



Photo by George Andrejko, AGFD



FY 2021-22 IMPACT REPORT

ARIZONA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Arizona Wildlife Federation (AWF) will soon celebrate its 100th anniversary. That milestone is a testament to the importance of wildlife conservation and the dedication of hundreds of conservation leaders in Arizona. Successful organizations depend on the ability to look ahead and ensure that they are implementing their mission and strategic vision.

Success also depends on looking back to gauge progress. Indeed, an achievement worth celebrating is the fact that the AWF is still here after 100 years. However, we can also look at more recent events that continue to speak to our enduring accomplishments. In 2016, the AWF completed a strategic plan that focused on rebuilding alliances, increasing the organization's visibility, and fiscal stability. We also began a new strategic vision that prioritized organizational growth, political influence, and increased financial ability.

The AWF completed the implementation of that strategic plan in 2021. Numbers never tell the whole story, but they can be good indicators of progress. The AWF has added an Executive Director, and key staff in Education, Advocacy, and Development. Currently the AWF has quadrupled its assets, tripled its annual budget, quadrupled its staffing, developed a new accounting system, expanded its affiliate base, increased its social media presence, expanded its BOW program, and launched a new volunteer program accomplishing wildlife habitat work. Much work remains to be done and our strategic plan moving forward speaks to that. Still, we can all look back and smile at the AWF's recent progress, and a century of successful wildlife conservation.

Brad Powell
President



AWF Board President, Brad Powell, enjoys getting into the field to hunt and fish on our public lands.



Glen is presented with a commendation award from the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

A VISION FOR 2022

As the Arizona Wildlife Federation prepares to celebrate our 100th anniversary in 2023, Arizona faces innumerable environmental challenges with regards to drought, population growth, and the continued protection of our public lands. For 99 years we have been steadfastly guided by the principles of Sound Science and Best Governance. As we strategically go forward, in partnership with your individual commitments as Citizen Conservationists, we will actively lead, improve, and influence Arizona's wildlife conservation efforts locally, while collaborating nationally.

Glen Dickens
President-Elect

MEET THE AWF TEAM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brad Powell – President/Alternate NWF Affiliate Representative

Glen Dickens – Vice-President of Operations

Amanda Moors – Treasurer

Jerry Thorson – Secretary

Bob Vahle – Region 1 Director/NWF Affiliate Representative

Travis Woolley – Region 2 Director

Loyd Barnett – Region 3 Director

Pat Headington – Region 4 Director/YVRGC Representative

Duane Aubuchon – Region 5 Director

Amanda Moors – Region 6 Director

Valerie Morrill – Director at Large

Kathryn Nelson – Director at Large

Tracy Stephens – Director/Friends of the Verde River Representative

Steve Clark – Director / Arizona Elk Society Representative

Lew Carpenter – NWF Director of Conservation Partnerships

Luke Thompson – AGFD Liaison



AWF Board & Staff enjoy socializing outdoors after December's board meeting.

STAFF

Scott Garlid - Executive Director

Trica Oshant Hawkins – Conservation Programs Director

Michael Cravens - Advocacy and Conservation Director

OPERATIONS SUPPORT

Alan Knobloch – Development Consultant

Amie Parea – Office Administration

Kim Kreuzer – BOW Coordinator

Linda Dightman - BOW Coordinator

Kathy Greene - BOW Coordinator

OUR MISSION AND THREE PILLARS

For nearly 100 years, the Arizona Wildlife Federation has been uniting Arizonans and decision makers around science-based solutions to conserve our state's wildlife, wildlife habitat, and public lands for generations to come. We engage all Arizonans, including our partners, supporters, and legislators, in three primary ways: education programs, direct involvement in conservation projects, and action through advocacy. Keep reading to learn how we achieved this in 2021.



EDUCATE

We educate Arizonans about wildlife and nature, equipping them to enjoy outdoor activities with knowledge and confidence.



INVOLVE

We involve Arizonans in hands-on conservation projects that have a direct impact on habitat and wildlife.



ADVOCATE

We actively advocate for science-based wildlife management and access to our state's magnificent public lands.



EDUCATE

It is well known that upon gaining an awareness and understanding of the natural world, the natural progression of an individual is toward stewardship and conservation. At AWF, we believe that instilling a love for nature in young children is the first step toward inspiring the next generation of conservation stewards. Our education programs start with early childhood learning (our ECHO program) and continue into the senior years (through our BOW and Gardening programs). Here, we provide an overview of this past year's education programs and their impacts. Keep reading to learn how AWF creates education for a lifetime!



Children love meeting Ranger Rick at AWF tabling events.

EDUCATION FOR A LIFETIME

EARLY CHILDHOOD ECHO AND RANGER RICK

<p>12 ECHO SITES SUPPORTED</p> <p>100s CHILDREN IMPACTED</p>	 <p>ARIZONA SUBSCRIPTIONS SUPPORT AWF</p>
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Our ECHO (Early Childhood Outdoors) and Ranger Rick programs target children in the developmental years. ECHO promotes and provides safe, natural outdoor play spaces and Ranger Rick provides inspirational, age-appropriate photos, stories, and activities for young readers. This past year, AWF provided counsel and support for several developing ECHO sites around the state. As well, in partnership with NWF, we continued to promote subscriptions to the suite of Ranger Rick magazines.

K-12 ECO-SCHOOLS



The NWF Eco-Schools Program is a global sustainability initiative that engages K-12 grade students in activities that create environmental and economic awareness and encourage civic engagement. The AWF, in partnership with the Arizona Association of Conservation Districts and the Arizona Association of Environmental Education has worked to expand the program statewide. This past year, the 12 schools (from all around the state) that are currently enrolled in the program received resources and training related to agriculture and conservation.



The April-May 2022 B2B cohort.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT BRIDGES TO BOW

Bridges to BOW (B2B) is AWF's brand new program that is successfully increasing diversity and inclusion in BOW. Through B2B, we reach out to young, diverse, and other underrepresented women to help them learn about, register for, and attend a BOW workshop. Expanding the diversity of participants to BOW to include more culturally, racially, and generationally diverse women, more accurately reflects the populations of Arizona communities. These women are also typically underrepresented in other outdoor recreation activities such as hiking, camping, hunting, and angling. B2B is clearly an avenue for not only reaching underrepresented women, but (given the past successes of BOW) giving them the information, skills, and confidence they need to become active and engaged outdoorswomen.

2 PROGRAMS COMPLETED

31 WOMEN DIRECTLY IMPACTED

ADULTS BECOMING AN OUTDOORS-WOMAN



Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) is AWF's award-winning program that helps women gain skills and confidence in the outdoors. BOW workshops provide a safe and supportive environment conducive to learning, making friends, and having fun in the outdoors. BOW workshops are coordinated by AWF's dedicated and professional BOW leaders, and are offered 3 times each year. As the pandemic eased this past year, all of our BOW workshops were again filled to capacity.

COMMUNITY GROUPS GARDEN FOR WILDLIFE

400
NEWLY
CERTIFIED
HABITATS

10
DIGITAL AND IN-
PERSON EVENTS

1000s
WILDLIFE IMPACTED

In Arizona, backyards, businesses, public venues, schools, places of worship, and entire communities can help wildlife by creating wildlife-friendly gardens. Since the pandemic, nearly 400 Arizona gardens became Certified Wildlife Habitats through NWF's Gardening for Wildlife program. To promote the program, AWF reached out to wildlife watchers, gardeners, and native plant enthusiasts through webinars, blog posts, and in-person events. AWF also helped usher in the first Arizona "Sacred Ground" site at King of Glory Lutheran Church in Tempe, and partnered with Friends of the Verde to bring the Gardening for Wildlife program to their River Friendly Living community initiative.



VOLUNTEERS FOR WILDLIFE

Now in its second year, AWF’s Volunteers for Wildlife program is gaining steam. This is a program that both involves our supporters and directly helps wildlife and landscapes through hands-on conservation projects. We partner with our Affiliates, other organizations, and agencies to accomplish a variety of wildlife and habitat work projects around the state. This past year, our projects included barbed wire fence removals, planting of desert shrubs to restore a burned area on a wildlife refuge, and helping with the set up and take down of enclosures for the reintroduction of endangered Sonoran pronghorn antelope.

FY 2021-22 HIGHLIGHTS



10 projects completed

1400 desert shrubs planted

10 miles barbed wire fence removed

AWF volunteers remove barbed wire fence to enhance wildlife movement and prevent entanglement.



5 projects sites, including:

Sonoran Desert National Monument, Table Top Wilderness, Buenos Aires and Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuges, and Avra Valley/Robles Junction

To remove barbed wire from Table Top Wilderness Area, volunteers had to cut, roll, and carry the wire out of the wilderness... all without mechanical assistance.



484 volunteer hours

36 volunteers engaged

14 affiliates, agency & organization partners

AWF volunteers partnered with several conservation organizations in So. Arizona to remove barbed wire from an Avra Valley wildlife corridor.

Special thanks to our project partners: Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Antelope Foundation, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge, Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge, Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection, Friends of Ironwood Forest, Friends of the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Saguaro National Park, Organ Pipe National Monument, Mule Deer Foundation, Tucson Audubon Society, and Ernst-Young.



WHY WE ADVOCATE

The Arizona Wildlife Federation was born 100 years ago out of a need to keep politics out of wildlife and public lands management. We continue that proud tradition today by advocating for science-based policies and funding that supports public lands, wildlife, hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation. Our advocacy work helps ensure that opportunities to experience wildlife and Arizona's great outdoors are there for future generations.

HOW WE ADVOCATE

Our advocacy takes several forms. We research issues, educate individuals, meet with elected officials, and engage stakeholders in respectful discussion on issues. This year's highlights included our annual Camo-at-the-Capitol event and a "Sportsman's Perspective on Climate Change" field trip and panel discussion with Representative Tom O'Halleran.



The 2021 Camo-at-the-Capitol event.



AWF staff with Rep. Tom O'Halleran in the Coconino National Forest.

**FY 2021-22
ADVOCACY FOCUS**

\$30 MILLION+
TO CONSERVE AZ WILDLIFE

\$5 MILLION
TO MAINTAIN AZ SITES/TRAILS

WHAT WE ADVOCATE FOR

FUNDING

AWF continues to lead the fight to fund wildlife conservation. This year, our efforts helped put the Recovering America's Wildlife Act on a path to success, resulting in more than \$30 million going to our state's wildlife annually. We also helped pass the State Parks Heritage Fund, adding \$5 million annually to historic sites and trails across the state.

OUTDOOR RECREATION AND ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS

AWF was instrumental in passing a state resolution highlighting the importance of outdoor recreation to Arizona's economy and our quality of life. We also successfully led the charge to stop legislation intended to limit public lands conservation and access in the future.

THE GRAND CANYON

AWF has partnered with Native American tribes and other conservation organizations to permanently protect the Grand Canyon from uranium mining. We are not anti-mining, but some places are just too precious to mine.

Learn More: <https://azwildlife.org/action-through-advocacy>





Scott helping out on a fence removal project.

THANK YOU. WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.

We simply can't pursue our mission and do the work you see reflected in this report without the support of donors, affiliates, volunteers, and partners like you. The work you see, the progress we make, and the impact we have is really YOUR work, YOUR progress, and YOUR impact. We hope you feel a personal connection to all of AWF's accomplishments presented in here, and throughout the year. We hope that, like us, you are proud of this work, knowing you are a part of it. Thank you so very much for your continuing support.

Scott Garlid, Executive Director



"As one who loves wildlife and wild places, I enjoy getting outside and working on projects I know are helping wildlife. AWF's volunteer program is perfect for someone like me who wants to get directly involved in conservation. I value these opportunities to give my time and energy to support AWF's efforts."

Aaron Dye, Volunteer for Wildlife



Learn more about volunteering with AWF.

"Friends of the Verde River relies on visionary organizations like the AWF to work in partnership to protect our state's magnificent wildlife and wild places. As partners in science-based management, we work together to ensure a vibrant future for Arizona's water, wildlife, people, and landscapes."

Tracy Stephens, Friends of the Verde River, AWF Affiliate

"As a Life Member of AWF, I believe they are doing great with wildlife and habitat conservation issues. I also think the AWN magazine and other publications are top notch"

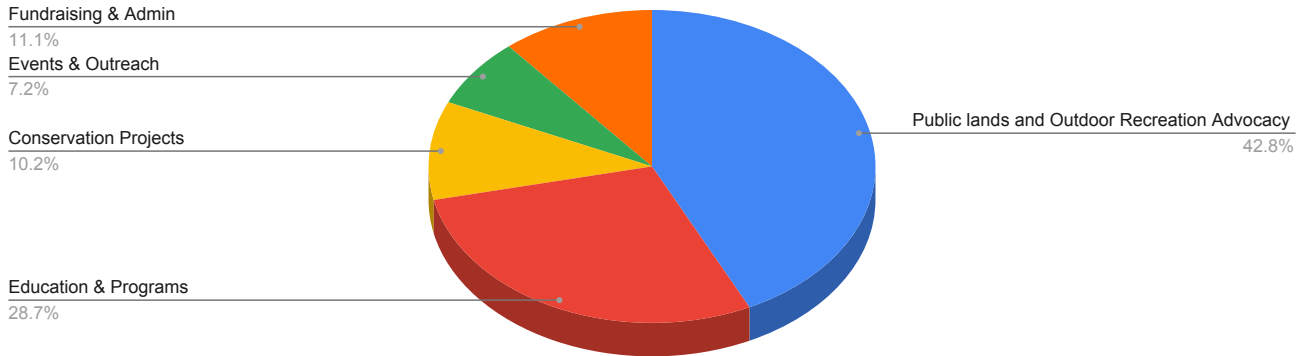
Jeff Augustine, Supporter and Life Member

Support AWF with a donation.

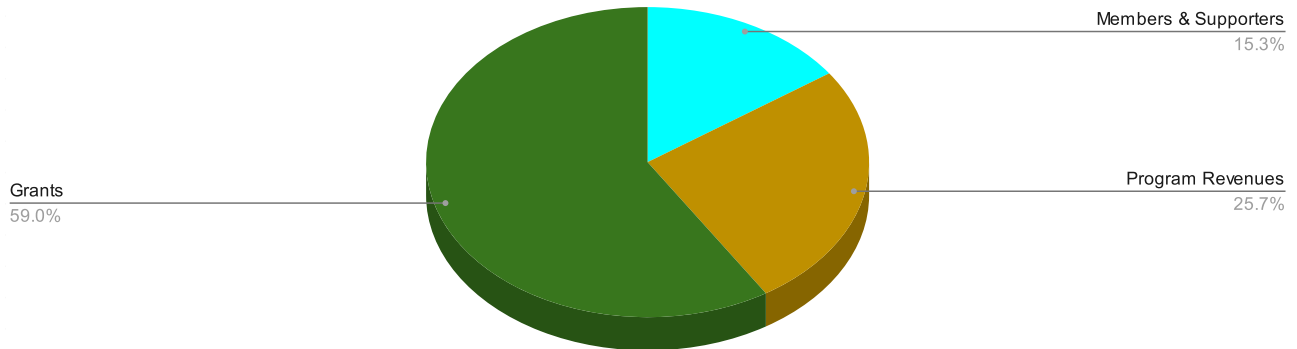


FINANCIALS

FY 2021-22 EXPENDITURES



FY 2021-22 REVENUES



Our AWF financials continue to be sound. As you can see from the graphics, most of our funding comes from grants, and correspondingly, most of our spending goes toward the accomplishment of those grant goals. We work very hard to keep our administrative costs as low as possible, and we strive to put every dollar possible toward programs that connect people to the outdoors, on-the-ground projects, and making tangible impacts on public land policies. We couldn't accomplish any of what we do without the generous support of our donors and volunteers. Thank you.

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

This year, as we prepare to celebrate our first 100 years as a conservation organization, we are excited to announce AWF's new **Legacy Society**. Our Legacy Society recognizes donors who support AWF at the highest levels. Life members from our first 100 years will become the inaugural members of the Legacy Society.

You can join our **Legacy Society** with an annual donation of \$1,000 or more, or through our planned giving program. Planned giving, in which you include AWF in your will, trust, or retirement plan, is an effective way to support AWF's mission and have a powerful impact on wildlife conservation in Arizona. Leave your legacy with a generous gift that supports AWF and ensures Arizona's wildlife and public lands are protected for generations to come.



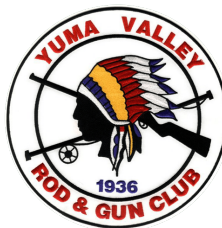
Donate today or contact alan@azwildlife to learn more.

AFFILIATES

We get more done when we work together. At AWF, we believe the only way to achieve lasting conservation results is to bring together different perspectives in candid and respectful dialog while honoring sound science and pragmatic governance. Although each of our Affiliates have their own distinct missions and values, we all share a common purpose in the conservation of wildlife habitat and access to public lands.

We are proud of our Affiliate partners and support the important conservation work of both sportsmens' and environmental groups.

OUR AFFILIATES



Southern AZ Quail Forever is pleased to be an affiliate of Arizona Wildlife Federation. Membership allows us to better keep abreast of wildlife conservation efforts... and add our voice to other like minded wildlife conservation and hunting organizations to improve habitat or impact local and national government policy.

Zack May, Southern AZ Quail Forever

The Arizona Elk Society is proud to be an affiliate of the Arizona Wildlife Federation. This affiliation strengthens the AES's mission and provides a valuable partnership to improve Arizona's wildlife habitat, youth outdoors education and much more.

Steve Clark, Executive Director, AES

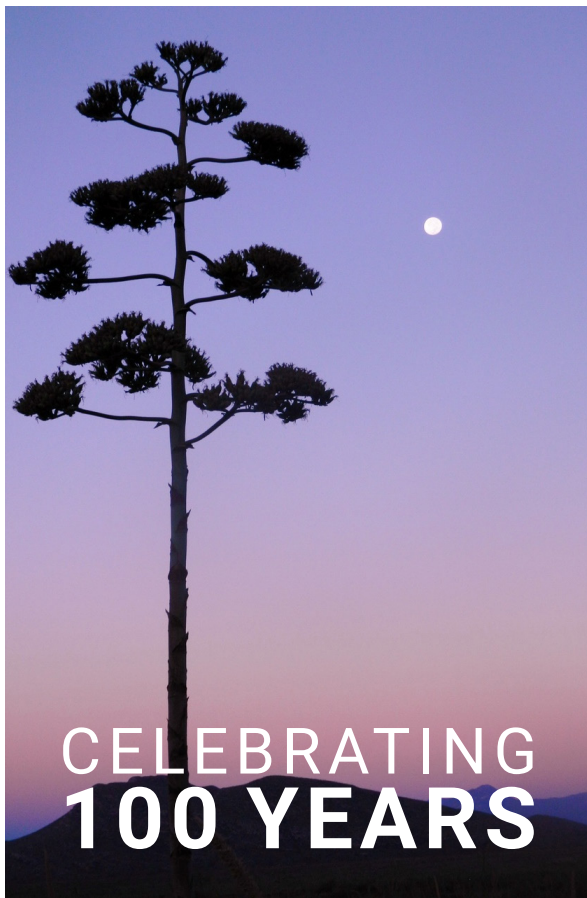
GO AZ is a coalition of businesses and organizations across Arizona that recognize the important linkage between strong conservation policies and vibrant economic opportunities.



GO AZ works to amplify the voice of Arizona's outdoor industry around campaigns and causes vital to the health and sustainability of wildlife and public lands.

Join us at www.getoutdoorsAZ.org

100 ARIZONA WILDLIFE FEDERATION'S CENTENNIAL



Next year, the Arizona Wildlife Federation will recognize **100 years of being a conservation organization** – the oldest conservation organization in Arizona! We are planning a year's worth of celebratory remembrances, events, news articles, and activities – and we hope you'll join us!

Some of our Centennial plans include:

- Wildlife field trips and tours around Arizona
- Garden for Wildlife special events
- A series of pint night events around the state
- Centennial edition of Arizona Wildlife News
- Special centennial logo and swag
- Annual Meeting Celebration

To receive updates about our Centennial Celebrations, subscribe to our E-news, visit our website, and follow us on social media!



www.facebook.com/azwildlife



www.instagram.com/azwildlifed

GET CONNECTED

There's lots of ways to stay in touch with AWF. Learn how you can get connected.

E-NEWS

Our E-News, now in its 4th year, is delivered by email to nearly 5000 individuals each month. The E-News includes timely announcements, short stories, and program updates to keep our subscribers informed of and involved in AWF's latest activities.

**SUBSCRIBE TO
AWF'S E-NEWS**



ARIZONA WILDLIFE NEWS

AWF's highly acclaimed quarterly news magazine, Arizona Wildlife News (AWN), continues to provide our supporters with stories, updates, and information about wildlife and conservation efforts throughout the state. Our regional directors contribute in-depth looks at wildlife-related issues in their regions, Affiliates share their work and stories, feature writers educate us on a broad variety of topics, our NWF correspondent provides a national perspective on conservation issues, and much more. AWN is delivered directly to AWF supporters who contribute \$30 or more annually.

**DONATE AND
SUBSCRIBE TO AWN**



EVENTS

In addition to BOW and other education and advocacy programs, AWF hosts and participates in numerous events throughout the year. This past year, we met with hundreds of kids and families at events like OdySea's Conservation Expo, SA Quail Forever's Family Day, and AGFD's wildlife EXPO. We also hosted events for adults including our fun and educational "Pint Nights," and led a field trip to southern Arizona for out-of-state biologists to see prairie dogs and pronghorns. To stay informed and participate in future AWF events, subscribe to our E-News.

**VISIT US ONLINE TO LEARN
MORE ABOUT OUR EVENTS**

AWF PODCAST

This past year, we launched the Arizona Wildlife Federation Podcast, hosted by Michael Cravens, AWF's Advocacy and Conservation Director. The AWF podcast covers everything from hunting and angling to birding and gardening, as well as announcements of upcoming activities and events. Get the inside scoop through these informal conversations with experts from all around our beautiful and diverse state.

**FOLLOW AND
LISTEN**

