



ARIZONA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

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AWF Position Statement San Pedro River

The San Pedro River, a principal perennial stream and major riparian habitat in southeastern Arizona is endangered by an over-drawdown in the watershed aquifer.

Ongoing efforts by the Upper San Pedro River Partnership to encourage water conservation and creative recharge of the aquifer are admirable, but have not greatly effected this threat to the survival of the river.

The Arizona Wildlife Federation is resolute on protection of the San Pedro River and believes the Arizona Department of Water Resources has the authority to establish a Sierra Vista/Fort Huachuaca Active Management Area using science based information now available from a variety of reliable sources. The Bureau of Land Management has expressed support for the establishment of an Active Management Area for this region within the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area.

The AWF strongly supports immediate and effective water conservation measures and an Active Management Plan for the Upper San Pedro Watershed as a means of maintaining a surface flow of water into the San Pedro River. Federal, state, local government agencies, and other stakeholders must work together to protect and conserve this precious resource for current and future generations, and for the vast variety and numbers of species dependent upon the San Pedro River.