

THE ARIZONA WILDLIFER

2023 Issue 4

 [Follow us on Twitter!](#)

 [Like us on Facebook!](#)

Fall Edition

Inside this issue:

Regional News	3
Plan for JAM!	5
Wildfire and Wildlife	6
Tomorrow's Wildlifers	9
Apache Trout	11
Announcements	15
AZTWS News & Resources	16

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Sarah Rinkevich
(520) 203-1448 sarah_rinkevich@fws.gov

President-Elect: Chris Carrillo
(480) 292-1830 chris.d.carrillo@usda.gov

Treasurer: Haley Nelson
(480) 204-9312 haleynelson92@gmail.com

Recording Secretary: Tiffany Sprague
(623) 670-0750 tasprague@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary: Lola Van Pelt
(480) 213-5312 lolita.i.vanpelt@usda.gov

Board Member: Jesse Lewis
(480) 727-1101 jesse.s.lewis@asu.edu

Board Member: Lias Hastings
(928) 225-0316 lias.hastings@usda.gov

Newsletter Editor: Tiffany Sprague
aztwseditor@gmail.com

Contact us:
<https://aztws.com/about/contact-us>
PO Box 87015, Phoenix, AZ 85080



The President's Message



AZTWS President Sarah Rinkevich and Rio in the Galiuro Mountains.

In Tucson, it still feels like summer. For those living in other portions of the state, such as northern Arizona, you may already be enjoying the cooler temperatures and fall colors. Speaking of northern Arizona, a reminder that the 2024 Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) of the Arizona and New Mexico chapters of The Wildlife Society and American Fisheries Society will be held in Flagstaff at the Little America Hotel, February 1–3, 2024. The planning committee has been busy coordinating details. Please reach out to the AZTWS Board if you are able to assist with any of the many committees ([see p. 5](#)). Rooms for workshops are limited, so please contact us as soon as you know you would like to reserve a space. Also, you may want to consider running for an Executive Board position in 2024. Open seats include President-Elect, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and one Board position. In addition, please remember to nominate one of your colleagues for any of the [AZTWS awards](#). For questions or submissions for the AZTWS Board or nominations, please contact President-Elect Chris Carrillo at chris.d.carrillo@usda.gov.

The Wildlife Society's [30th Annual Conference](#) will be held November 5–9, 2023, in Louisville, Kentucky. I want to recognize Dr. Carol Chambers of Northern Arizona University for being the 2023 recipient of the Aldo Leopold Memorial Award—TWS's most prestigious award. Congratulations, Dr. Chambers! The opening Plenary Session looks incredibly interesting with the theme "Communicating in an Era of Science Mistrust." As always, I am looking forward to the conference and networking with colleagues.

(Continued on page 2)

Presidents Message cont...

One final note of vast significance, in August of this year the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed to remove the native Apache trout from the List of Endangered and Threatened Species. Decades of collaboration and partner-driven habitat conservation, non-native trout removal, and reintroduction efforts have been successful in recovering the species. [Read more on pp. 11–13.](#) The final delisting rule will be announced in 2024.

All the best,
Sarah

Join the AZTWS Executive Board!

The Arizona Chapter of The Wildlife Society (AZTWS) is seeking new Executive Board Members who want to take an active role in wildlife conservation and management. Join us to inspire and empower the next generation of wildlife professionals!

The following positions are up for election this year. Visit <https://aztws.com/about/executive-board-positions> to learn more about the roles and responsibilities. All officers are expected to participate in monthly conference calls to help with planning and current business.

President-Elect: Serves a two-year term—one year as President-Elect and one as President—and assists and fills in for the President on a variety of assigned tasks and serves as the Chairperson of the Awards and Nomination committees.

Treasurer: Serves a two-year term and is responsible for maintaining financial records and files for the Chapter.

Corresponding Secretary: Serves a one-year term and is responsible for the Chapter files and correspondence with members and supporters.

Recording Secretary: Serves a one-year term and is responsible for recording and distributing minutes of the Executive Board and Chapter Membership meetings.

Board Member: Serves a two-year term and shares all responsibilities of conducting Chapter business and assisting other Board Members with assigned tasks.

If you are interested in serving, please email Chris Carrillo (chris.d.carrillo@usda.gov) by November 30, 2023, and indicate the position that you are applying for and provide a short bio (about 300 words). Voting will commence in mid-December, and the results will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting at the 2024 JAM.

Regional News

Southwest Section Tracks

By **Kathy Granillo**,
TWS Southwest Section Representative



Southwest Section Representative
Kathy Granillo with a wolf pup.

Where did the summer go? It is still warm in our region but cooling down a little; some leaves are starting to change color, and it's chile roasting season (one of the best smells ever!). Many animals start responding to the changing seasons through movement. Many bird species are migrating south. Elk, deer, and pronghorn might be starting some seasonal movements, too. For many wildlife species, this is also the time of year when the juveniles get booted out of the home territory and must venture out on their own in search of a new home. Even many humans will start their southward treks to their winter "snowbird" homes.

Movement can also put species at more risk, especially from human interactions. Crossing streets and interstates, navigating past cities and towns, and figuring out how to get over, under, or around fences. As I'm sure readers know, Arizona has been a leader in establishing wildlife crossings, and I want to highlight these efforts.

Wildlife crossings on roads have been popping up along major stretches of highway since the 1990s. Since 2000, Arizona Game and Fish Department has worked with Arizona Department of Transportation to construct 38 purpose-built wildlife road crossings, including 33 underpasses, four overpasses, and one at-grade detection system, each augmented by funnel fencing. Efforts continue and, just a few months ago, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona Department of Transportation, and the U.S. Forest Service announced plans for three new crossings. The proposal includes two crossings along Interstate 17—one south of Kachina Village and the other north of the Willard Springs exit—and a third on Interstate 40, west of Parks.

I also want to give a shout-out to the Central Arizona Project (CAP) and their efforts to provide crossings for wildlife. There are now 30 crossings over the CAP canal: 11 wildlife crossings, 18 game and cattle crossings, and one equestrian crossing.

There is a new funding source available via the \$1.12 billion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which made \$350 million available over five years for construction of wildlife crossings. Hopefully, states in the Southwest region will be able to take advantage of some of that funding.

Do we know if these crossings work? Monitoring efforts have shown the answer is yes. Vehicle/wildlife collisions with big game and other large mammals are significantly reduced within networks of crossings connected by fencing. What about smaller mammals and reptiles and amphibians? Many wildlife crossings have been monitored using camera traps, such as those at the Oracle project site on State Route 77, which includes both an overpass and underpass. In April 2016, the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) installed eight video cameras and four still cameras (all motion-activated) on the Oracle Road wildlife bridge (overpass). They also installed four still cameras on the wildlife underpass. AZGFD monitored the crossings for more than four years. They conducted road mortality surveys, monitored the movements of Sonoran desert tortoises and mule deer in the area of the

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

crossings, and provided recommendations for the adaptive management of the structures. They documented 28 native vertebrate species at the crossings, with the primary users being mule deer, javelina, coyotes, and bobcat. Wildlife road mortalities still occurred, with Merriam's kangaroo rat, Couch's spadefoot, and regal horned lizard the most commonly recorded species. Other recorded species included bobcat and desert tortoise. Coordination with local communities ultimately addressed remaining gaps in the fencing, and a future round of road mortality surveys could provide insight on further wildlife mortality reductions.

Crossings such as these help keep wildlife off the highways and reduce the number of wildlife vehicle collisions, which makes the roads safer for the traveling public, like those snowbirds headed for Yuma.

Now I have some questions for you wildlife students and professionals in Arizona:

What else is being done to make wildlife movements safer?

What else could be done?

I will follow up on these questions in the next newsletter and would appreciate hearing from any of you with your thoughts on the questions.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any concerns or comments or questions about TWS and TWS Council.

Sincerely,

Kathy

KGBirder55@gmail.com



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Leaders in Wildlife Science, Management and Conservation

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY'S 30TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

LEARN. NETWORK. ENGAGE.



WHEN

NOV 5 – 9, 2023



WHERE

Louisville, KY

Save the Date!

2024 Joint Annual Meeting

February 1–3, 2024

Flagstaff, Arizona

Join us for the 56th annual Joint Annual Meeting of the Arizona and New Mexico chapters of The Wildlife Society and American Fisheries Society! Packed with informative presentations, networking opportunities, and educational workshops such as Trapping Matters and Rattlesnake Handling, this conference is ideal for students and seasoned professionals alike. More details, including registration and the call for abstracts, coming soon!

Consider joining the 2024 JAM Planning Team! Opportunities abound, and we appreciate the assistance. Let us know if you're interested in helping with any of these roles:

- ◆ Quiz Bowl
- ◆ Audio-Visual
- ◆ Student Paper and Poster Judging
- ◆ Student-Mentor Lunch

For more information or to get involved planning the event, contact Sarah Rinkevich at (520) 203-1448 or sarah_rinkevich@fws.gov. Thank you!

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 aztws@gmail.com to inquire.

Our Neck of the Woods...

Mixed-severity Wildfire Influences Plant and Wildlife Populations in the White Mountains of Arizona

By Jesse Lewis¹, Esther Rubin², Loren LeSueur³

¹Arizona State University, ²Arizona Game and Fish Department, ³U.S. Forest Service

Wildfire is a common ecological disturbance in many western forests and can strongly influence plant and animal communities. The effects of fire on the ecological community depends on the vegetation type, time since fire, and fire size and severity, in addition to several other factors. However, relatively little is known about how plant and mammal populations vary across the gradient of fire severity, ranging from unburned forest to areas of high fire severity. Starting in 2018, we deployed wildlife cameras and conducted plant sampling in the White Mountains of Arizona across the gradient of fire severity resulting from the 2011 Wallow Fire, which was the largest fire in Arizona's recorded history at more than 500,000



Aspen resprouting in a higher fire severity area nine years after the Wallow Fire in the White Mountains, Arizona. Credit: Jesse Lewis

acres. This mixed-severity wildfire burned in a highly heterogenous pattern, which enabled us to understand how plants and animals responded to varying fire severities and other landscape variables. This work was conducted in collaboration with Arizona State University, Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other academic institutions.

This region of the White Mountains is characterized by extensive areas of Gambel oak at lower elevations and aspen at higher elevations. Both plants are adapted to resprout prolifically after fire and, in many cases, require fire to regenerate. However, both plants are also fed upon by elk, deer, and cattle, which can lead to high herbivory and potentially limit their growth and recruitment. Based on plant sampling transects, we found that aspen and Gambel oak exhibited a strong positive relationship with fire severity; as fire severity increased, there were more plant sprouts, especially sprouts that were greater than two meters tall and could likely escape the wandering mouths of both

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)



Elk (top), black bear (middle), and mountain lion (bottom) using areas of higher fire severity in the White Mountains, Arizona. Credit: Jesse Lewis

native and domestic ungulates in the region. However, in unburned forests and areas of lower fire severity, plant recruitment was low, which was likely a result of a reduced number of sprouts regenerating and high levels of herbivory. Ultimately, extensive areas of higher fire severity appeared important to promote the future forests of aspen and Gambel oak in this system.

Large native mammals (elk, mule deer, black bear, mountain lion, and wolf) in the White Mountains exhibited their highest habitat use in areas of higher fire severity. For elk and mule deer, this was likely due to abundant plant foods in these areas. Black bears, being a generalist omnivore, likely found a variety of plants, insects, and other food items in these areas as well. And wolves and mountain lions likely used these areas because that's where their primary prey were often found. However, the story was a little more complicated because elk and black bear also exhibited high use of unburned forest. These stands of ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, mixed conifer, aspen, and Gambel oak likely provided important hiding and thermal cover. In addition, several species (elk, mule deer, and mountain lion) used areas with high heterogeneity in fire severity, where there was a mixture of food in burned areas and cover in more mature forests.

It is important to consider that this study occurred approximately 7–10 years post fire, and the results from this research could have been very different if conducted two years or 20 years post fire. This amount of time allowed for plants to resprout and increase in sufficient biomass to attract wildlife. Studies that occur immediately after a fire likely capture a period with lower plant growth, when it might be predicted that some animals would use these areas less. In addition, studies that occur several decades after a fire likely sample a landscape with more mature forest canopy cover and less plant biomass in the understory, which also might reduce use by some wildlife. Thus, to better understand these plant-animal

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

relationships through time, it is planned to continue this study to evaluate the long-term patterns of how wildlife respond to the gradient of fire severity.

Although several plant and animal populations potentially benefit from large mixed-severity wildfire, other species might not benefit from broad areas of higher fire severity. For example, Abert's squirrels would likely avoid areas of higher fire severity for long periods of time post fire because these areas mostly lack their preferred habitat conditions of mature ponderosa pine forests. Thus, it is important to evaluate how a suite of small to large-sized mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and plants respond to the gradient of fire severity through time. Finally, the results from this study also are likely most applicable to the forested ecosystems that we evaluated. Limited information is available about how wildlife respond to the gradient of fire severity in other southwestern ecosystems, such as the Sonoran Desert, where increasingly frequent fires due to invasive grasses and human-caused fire likely have more overall negative effects on ecological communities. Future research will help us understand the complex and varying relationships among plants, wildlife, and fire across the diversity of ecosystems in Arizona.

AZTWS Seeking Chapter Award Nominations

Nominations for the 2023 AZTWS Chapter Awards are open now. Please recognize your peers and submit final nomination documents to Chris Carrillo (chris.d.carrillo@usda.gov) by November 30, 2023. AZTWS especially welcomes nominations that showcase diversity, equity, and inclusion. Awardees will be recognized at the 2024 JAM.

AZTWS is seeking nominations for the following awards; information about these awards and past recipients can be found at <https://aztws.com/past-award-winners>:

Doug Morrison Award

Professional Award

Conservation Award

Roger Hungerford Student Award

Wildlife Habitat Relationships Award

Scrapping Bear Award

Tribal Conservationist Award

Outstanding Service to the Chapter Award

David E. Brown Lifetime Achievement Award

Award nominations should include the following: (1) Name and affiliation of the nominee (nominees need not be members of TWS or the AZ Chapter); (2) The award for which the individual is being nominated; (3) Letter of support signed by nominator and endorsed by at least one additional individual (endorsers may sign the nominating letter or send separate letters of support); (4) Name and contact information of nominator(s).

Tomorrow's Wildlifers

By Lias Hastings, Wildlife Specialist, USDA APHIS Wildlife Services



The future of wildlife biology depends on providing opportunities for the next generation to learn from today's professionals. Credit: Jackson Carranco, director of Camp Colton

Today's world is vastly different from the one I grew up in. The advent of technology has brought about some of the greatest advancements but also introduced potential drawbacks. I grew up in an era when kids spent most of the time playing outside, not spending hours staring at cell phone screens or days playing the latest, greatest video game system. The favorite social media platforms of today did not yet exist. That gave us plenty of time to explore and enjoy the surrounding forest and experience all the amazing wildlife species it had to offer. From these experiences, I knew early on that I wanted to pursue a career working in the forest with wildlife.

So I am calling out to you, all my fellow wildlife professionals, to invest some time in youth and help ignite their curiosity in our profession.

I have been fortunate to participate in youth outreach opportunities the last couple of summers at a summer camp program called STEM Environmental Enrichment and Discovery (SEED) Program. This is an experience that gives middle school kids the opportunity to spend time in nature and learn from several experts in different scientific fields, including biology, math, engineering, ecology, and hydrology. I partnered with Tad Theimer from Northern Arizona University (NAU) on a program called Nocturnal Animals. Over the course of an evening, we got to discuss our backgrounds/interest in wildlife and mention the potential for pursuing careers in the wildlife field. Thanks to NAU's generosity, we got to showcase several nocturnal animal species from their mammalogy museum collection.

One of the highlights of the night was leading a discussion about bats and giving the kids the opportunity to set up some mistnets and practice taking sock bats out of the nets. This all led up to the grand finale, when we captured live bats and gave the kids the opportunity to see these amazing little mammals up close. We were fortunate to capture some cool species, such as a red bat, hoary bat, silver-haired bat, big brown bat, and several different *Myotis* species. I am hopeful that this exposure to

(Continued on page 10)

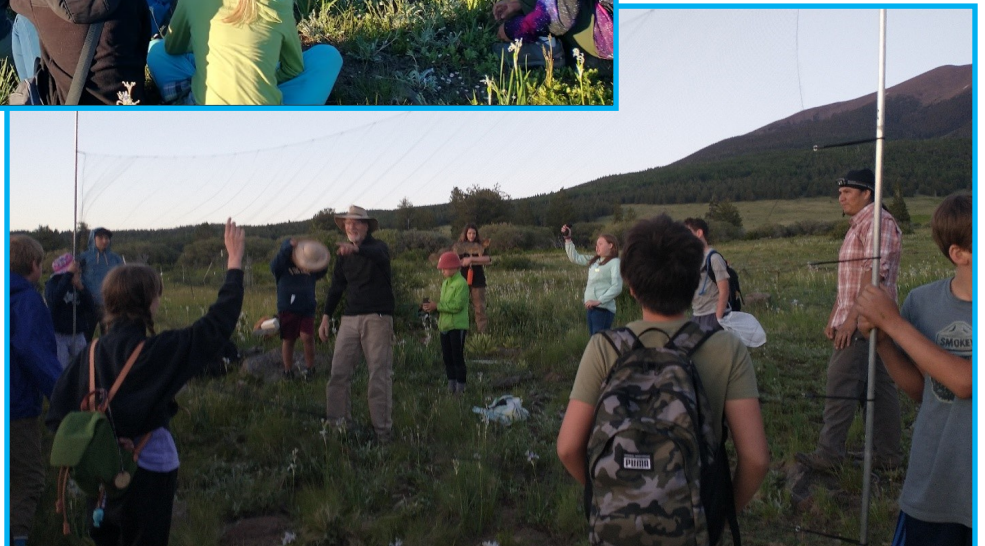
(Continued from page 9)

many different wildlife species creates some excitement and allows the kids to recognize that this is a potential pathway they can walk down later in life.

You can learn more about the camp and opportunities to help by [clicking here](#).



During the SEED Program, students received hands-on experience with mammal skulls and skins, plus got to try their hand at mistnetting. Credit: Jackson Carranco, director of Camp Colton



The Long, Winding Road to Recovery of the Apache Trout

By Jessica Zehr, Public Affairs Specialist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The Big Day

Just more than eight miles down a scenic road, nestled in among tall pines on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation of the White Mountain Apache Tribe (WMAT), sits the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Williams Creek National Fish Hatchery. On August 10, 2023, the hatchery was host to folks from as far as Washington, D.C., and as many as five different agencies and organizations who all gathered to recognize the remarkable partnerships that have been built in support of one shared goal: the Apache trout's recovery.

Efforts to conserve the species started as early as 1955 when the WMAT began implementing restrictions that protected the species, predating any protections that would later come with the species' listing under the Endangered Species Act in 1973. Fifty years have now passed since the Apache trout's initial listing, and this hatchery has been a home-base for species conservation work during much of that time.



Apache trout at the Williams Creek National Fish Hatchery. Credit: Jessica Zehr, USFWS



Gary Frazer speaks at the Apache Trout Partner Event. Credit: Jessica Zehr, USFWS

Under the airy and lofty ceilings of the hatchery's large storage room, with an idyllic afternoon breeze flowing through open bay doors, the Service's Assistant Director for Ecological Services, Gary Frazer, announced the Service's proposal to delist the Apache trout. "This is a big day. I'm really proud and delighted to announce to you today that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is proposing through the Federal Register to delist the Apache trout due to its recovery." The room erupted with applause. Assistant Director Frazer acknowledged that the Tribe has been key to this conservation success story, and the Service's

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

Southwest Regional Director Amy Lueders remarked that everyone there was part of the present and future of Apache trout recovery.

While close collaboration between partners and a shared commitment to the work were identified by everyone involved as factors contributing to this milestone, the early action and the leadership of the WMAT were repeatedly recognized by partners as essential. “Today we celebrated the decades-long efforts of the White Mountain Apache Tribe to recover Apache trout,” said Nathan Rees, Arizona Field Coordinator for Trout Unlimited. “The Apache trout comeback is really a story about what can happen when passionate cooperators come together to take care of their home waters. We’re proud to have played a role in these conservation and delisting efforts in conjunction with our partners at the White Mountain Apache Tribe, Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Forest Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and look forward to continuing the restoration of Arizona’s state fish.”



Apache trout on view Creekside at Ord Creek. Credit: Jessica Zehr, USFWS

A Fish-eye View

“Let’s hope the rain holds off” was a sentiment shared by many leading up to the event.

Much more goes into organizing a gathering like this one—or proposing to delist a species—than is apparent in culminating moments. The list of individuals who contributed to the events on the 10th and to the fish’s conservation milestone is long and spans WMAT Game Rangers and personnel, Tribal members, and Tribal leadership, along with Service personnel from the National Fish Hatchery System, the Fish and Aquatic Conservation program, and the Ecological Services program, and many more individuals with partner organizations.

The day’s itinerary included an opportunity to see the species in its native habitat and to see a gabion fish barrier, one example of a tool used to protect the species from the threat of non-native fish entering its habitat. The logistics of getting everyone to the same place at the same time, safely, on-schedule, and during monsoon season, was no small feat. At least 40 representatives of the WMAT, the

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

Service, and additional partners caravanned up dirt roads into the White Mountains to Ord Creek, home to one of the 30 populations of the species in the wild and a historical source for several of the replicated populations of the species. Attendees learned from WMAT council members about the site's broader history, including its significance to the WMAT and its Tribal elders, and details about the species and its history at the site from the Service's Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office staff. The group descended the hill, away from the dirt road and into the cienega where Ord Creek meanders clear and cool over cobblestones. Apache trout were there on-site for the group to view up close. As the morning progressed and storm clouds loomed in the distance, the group departed with wet boots and renewed reverence.

The day's events were a testament to the positive outcomes that can result from collaboration, much like the proposed delisting. It never did rain that day. Much like conservation, success sometimes requires a little cooperation from nature and our willingness to work together to make gains at every opportunity. The events that day provided a chance to stop and recognize the milestone for the incredible achievement it is and acknowledge the history and work that made it possible. But everyone agreed, the work will continue.



Ord Creek in the White Mountains supports a wild Apache trout population. Credit: Jessica Zehr, USFWS

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
Winter 2024	Dec 15, 2023
Spring 2024	Mar 15, 2024

Email submissions at any time to aztwseeditor@gmail.com.

Continuing Education Grants

AZTWS offers \$1,500 annually in [Continuing Education Grants](#) 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](#)**

You're Invited!

Water Sustains Life: Winterizing Your Backyard for Birds and Plants for Adult Beginner Gardeners



Friends of the San Pedro River

October 14, 2023
8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
San Pedro House
9800 E. Hwy 90, Sierra Vista

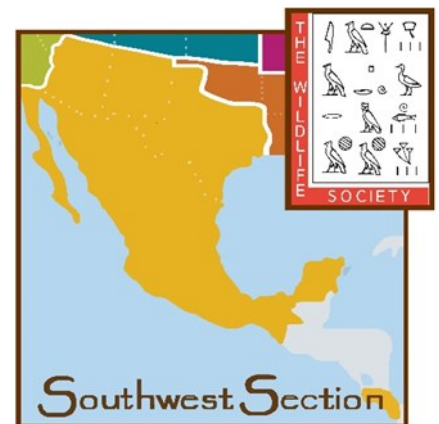
You're invited to join Friends of San Pedro River for this special event! Local, knowledgeable presenters will talk about winterizing plants and their watering needs, how to prepare your backyard to sustain birds through the coldest months in southeast Arizona, and why this is important to the conservation of the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area. Presentations will be followed by rotating demonstrations in the San Pedro House xeriscape demonstration garden on proper pruning techniques, backyard landscapes for wintering birds, and backyard water basins and groundwater recharge.

There is a \$25.00 registration fee, which includes an individual Friends of the San Pedro River membership for one year. If you are already a member, your membership will be extended for one year. No refunds.

Registration is required as class size is limited to 30. Participants must be at least 18 years old. Email fspr@sanpedroriver.org to register.

TWS Southwest Section Graduate Student Scholarship

The Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society will soon be soliciting applications for the annual \$500 Southwestern Wildlife Graduate Student Scholarship soon. This scholarship will be presented at either the 2024 Joint Annual Meeting of the New Mexico and Arizona chapters of The Wildlife Society or the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society. For consideration, students must submit applications by **December 15, 2023**. A call for submissions with application instructions will be sent to members of the Southwest Section later this fall.



For more information, please contact Kay Nicholson (kay.e.nicholson@jacobs.com).



AZTWS News & Resources

The [Arizona Chapter of The Wildlife Society](#) 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 [here](#). 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) – [details here](#).
- Looking for that older issue of *The Arizona Wildlifer*? **All issues** are freely accessible [here!](#)
- Our parent society, TWS, emphasizes important resources for **[diversity, equity, and inclusion](#)** 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 [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [website](#) for opportunities.
- AZTWS has vacancies for several Committee Chair positions. See [page 5](#) for details.
- Have questions for us? Contact us [here](#).



An osprey soars overhead, searching for its next meal. Credit: Scott Sprague
