# THE ARIZONA WILDLIFER

2023 Issue 2



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Spring Edition

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# The President's Message



AZTWS President Sarah Rinkevich with George.

It is my honor to serve as your new President of the Arizona Chapter of The Wildlife Society. I have been inspired by The Wildlife Society since my undergraduate time at the University of Arizona where I served as Treasurer of the TWS Student Chapter. I am very proud of the work that the AZTWS accomplishes each year and thank the membership for their continued commitment to the Society and the AZ Chapter.

First, I wish to recognize and thank Past President David Bergman for his leadership during 2022 as Chapter President. I also want to express my thanks

to the 2022 Executive Board members, specifically Kerry Griffis-Kyle for serving as Treasurer, Christina Kondrat for serving as Recording Secretary, and José Martínez-Fonseca for serving as Board Member. Please join me in welcoming our 2023 Executive Board (see pp. 4-7).

I hope that all who attended the 2023 Joint Annual Meeting hosted by AZ/NM Chapters of AFS enjoyed the conference. Thank you to AZ/NM AFS for a successful meeting—it was so wonderful to see everyone in person again! I extend my congratulations to the 2022 Award recipients (see pp. 8-9). I am very pleased with our newest AZTWS Award—the Tribal Conservationist Award, which the Executive Board approved last year. It was my honor to award Jesse Palmer, Wildlife Biologist for the White Mountain Apache Tribe, as

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### Presidents Message cont...

the inaugural recipient of the Tribal Conservationist Award for 2022. My goal as Chapter President is to increase Tribal membership and participation in all of the Chapter's activities moving forward.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) turns 50 years old this year (www.fws.gov/esa50). This historic law was signed in 1973 and is considered one of the world's most important conservation laws. The ESA was enacted to prevent the loss or harm of endangered and threatened species and to preserve the places they live. Although there is much work to do to conserve imperiled species, there are successes to celebrate. For example, Mexican wolf numbers have increased within the past year—please see the article in this newsletter regarding the reported 2022 population numbers (pp. 13–14). Also, according the Arizona Game and Fish Department, California condor populations have increased from 22 birds in 1987 to a wild population of 347 in 2022; condor numbers as of December 2022 for the Arizona/Utah population was reported as 116. Due to recover across its northern range, the lesser-long nosed bat was taken off the list of endangered species in 2018 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Although these successes illustrate the effectiveness of the ESA, the challenges are ongoing. Loss of habitat, introduction of invasive species, and negative effects from climate change to vulnerable species are just a few examples of threats that need our attention.

Save the date! The AZTWS will be hosting the 2024 Joint Annual Meeting in Flagstaff at the Little America Hotel, February 1–3, 2024. Planning will begin this summer, so please reach out to the Executive Board if you would care to assist on the various planning committees that we will be putting together. We look forward to seeing everyone in person once again in February 2024!

Sincerely, Sarah

# Congratulations JAM Student Competition Winners!



Four teams competed in Quiz Bowl. Credit: Heather Bateman

Quiz Bowl - University of Arizona

Best Wildlife Student Paper - Nick Beauregard

Best Wildlife Student Poster – Emma Federman

Best Fisheries Student Paper – Michael Miller

Best Fisheries Student Poster – Terra Martinez

### Regional News

### Southwest Section Tracks

# By Kathy Granillo TWS Southwest Section Representative

Spring is one of my favorite times of the year. The days are getting longer, flowers are blooming, birds are singing, and the frigid days of winter are gone. Astronomically speaking, the first official day of spring this year in the Northern Hemisphere is March 20. This date marks the vernal equinox, which occurs when the sun crosses the celestial equator going south to north. Here's an interesting fact: equinoxes are the only two times each year that the sun rises due east and sets due west for all of us on Earth. Many ancient cultures marked the equinoxes. One of the most famous ancient spring equinox celebrations took place at Chichen Itza in Mexico. The Mayans built a huge pyramid around the year A.D. 1000. To this day, the way the sun's light falls on the pyramid signals the beginning of the seasons. On the spring equinox, it looks like a huge snake is slithering down the steps. Mayans called this day "the return of the sun serpent."

Speaking of Mexico, we are getting much closer to the reality of a Mexico Chapter of TWS. There are some last legal hurdles to clear, and we are hopeful that this year will mark the establishment of the chapter. Mexico is part of the Southwest Section, and formation of the chapter will be an avenue to expanded collaboration between biologists and managers in our shared wildlife resources.



Southwest Section Representative Kathy Granillo with a wolf pup.

Strategic planning is underway for TWS. Staff and Council have just kicked off development of a new strategic plan for TWS and welcome all comments and ideas. We will reach out to all members through surveys and focal groups, for example, and I encourage you to invest some thought and effort into helping us develop this plan. I welcome any questions or comments you have, so please feel free to contact me via email at KGBirder55@gmail.com.

The next TWS annual conference is set for Louisville, Kentucky, on November 5–9, 2023. This will be the 30<sup>th</sup> annual conference! The call for abstracts is open now through May 7, 2023. I hope many of you will plan to attend and to present your work via poster or as a speaker. Find out more about the conference at <u>twsconference.org</u>.

Council has revised several position statements recently. One of these is Lead in Hunting Ammunition and Fishing Tackle. Another is Use of Firearms in Wildlife Management. We also recently revised the Livestock Grazing on Rangelands statement. I encourage you to check them out on the website <a href="https://wildlife.org/position-statements">https://wildlife.org/position-statements</a>.

Lastly, TWS recently completed an overhaul and redesign of the website. If you haven't been on the website lately, I urge you to check it out at <u>wildlife.org</u>. It is more user-friendly than ever in terms of finding information and providing services for members. TWS would appreciate any feedback you have on the website, and please let them know if you find a broken link or other problems.

Sincerely, Kathy

# our Neck of the Woods.

### Meet Your 2023 AZTWS Executive Board!



### President: Sarah Rinkevich

Sarah Rinkevich received her Ph.D. in Wildlife Conservation from University of Arizona's School of Natural Resources and the Environment in 2012. Her research focused on a reintroduced population of Mexican gray wolves on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, homeland to the White Mountain Apache Tribe. Dr. Rinkevich received her master's degree in 1991 from Humboldt State University, where she studied habitat preferences of Mexican spotted owls in Zion National Park, Utah. She has worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Endangered Species Conservation since 1993 and currently works in the Branch of Recovery and Restoration. Dr. Rinkevich works extensively with Tribes on management and conservation of threatened and endangered species on Tribal lands within the Southwest.

### President-Elect: Christopher Carrillo

Since 2004, Chris Carrillo has served as the District Supervisor for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wildlife Services' (WS) Arizona Program. He oversees a diverse wildlife damage management program to protect human health and safety, agriculture, property, and natural resources. Some of the programs include managing wildlife conflicts through predator management to protect livestock, endangered species such as Mexican wolves, black-footed ferrets, and Mount Graham red squirrels; invasive species control; urban coyote management to protect human health and safety; wildlife management at airports; and zoonotic



diseases such as plague and rabies. In 2014, Chris began to serve the Arizona Chapter of The Wildlife Society as the Membership Committee Chair. In 1995, Chris received a B.S. in Agriculture with a major in Wildlife Science from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

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### Treasurer: Haley Nelson

Haley Nelson was born and raised in Arizona, where she earned a bachelor's degree in Applied Biological Sciences from Arizona State University and a Master's of Science in Geographic Information System Technologies from University of Arizona. She has worked with the Arizona Game and Fish Department since 2014, both in wildlife biology and information technology roles, and is now a senior research biologist with the Highways and Wildlife Connectivity crew. Haley has been working with partners at both the Arizona and Nevada Departments of Transportation to develop statewide habitat suitability models for the monarch butterfly. She also assists with preparation, planning, and implementation of large-scale wildlife capture operations, trail-camera database management, and the development and maintenance of

several mobile and desktop applications used to improve processes across the Department. Haley has previously held positions on the AZTWS board, including Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary. She currently serves in a chair position as Webmaster.

### Corresponding Secretary: Lolita Van Pelt

Lola Van Pelt is a native Arizonan, born in Prescott and growing up in the Verde Valley. She attended Northern Arizona University and received bachelor's degree in Forestry in 1986. Upon completion of her degree, she worked for the next 16 years as a Program Manager with the Arizona ofAgriculture's Department Arizona Cotton Research and Protection Council (ACRPC). During that time, ACRPC was successful in eradicating the boll weevil from Arizona's cotton crop. Upon having children, she then worked for the University of Arizona for a year and a half, continuing focus on pink bollworm, another invasive pest in cotton. In 2011, she began a new chapter with the USDA Wildlife Services, conducting bird surveys at two



solar array sites in Northern Arizona. Lola has now worked for Wildlife Services as the Rabies Biologist for the last 11 years. She has been a regional flyer with the National Rabies Management Program, providing rabies vaccine for wildlife in New York, Vermont, and Ohio. Travel to Mexico for training in enhanced surveillance of vampire bats on cattle was a highlight.

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### Recording Secretary: Tiffany Sprague

Tiffany Sprague has devoted her life to protecting our natural world while educating and inspiring others to do the same. She has a B.S. in Wildlife Sciences from University of Arizona and an M.S. in Applied Biological Sciences from Arizona State University. As a native Arizonan and wildlife biologist, she has worked with a diversity of species and habitats across the state, with a particular fondness for snakes, bats, and tortoises. Her 22-year career with non-profit organizations and federal and state governments has impressed upon her the importance of collaboration in order to achieve common goals. She currently works with the Arizona Game and Fish Department as a Project Evaluation Specialist, coordinating with energy developers across the state to minimize impacts to wildlife. She has been involved with The Wildlife Society for more than a decade, including six years on the AZTWS Board, and is excited to engage with the Chapter in this new capacity.

### **Board Member: Jesse Lewis**

Jesse Lewis is an applied ecologist who evaluates a diversity of research questions to inform the conservation and management of wildlife populations in the southwestern U.S. He is an assistant professor at Arizona State University (2017 – present), where his work focuses on population and community ecology, habitat relationships of species, and disturbance ecology. Jesse and his graduate students work across the ecologically diverse landscapes of Arizona, ranging from the Sonoran Desert of the Phoenix Valley, evaluating urban ecology of coyotes, bobcats, deer, bats, and other wildlife, to the high elevation ponderosa pine and aspen forests in the White Mountains, evaluating how wildlife (e.g., black bear, elk, mountain lion, mule deer, wolves, and other species) respond to mixed-severity wildfire. Jesse is excited to work



with AZTWS to help disseminate valuable information to the profession and connect a wide range of students and professionals who share a passion for wildlife and conservation.



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### **Board Member: Lias Hastings**

Lias Hastings is a Wildlife Specialist for USDA Wildlife Services. Lias was born in eastern Arizona on the White Mountain Apache reservation. Much of his youth was spent wandering through nature and learning to appreciate the beauty of the natural world. He received his bachelor's degree from Northern Arizona University in 2012 and spent the following six years working for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. His involvement with a wide range of projects all around the state provided the opportunity to work with many different wildlife species. He received his master's degree from Northern Arizona University in 2021, studying rabies cross-species transmission between bats and mesocarnivores. He finished graduate school just as Flagstaff experienced an outbreak of bat rabies in striped skunks, providing the opportunity to work with the system he had studied in school. As the number of rabies positive cases increased, he was offered a

position with Wildlife Services leading a trap, vaccinate, and release program designed to mitigate and control dangerous rabies outbreaks in urban environments. He has been in this position for a year and appreciates the opportunity to work hands-on with different mesocarnivores as well as provide a valuable public service.



### Join the AZ BioBlitz Hub!

Are you a facilitator of other BioBlitz or citizen science events across the state? Are you interested in becoming more involved in BioBlitz events in Arizona? Join the Arizona BioBlitz Hub! The Arizona BioBlitz Hub establishes opportunities for sharing resources and connections between facilitators of BioBlitz events and other citizen science efforts. The goal is to maximize the quality, engagement, and outputs of our respective BioBlitz endeavors across the state while building a community of interested individuals and organizations. Through a strong network of professionals and community members, we can encourage advocacy for Arizona flora and fauna while collecting data and making scientific experiences more accessible to everyone! Scan the QR code to register for the AZ BioBlitz Hub. All are welcome!



# Congratulations to the AZTWS Chapter Award Winners!



Jesse Palmer with AZTWS Chapter President Sarah Rinkevich.

### Jesse Palmer

#### **Tribal Conservationist Award**

The Tribal Conservationist Award is given to an individual working for or retired from a Tribal natural resource department who is recognized and honored for their exceptional work toward the betterment of tribal natural resources management. The recipient's impact in Indian Country has created a path for better tribal resources management for the future. Their contributions can be over several years or limited to a few years of outstanding service.

Jesse Palmer was awarded the inaugural Tribal Conservationist Award for his long-term exceptional commitment to the natural resources of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. Throughout his 25-year tenure as the Wildlife Biologist for the White Mountain Apache Tribe, Jesse has earned the respect and admiration of many resource professionals, both within and external

to the Reservation. Jesse became the Tribe's Wildlife Biologist in 1999 after successfully completing his Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences from University of Arizona. Throughout his career, Jesse has remained steadfast in his commitment to the development of Tribal youth who have expressed an interest in natural resource conservation. In addition to his supervisory responsibilities to existing wildlife staff, he provides opportunities for high school and college students to serve as summer interns within the Tribe's Game and Fish Department. Through his efforts, his staff and interns come to understand the importance of conserving the Reservation's natural resources for the benefit of future generations of the Apache people.

### Thomas (Tab) Bommarito

### **Scrapping Bear Award**

The recipient of the Scrapping Bear Award has gone beyond the normal call of duty in support of wildlife issues and has made exceptional contributions toward the management and protection of wildlife and habitat resources. The recipient has stood up for what they thought was right, even if it was controversial, unconventional, and/or faced substantial resistance.

Tab Bommarito with the Bureau of Reclamation was recognized for going above and beyond to protect wildlife on Bureau of Reclamation Lands. In July 2016, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Arizona Department of Transportation began the process for a Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Interstate 11. Tab had to research not only the Reclamation property but

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surrounding properties, FHWA regulations, including Section 4(f), Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and other pertinent statutes, rules, and regulation as he navigated through the FHWA's programmatic Net Benefit process. After exhaustive research and with the assistance of partner agencies, Tab was able to determine that the approach FHWA was using for the 4(f) analysis (programmatic vs individual) was incorrect for the current proposal. His efforts also led to the inclusion of additional alternatives in the proposal and the formation of a working group to engage various stakeholders in natural resource protection. Tab is recognized for his hard work and dedication and for paving the way to protect wildlife on Reclamation lands into the future.



Kaela Hamilton accepted the award on behalf of Tab Bommarito.

### **David Hall**

#### David E. Brown Lifetime Achievement Award



David Hall with AZTWS Chapter President Sarah Rinkevich.

Our most prestigious award, the David E. Brown Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes an individual for his or her accomplishments in wildlife biology and management over their lifetime.

David Hall, Research Scientist at University of Arizona, has been a leader and innovator in Arizona's native aquatic herpetofauna conservation for nearly 40 years. His work spans the conservation and natural history of Sonoran mud turtles, northern Mexican gartersnakes, lowland leopard frogs, and Chiricahua leopard frogs. His most important contribution, however, may be in expanding our knowledge in the ecology of a nonnative aquatic, the American bullfrog. He has been instrumental in informing where to target bullfrog removal, where to draw buffer zone lines for bullfrogs, where Chiricahua leopard frogs may recolonize on their own following bullfrog removal, and where to implement native species translocations with the greatest success. David is visionary and continually pushes everyone to get out of their comfort zones and have

higher standards for where and how we conserve and restore native species and their habitats. He has also perfected the approach with ranchers and private landowners to win support for bullfrog removal work and convince them that, not only is it important to remove bullfrogs for a functioning landscape, but that it's also possible. Thank you, David, for your lifetime of achievements!

Submit a nomination! We encourage you to nominate deserving individuals for future awards. You can lean more about our awards and past winners at <a href="https://aztws.com/past-award-winners">https://aztws.com/past-award-winners</a>. Submit nominations at any time to Awards Committee Chair <a href="https://aztws.com/past-award-winners">Chris Carrillo</a>.

# SHARE YOUR AZ WILDLIFE STORIES

Want to share your Arizona wildlife stories and perspectives? Please consider submitting **articles**, **stories**, **project updates**, **events**, and **pictures** for upcoming newsletters!

AZTWS welcomes all contributors.

The Arizona Wildlifer Deadlines

Issue	Deadline
Summer 2023	Jun 16, 2023
Fall 2023	Sep 15, 2023

Email submissions at any time to <u>aztwseditor@gmail.com</u>.

Continuing Education Grants

AZTWS offers \$1,500 annually in <u>Continuing Education Grants</u> to its members (including professionals, graduate and undergraduate students) to support education and career advancement opportunities. Grant requests should not exceed \$500 per application and only one grant is awarded per person, per year. Grants are limited to current Chapter members only; membership dues are \$6/year. Join or renew here.

Applications can be submitted at any time and will be reviewed quarterly by the Continuing Education Committee. Applicants will be notified within 30 days of the Committee's review. The Committee evaluates applications based on your explanation of how the activity will enhance your career development, your financial need, your efforts to obtain supplemental funding, and your involvement in Chapter activities. AZTWS encourages applicants from under-represented individuals and groups.

Submit Your Application Online

# Student Voice

# The Rejuvenation of The Wildlife Society at Northern Arizona University

### By Ryan Jacobelli, NAU's TWS President

Northern Arizona University's Wildlife Society (NAU's TWS) is finally back up and running again, after the club meetings were temporarily suspended due to COVID-19. With the help of Dr. Tad Theimer, NAU's TWS was able to hold officer elections this past September and begin working on helping students achieve their wildlife management goals during the Fall 2022 semester. Our social media pages received a revamp as well. Club membership was highest with 20 members at one meeting—a fantastic restart of our university's Wildlife Society.

We held biweekly meetings on campus, for a total of six meetings this past semester. During those meetings and some off-campus gatherings, we hosted presentations from wildlife professionals, job and internship opportunity announcements, and exciting field trips. Graduate student Blake Hoffman gave a presentation about monitoring chemically immobilized wildlife. NAU faculty member Kathleen Freel gave a presentation on animal care technician roles and opportunities at NAU.

NAU's TWS joined the Northern Arizona Audubon Society on a birding field trip to the Kachina Wetlands, located south of campus. Our club also is in the process of becoming affiliated with the Northern Arizona Audubon Society, a mutually beneficial union that we are thrilled to complete. Rob Nelson, the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) liaison for NAU, gave a presentation to our club about





Kachina Wetlands, located south of Flagstaff in Kachina Village, is a birding hotspot. Credit: Ryan Jacobelli

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"Animal Fight Night" highlights some of the world's predators and provides an fun educational opportunity for students. Credit: Ryan Jacobelli

what the AZGFD does, job and internship opportunities, and prerequisites needed to apply for the many different positions within the AZGFD. NAU's TWS member Serena Nozawa gave a presentation on her experiences constructing American beaver dam analogues as well as trapping, monitoring, and translocating beavers with the Wenatchee-Entiat Beaver Project. Our club created a volunteer group for our local humane society, which volunteered three times this past semester. We held a TWS Jeopardy night with native fauna and TWS history trivia. NAU's TWS also hosted a holiday party at the end of the semester with food, drinks, cookies, and a viewing of game camera footage from around Arizona as well as a few episodes of National Geographic's "Animal Fight Night."

The Fall 2022 semester of NAU's TWS was filled with excitement, learning, and, above all, connection. With the snow finally melting and the ground beginning to thaw, our club is delighted to begin again with new adventures, field trips, job and internship opportunities, presentations from wildlife professionals, and more volunteer opportunities!

If you are interested in keeping up with our club's activities, or you would like to present for our club, please follow or contact us through our Facebook page at <u>NAU's The Wildlife Society</u> or our Instagram page at <u>the wildlife society nau</u>.

# SIGN UP TODAY!

APRIL 22, 2023

# AZTWS WILDLIFE TECHNIQUES WORKSHOP

It's back! Students and early professionals, join us for a one-day workshop to get hands-on experience with a variety of wildlife field techniques, including survey, capture, and telemetry—and much more! This is also a great opportunity to learn and to network with professionals and peers. Limited space available!

For more information, contact Holly Hicks at <a href="https://hicks.org/hicks.org/hicks.org/">hhicks.org/hicks.org/hicks.org/hicks.org/</a>.

### Mexican Wolf Numbers Soar Past 200

### Courtesy of Aislinn Maestas, Public Affairs Specialist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

For the first time since reintroduction into the wild, the population of Mexican wolves in Arizona and New Mexico has surpassed 200, with a minimum of 241 wild wolves documented in 2022.

"To go from zero wild Mexican wolves at the start to 241 today is truly remarkable. In 2022, we recorded more packs, more breeding pairs, and a growing occupied range, proving we are on the path to recovery. These achievements are a testament to partner-driven conservation in the West," said Brady McGee, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Mexican Wolf Recovery Coordinator.

The 2022 population estimate represents a 23% increase from the estimate of a minimum of 196 wolves in 2021. This marks the seventh consecutive year of population growth and a more than doubling in size since 2017. The population is



Mexican wolves were reintroduced into Arizona in 1998. Credit: USFWS

distributed with 136 wolves in New Mexico and 105 in Arizona.

Mexican wolf population information is gathered from November through February by the Interagency Field Team (IFT). During this time, the IFT conducts ground and aerial surveys, using a variety of methods, including remote cameras, scat collection, and visual observation. Counting the population at the end of each year allows for comparable year-to-year trends at a time of year when the Mexican wolf population is most stable.

Some interesting tidbits among the 2022 findings include the following:

- A minimum of 59 packs were documented at the end of 2022: 40 in New Mexico and 19 in Arizona. A wolf pack is defined as two or more wolves that maintain an established home range.
- A minimum of 121 pups were born in 2022, with at least 81 surviving until the end of the year (a 67% survival rate). The average survival of Mexican wolf pups in their first year is around 50%.
- A minimum of 31 breeding pairs (20 in New Mexico, 11 in Arizona) was recorded in 2022. A breeding pair is defined as a pack that consists of an adult male and female and at least one pup of the year surviving through December 31.
- There were 109 collared wolves in the wild at the end of the year, which is 45% of the wild population.

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Additional highlights from the year include the following:

- Pup fostering efforts resulted in 11 pups from captivity being placed into five wild dens in the spring. The IFT has since documented survival of two of these pups. This brings the known number of fostered wolves documented alive to 14.
- The IFT documented the lowest annual total Mexican wolf mortalities since 2017 (when the population was significantly smaller). There were 12 documented mortalities, six in Arizona and six in New Mexico, in 2022. This is lower than 2021 (25 mortalities) and 2020 (29 mortalities).
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service successfully rescued seven captive Mexican wolves from enclosures at the Ladder Ranch Wolf Management Facility during the Black Fire in the spring. The wolves were temporarily held at the Sevilleta Wolf Management Facility until it was safe to return them to the Ladder Ranch.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources through its National Commission for Natural Protected Areas and the Directorate General for Wildlife <a href="signed a Letter of Intent">signed a Letter of Intent</a> establishing the intentions of all parties to collaboratively continue to conserve, manage, and recover the Mexican wolf in the U.S. and Mexico.
- Sierra County, New Mexico, became a Signatory Cooperating Entity under the Memorandum of Understanding for Mexican Wolf Recovery and Management. This brings the total number of MOU signatories to 17.

For more information on the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program, visit the Mexican wolf website (<a href="www.fws.gov/mexican-wolf">www.fws.gov/mexican-wolf</a>) or visit the Arizona Game and Fish Department website on wolves (<a href="www.azgfd.gov/wolf">www.azgfd.gov/wolf</a>).

### Interested in a Leadership Role with AZTWS?

AZTWS has open vacancies for Chair Committee positions. Join us and make a difference in your Arizona wildlife community. The following positions are available:

- 1. Conservation Affairs Chair This position includes review of regulatory, planning, environmental, and other issues related to wildlife and their habitat in Arizona. Duties include soliciting, recommending, and preparation of materials related to conservation issues. The Chair is also responsible for an annual summary of conservation affairs to be distributed in the AZTWS Annual Report.
- 2. *Events and Opportunities Chair* This position involves acquiring information related to events and opportunities that may be of interest of Chapter members and distributing them to committee members in charge of Chapter outreach.

Please contact us at <u>aztws@gmail.com</u> to inquire.



### **AZTWS News & Resources**

The <u>Arizona Chapter of The Wildlife Society</u> is dedicated to promoting sound management and conservation of Arizona's wildlife resources and strives to be the preeminent resource for Arizona's community of scientists, managers, educators, students, technicians, planners, and others working to manage and conserve wildlife and habitats in the state. To help you keep up with AZTWS's resources, opportunities, and happenings, we hope that you find the following hotlinks useful:

- **Members** gain access to numerous opportunities; if you are not yet a member, sign up <u>here</u>. Annual dues are only \$6!
- AZTWS's Web Store is live! Show your support by gifting cool AZTWS swag to others (or splurging for yourself). Proceeds support AZTWS resources, including conference events and our Continuing Education Grant. Shop now! [You can also support AZTWS's Mission by donating discretely or in monthly recurrences.]
- Support others and help increase representation in Arizona's natural resource fields by **gifting a AZTWS membership** (1-year) <u>details here</u>.
- Looking for that older issue of The Arizona Wildlifer? All issues are freely accessible here!
- Our parent society, TWS, emphasizes important resources for <u>diversity</u>, <u>equity</u>, <u>and inclusion</u> throughout the wildlife profession. AZTWS also strives to uphold these values.
- Want to get more involved with your Chapter? Check out the information available on our <u>Facebook, Twitter</u>, and <u>website</u> for opportunities.
- AZTWS has vacancies for several Committee Chair positions. See page 14 for details.
- Have questions for us? Contact us <u>here</u>.



The Mogollon Rim drenched in snow. Credit: Scott Sprague