



# PRONGHORN

*2nd Quarter 2014*  
*Volume 20 Number 2*





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### AAF Mission Statement:

The Arizona Antelope Foundation is an organization dedicated to the welfare of pronghorn antelope. The Foundation's Mission is to actively seek to increase pronghorn populations in Arizona through habitat improvements, habitat acquisition, the translocation of animals to historic range, and public comment on activities affecting pronghorn and their habitat.



### ON OUR COVER

Betty Dickens provided this shot taken at the April project. Thanks Betty!

We are in need of good quality images for future covers. Please send your original full sized images to [info@azantelope.org](mailto:info@azantelope.org) for consideration.

*Pronghorn is a quarterly newsletter for the members of AAF. Letters, comments, news items, articles, pictures and stories are all welcome and will be considered for publication. Address all such items to:*

*Tracy Unmacht, Pronghorn Editor, PO Box 12590, Glendale, AZ 85318, or by email at [info@azantelope.org](mailto:info@azantelope.org).*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sportsmen love to talk about healthy wildlife populations. We boast about how there are more whitetail deer in many small states than there were in the whole country at the turn of the century. We cite the amazing recoveries of turkeys, elk and antelope since the beginning of the century. Lately there's been a lot of chest thumping about record high numbers of ducks. Did I mention the incredible populations of snow geese and Canadian geese?

It's true that some species -- most notably the adaptable ones able to coexist with human intervention -- are doing quite well. It's also true that modern game management practices and conservation efforts supported by sportsmen have played an important role in keeping wildlife on the planet.

The next time you are confronted by an anti-hunter, go ahead and haul out your list of storybook endings. Tell them of the projects you work, and ask them what they are doing to improve wildlife and their habitat. Ask them how much of the money they donate to 'their cause' goes directly on the ground to improve habitat. Tell them that hunters and anglers carry the lion share of the financial burden of supporting and sustaining wildlife. We are generally a group who enjoys solitude and rarely boast of our accomplishments unless it's a 200" muley, 350" bull or a limit of doves with one box of shells. Spread the good news about what we do, and do it proudly and often!!

But don't get complacent about the future of wildlife in this country or the ability of state and federal agencies, politicians or conservation organizations to sustain the steam of good news very far into the new millennium. It's true whitetail deer have thrived the last 100 years, their numbers soaring from an estimated 500,000 in 1900 to somewhere between 25 and 30 million today. But at the same time mule deer numbers are going downhill, and scientists don't know why. At least a handful of biologists think the spread of whitetails may be having a negative impact on muley numbers.

And lest anyone think the burgeoning whitetail population is a good thing, it's not. Heavy concentrations of animals open the door to disease like bovine tuberculosis, chronic wasting disease and an assortment of fatal viruses. Whitetail numbers also create problems with human populations, which could produce some hare-brained solution like contraception or sterilization that could sound the death knell for deer.



It's true that turkey numbers have skyrocketed thanks to the efforts of sportsmen and wildlife managers, but quail numbers are dropping like a rock and we haven't been able to do much about it.

Pheasants, which didn't even exist in this country until they were successfully introduced in the 1880s, are doing well in a handful of states. But native birds like the prairie chicken and sage grouse are in deep trouble, and the sharp-tail grouse's domain has shrunk badly. What's really frightening is that we take for granted the demise of a bird like the prairie chicken, which prior to white settlement blackened the sky for thousands of miles and was one of our most abundant resources.

Snow geese numbers are so far off the charts they threaten to destroy their fragile breeding grounds and could crash in an arctic minute. If that happens, scientists warn, they may not to return for a lifetime, if they return at all.

I wouldn't be buying any duck futures, either. Yes, North America's duck population has bounced back nicely since 1993 when it was flirting with an all-time low. But that's because the prairie pothole region has

*(Continued on page 12)*



# APRIL HABITAT PROJECT REPORT

BY GLEN DICKENS VICE PRESIDENT, PROJECTS & GRANTS MANAGER

Another successful AAF project was completed by 37 volunteers in southeastern Arizona on April 12, 2014. We modified 2.4 miles of existing roadway fence adjacent to the upper Elgin Road leading south from Highway 82 to the village of Elgin on the Rose Tree Ranch. This segment of fence encompassed at least 5 known and documented pronghorn crossing zones and is expected to increase significantly pronghorn crossing opportunities. In addition, an inspection was made of the west Davis pasture drinkers which were installed last spring by AAF volunteers attending the Woods Ranch fence project. They are in fine shape and have multiple pronghorn using the new permanent water now year-round.

This effort benefits the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant in that all labor hours, materials and mileage from this project will be used to match the AAF's \$230K 3-year grant for our "Southeastern Arizona Grasslands Pronghorn Initiative". The grant has a goal of improving up to 100,000 acres of "Pronghorn habitat connectivity". It plays a key part in completing the critical southeastern portion of the overall Santa Cruz Plains pronghorn corridor improvement project.

Camp was located at the historic Rose Tree corrals and stone bunkhouse near Elgin and the weather was breezy. A delicious steak dinner was served on Saturday night and cooks Mary and Bill Keebler hosted Sunday morning breakfast as well.

Thanks go out to several groups of folks that contributed to this successful project including AAF members & board members, Sierra Vista Wild Turkey Federation, American Conservation Experience, Mule Deer Foundation, University of Arizona and AZ Game & Fish.

Thanks to all of our volunteers:

Warren Adams, Ray Blanchard, Gary Boyer, Troy Christensen, Ken & Kathy Cook, Eddie Corona, Dave Cruce, Glen & Betty Dickens, Rene Dube, Glenn Durham, Brad Fulk, Dan Gapp, Bernice & Gene Isaacs, Sherry Kapaldo, Al Kreutz, Romaldo Lopez, Dale Mass, Aaron Miller, John Millican, Jason Myrand, Cliff Nystrom, Richard Ockenfels, Caroline Patrick, Joe Bill Pickrell, Jordan Rolfe, Terry Schupp, Bill Skibbe, Barry Sopher, Al & Marsha Sue, and Chase Vorin.

*Photos by Betty Dickens & Marsha Sue*





# THE VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

## TEN KEYS TO KEEP THEM COMING BACK BY MARSHA PETRIE SUE



Many of us work as volunteers and continually encourage others to do the same. New faces show up to your event, but then you never hear from them again. Shame. So what needs to change for people to continue to want to give their precious time to your cause?

Here are some questions to ask yourself:

1. Do you make a specific effort to meet, greet and continue interfacing with these new folks during the event?
2. Do you give them a reason to feel part of the activity?
3. Do you go out of your way to help them feel comfortable?
4. Do you ask them questions about their background, interests and general life prior to telling them how great you and your organization are?
5. Do you keep asking them relevant questions as the event proceeds?
6. If there is a meal, do you ask them to sit with you?
7. Do you encourage your fellow volunteering peers to do the same?
8. At the end, do you tell them they were a huge help and hope to see them again?

9. Is there any kind of follow up with these people?

10. Is there a personal outreach from you or other members prior to the next event to include them and send a special invitation?

Recently, we volunteered for an Arizona Antelope Foundation conservation project in Elgin, Arizona. People come state wide to help in changing the lowest strand of the barbed wire fence on a very kind rancher's property, the Rose Tree Ranch. Typically folks know they are in for a day of backbreaking work. And they all understand the purpose of the work as the morning recap explains why the fence modification is important to help the migration of pronghorn antelope. These animals generally will go under a fence, not over. So if the bottom rung is barbed or too low, they can become victims of predators like mountain lions and coyotes.

This newly created travel corridor helps ensure that up to 40 pronghorn antelope in the Davis pasture have improved access to the western foothills of the Mustang Mountains. It will contribute to completing the critical south portion of the overall Santa Cruz Plains pronghorn corridor improvement project. This information was provided so volunteers had a good understanding of the value.

We had many new people attending this event. When I saw them, I introduced myself and asked them if they knew there was bottled water available, where the porta-pottie was located, that there was a wonderful dinner served Saturday night and to please stay for the feast. We wanted to make sure they had a memento for their hard work so we made sure they had a great t-shirt!

Changing the barbed wire, working fence, and doing the hard labor is not my strong suit. Instead my husband Al and I take our Polaris Sportsman 500 ATV and I load it up with a cooler full of ice and bottled water. I put extra tools and equipment on the bumper seat behind me. I run the fence line making sure people have plenty of hydration, ferry them back to camp when they need and pick up needed supplies as requested. Getting messages from one end of the fence to the next is important too because volunteers are stretched out along the 3+ mile fence line. Checking with project leads John Millican, AAF Field Project Manager and Glen Dickens, AAF

*(Continued on page 6)*





*(Volunteer Experience continued from page 5)*

Vice President, to make sure the volunteers are distributed in the correct places is part of the job too. This way no one is ever bored!

Prior to lunch, I run back to camp, trade in the ATV for the Ford 250 extended cab truck so people can again be ferried to camp for lunch. Of course part of this ride is to move them back out to the fence line after lunch. Then again the truck is traded for the ATV, and I'm back out making the rounds up and down the fence.

We had two young men who are University of Arizona students focused on Wildlife Management as new volunteers. That young blood is fabulous because these guys knew how to work! Having never done this kind of project, they were open and eager to learn. After the hard day of work, when we were back at camp I asked if they had enjoyed themselves. "YES!" they exclaimed "And everyone is so friendly!" Not sure what they expected but that comment thrilled me.

We are looking forward to seeing these fine men back at our next work project. The question I am looking to answer now is what else can we do to encourage them and others to volunteer again? Yes the T-Shirts are a nice give a way, but is that enough to bring back volunteers?

Marsha Petrie Sue, MBA  
Professional Speaker/Author  
Outdoor Writers Association of America  
Women's Outdoor Media Association - President







## HARRY HUSSEY MEMORIAL TRAILER

Thanks to generous contributions from our members and a grant from the AZ Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) License Plate Grant Fund, our cook trailer is now complete, and it is beautiful! It will surely be noticed as it travels around the state to our projects.

Thanks to the following donors who made it possible:

Tom Boggess  
 Art Boswell  
 David Brown  
 Glen & Betty Dickens  
 David Hussey  
 Don & Janet Johnson  
 Bill & Mary Keebler  
 Nancy Lewis  
 Jim & Deb McCasland  
 Jay Morrison  
 Keith Newlon  
 Richard Ockenfels  
 Craig Pearson  
 Joe Bill Pickrell  
 Terry Schupp  
 Shane & Jodi Stewart  
 Al & Marsh Sue  
 Tice Supplee  
 Connie & Rose Taylor  
 Frank Tennant  
 Jim & Tracy Unmacht  
 Ron & Karen Yee





# TOMBSTONE FFA STUDENTS ASSIST AAF

As reported in previous editions of the *Pronghorn*, the AAF has partnered with Tombstone FFA students, working collaboratively on a project that has involved habitat modifications in southeastern Arizona and will include monitoring pronghorn movements, data collection and habitat studies in years to come. An article appeared in the Sierra Vista Herald Review earlier in the year and included impressions from some of the students about their experiences. Below are excerpts from that article reprinted with permission from the Herald Review.



*Tabytha Friend, 16, left, and Alyssa Dryer, 17, both Tombstone High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) students, capture the release of the last group of pronghorn at the Babacomari Ranch in Sonoita-Elgin. Beatrice Richardson • Herald/Review*

The FFA was in the Sonoita-Elgin area and San Raphael Valley on Jan. 15 for an earlier pronghorn relocation when 41 antelope were released — 24 at the Elgin site on the Babacomari Ranch and 17 in the San Raphael Valley — marking the start of a project that wildlife officials are hoping will boost the region’s dwindling pronghorn population. Antelope from that release were captured by the New Mexico Game and Fish Department outside of Cimarron, N.M., where the pronghorn are abundant, and transported to the two sites for that first release. At the time of the capture, the animals are sedated, checked by a veterinarian, blood is drawn, horns are clipped to prevent injury during transport and

ear tags are attached to the animals to help track herd interactions and movements. In addition, Global Positioning System (GPS) radio collars are fitted on a few members of each herd, also for monitoring purposes.

“I’ve been working on the antelope project for two years now,” said Emily Addington, a THS junior and FFA member whose goal is to be a large animal veterinarian. “I’m proud to be part of this project. I think it’s great that the Game and Fish Department is trying to increase the size of the herd in the Elgin region and that our FFA has been invited to help with the work and monitoring that goes into the effort. We’ve worked on different habitat modifications to help with the project’s success.”

Addington also noted that, while pronghorn are native to the Elgin area, the herd population has dropped off considerably in recent years for a number of reasons. “I think that bringing in animals from other regions is the best way to boost the numbers,” she said. “Also, introducing a new genetic pool in the area is important for the herd’s overall success when it comes to future generations.”

Dakota Wood, a 14-year-old freshman who also aspires to be a veterinarian, said she was drawn to the high school’s agriculture education classes and FFA club because of her interest in animals and wildlife. “Being part of this antelope project and having the opportunity to work with Arizona Game and Fish is an amazing opportunity,” she said. Wood was raised on the Pyeatt ranch just outside Fort Huachuca’s west gate, has been around animals her entire life and has seen pronghorn grazing in areas near her family’s ranch. “Pronghorn are native to this area, so it’s important that we do everything we can to help support the population here,” she said. “That’s one of the reasons I believe in this project.”

Despite an extremely rare bone disorder that has left her wheelchair bound, Wood is known for her determination and willingness to try new ventures. She is accompanied by her grandmother, Shirley Wood, who serves

*(Continued on page 9)*



*(FFA Students continued from page 8)*

as Dakota's aide and is almost always at her side. The two will be traveling to Prescott with the rest of the FFA club on Sunday for the capture.

"I'm not able to do all the hands-on stuff that the other FFA members are doing, but I can help with data collection and putting together the information that we find," she said. "We have already learned about the different kinds of habitats that antelope prefer and have done modification projects to make the area more suitable for them. We've collected water samples to study pH levels in the water and will keep monitoring the pH at different sites where they go to drink."

Modifying fences in the region is one of several habitat improvements that have been successfully implemented, with cooperation from private property owners and ranchers. "Our FFA helped with that part of the habitat improvements," said Austin Parker, another THS student. "We've been working on the fencing all through this area by removing the bottom strand of barbed wire and replacing it with smooth wire because the pronghorn go under fences when they move through the area."

Kelly Lyda is the agriculture education instructor at Tombstone High School and the FFA club sponsor. "We're the only FFA involved in an antelope program in Arizona," she said. "This program started prior to my time here at Tombstone, but the Hereford Natural Resource Conservation District and Game and Fish have had a big part in bringing this project to the Tombstone FFA members," she said.

"I believe this relocation and release program is vital to the continuation of pronghorn in our area," said Lyda. "Urbanization is causing the pronghorn to struggle to adapt in regions where they once thrived and is threatening their survival. I believe that wildlife conservation efforts such as this one, along with ongoing collabora-

tion between the property owners and ranches in the area, will help these animals continue to thrive in the Sonoita-Elgin area with its grasslands and wide open spaces.

Allowing the FFA members to participate in wildlife conservation efforts such as this gives the students valuable hands-on opportunities that enhance the school's agriculture education curriculum on several levels, Lyda said.

"As my students learn about wildlife in our agriculture curriculum, they can take this information to the field and use it in real world situations. The technology they apply when tracking the pronghorn, studying water samples and grasses in the area and monitoring the herd are all valuable experiences that we could never offer in a regular classroom setting. This is a wonderful opportunity for my students, and I'm grateful to all the different entities that have played a role in allowing this happen for us."

The Tombstone High School FFA received funding from the Hereford Natural Resource Conservation District (NRCD), which sponsors the school's FFA as part of its education program. Along with funding from the NRCD, the Arizona Game and Fish Department provided funding to support the students' participation in the project.

John Millican, a project manager with the Arizona Antelope Foundation said the Tombstone FFA will be involved in tracking movement patterns of pronghorn throughout the year by utilizing GPS coordinates obtained from collars, as well as field observations. "They will be observing seasonal movement patterns, travel corridors, rutting and fawning areas, fawning period, water usage, bottlenecks that are affecting movement, mortality, habitat preferences, highway and fence aversion," and much more.

## UPCOMING PROJECTS

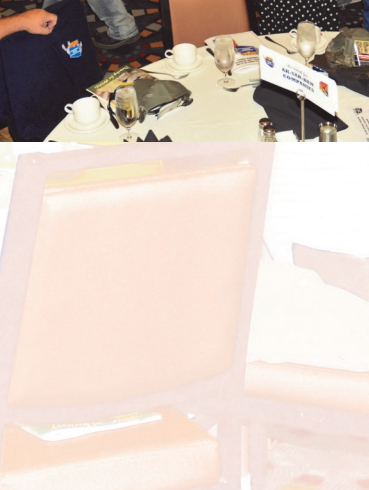
August 16th Unit 7 HW 64  
September 20th Unit 32 Bonita  
November 16th Unit 19A, Prescott





**AZ ANTELOPE FOUNDATION & AZ D  
PHOTOS BY RICH**





# DEER ASSOCIATION JOINT BANQUET WARD OCKENFELS



# THANK YOU TO OUR 2014 FUNDRAISER DONORS & VOLUNTEERS

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*(President's Report continued from page 3)*

enjoyed record moisture since late '93 and because the U.S. Department of Agriculture put the Conservation Reserve Program on the landscape.

When the prairies go dry, duck numbers will drop, just as they have since the beginning of time. Worse yet, if the CRP program happens to be abandoned or altered during the next inevitable drought, waterfowlers will be shocked to find out just how dire the duck situation really is.

Prairie Canada, which traditionally produced the bulk of the continent's ducks, is in such bad shape that Ducks Unlimited is reportedly shifting its attention to the parklands further north. The move follows a long-term assessment of DU's Canadian projects showing that duck production on those projects fell below break-even levels north of the border.

Take CRP off the US portion of the pothole region as we launch into the next drought cycle and this country

will quickly be as barren as Canada.

Our antelope numbers where we are actively transplanting and controlling predation are looking great. However there are many other areas still under the onslaught of urban sprawl, predation and long term drought conditions. We can only help what we have people and funds to cover! As of yet, I have seen no assistance from Sandy Bahr and the Sierra Club, Center for Biologic Diversity Nope, HSUS nada, PETA never, Defenders of Wildlife negative!!! So, we as true conservationists are saddled with the task. We must pick up our tools and our pens and go to work. As the old saying goes, "Many hands make for light work", so recruit your friends and colleagues!!!

There's a lot of good news out there, but it should be taken with a grain of salt. We must constantly "tend the fire".

Fanning the Flame,  
Shane Stewart, AAF President



# APRIL 29TH SEAGRASS MEETING REPORT

BY GLEN DICKENS

On April 29<sup>th</sup> the AAF's NFWF grant funded employees John Millican (Field Manager) and Caroline Patrick (GIS Manager) and I, along with 15 other participants, attended the most recent Southeast Arizona Grasslands Collaborative Workgroup (SEAGrass) meeting held in Wilcox. This meeting was organized by Rana Tucker the Tucson AGFD Landowner Incentive Coordinator and John Windes Regional Habitat Program Manager.

SEAGrass, formed in 2010 by the Tucson Regional Office of the AZ Game & Fish Department has as its overall goal to bring together all the government agencies and NGO's for structured approaches to grassland conservation and management of the Sky Island Grasslands zone of southeastern Arizona. A principle focus has been to pursue all available sources of project funding with an emphasis on multifunded/leveraged on-the-ground project proposals. SEAGrass played a major role in assisting in the preparation of the AAF's 1<sup>st</sup> successful National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's (NFWF) \$230K 3-year grant award for work on Pronghorn in Southeastern Arizona.

We started the day by meeting at the Felix Gauthier, Jr Community Room in Wilcox, owned and operated by Valley Telecom group, at 8:30 am, and proceeded from

there north about 20 miles to tour the ongoing Bonita Grasslands restoration work led by John Bacorn, Wildlife Manager for AZGFD Game Unit 32. Following the tour, we met back at the Community building to eat lunch have a discussion.

The field tour was impressive with many more acres of mesquite having been removed and piled and or disposed of by burning in just the past 12 months. The AAF using both Pronghorn HPC and NFWF grant funds in partnership with the Mule Deer Foundation and local private landowners have funded these projects each year since 2011. The ultimate goal is to modify 20,000 acres and to date over 10,000 have been treated with resident pronghorn using the new areas almost immediately after treatment. These treatments are in direct proximity to multiple weekend fence projects that the AAF is conducting to improve grassland connectivity, the next one to be held in this area on Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Our thanks goes out to the Tucson Regional personnel for their continued commitment to our AAF goals of at least 5,000 acres of grassland restoration in southeastern Arizona.

## AAF AWARDED 3<sup>RD</sup> NFWF GRANT

On April 15<sup>th</sup> the AAF received the heartening news that our 3-year, \$200,000 grant amendment to continue our *Southeastern Arizona Grasslands Pronghorn Initiative* through calendar 2017 had been approved by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) review committee. This amount must be matched by an additional \$200,000 hard dollars and in-kind project volunteer hours and mileage.

This grant is in addition to the second one received last year in May for \$79,400 matched with \$95,000 to fund and carry our *Youth & Wildlife Conservation at Las Cienegas Grasslands Project*. That grant in partnership with the Southwestern Conservation Corps hired and equipped eight youth ages 18-24 to accomplish the necessary pronghorn fence modifications on Las Cienegas and to support intensive observation and mark and re-

capture efforts on four newly established black tailed prairie dog colonies. The youth worked for 12 weeks in the 2013 summer spending half of their time on the BTPD project and half on the pronghorn fence modification project modifying a grand total of 26.4 miles of fence thus improving pronghorn connectivity on 40,000 acres of the Sonoita Plains.

In this new amendment the AAF will continue for another 3 years (2015-17) our Geodata base contractual services for pronghorn occupied and vacant habitat with layers for travel corridors, fawning, foraging areas with layers from other key obligate species to include key frogs, blacktailed prairie dog and sensitive grassland birds. We will continue our grassland restoration/improvements programmed at approximately \$30K per

*(Continued on page 14)*

year in the Bonita Grasslands restoration zone. We have kept our original overall grant goal of 40 miles of fence modifications but have increased the AAF-AGFD volunteer total from 10 miles to 20 miles through 2017 and continued the line item of up to 20 miles of fence to be modified through contract supply purchases. We will complete the currently budgeted 5 estimated burns/mechanical treatments and habitat modification projects and have added 5 more through the end of the revised grant period to 2017. This towards the grants overall goal of 5,000 acres of grassland restoration again with significant percentages of hard matching funds from habitat partnership funds from both pronghorn and mule deer accounts. To date we have completed 3 significant restoration projects and will complete 2 more in 2014. We will increase our current part-time contract Field Project Manager activities through 2017 and have added and additional 1800 hours for those on the ground project development and implementation efforts.

We must acknowledge that these grant funded opportunities would simply not be possible without the matching volunteer AAF project hours/mileage and the AGFD's Habitat Partnership funds from both the pronghorn and mule deer accounts (mule deer funds coordinated with both the Arizona Deer Association and Arizona Mule Deer Foundation) as well as direct donations from the Tucson Safari Club International chapter. We also would like to acknowledge the dedication and commitment of the Tucson Regional Office AGFD field personnel that we work with on a weekly basis across 3 key project pronghorn population areas to make steady and permanent progress to improve pronghorn habitat/connectivity and population numbers in southeastern Arizona. We look forward to continued progress and success over the next 3 years with all of our dedicated partners



## TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR BETTER ANTELOPE HUNTING

1. Be properly licensed and know the boundaries of the area in which you have a permit to hunt.
2. Be properly armed with a legal antelope hunting rifle or bow and know its capabilities.
3. Have your rifle sighted in and shoot at least one box of shells at targets at ranges from 100 to 500 yards.
4. Know what a legal antelope looks like: A buck has horns longer than its ears, a black stripe under its ear.
5. Know the vital parts, or the killing shots you have to make to make it a clean, sportsmanlike kill.
6. Be aware that you are a guest of Mother Nature and conduct yourself above the reproach of your own conscience.
7. Close all gates through which you pass, unless they are laid open back against the fence.
8. Respect the need of domestic stock and wildlife for water and make your camps well back from waterholes.
9. Remember, you are entitled to take one buck antelope if you are licensed, all others belong to fellow sportsmen.
10. Be a sportsman - remember you pass this way but once, leave a trail others will like to follow.

**HAPPY & SAFE HUNTING!**





# SONORAN PRONGHORN UPDATE



BY JILL BRIGHT AZ GAME & FISH  
APRIL 2014

## *Captive Breeding:*

### Cabeza Prieta Captive Breeding Pen

#### Status of Pronghorn in Cabeza Pen

Currently there are 91 pronghorn in the Cabeza breeding pen; 29 adults and 16 fawns in north herd, and 32 adults and 14 fawns in south herd. We have documented 18 fawns in north and 17 fawns in south being produced; several have disappeared without any trace. A dead fawn was recovered in north on the 11<sup>th</sup> and it appears to be one of Maroon collar (she had twins), due to size of fawn and where the fawn was found. Fawning continued through the end of April, with the last birth on the 24<sup>th</sup>. We believe all the females have given birth for this season. One doe in south appears to have triplets and has raised all of them so far; the fawns are about a month old now.

The pen crew successfully collared two new fawns this month, one in north and one in south. To date 6 fawns have been collared: 3 in north and 3 in south. Unfortunately two collars in south have fallen off, probably due to the fawns running and playing. None of the fawns that have disappeared were collared so we have not learned much about fawn mortality from the collared fawns. Fawns in both herds are forming one or more fawn groups, and are spending more time with other fawns and less time with their mothers.

#### Status of Pronghorn in Cabeza Pen

April 2014

NORTH HALF		SOUTH HALF	
Adult Females	11	Adult Females	10
Yearling Females (b 2013)	13	Yearling Females (b 2013)	10
Breeding Buck (b 2010, Purple 3)	1	Breeding Buck (b 2010, Yellow 3)	1
Back-up Buck (b 2012, Grn/Wht 3)	1	Breeding Buck (b 2011, Yel/Blk 3)	1
Yearling Bucks (b 2013)	3	Adult Bucks (b2013)	2
Fawns (born 2014)	16	Yearling Bucks (b2013)	8
		Fawns (born 2014)	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Total Pen</b>	<b>91</b>		

The pen crew has been irrigating the pen as it is drying out. Pronghorn, including the fawns, are foraging more on alfalfa and pellets.

Several pronghorn released in previous years, including 2 fawns, are being seen around the pen. Biologists are providing water and forage sources outside the pen for these pronghorn.

(Continued on page 16)

There have been two instances of illegal alien activity around the pen. On April 14th 4 illegals were picked up on Charlie Bell Pass road about a mile west of the pen. Three cameras were stolen from Charlie Bell drinker and forage plot, including one where they dug the mounting post out of the ground since they couldn't get the camera off the post.

**Kofa Captive Breeding Pen**

All the pronghorn in the Kofa pen are also doing well. There are 13 fawns, 9 females and 4 males. We believe all the females have given birth now. In addition to milk, all of the fawns appear to be eating some alfalfa and foraging the vegetation in the pen at this point. Orange/blue's limp is almost unnoticeable at this point. Yellow and Yellow buck's limps remain the same.

Up to seven pronghorn released in December have been seen at or near the pen; we are providing water and feed sources for them outside the pen. A bobcat has been photographed on camera outside the pen; we are attempting to remove him from the vicinity of the pen. We have not had any photographs of bobcats in the pen yet this year. Hopefully the additional electric fence wires the pen crew installed are keeping bobcats out.

**Status of Pronghorn in Kofa Pen**

	April 2014
Adult Females	12
Yearling Females (b 2013)	1
Adult Males	3
Yearling Males	2
Fawns (born 2014)	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31</b>

**Summary of Pronghorn for Release into the Wild**

**2013 Released Pronghorn - Cabeza**

Four pronghorn were released on BMGR-West:

- One buck remains in the north Mohawk Valley; he was last seen with a group of 6 wild bucks.
- Two females have moved to the Tule Desert, west of the Sierra Pintas, they were seen with a group of 14 wild pronghorn.
- One buck has moved around quite a bit since his release going as far east as the Tactical Ranges; currently he is in the San Crisotobal Valley with a wild buck.

Six pronghorn were released on Organ Pipe Cactus NM:

- Four (2 male, 2 female) have remained in the Valley of the Ajo in various groups.
- One female's collar has quit working; she continues to be seen by monitors with the other pronghorn in the Valley of the Ajo occasionally.
- One male we lost track of for several weeks and could not hear his signal anywhere. On the most recent telemetry flight we found him on the Tohono O'odham reservation. He is about 28 miles east of Organ Pipe, near Highway 86. He is in good pronghorn habitat and appears to look okay.

Two bucks were released near the captive breeding pen; they have stayed together and have been moving around quite a bit - north to the Tactical Ranges, south to Lower Well, and are currently in Growler Valley.

(Continued on page 17)



**2013 Released Pronghorn - KOFA**

The pronghorn released on Kofa are being seen in several smaller groups, generally ranging in King Valley, including south onto YPG. The three known pronghorn from last year's release have joined up with the newly released pronghorn. Up to 9 fawns have been seen with the groups on Kofa.

***Water Projects:*** We helicoptered a large supply of hay for the summer and better feeders to Morgart Tank. We also fixed the collection dams, cleaned up and flew out old hay and broken feeders, and other miscellaneous work at the site.

***Forage Enhancements:*** The forage plots are still green from precipitation so we have not started irrigating at any. We have replaced alfalfa hay at Point of the Pintas, where at least 9 pronghorn including one fawn have been photographed, and at Devils Hills.

***Other Projects/Personnel:*** Nothing new to report.

***Wild Pronghorn Cabeza/ORPI/BMGR herd :*** On the last telemetry flight, the pronghorn were spread out over most of the range. Nineteen fawns were seen with 29 females. Most of the range is still green, especially the Tule Desert, Growler Valley and parts of South Tac.



Adults and fawns at the feeders in Kofa pen.







## SHORT SHOTS

### ANTELOPE HUNTERS

If you were lucky to draw an antelope tag this fall and need some tips, a video of our 2013 Hunter Information Clinic is available to AAF members for viewing on Vimeo. Please contact us at [info@azantelope.org](mailto:info@azantelope.org) to obtain the pass code.

We would also like to hear and see your success stories. Consider writing an article and/or send us your photos to be considered for publishing in a future edition of the *Pronghorn*.

### AAF MEMBER HONORED

Tom Mackin of Flagstaff has been named a Field & Stream magazine "Hero of Conservation". Mackin has spent 28 years volunteering between 900 and 1,500 hours annually with 10 different sportsmen's groups and agencies to benefit Arizona wildlife and fish. You can read more about it at [www.fieldandstream.com/heroes/conservation/month/june-2014](http://www.fieldandstream.com/heroes/conservation/month/june-2014). Congratulations Tom!

### AZGF PROPOSED FEE-BASED CLUB

The AZ Game & Fish Commission is proposing the creation of a new fee-based online club that would provide exclusive and unique services for hunters. The public is asked for their input.

Membership benefits currently being considered for members of the proposed online hunters club include:

- The ability to return your unused tag and get back your bonus points
- Priority opportunities for surrendered tag
- Early access to draw results
- AZGFD apparel available for purchase by members only

Other topics likely to be discussed are the proposed cost of membership, other benefits or services to consider including, and membership requirements.

If you are unable to attend any of the meetings listed below, consider emailing your thoughts and ideas to [portal@azgfd.gov](mailto:portal@azgfd.gov). Visit [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov) for more information.

### Schedule of Public Meetings

July 8 Mesa	July 15 Flagstaff
July 17 Tucson	July 22 Glendale
July 24 Payson	

### NEW WIRE ROLLER/QUAD/TRAILER

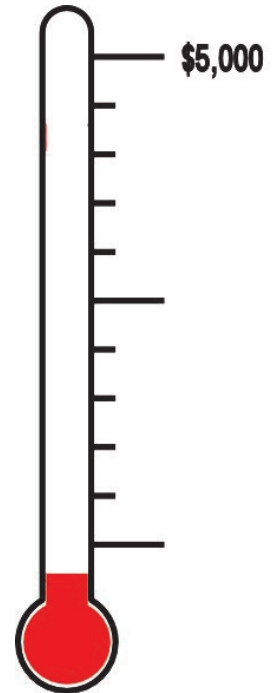
The AAF has begun a targeted fundraising campaign to raise funds for purchase of a new wire roller, a used quad to mount it to, and trailer to haul. If you've attended a fencing project recently, you have seen for yourself how valuable this equipment is to our work. The photo to the right shows similar equipment in action

Donations from our members along with 50/50 cash raffles at our habitat projects will be the primary funding source for purchasing this equipment.

Please send your donations to:  
AZ Antelope Foundation  
Att: Wire Roller Fund  
PO Box 12590  
Glendale, AZ 85318

You may also click on the DONATE button on our website at [www.azantelope.org](http://www.azantelope.org)

Fundraising Goal



### NEW HATS

This high quality brown fabric hat with embroidered logo and antelope design and adjustable Velcro tab is available for purchase on our website.



# MEMBERSHIP

## LIFE MEMBERS

- |                                  |                                    |                                   |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Art Pearce, Phoenix           | 18. Terry Schupp, Tempe            | 35. Tim Blank, Mesa               |
| 2. Jim Mehen, Flagstaff          | 19. Dale Hislop, Calgary Canada    | 36. Jodi Stewart, Gilbert         |
| 3. Larry D. Adams, Bullhead City | 20. Mick Rusing, Tucson            | 37. Keith Joyner, Scottsdale      |
| 4. James K. McCasland,           | 21. George Welsh, Kingman          | 38. David Hussey, Cave Creek      |
| 5. Nina Gammons, Payette, ID     | 22. Matthew Massey, Gilbert        | 39. Susan Pearce, Tucson          |
| 6. Nancy Lewis, Phoenix          | 23. Don Parks, Peoria              | 40. Glen Dickens, Tucson          |
| 7. Pete Cimellaro, Phoenix       | 24. Bill & Kerrie Jacoby, Chandler | 41. Will Garrison, Peoria         |
| 8. Jerry Weiers, Phoenix         | 25. Adam Geottl, Cottonwood        | 42. Tom Waddell, New Mexico       |
| 9. Harry Carlson, Phoenix        | 26. Shane Stewart, Gilbert         | 43. Josiah Austin, Pearce         |
| 10. David Brown, Phoenix         | 27. Don Davidson, Mesa             | 44. Connie Taylor, Mesa           |
| 11. Art Boswell, Tucson          | 28. Terry Petko, Mesa              | 45. Mark Boswell, Mesa            |
| 12. Charlie Kelly, Scottsdale    | 29. Gary M. Johnson, Phoenix       | 46. Jessica R. Pearce, Scottsdale |
| 13. Chrissy Weiers, Phoenix      | 30. Richard Guenzel, Laramie WY    | 47. Douglas Hartzler, Phoenix     |
| 14. Al Sue, Scottsdale           | 31. Randy Cherington, Scottsdale   | 48. Karen LaFrance, Phoenix       |
| 15. Mary Keebler, Happy Jack     | 32. Joe Del Re, Chandler           | 49. Kurt Schulz, Waddell          |
| 16. Bill Keebler, Happy Jack     | 33. Bob Walker, Phoenix            | 50. Walt Scrimgeour               |
| 17. James Stewart, Phoenix       | 34. Cookie Nicoson, Williams       | 51. Clifford Nystrom              |

## SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Robert Bushong, Yuma	Randy Gaskill, Show Low	Richard Ockenfels, Mayer
Bill Cole, Glendale	Roger & Ilene Hailey, Flagstaff	Gage Permar, Prescott
William Cordasco, Flagstaff	Alice Koch, Templeton, CA	Bob & Judy Prosser, Winslow
Paul & Joann Delaney, Flagstaff	Rick Miller, Flagstaff	Jim & Tracy Unmacht, Phoenix
Linda Dightmon, Peoria	Susan Morse, Jericho VT	David L. Wolf, Flagstaff
Michael Domanico, Scottsdale	Keith Newlon, Sierra Vista	

## FAMILY MEMBERS

Jim & Rita Ammons, Yuma	Mike Gauman, Queen Creek	David & Debra Scott, Glendale
Bruce & Vicki Belman, Flagstaff	Brian George, Scottsdale	James Sivley, Scottsdale
Richard & Julia Chabak, Glendale	David Justice, Prescott	William & Jan Skibbe, Tucson
Ken & Kathy Cook, Casa Grande	Davie & Sue Laird, Show Low	Barry Sopher, Tucson
Brian & Dorothy Dolan, Tucson	Jeff & Cynthia Mason, Scottsdale	Michael Tindle, Mesa
Ron & Sharon Eichelberger, Alpine	Amy & Stephen Ostwinkle, Gilbert	Chad Villamor, Topock
Chad & Andrea Elliott, Ehrenberg	Brad & Dana Remfrey, Gilbert	Sean Wilson, Tempe
Kyle & Shawn Gallagher, Peoria	Corky & Cindi Richardson, Laveen	Steven Wilson, Chandler
Alan Gallagher, Phoenix	Daniel Robinett, Catalina	Kevin & Tiffany York, Mesa

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

William Allen, Avondale	Jason Glemba, Phoenix	Corey Mendoza, Gilbert
Lonnie Amator, Peoria	Don Gresko, Cave Creek	Gage Permar, Prescott
Kevin Clark, Cottonwood	John Hamill, Flagstaff	Carl Schwendler, Phoenix
James Clayton, Chino Valley	Jim Hunt, Buckeye	Mark Thorsrud, Tucson
Ryan Deadman, Mesa	Douglas Kleck, Queen Creek	Paul Vigil, Peoria
Rene Dube, Hereford	Ronald Lacy, Phoenix	Lewis Wallace, Tolleson
Mike Gauman, Queen Creek	Devalca McDaniel, Phoenix	
Jeff Gerrick, Scottsdale	David Meehan, Gilbert	

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST LIFE MEMBERS**  
**#52 JON COPPA, #53 NEAL BROWN & #54 VASHTI 'TICE' SUPPLEE**