



"Officially" Earth Day turns 50 years old today. What a great opportunity to ask for money, with double, triple and even quadruple matches! That practice is rampant across the environmental groups' spectrum.

Sometimes you have to wonder how we get some of these special "days"? Is it because Hallmark needs a revenue stream, or maybe the Sierra Club? Alas that would depend on the particular "day" I suppose.

Sportsmen and women have days too...application day, deadline day, opening day and the like. We hope to celebrate those days many times on the Earth; at the range, in the field, on the shore, in the boat, or on the mountain!

As many of "us" plan spring hunts, hikes or fishing forays, pause for a minute and consider what is going on around us. The folks that don't want us doing what we love to do, are planning for the future and enshrining their vision of what they want the "Earth" to look like.

"We" need to stop and realize "we" need to do the same, if we desire our kids and grandkids to have some of the same enjoyment outside that we've had.

Not much new to report at the Arizona Legislature as they remain postponed, and the same with Congress.

Federal agencies however are seeking comment on a number of issues which include the following:

- The Fish and Wildlife Service is opening comment through June 15th for a Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Mexican wolf. A court order has mandated this, and as you might imagine, some groups want expansion north of I-40, no limits on numbers and release of naïve adult wolves across Arizona and New Mexico. A7SEWC

release of native adult wolves across Arizona and New Mexico. AZSFWC supported the current Recovery Plan that has been in effect since 2015.

<https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=FWS-R2-ES-2020-0007-0001>

- The Department of Interior is seeking comment on expanding hunting and fishing opportunities across the National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) system, including here in Arizona. The comment deadline here is June 8th. We're already hearing "chatter" from some who think it's unimaginable there is even any hunting at all on America's "wildlife refuges". AZSFWC has been a staunch advocate for more access to our public lands, including within our NWR system.

<https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=FWS-HQ-NWRS-2020-0013>

- The Cabeza Prieta NWR is seeking comment through May 15th on hunting rules and expansion. Ironically, illegal border crossers have had more access to this refuge than our country's own citizens! AZSFWC will be commenting on this opportunity to expand hunting opportunities on the Cabeza.

<https://www.fws.gov/nwrs/threecolumn.aspx?id=6442461516>

There will be more opportunities coming. While the likes of Covid can shutter businesses, the Legislature and even Congress, comment "opportunities" through the Federal agencies march on.

On a brighter note, the Arizona turkey opener is imminent, and how fortuitous this year...your camo mask can serve a dual purpose!

Be safe, good luck, and may your social distance with that old gobbler be short.

Jim Unmacht  
Executive Director

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## Nominations sought for Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame

The Outdoor Hall of Fame annually recognizes individuals and organizations that have made significant and lasting contributions toward Arizona's wildlife, the welfare of its natural resources, and the state's outdoor heritage.

Submission deadline for nominations is 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, 2020. To submit a nomination, download a nomination [form](#), complete it and return with all supplemental materials to Rebecca Bouquot at [Wildlifefortomorrow@gmail.com](mailto:Wildlifefortomorrow@gmail.com). Or, you can mail the completed nomination form and materials to:

Wildlife for Tomorrow Foundation  
Attn: Rebecca Bouquot

14852 South Luna Drive  
Litchfield Park, AZ 85340

The 2020 Arizona Outdoor Hall of Fame Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday, Aug. 15, at the Wigwam Resort located in Litchfield Park.

**Upcoming Member Group Activities & Events**  
**This is very fluid given response to COVID-19**  
**Many groups have had to cancel or postpone activities**  
**Be sure to check with a group for up to date info**



**Yuma Valley Rod & Gun Club**  
**Southwest Wildlife Foundation**

# ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

**CASH PRIZES!**

**2 Winners - \$5,000**

**1 Winner - \$3,000 2 Winners - \$1,000**

**Drawing: May 6, 2020**

**Need Not Be Present To Win!**

**TICKETS: \$20.00 EACH**

*Only 1500 Tickets Sold!*

**Contact any Rod & Gun Club member for Tickets**

For information contact Doug Beach (928)446-1122 or Yuma Valley Rod & Gun Club



Dear Arizona Elk Society Sponsors, Guests, Members, and Volunteers,

Based on the directives and recommendations from the Office of the President, CDC, and Governor's Office, the 19th Annual Arizona Elk Society Banquet is being rescheduled. It is important to the AES Board and staff that we help address the concerns about the spread of the COVID-19 virus and protect the safety and wellbeing of our sponsors, guests, members, volunteers, and employees.

**The new date for the banquet is scheduled for Saturday, June 6th, 2020.**



Any guests with tickets during this time will be able to use them at the rescheduled banquet on Saturday, June 6th, 2020. If you would prefer to cancel, we would be grateful if you would consider letting us convert your ticket purchase to a donation as we are facing an uncertain time with the postponement of this event. AES annual banquet is our primary fundraiser, which makes up nearly 62 percent of our annual budget. Loss of this revenue would severely impact AES's ability to continue our programs and projects for this year. While we are saddened by the postponement, we know that we must do what is right for our community. We are happy to issue a refund upon request. Please respond to [janetb@arizonaaeksociety.org](mailto:janetb@arizonaaeksociety.org) or call the office at 623-444-4147.

We started using an online platform to offer online raffles, a few years ago, which provides us an opportunity to make up for some of the lost revenue. Even though the banquet has been postponed, you can still support our mission and invite others to join in by purchasing online raffle tickets or making a donation. Raffle tickets are available in the store at <https://www.shopaes.org/> and donations can be made at the following link: <https://shopaes.org/product/donation-to-aes/>

Your generosity, no matter how small, will go a long way in allowing AES to continue its vital programs to our habitat, our youth, and our wounded warriors.

Thank you again to our event sponsors, guests, members and volunteers. We can't express enough how grateful we are for your patience as we explored every viable option. We greatly appreciate your understanding of this decision and while this is a difficult moment for all, we wish everyone to remain safe and healthy. The AES community is a strong one, and I know we all remain dedicated to our cause.

Sincerely,

Steve Clark  
Executive Director





AOASPORTINGCLAYSSHOT.COM

Date: TENTATIVELY RESCHEDULED TO Saturday, November 7th. Time: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm (Check in at 8 am, shoot at 9 am, and lunch at 12 pm) Location: Ben Avery Shooting Facility (4044 W Black Canyon Blvd, Phoenix, AZ 85086)

Help Us Continue to Keep You Informed



# Hunt Raffle

SPRING KANSAS  
EASTERN TURKEY HUNT FOR 2  
BELL WILDLIFE SPECIALTIES

**Two day semi-guided hunt for two hunters who can harvest 1 turkey each. Dates to be scheduled with outfitter between 4/15 and 5/31 in 2021. Includes lodging/meals.**



Tickets \$10



tickets \$10  
Up to 400 tickets will be sold

[CLICK HERE TO BUY](#)



Winner responsible for non-resident hunting license and tag. Cost is \$150

A silver Ford Raptor truck is shown from a front-quarter view, parked in a wooded area with mountains in the background. The truck's headlights are on, and the 'FORD' logo is visible on the grille. The background features a blue sky with white stars and a semi-transparent American flag pattern.

**WIN A  
2020 FORD  
RAPTOR**  
FROM SANDERSON FORD



The Sanderson Ford logo is an oval shape with a blue border. Inside, the word "SANDERSON" is written in red, uppercase, sans-serif font, and "Ford" is written in blue, cursive script below it.



## Regular Sponsors & Supporters



## Members

1.2.3.Go...	Anglers United	AZ Antelope Foundation
AZ Bass Federation Nation	AZ Big Game Super Raffle	AZ Bowhunters Association
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 Taxidermy Association
Back Country Hunters	Christian Hunters of America & Anglers	Kahuna's Kids
Mule Deer Foundation	Mohave Sportsman Club	Outdoor Experience 4 All
SRT Outdoors Inc	Southern Arizona Quail Forever	Southwest Wildlife Foundation (YVRGC)
The Bass Federation	TRCP	Valley of the Sun Quail



Arizona	Forever
White Mountain Lakes Foundation	

**AFFILIATE MEMBERS**



**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**



**Got Wildlife?**  
Get Your License Plate  
[servicearizona.com](http://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 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. (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. You can have many of your questions answered here:

<https://servicearizona.com/webapp/vehicle/plates/startChoice.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.

