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Sportsmen's Connection

June 2016

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS



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MEMBER
ORGANIZATIONS

I had a reader tell me awhile back to keep politics out of these messages and enews. I wish I could.

We won't endorse any candidates because of our 501c-3 status, but also because we are a very diverse group of folks and organizations, and bipartisan to varying degrees too. That said we can talk about issues and matters at hand that will impact what we do, and like it or not, politics has entered the realm of wildlife conservation and outdoor recreation and is here to stay.

A very dedicated volunteer, conservationist and friend of ours just returned from the North Kaibab assessing water catchments and repairing drinkers. He and his crew visited 16 drinkers and restored functionality on 15 of them. They had to chain saw their way in on some. Downed logs blocked their path and had been there for years, a testament to the lack of maintenance these improvements have been subjected to. Two of the crew made site visits to the 14 drinkers that were refurbished in 2015, and most of those drinkers are still functioning. That in and of itself exemplifies the necessity of maintenance on these catchments. A return trip later this year will have them checking on their efforts, as there is a never ending supply of work to do there, with a lot of catchments and drinkers on the North Kaibab! Do you think those drinkers help the mule deer and other wildlife that reside there?

As the President's "legacy" starts to take shape with the dwindling months of this administration, we are on the verge of a "monumental" fall, and not in a good way. The North Kaibab is part of the monument wish list. It is a key link, a Rewilding "corridor", connecting the Grand Canyon National Park, to the surrounding Monuments and National Parks both in Arizona and Utah. It's a Rewilding "core" area, large strictly protected area, another "c" in the goals for a continental spine, unencumbered by man, and removed from the concept of multiuse.

- 1.2.3.Go...
- Anglers United
- AZ Antelope Foundation
- AZ BASS Federation Nation
- AZ Big Game Super Raffle
- AZ Bowhunters Association
- AZ Catfish Conservation Association
- AZ Chapter of NWTf
- AZ Chapter of SCI
- AZ Council of TU
- AZ Deer Association
- AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep Society
- AZ Elk Society
- AZ Flycasters Club
- AZ Houndsmen's Association
- AZ Outdoor Sports
- Back Country Hunters & Anglers
- Coconino Sportsmen
- Mohave Sportsman Club
- Outdoor Experience 4 All
- South Eastern AZ Sportsmen Club
- SRT Outdoors Inc
- The Bass Federation Arizona
- The Ryan Thomas Foundation
- TRCP
- White Mountain Fly Fishing Club
- White Mountain Lakes Foundation
- Xtreme Predator Callers

Affiliate Members:

- Aircomm

Let's clear up one thing right away however. Monument proponents suggest you will be able to continue to hunt on the North Kaibab if this comes to fruition...for now. Did you know the Grand Canyon originally was a "Game Preserve", then it became a "Monument" and finally, it reached the pinnacle of progress, a "National Park". You cannot hunt in National Parks.

Right now it looks like this monument is gaining steam with the White House Council on Environmental Quality. This is the group that recommends monument designations to the President. Presuming the inevitable, soon you won't be able to use all the roads that have already been travel managed, you won't be able to maintain water catchments and drinkers without environmental assessments, wildlife management will be subjected to additional rules and regulations, logging will end and likely with it a proactive forest management, and maybe, just maybe, the National Park Service will once and for all be able to use sharpshooters to eliminate those pesky buffalo, or bison, or cattalo, whatever your choice of labels, and stop the degradation of that pristine environment! Heck with that action, what a segue for wolves, a "natural" means to dispose of those rotting carcasses and alas, the final "c" in the Rewilding mantra, "carnivores".

Oh, and I almost forgot, uranium mining will forever be banned, even though there's a moratorium in effect until 2032. But I do have to ask, "what difference does it make", because I'm not sure this is even going to apply to the Russians.

Yours in Conservation
Jim Unmacht, President

PS...<http://rewilding.org/rewildit/what-is-rewilding/>

Another Grant Program Success

The AZSFWC License Plate Grant program provided funding for the annual Anglers United Kid's Fishing Day. Over 336 Kids attended the event with an average of about 1.5 adults per child. That equates to well over 800 event participants not including volunteers.



**Calendar - Our Member Groups Are Very Busy!
Please support their activities.**

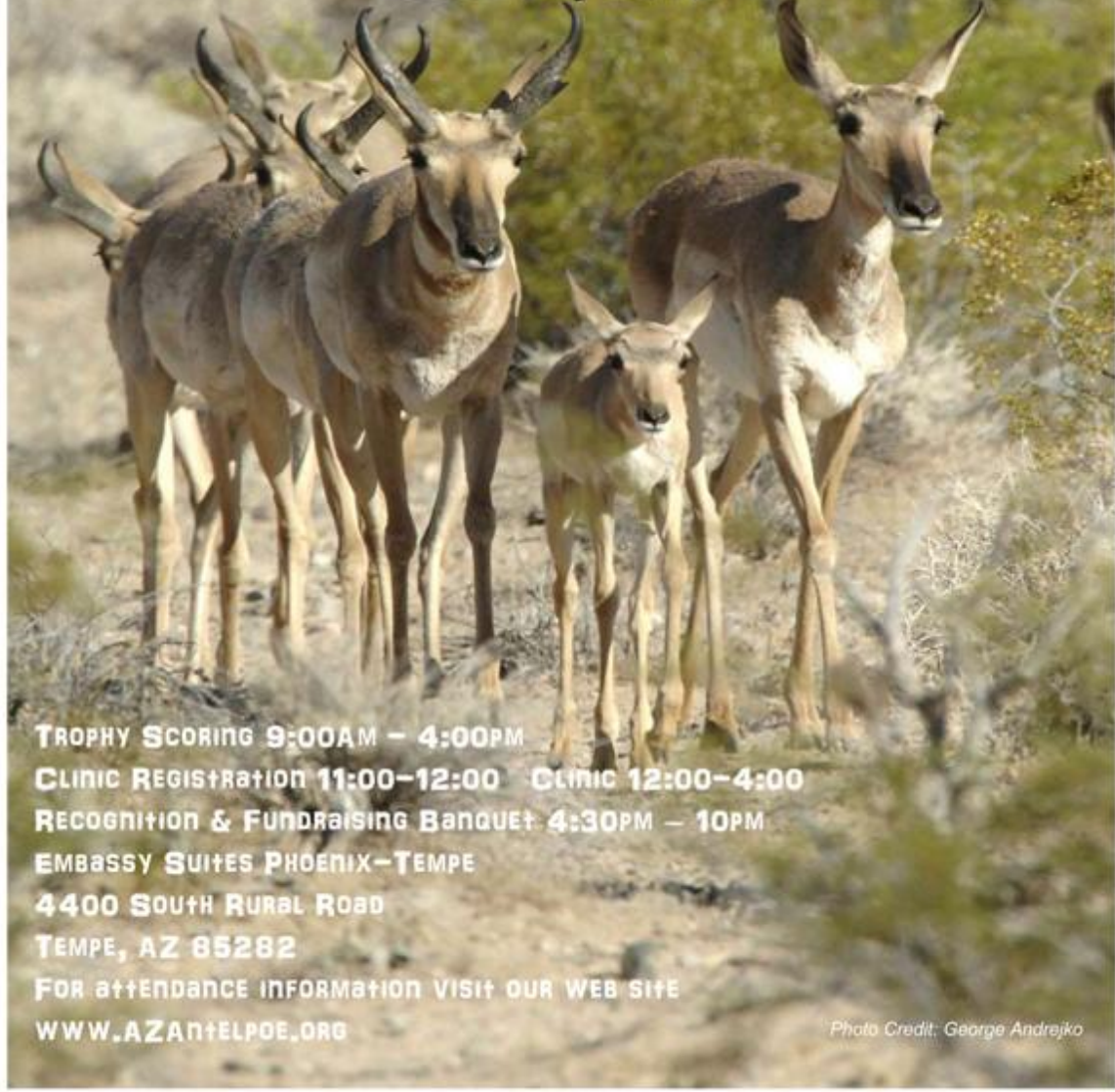
ARIZONA ANTELOPE FOUNDATION

HUNTER CLINIC

TROPHY SCORING

PRONGHORN RECOGNITION & FUNDRAISING BANQUET

JUNE 18, 2016



TROPHY SCORING 9:00AM - 4:00PM

CLINIC REGISTRATION 11:00-12:00 CLINIC 12:00-4:00

RECOGNITION & FUNDRAISING BANQUET 4:30PM - 10PM

EMBASSY SUITES PHOENIX-TEMPE

4400 SOUTH RURAL ROAD

TEMPE, AZ 85282

FOR ATTENDANCE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEB SITE

WWW.AZANTELOPE.ORG

Photo Credit: George Andrejko

AZSCI 41st

Annual Banquet

Banquet Date June 18, 2016

Loews Ventana Canyon Resort!

Doors open at 4:00 PM, dinner at 6:00 PM Tickets are
\$70.00 each or \$130.00 per couple

Corporate tables are \$700.00 for seating of 10

For more information contact
Bobby Boido (520) 490-8367 Or
Gilbert Quintana (520) 971-6213

**National Wild Turkey Federation's
Valley Longbeard Chapter
21st Annual Hunting Heritage Banquet
July 9, 2016**

LOCATION: Hilton Phoenix Airport Hotel
2435 S. 47th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85034

TIME: Doors open at 5:00 P.M.
Dinner at 6:00 P.M.

- EXCITING Games, Auctions, and Raffles!
- Great Dinner and Drinks!
- Special gifts and raffles for JAKES! (Kids)

\$75.00 per Single Ticket
\$115.00 per Couple (only 1 membership)
\$140.00 per Couple (two memberships)
\$35.00 per JAKES (17 and under)
\$275.00 Sponsor Member \$310.00 Sponsor Couple
\$1000.00 Corporate / Sponsor Table (10 meals / 10 memberships)
\$200.00 Big Spender Package, \$400 in raffle tickets, 3 tickets for Super
Bonus Gun Raffle.
\$100.00 Raffle package, \$180.00 in raffle tickets, 1 ticket for Super
Bonus Raffle Gun,



This is a Banquet for the Whole Family

Corporate Tables include 2 Big Spender Raffle Packages

For Information & Reservations:
Rich Williams at 602-881-7292
azgobbler60@gmail.com

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Conservation License Plates - Get yours today!



Look at our beautiful license plate. 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.

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/showInfoPage.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.

