



Thanksgiving is but days away and the Holiday Season is set to ramp up. In many respects, it's hard to believe we're winding down 2016, but on the other hand, some things couldn't come fast enough! Is anyone disappointed the endless political ads gone?

Many cheered the results of the election, including nationwide proponents of our 2nd Amendment, but the results aren't without disconcerting issues in various places around the country. Some even emanate in our very own backyard!

Take for instance the "call to arms" from the Center of Biological Diversity (CBD), here's an excerpt from their recent "Trump Moment" fundraising flyer a couple days ago...

"That's why we're already starting the hand-to-hand combat that will be necessary to defend what's right. We're pushing back on every front possible, including the climate deniers and industry hacks that Trump is putting into positions of power." "We're laying the groundwork now to rise up against the Trump administration in the streets, the halls of Congress and the courts. We'll do it for wolves, whales, elephants, sea turtles and every other creature who faces a darker future in the coming years." "The Center is made for this kind of work because we move fast, we move strongly and we get results. But I need you with us. Please take a moment and give what you can to the Center. I hope you're as energized as we are at this historic moment. The fight begins now."

What else are they up to, here's a sample:

<http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/action/alerts/>

We should also probably take a look at how many tax payer dollars the CBD has received since 2012, check out this old press release:

<http://naturalresources.house.gov/newsroom/documentsingle.aspx?documentID=301242>

Let's not forget it's also the time for the end of term "monument making". Our current President has broken all records with these efforts, 24 new monuments and 3 expanded monuments. That equates to almost 500 million water acres and 4 million land acres. What's ironic about the land acres set aside, is its only 2 million acres shy of the rumored Sierra Club national goal of 6 million land acres

"preserved" under this President's tenure. I wonder where he could meet and exceed that goal? How about north of the Colorado River and on into southern Utah? In Arizona, 1.7 million and in Utah north of 1 million would do the trick. All the stops are being pulled...

...from the CBD:

http://action.biologicaldiversity.org/o/2167/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=17501

...from the AZ Republic:

<http://www.azcentral.com/story/news/politics/arizona/2016/11/11/president-obama-national-monument-grand-canyon-national-park/93546346/>

...an Op-ed from them:

<http://www.azcentral.com/story/opinion/op-ed/lindavaldez/2016/11/16/obama-protect-grand-canyon/93904232/>

...and the AZ Daily Sun:

http://azdailysun.com/news/local/article_4a5f475d-f151-57ad-be89-487aa3190489.html

Now to the "polls"...which one are you going to believe?

...one says 80% of Arizonans want the monument:

<http://www.azcentral.com/story/news/arizona/politics/2016/02/19/poll-most-arizona-support-national-monument-buffering-grand-canyon/80574184/>

...one says almost 72% of Arizonan's do not want the monument:

<http://www.arra-access.com/arizona/study-finds-that-71-6-of-arizonans-oppose-national-monument-designation-in-northern-arizona/>

Read about Congressman Paul Gosar's rebuttal to the monument push here:

<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/energy-environment/306734-arizonans-agree-no-new-national-monument>

Our President-elect has indicated he intends on rescinding a number of our current President's Executive Orders. One has to wonder if he may be the first President to revoke a monument designation?

Switching gears, AZSFWC has had an impactful year on many fronts. We'll talk about that some more in early 2017, but a highlight has been our Conserving Wildlife License Plate grants. We are breaking records on plate income, which in turn has seen us award grants that have exceeded our prior records too. The more plates people buy, the greater our impact across the landscape. So this Holiday Season consider a wildlife plate under your tree, or stocking...you know your vehicle wants one!

In closing, a special Thank You to David Koenst for his generous memorial to AZSFWC in Memory of Mitchell Petrick. And finally, Condolences to Don McDowell and his family on the passing of his brother Patrick McDowell.

One never knows when the hour glass will empty, so cherish your time and make as many memories as you're able! Count your blessings, remain vigilant and Happy Holidays!

Yours in Conservation,
Jim Unmacht President

Grant Success

A grant of \$2500 to the AZ Elk Society was used to supplement investment in the restoration of Merritt Draw. These riparian meadows on the Mogollon Rim are a crucial source of water and forage for a majority of the wildlife in the area. The grant helped fund a contractor to bring in more and larger materials and then, with a small excavator he was able to maneuver into a very deep headcut and place the larger rocks into place to stop the advance of the headcut and restore the channel downstream. The Arizona Elk Society with hundreds of volunteers has been working in Merritt Draw for two years and have now finished the restoration of the meadow.



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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.

