



This past month saw another successful [Sportsmen's Summit](#), bringing together about 250 sportsmen and women for a fun and informative evening! We were honored to have the Arizona Speaker of the House Rusty Bowers join us and give us some insight on the state of the Legislature. The past session had some positive results for us. We hope the coming year will hold similar successes, but it will more than likely present us with some challenges too.

Our newest Game & Fish Commissioner James Goughnour, as well as our Game & Fish Director Ty Gray also spoke to us on several fronts relative to the Commission and Department. Many of the issues and concerns they have to deal with directly impact us, so the respective lines of communication are increasingly more important!

I was able to recap some of AZSFWC's many successes over the last year. Sportsmen and women are getting hit from all sides, so the greater our awareness of the issues, the better prepared we'll be to address, comment, or take a position on a subject. This is something we need to all get better at.

In other news:

Grand Canyon Bison - the National Park Service is going to take another stab at capturing some bison on the Park. They haven't corralled any yet, and as a reminder, they've been assessing this since 2014. One day maybe they'll catch some. One day too, maybe there will be an agreement with Game & Fish for sportsmen and women to harvest some.

Fair Chase - Game & Fish is ramping up a focus on this important topic. As more people and groups work to get us off the land, fair chase and ethical pursuit becomes even more critical.

State Trust Land access - Game & Fish has reached a protocol agreement with the State Land Department to deal with access issues on Trust land. This effort took a long time to materialize, but hopefully will help bring a concerted and consistent effort to insure access to these lands. Patience will be key here, as now the real work begins!

Outreach - an average of 200 people per day move to Arizona, mindboggling if you think about it. Quite concerning if you consider most of those folks likely don't hunt or fish. So that takes us to Beer!

1. AZSFWC just wrapped up our second TXT to Win event in partnership with the Huss Brewing Company. Our "Conserving Wildlife" license plate was in dozens of grocery outlets advertising the cause.
2. Game & Fish is in the middle of a very successful partnership with the Mother Road Brewing Company with their "Conserve and Protect" Kolsch beer, with more coming on that front.
3. New Belgium Brewing Company through their Fat Tire brand has kicked off a film series called "Finding Common Ground". It is benefiting a number of organizations including the Access Fund, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, and the Trust for Public Land to name a few. Check it out: <https://www.newbelgium.com/fat-tire/finding-common-ground/>

Feral Horses & Burros - in Arizona and around the West, they continue to eat and multiply, the consequences of which are habitat destruction and misplaced wildlife. The HSUS believes fertility control is the answer for burros. <https://www.humanesociety.org/resources/platero-project-model-helping-wild-burros>

The same mindset is pervasive in the horse community. The Salt River horses have decimated the area they have been occupying and now require supplemental feeding. Horses are expanding beyond the boundaries of the Heber Horse Management Area in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, and they remain unchecked. Another herd is expanding along the Black River. They are gaining a foothold in some of our other National Forests too. None of this bodes well for Arizona's native wildlife until the Federal government deals with this disaster in the making.

Finally, Congress has now returned from a several week recess, hopefully something positive comes out of the final few months of 2019.

Yours in Conservation,

Jim Unmacht
Executive Director

AZSFWC Awards \$40,382 in Grants

Third quarter grant applications were presented and voted on at the August 27th AZSFWC Board meeting. Eight grants were approved in the amount of \$40,382 and included the following:



- \$7,452 was awarded to the Mule Deer Foundation for their habitat project to refurbish Red House Trick Tank
- \$5,300 was awarded to the Arizona Raptor Center to support their education program
- \$7,000 was awarded to Valley of the Sun Chapter of Quail Forever (VOSQF) to fund their Tombstone Ranch Permanent Habitat and Access project
- \$5,080 was awarded to the Arizona Council of Trout Unlimited to support their 2019-2020 Trout in the Classroom education program
- \$5,000 was awarded to the AZ Deer Association for their mentored youth deer and cow elk camps
- \$3,050 was awarded to the Valley of the Sun chapter of Quail Forever for the purchase of a trailer to be used for their youth events
- \$3,500 was awarded to the AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep Society for their annual Sheep Hunter Educational Clinic
- \$4,000 was conditionally awarded to Southwest Wildlife Foundation (YVRGC) for the purchase of a trailer to be used for their youth events

Read more about these projects [HERE](#).

Deadline to apply for 4th Quarter grants is **October 1st**. To find out more about grants and download an application, click [HERE](#).

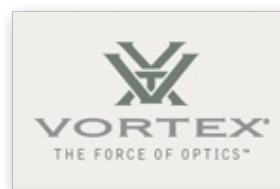
These projects are funded directly from purchases of the Conserving Wildlife License Plate. If you don't have one on your vehicle or trailer yet,

get yours today. More info [HERE](#).

Executive Director Sits Down with Member Group AZ Outdoor Adventures



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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
Kabuna's Kids	Mule Deer Foundation	Mohave Sportsman Club

Ranuna's Kids	Mule Deer Foundation	Mohave Sportsman Club
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
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Get Your License Plate

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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.

