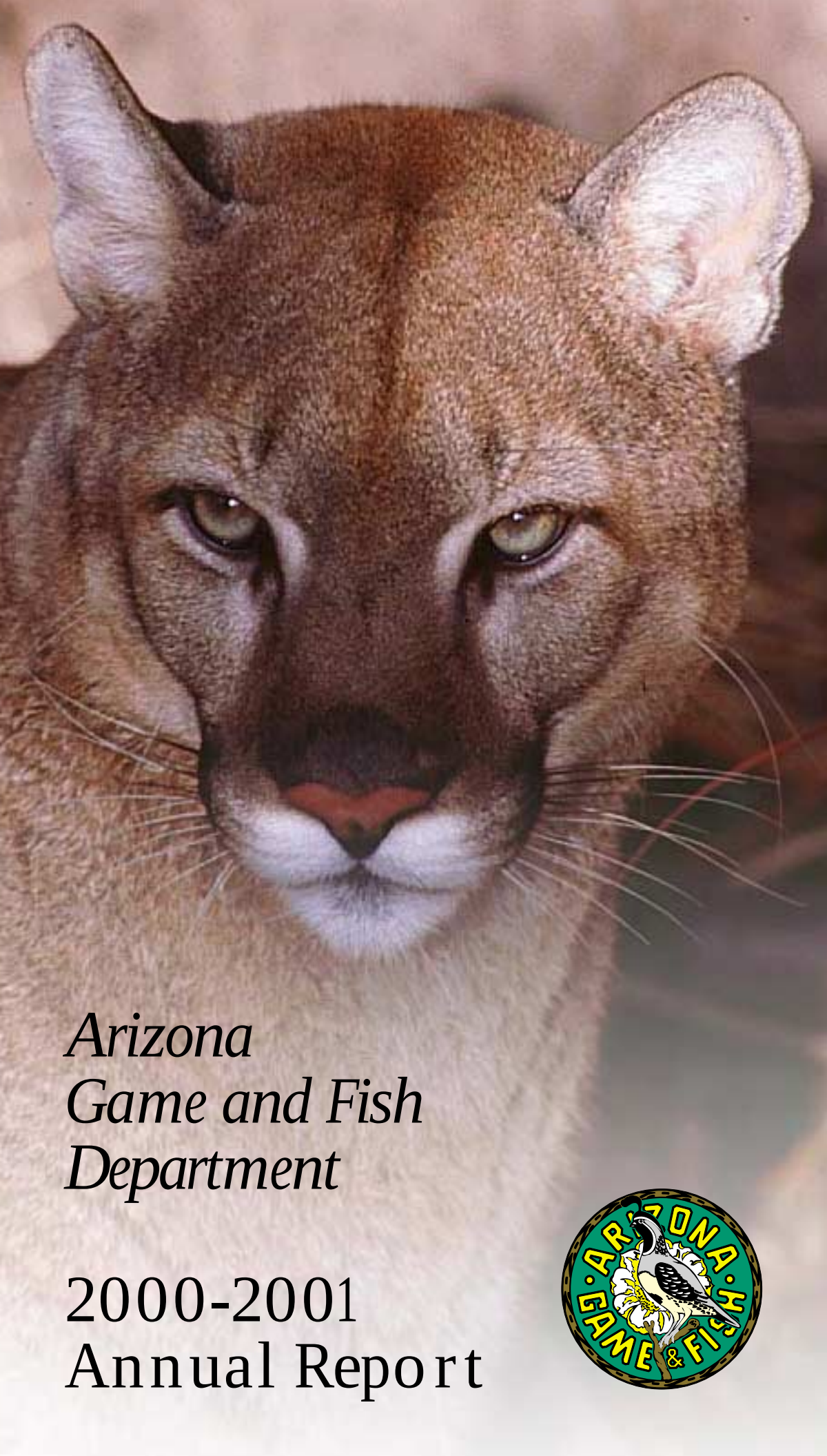




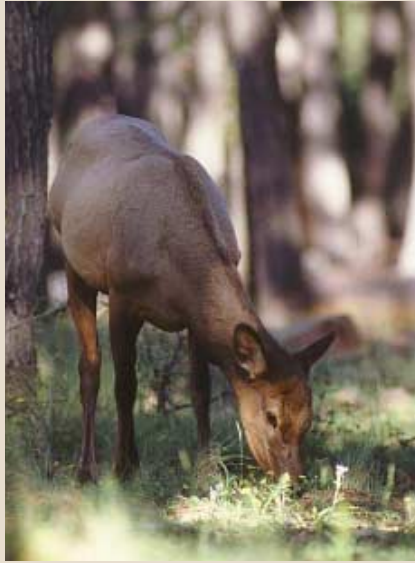
*Arizona
Game and Fish
Department*

2000-2001
Annual Report





Managing Today for Wildlife Tomorrow



USFWS



(Clockwise from top) Elk, California condors, Apache trout, crayfish, and bears were among the species that received extra attention from the Department during a very busy year of managing Arizona's wildlife resources.

Director's Message



Duane L. Shroufe

Rain, rain and more rain. After a prolonged drought, Arizona received near-record winter rains followed by good spring rains. It almost seemed miraculous the way desert habitats and small game populations responded to the rainfall.

The good precipitation was a welcome relief for wildlife and outdoor enthusiasts. However, it was not a hunting and fishing panacea. It takes more than one year of good winter, spring, and summer rains for our larger mammals, such as deer, to recover. So keep your fingers crossed for good winter and spring precipitation again, while enjoying the good fishing opportunities and plentiful small game hunting we have at hand.

This past year, we also made great strides on a long-standing management challenge—Arizona elk. Our previous harvest strategies to reduce elk populations in certain areas were not meeting our objectives. It was time to take a different approach. We gathered our most experienced elk managers into a team and asked them to “think outside the box” to come up with new management strategies, both for the short term and long term. They did a terrific job. A lot of the recommendations have already been implemented. For other long-term strategies, we are still working out the wrinkles. But we are moving forward, not standing still.

The Department also made significant progress in the comeback of two of our golden natives—Apache and Gila trout. Gila trout were reintroduced to Arizona in 1999 and efforts are underway to possibly down list this species from endangered to threatened under the Endangered Species Act. For the Apache trout, we have rededicated ourselves to their restoration. The Department has entered into an aggressive restoration plan with a host of partners, and great things are on the horizon. This is a remarkable team effort that will make native fish recovery history in North America.

Another area where history is being made in Arizona is the California condor reintroduction program. We now have more condors in the wild in Arizona than existed in the entire world in 1982.

If you take the time to read through this report, and I encourage you to do so, you will see that we are moving forward in a host of diverse areas, from crayfish and bears to recreational access and marketing. Please keep in mind that these are not just our accomplishments, but yours as well. In fact, we could not accomplish half of what we do without support and assistance from people like you. I can say with pride that our list of partners would take volumes to print. So, for present and future generations of wildlife and people, I wish to thank each of you. Together, we are making a difference.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Duane L. Shroufe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.



Provides program and policy direction and assistance for the management of wildlife;

Develops, monitors, evaluates, and assists in implementation of strategic and operational plans.

Wildlife Management Division

Game Branch

As the Department began its annual evaluation of elk harvest objectives, stakeholders were expressing concerns about the expansion of resident elk herds in traditional winter range and the establishment of new herds in nontraditional range. In January 2001, the Commission conducted a special meeting in Holbrook to take testimony from landowners concerning property damage caused by elk, and, subsequently, the Director established an internal team charged with developing elk management strategies.

Following a public review process, the team presented recommendations for both short- and long-term strategies. The Commission approved the short-term strategies, which consist of "Limited Opportunity Hunts," to address new elk herds establishing in nontraditional areas. To better inform sportsmen of the conditions of these hunts, they were displayed separately from traditional elk hunt areas in the hunt regulation booklet.

The long-term recommendations proposed standardized habitat descriptions that would place elk management units into one or more of three



Steve Gallizoli

Arizona's elk were the focus of a special Department team charged with developing short- and long-term strategies for managing new and expanding herds.

Game Branch

Provides direction for terrestrial wildlife programs for game, waterfowl, predator, and furbearer species;

Recommends annual hunt regulations and conducts hunter surveys;

Coordinates technical planning and reporting for the Heritage IIPAM and Urban Wildlife programs.





Roy Averil-Murray

Kanab ambersnails, which are federally listed as endangered, are the subject of an ongoing study by the Invertebrate Program in the Nongame Branch.

management zones: Standard Elk Management Zones to be managed using traditional harvest strategies; Winter Elk Management Zones to be managed for winter elk by using specific harvest strategies to reduce summer-resident or year-round herds; and Limited Elk Management Zones, defined as areas of nontraditional elk habitat where elk use is not a wildlife management priority.

Nongame Branch

The Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program played a pivotal role in developing the Department's strategic plan for the next six years, *Wildlife 2006*. The Commission

approved the plan in January 2001. We also coordinated eight national workshops in which participants developed a proactive conservation program for state wildlife agencies.

We made substantial progress on many projects, including bald eagle conservation in central Arizona and leopard frog restoration in southeastern Arizona, and we completed fieldwork for the *Arizona Breeding Bird Atlas* and Kanab ambersnail studies. One of our more intriguing projects was brought to closure, as the Commission approved restrictions for possession and transportation of live crayfish. A rule was crafted that allowed crayfish use by anglers in the Yuma area, but limited their use elsewhere in the state.

Nongame Branch

Provides direction for programs to maintain, enhance, and restore Arizona's natural biological diversity; gathers information on wildlife and their habitat;

Provides guidance for the management of nongame wildlife and threatened and endangered species;

Provides public information about nongame/endangered wildlife and related recreation issues and activities.



Habitat Branch

Provides direction for statewide habitat evaluation and protection activities;

Coordinates review and development of environmental compliance documents; administers environmental compliance process for Department activities and projects;

Coordinates review and monitoring of projects and plans to minimize adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources and to identify opportunities for enhancing fish and wildlife habitats;

Administers land and water rights programs; negotiates land acquisitions and conservation easements; coordinates development of wildlife area management plans;

Coordinates Geographic Information System and Heritage Data Management System programs.



Habitat Branch

Making sure that federal land and resource management plans allow for proactive wildlife management and wildlife-related recreation continues to be a top priority of the Department. During 2001, we participated in the development of several of these plans, with a focus on developing new policies and management guidelines for

special land designations, such as wilderness areas, national monuments, national wildlife refuges, and military lands. The Department's Land Acquisition Program reviewed 26 property offers with seven properties considered for acquisition. The GIS Program worked on habitat suitability studies, property acquisitions and management, land access projects, shooting range development, wildlife surveys, and wildlife management activities. The HDMS Program completed the "Data Security Guidelines," which ensure appropriate use of special status species information and protection of sensitive species, and continued work on the Department's Web site to provide general information on wildlife species found within specific watersheds and counties.



Maintaining healthy habitats is the surest way to maintain the health of Arizona's wildlife populations.

Fisheries Branch

The Fisheries Program has placed great focus on native Gila and Apache trout. Following up on the successful Gila trout reintroduction in Dude Creek in 1999, Gila trout were reintroduced into another small stream in eastern Arizona. In addition, the Department rededicated its efforts to restore Apache trout, entering into an aggressive restoration plan with partners that include Trout Unlimited, the Federation of Fly Fishers, the White Mountain Apache Tribe, the Arizona Wildlife Conservation Council, the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, and the U.S. Fish

Fisheries Branch
Provides direction for sport fish programs, fish hatcheries and fish stocking, and operates the Urban Fisheries Program; Monitors the water quality of lakes and streams.



The Department is targeting removal of the Apache trout from the nation's list of threatened species by the end of 2003.



The Research Branch investigated the impacts on wildlife of the Lone Fire, the second largest fire in Arizona history.

and Wildlife Service. Our goal is to remove this valuable sport fish from the nation's list of threatened species.

Great strides were made at Lake Havasu in a major partnership with the Bureau of Land Management, California Fish and Game, Anglers United, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Angler volunteers constructed and placed about 90 percent of the artificial fish habitat planned for the area, we made considerable progress on another shoreline-angler access point, and, as part of the project's native fish commitment, we stocked 30,000 razorback suckers.

Research Branch

Controversy over management of Southwestern ponderosa pine forests has raged for decades. The controversy peaked as the Los Alamos Fire destroyed the major-

ity of an entire town in the summer of 2000. People and their activities have altered forests to the point that fire regimes no longer mimic pre-European settlement conditions. The problem is that many fires burn much hotter and spread to much larger areas than in previous times. The Lone Fire, the second largest fire in Arizona history, had temperatures estimated in excess of 2,500 degrees. Research personnel investigated the impact of this fire and concluded that it adversely impacted bobcats, foxes, and black bears, but it appears to have helped deer, lizards, and some birds.

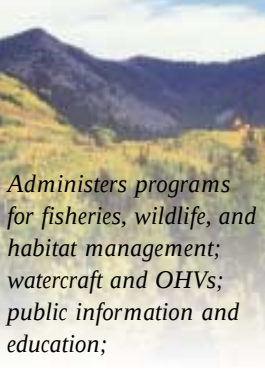
As the push for forest restoration continues, we need to develop a better understanding of the impacts of restoration on wildlife. This year, Department researchers worked with the Bureau of Land Management and Northern Arizona University to monitor wildlife responses to a restoration project on Mt. Trumbull in northern Arizona. Research will continue as the forest is modified to be more like pre-settlement conditions.

Research Branch

Conducts research to assist in proper management of terrestrial and aquatic wildlife;

Develops new techniques to assist in managing wildlife populations.





Administers programs for fisheries, wildlife, and habitat management; watercraft and OHVs; public information and education;

Administers the Department's Aviation and Law branches;

Organized into six regions administered by Regional Supervisors; subdivided into Game Management Units overseen by Wildlife Managers who

- Enforce watercraft, OHV, and game/fish laws and rules;*
- Implement terrestrial and aquatic management activities;*
- Recommend mitigation, protection, and enhancement of wildlife habitat on state, federal, and private land;*
- Provide public information and education services.*

Field Operations Division

Regional Offices

In an effort to reduce the number of boating accidents, the Department has increased the use of special OUI (Operating Under the Influence) boating enforcement operations on popular waters. Officers conducted OUI patrols on lakes Pleasant and Saguario and set up an OUI checkpoint on Roosevelt Lake. Similar activities were conducted on numerous waters throughout the state to increase public awareness of the lowered limit for legally presumed OUI (0.08 percent blood alcohol content down from 0.10 percent).

The first major project of the Colorado River's Imperial Division Backwater Restoration and Enhancement Plan was completed. Flow was restored to 10 backwaters that were isolated by the 1983 Colorado River flood, four miles of interconnecting channels were reestablished, and more than 500 cottonwood and willow trees were planted in the excavated channels.

The Department partnered with Mohave County and the Bureau of Land Management to prepare an environmental assessment for the Cane Springs land exchange. We drafted portions of the assessment analyzing impacts on wildlife populations and public access. The project involved the transfer of ownership from developers Ben



Sandhill crane and waterfowl are taking advantage of wetland enhancements at Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area, a Department property that attracts wildlife watchers from around the globe.

Brooks & Associates to the BLM of approximately 18,000 acres of land in the Hualapai Mountain foothills, in exchange for approximately 14,000 acres in and around the town of Golden Valley. The Hualapai foothills provide valuable mule deer and small game habitat.

Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area is attracting increasing numbers of visitors from around the world and drawing rave reviews. The Department is working with Ducks Unlimited to enhance the wildlife area's seasonal wetland with the help of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service grant through the North American Wetlands Conservation Act. In addition, a native-grass reseeding project implemented in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service is 50 percent complete. Native grasses have been reseeded on 200 acres of the wildlife area's uplands.

Based on a tip from the Operation Game Thief Hotline, officers investigated a case that resulted in three suspects being issued a total of 33 citations for the unlawful harvest and transport of five bull elk from Game Management Unit 10 during the 2000 general bull hunt. The unlawful harvest took place over a two-day period and involved three kill sites. The case resulted in court fines of



Pronghorn are benefitting from an interagency project to connect isolated populations.

several thousand dollars, a civil assessment by the Commission of more than \$10,000, and revoking of hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses for five years.

The need to reconnect isolated pronghorn populations separated by Highway 89 prompted the Department to ask the National Park Service and the Arizona Department of Transportation to remove a section of highway right-of-way fencing along Wupatki National Monument. ADOT provided expertise, fencing supplies, and highway signs advising motorists of the new wildlife crossing. Pronghorn used the opening to cross between the two sides of the highway. The undertaking became an Eagle Scout Badge project for Timothy Anderson of Troop 98 in Flagstaff. Anderson planned and coordinated the fence removal, supervised and directed his volunteers, and initiated a trash removal. He also monitored pronghorn using the fence opening.

Ashurst Lake, once a prominent trout fishery, is currently plagued with turbidity problems, infested with crayfish, and devoid of aquatic plant life. It provides only a temporary home to the rainbow trout the Department stocks. In a key step to resurrect the fishery, a two-mile fence was installed around Ashurst. The fence will keep cattle out of the campground and off the shoreline, which will allow vegetation to reestablish thus slowing the movement of silt into the lake.



Fishing is improving at Ashurst Lake thanks to better silt control.

A facility was developed at the Region I office for propagating Chiricahua leopard frogs and translocating them to historic habitat. The leopard frog is currently being evaluated for federal listing as a threatened species. The facility will assist in the conservation and recovery of the species in Arizona. Frogs have been raised from egg masses collected at Three Forks for the past three years. During the past year, more than 100 frogs of varying ages were released in suitable habitat sites. Regular monitoring showed excellent over-winter survival of the released frogs.

Davis Cove at Lake Mohave once grew large razorback suckers, but netting efforts in 1998 and 1999 showed a marked decrease in razorback growth rates and a corresponding explosion in crayfish numbers. In fact, if suckers were held in a trammel net for more than a few hours, the crayfish would mutilate them. As a result, we started an intensive trapping effort to see if numbers of crayfish could be impacted. More than 830 pounds of crayfish have been removed to date. Observations now indicate good numbers of large razorbacks surviving in the cove and a marked decrease in the number of crayfish.

We continued to improve the walleye program in central Arizona waters. Working with the Southwest Walleye Anglers Association and the New Mexico Department of Fish and Game, we conducted surveys and tagged and stocked fingerling walleye at Apache, Canyon, and Saguaro lakes.



Aerial surveys of feral burros helped to guide management direction.

Together with the Bureau of Land Management, we conducted aerial surveys of feral burros in the Three Rivers Herd Management Area, which extends from east of Alamo Lake to the Colorado River. Survey results are helping to guide BLM's management of the area, including the reduction of burro numbers through removal.

We conducted fish surveys to determine the effects of the illegal stocking of northern pike into Parker Canyon Lake and held meetings to measure public opinion regarding its presence in the lake.

A total of 306 raptors of 12 species were tallied during the annual winter raptor survey in Tucson. Fifteen community volunteers assisted with the survey, which covered 14 routes. Minority student interns, wildlife rehabilitators, and interested community members also help by updating our database of known urban-nesting raptors. The database has more than 300 nest sites.

Officers responded to more than 130 bear reports statewide (22 of them in the urban Phoenix area) and worked with the Southwest Wildlife Rehabilitation Center to repatriate and release 16 cubs back into the wild.

Working with representatives of



Rare Chiricahua leopard frogs were propagated and released, and monitoring showed excellent over-winter survival.



Department personnel responded to a record number of bear reports and released 16 "urban bears" back into the wild.

several federal agencies and biologists from Mexico, we conducted a bi-national survey of endangered Sonoran pronghorn, which enabled us to estimate pronghorn numbers throughout their range for the first time.

Fifteen new private-land Stewardship agreements were completed to provide private landowners with seed and fertilizer to enhance forage quality and quantity. This successful program is helping landowners who want to offset forage use by big-game animals, and landowners who want to attract wildlife to their property.

In conjunction with an environmental impact analysis for development of uniform statewide OHV regulations on National Forest lands, we worked extensively with a local OHV organization to develop a series of designated OHV trails and safety messages.

We continued the development of interpretive and educational facilities and programs at the Sipe White Mountain Wildlife Area, including the completion of five hiking trails—two of them wheelchair accessible—and the installation of over 40 interpretive trail signs. The visitor center is now more than 50 percent complete.

Law Branch

Law Enforcement presented 36 cases for revocation and/or civil assessment to the Commission. The Commission directed civil assessment collection totaling \$36,623.73 and license revocations totaling 155 years. The ordered civil assessments and/or license revocations resulted from violations involving the loss of the following wildlife and/or other charges as listed: nine elk, eleven deer, one mountain lion, four javelina, one bear, four antelope, a take/hunt without a tag, a conspiracy to unlawfully take big game, an allow use of license and tag by another, and a shoot from a vehicle/take with unlawful method.

A highlight of the Operation Game Thief Program is the Unit Watch Program in which the Department and sponsoring outdoor sportsmen's groups camp together in selected management units during the big-game hunting season to provide oversight of and support to hunting activities in the respective area. The program began in 1986 in an effort to reduce wildlife violations, and is a spin-off of the Neighborhood Block Watch Program found in most communities. The Department and the sponsoring outdoor groups send a letter and map to each hunter that receives a permit for the selected hunt area. The letter asks the recipient to abide by all wildlife laws, to report any observed violations to the campsite headquarters, and to have a safe and successful hunt. Four unit watches were conducted this past fiscal year.

The number of watercraft accidents for 2000-2001 totaled 379, and included nine fatalities in comparison to 349 accidents in 1999-2000, of which 15 were fatalities.

Law Branch

Provides direction for wildlife/law enforcement, and boating, OHV, reserve officers, and safety programs;

Responsible for special investigations, Operation Game Thief, boating and OHV enforcement, enforcement records, and communications center.





Promotes public awareness of the Department's mission and activities;

Provides information and education programs to foster responsible public actions toward wildlife resources.

Information Branch

Produces and distributes information on wildlife, regulations, OHV, Heritage, Watercraft, Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration programs, and other Department activities;

Oversees Customer Service Center and responds to public inquiry;

Provides a weekly news service for external electronic and print media;

Publishes Arizona Wildlife Views magazine, Hunting and Fishing Regulations, Annual Report, brochures, books, and other printed materials;

Maintains Department Web Site;

Produces TV programs, public service announcements, internal training videos, and slide shows;

Provides still photography for publications;

Provides support for Department and Commission meetings.



Information & Education Division

Information Branch

The Department's second year of outreach and marketing focused on the "Bite This - Fish Arizona" fishing promotion and on a fall Mearns' quail hunting promotion. Both were very successful. We saw the heaviest harvest and hunting pressure for Mearns' quail in the

past 20 years, and the "Bite This" bumper stickers attracted a strong, positive public response. In a general

public survey, 14 percent of respondents remembered the "Bite This" slogan, and 41 percent remembered seeing some kind of fishing promotion in the media. This was up from 1999's 10 percent and 28 percent, respectively. The Department also participated in a fall OHV promotion on radio and TV. We were able to increase public awareness of the OHV program by 5 percent.

At the Annual Award Ceremony of the Association for Conservation Information in July 2000, three Department publications received national awards: Arizona Wildlife Views Special Edition received the Third Place Award for One-Time Publication, 4-Color; the 1999

Working for Wildlife Calendar

received the Third Place Award for Calendars; and the 1998-99 Annual Report received the Second Place Award for One-Time Publication, 4-Color.





More than 5,000 students attended classes to receive certification from the Department's Hunter Education Program.

Education Branch

The Education Branch conducted over 800 workshops, seminars, and public outings statewide to help Arizonans learn about the state's fish and wildlife resources and associated recreational opportunities. Volunteers



More than 150,000 people visited the Wildlife Building during the State Fair.

contributed well over 16,000 hours assisting with these efforts. Over 150,000 people visited the Wildlife Building during the State Fair, and the Ben Avery Shooting Facility provided over 155,000 shooter days. The National Shooting Sports Foundation recognized the facility for its operational excellence.

Nearly 3,000 people attended the Adobe Mountain Wildlife Rehabilitation Center's annual open house in January.

Education Branch

Develops and implements hunter, aquatic resources, boating, and environmental education programs; presents wildlife workshops for teachers, hunters, and the public;

Oversees the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center at Adobe Mountain which gives public presentations on its activities in caring for injured and orphaned animals;

Oversees coordination of statewide shooting range program and operation of the Ben Avery Shooting Facility.





Provides support for all Department functions;

Maintains finance and accounting support and telecommunications and data processing services;

Manages the Department vehicle fleet.

Information Systems Branch

Provides data processing capabilities, including systems analysis and design; provides support for Department computers, phone system, LANs, WANs, and backbone network connections to Internet, DPS, DOA, and contract data entry services.

Development Branch

Manages programs for water development, habitat improvement and maintenance, boater access, and aids to navigation; develops and maintains dams and fishing lakes;

Evaluates access needs to state, federal, and private lands; negotiates easements on private lands;

Provides engineering functions for feasibility studies to determine design and specification standards and to supervise/inspect contracts for Department projects.



Special Services Division

This year the Department implemented a new customer convenience, the ability to purchase licenses on the Internet. All licenses and stamp privileges offered by the Department are available on the Internet except those requiring an application form and/or approvals. This convenience is available 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Since its inception in September 2000, through June 2001, 3,934 licenses/stamps totaling \$161,632 have been purchased via the Internet. Based on a customer survey on the Web site, to which 82 percent of our customers responded, this new function was given a rating of good or excellent by 87.7 percent of those who used it.

The Department also purchased a new Integrated Voice Response (IVR) system for our telephone customers. After we tested and fine-tuned its programs, the IVR made its debut on Aug. 25, 2000. It worked flawlessly during the spring hunt draw, but we knew the true test would be the 2001 fall draw. We increased the number of ports for in-bound calls from 24 to 48, allowing us to handle more calls and provide our customers with faster service, and we installed an additional 24 out-bound lines for outgoing calls. During the fall draw, the IVR was successful: Our customers were able to retrieve hunt/draw information expeditiously, and our employees did not experience call delays common during previous draws and were thus able to conduct business uninterrupted.

The Development Branch completed development or substantial redevelopment of five wildlife waters, completed 19 Adopt-a-Ranch projects with the help of 280 volunteers who donated a total of 3,200 hours, and finished the construction of the Bubbling Ponds Laboratory Building for fisheries research.

Finance & Accounting Branch

Provides finance and accounting support; prepares financial and cost statements;

Oversees watercraft registration, license dealers, and big-game drawings;

Coordinates data entry contract work; processes payments to vendors, contract workers, employees, and other government agencies.

Support Services Branch

Administers procurement; maintains supply warehouse; administers and maintains motor pool vehicles; maintains property/equipment inventory; Assists in developing equipment budget requests; disposes of surplus property; provides Department printing, mailing, and courier services;

Prepares specifications/bid invitations; conducts dealer mail-outs.



Employee Recognition

Game and Fish employees were recognized for their dedicated service to the Department and to the people of Arizona at the Department's annual awards ceremony held in Flagstaff in June 2001. Director Duane Shroufe and Deputy Director Steve Ferrell acknowledged the valuable contribution of each employee to the Department's mission. Director Shroufe presented two employees with the 2000 Director's Meritorious Citation.



(Clockwise from Above)
Wildlife Manager of the Year Dan Smith with his family; Director Shroufe presents Meritorious Citations to Larry Riley and family; and to Jim Odenkirk.



Larry Riley, fisheries branch chief, received the award for his team leadership, being a catalyst for progress and success, and for fostering a desire for excellence among coworkers. Jim Odenkirk, one of the Department's assistant attorneys general, received the award for his tireless provision of quality legal services, including legal opinions, complex water and real property transactions, rules processing, and litigation.

Dan Smith, Region II wildlife manager, received the Regional Supervisors Meritorious Award - Wildlife Manager of the Year.

Game and Fish "Employee of the Year" Awards

Wildlife Management Division
Field Operations Division
Information and Education Division
Special Services Division

Bill Van Pelt
Joe Yarchin
Don Winslow
Sheri Carson

Commendations for Excellence

Director's Office

Sally Little
Jay Adkins

Wildlife Management Division

Wade Zarlingo
Kenneth McGown
Barbara Heslin
Sam Lawry
Roger Sorensen
John Koloszar
Troy Corman
Cathryn Wise
Annalaura Averill-Murray
Rebecca Davidson
Mike Demlong
Adele Girmendonk

Information & Education Division

Sheril Huselton
Sandy Reith
Karen Schedler
George Andrejko

Field Operations Division

Heidi Vasiloff
David Goerndt
David Boyd
Richard Dreyer
Deanna Pfleger
Tom Puckett
Eric Gardner
Leonard Ordway
Debra Wright
Michelle Shepherd

Heritage Fund Highlights

- The Department awarded 29 Heritage grants totaling nearly \$700,000 for wild-life-related projects statewide. The grants will result in over \$1.3 million in on-the-ground work through matching funds and donations.
- Heritage grant Schoolyard Habitat projects received the “Governor’s Pride in Arizona” award for “outstanding” student projects, including leadership development.
- A Heritage Schoolyard Habitat grant project at Desert Harbor Elementary School received the Westmarc “Best of the West” award celebrating the “best” of Western Maricopa County. Sixteen native long-fin dace were released into the habitat’s pond.
- A Heritage Environmental Education grant project, DINÉ (Navajo) Traditional Teachings on Wildlife – A Teacher’s Guide, received third place in the National Association for Interpretive Media annual competition.



Recovery of the bald eagle has been aided by the Nestwatch Program.

- The Arizona Municipal Water Users Association recognized the Urban Wildlife Program for making significant contributions toward promotion of the Xeriscape concept.
- The Department earned national recognition from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Black-footed Ferret Recovery Implementation Team’s Executive Committee for outstanding efforts on the black-footed ferret recovery program. At the reintroduction site near Seligman, 16 of 17 female black-footed ferrets gave birth to a total of 63 kits.
- Two Heritage-funded endangered species posters tied for second place at the Annual Association of Conservation Information Conference. The award-winning Mexican gray wolf poster was reprinted twice to meet public demand.
- The successful Arizona Bald Eagle Nestwatch Program was a key factor in the proposed delisting of the bald eagle. Public input was accepted on the Bald Eagle Assessment and Strategy for Bald Eagles in Arizona.
- The Department made Apache trout recovery a top priority, targeting removal of the fish from the nation’s list of threatened species by the end of 2003.
- The rare Ramsey Canyon leopard frog population grew by 79 after a release at the Orchard Pond near Sierra Vista.
- A conservation agreement established for the Wet Canyon

Public Access

Identify, evaluate, and administer programs for public access;

Provide information on public access and recreational use of public lands;

Administer Heritage programs for Access Grants-In-Aid, Stewardship, Landowner/Lessee Sportsmen Respect, and Adopt-a-Ranch programs.

Urban Wildlife

Conserve, enhance, and establish wildlife habitats and populations in harmony with urban environments;

Increase public awareness of urban wildlife resources;

Work with local governments and other organizations to reduce the impact of urban development on wildlife.

Compliance and mitigation commitments;

Coordinate GIS and Heritage data management system to track status of threatened and endangered species;

Coordinate land and water rights program.





The Department's Black-footed Ferret Recovery Program received national recognition.

talussnail may meet the recovery needs of this diminutive snail and preclude the requirement to formally list it as an endangered species.

- Twenty-seven endangered California condors now fly over Arizona skies, which is more than there were in the world in the mid-1980s. The first pair of breeding age condors were released in December at Vermilion Cliffs. A condor egg was laid in a nest at the Grand Canyon in March.
- Ten Gould's turkeys were moved to the Galiuro Mountains. Although Gould's are common in Mexico, they have generally been absent from historic habitat in southeastern Arizona for more than a century.
- Over 100 species of birds were sighted on "Wildlife Viewing Day" at Tucson's Sweetwater Wetlands, a Heritage-funded project to clean up wastewater and create a wildlife habitat and environmental education facility.
- The Commission directed continuance of the Department's exemplary leadership role in a nine-state black-tailed prairie dog conservation agreement.
- *Arizona Wildlife Views* TV aired on public service channels in Phoenix and Tucson and received several awards for audiovisual excellence.
- The "Wildlife Speakers Series" provided public information on numerous species through free programs.
- Natural History workshops were conducted on black-footed ferrets, California condors, bison, Mexican gray wolves, migratory waterfowl, and cranes, and raptors.
- Hunters and other outdoor enthusiasts helped to ensure continued public access to recreation areas by participating in the Heritage Adopt-A-Ranch program.
- Heritage Fund presentations were made to numerous civic groups, and the Heritage display booth was present at wildlife activities and events throughout the state.
- An instant Arizona Lottery ticket vending machine was placed in the main lobby of the Arizona Game and Fish Department in Phoenix.
- The Department received the Arizona Lottery's first "Partner and Beneficiary Award" in celebration of the Lottery's 20th anniversary. Lottery Director of Communications Kevan Kaighn said the Arizona Game and Fish Department is one of the Lottery's most valuable partners.

Habitat Evaluation & Protection

Protect and enhance Arizona's natural biological diversity and abundance through habitat management and protection by evaluating proposed projects for their impact on fish and wildlife resources and monitoring environmental compliance and mitigation commitments;

Coordinate GIS and Heritage data management system to track status of threatened and endangered species;

Coordinate land and water rights program.

Environmental Education

Promote awareness, appreciation, and understanding of Arizona's wildlife and its environment and increase responsible actions toward wildlife through the educational grants-in-aid program, natural history teacher workshops, and by providing additional resources made possible by the Heritage Fund.

iipam — Identification, Inventory, Protection, & Management

Identify and inventory occurrence of Arizona native fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals;

Implement techniques and develop tools for use in the protection and management of designated and candidate sensitive species and sensitive habitats.

Financial Statement

Fiscal Year Revenue by Fund	1999-2000	2000-2001
Game and Fish Fund	\$17,352,600	\$20,084,400
Watercraft Licensing Fund	2,236,400	2,361,400
Game, Nongame Fund	187,600	209,000
Federal Aid Fund	17,475,800	18,414,500
Heritage Fund	9,655,400	9,818,600
Off-Highway Vehicle Fund	746,100	778,300
Capital Improvement/Conservation Dev. Fund	463,700	641,700
Other Funds	1,426,000	2,408,200
Total Revenue	\$49,543,600	\$54,716,100
Fiscal Year Expenditures by Fund	1999-2000	2000-2001
Game and Fish Fund	\$17,341,100	\$18,610,900
Watercraft Licensing Fund	1,637,200	1,920,700
Game, Nongame Fund	125,400	162,600
Federal Aid Fund	17,090,200	16,682,800
Heritage Fund	8,666,000	6,395,500
Off-Highway Vehicle Fund	727,300	1,000,700
Capital Improvement Fund	197,200	57,100
Other Funds	1,630,300	1,598,400
Total Expenditures	\$47,414,700	\$46,428,700
Fiscal Year Heritage Funds Allocation	1999-2000	2000-2001
IIPAM (Identification, Inventory, Protection, and Management)	\$2,914,848	\$3,054,330
Habitat Acquisition	1,943,232	2,036,220
Urban Wildlife	1,214,520	1,272,637
Habitat Evaluation and Protection	1,214,520	1,272,637
Environmental Education	404,840	424,212
Public Access	404,840	424,212
Total Allocation	\$8,096,800	\$8,484,248
Number of Licenses Sold by Category	1999	2000
Resident General Fish	205,527	192,200
Nonresident General Fish	3,005	2,958
Family Fish	2	2,278
Resident General Fish Nov/Dec	2,758	2,337
Nonresident General Fish Nov/Dec	103	117
Resident General Hunt	65,491	62,880
Nonresident General Hunt	13,270	18,061
Resident Hunt/Fish	87,195	83,399
Nonresident Hunt/Fish	2,197	2,010
Nonresident 3-Day Hunt	8,779	8,869
Urban Fishing	27,984	28,124
Nonresident Colorado Fish	1,422	1,349
Nonresident 5-Day Fish	16,760	14,906
Resident Youth Hunt/Fish	21,607	22,095
Nonresident 4-Month Fish	13,055	12,766
Res/Nonres 1-Day Fish	33,956	39,923
Resident Youth Group Day Fish	88	66
Lifetime License	114	146
Total Licenses	503,313	494,484
Sales in Numbers by Groups	1999	2000
Licenses (See detail above)	503,313	494,484
Two Pole Stamps	59,561	59,545
Trout Stamps	101,668	95,470
Special Use Stamps	94,403	112,946
Waterfowl Stamps	8,521	9,019
Migratory Bird Stamp	—	56,157
Utah Lake Powell Stamps	2,293	2,353
Tags	146,522	154,929
Miscellaneous Permits/Licenses	1,757	1,788
Total	918,038	986,691
License and Tag Sales	1999	2000
Licenses	\$10,618,205	\$10,556,476
Stamps	1,320,441	1,453,137
Tags	3,642,409	4,526,450
Total Value	\$15,581,055	\$16,536,063

NOTES: Capital Improvement and Conservation Development Funds are combined for revenues, as the Capital Improvement Fund earns interest only. The Conservation Development Fund receives revenue from the surcharge on sales of combo licenses and trout stamps. OTHER FUNDS include: Wildlife Theft Prevention, Publications Revolving, Trust/Donation, Waterfowl Conservation, Wildlife Endowment, Land & Water Conservation, Recreation Development, Stamp Funds, and the Big Game Permit Fund. (Some of these funds can earn interest only.)

The Game and Fish Commission

Under the provisions of the Arizona Revised Statutes 17-231, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission establishes policy for the management, preservation, and harvest of wildlife. The Commission makes rules and regulations for managing, conserving, and protecting wildlife and fisheries resources, and safe and regulated watercraft and off-highway vehicle operations for the benefit of the citizens of Arizona. In support of the Commission's obligations, the Director, as chief administrative officer, provides general supervision and control of all Department functions and activities.

The Commission is composed of five members appointed by the Governor pursuant to ARS 38-211. The Commission appoints the Director of the Arizona Game and Fish Department, and the Director serves as secretary to the Commission. No more than one commissioner may be from any one county. No more than three may be from the same political party. Each commissioner serves a five-year term, staggered. Commissioners customarily serve as chairman during their last year.

Our Mission

To conserve, enhance, and restore Arizona's diverse wildlife resources and habitats through aggressive protection and management programs, and to provide wildlife resources and safe watercraft and off-highway vehicle recreation for the enjoyment, appreciation, and use by present and future generations.



Spend a day fishing with a child — Stay in touch with life's true values.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, or disability in its programs and activities. If anyone believes that they have been discriminated against in any of the AGFD's programs or activities, including its employment practices, the individual may file a complaint alleging discrimination directly with the AGFD Deputy Director, 2221 W. Greenway Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85023, (602) 942-3000 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Dr., Suite 130, Arlington, VA 22203. If you require this document in an alternative format, please contact the AGFD Deputy Director as listed above or by calling TTY at 1-800-367-8939.



Dennis D. Manning, Chairman



Michael M. Golightly



Joe Carter



Susan E. Chilton



W. Hays Gilstrap



Arizona Game and Fish Department

June 30, 2001

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Governor, Jane Dee Hull*

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