

# Arizona Game and Fish Department 2006-2007 Annual Report



## Director's Message



*Duane L. Shroufe*

Change has been the key word of the past year. The Arizona Game and Fish Department saw many new and exciting events come to completion.

We moved to our new headquarters on Carefree Highway in north Phoenix, next to the Ben Avery Shooting Facility. The modern facility brings all of the headquarters staff under one roof and meets the Governor's call for sustainable development in new state buildings. Its energy-saving and environmentally friendly design features qualify it for silver certification (and possibly gold) under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system—the industry benchmark in green building standards.

Hunter and angler recruitment and retention is a major focal point as we look to the future. It was the theme of the annual meeting of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA), hosted by the Department in June. We have begun implementing many efforts to assist recruitment and retention, including hunt guideline and regulation changes to provide more hunting opportunity, a new introductory hunter education course that can be taken online, and working with partners to conduct hands-on programs such as small game camps, Trailblazers outdoor skills, fishing clinics, First Shots, and our Outdoor Expo, among others. These opportunities give youth and newcomers an introduction to outdoor recreation activities.

We had many conservation successes over the past year, celebrating the 100th capture-release of the bighorn sheep translocation program, collaborative work on bald eagle recovery, innovative work with partners on maintaining wildlife habitat connectivity, continued success of the black-footed ferret program, and several coordinated native fish reintroductions. Education efforts have led to an increase in the number of hunters who are using non-lead ammunition in California condor territory.

We continue to address challenges. The past year saw the detection of quagga mussels and ongoing issues involving other invasive species. Arizona's growth has highlighted the need to better manage off-highway vehicles to balance the needs of recreationists with wildlife and habitat. Boating education/safety and "watchable wildlife" activities are two other areas where we are focusing efforts.

As this past year has drawn to a close, so, soon, will my tenure with the Arizona Game and Fish Department. I will retire as director in March 2008. We've seen great changes over the past 20 years, and I'm proud to have been a part of them. I am confident that new and bigger things lie ahead for the Department, filled with challenges and opportunities, but I know we are equipped to handle whatever may arise. I express my gratitude to the employees, partners and friends who have dedicated themselves to carrying out the mission of the Arizona Game and Department for the benefit of the wildlife and citizens of our state. Our successes wouldn't have happened without you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Duane L. Shroufe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Duane L. Shroufe  
Director



*Governor Janet Napolitano (center) joins Director Duane Shroufe and the Arizona Game and Fish Commissioners in the dedication and ribbon cutting at the new Headquarters Complex.*

## **Accomplishments**

### **New Headquarters Complex**

After years of planning, the Department moved from its outdated Greenway Road headquarters to a new, energy-efficient facility on the edge of the Ben Avery Shooting Facility in north Phoenix. The 117,000-square-foot complex opened Nov. 13, 2007 and meets or exceeds Governor Janet Napolitano's directive that all new state buildings achieve at least "silver" certification under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system, the benchmark in rating energy-efficient, environmentally friendly buildings.

### **100th Bighorn Sheep Translocation**

Arizona's bighorn sheep translocation program celebrated two milestones this year: its 50th anniversary, and the 100th capture-release. The program's goal is to restore or enhance bighorn sheep populations in their historic habitats. The 100th translocation occurred in November when the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, Yuma Proving

Ground and Bureau of Land Management collaborated to capture 13 bighorn sheep from the Imperial Hills area near Yuma and release them in the Big Horn Mountains west of Phoenix, and capture 10 bighorns from the Trigo Mountains north of Yuma and release them in the Mineral Mountains near Superior. Several other translocations were also conducted. The program has moved close to 1,800 animals within Arizona since the first translocation in 1957.

### **Connecting People with the Outdoors**

The Department partnered with several organizations to create new programs or enhance existing ones that introduce young people and adults to the outdoors. Programs such as mentored small game hunting camps, Trailblazer outdoor skills programs, free fishing clinics, women's instructional shotgun shooting classes, "First Shots" firearm safety classes, youth target archery workshops, and the Scholastic Clay Target and Archery in the Schools programs help open the door to those not familiar with traditional outdoor activities related to hunting, fishing and shooting sports.



*The urban fish stocking process was one of two Department programs to receive a showcase in excellence award.*

### **“Showcase in Excellence” Awards**

The Department was recognized for its progressive total quality management practices by receiving two 2007 Showcase in Excellence awards from the Arizona Quality Alliance. The awards were given to the Department’s urban fish stocking process and the endangered species recovery process. The urban fish stocking process is a partnership between the Department and various cities to stock more than 200,000 pounds of rainbow trout and catfish in 21 park lakes in 11 cities to provide close, convenient fishing opportunities for urban residents. The endangered species recovery process identifies, approves and implements recovery projects for endangered species. Notable among these successes thus far have been recovery projects for the California condor, black-footed ferret and Sonoran pronghorn.

### **Bald Eagle Protection**

In late June, the Department of the Interior announced the delisting of the bald eagle from its “threatened” status, removing it from the Endangered Species list. Bald eagles in Arizona will continue to be protected due, in part, to the signing of an agreement with the Southwestern Bald Eagle Management Committee, a collaborative group of about 20 partners, including the Arizona Game and Fish Department. More than 20 years of protective management by this group have led to continued increases in the Arizona bald eagle population.

*No longer endangered in Arizona, The American Bald Eagle.*



### **Outdoor Expo**

The 2007 Arizona Game and Fish Department Outdoor Expo was a resounding success, judging from total attendance, feedback from visitor surveys, and the smiles on the faces of kids and families. More than 17,000 people—three times the number of last year’s Shooting Showcase—visited the free Expo at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility in Phoenix in March. Popular activities included viewing live wildlife, trying out archery or target-shooting on the shooting range, test-driving off-highway vehicles, and visiting with more than 100 exhibitors from outdoor-oriented nonprofit organizations, government agencies and commercial vendors.

### **Multi-agency Anti-poaching Sting**

An extensive multi-agency undercover operation led by Arizona Game and Fish Department law enforcement officers resulted in 16 suspects being charged with more than 60 wildlife violations and one suspect facing felony charges involving killing of stray horses on U.S. Forest Service lands near Show Low. Game and Fish Department officers ultimately charged multiple suspects with the unlawful take of nine bears, two elk, five mule deer and one Coues white-tailed deer. Other agencies involved in the operation, called Operation Bear Bones, were the Arizona Department of Agriculture, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, USDA Forest Service (Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest), and the White Mountain Apache Tribe (Wildlife and Recreation Division).

### **Ben Avery Master Plan**

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission voted to approve the Master Plan for the Ben Avery Shooting Facility. The plan was developed over the past year with input from user groups and the public, and will guide the future development of the Ben Avery Shooting Facility. It will help prioritize use of the property to best serve a wide range of shooting sports customers in the future. There is no specific timeline or budget; projects will be implemented as funding becomes available.

## First Separate Elk/Antelope Draw

Arizona's first-ever separate draw for elk and antelope hunts garnered a record number of applicants. The elk draw had more than 102,000 applicants for the 24,194 tags, and the antelope draw saw more than 37,000 applicants for the 969 tags. The new, early drawing allows hunters to find out whether or not they are drawn for elk and antelope prior to applying for fall hunts for other species such as deer, turkey, bighorn sheep, javelina or buffalo.

## Archery in the Schools Championships

More than 60 young archers squared off for state titles as Arizona's Archery in the Schools Program held its first state championship in March at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility. Archery in the Schools is a school-based program that teaches international-style target archery to students in grades 4-12 as part of the physical education curriculum. More than 90 schools participate in Arizona's program.

## Conservation

### Native Fish Reintroductions

A multi-agency team converged in southeastern Arizona in early fall to carry out one of the state's largest reintroduction efforts of threatened and endangered fish species. Four varieties of native fish—spikedace, loach minnow, Gila topminnow and desert pupfish—were introduced to five new locations at the Muleshoe Ranch Cooperative Management Area (CMA), near Willcox. Partners include the Arizona Game and Fish Department, The Nature Conservancy, Bureau of Land Management, USDA Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Arizona Land Department and Arizona State University. The reintroduction effort entailed a three-year planning process that included assessment of appropriate species, suitability of relocation sites, coordination with local landowners, and development of a follow-up monitoring plan.



### Voluntary Non-lead Efforts by Hunters Help Condors

Conscientious efforts by Arizona hunters to “get the lead out” are helping California condors in Arizona and proving to critics that volunteer efforts to conserve endangered wildlife do work. Thanks in part to an outreach program and support by the Arizona Deer Association, Arizona Antelope Foundation, Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, the Arizona Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Arizona Game and Fish Department, about 80 percent of hunters this year have taken simple yet effective measures to reduce the amount of available spent lead ammunition in the California condor's core range. These measures include using lead-free ammunition and/or removing gut piles of harvested game animals.

### Salt River Lakes Management Plan

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission gave its blessing to a multi-thrust, multi-year plan by Department biologists to improve fishing quality at Salt River lakes impacted by golden alga over the last several years. The adaptive-management plan, which could total approximately \$1.8 million the next two years, includes fish stocking, biological research, additional habitat enhancement, and increased monitoring.

*Voluntary efforts by hunters are helping reduce the amount of spent lead in California condor range.*



*A grazing Elk*

## Bighorn Sheep Overpasses Planned

A historic collaboration between state and federal agencies has led to an innovative approach to protect northwestern Arizona's Black Mountains bighorn sheep herd—the



*Bighorn Sheep*

largest contiguous desert bighorn sheep herd in the nation. The first desert bighorn sheep overpasses, not only in Arizona, but in the entire lower 48 states, are planned to be built on Highway 93, south of Hoover Dam. Construction could begin as soon as fall 2008. The Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration conducted research to track

bighorn sheep movements and determine the best places for the bighorns to cross when the highway is expanded. The overpasses will make it safer for the declining bighorn sheep population to cross the highway and will help mitigate the barrier effect the expanded highway could have on bighorn movement within their range.

## Landscape-Scale Habitat Work

The Department partnered with several groups to provide for landscape-scale improvements over thousands of acres within Unit 27 of Region 1 and on the North Kaibab within Region 2. Overall efforts have included various treatments, including juniper push renovations, fire prescriptions, and thinning and re-seeding that have enhanced browsing for wildlife species and have lessened the catastrophic fire potential

*Native Arizona fish species: Gila Topminnow*



in the treated areas. The synergy provided by combining the support and funding of the partners with the State Legislature and the Game and Fish Department have made these successes possible. Partners include: Arizona Bowhunters Association, Arizona Deer Association, Arizona Elk Society, Arizona Antelope Foundation, Mule Deer Foundation, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Quail Unlimited, National Wild Turkey Federation, Eastern Arizona Resource Advisory Committee, Southeastern Arizona Sportman's Club, the 4 Drag Ranch, the Double Circles Ranch, and the Kaibab and Sitgreaves National Forests.

## Planning for Wildlife as Arizona Grows

The Department signed its first-ever agreement with a consortium of private developers to conduct a research study to track mule deer movement within and around a future area of development west of Phoenix. The study is using GPS radio collaring of a dozen mule deer to determine the routes mule deer take as they move back and forth from the White Tank Mountains and across a major parkway to the Hassayampa River and other areas. The data can help determine where to position wildlife "corridors" in the planning process to allow the deer to migrate to important areas within their range for water, forage and cover. The study is being funded by a group of companies in the process of building several different housing developments on both sides of the parkway.

## Landowner Partnerships

The Landowner Relations Program continues to work with the state's private landowners to offer new funding alternatives to complete larger landscape-scale projects. This focus on offering more to our partners requires capitalizing on outside funding sources that have allowed the Landowner Relations Program to match the program base budget with those outside funds at nearly a 1:2 ratio. This has allowed the Department to assist landowners in completing 45 habitat projects and impacting over 24,600 acres of habitat, including the construction or redevelopment of 56 watering facilities.

## Pronghorn Tracking Research

Department biologists are conducting research studies to capture and fit pronghorn antelope with radio telemetry collars to learn more about pronghorn movement. One study along Highway 89, north of Flagstaff, is tracking pronghorn movements to advise the Arizona Department of Transportation on how best to help pronghorn herds cross the highway when it is widened in the future. The goal is to meet the safety needs of motorists while lessening the “barrier” impact of the highway to antelope movements, and it could possibly lead to a first-of-a-kind pronghorn overpass. In another study, Department biologists captured and fitted pronghorn in the Big Chino Valley area to learn more about the animals’ movements and help ensure the future of this icon of Arizona’s dwindling grasslands.

## Ferret Success

The black-footed ferret population in the Aubrey Valley continues to increase, and a record number of wild-born animals were captured and tagged this past year. Sixty-five wild-born ferrets were captured in the past year’s surveillance efforts, which is a 44-percent increase over the previous year’s total. Once thought to be extinct, the black-footed ferret remains one of the most endangered mammals in North America. After nearly a 60-year absence, the Arizona Game and Fish Department reintroduced black-footed ferrets to Arizona in 1996 as part of the multi-partner Black-footed Ferret Reintroduction Project.

## Education

### Wildlife Viewing Guide

The new *Arizona Wildlife Viewing Guide* provides a doorway to some of the best wildlife viewing opportunities in the nation—Arizona has more than 900 animal species and 50 million public acres of natural land to explore. The guide offers detailed descriptions of 128 unique sites and the wildlife found at them, accompanied by beautiful photographs of the sites and



*Mike Rabe, AZGFD Biologist, helping kids learn to hunt at a small game camp. New introductory hunter education courses include a field day and proficiency exam.*

animals. Readers will enjoy tips for wildlife watching and a tiered rating system that highlights “can’t miss” locations. Site features, driving directions and contact information are also included.

### New Online Hunter Ed Course

Prospective hunters now have another option for taking hunter education training in Arizona. The Department rolled out a new “introductory” course that can be taken either in a classroom setting or by independent study online over the Internet. Both the classroom and online formats require students to demonstrate proficiency and pass an exam during a field day with certified instructors to complete the course. The new course was developed as a convenient alternative for beginning hunters who either don’t have the time to take the traditional 20-hour “basic” class (which is still available), or who can’t find a class or an opening in their area.

### New Information Materials

The Department produced new informational materials for the public, including an “Arizona Rattlesnakes” poster, and new brochures on “Living with Coyotes,” “Apache Trout: A Wildlife Success Story,” “Why Non-lead Ammunition?” and “Upper Verde Wildlife Area.”



Father and daughter fishing at Surprise urban lake.

## Outreach Events

Department staff had a presence at numerous outdoor expos, wildlife fairs, birding festivals and other events over the course of the year. Events included the Arizona Game and Fish Department Outdoor Expo, the International Sportsmen’s Exposition, KidsFaire, Tres Rios Nature Festival, Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival, Wings Over Willcox, Envirothon, BioBlitz at Boyce Thompson, Southwest Wings Birding and Nature Festival, Payson Wildlife Fair, and various other community events.

## Focus Wild Arizona

Throughout the past year, the Department provided more than 30 educational and hands-on workshops to teachers and pre-service educators throughout the state. These workshops focus on training educators to utilize our Focus Wild curriculum in their classroom and scientific inquiry through field studies. Current Focus Wild lesson plans and curricula available to teachers for K-12 grades on the Department’s Web site include: Charting Animal Life Spans; Exploring Arizona’s Biotic Communities; The Living State Symbols; Mapping Your School Site; Mountain Lions in Arizona; Exploring Biomes; Are There Too Many Elk? Fashion-A-Fish; Living Labels; Receding Waters; The Trouble with Crayfish; What’s the Big Deal about the Jaguar?; Where the Wild Things Are; Wildlife; The Mysterious Case of the Bass and the Lake; and, Wolves: An Uncertain Future.

Invasive Quagga Mussels that were found at Lake Pleasant. Showing how even smaller than a dime, they can be a hazard to local waterways.



## Issues

### Hunter/Angler Recruitment and Retention

Recruitment/retention is a major key to the future of hunting and fishing and was the theme at the annual meeting of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA), hosted by the Department in Flagstaff, Ariz, in June. The Department recognized the importance of recruitment and retention several years ago and formed a team to analyze the issue and provide recommendations. A number of these measures have been implemented, including providing more hunting opportunity (including youth opportunities), offering a condensed hunter education program that can be taken online, and working with partners to conduct programs that introduce youths and beginners to hunting, fishing, shooting sports and outdoor recreation. The Department is also actively soliciting the input and participation of our sportsmen in this important issue through the Sportsmen Roundtable.

### Quagga Mussels Found in Arizona

Invasive quagga mussels were detected for the first time in Arizona at Lake Mead in January 2007. Over the course of the year, adults or larvae were found at Lake Mohave and Lake Havasu (including the Central Arizona Project intakes at Havasu), and in December they were found at Lake Pleasant. The Arizona Game and Fish Department has worked with partner agencies on a response and outreach plan. Boaters and anglers can help fight the continuing spread of these and other aquatic invasive species by routinely taking precautionary steps when removing or launching their boats.

### Federal Land Use and Travel Management Planning

The Department hosted a series of meetings and is providing information on its Web site to keep constituents updated on the status of USDA Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management land use management and travel management planning efforts in Arizona. The different Forest Service districts

and BLM field offices are in the process of revising these plans on lands they administer throughout the state. The plans include updated guidelines and rules on how public lands are to be managed (including what activities are permitted), and how and where motorized travel and dispersed camping should occur. The districts and field offices are in various phases of the planning efforts, which include public input components.

### **Kofa Bighorn Restoration**

Officials of the Arizona Game and Fish Department and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service agreed this summer on a comprehensive approach to the restoration of the desert bighorn sheep herd on the Service's Kofa National Wildlife Refuge. Through an intensive and coordinated effort, the agencies completed "The Investigative Report and Recommendations on the Kofa Bighorn Sheep Herd" to address the herd's decline over the past half-dozen years. The resulting document takes a comprehensive look at the full array of likely causes and outlines recommendations for actions on various fronts to restore the herd to a size that the habitat will support. A Web page ([www.azgfd.gov/w\\_c/bhsheep/index.shtml](http://www.azgfd.gov/w_c/bhsheep/index.shtml)) was created to inform the public of Kofa management issues.

### **Northern Arizona Regional Shooting Facility**

The Coconino National Forest accepted an Arizona Game and Fish Department proposal to continue the process for siting a public shooting range near Willard Springs Road, about 15 miles south of Flagstaff. Officials from both agencies met in late November to discuss activities and timelines, including preparation of a feasibility analysis report that evaluates state and federal properties that would be considered in any proposed land exchange. The Department has been working with the Forest Service for several years on a public planning process to provide a location for a safe, modern regional shooting facility to meet the needs of recreational shooters and law enforcement agencies in the Flagstaff region.

### **Whirling Disease Discovered at Lees Ferry**

Laboratory results for trout routinely sampled by Department biologists at Lees Ferry in spring 2007 came back positive for whirling disease in June, marking the first time this disease has been documented in wild fish in Arizona public waters. However, more recent sampling has not detected signs of the disease in that area. Whirling disease is a parasitic infection of trout that gets its name because the parasite infiltrates the head and spinal cartilage of small fingerling trout and can cause the fish to swim erratically (whirl). The Department has stepped up its monitoring efforts to stay on top of the situation. Whirling disease does not affect humans or other fish species.

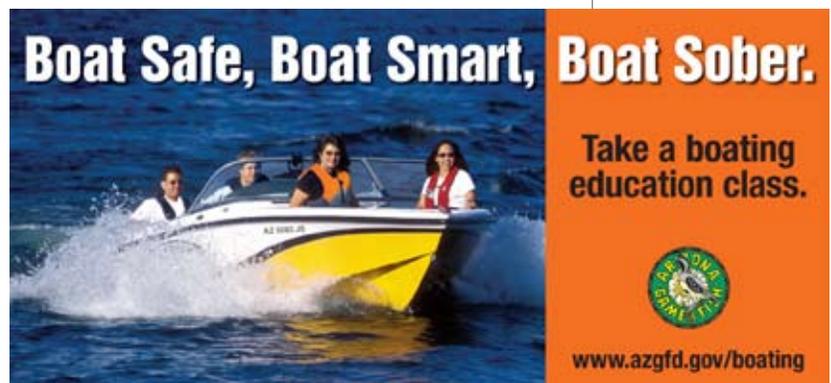
### **OHV Legislation**

The Arizona Legislature in 2007 considered HB 2443, a bill that would have instituted a small annual user fee on off-highway vehicles to provide funding for off-highway vehicle education, law enforcement, trail reconstruction and habitat mitigation. The bill failed to pass in the 2007 session. Off-highway vehicle use continues to grow in Arizona, along with corresponding habitat and management issues. A coalition of government agencies, off-highway user groups and conservation organizations has worked on new legislation that will be introduced in 2008.

### **Operating Under the Influence (OUI) Campaign**

The Department launched an outreach campaign to educate boaters of the perils of operating a watercraft while under the

*OUI Boating campaign.*



**Boat Safe, Boat Smart, Boat Sober.**

Take a boating education class.

[www.azgfd.gov/boating](http://www.azgfd.gov/boating)

The advertisement features a photograph of a white and yellow speedboat with four people on board, moving across blue water. The text is set against a blue and orange background. A circular logo for the Arizona Game and Fish Department is visible in the bottom right corner of the ad.



*Nature Rules!  
Stay on roads  
and trails.*

influence of alcohol. The campaign uses the slogan, "Boat Safe, Boat Smart, Boat Sober," and utilizes a combination of television and radio commercials, billboards, watercraft registration inserts, posters, advertisements, promotional giveaways, and a Web page. The current campaign will continue through the end of Fiscal 2007-08, with much of it conducted at the beginning of the 2008 boating season.

## **Grants**

### **Local Sportsmen's Group Grants**

The Local Sportsmen's Group Grant Program is a new program started in 2007 to provide financial assistance, through a competitive application process, to local sportsmen's groups in supporting wildlife conservation. The focus for the grant year was on projects promoting or supporting hunter, angler, shooter and trapper retention and recruitment. Twenty-five grant applications were received. The Department awarded nearly \$47,000 to 10 grant projects from local sportsmen's groups.

### **Wildlife Conservation Fund Grants**

The Wildlife Conservation Fund (WCF) Grant Program is a new grant program started in 2007 to support projects, through a competitive application process, that help conserve, enhance and restore Arizona's diverse wildlife resources and habitats for present and future generations. Eligible applicants include state agencies (or any political subdivision), Indian tribes, or nonprofit 501(c) organizations. The Department awarded more than \$292,000 to support 11 grant projects.

### **Heritage Grants**

Schools, universities and public agencies were awarded \$438,800 in Heritage Fund grant money to support 19 grant projects across Arizona in 2007. Arizona voters created the Heritage Fund in 1990. The money from lottery ticket sales goes to conservation efforts like protecting endangered species, educating children about wildlife, helping urban residents to better coexist with wildlife, and creating new opportunities for outdoor

recreation. Every year, hundreds of thousands of dollars are set aside to award grants to important projects that otherwise might not receive funding.

### **OUI Law Enforcement and Boating Safety Grants**

The Department initiated two new grant programs in 2007 to promote and enhance the safety of Arizona's waterways through OUI (Operating Under the Influence) law enforcement and boating safety programs. The programs are open to federal, state, county, and local governmental agencies that conduct watercraft enforcement activities within Arizona. The OUI Law Enforcement Grants Program supports expanded watercraft enforcement to remove impaired boat operators from Arizona waterways and reduce alcohol-related boat accident rates. Awards for the \$250,000 in grant monies will be made in early 2008. The Boating Safety Grants Program facilitates expansion of boating safety and education efforts statewide through proactive projects aimed at reducing boat accident rates. Eligible applicants for Boating Safety Grants include public agencies and non-profit organizations. Awards for the \$325,000 in grant monies will be made in early 2008.

## **Awards and Honors**

### **Director Duane Shroufe Announces Retirement**

After almost 20 years of leading the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Director Duane Shroufe announced in December that he would be retiring at the end of March 2008. Shroufe, who is the second-longest-tenured state wildlife director in the United States, joined the Department in 1984 as an assistant director, and became director in 1989. During his remarkable tenure, the agency has grown from 230 personnel to 650 and the budget has increased from \$20 million to \$80 million. Under Shroufe's leadership, the Arizona Game and Fish Department has been routinely recognized as one of the top and most innovative wildlife agencies in the nation.

## Emmy Awards for TV Show

The Department's television show, *Arizona Wildlife Views*, was honored with two Rocky Mountain Southwest Emmy awards for television excellence. The Department won the "Environmental Program" Emmy with a show that answered the age-old question: What do rattlesnakes do when no one is watching? *Arizona Wildlife Views* also took the Emmy for "Public Affairs Segment," with a strong message story that alligators do not make good pets.

## Linkages Assessment Wins FHA Award

A first-of-its-kind report that could be a key to conserving wildlife while making highways safer in Arizona has been recognized for excellence by the Federal Highway Administration (FHA). The Arizona Wildlife Linkages Assessment, a two-year collaboration between federal and state agencies (including the Arizona Game and Fish Department), conservation groups and Northern Arizona University, was awarded FHA's 2007 Excellence in Environmental Streamlining Award. The report was officially released in late 2006.

## National Communications Honors

The Department received national recognition for its conservation communications efforts by taking three first-place awards and one second-place award at the annual Association for Conservation Information (ACI) conference in Lenox, Mass., in July. The Department won top honors in the following categories: Best Color Publication (Book or Report) – *A Field Guide to Amphibians and Reptiles in Arizona*; Best Poster – *Arizona Rattlesnakes*; Best General-interest Magazine Article – "Case Files of a Game Warden." The Department's Web site ([www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov)) received a second-place award in the Web site category.

## Individual Honors

**Brian Wakeling** received the Professional Service Award 2006 from the Arizona Chapter of The Wildlife Society for outstanding contributions to the management and conservation of Arizona's wildlife through professional work standards and conduct.



**Ed Huntsman** received the 2007 Boating Professional of the Year Award from the Western States Boating Administrators Association (NASBLA) for outstanding performance in the field of recreational boating safety.

**David Conrad** was awarded the Wildlife Officer of the Year Award from the Shikar-Safari Club International for the wildlife officer who has shown exemplary conduct and initiative in the performance of his or her duties.

**Jeff Gagnon** was awarded the Roger Hungerford Student Award by the Arizona Chapter of The Wildlife Society for outstanding contributions to the management and conservation of Arizona's wildlife during work he did toward his Masters degree on elk movements in relationship to Highway 260.

**Gene Elms** was awarded the Officer of the Year Award from the Kingman Elks Club for outstanding general overall performance of Law Enforcement Activities.

**Kevin Bergersen** was given the Past President's Award from the Western States Boating Administrators Association for time and dedication given to the organization over the past year.

# Financial Statement

<b>Fiscal Year Revenues by Fund</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>
Game and Fish Fund .....	\$22,330,234	\$31,008,504
Watercraft Licensing Fund .....	4,517,064	5,652,468
Game, Nongame Fund .....	220,009	273,357
Federal Assistance (Includes Matching Funds).....	22,575,435	28,144,075
Heritage Fund .....	10,460,496	10,824,320
Off-highway Vehicle Fund.....	852,001	869,474
Capital Improvement/Conservation Dev. Funds .....	1,033,402	1,545,574
Wildlife Conservation Fund.....	5,847,115	6,901,172
Wildlife Habitat and Restoration Fund.....	0	3,583,885
Indirect Cost Fund.....	1,025,959	2,162,906
Other Funds (See Detail Below).....	3,589,349	3,439,988
<b>Total Revenue All Sources .....</b>	<b>\$72,451,064</b>	<b>\$94,405,724</b>

## Other Funds Detail

GF Land and Water Conservation/ Recreation Development .....	\$974	\$1,352
Wildlife Theft Prevention Fund .....	145,936	154,569
Waterfowl Conservation Fund.....	65,047	80,781
Wildlife Endowment Fund.....	182,815	225,016
Trust/Donation Fund.....	2,857,470	2,638,091
Firearms Safety and Ranges Fund.....	67,355	72,050
Publications Revolving Fund .....	269,753	268,128
<b>Total Other Funds.....</b>	<b>\$3,589,349</b>	<b>\$3,439,988</b>

<b>Fiscal Year Expenditures by Fund</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>
Game and Fish Fund .....	\$22,208,395	\$26,459,769
Watercraft Licensing Fund .....	1,932,821	2,887,626
Game, Nongame Fund .....	156,125	187,937
Federal Assistance (Includes Matching Funds).....	22,681,194	27,638,779
Heritage Fund .....	13,068,367	11,036,808
Off-highway Vehicle Fund.....	990,388	882,977
Capital Improvement/Conservation Dev. Funds <sup>1</sup> .....	954,421	509,233
Wildlife Conservation Fund.....	3,756,370	4,940,466
Indirect Cost Fund.....	1,752,222	1,817,258
Other Funds (See Detail Below).....	1,875,183	3,474,105
<b>Total Revenue All Sources .....</b>	<b>\$69,375,485</b>	<b>\$79,834,959</b>

## Other Funds Detail

Game and Fish Land and Water Conservation/Recreation Dev. ....	\$ 0	\$ 0
Wildlife Theft Prevention Fund .....	146,062	155,575
Waterfowl Conservation Fund.....	56,247	66,876
Wildlife Endowment Fund.....	0	0
Trust/Donation Fund.....	1,453,255	1,584,841
Firearms Safety and Ranges Fund.....	0	1,382,344
Publications Revolving Fund .....	219,618	284,469
<b>Total Other Funds.....</b>	<b>\$1,875,183</b>	<b>\$3,474,105</b>

<b>Fiscal Year Heritage Funds Allocation</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>
Environmental Education.....	\$500,000	\$500,000
Public Access .....	500,000	500,000
Habitat Evaluation and Protection .....	1,500,000	1,500,000
Urban Wildlife.....	1,500,000	1,500,000
Habitat Acquisition.....	2,400,000	2,400,000
IIAPM (Identification, Inventory, Acquisition, Protection, and Management).....	3,600,000	3,600,000
<b>Total Allocation.....</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>

<b>Calendar Year Sales in Numbers by Group</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Licenses (see detail below).....	463,929	487,642
Trout stamps .....	90,600	92,544
Nonresident Trout stamp .....	0	408
Tags .....	146,654	152,998
Misc permits/licenses .....	3,002	3,896
Special use licenses/stamps .....	63,560	69,571
Two Pole Stamp .....	63,596	68,088
Waterfowl Stamps.....	6,702	6,994
Migratory Bird Stamps.....	53,028	53,161
Utah Lake Powell Stamps .....	1,355	1,436
Kaibab 12A Archery Deer Stamps .....	4,312	3,194
Restricted Non-permit Tags.....	357	226
Supplemental Hunt Tags.....	64	65
Bonus Point Hunt Tags .....	0	0
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>897,159</b>	<b>940,223</b>

<b>Lifetime License/Stamp Sales</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Lifetime License Sales Fish.....	68	34
Lifetime License Sales Hunt .....	131	100
Lifetime License Sales Combo .....	202	108
Lifetime License Sales Trout Stamp .....	37	28
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>270</b>

<b>Calendar Year License Sales by Category</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Resident General Fish.....	166,230	176,076
Nonresident General Fish .....	2,273	2,927
Family/Primary Fish.....	3,472	2,559
Family/Spouse Fish.....	1,481	1,390
Family/Child Fish .....	1,734	1,301
Resident General Hunt .....	64,353	63,861
Nonresident General Hunt .....	22,733	24,179
Resident Hunt/Fish.....	77,314	80,939
Nonresident Hunt/Fish.....	789	961
Nonresident 3-Day Hunt .....	7,440	7,727
Nonresident 9-Day Hunt .....	0	0
Urban Fishing.....	32,365	32,837
Nonresident Colorado River Fish .....	1,791	1,666
Nonresident 5-Day Fish .....	12,974	13,871
Resident Youth Group Hunt/Fish .....	23,335	24,157
Nonresident 4-Month Fish.....	6,598	7,545
Resident/Nonresident 1-Day Fish .....	34,028	36,438
Resident Youth Group 2-Day Fish .....	92	98
Resident General Fish Nov/Dec .....	4,498	4,622
Nonresident General Fish Nov/Dec .....	395	437
Comp Family/Primary Half Fish Nov/Dec .....	29	43
Comp Spouse/Primary Half Fish Nov/Dec .....	5	8
<b>Grand Totals .....</b>	<b>463,929</b>	<b>483,642</b>

<b>Calendar Year License and Tag Sales</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Licenses .....	\$14,072,347	\$14,740,686
Stamps .....	1,651,399	1,762,701
Tags .....	5,088,132	4,973,822
<b>Total Value.....</b>	<b>\$20,811,878</b>	<b>\$21,477,209</b>

## Notes

1. 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 license sales.



Michael M. Golightly,  
Chair



William H. McLean



Bob Hernbrode



Jennifer L. Martin



Robert R. Woodhouse

## 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.



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 employment practices, they may file a complaint with the Deputy Director, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086, (602) 942-3000, or with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Dr., Ste. 130, Arlington, VA 22203. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation or this document in an alternative format by contacting the Deputy Director as listed above.

# Arizona Game and Fish Department

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DUANE L. SHROUFE Director  
STEVE K. FERRELL Deputy Director

## ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

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