2012, recreational shooting became a target for incremental elimination across the almost half a million acres. Since then, it has been in the management spotlight, with shrinking availability across the NM. Factor in the courts, and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is now reviewing the issue once again.

"The purpose of the amendment is to establish management guidance for recreational target shooting within the monument and to fulfill the requirements of an April 2022 court settlement."

<https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2019811/510>

You may not be a target shooter, and you may even like these potentially enhanced restrictions, but the point is, it's an easier path to challenge a component or activity on a NM when it isn't enshrined in the NM's Proclamation.

Politics are also in play when it comes to NM's. You might think such potential treasures would be above that fray, but alas they are not. Presidents from both parties have proclaimed NM's. Going all the way back to President Nixon, Democrat Presidents have designated 60 NM's and

Republican Presidents 6.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/us-presidents-who-preserved-most-public-lands-antiquities-act-2017-10>

President Biden has made three proclamations so far, with more on the horizon.

<https://www.npr.org/2023/03/21/1164885621/biden-national-monuments-nevada-texas>

Some are championing others:

<https://www.americanprogress.org/article/16-national-monuments-and-marine-sanctuaries-biden-should-create-or-expand/>

For over 15 years, Representative Grijalva has worked to have additional land set aside and “protected” along the Colorado River, without success until possibly now. The political stars have aligned with support from both of Arizona’s Senators, our Governor, and the President. This new NM would be called the Baaj Nwaavjo I’tah Kukveni Grand Canyon National Monument. Here’s a press release with some background.

<https://www.grandcanyontrust.org/blog/tribes-propose-baaj-nwaavjo-itah-kukveni-grand-canyon-national-monument>

Originally the North Kaibab was going to be included in the NM footprint, however thanks to Senator Sinema, it has been removed from inclusion to date. Without the North Kaibab, the NM would be approximately 1,069,970 acres in size, consisting of current Game Management Units 13A, 12B, and 9.

Senator Sinema’s and Rep. Grijalva’s staff are currently working on a “marker” bill for consideration by the Congress. The bill won’t pass the House, but it will set parameters and guidelines for the President “when” he decides to make this monument proclamation.

Governor Hobbs’ wrote the President on May 30, 2023, expressing her support for the proposed monument, but also requested clarification “that the Arizona Game and Fish Department will retain its existing authority related to management, control, and regulation of fish and wildlife so that this authority is clearly delineated prior to the years-long formation of a monument management plan.” The Governor’s request is important!

AZSFWC has been working with the Arizona Game & Fish Department (AZGFD) and Commission in concert with the Congressional staffers, to ensure AZGFD’s statutory responsibility to manage wildlife with all the available tools (including hunting and angling) is specific in the bill’s language.

AZSFWC has not yet taken a position on the proposed monument, however the significance of enshrining that specific language in the bill is of utmost importance, particularly when you consider what is under way now with the Sonoran Desert NM.

Our work continues!

Yours in Conservation,  
Jim Unmacht  
Executive Director

## **Congratulations to AZSFWC Member Outdoor Hall Of Fame Recipients**

The esteemed Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame is set to celebrate its 25th anniversary with the induction of remarkable individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to wildlife conservation in Arizona. The banquet will take place on August 19th at the Wigwam Resort, located in Litchfield Park ([info here](#)).

Among this year's inductees are a number of AZSFWC members including:

- Arizona Big Game Super Raffle, DBA Conservation First USA -Member Group
- Eddie Corona, AZSFWC Secretary and Board rep for OE4A & AZ Houndsmen
- Kurt Davis - Individual Member
- Tice Supplee - President of Member Group AZ Elk Society

These organizations and individuals have demonstrated passion and leadership in shaping the future of wildlife conservation in Arizona. AZSFWC congratulates all the recipients!

## L. Gary Stinson Grant Program

Second quarter grant applications were presented and voted on at the May 23, 2023 AZSFWC Board meeting. Funding for the grants is available through sales of our special Conserving Wildlife license plate. More information about the license plate and how you can obtain one can be found [HERE](#).

Five grants were approved with total funding in the amount of \$74,162 and included the following:

- \$50,000 - Conservation First USA for the Dude Fire Restoration Project Phase I
- \$5,000 - AZ Elk Society for their Wapiti Weekend Outdoor Skills Camp
- \$10,400 - AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep Society for Wildlife Transplant Equipment
- \$600 - AZ Council Trout Unlimited for the 14th Annual Native & Wild Trout Conference
- \$8,162 - AZ Council Trout Unlimited for their Youth Fish Camp

Read more [HERE](#).





# Bow Raffle

**MATHEWS  
2023  
SE4™ 29**

**70# REALTREE EDGE FINISH  
AXLE-TO-AXLE 29"  
BRACE HEIGHT 6"  
IBO RATING 340 FPS  
BRIDGE-LOCK STABILIZER**

Tickets \$10  
Up to 400 tickets will be sold

[Click here to buy](#)

Must be 21 years of age and present in Arizona at the time of purchase. Winner will be drawn when all tickets are sold.



See this great video for more information about this bow: <https://youtu.be/5TfN4eHAGDo>

# MONTHLY 50/50 CASH RAFFLE



**Tickets  
\$5 Each**

**The winner of this monthly raffle splits the pot with AZSFWC! A new raffle and pot will commence at 12:00 am on the 1st of the month. Buyers through 11:59 pm on the last day of the month will have a chance to win before the pot is closed and reset.**

**There are no limits on the number of tickets sold or the number any one person can purchase. Winner will be drawn at random and announced on or before the 5th of the month.**



**ALL PURCHASERS MUST BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD & PHYSICALLY PRESENT IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA AT THE TIME TICKETS ARE PURCHASED.**

**[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE](#)**

**Please support our Member Group Activities**

# BIGHORN SHEEP, BLACK BEAR, BUFFALO AND JAVELINA RAFFLE TICKETS ON SALE NOW!



## ROUND THREE SPECIES TICKET SALES MAY 1ST – JUNE 30TH!

BIGHORN SHEEP • BEAR • BUFFALO • JAVELINA



The Arizona Big Game Super Raffle is now called Conservation First USA. Same great Arizona Special Big Game Tags and now every ticket is just \$10!



### Buy Often, Win Big BONUS Drawings

One lucky person will win \$500 in cash, and five more will each win \$100 cash! All buyers purchasing tickets online through June 30, 2023 will be eligible to win.

**Each transaction is another chance to win BONUS CASH!**



100% of funds raised from Arizona Special Big Game Tag raffles goes directly to the AZ Game & Fish Department for wildlife conservation.

AZ Big Game Super Raffle (DBA Conservation First USA) recently changed the rules to require the online purchased of raffle tickets to be made within the state of Arizona. **You do not have to be an Arizona resident, just IN Arizona when the ticket is purchased.** We changed our rules this year to comply with Federal regulations that prohibit us from selling online raffle tickets online across state lines. Non-residents may participate; however, the ticket purchase transaction must take place in the state of Arizona. If you travel to Arizona you may purchase tickets while you are here. If you don't live in or travel to Arizona but have friends or family who do, they can purchase tickets on your behalf.

Scan this QR Code with your smart phone.

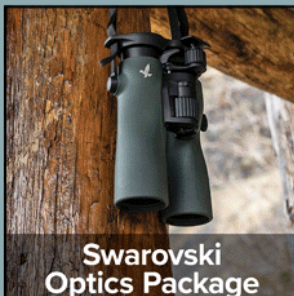
Must be 21 years of age and present in the state of AZ to purchase tickets.

Visit [conservationfirstusa.org](https://conservationfirstusa.org) for complete rules.



# MAGNIFICENT 7 RAFFLES

SEVEN GREAT RAFFLES THAT YOU CAN BUY AS A PACKAGE OR FOR JUST \$10 PER TICKET!



**MAGNIFICENT 7 BUNDLE PACKAGE**

A "MAGNIFICENT 7" PACKAGE INCLUDES ONE (1) TICKET FOR EACH OF THE 5 TEXAS HUNTS, (1) TICKET FOR THE NM ELK HUNT AND ONE (1) TICKET FOR THE SWAROVSKI OPTICS PACKAGE. PURCHASE THIS PACKAGE AND ALSO RECEIVE A "FREE" ENTRY FOR THE SWAROVSKI OPTICS PACKAGE.



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# ARIZONA ELK SOCIETY ANNUAL ELK CLINIC

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

## LEARN TO HUNT SERIES



**SATURDAY, JULY 29th**  
9am to 4 pm in Phoenix

**REGISTRATION:**  
\$20 Adult | \$10 Youth  
(17 & under)

**LUNCH INCLUDED**

**ADDITIONAL PRESENTERS:**  
AZGFD  
Optics Experts  
Taxidermists  
Millers Southwest Meat Processing

**FEATURED PRESENTER:**  
**DAN ADLER**

Host of Best of the West Hunting Show  
On The Outdoor Channel  
Owner: Diamond Outfitters



Register Online at: [www.ShopAES.org](http://www.ShopAES.org)

**REGISTER NOW SEATING IS LIMITED**  
THIS EVENT WILL SELL OUT!

**Featured Presenter:**  
**Dan Adler - Pro Hunting Guide**

**Additional Presenters:**  
AZGFD

Optics Experts  
Taxidermists  
Millers Southwest Meat Processing







2023

# SUMMER WEBINAR SERIES

WWW.CSFWEBINARS.ORG



This 4-part webinar series will run monthly from June 29<sup>th</sup> – September 21<sup>st</sup>, covering topics such as right to hunt and fish constitutional amendments, state wildlife management authority and more! Each webinar starts at 3:00 pm EDT.

6/29/23 - At The Tipping Point: Misguided Efforts to Reform Wildlife Management

7/20/23 - Who's the Boss?: The role of state fish and wildlife agencies and the stakeholders they serve

8/17/23 - Safeguarding our Outdoor Sporting Traditions: Why a state constitutional right to hunt and fish is the gold standard and how to make it happen in you state

6/21/23 - National Hunting & Fishing Day and You: Recognizing the crucial role sportsmen and women play in funding our nation's conservation efforts,

Registration is required, so please visit <https://www.csfwebinars.org/> to register today and encourage others to follow suit.

## Sportsmen's Business Directory

Do you really know who you do business with? Do the businesses you patronize support the things you like to do?

Help us build the Sportsmen's Business Alliance online directory to help you find those businesses.

If you are a business owner, here is an opportunity for you to reach out to like-minded sportsmen & women and support organizations that promote causes important to them.

[Read more HERE.](#)

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Corporate Partner



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## Members

Alter Valley Conservation Alliance	AZ Outdoor Adventures
Anglers United	AZ Outdoor Sports, Inc
AZ Antelope Foundation	AZ Predator Callers
AZ Big Game Super Raffle/Conservation First USA	Christian Hunters of America
AZ Bowhunters Association	Diablo Trust
AZ Chapter Backcountry Hunters & Anglers	Ducks Unlimited
AZ Chapter National Wild Turkey Federation	Friends of BANWR
AZ Chapter Safari Club International	Mogollon Sporting Association
AZ Council Trout Unlimited	Mule Deer Foundation
AZ Deer Association	Outdoor Experience 4 All
AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep Society	Southern AZ Chapter Quail Forever
AZ Elk Society	Southwest Wildlife Foundation/YVRGC
AZ Flycasters Club	The Trust for Public Land
AZ Houndsmen Association	Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
	Valley of the Sun Quail Forever

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## Associate Members



# No Excuse Hunting & Outdoors



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## Affiliate Members



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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.

**DONATE**

The AZSFWC is responsible for managing the conservation license plate program (L. Gary Stinson Grant 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.



**Got Wildlife?**  
**Get Your License Plate**  
**servicearizona.com**

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 L. Gary Stinson Grant 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. (More info [HERE](#)).

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. <https://servicearizona.com/plateAvailability/plate?execution=e2s3>

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"**.

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info@azsfwc.org | [azsfwc.org](http://azsfwc.org)

