

The month is full of educational events, volunteer research trainings, and other opportunities to get involved in supporting our native flora and fauna.



May 17, 2016

May is an effusive, abundant, magnificent month! Marvelous migratory birds have returned to Arizona, floral cascades abound, and the weather beckons us to outdoor adventure. This ebullient month celebrates native species through two holidays, International Migratory Bird Day on May 14th, and Endangered Species Day on May 20th.

We're celebrating the glorious yet vulnerable natural values of Arizona through educational partner events, research on precious desert streams, and opportunities for you to get involved to support our native flora and fauna. In this issue, you'll learn more about studies in the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area, the "Stand with Saguaros" initiative, Yoga for Wilderness, and more activities to keep you closely connected to nature and wild lands well into summer.



## Seeking the Wild San Pedro

Citizen volunteers in southeastern Arizona undertook an in-depth survey of lands along the upper San Pedro River that may have wilderness qualities. This information is critically important to advocating for strong preservation measures in the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area Plan that is being revised by the Bureau of Land Management. Get a taste of

what it's like to do citizen inventory through [Darrell Thompson's essay](#).

[Read More](#)



## San Pedro Hike

And you can experience lesser-known areas of the San Pedro with Darrell this Saturday, March 21st. Join him for an easy 4-mile hike along the Babocomari River. Hikers will meet at 9:30am at the Fairbanks parking area along Highway 82. [Email Darrell](#) to RSVP and for hike details.

RSVP



### Crazy for Cuckoos

The Yellow-billed cuckoo is a fascinating bird that was recently added to the Endangered Species list. Several of AWC's riparian restoration projects are intended to support habitat for this species, like our [Hassaymapa River Project](#). You can be a part of exciting research and receive free training to conduct Yellow-billed Cuckoo surveys.

[Audubon Arizona](#) is hosting this training in partnership with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, AZ Game and Fish Department, BLM, Northern Arizona University, and EcoPlan Consulting. Yellow-billed cuckoo surveyors are required to attend this training to receive a federal and state permit. Training is free for volunteer surveyors with bird survey experience who commit to conducting cuckoo surveys in Arizona.

#### Cuckoo Surveyor Training Sessions

June 23 - 24th, Phoenix, AZ

July 14 - 15th, Hereford, AZ



[Register today](#), or [contact Cathy Wise](#) at Audubon Arizona for more information.

Register!





## Spring into Action for our Forests

Join Grand Canyon Wildlands Council and the **Wildlands Network** to begin a citizen science project to monitor the condition of springs in forests treated through the Four Forests Restoration Initiative (4FRI).

### Training Workshops

Saturday, May 21st, 9:00am

Saturday, June 4th, 9:00am

**Museum of Northern Arizona** campus

By attending one of the springs app training workshops, you'll get pre-release access to the customized ArcGIS Collector app and the opportunity to join fellow citizen scientists led by expert researchers in the forests of Northern Arizona, as we monitor springs responding to forest restoration treatments.



Space is limited, **you must register in advance**. Questions? Please call (928) 606-7870

[Register!](#)



### Unwind for the Wild

AWC has been selected as "Charity of the Month" for June by Yoga Connection in Tucson. Support AWC, and loosen those muscles after a hike or a too-long day in the office. Yoga Connection will donate a portion of proceeds from "**Yoga by Donation**" classes in June to AWC. Help support AWC and local business at the same time!

[Learn More \(PDF\)](#)



### Endangered Species Day

Endangered Species Day is May 20th. Did you know Arizona hosts 65 Threatened and Endangered species? Those species include little-known plants like the Huachuca water-umbel found along the San Pedro River, and the Apache trout found in streams of the Blue Range. In fact, Arizona hosts 19 T&E species of fish alone, and 10 of those are found on the Tonto National Forest. Clearly our public lands

are essential habitats for biodiversity!

Lend a hand and celebrate the 12th annual Endangered Species Day this weekend, and throughout the month of May! Find an **Endangered Species Day event** and get outside!

Learn more about the endangered species work of the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the southwestern region.**



[Event Listing](#)



## Stand with Saguaros

This delightful initiative brings greater attention and awareness to the need to protect vulnerable natural resources through close encounters with the iconic Saguaro cactus, found only in Arizona and northern Mexico. Show your support for nature and precious desert dwellers by taking a photo of yourself with a Saguaro, or joining a group event ([view event flier](#)).

Learn more about the initiative on the [Standing with Saguaros website!](#)

[Event Flier \(PDF\)](#)



**DONATE FOR A  
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The Arizona Wilderness Coalition actively engages and empowers citizens like you who care about Arizona's wild lands. For more than 35 years, we have been working with volunteers to conduct wild land inventories, educate citizens about the unique attributes of Arizona's landscape, and empower our activists to build support for their lasting protection. We need your help protecting our wild lands for the future...join us today!



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