November 2019



Today is Veterans Day! A designated day to thank all those who have served, sacrificed and paid the ultimate price for our freedom.

If you really think about it, we shouldn't need one day to thank our Veterans, it should be an ongoing appreciation. For every day Americans can live free under our Constitution and laws is a blessing most people in the world can't experience and can only wonder what it's like. Our men and women in the Service make sure that opportunity isn't infringed.

The tenants of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation are unique to our part of the world too. That Model has given us the ability to hunt, fish and recreate in ways others can only dream about. Veterans help in perpetuating that opportunity too.

In Governor Ducey's letter of thanks to Veterans today, he said there are 600,000 Veterans in Arizona. In the last several years, over 500,000 people have purchased hunting and fishing licenses in our state. I'll suggest there are thousands of Veterans in Arizona that are among our hunting and angling ranks. So in that context, it shouldn't be too difficult to personally thank a Veteran who has a similar passion for the outdoors that you have!

Oftentimes our returning Veterans come home with challenges they didn't have when they embarked on their service. Some that left with a passion for the outdoors, need help and assistance to get back outside and experience that exhilaration once again.

There are several organizations around the country that are helping our Veterans overcome those obstacles to get outside and a couple are AZSFWC members; Outdoor Experience 4 All with Wounded Warrior Outdoors, and the Arizona Elk Society with Hunts for Heroes.

https://www.facebook.com/pg/oe4all/photos/?ref=page_internal

http://woundedwarrioroutdoors.com/photos/

https://www.arizonaelksociety.org/

https://www.arizonaelksociety.org/hunts-for-heroes

So on this day, whatever it is you're doing, take pause and if the opportunity presents itself, Thank a Veteran for helping preserve our Freedom and ability to pursue our passions in the outdoors!

I'll sign off with this:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CgQkh1_cACE&feature=share

Thank you for your Service.

Jim Unmacht Executive Director

Our Member Groups Doing Great Things!

Buenos Aires NWR: The first known wild hatched Masked Bobwhite Quail Chicks in several decades were documented in Sep. US Fish and Wildlife with support from Southern AZ Quail Forever and friends of BANWR have made significant habitat improvements on the refuge to support this effort. This years release of captive raised chicks was much larger than last year. A larger release coupled with habitat work and food plot planting should result in even more wild chicks next year. The on-site US Fish and Wildlife lead reports they



have birds using the half-cut habitat areas all the volunteers worked so hard on. The work is not nearly done - expect to see more volunteer opportunities in the future.



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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 Shooting Sports Education Foundation
AZ Taxidermy Association	Back Country Hunters & Anglers	Christian Hunters of America
Kahuna's Kids	Mule Deer Foundation	Mohave Sportsman Cub
Outdoor Experience 4 All	Southeastern AZ Sportsmen Club	SRT Outdoors Inc
Southern Arizona Quail Forever	Southwest Wildlife Foundation (YVRGC)	The Bass Federation Arizona
TRCP	Valley of the Sun Quail Forever	White Mountain Lakes Foundation
Xtreme Predator Callers		

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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.



