

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Arizona Game and Fish Commission
Friday, April 18, 2008
Saturday, April 19, 2008
Arizona Game and Fish Department
5000 W. Carefree Hwy
Phoenix, Arizona 85086

PRESENT: (Commission)

(Director's Staff)

Chairman William H. McLean
Vice Chairman Robert D. Hernbrode
Commissioner Jennifer L. Martin
Commissioner Robert R. Woodhouse
Commissioner Michael M. Golightly

Director Larry D. Voyles
Deputy Director Steve K. Ferrell
Assistant Attorney General Jim Odenkirk
Assistant Attorney General Shelley Cutts

Chairman McLean called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Commissioner Golightly was not present at this time, but arrived later during Executive Session. This meeting followed an agenda revision # 1 dated April 15, 2008.

* * * * *

1. Executive Session

The Commission voted to meet in Executive Session in accordance with A.R.S. § 38-431.03 (A)(3) and (4) for the purpose of discussion and consultation with legal counsel.

Motion: Hernbrode moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Vote: Unanimous
4 to 0
Golightly absent

* * * * *

The Public Meeting reconvened at 10:35 a.m.

* * * * *

Chairman McLean called the meeting back to order following Executive Session. The Commission introduced themselves and Chairman McLean introduced the Director and the Director's staff.

* * * * *

2. Litigation Report

There were no comments or questions on this item.

* * * * *

3. Espee Ranch Option Purchase Agreement

Presenter: James F. Odenkirk, Assistant Attorney General

Babbitt Ranches has offered to convey an access and open space conservation easement on Espee Ranch. The easement will protect the ranch from most commercial and residential development and will insure permanent access for lawful hunting, fishing and trapping. The Commission was offered to enter into an option purchase agreement that would give the Commission an exclusive right to purchase the conservation easement, but does not bind the Commission or Department to actually purchase the conservation easement. It just gives the Commission the exclusive right of doing so at some later point if it obtains the necessary funding. Mr. Odenkirk provided the Commission with the option agreement, the deed agreement and a summary of the main points prior to this meeting for review. If the Commission chooses this option, Babbitt Ranches will convey the access easement to the Commission and the open space easement to Coconino County.

The Commission discussed with Mr. Odenkirk that Babbitt Ranches preferred to work with the Game and Fish Department, but that the Commission was not prohibited from partnering with other organizations in this effort. It would however require the approval of both parties.

Motion: Golightly moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE THE OPTION AGREEMENT THAT WOULD GIVE THE COMMISSION AN EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO PURCHASE THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT ON ESPEE RANCH.

Vote: Unanimous

* * * * *

4. State and Federal Legislation

Presenter: Anthony Guiles, Legislative Liaison

Mr. Guiles reported to the Commission on the current status of selected state and federal legislation and current elective issues. The Commission was provided with informational materials on proposed legislation (also available to the public). Mr. Guiles further briefed the Commission on the following:

April Legislative Update

Days in Session: 95
Bills posted: 1371
Bills Passed: 80
Bills vetoed: 5
Bills signed: 47

Status of Bills Supported by the Commission

- HB2251: Game and Fish Omnibus - Governor signed on 04/15/08
- SB1080: Operating under the influence; watercraft - was triple assigned in the House (Struck onto SB1167 with several DUI bills; Senate Conservatives struck Refusal Section)
- S1167: Now: off highway vehicle; user fee is a new striker amendment. The original (HB2573) failed the Senate Natural Resources Committee by a 3-3 vote.
- HB2068: Game and Fish; private enterprise; fund seems to be stalled as it is met with opposition from Senator Burns who chairs the Senate Appropriations Committee; Not considered restrictive enough - Other possible ideas: Comprehensive list of merchandise/ services; provide annual report; Limit net profit to be \leq (.01)

Commissioner Hernbrode requested to see another copy of the Omnibus bill since there has been several changes to it.

Mr. Guiles will provide the Commission with updates on all the bills.

Chairman McLean commented on HB2068, stating that lists of merchandise change as soon as they are put together and that limiting profit is not workable. The most viable of the possible ideas is in providing an annual report.

Status of Bills Opposed by the Commission

- HCR2037: constitutional rights; Game and Fish - failed in House COW on 03/24/08 with a 28-27 recorded vote

New Bills for Commission Discussion/Position

- HR5583: Grand Canyon Watersheds Protection Act of 2008 (Introduced as a result of uranium drilling in the Kaibab area; will withdraw approximately 1 million acres in the vicinity of the Grand Canyon from being mined under the auspices of the 1872 Mining Act; a letter has already been sent by the Commission to the Arizona Delegation regarding this issue)

The Department recommended that the Commission take a position to support HR5583.

Motion: Hernbrode moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO SUPPORT HR5583, GRAND CANYON WATERSHEDS PROTECTION ACT OF 2008.

Vote: Unanimous

New Bills Continued

- SB1264: Rights of way; public lands - Held in House Rules (R.S. 2477 adopted to allow rights-of-way for construction of highways across public lands; R.S. 2477 was repealed in 1976, however existing rights-of-way exempted from repeal; Possible proliferation of roads and habitat fragmentation; Limited available case law).

The Department recommended that the Commission take a position to oppose SB1264.

Motion: Hernbrode moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO OPPOSE SB1264, RIGHTS OF WAY; PUBLIC LANDS.

Vote: Unanimous

Budget

The Legislature reached a negotiated budget deal with the Governor's Office. It was moved rather quickly yesterday. Senate Appropriations met and moved it onto the Senate floor. It was voted out of the Senate by a 24 to 5 votes. It went to the House and was voted out on a 53 to 3 vote. The provisions included in the budget that effects the Department are the Watercraft Fund, swept for a total of 4.7 million dollars; the OHV Fund was swept for \$395,000; and the La Osa settlement was swept. The 2009 budget has not been decided, which will be an even bigger issue than the 2008 budget.

Chairman McLean asked about diversion issues and confirmed with Mr. Guiles that any transfers of vacancy savings funds do not include either diversion protected funds or voter protected funds.

Mr. Guiles stated that the Department of Administration and JLBC are aware of Department concerns regarding diversion and are taking that into consideration.

Legislative Tours

- Three Legislators are currently participating in an eagle banding tour with Department staff

State Trust Land Initiative

The State Trust Land Initiative was filed last Friday. It has not qualified for the ballot, which requires 230,000 signatures before the July 3 deadline. The Department would like to see if it qualifies for the ballot and then bring it back to the Commission for a thorough review of what is included in the initiative. The proponents of the Initiative would be invited to make a presentation to the Commission.

The Commission requested that the Department provide an analysis of the Initiative at the May Commission meeting.

Gifford Shooting Range Legislation

The Department has been working with Congresswoman Gifford's office on Shooting Range Legislation. A letter is going from members of the Arizona Delegation to the Forest Service asking them to work cooperatively to address issues. Depending on the Forest Service response, the legislation may or may not be introduced.

4A. Tumacacori Highlands Wilderness Act of 2007.

Presenter: Anthony Guiles, Legislative Liaison

Mr. Guiles provided the Commission with an update on HR3287, proposed legislation for the designation of the Tumacacori Highlands Wilderness Area within the Coronado National Forest. The Commission was provided with a copy of a letter received from Congressman Grijalva's office (attached to these minutes). The letter includes changes that will be offered in the form of an amendment. This bill is now included in House Resolution 5610 which includes language on the Tumacacori Wilderness as well as some other Wilderness language from other states.

Commissioner Martin clarified that the changes only apply to Arizona's bill regarding the Tumacacori Wilderness Area, and further pointed out that this shows some concession and willingness to work with the Commission and address specific Commission concerns in Arizona even though this is a broader package involving several other states.

Public Comment

Sandy Bahr, Sierra Club – Grand Canyon Chapter, encouraged the Commission to support the legislation and thanked them for their work with Congressman Grijalva's office. Ms. Bahr also thanked the Commission for their position on uranium mining issues.

Mike Quigley, Sky Island Alliance, encouraged the Commission to support the legislation and thanked them for their work with Congressman Grijalva's office.

Commissioner Hernbrode stated that he was going to support the Tumacacori legislation, but made the following statement: "That I will do so with considerable consternation and frustration. I've come to realize that Arizona Wilderness Areas are unique and the issues of Wilderness in Arizona are different from other Wilderness Areas throughout much of the west. Arizona is almost universally defined by two things, its heredity and being the country's fastest growing state. Extreme and increasing aridity represents particular challenges to wildlife and most particularly to wildlife in Wilderness. Rapid human growth that Arizona experiences has put a great deal of pressure on our wild lands. The Tumacacori Highlands along with several other desert Wilderness areas are experiencing very significant degradation that results from the proximity of the United States and Mexico border drug interdiction and border enforcement operations. I believe that much of the future of wildlife management in Arizona Wilderness and elsewhere in the west will be restorative management and that we will be spending a great deal of time and effort fixing what we have screwed up. This means that there will have to be proactive management in Wilderness to preserve, restore and enhance wildlife. My consternation and frustration stems from the reality that HR3287 does not solve the problems I hoped it would. Because of the ambiguity of the Arizona Wilderness language, wildlife management actions have led to conflict and will continue to lead to conflict between groups who both care deeply about wildlife and wilderness and have paralyzed the federal land management agencies; none of which is good for wildlife. The value of this effort and the value of where we stand right now is that the Department has gained a legitimate seat in the decision process and diverse interest groups have forged compromises by working together. The

Commission and the Department have to continue to develop the mechanisms that encourage diverse interests to work together”.

Motion: Hernbrode moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT TO SEND A LETTER TO CONGRESSMAN GRIJALVA IN SUPPORT OF HR3287 AS WRITTEN AND WITH THE CAVEAT OF THE INTRODUCTION OF THE THINGS HE PROMISED IN HIS LETTER.

Commissioner Woodhouse asked what has been accomplished or not accomplished through negotiations with Congressman Grijalva’s office on the language in the bill.

Chairman McLean explained that the bill now provides for a cooperative agreement. It provides that the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture “shall”, not “may”, enter into a cooperative agreement with the State of Arizona for management of fish and wildlife within the designated Wilderness areas. There is no timeline for the cooperative agreement, however, we have an agreement from Congressman Grijalva that if the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and the Forest Service do not move forward timely and in a true spirit of cooperation, the Congressman will work with them and assist us by facilitating moving the agreement forward in a timely fashion. This cooperative agreement is expected to settle other issues as well on language in the bill where changes could not be negotiated. Also, we were unable to negotiate having this cooperative agreement applicable to other designated Wilderness areas in Arizona. The language will only apply to this bill and this Wilderness designation. However, we have a commitment from Congressman Grijalva and from the Governor’s Natural Resources staff that we will discuss a more comprehensive bill that would apply to all Wilderness areas within Arizona, and other states if they want to participate, to be presented to the United States Congress that will expand the right of state wildlife management agencies to have meaningful participation in the management of wildlife in all Wilderness areas.

Chairman McLean further commented on the improved relations with Congressman Grijalva’s staff and stated that this is a process. In an effort not to stop the process, Chairman McLean recommended that the Commission move this matter forward in a positive sense.

The Commission further discussed their dissatisfaction with the language versus the consequences of not supporting it, and how they might move forward with the issues from here.

Vote: Unanimous

(This motion is later amended after agenda item #7)

Commissioner Woodhouse voted aye, but stated for the record that he has concerns. Because of the geographical location of this particular area, with the urban growth, there needs to be some type of protection for that area, but he questioned whether the Commission would be able to do what they need to do for wildlife management.

* * * * *

5. Teaming with Wildlife Act of 2008 (S. 2670)

Presenter: Anthony Guiles, Legislative Liaison

Mr. Guiles reported on the current status of SB2670, Teaming with Wildlife Act Of 2008. On February 27, Senators Tim Johnson (South Dakota) and Debbie Stabenow (Michigan) introduced the Teaming with Wildlife Act of 2008 (SB2670). This bill would provide \$350 million a year for five years to the Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Program. The Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Program is the account under Pittman-Robertson that exists to fund the activities currently funded on an annual basis through State Wildlife Grants. While authorized in 2000, the Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Program has been unfunded since that time.

The funds provided through this bill would flow to states on an assured basis for five years without the need for annual appropriation by Congress. Funding would be allocated according to the current formula used by State Wildlife Grants. However, in contrast to the 50-50 match for State Wildlife Grants, the program would operate with the standard Pittman-Robertson 75-25 match. The funding source in the Teaming with Wildlife Act would be a combination of existing federal oil and gas revenue from the Outer Continental Shelf and from onshore activities on federal lands.

The Department recommended that the Commission take a position to support this legislation.

Motion: Hernbrode moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO SUPPORT SB2670, TEAMING WITH WILDLIFE ACT OF 2008.

Vote: Unanimous

* * * * *

8. Call to the Public

There were no requests from the public to speak.

* * * * *

Meeting recessed for lunch at 11:59 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 1:25 p.m.

* * * * *

6. Information and Education Activities Briefing

Presenter: Ty Gray, Assistant Director, Information and Education Division

The Commission was provided with an Information and Education Program Report prior to this meeting (also provided to the public), which presented new information as well as progress toward ongoing issues and concerns related to Information and Education programs. The update covered activities and events that occurred since the March 2008 Commission meeting and was provided in fulfillment of the Department's commitment to brief the Commission on a regular basis regarding the Department's Information and Education programs.

Mr. Gray provided an additional briefing of the successful BASF Outdoor Expo using a Power Point presentation. The 4th annual Expo was held on March 28-30, 2008 at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility with approximately 26,000 people attending.

* * * * *

7. An Update on Current Issues, Planning Efforts, and Proposed Projects on All Lands in Arizona and Other Matters Related Thereto

Presenter: Josh Avey, Habitat Branch Chief

A copy of the Lands Update report was provided to the Commission prior to this meeting and is included as part of these minutes. The update addressed decisions or activities since the March 2008 Commission meeting. This update is in fulfillment of the Department's commitment to brief the Commission on a regular basis regarding decisions and actions on all State and Federal lands in Arizona.

Mr. Avey provided two additional updates:

- The Department continues to actively solicit a position on the Statewide Transportation Planning Framework. The primary focus of the effort today is two pronged, one, to work at a regional level to identify transportation needs and two, to identify a funding mechanism to help develop these needs over the next 50 years. Director Voyles has contacted the ADOT director and chairman of the committee (Victor Mendez), but to date the Department has not been granted a position on this committee. The deadline for completion and submission of this planning effort to the Governor is June. The Department has also been advocating that our Areas of Conservation Priority (ACP) data be used to identify and avoid potential conflicts through this planning effort. Currently the Planning Framework committee is using a "conservation lands" map provided by The Nature Conservancy.
- The Department is continuing efforts to work with Maricopa County on their implementation of the PM-10 and fugitive dust restrictions. The PM-10 rule establishes air quality standards for the metropolitan area. There are two revised county ordinances that have been approved by the County Board P27 and P28 that could have impacts on hunting and angling access in Maricopa County. The County has assured Department staff that a policy shall be used to maintain hunting and angling access and consistently enforce where appropriate. They have provided a timeline of May 19 to address the policy concerns. Currently, there are no deadlines for the completion of the policy exceptions, but County officers have begun to enforce P27 and P28 already.

Commissioner Golightly asked for an update on the Department's ongoing efforts with BLM on the Big Ranch A allotment.

Mr. Avey stated that the Department was recently invited to attend an allotment review. During that review there were some utilization measurements conducted on the areas where the surveys were done and they were all within the agreed upon levels. There were also some concerns regarding water distribution and how that may affect the Desert tortoise habitat in the northern portion of the allotment. The lessee was willing to work with the Department and the BLM to move that distribution site into an area that may be less sensitive to the Desert tortoise. The

Department is going to stay on top of that and continue to monitor the remaining portions of the site. The review has not yet gone onto the portion of the allotment where the Department had some significant concerns last year, but the Department will be present on those reviews.

Commissioner Golightly requested that Director Voyles add the Big Ranch A to his list of discussion points for his coordination meeting with the BLM State Director.

Commissioner Hernbrode requested that the Department add the border fence waiver to the monthly Lands Update.

Motion: Hernbrode moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT TO DRAFT A LETTER FOR THE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE TO THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER WILDLIFE IMPERMEABILITY OF THE BORDER FENCE AND CONCERN OVER THE IMPACT THAT THE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY IS GOING TO HAVE ON WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE HABITAT; AND SEND A COPY OF THE LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE.

Vote: Unanimous

* * * * *

4A. (Continued) Tumacacori Highlands Wilderness Act of 2007.

Presenter: Anthony Guiles, Legislative Liaison

Motion: Hernbrode moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO AMEND THE PRIOR MOTION TO INCLUDE THAT THE COMMISSION'S SUPPORT OF THE LANGUAGE OF THE BILL IS CONTINGENT UPON THE INCLUSION OF THE COMPROMISED MAP WITH BOUNDARIES AND ACCESS POINTS AS AGREED UPON BY THE SPORTSMEN OF ARIZONA AND SKY ISLAND.

Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Guiles will call the two public comment speakers and let them know of this motion amendment.

* * * * *

9. Request to Close the Rule Record and Adopt the Notice of Exempt Rulemaking to Amend Rules in Article 8, Wildlife Areas and Department Property.

Presenter: Jennifer N. Stewart, Rules and Risk Manager

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is amending terms and restrictions for the Three Bar Wildlife Area, R12-4-802(27) with the following justifications:

- Amend the rule to more clearly describe the area within the fenced enclosure as being a single contiguous area.

- Amend the rule to additionally identify the fenced enclosure by its common name, “Walnut Canyon Enclosure.”
- Amend the rule to allow hunting, by Commission Order, in the enclosure. The fenced enclosure referenced in R12-4-802(27) faces unique and challenging wildlife management issues, including deer overpopulation. The enclosure is currently closed to hunting. The Department would like to utilize hunting as a management tool in the enclosure when deemed appropriate by Commission Order.

If approved by the Commission, the Notice of Exempt Rulemaking will be submitted to the Secretary of State’s Office for publication in the *Arizona Administrative Register*.

Motion: Woodhouse moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO CLOSE THE RULE RECORD AND ADOPT THE NOTICE OF EXEMPT RULEMAKING TO AMEND RULES IN ARTICLE 8, WILDLIFE AREAS AND DEPARTMENT PROPERTY.

Vote: Unanimous

* * * * *

Meeting recessed for a break at 1:50 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 2:07 p.m.

* * * * *

15. Hearings on License Revocations for Violation of Game and Fish Codes and Civil Assessments for the Illegal Taking and/or Possession of Wildlife

Presenter: Pat Barber, Law Enforcement Branch Chief

Record of these proceedings is maintained in a separate minutes book in the Director’s Office.

* * * * *

11. Call to the Public

There were no requests from the public to speak.

* * * * *

12. Colorado River Fish and Wildlife Council Good Neighbor Agreement

Presenter: Kirk Young, Fisheries Branch Chief

Mr. Young briefed the Commission on the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) developed by the Colorado River Fish and Wildlife Council for signature by council member states. The Commission was provided a copy of the MOA prior to this meeting for review. The purpose of the agreement is to establish a basic framework for communication and coordination on matters involving aquatic species. This MOA allows the states of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming to more effectively implement aquatic species

management and conservation plans across interstate boundaries and to consider basin-wide and range-wide issues for game and non-game aquatic species that result from the introduction or movement of new species.

Motion: Martin moved and Hernbrode seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF MULTI-STATE AQUATIC RESOURCES IN ADJACENT WATERS OF THE COLORADO RIVER FISH AND WILDLIFE COUNCIL MEMBER STATES OF ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, COLORADO, NEVADA, NEW MEXICO, UTAH, AND WYOMING (a.k.a. "THE GOOD NEIGHBOR MOA").

Vote: Unanimous

* * * * *

13. Commission Work Sessions

Presenter: Marty Fabritz, Executive Staff Assistant

Mr. Fabritz discussed with the Commission what they would like to have as topics of discussion and potential dates for an educational/training Commission workshop. The Commission expressed the following interests:

- Condor lead issues and non-toxic ammunition (may wait until after upcoming conference on lead in May and may be in conjunction with a joint meeting with the Utah Commission)
- Budget updates
- Legislative process update
- Hunt guidelines
- Rule setting process
- Internet potential for improved customer service and increasing sales and fundraising
- Alternative funding sources
- Brainstorming on how to turn wildlife viewing and nongame wildlife opportunity into a funding source
- Open discussion with senior staff (Executive Session)

The Commission was in consensus that the meetings would be informal open discussions, possibly at Sipes and in August.

Mr. Fabritz will come back to the Commission with a list of topics and dates for the workshop.

* * * * *

15. Options for Funding Operating Under the Influence Outreach and Law Enforcement Efforts from the Watercraft Licensing Fund for Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011.

Presenter: Mike Senn, Assistant Director of Field Operations

At the Commission Budget Workshop on April 3, 2008, the Commission was presented with a draft budget for the Watercraft Licensing Fund for fiscal years 2010 and 2011. During the workshop the Commission directed the Department to bring back alternatives on how to fund the Operating Under the Influence (O.U.I.) efforts and specifically to evaluate whether areas of outreach/marketing funding should be used for additional law enforcement instead of outreach/marketing.

Mr. Senn provided the Commission with several alternatives for implementing an effective O.U.I. program for fiscal years 2010 and 2011 using a Power Point presentation that included charts, graphs and spreadsheets of the proposed watercraft budget, watercraft licensing revenue, watercraft appropriations, the U.S.C.G. Coast Guard Grant budget, current law enforcement efforts, annual boat use data, statewide agency OUI arrest data, boat accident and injury data, and detailed information on the following four alternatives: Alternative 1: Six (6) full time watercraft Wildlife Managers; Alternative 2: Six (6) blended Wildlife Managers (both Watercraft and Game and Fish); Alternative 3: Develop seasonal watercraft enforcement officer program, six (6) seasonal officers initially; and Alternative 4: Develop information and outreach campaign (original proposal).

Ty Gray, Assistant Director of Information and Education, briefed the Commission on Alternative 4 and highlighted some of the Department's current campaign and marketing efforts and approximately how many people are reached by those efforts.

The Commission discussed how difficult it is to measure the effect of marketing.

Commissioner Martin stated that she believed that additional law enforcement would have a greater affect on the people that actually go boating and may operate under the influence than a marketing campaign that reaches everyone.

Director Voyles stated that it may be time to do a strategic analysis on the whole watercraft program, a 5 million dollar program including watercraft registration, that would probably provide the Commission with better decision making tools. However, this would require more time to complete.

Public Comment

Norm Freeman, (recently appointed by the Governor to be the next Game and Fish Commissioner) addressed the Commission. Mr. Freeman pointed out that the current TV commercial that is meant to send the message "don't drink and boat", is taken simply as brand recognition for the Department depending on the demographic that it reaches. Mr. Freeman suggested that the message "don't drink and boat" be sent specifically to boat owners and that the dollars used for the "don't drink and boat" advertisement be used to draw in a broad demographic who don't already have a touch point with Game and Fish.

Mr. Gray stated that the "don't drink and boat" message will be sent to all registered boat owners with boater registration paperwork.

The Commission was in consensus for the Department to continue for now with Alternative 4 and continue development of its outreach and marketing efforts for approval with the rest of the Fiscal Year 2010 and 2011 budget at the June 2008 meeting.

* * * * *

Meeting recessed for the day at 5:25 p.m.

* * * * *

* * * * *

Saturday, April 19, 2008

* * * * *

Pledge of Allegiance – Chairman McLean lead those present through the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman McLean called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. The Commission introduced themselves and Chairman McLean introduced the Director and the Director's staff. This meeting followed an agenda revision # 1 dated April 15, 2008.

* * * * *

Awards and Commissioning of Officers

Director Voyles presented Service Pin Awards to the following Department employees:

25 Years of Service: Gary Schafer

20 Years of Service: Tom Hildebrandt, Carl Lutch

Deputy Director Steve Ferrell announced Department employee Craig McMullen as the recipient of the Shikar Safari Wildlife Officer of the Year Award. John Mellon and Norden VanHorn, representing Shikar Safari, were present and presented Mr. McMullen with the award for his career of contributions and accomplishments in the field of wildlife management and law enforcement.

* * * * *

1. Statewide Shooting Range Briefing

Presenter: Jay Cook, Education Branch Chief

The Commission was provided with a Statewide Shooting Range Update prior to this meeting of Department activities related to shooting range support and development statewide. The update, also available to the public, covered activities that occurred since the March 2008 Commission meeting. The statewide shooting range briefing is part of the Department's ongoing commitment to provide the Commission with updates on statewide shooting range development and shooting sports in general.

Mr. Cook recapped several items in the Update using a Power Point presentation and provided some additional information.

Chairman McLean asked about the planned long-distance range between the current DPS 100-yard range and the bench rest range at BASF, if that range would be open to the public when DPS is not using it, to which Mr. Cook stated that it would.

Public Comment

Bill Weldon and Seth Nadel with the White Mountain Shooters Association (WMSA) asked the Commission to submit an application to the Forest Service for the Commission to hold a special use permit for a proposed shooting range. WMSA intends to raise most of the money to develop the range project, but are also asking the Commission to assist in preparing the NEPA and SHPO studies and to provide the engineering.

The Commission discussed the cost of the studies and suggested that WMSA look into applying for shooting range grants once the land was acquired. Also discussed were any possible liabilities and whether the proposed location for was appropriate for a shooting range.

The Commission directed the Department to work with WMSA on any issues there might be with the Commission obtaining the special use permit and on any other issues and then bring that back to the Commission.

Mr. Gray addressed the Commission and stated that the Department will use the same process as it has for other ranges, which includes getting a Business Plan from WMSA, talk to ADOA to make sure there are no issues there, talk to the Forest Service regarding cost and liability issues, and will then come back to the Commission with a recommendation.

Commissioner Golightly cautioned WMSA that they need to get the word out and find out if there are any issues before spending a lot of money.

The Commission was in consensus that the Department move forward with WMSA on this potential range project.

* * * * *

4. Consideration of Proposed Commission Orders 2, 5-10, and 26 for 2008-2009 Hunting Season, Commission Orders 11-18 for 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Hunting Seasons, and Commission Order 23 for the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Trapping Seasons.

Presenter: Leonard L. Ordway, Game Branch Chief

Mr. Ordway presented the Commission with the Department's recommended seasons, season dates, bag and possession limits, permit numbers, and open areas for Commission Orders 2 (deer), 5-10 (fall turkey, fall javelina, bighorn sheep, fall buffalo, fall bear, and mountain lion), and 26 (population management seasons) according to hunt guidelines approved by the Commission during August 2007 for a two-year period. The Department also recommended seasons, season dates, legal species, bag and possession limits, and open and closed areas for

Commission Orders 11-18 (tree squirrel, cottontail rabbit, predatory and furbearing mammals, other mammals and birds, pheasant, quail, chukar partridge, and blue grouse) and 23 (trapping). The hunt guidelines were approved by the Commission for a two-year period that extends through spring 2010. Consequently, no public meetings discussing the guidelines were held prior to the April 2008 Commission meeting. Each Region hosted, prior to the April Commission meeting, an open house where final recommendations were available for public review and discussion.

In early 2007, the Commission directed the Department to examine ways to increase general deer permit opportunities by 10% by fall 2009. This direction was addressed through the adoption of new hunt guidelines in August 2007. The Commission directed the Department through these hunt guideline changes to offer specific hunting opportunities.

Specifically, the Department was to allocate at least 3% of the general deer permits to juniors-only seasons. According to hunt guidelines, units with multiple deer hunts will have stratified 7-day seasons.

Statewide, white-tailed deer hunting opportunity in December will be limited to 5% of the total white-tailed deer permits, although alternative white-tailed deer units (Units 6A, 23, 30B, 31, and 36C) will be structured to harvest up to 30% of the expected take for that unit during December. Units 12A, 12B, 13A, 13B, 45A, 45B, and 45C will be managed according to the Alternative Deer Management Plan for mule deer. Archery deer seasons will be recommended for season length adjustments or permitting to attain 10-20% of the total deer harvest by archers.

Fall turkey hunts were recommended as limited-weapon-shotgun-shooting-shot seasons. Juniors-only turkey permits will be recommended as over-the-counter nonpermit tags in specific units. Archery turkey seasons have been adjusted to overlap with corresponding archery deer seasons.

All fall javelina hunts were offered during juniors-only seasons to provide for 10% of total tags (both fall and spring) for juniors hunters. Fall juniors-only javelina seasons will coincide with a juniors-only deer season.

All bear seasons have specific female harvest limits that close a season on the following Wednesday when that number of female bears have been harvested. Each unit that provides a bear hunt will also have an annual female harvest limit. If the annual female harvest limit is met, this will close any open season on the following Wednesday or any subsequent season in that unit during the current calendar year, even if the subsequent season has not yet opened. The annual female harvest limit is comprised of female bears lethally removed through Department action (e.g., nuisance) and female bears harvested by hunters.

All other small game, trapping, and big game seasons were recommended in accordance with the approved guidelines, unless specifically noted under the species-specific information provided under the corresponding Commission Order.

The Commission was provided with the final recommendations prior to this meeting for review and consideration. The Commission was also provided with a Power Point presentation at this

meeting that included charts and graphs and other data and information used in evaluating the recommendations.

Commissioner Golightly asked Mr. Ordway to explain how the Department knows how many animals are out there and how the Department evaluates what their recommendations will be.

Mr. Ordway stated that over the last 10 years, the Department has completely revamped their survey methodologies for deer and javelina and have put a lot more science into the decision making process. Surveys are done mostly by helicopter in which simultaneous double count methodology is used. Year after year you can monitor trend in the populations and you can extrapolate that data unit-wide to yield a population estimate. In an effort to get the most accurate data, the Department, over the past several years, has substantially increased the amount of money spent on survey efforts and aircraft time.

Mr. Ordway also directed the Commission to the hunting seasons documentation within the Commission Order packet for lands managed by the military (Camp Navajo and Fort Huachuca), which was provided in the certification copies to the Commission.

COMMISSION ORDER 2 – DEER

The Department recommended 41,815 general deer permits in 2008, an increase of 2,160 permits statewide from 2007. Archery deer seasons for 2008 were recommended consistent with hunt guidelines approved in August 2007. In units where archery harvest comprised <10% of the total harvest, archery deer season length was extended. Units 4A, 4B, 8, 9, and 19A will now have a January 1-16, 2009 archery deer season added to the existing season dates, adding archery opportunity when compared with previous years. Other units where archery harvest has exceeded 20% of the overall take have had permit recommendations or shortened season length: Units 1 (190 permits), 3A and 3C (150 permits), 3B (60 permits), 7 (800 permits), 12A (1,000 permits), 12B (15 permits), 12BW (75 permits), and 13A (45 permits) were recommended for limitation through the lottery draw. Unit 13B has not had an archery season but was recommended to have a 40-permit archery season. The total number of permit tags for archery seasons are 2,375. Permit levels were recommended based on expected harvest and corresponding success rates from benchmarking data from other states with similar permitted archery structures. Archers that draw a permit tag will not be required to report their harvest through the phone line, and the 10% cap on nonresident participation will apply to these draw hunts.

In specific units, archery seasons will be shortened if archery harvest exceeds 20% of the overall harvest to equitably redistribute take into other seasons. Those units that will not have a December archery season, but retain a January 1-31, 2009 season include Units 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, 17A, 20A, 22, 23, and 37A. Except Unit 37A, these units also will have an August 22-September 11, 2008 archery season. Unit 16A was recommended for an archery season expansion (in December) because the juniors-only muzzleloader season was recommended in Units 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, and 18A.

Mr. Ordway also noted for the Commission the overlap of the previously approved over-the-counter elk hunt on the Kaibab (Unit 12A) with the recommended archery deer hunt for the same area. The Department did not see this to be a major issue due to the very limited number of elk

on the Kaibab, the low expected hunter use of the area for elk, and the fact that the overlap would occur toward the later half of the over-the-counter elk hunt opportunity. Further Mr. Ordway noted that the draw permitted archery deer hunters would be able to purchase one of the over-the-counter elk tags for use if they so choose.

White-tailed deer permits were recommended for an increase of 1,095 permits. Antlered mule deer permits were recommended for an increase of 1,065. Juniors permits were recommended at 2,100 (5% of general), a 370 permit increase over 2007. This recommendation included a 600-permit antlerless deer hunt for juniors-only in Unit 12AW in response to continued high fawn production on the Kaibab Plateau. A 30-permit juniors-only muzzleloader deer season was recommended in Units 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, and 18A. The December archery deer and general deer seasons were recommended to begin on December 12, 2008. Muzzleloader permits were recommended at 1,015 permits, an increase of 85 from 2007.

A 10-permit CHAMP hunt has been offered in recent years on Fort Huachuca in Unit 35A. At the request of Fort Huachuca, that hunt will not be offered this year. The Department recommends that this 10-permit CHAMP season be offered in Unit 12A during October 10-16, 2008.

Total permits for general, muzzleloader, and juniors-only seasons is 44,990, which is an increase of 11.9% (4,795 permits) above 2006 levels.

* * * * *

Meeting recessed for a break at 10:03 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 10:37 a.m.

* * * * *

4. (Continued) Consideration of Proposed Commission Orders 2, 5-10, and 26 for 2008-2009 Hunting Season, Commission Orders 11-18 for 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Hunting Seasons, and Commission Order 23 for the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Trapping Seasons.

Presenter: Leonard L. Ordway, Game Branch Chief

Mr. Ordway noted some changes in the Commission Order packets: Unit 42 was incorrectly left off the memo, but is correctly depicted in the certification copy whereby it will have a January 1-31 archery hunt season with no December archery season; and Unit 9 was incorrectly listed as having a minus general 25 permits, although it should have a permit level of 400, which is also correctly noted in the certification copy.

Public Comment

The following members of the public addressed the Commission in opposition to the Department's recommendation on archery deer seasons, particularly in using the 20% formula in Units 15A, B, C and D, and Unit 3B because there is not a general hunt in those Units, and also in having the December season removed.

- Dick King, Arizona Bowhunters Association
- David Myrick, Desert Christian Archers

- Jon Magina, representing himself
- Gary Anderson, representing himself

Chris Denham, Arizona Deer Association (ADA), discussed the Kaibab deer study and recommendations with the Commission. The ADA supported the Department's recommendation overall, but suggested a reduction in some deer permits along with a few other recommended changes.

Walter Corn, Arizona Deer Association, Buckskin Chapter, agreed with Mr. Denham.

Bruce Johnson, representing himself, stated his support for the hunt recommendations.

Steve Chevront, representing himself, agreed with Mr. Denham in reducing the number of deer permits.

Commissioner Martin suggested that the Commission consider reducing the permit numbers in Unit 13B to 30 archery and 45 general permits. Further, Commissioner Martin suggested not changing the archery hunt structure in units that had only archery and muzzleloader seasons (Units 15A, B, C, D and 3B), excluding those units from the previously approved hunt guidelines that limit archery take to <20% of the total harvest in that unit.

Commissioner Golightly suggested an additional youth archery opportunity on the Kaibab and discussed possible dates with Mr. Ordway.

Public Comment

Dick King addressed the Commission in favor of youth hunts; however, he didn't think a 10 year old was ready to hunt big game with a bow and recommended that the Commission table this for a year and give it some more consideration.

Commissioner Golightly withdrew his suggestion.

Mr. Ordway clarified the impact of Commissioner Martin's request with other resulting changes to those units that would be affected: To go back to like it was last year with only those Units that only have muzzleloader and archery, Unit 3B would go back to an archery hunt structure with over the counter permits and season dates of August 22 to September 11, 2008; the muzzleloader permits in Unit 3B would be reduced to 80 (rather than increase by 20, we would only increase by 10); as a result of changes to the Unit 15 series, we would close the December archery opportunity in Unit 16A and reinsert the junior December muzzleloader opportunity back into Unit 16A with the 30 permit level that it traditionally had and were offering for the Unit 15 series and 18A; we would reduce the juniors October general season in Unit 16A back to 20; we would re-open the December archery in Unit 15 (season would run December 12, 2008 through January 31, 2009); we would retain the 25 permit increase for muzzleloader in Unit 15; and close Units 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, and 18A to juniors muzzleloader in December. This would constitute an amendment to the previously approved hunt guidelines.

Motion: Martin moved and Woodhouse seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE COMMISSION ORDER 2 – DEER AS PROPOSED WITH THE FOLLOWING

EXCEPTIONS: CHANGE 13B TO 30 ARCHERY TAGS AND 45 GENERAL TAGS; AND IN UNITS 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, AND 3B, RETAIN THE STATUS QUO RATHER THAN GOING TO PERMIT OR MAKE THE CHANGES AS PREVIOUSLY OUTLINED BY MR. ORDWAY.

Vote: Aye - McLean, Martin, Woodhouse, Golightly
Nay - Hernbrode
Passed 4 to 1

* * * * *

Meeting recessed for lunch at 12:36 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 1:56 p.m.

* * * * *

3. Call to the Public

The following members of the Audubon Society addressed the Commission and thanked them for their support and collaboration on projects with the Audubon Society.

- Zack Zdinak, Education Co-chair, Northern Arizona Audubon Society
- Roger Wolf, Southwest Regional Representative to Board, National Audubon Society
- Robert McCormick, President, Sonoran Audubon
- Krys Hammers, President of Arizona Audubon Council and member of the Desert Rivers Audubon Chapter
- Herb Trossman, President of Tucson Audubon Society
- Sam Campana, Executive Director of Audubon Arizona

4. (Continued) Consideration of Proposed Commission Orders 2, 5-10, and 26 for 2008-2009 Hunting Season, Commission Orders 11-18 for 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Hunting Seasons, and Commission Order 23 for the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Trapping Seasons.

Presenter: Leonard L. Ordway, Game Branch Chief

COMMISSION ORDER 5 –TURKEY

The fall limited weapon shotgun-shooting-shot turkey season was recommended to run October 3-9, 2008 with 6,100 permits, which is an increase of 230 permits over 2007. There were six units (Units 1, 6A, 8, 10, 23, and 27) recommended for juniors-only seasons where over-the-counter nonpermit tags will be offered. These seasons will run concurrently with the permitted turkey season in the unit.

Motion: Martin moved and Hernbrode seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE COMMISSION ORDER 5 – TURKEY AS PROPOSED.

Public Comment

Bruce Johnson, representing himself, supported the recommendation but asked the Commission to evaluate over the next year or two, the change to shotguns with shot only.

Vote: Unanimous

(The Commission approved motion on Commission Order 5 – Turkey was later amended toward the end of this agenda item.)

COMMISSION ORDER 6 – JAVELINA

For fall 2008, the Department recommended to offer the fall javelina seasons to juniors only during general seasons for which season dates coincide with a juniors-only deer season to accommodate Commission direction to provide at least 10% of the total javelina permits (both spring and fall) to juniors hunters. Units within Region 5 will allocate 15% of the annual permits to either an October 10-16 or a November 21-27, 2008 season. Additional units in Region 3 (Units 16A, 17B, 18B, and 20A) will also offer this juniors-only opportunity.

The Department also recommended the continuance of two juniors-only opportunities in Region 6 (Unit 39): a juniors-only archery javelina season with 15 permits during November 7-16, 2008 and a juniors-only muzzleloader season with 10 permits during November 21-27, 2008. This hunt will target the javelina population occupying the Robbins Butte Wildlife Area.

Motion: Woodhouse moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE COMMISSION ORDER 6 – JAVELINA AS PROPOSED.

Vote: Unanimous

COMMISSION ORDER 7 – BIGHORN SHEEP

Bighorn sheep permits were recommended for a total of 90, a decrease of 6 from last year. Decreased permits were recommended in Units 12A and 12B West (1 permit), 13A (2 permits), 13B North (1 permit), 15C South (2 permits), Unit 27 Foote Creek area (2 permits), 40A (1 permit; no hunt is recommended in this unit), 44B South (1 permit), and 45A (2 permits), whereas permit increases were recommended in Units 15C North (1 permit), 28 South (1 permit; new hunt recommended in this unit), 40B Mohawk area (1 permit), 41E (1 permit), 44BN (1 permit), and 45B South (1 permit). Units where recent declines have been detected or suspected, specifically 12A and 12BW, 13A, 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, 45A, 45B, and 45C, have received recent surveys and hunt recommendations are based on these data.

Public Comment

Stephanie Nichols-Young, Animal Defense League of Arizona (ADLA) addressed the Commission stating that she appreciated the decrease in total sheep tags, but believes it should be decreased even more, specifically regarding concerns of decline in Kofa and Black Mountain herds.

Motion: Golightly moved and Woodhouse seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE COMMISSION ORDER 7 – BIGHORN SHEEP AS PROPOSED.

Vote: Unanimous

COMMISSION ORDER 8 – BUFFALO

Six buffalo permits evenly distributed among three hunts were recommended for the fall season on the Raymond Wildlife Area herd. The first hunt (September 27-28, 2008) was recommended for 2 adult cow permits. The remaining two hunts (October 4-5 and October 11-12, 2008) were recommended for 2 yearling buffalo permits in each hunt.

No general fall hunts were recommended on the House Rock Wildlife Area herd because structured hunts have been ineffective in harvesting buffalo. As directed by the Commission last August, the Department recommended spring hunts with increased season length on the House Rock Wildlife Area herd at the August 2008 Commission meeting to provide maximum hunter opportunity and success.

Motion: Martin moved and Hernbrode seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE COMMISSION ORDER 8 – BUFFALO AS PROPOSED.

Vote: Unanimous

COMMISSION ORDER 9 – BEAR

During 2008, fall bear seasons will occur during August 1-21, from August 22 for up to 38 days, or October 3 through the end of the 2008 calendar year. General seasons may occur during any of these season dates and archery seasons may occur during the 38 day season beginning on August 22, 2008. This structure maintains open seasons while allowing Regions to manage female harvest and maintain sites to relocate nuisance bears if necessary. The 2008 recommendation is for a female harvest limit of 86 for general and 13 for archery season, which is an overall increase of 6 female bears from 2007.

This is the first fall season for which the annual female harvest limit will apply to fall seasons. Annual female harvest limits were established in August 2007 for the units with 2008 spring hunts. Those units that have both spring and fall hunts were considered in the spring 2008 hunt formulation. Harvest that applies to annual female harvest limits includes any take by a hunter or Department action that occurs within a calendar year. Implementation of the annual female harvest limit may result in the closure of a hunt before it opens if the annual female harvest limit is reached before the start of a season. Hunters will need to contact the Department before they go hunting to determine if a specific hunt unit is open, and notification of this need will be plainly identified within the regulations. Compliance with the mandatory physical check for bear remains high.

Mr. Ordway noted that the annual female harvest limit for Units 35A (including Fort Huachuca) and 35B were not in the initial package, but was correctly included in the certification copy before the Commission.

Public Comment

Bruce Johnson, representing himself, thanked the Commission for moving some of the general bear season back into September.

Motion: Hernbrode moved and Woodhouse seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE COMMISSION ORDER 9 – BEAR AS PROPOSED.

Vote: Unanimous

COMMISSION ORDER 10 – MOUNTAIN LION

The Department recommended that the mountain lion season be opened from September 1, 2008 to May 31, 2009 in all units except those units with a multiple bag limit. Units with multiple bag limits were recommended to remain open yearlong in accordance with the approved hunt guidelines. Compliance with the mandatory physical check for mountain lion remains high. The Department recommended no change to the units or multiple bag limit from last year's hunt structures.

Public Comment

Stephanie Nichols-Young, ADLA, addressed the Commission regarding the killing of collared mountain lions on the Kofa and stated that there is a great deal of concern about the issue. Also, there is concern about the Black Mountain and Kofa plans that call for a 70% reduction in mountain lions and the additional killing of offending lions, and concern for how these plans factor into the hunt recommendations. Ms. Nichols-Young also expressed concern with the multiple bag limit and with the take on female lions.

Motion: Woodhouse moved and Golightly seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE COMMISSION ORDER 10 – MOUNTAIN LION AS PROPOSED.

Motion to Amend: Hernbrode moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO AMEND THE MOTION AS FOLLOWS: TO RETURN ALL UNITS TO SINGLE BAG LIMITS AND ALL UNITS TO THE NINE MONTH SEASON.

Vote: Aye - Hernbrode, Martin
Nay - McLean, Woodhouse, Golightly
Failed 3 to 2

The Commission voted on the original motion as follows:

Vote: Aye - McLean, Woodhouse, Golightly
Nay - Hernbrode, Martin
Passed 3 to 2

COMMISSION ORDER 26 – POPULATION MANAGEMENT SEASONS

Population management seasons were recommended for buffalo to be available to permitted deer hunters in Unit 12A. These permits are popularly known as "companion" tags. Buffalo population management restricted nonpermit tags are recommended at 1,225 for general seasons, 50 for muzzleloader seasons, and 1,000 for archery seasons. These permits will be available only to hunters that successfully draw a deer tag in the coincidental Unit 12A deer hunt. Permit

holders for these companion tags routinely have very low hunt success. During this past year, about 8 buffalo were reportedly taken.

Chairman McLean suggested that tag holders be strongly recommended to voluntarily call in and report when they take a buffalo.

Mr. Ordway stated that the Department will make an effort to contact all hunters that purchase these tags, but successful hunters are required to contact the agency and report their harvest.

Motion: Golightly moved and Hernbrode seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE COMMISSION ORDER 26 – POPULATION MANAGEMENT SEASONS AS PROPOSED.

Vote: Unanimous

COMMISSION ORDER 11 – TREE SQUIRREL

The Department recommended that the general and archery tree squirrel season should reflect changes made to the Commission approved hunt guidelines. Those guidelines specify a closing date of December 31 for general tree squirrel, which is 5 weeks longer than the previous guidelines. For 2008, the new guidelines recommend a season of October 3 – December 31, 2008 with a daily bag of 5 squirrels per day and a 10-squirrel possession limit a year long season in Unit 31 with the same bag and possession limit as above. In Unit 33, the Department recommended a season of September 1, 2008 to May 31, 2009 to avoid possible hunter identification confusion with Arizona gray squirrels in summer, where Arizona gray and tassel-eared squirrels can occupy adjacent habitats in that unit. The Department recommended archery-only tree squirrel seasons of August 22-October 2, 2008 statewide, and an August 22-September 11, 2008 season in Units 12A and 13A. All 2009 seasons would remain the same except small adjustments to opening and closing days so that seasons open on Friday within the same week as the 2008 recommendations as reflected in the Commission Orders provided.

COMMISSION ORDER 12 – COTTONTAIL RABBIT

The Department recommended no change to the cottontail rabbit seasons for 2008-2010.

COMMISSION ORDER 13 – PREDATORY AND FUR-BEARING MAMMALS

The Department recommended no change to the predatory and fur-bearing mammal seasons for 2008-2010.

COMMISSION ORDER 14 – OTHER BIRDS AND MAMMALS

The Department recommended a change to the open areas where Gunnison's prairie dog may be hunted to exclude Units 29, 30A, 30B, 34A, 34B, 35A, and 35B for the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 hunting seasons. This recommended closure includes the area where preparation for reintroduction efforts for the black-tailed prairie dog is ongoing and the Gunnison's prairie dog is absent. The Department recommended no other change to the other birds and mammals seasons for 2008-2010.

COMMISSION ORDER 15 – PHEASANT

The Department recommended increases in pheasant permits for the 2008-2010 seasons. All pheasant hunts in Units 40B are draw hunts. Dates for the individual hunts are adjusted periodically to accommodate local agricultural practices and conditions to maximize hunter success. Four limited-weapon shotgun-shooting-shot seasons are each scheduled to increase from 30 permits each to 40 permits, which yields an overall increase of 40 permits to total 160. Juniors-only seasons remain unchanged, as do archery and falconry seasons. Dates for the hunts in 2008 and 2009 are specified in the attached Commission Orders.

COMMISSION ORDER 16 – QUAIL

The Department recommended quail seasons to reflect changes within the Commission approved hunt guidelines. Those guidelines specify that seasons start one week earlier for Gambel's and scaled quail than previous years. This results in a 2008-2009 season of October 3, 2008 to February 8, 2009. The earlier season allows some increased hunter opportunity. Seasons for Mearns' quail remain unchanged from previous years with a November 28, 2008 to February 8, 2009 season. All 2009 seasons would remain the same except small adjustments to opening and closing days so that seasons open on Friday within the same week as the 2008 recommendations as reflected in the Commission Orders provided.

COMMISSION ORDER 17 – CHUKAR PARTRIDGE

The Department recommended no change to the chukar partridge seasons for 2008-2010.

COMMISSION ORDER 18 – BLUE (DUSKY) GROUSE

The Department recommended no change to the blue (dusky) grouse seasons for 2008-2010. The Department continues to recommend Units 4A and 5A remain closed to allow grouse transplants to proceed in those units.

Public Comment

Sandy Bahr, Sierra Club – Grand Canyon Chapter, asked the Commission to consider reducing the length of the season for shooting of Gunnison prairie dogs considering all the pressures and dwindling numbers of prairie dogs. Being more conservative and giving them more time to raise their young would be more appropriate.

Commissioner Martin asked Mr. Ordway about the statement on dwindling numbers of Gunnison prairie dogs.

Mr. Ordway stated that the species populations will go up and down depending on environmental variables. Right now, in talking with nongame staff, there is no concern for population issues. They are monitoring in the regions where they exist and they have some monitoring protocols in place.

Mr. Ordway noted a correction in the recommendation. Commission Order 16, Falconry-only quail season was incorrect. The correct dates are September 1 through October 2, 2008 and September 1 through October 1, 2009.

Motion: Hernbrode moved and Golightly seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE COMMISSION ORDERS 11-18 AS PROPOSED.

Vote: Unanimous

COMMISSION ORDER 23 – TRAPPING

The Department recommended no change to the trapping seasons and continuation of the same for 2008-2010 seasons.

Motion: Hernbrode moved and Golightly seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE COMMISSION ORDER 23 AS PROPOSED.

Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Ordway noted that in Commission Order 5 - Turkey, Unit 12A was missing on the juniors-only seasons and should be included in the units open to juniors hunting.

Amended Motion: Woodhouse moved and Hernbrode seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO REOPEN COMMISSION ORDER 5 – TURKEY AND APPROVE AS PROPOSED WITH THE ADDITION OF UNIT 12A IN THE JUNIORS OPPORTUNITY THAT WAS INITIALLY OMITTED.

Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Ordway also noted for the record an incorrect date that had been listed within the initial package for the juniors-only general javelina Unit 30A, which had been incorrectly labeled as November 10 through October 16, 2008. The correct date is October 10-16, 2008, which was correctly listed within the certification copies provided to the Commission for which they voted; the correct dates will be listed in the hunt regulations.

* * * * *

4. Hunt Permit-Tag Application Schedule for Fall 2008 Hunts

Presenter: Harry Seck, Assistant Director, Special Services

Mr. Seck presented the Commission brief presentation relating to the hunt permit-tag application schedule for the fall 2008 hunting seasons (attached to these minutes). The application schedule identifies proposed acceptance dates and deadline dates for all hunts associated with the draw process. In addition, the proposed dates for when hunt permit-tags and refund warrants will be mailed are also identified, along with information relating to the first-come/first-serve process for any permits that may still be available.

Motion: Hernbrode moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION SCHEDULE FOR THE FALL 2008 HUNTS.

Vote: Unanimous

* * * * *

Meeting recessed for lunch at 13:21 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 3:52 p.m.

* * * * *

5. Director's Goals and Objectives – 2008

Presenter: Larry D. Voyles, Director

The Commission discussed with Director Voyles and gave their individual input on a list of goals and objectives for the Director to achieve during 2008. No action was taken.

Commissioner Hernbrode suggested the following as goals and objectives, but they were instead requested as action items and future agenda items:

- Explore amending Title 17, at the appropriate time for legislation, to make the waste of wildlife a revocable offense
- Explore increasing the liability for guides and outfitters if they do not report violations
- Explore the possibility and cost of making the White Water Draw into a showcase.

* * * * *

6. The Establishment and Future Direction of the Commission's Conservationist Committee

Presenter: Bob Broscheid, Assistant Director, Wildlife Management Division

At the February 2008 meeting, the Commission approved the establishment of a Conservationists Committee to increase involvement and communication among Arizona's conservation community regarding the Department's fish and wildlife management programs and identify areas of common interest to further public support for these programs. This committee may provide recommendations and advice for Commission consideration, as well as establish another forum for the Commission and the Department to communicate to the public on accomplishments or issues associated with Department programs.

Commissioner Martin stated that there was a lot of interest in participation on this committee and rather than turn people away from being on the committee, she recommended that the meetings start out as "open door" meetings, and that the Commission not select a list of committee members at this time. However, if a Commissioner wanted to encourage a particular person to attend the meetings, they could give that persons name to Deputy Director Ferrell and he would make sure they were informed and invited to the meeting.

The Commission was in consensus.

* * * * *

7. Call to the Public

There were no requests from the public to speak.

* * * * *

8. Director and Chairman's Report

Director Voyles reported that two new Regional Supervisors have been selected; Leonard Ordway for Region V and Pat Barber for Region IV. Director Voyles further reported that he participated in the following activities since the last Commission meeting:

- Shadowed Director Shroufe for the month of March
- Met with the Civil Rights Auditors (recently received their report, which was a good report)
- Participated in the weekly Natural Resources conference calls with the Governor's Office
- Attended two LPI workshops
- Attended a Governor's Cabinet meeting and a Governor's Growth Cabinet meeting
- Met with the Cattle Growers Association regarding their Forage Monitoring Manual
- Met with Mark Winkleman and Jamie Hogue with the State Land Department
- Worked closely with Terry Johnson on Mexican Wolf activities
- Attended the Recognition Event for the Salt and Gila Riparian Ecosystem Important Bird Areas in conjunction with Tres Rios
- Attended a Heritage Fund 2 Working Group meeting at the League of Arizona Cities and Towns
- Met with Margie Emmermann, Director of the Arizona Office of Tourism, and Karen Chirchard regarding their 2012 Centennial celebration plans and Department participation
- Attended the North American Natural Resources Conference; assisted Director Shroufe and chaired the afternoon session of the Pacific Flyway Council
- Attended the BASF Expo
- Met with the Nature Conservancy and representatives and agency heads from BLM, USFWS and the Department of Defense to discuss the challenges of population growth and land management
- Attended an AISAC meeting
- Attended the Nature Conservancy celebration of the acquisition of the Verde River Springs; received a plaque for the Department commemorating the event
- Met with Representative Weiers and Senator Jake Flake
- Attended the Colorado River Fish and Wildlife Council meeting in Nevada
- Attended the Audubon Ground Breaking Ceremony at Rio Salado
- Met with Lori Faeth at the Governor's Office on how they wanted to move forward on the draft final report for the Arizona Invasive Species Council report
- Participated in interviews for Regional Supervisors in Region IV and V.

Director Voyles further advised the Commission that he has been asked by AFWA representatives to lead the Law Enforcement Committee due to his extensive experience in law

enforcement, and that he is seriously considering retaining his commission as an officer and leading that committee.

Chairman McLean reported the following activities since the last Commission meeting:

- Continued to work with Department staff on legislative and budget issues
- Attended the SCI Phoenix Chapter banquet and fundraiser
- Attended the BASF Expo
- Traveled out of town on personal business
- Attended the Commission Budget Workshop
- Dealt with issues such as Tumacacori and Pajarita
- Prepared for this meeting.

* * * * *

9. Commissioner's Reports

Commissioner Golightly reported that he participated in the same activities as Chairman McLean as well as other Commission business.

Commissioner Hernbrode reported the following activities:

- Participated in Heritage Fund Workgroup in Phoenix
- Met with Sky Island Alliance working on the National Conservation Area Plan for the Chiricahua Peloncillos
- Attended the Commission Budget Workshop
- Attended the hunt regulations review in Tucson
- Met with Bruce Taubert and Joe Yarchin on watchable wildlife issues
- Attended the Malpai Borderlands agency meeting
- Chaired the HPAC meeting in Yuma
- Spent considerable time on the Tumacacori issues
- Prepared for this Commission meeting.

Commissioner Martin reported the following activities:

- Met with Legislators on a variety of bills; attended and testified at hearings on bills supported by the Commission
- Met with the Governor's Natural Resource Advisor
- Participated in a Telephonic Commission meeting along with the other Commissioners
- Met with the Animal Defense League of Arizona and provided them with information on how to address the Commission and work through the public process
- Attended the Funding Initiative Working Group meeting
- Met with Department staff regarding the Conservationist Committee
- Attended a Congressional Field Hearing regarding uranium mining near the Grand Canyon
- Attended the Commission Budget Workshop
- Attended the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the new Audubon Center
- Met with stakeholders regarding the hunt regulations
- Met with Jeff Williamson and Director Voyles regarding conservation issues.

Commissioner Woodhouse reported the following activities:

- Dealt with some personal family business this past month
- Attended the BASF Expo; handed out the Commissioner Cup Awards to young people that participated in the Sporting Clay round
- Participated in the Commission Budget Workshop
- Discussed the hunt regulations with constituents
- Prepared for this meeting

* * * * *

10. Approval of Minutes and Signing of Minutes

Motion: Woodhouse moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 21, 2008, MARCH 3, 2008, MARCH 7, 2008, MARCH 14, 2008 AND APRIL 3, 2008.

Vote: Unanimous

Following approval, the Commission signed the minutes for February 21, 2008, March 3, 2008, March 7, 2008, March 14, 2008 and April 3, 2008.

* * * * *

11. Future Agenda Items

Commissioner Hernbrode requested a report on the Southwest bald eagle at the May Commission meeting.

Deputy Director Ferrell noted the following future agenda and action items:

- Provide a written report that details the description of the provisions of the Omnibus bill
- Update the Commission on the State Trust Land Initiative at the May Commission meeting, compared to the version that the Commission supported last year
- Send a letter to Senator Grijalva's office supporting the Tumacacori Highlands Wilderness Area with the assurances and amendments provided in his letter of April 16, 2008. Express our support for Wilderness designation contingent upon access points to the boundary that was agreed to by sportsmen and the Sky Island Alliance
- Look at SB 2670 to determine if diversion language applies to the new Teaming with Wildlife funding
- The Director will meet with the BLM State Director to discuss the Big Ranch A allotment
- In regards to the border fence waiver, provide updates in the monthly Lands Update and write a letter for the Commission Chairman signature to the Congressional Delegation expressing concerns over wildlife impermeability to the border fence; send a copy to the Governor's Office
- Seek local media coverage in and around St. George, Utah to publicize the Commission's findings against Obershaw, G. Holt and S. Holt in the revocation hearings yesterday

- Marty Fabritz will provide the Commission with some potential dates for a Commission Workshop to be held this summer at Sipes; will also provide a list of topics for discussion
- Meet with representatives of the White Mountain Shooters Association and investigate feasibility of the Department's role in developing a White Mountain Shooting Range; in preparation for the potential for the Department apply for a Special Use Permit from the A Bar S to acquire a site for that range
- As appropriate, provide the Commission with updates on the Adobe Mountain relocation to the new headquarters property.

* * * * *

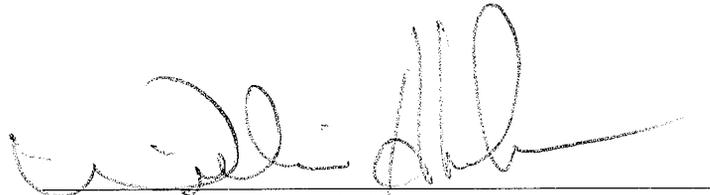
Motion: Golightly moved and Martin seconded THAT THE COMMISSION VOTE TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING.

Vote: Unanimous

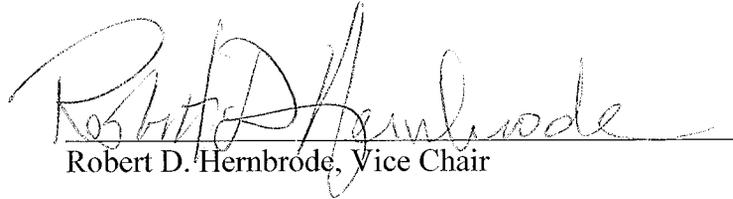
* * * * *

Meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

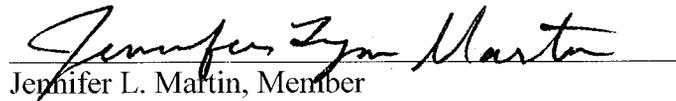
* * * * *



William H. McLean, Chair



Robert D. Hernbrode, Vice Chair



Jennifer L. Martin, Member



Robert R. Woodhouse, Member



Michael M. Golightly, Member

ATTEST:



Larry D. Voyles
Secretary and Director

Game and Fish Litigation Report
Presented at the Commission Meeting
April 18, 2008

The Assistant Attorneys General for the Arizona Game and Fish Commission and the Arizona Game and Fish Department are representing these agencies in the following matters in litigation. This report does not include claims and lawsuits for damages against these agencies in which the agencies are represented by Assistant Attorneys General in the Liability Defense Section of the Attorney General's Office.

1. *Wilderness Watch, Inc. et al. v. United States Fish and Wildlife Service et al., CV01185-MHM.* Plaintiffs filed suit on June 15, 2007, challenging the decision of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("FWS") to redevelop two water structures on the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge. The water structures provide supplemental water to wildlife populations that have suffered due to persistent drought. Plaintiffs allege that these water developments violate the National Environmental Policy Act because the FWS did not first determine the environmental impact of these projects. Plaintiffs also allege that such permanent structures are prohibited by the Wilderness Act. Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief. They are asking the court to find that the FWS violated the law and to order the FWS to remove the structures.

The Commission has voted to file an application with the court to intervene on behalf of the FWS. Any court order finding that the FWS violated federal law will impair the Commission's ability to restore the wildlife populations in the refuge and in other wilderness areas in Arizona. The Attorney General's Office anticipates that a motion to intervene will be filed by August 15th.

On August 7, 2007, the State filed its Motion to Intervene. Plaintiffs, in response to the State's motion, did not object to the State's permissive intervention, so long as the court imposes restrictions on the State's participation, such as page limits, requiring the State to file joint briefs with the other intervenors, and prohibiting the State from duplicating arguments made by the federal defendants. On August 29, 2007, the State filed a reply in support of its Motion to Intervene and opposed any restrictions on the State's intervention.

On August 20, 2007, the State also filed a response to plaintiffs' Motion for Temporary Restraining Order.

On August 30, 2007, the federal defendants filed an answer to plaintiffs First Amended Complaint.

The court has issued a scheduling order for the parties to file motions for summary judgment. The plaintiffs' motion is due December 14, 2007; the defendants' cross-motion and response is due February 1, 2008; plaintiffs' response/reply is due February 29, 2008 and defendants' reply is due March 14, 2008.

Plaintiffs have withdrawn their motion for a temporary restraining order so the status quo will remain until the court rules on the motions for summary judgment.

As for the motions to intervene filed by the State of Arizona and various conservation organizations, the court has indicated it will not likely rule on these motions prior to the time the

parties file their motions for summary judgment. The court, however, granted permission to the applicants for intervention to file motions for summary judgment. Also, the plaintiffs stated on the record that they have no objection to the State of Arizona intervening in the case.

On February 1, 2008, the State of Arizona, the Federal Defendants and Conservation Groups filed separate cross motions for summary judgment and responses to Plaintiffs' summary judgment motion.

On February 29, 2008, Plaintiffs filed a response to the cross motions for summary judgment. Defendants have until March 14, 2008, to file replies.

On March 4, 2008, the court granted the motions to intervene by the State of Arizona and the Conservation Groups.

On March 14, 2008, the State of Arizona and the other defendants filed replies to the plaintiffs' cross motion for summary judgment.

On April 2, 2008, the organization Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility ("PEER") filed a motion for leave to file an amicus curie brief in support of the plaintiffs' cross motion for summary judgment. At the same time, PEER lodged its amicus brief with the court clerk. Each defendant has filed a response opposing PEER's motion for leave. Not only is the motion untimely, the brief that PEER has lodged contains many additional factual assertions not included in the administrative record. This attempt to supplement the administrative record with new information violates the established law in this area.

(4/14/08) (JFO/SDC)

Lands Update
For the Arizona Game and Fish Commission
April 11, 2008
Phoenix, Arizona

FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Apache Sitgreaves National Forest

The Department provided written comment to the Forest on the Modified Proposed Action for the Public Motorized Travel Management Plan dated February 2008. The Department expressed support for the general prohibition against unregulated cross-country travel while reiterating the need to include allowances for motorized big game retrieval. The Department highlighted the essential role that camping provides in facilitating the public's ability to recreate within the Forest and expressed support for the preservation of adequate and well distributed camping opportunities. In addition, the Department provided numerous site specific recommendations regarding the designation of additional camping opportunities, providing additional open roads to facilitate hunter access and motorized recreation, and closing roads and areas proposed to be open to motorized cross country travel where such use would negatively impact wildlife resources.

Coronado National Forest

The Department continues to meet with the Forest regarding their travel management planning. We continue to identify roads on the Forest that are important to our constituents.

Kaibab National Forest

The Williams Ranger District has released a proposed action for the Travel Management Rule. Region II is reviewing the proposed action. A press release was issued on April 8th through the Department's E-Newsletter announcing the dates for the public meetings and asking for public input.

SB 1441 HABITAT RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT FUND

Chitty Creek Restoration

Weather permitting, the Clifton Ranger District anticipates that they will begin mobilizing for Phase II prescribed burning of the remaining project acres (approximately 6000 acres) on April 16, with work associated with SB 1441 funding completed by June.

Sheep Wash Ecosystem Restoration

Since the last Lands Update reporting period, the Clifton Ranger District has mechanically thinned an additional 450 acres and applied prescribe fire to an additional 8400 acres within the NO Bar portion of the project area. The mechanical thinning of approximately 600 acres within the NO Bar portion is now complete. In addition, the Decision Notice for the Mallet Prescribed Fire and Thinning Project was signed on March 8, 2008. The remaining thinning and burning associated with SB 1441 funding is expected to be completed by June.

Sunset Restoration

The Proposed Action for the Sunset Restoration Project has been completed and is currently out for public comment. Current projections are for completion of the final Draft Environmental Assessment by the end of May and a Decision likely by the end of June.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests

Department personnel attended the annual coordination meetings with each of the five Ranger Districts (Black Mesa, Lakeside, Springerville, Alpine and Clifton) and the Forest Supervisor's Office. Topics of discussion included hunt recommendations, Travel Management Planning, Forest Plan Revision, management of unauthorized livestock (the preferred reference to feral horses), and the Department also requested the Forest to provide timely notice/coordination with the Department regarding the potential for road closures due to continued wet road conditions that could potentially impact upcoming turkey hunts. General agency updates were also provided.

Coconino National Forest

The Peaks Ranger District of the Forest released a revised Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Jack Smith/Schultz Fuels Reduction and Forest Health Project. The Department was an active participant in the development of the original EA, and worked with the Forest to incorporate wildlife habitat concepts of a clumpy/groupy forest structure and multi-age stand management into the Proposed Action. However, even though the Department was encouraging the Forest to create more forest openings for wildlife, we did not concur with the overall amount of forest that would have been in a very open condition within the project area (approximately 70% of the forested area within an 11,000-acre project). The Department raised this concern at several Interdisciplinary Team meetings and eventually within our comment letter after the release of the original EA. The Forest did receive a formal objection to the original EA from the Center for Biological Diversity, and the Acting Forest Supervisor directed the Peaks Ranger District to address several of the issues raised in the objection. In the new EA, the Peaks Ranger District has abandoned their original Alternative 1, and has selected a 2nd Alternative that no longer creates forest openings and suggests that multi-age stand management will no longer be an objective. The Forest determined that Alternative 1 would require a site-specific amendment to the Forest Plan to allow for more openings than are currently allowed within the Northern Goshawk Guidelines; the Department would have supported this action provided overall forest canopy cover remained 40% or higher. The Department is disappointed with the abandonment of Alternative 1, but will continue to work with Peaks District personnel within Alternative 2 to create the heterogeneous forest structure we have been working so hard to achieve. The Department will be submitting a final comment letter on the revised EA in early April.

The Forest has released a proposed action for the Fossil Creek Allotment Management Plan. Region II is reviewing the document and preparing a comment letter. Fossil creek includes important habitat along the Mogollon Rim and it has been difficult to find consensus on management questions. Fossil Creek is one of the first allotment management plans to be prepared under new rules which rely on adaptive management and monitoring to determine management with very loose guidance from the planning.

Region II met with the Coconino National Forest for the yearly coordination meeting. Topics of discussion included the Travel Management Rule, Progress on Forest Plan Revision, Project prioritization, West Fork of Oak Creek native fish project, Fuels Reduction projects, Fossil Creek fishing regulations, Fossil Creek recreation management, and Area Conservation Priority Map.

Coronado National Forest

The Forest announced its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to document and publicly disclose the environmental effects of proposed construction and operation of an open-pit mine in the Santa Rita Mountains. The proposed mining project would be located on 995 acres of private land and 3670 acres of National Forest System lands. The Forest hosted several public meetings in the area. Due to public concerns about the lack of public involvement, several additional public meetings are being scheduled. The Draft EIS is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency in March 2009. The Department has voiced concerns about the projects impacts to wildlife and wildlife habitat.

The Department participated in a Forest Line Officer Briefing regarding the Pinaleño Ecosystem Restoration Project. The presentation included the proposed action, alternatives, issues and a timeline. The Draft EIS will be ready for internal forest review soon, after which it will go out for public review. The Forest has worked closely with the Department to develop this proposal that will address both the forest health needs and the sensitive wildlife needs. A major objective of the project is to protect the habitat of the Mount Graham red squirrel.

Kaibab National Forest

Region II has been involved in planning meetings on the McCracken and Bracken fuels projects and on the Buckhorn and Walker Basin Allotment Management Plans. These projects are proceeding toward developing a proposed action.

A field trip was held to review and plan pronghorn habitat treatments and grassland restoration projects on the Ida planning area in the northeast corner of the Kaibab. The Ida Planning Area is one of several areas identified in grassland restoration planning by the Williams Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest where pinyon and juniper invasion can be removed to restore grasslands.

A meeting was held with the Forest and cooperators to discuss progress on North Kaibab Westside habitat projects and related research.

Tonto National Forest

Heber-Reno Driveway: The Forest has sent out a NEPA scoping letter asking for comments on the driveway, which are due April 20th. The proposed action does not look much different than the present situation. However, the Department sponsored a cooperative disease risk assessment workshop on the driveway, which recommended a number of ways to mitigate the risk of disease transmission between these domestic sheep and our bighorn sheep in the vicinity. None of these mitigation strategies were specifically mentioned in the scoping document, however they could be included in the Annual Operating Instructions.

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM)

Arizona Strip Field Office

The Department continues to coordinate closely with the Field Office (FO) in development of implementation-level plans, including Travel Management Plans and associated route networks.

Region II met with the AZ Strip District for the annual coordination meeting. Topics discussed included cooperative agreement for coop water projects, status of signage for water developments, escape ramps for waters, Red Pond Waterlot fences, turkey augmentation, 13B Northern Leopard Frog reintroduction on Paria, feral pigs on Black Rock/Mud Mountain concerns and solutions, status of wildlife water developments, game management updates, Bighorn Sheep issues, Mule Deer management plan, and update on uranium and wind power.

Havasu Field Office

The Lake Havasu Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan were released on July 9, 2007. The Department continues to coordinate closely with the Field Office in the development of subsequent implementation-level plans, including Travel Management Plans and associated route designations.

Hassayampa Field Office

The Hassayampa Field Office is developing a comprehensive Travel Management Plan for Central Arizona public lands, and is seeking public input to help determine where to provide connectivity for increased recreational value while minimizing impacts to the land and other resources. The Department provided input during public meetings regarding road and trail designations in the Bumble Bee, Table Mesa, Lake Pleasant, and San Domingo Wash areas and will continue to participate throughout the route designation process.

Lower Sonoran Field Office

The BLM is preparing a preliminary preferred alternative draft Resource Management Plan to be released for public review. The Department continues to participate in cooperative meetings and proactively develop comments throughout the planning process.

The BLM is entertaining a proposal for development of a potentially high use Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) area in the Buckeye Hills adjacent to Robbins Butte Wildlife Area and the other lower Gila River Wildlife Areas. At the same time, we have been having ongoing discussions and correspondence regarding an R&PP act lease or Cooperative Management Plan for the area. Buckeye Parks and Maricopa County Parks have approached the BLM to designate the Buckeye Hills west of SR 85 as an OHV area using the County's Buckeye Hills Recreation Area as a staging area for vehicles. In spite of the current low level of OHV use in this area, they have identified this area because it is outside of the county's PM-10 dust regulation area, and they want to direct people with quads to someplace besides their own parks. The next meeting on this proposal is April 15th.

Kingman Field Office

Region III personnel, the BLM land manager responsible for the Warm Springs Wilderness Area, and other interested parties visited the Tippery Catchment on March 10th. All parties were in support of proposed redevelopment, but questions remained about the “necessity” of helicopter flights into a Wilderness Area, to facilitate the delivery of materials and volunteers to the site. BLM will review comments received during the site-visit and will coordinate a follow-up meeting for interested parties at a yet unknown future date.

Regional personnel spent two days on Big Ranch A for “Utilization-Monitoring” with individuals from the BLM Kingman Office, Big Ranch, Mohave Cattle Growers, and Mardian Ranch. They inspected several ‘Key Sites’ and visited North Senator Mountain to discuss tortoise concerns for the area. Tortoise concerns are evolving due to efforts by the rancher to establish a new water near Senator Mountain.

Yuma Field Office

The Yuma Final Resource Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) will be released to the public this month. The Department is currently working with BLM on development of the La Posa Travel Management Plan.

Safford Field Office

The Department assisted the Safford Field Office in completing the Decision Tree Evaluation for roads in the Gila Box National Riparian Conservation Area. The evaluation of the road plan for the remainder of the Safford District will be completed at a later date.

Tucson Field Office

The Tucson Field Office is currently developing a preferred alternative for the Middle Gila Canyons Transportation Plan in Game Management Unit 37B near Florence Junction. The Department and the public have provided extensive input on this plan. The BLM expects the plan to be available this summer. The final draft Environmental Assessment is currently being reviewed internally by BLM Staff.

The Tucson Field Office is actively pursuing the terms of their 1997 Conservation Easement that allows non-motorized public access across the San Pedro River at Dudleyville. Pinal County believes that motorized access is allowed there and has condemned the access right-of-way, thus the route across the river is now open to vehicles. The Department has not taken a position on vehicle access across the river, but has worked for many years to combat illegal OHV trespass into the river bottom. Illegal OHV use is the main reason the landowner desires closure to vehicles since enforcement has not solved the problem. It is unclear what effect enforcement of the easement will have on access along the Camino Rio to the south. This road provides access to the east side of the San Pedro between Dudleyville and Mammoth. The nearest access to the Camino Rio south of Dudleyville is at the Triangle Bar Ranch eight miles to the south.

BLM NATIONAL MONUMENTS

Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument / Vermillion Cliffs National Monument

The proposed final RMP/EIS was released on March 2, 2007 for the Arizona Strip planning area including the Grand Canyon-Parashant and Vermillion Cliffs National Monuments. The proposed final plan includes a series of unique route networks and designations.

Agua Fria National Monument

The draft RMP/EIS public review period ended on April 5, 2006 and the proposed final plan is expected to be released early 2008. The Department will be working closely with BLM to address submitted comments pertaining to wildlife and wildlife management.

Sonoran Desert National Monument (SDNM)

The BLM is preparing a preliminary preferred alternative draft Resource Management Plan in association with the Lower Sonoran management area to be released for public review. The Department continues to participate in cooperative meetings and proactively develop comments throughout the planning process.

BLM is planning on closing approximately the northern third of the SDNM to all vehicle entry early this year due to environmental damage caused by OHV use. The area to be closed is north of State Route 238 and the closure is expected to be in effect for 2-3 years. The Department will continue to work with BLM to regain vehicular access for wildlife-related recreation, including hunting, as expeditiously as possible.

Ironwood Forest National Monument (IFNM)

The Department remains engaged at both the Field Office and State Office levels to ensure consistency in regards to wildlife, wildlife management, and recreational opportunity. BLM is currently analyzing comments for incorporation into the Proposed RMP and Final Environmental Impact Statement.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge

The final Comprehensive Conservation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for the Refuge has been released and we are awaiting a Record of Decision.

Kofa National Wildlife Refuge

The Department continues to work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to plan, fund, and implement actions to aid recovery of the bighorn sheep population on the Kofa NWR. The lion that was collared in October became an "offending lion" (killed 2+ bighorn sheep within 6 months) in February. The lion left the refuge on March 28th and was removed by Department personnel on March 29th. At the time of removal, 5 mule deer and 4 bighorn sheep had been confirmed as being killed by this lion. Efforts to collar additional lions on Kofa are ongoing. More complete information on the management of bighorn sheep, lions, and water on the Kofa NWR can be found on the Department's web site. This web site is updated monthly.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD)

Flagstaff Naval Observatory & Camp Navajo

The Department continues to collaboratively work on DOD Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans (INRMPs) with both the Naval Observatory Flagstaff Station (NOFS) and the Army National Guard at Camp Navajo. The NOFS INRMP is nearing completion, and the Department has submitted final comments on the draft plan to the Navy. The Camp Navajo INRMP is in an earlier phase of planning, and Department is currently reviewing this plan.

Yuma Proving Ground

The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) is considering expanding up to 500,000 acres into Game Management Unit 41 through a withdrawal of BLM land. YPG is currently evaluating the possible expansion internally and has not developed or presented a formal proposal or application to further define the purpose, need, location, and details of the proposed expansion. The Department will be actively involved in this process and will provide the Commission with more information as it becomes available.

GENERAL UPDATES

ADOT

Phoenix/Tucson I-10 Bypass

The Department attended the State Transportation Board (Board) meeting held Friday, March 21, 2008 in Tucson, AZ. Public input was focused on the Tucson portion of the bypass and was overwhelmingly negative. Staff reiterated the Commission's opposition to all of the proposed routes to the bypass. The Board voted to proceed with the study with the stipulation that the routes paralleling the San Pedro River (proposed routes K1 and K2) be dropped from consideration. Both of the remaining routes will have negative impacts on wildlife. Route 1, will travel up the Sulphur Springs Valley from Willcox to the Aravaipa Valley and cross the northern end of the Galiuro Mountains near Four-Mile Canyon over to the San Pedro Valley just South of the Aravaipa Confluence and west to I-10. Route 4, also still under consideration, will depart the existing I-10 east of Tucson near the Hwy 83 junction and continue along the existing Sahuarita Road alignment, south of the San Xavier Reservation and northward through Avra Valley between Ironwood Forest National Monument and Saguaro National Park. There was also concern expressed by one Board member about the expense of the current study. A report on the current expenses associated with this project is to be prepared prior to the next Board meeting.

Arizona State Land Department (ASLD)

The Arizona State Land Department recently completed a study of urban trust lands located north of Oro Valley and south of the Pinal County line in Pima County. This area is identified as the Arroyo Grande area. The ASLD, for the first time, has incorporated an open space component in the plan. Oro Valley is considering annexing the entire parcel. If Oro Valley annexes, Pima County's Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan would no longer apply to the area. This area is between the Santa Catalina and Tortolita Mountains and contains a significant wildlife linkage between the two. The Department has met with ASLD and informed them of our concerns relative to wildlife habitat connectivity and public access in the Arroyo Grande area.

Border Fence Waiver

In a news brief, dated April 1, 2008, from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) it was announced that two new waivers will be issued in order to expedite the security improvements along the southwest border of the United States. One waiver encompassing roughly 470 miles in California, New Mexico, Arizona, and Texas applies to certain environmental and land management laws. The other waiver pertains to the levee-border barrier project in Hidalgo County, Texas. Environmental restrictions were waived on three previous occasions, Sept. 13, 2005 for roughly 14 miles near San Diego, Jan 12, 2007 for a section near Barry M. Goldwater Range in Arizona, and Oct 26, 2007 for an area near San Pedro National Riparian Conservation Area in Arizona. On April 8, 2008 an article in the *E&E Daily* announced that the Supreme Court has been asked to review the border fence as to whether the administration overstepped its constitutional bounds in waiving more than 30 laws to speed construction. The request came from Homeland Security Chairman Bennie Thompson and 13 other members of Congress.

bqAZ – Statewide Transportation Planning Framework

The Arizona State Transportation Board has recently allocated resources for a statewide collaborative transportation planning process called “Building a Quality Arizona, or bqAZ” to quantify transportation needs statewide and to identify the full range of options to address those needs. The long-range focus of the studies will identify the State’s transportation needs in the 2030-2050 timeframe. The State is broken up into four Regional Planning Framework Studies: Western Arizona, Northern Arizona, Central Arizona, and Eastern Arizona. These Regional Frameworks are then broken down into Focus Areas. The Regional Framework planning efforts will also be integrated with 1) the adopted Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) & Pima Association of Governments (PAG) Regional Transportation Plans, and 2) the I-10 Hassayampa Valley & I-8/I-10 Hidden Valley Transportation Plans currently under development. The project website is www.bqaz.org.

Region I attended the March 24th environmental focus group conducted in Show Low. Identified issues included, the importance of north south habitat connectivity for seasonal wildlife movements, incorporating permeability for wildlife into any new or re-designed highways, utilizing fencing to help define and control wildlife crossing movements to appropriate underpasses, and appropriate fencing designs to allow wildlife (pronghorn) permeability in certain critical grassland areas. Several Department planning processes, including Areas of Conservation Priority and the Statewide Wildlife Linkages, were mentioned as potential data sources to identify critical wildlife habitats and areas for wildlife connectivity that will be critical to consider when developing any future transportation systems statewide.

Region II attended the focus group conducted in Flagstaff, the Department stressed the need for better coordination to integrate the Arizona Wildlife Linkages Assessment into the bqAZ process, and for the Areas of Conservation Priority tool. The Department continues to advocate for a seat to participate in the centralized policy committees that are working on bqAZ out of Phoenix. ADOT has not yet to respond to this request. In the meantime, the Regions will continue to strive for a consistent and thorough message about wildlife habitat connectivity as it relates to transportation planning.

Region III personnel attended the preliminary stakeholders meeting for the bqAZ Statewide ADOT planning framework for the “Western Region” in Kingman on Thursday, March 27th. Participants included senior ADOT planners, BLM Land Managers, representation from Hualapai Tribe, and senior consultants from Parsons Brinkerhoff and DMJM Harris who are contracting with ADOT for this planning initiative. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss anticipated population growth and development in Western Arizona Also the expected highway development that will take place over the next 30-40 years to service the transportation needs of the public, while taking into consideration the wildlife and habitat needs that must be incorporated into such planning in the earliest stages possible.

City of Coolidge Annexation

The Department met with City of Coolidge officials to develop an agreement to allow hunting within the city limits in undeveloped areas. The City was very cooperative and we are working to execute this agreement before the fall hunting seasons. It will be based on, and similar to, the agreement the Department made with the Town of Buckeye.

City of Flagstaff

The City of Flagstaff is gearing up for a revision to their Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan in 2008. The transportation component of this plan has already begun, and the Department will be participating in a Stakeholders meeting with the Flagstaff Metropolitan Planning Organization in early April. Habitat connectivity and wildlife linkages will be the Department’s recommendation at this meeting. The Department plans to work with the City of Flagstaff to integrate similar concepts in the Land Use component of the plan, which is expected to kick off summer 2008.

Coconino County

The Department recently participated in a Coconino County Board of Supervisors work session to prioritize the two-year work plan for their Community Development Department. The top work priorities related to wildlife and their habitats were: 1) developing alternative energy ordinances to facilitate industry-scale wind, solar, and forest biomass energy production, and 2) developing environmentally-sensitive land ordinances to protect natural features such as slopes, meadows, wetlands, and wildlife movement corridors. Coconino County solicited input from the Department, and we both agreed to continue to work together in the development and analysis of these ordinances.

Easter Arizona Cattle Growers Association

Department personnel attended the Eastern Arizona Cattle Growers Association meeting in Morenci on March 7, 2008. This was a combined meeting and included the Eagle Creek and Blue River Watershed Associations. These last two groups have combined their membership and function as one watershed association. Department personnel provided a brief update of Department personnel changes and budget requests made by the region for future habitat improvement work.

Flagstaff Multi-Agency Partnership

The Department continues to develop a multi-agency partnership with Camp Navajo, Naval Observatory Flagstaff Station, Coconino County, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Natural Resource Conservation Service, and Arizona State Land Department to work cooperatively on land conservation issues west of Flagstaff. Land protection in west Flagstaff would benefit all partners by preventing wildlife habitat loss to urban development, maintaining hunter access, preventing public complaints against military training activities, protecting dark skies for the Naval Observatory, and fulfilling Coconino County's open space planning objectives.

Acquisition of Rogers Lake from the State Trust represents the first phase of the Flagstaff Multi-Agency Partnership. Rogers Lake is one of the largest ephemeral wetlands in northern Arizona, receives significant migratory bird use, and is part of a critical wildlife movement corridor from the San Francisco Peaks to the Mogollon Rim. Coconino County is the lead agency on the Rogers Lake project, and recently submitted an Arizona Preserve Initiative application to the Arizona State Land Department to re-classify Rogers Lake for conservation purposes. If approved, the API application grants Coconino County eligibility for Growing Smarter funding that can match funds raised by the Multi-Agency Partners. At the same time, Camp Navajo recently submitted an Army Compatible Use Buffer application to the National Guard Bureau requesting funds to contribute to the county's purchase of Rogers Lake. The Department is exploring ways to be a contributing partner. If Coconino County acquires this property, they have agreed to develop a joint management agreement with the Department whereby the county would manage public recreation access and the Department would manage the wildlife and their habitats.

Gould's Turkey

The Gould's turkey capture/translocation project conducted in the Huachuca Mountains during March 2008 was a success, with a total of 50 turkeys captured over a period of nearly 3 weeks. From this total, 10 gobblers and 15 hens were released into the Catalina Mountains (Rose Canyon Lake), with the remaining 10 gobblers and 15 hens released into the Santa Rita Mountains (Josephine Canyon). An average of 12 volunteers, consisting of Department personnel, landowners, and interested folks, braved the cold early morning temperatures during each of the capture attempts. The annual Huachuca Mountain Gould Turkey survey will be held on April 12-13, with camp setup on April 11th. Other turkey surveys are scheduled in the Catalinas, Chiricahuas, and Pinaleños.

Hopi

Personnel from Regions I and II attended a coordination meeting with the Hopi. Topics of discussions included results of surveys and plans for this year's hunts, joint habitat projects, cross-program training opportunities, AZGFD Year in Review DVD, North American Model DVD, Law Enforcement cooperation, Hopi cultural sensitivity training for other regions, Trapping licenses/permits, and adding Hopi to vendor list for AGFD hunting applications/regulations.

Maricopa County Ordinances P-28 and P-27

Arizona Game and Fish Department Personnel continue to work with Maricopa County Division of Air Quality, Sheriff's Office, County Parks, Arizona State Parks, Arizona State Land Department, the US Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management on implementation of the recently enacted P-28 and P-27 Ordinances. These strict liability ordinances are designed to address dust abatement issues in unincorporated Maricopa County by making operation or parking of vehicles on lands other than roads (as defined in ordinance) unlawful. The Maricopa County Division of Air Quality has indicated that in May they will initiate drafting an enforcement policy for the implementation of the Ordinances to exempt those lawfully engaged in hunting and fishing, but they have not committed to a deadline for completion. The Department will continue to actively seek opportunities to provide input in the policy process with hunter and angler access as a priority and stress the urgency in completing the policy prior to August of 2008. The Department has also been informed by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office that they have initiated enforcement efforts at the Hassayampa River and Interstate 10 area by issuing warnings to OHV operators. The Department is assessing the potential impact of this ordinance in relation to hunting and angling access. Of particular interest is access for small game, migratory bird and big game hunting opportunities.

Maricopa County Planning & Development

The Region recently met with Maricopa County Planning and Development to develop wording for their General Plan update that gives guidance regarding preservation of wildlife and habitat. Verbiage was developed regarding connectivity, a "Wildlife-Friendly" Certification program, and open space preservation methods.

Malpai Habitat Conservation Plan

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is working on compliance documentation for the Malpai Habitat Conservation Plan. The FWS expects a permitting decision this summer.

McCracken Peak Mine

Region III Habitat personnel conducted a site-visit on April 3 at McCracken Peak Mine, to inspect progress on the installation of 11 Bat Gates/ Cupolas that were prescribed in a Landowner Incentive Project recently initiated with Teck Cominco Mine. Progress is ahead of schedule and completion of the project is anticipated in the next few weeks. Soon after completion, Regional III personnel will be conducting exit surveys of bats - to determine the extent to which bats are utilizing the new structures.

Peloncillo Coordinated Management Proposal

The Department met with the Sky Island Alliance about a future proposal for some higher level of protection for lands in the San Bernardino Valley, Peloncillo Mountains, and Animas Mountains of New Mexico. Sky Islands Alliance has been working with the private landowners of the Malpai Borderlands Group on this proposal. They are discussing ideas such as legislation that would create coordinated management and an area of greater protection. The majority of the private landowners in the area are interested in preserving the open space character of this area.

Picture Canyon

The Department attended a public meeting regarding a Highway 89 re-alignment project near Picture Canyon in eastern Flagstaff. This is a joint planning project between Coconino County Public Works, the Flagstaff Metropolitan Planning Organization (FMPO), and ADOT and is in the pre-planning concept phase. The Department has been working with the county, and other stakeholders, on conservation of Picture Canyon to protect wildlife habitat connectivity and provide Watchable Wildlife access to the public. Re-alignment of a highway through this area would diminish those conservation values, and the Department will continue to work with the Board of Supervisors, the FMPO, and ADOT on this project.

Pumphouse Greenway

Coconino County continues to work with the US Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Department to enroll Pumphouse Greenway in the national Wetland Reserve Program. Enrollment of the Pumphouse Greenway wetlands has been approved, and we are awaiting final approval and payment from the NRCS Washington D.C. office. The county has also enlisted the Department's participation in a joint agreement with an adjacent private landowner to develop a Watchable Wildlife site on his land. This joint agreement will also include the eventual sale or donation of those lands to the county to expand the Pumphouse Greenway area by an additional 10 acres, including the source springs for the wetlands

Transportation

State Route 260 Widening Heber to Show Low

In January of 2008, Department personnel attended an initial planning meeting in Show Low that was sponsored by the consulting firm PB Americas. This firm has been selected by ADOT to prepare a Location/Design Concept Report (L/DCR) and environmental studies for the realignment and/or redesign of State Route 260 from Heber to Show Low. There is currently no funding available to begin this proposed highway work. Major issues identified for consideration in this planning process include wildlife permeability across the new highway design, reducing wildlife-vehicle collisions, access management and control to adjacent private lands, and traffic accidents in certain portions of the route. Subsequent to the January meeting, Department personnel reviewed the site and identified several potential existing culvert and bridge structures that could be improved or incorporated into the new highway design which would allow for deer and elk crossing under the highway to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and allow for wildlife permeability. The Department will be coordinating with the consulting firm to incorporate these designs into the planning process for consideration.

I-17 SR179 to I-40 Project

The Department has been diligently working with ADOT to incorporate wildlife habitat connectivity objectives and specific recommendations into the I-17 SR179 to I-40 Project. Meetings specifically related to wildlife crossings have been held in the field between ADOT and the Department. Formal letters have also been submitted with recommendations for wildlife movement research, vehicle accident analyses, specific crossing locations, and crossing design recommendations. Project planning is in the design phase.

LHC SR 95 realignment corridor

Region III Habitat personnel attended the ADOT/ BLM Technical Advisory Committee meeting that took place at the Kingman BLM office on March 11th. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Lake Havasu and Bullhead City SR 95 realignments that are currently being studied and planned. This was followed by a day-long field assessment in the proposed LHC SR 95 realignment corridor, to identify possible and probable impacts to wildlife and their habitat. The site visit was carried out in conjunction with the BLM field office in Lake Havasu City. Regional observations and concerns relating to the proposed realignment were included in a letter to ADOT and EcoPlan Associates.

Region V

The Department has attended regional meetings with ADOT regarding their Statewide Transportation Planning Network. The Department is stressing the importance of working with AGFD early in the planning process, the ability of our research branch to study wildlife crossings and structure design, the Department's Areas of Conservation Priority tool which should help ADOT in planning for wildlife, the Arizona Wildlife Linkages assessments, and the need for under-crossings, over-crossings, and fencing to direct wildlife to the crossing structures.

Uranium Mining Potential near Grand Canyon National Park

The Commission has sent a letter to the Arizona Congressional Delegation (Delegation) opposing uranium development in the proximity of Grand Canyon National Park. The Commission has also requested that the Delegation initiate the permanent withdrawal of mining, mineral exploration, and mineral entry from federal lands in the Tusayan Ranger District, Kaibab National Forest, and federal lands in the Kanab Creek Drainage & House Rock Valley managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

Wind Energy

In addition to continuing work on Arizona's Wind-Energy Guidelines, Department personnel attended a Wind Working Group Meeting in Kingman, whose strategic plan is to provide a framework for guiding the development of commercial or utility-scale wind power projects, and the small wind industry, in accord with the stated mission and goals of the group. Their plan also addresses the needs, issues, and barriers to the development of wind energy in Arizona. They believe that before wind energy development takes place, these barriers--both real and perceived must be overcome.

RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

7TH DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public
Lands, Chair
Subcommittee on Insular Affairs

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR
Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities
Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary
and Secondary Education

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
Subcommittee on Finance and Tax
Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0307

April 16, 2008

1440 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2435
Fax: (202) 225-1541

District Offices
810 E 22nd Street, Suite 102
Tucson, AZ 85713
Phone: (520) 622-6788
Fax: (520) 622-0198

1455 S Fourth Avenue, Suite 4
Yuma, AZ 85364
Phone: (928) 343-7933
Fax: (928) 343-7049

www.grijalva.house.gov

William H. McLean
Chairman
Arizona Game and Fish Commission
2222 W Greenway Rd
Phoenix, AZ 85023

Dear Chairman McLean and Commissioners:

Thank you for this opportunity to work with you and the Arizona Game and Fish Commission for the benefit of Arizona outdoorsmen and protection of our treasured Tumacacori Highlands. Together we have forged a new positive working relationship that will benefit our mutual interests for years to come.

With regard to our efforts to specifically address concerns that your Commission had with our Tumacacori Highlands Wilderness proposal, I want to take a moment to congratulate you, Commissioner Hernbrode, and Commission staff for everyone's openness and willingness to work with my office to bring forth mutually agreeable language. I also would like to acknowledge the Commission's valuable role and mission as game managers of the proposed wilderness area. To this end I am proud to say our cooperative efforts have resulted in creation of management language that achieves our mutual goals.

During a future mark up of the bill, H.R. 3287, I will be offering an amendment in the nature of a substitute that will include the following agreed-upon language under section 4. F.

Proposed Amendments: under the following sections

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT- The Secretary shall enter into a cooperative agreement with the State of Arizona for management of fish and wildlife within the designated wilderness areas. The cooperative agreement shall specify the terms and conditions under which the State (including a designee of the State) may use wildlife management activities in the wilderness areas designated by this title consistent with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), and other applicable laws.

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES- Management activities to maintain or restore fish and wildlife populations and the habitats to support such populations may be carried out within wilderness areas designated by this title where consistent with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), and other applicable laws.

As agreed to by my office and the commission's working group; if the full commission chooses to endorse in writing our negotiated cooperative agreement and management language as presented in this letter, and thusly the underlying bill with these amendments, I will submit the two above amendments as part of an amendment in the nature of the substitute at markup before the Committee on Natural Resources.

I am grateful that you have scheduled this action item for your upcoming commission meeting this Friday April 19, 2008.

Best regards,

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

Hunt Permit-tag Application Schedule – Fall 2008

Hunt permit-tag applications will be accepted and processed in accordance with R12-4-104 and R12-4-114 and this schedule.

Drawing					
	ACCEPTANCE DATES¹	CORRECTION PERIOD²	DEADLINE DATES³		
HUNT	Applications accepted on or after:	Deadline 5 p.m. (MST) in Department offices	Deadline 7 p.m. (MST) in Department offices on:	Hunt permit-tags mailed out by (Archery Deer Tags will be mailed earlier):	Refund warrants mailed out by:
Deer	(See notes 1, 2, 3)	May 29, 2008	June 10, 2008	Aug. 22, 2008	Sept. 5, 2008
Turkey	(See notes 1, 2, 3)	May 29, 2008	June 10, 2008	Aug. 22, 2008	Sept. 5, 2008
Javelina	(See notes 1, 2, 3)	May 29, 2008	June 10, 2008	Aug. 22, 2008	Sept. 5, 2008
Bighorn Sheep	(See notes 1, 2, 3)	May 29, 2008	June 10, 2008	Aug. 22, 2008	Sept. 5, 2008
Buffalo	(See notes 1, 2, 3)	May 29, 2008	June 10, 2008	Aug. 22, 2008	Sept. 5, 2008
Sandhill Crane	Aug. 4, 2008 ⁴	N/A	Sept. 2, 2008 ⁴	Sept. 22, 2008	N/A
Pheasant	July 7, 2008 ⁴	N/A	July 22, 2008 ⁴	Aug. 8, 2008	N/A
Raptor	Jan. 5, 2009 ⁴	N/A	Feb. 3, 2009 ⁴	Feb. 23, 2009	N/A

First Come	
	Applications accepted by mail only on or after 8:00 a.m. (MST):
HUNT	ACCEPTANCE DATES
Deer	Aug. 11, 2008 ^{5, 6}
Turkey	Aug. 11, 2008 ⁵
Javelina	Aug. 11, 2008 ⁵
Bighorn Sheep	Aug. 11, 2008 ⁵
Buffalo	Aug. 11, 2008 ⁵
Sandhill Crane	Sept. 22, 2008 ⁴
Pheasant	Aug. 4, 2008 ⁴
Raptor	March 2, 2009 ⁴

Notes:

- The Department will accept Hunt Permit-tag Applications for big game listed above as soon as the applicable year hunt information is available on the Department's Web site (www.azgfd.gov), or from any Game and Fish Department office or license dealer, unless otherwise noted in the Hunt Permit-tag Application schedule.
- If a paper Hunt Permit-tag Application that is submitted contains an

error and is received by May 29, 2008, the Department will make three attempts within a 24-hour period to notify the applicant by telephone (if a phone number is provided).

- Department offices at Flagstaff, Kingman, Mesa, Phoenix, Pinetop, Tucson and Yuma will close for business at 5:00 p.m. (MST); completed applications will be accepted at these locations until 7:00 p.m. (MST) on deadline days. No applications will be accepted after this time regardless of the postmark. Deadline dates may be extended in the event of a Department related system failure.
- Sandhill Crane, Pheasant and Raptor applications are accepted by mail at the following addresses: P.O. Box 52002, Phoenix, AZ 85072-2002; or at 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000. These applications may not be hand delivered to any Department office.
- First come permits are issued if available and will sell very quickly. Applicants are advised to check with the Department before submitting an application for leftover permits. A listing of leftover permits is available by telephone at (623) 236-7702, or online at www.azgfd.gov.
- Applications for first come permits, if available for hunts on Camp Navajo or Fort Huachuca, must be submitted by U.S. mail only to, P.O. Box 52002, Phoenix, AZ 85072-2002.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 2: Deer

General Deer

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits	
	Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2008		1	Any antlered deer	260	60
	Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008		2A, 2B, and 2C	Any antlered deer	80	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008		3A and 3C	Any antlered deer	300	100
	Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008		4A and 4B	Any antlered deer	150	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008	(19,21)	5A and 5B	Any antlered deer	400	-50
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(19)	6A	Antlered mule deer	400	75
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(1,19)	6B (except Camp Navajo)	Antlered mule deer	275	25
	Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008	(19)	7	Any antlered deer	800	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(19)	8	Antlered mule deer	600	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008	(19)	9	Any antlered deer	375	-25
	Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2008		10	Any antlered deer	725	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008	(2,3,17)	12A East (NORTH KAIBAB HABITAT MANAGEMENT STAMP REQUIRED)	Any antlered deer	150	-25
	Nov 21 - Nov 30, 2008	(2,3,17)	12A East (NORTH KAIBAB HABITAT MANAGEMENT STAMP REQUIRED)	Any antlered deer	50	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008	(2,4,17)	12A West (NORTH KAIBAB HABITAT MANAGEMENT STAMP REQUIRED)	Any antlered deer	850	200
	Nov 21 - Nov 30, 2008	(2,4,17)	12A West (NORTH KAIBAB HABITAT MANAGEMENT STAMP REQUIRED)	Any antlered deer	175	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008	(13)	12B	Any antlered deer	25	0
	Nov 21 - Nov 30, 2008	(13)	12B	Any antlered deer	75	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008	(5,13)	12B West	Any antlered deer	175	0
	Nov 14 - Nov 23, 2008	(13)	13A	Any antlered deer	45	-10
	Nov 7 - Nov 16, 2008	(13)	13B	Any antlered deer	65	-20
	Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2008	(6)	16A (except Mohave County Park lands)	Any antlered deer	650	0
	Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2008		17A	Any antlered deer	350	-25
	Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2008		17B	Any antlered deer	400	0
	Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2008		18A	Any antlered deer	600	0
	Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2008		18B	Any antlered deer	650	50
	Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2008		19A	Any antlered deer	450	0
	Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2008		19B	Any antlered deer	300	50
	Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2008		20A	Any antlered deer	700	100
	Nov 14 - Nov 23, 2008		20B	Any antlered deer	350	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008		20C	Any antlered deer	300	-50
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008		20C	Any antlered deer	250	50
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(13)	21	Antlered mule deer	450	0
	Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2008	(23)	22	Antlered mule deer	625	25
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008		23	Antlered mule deer	610	35
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008		24A	Antlered mule deer	165	25
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008		24B	Antlered mule deer	450	0
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008		27	Antlered mule deer	900	175
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008		28	Antlered mule deer	400	0
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008		28	Antlered mule deer	400	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(11)	29	Antlered mule deer	75	-75
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008	(11)	29	Antlered mule deer	75	75
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(6,11)	30A	Antlered mule deer	325	25
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008	(6,11)	30A	Antlered mule deer	325	25
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(11)	30B	Antlered mule deer	400	50
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008	(11)	30B	Antlered mule deer	400	50

General Deer

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits	
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(22)	31	Antlered mule deer	150	-150
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008	(22)	31	Antlered mule deer	150	150
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(11,22)	32	Antlered mule deer	450	250
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008	(11,22)	32	Antlered mule deer	450	-150
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008		33	Antlered mule deer	350	0
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008		33	Antlered mule deer	250	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(10)	34A	Antlered mule deer	25	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008		34B	Antlered mule deer	100	0
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008		34B	Antlered mule deer	100	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(6)	36A	Antlered mule deer	350	0
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008	(6)	36A	Antlered mule deer	450	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(6)	36B	Antlered mule deer	200	25
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008	(6)	36B	Antlered mule deer	200	-25
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(6)	36C	Antlered mule deer	125	25
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008	(6)	36C	Antlered mule deer	125	25
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(13)	37A	Antlered mule deer	75	-75
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008	(13)	37A	Antlered mule deer	75	75
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(20)	37B	Any antlered deer	250	-250
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008	(20)	37B	Any antlered deer	250	250
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(7,13)	39, 40A, and 40B (Special Restrictions Apply - See Note 7)	Any antlered deer	150	150
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(7,13)	39, 40A, and 40B (Special Restrictions Apply - See Note 7)	Any antlered deer	150	-150
	Nov 7 - Nov 16, 2008	(8)	41	Any antlered deer	475	0
	Nov 7 - Nov 16, 2008		42 (except White Tank Mountain Park)	Any antlered deer	300	0
	Nov 7 - Nov 16, 2008	(6,8)	43A, 43B, 44A, and 44B	Any antlered deer	650	0
	Nov 7 - Nov 16, 2008	(6)	45A, 45B, and 45C	Any antlered deer	275	0
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(19)	6A	Antlered whitetail deer	200	-50
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(19)	6A	Antlered whitetail deer	200	0
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(19)	6A	Antlered whitetail deer	75	25
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(1,19)	6B (except Camp Navajo)	Antlered whitetail deer	55	35
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,19)	6B (except Camp Navajo) and 8	Antlered whitetail deer	25	-25
	Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2008	(19)	8	Antlered whitetail deer	75	25
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(13)	21	Antlered whitetail deer	460	60
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(13)	21	Antlered whitetail deer	20	-30
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(23)	22	Antlered whitetail deer	660	160
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(23)	22	Antlered whitetail deer	25	-25
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008		23	Antlered whitetail deer	575	-25
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008		23	Antlered whitetail deer	85	35
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008		24A	Antlered whitetail deer	355	-245
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008		24A	Antlered whitetail deer	355	355
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008		24A	Antlered whitetail deer	30	-20
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008		24B	Antlered whitetail deer	305	55
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008		24B	Antlered whitetail deer	305	55
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008		24B	Antlered whitetail deer	25	-25
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008		27 and 28	Antlered whitetail deer	350	200
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008		27 and 28	Antlered whitetail deer	15	-35
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(11)	29	Antlered whitetail deer	285	-115
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(11)	29	Antlered whitetail deer	275	-125
	Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2008	(11)	29	Antlered whitetail deer	275	275
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(11)	29	Antlered whitetail deer	40	-35
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(6,11)	30A	Antlered whitetail deer	200	-50
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(6,11)	30A	Antlered whitetail deer	200	-75
	Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2008	(6,11)	30A	Antlered whitetail deer	175	175

General Deer

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(6,11)	30A	Antlered whitetail deer	40 -35
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(11)	30B	Antlered whitetail deer	150 -100
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(11)	30B	Antlered whitetail deer	150 -100
	Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2008	(11)	30B	Antlered whitetail deer	150 150
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(11)	30B	Antlered whitetail deer	75 25
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(22)	31	Antlered whitetail deer	325 -225
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(22)	31	Antlered whitetail deer	325 -225
	Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2008	(22)	31	Antlered whitetail deer	300 300
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(22)	31	Antlered whitetail deer	125 25
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(11,22)	32	Antlered whitetail deer	500 -150
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(11,22)	32	Antlered whitetail deer	500 -150
	Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2008	(11,22)	32	Antlered whitetail deer	460 460
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(11,22)	32	Antlered whitetail deer	40 -135
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008		33	Antlered whitetail deer	650 -100
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008		33	Antlered whitetail deer	650 -100
	Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2008		33	Antlered whitetail deer	650 650
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008		33	Antlered whitetail deer	40 -110
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(10)	34A	Antlered whitetail deer	600 -200
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(10)	34A	Antlered whitetail deer	600 -150
	Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2008	(10)	34A	Antlered whitetail deer	550 550
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(10)	34A	Antlered whitetail deer	40 -110
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008		34B	Antlered whitetail deer	150 -25
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008		34B	Antlered whitetail deer	150 -50
	Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2008		34B	Antlered whitetail deer	100 100
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008		34B	Antlered whitetail deer	40 -10
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(9)	35A (except Fort Huachuca)	Antlered whitetail deer	300 -100
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(9)	35A (except Fort Huachuca)	Antlered whitetail deer	300 0
	Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2008	(9)	35A (except Fort Huachuca)	Antlered whitetail deer	200 200
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(9)	35A (except Fort Huachuca)	Antlered whitetail deer	40 -10
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008		35B	Antlered whitetail deer	400 -100
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008		35B	Antlered whitetail deer	400 -50
	Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2008		35B	Antlered whitetail deer	250 250
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008		35B	Antlered whitetail deer	40 -10
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(6)	36A	Antlered whitetail deer	350 -100
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(6)	36A	Antlered whitetail deer	450 -100
	Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2008	(6)	36A	Antlered whitetail deer	350 350
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(6)	36A	Antlered whitetail deer	40 -60
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(6)	36B	Antlered whitetail deer	800 -225
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(6)	36B	Antlered whitetail deer	800 -225
	Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2008	(6)	36B	Antlered whitetail deer	700 700
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(6)	36B	Antlered whitetail deer	40 -160
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(6)	36C	Antlered whitetail deer	200 -150
	Nov 7 - Nov 13, 2008	(6)	36C	Antlered whitetail deer	200 -150
	Nov 28 - Dec 4, 2008	(6)	36C	Antlered whitetail deer	150 150
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(6)	36C	Antlered whitetail deer	100 25
	Nov 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(9)	Fort Huachuca in Unit 35A	Designated deer	
Total					41815 2160

WHEN APPLYING FOR BIG GAME HUNT PERMIT-TAGS, YOU MUST USE HUNT NUMBERS!

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Deer hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

Juniors-Only Deer

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Oct 10 - Oct 19, 2008		10	Any antlered deer	100 0
	Nov 14 - Nov 17, 2008	(2,12,18)	Winter Range Hunt Area in Unit 12A West (NORTH KAIBAB HABITAT MANAGEMENT STAMP REQUIRED)	Antlerless deer	600 200
	Oct 10 - Oct 19, 2008	(6)	16A (except Mohave County Park Lands)	Any antlered deer	50 30
	Oct 10 - Oct 19, 2008		17B	Any antlered deer	60 0
	Nov 21 - Nov 30, 2008		18B	Any antlered deer	75 25
	Oct 10 - Oct 19, 2008		20A	Any antlered deer	100 50
	Nov 21 - Nov 30, 2008		20C	Any antlered deer	100 0
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008		23	Any antlered deer	150 0
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008		27	Any antlered deer	140 40
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(6,11,22)	28, 29, 30A, 31, and 32	Any antlered deer	100 100
No Hunt	Nov 16 - Nov 25, 2007	(11,22)	32	Any antlered deer	0 -150
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008		33	Any antlered deer	150 -100
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008		33	Any antlered deer	150 150
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(6)	36A	Any antlered deer	50 -150
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(6)	36A	Any antlered deer	150 150
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(6)	36B	Any antlered deer	50 50
No Hunt	Nov 16 - Nov 25, 2007	(6)	36C	Any antlered deer	0 -25
	Nov 21 - Nov 30, 2008		42 (except White Tank Mountain Park)	Any antlered deer	75 0
	Nov 8 - Nov 23, 2008	(9)	Fort Huachuca in Unit 35A	Designated deer	
				Total	2100 370

WHEN APPLYING FOR BIG GAME HUNT PERMIT-TAGS, YOU MUST USE HUNT NUMBERS!

When applying for a Juniors-Only Hunt, do not reapply for the same species with family on a separate application.

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Deer hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

ELIGIBLE HUNTERS: Persons are eligible to participate up to and throughout the calendar year of their 17th birthday, provided that persons between the ages 10 and 13 have satisfactorily completed a Hunter Education Course that is approved by the Director as per ARS 17-335 (C).

CHAMP Deer

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(2)	12A	Any antlered deer	10 10
No Hunt	Nov 16 - Nov 25, 2007	(9)	Fort Huachuca in Unit 35A	Designated deer	0
				Total	10 10

WHEN APPLYING FOR BIG GAME HUNT PERMIT-TAGS, YOU MUST USE HUNT NUMBERS!

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Deer hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114, and a CHAMP permit. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

ELIGIBLE HUNTERS: Limited to individuals with a Challenged Hunter Access/Mobility Permit (CHAMP) as pursuant to R12-4-217. Qualified individuals should contact Fort Huachuca for hunt numbers, season dates, and other requirements.

Muzzleloader Deer

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008		3B	Any antlered deer	90 20
	Oct 24 - Oct 30, 2008	(1,19)	6B (except Camp Navajo)	Any antlered deer	275 25
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008	(2,3,17)	12A East (NORTH KAIBAB HABITAT MANAGEMENT STAMP REQUIRED)	Any antlered deer	50 50
No Hunt	Nov 9 - Nov 18, 2007	(5,13,17)	12B West	Any antlered deer	0 -35

Muzzleloader Deer

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits	
	Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2008	(6)	15A, 15B, 15C, and 15D	Any antlered deer	200	25
	Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008		20B	Any antlered deer	150	0
	Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008	(10)	34A	Any antlered deer	100	0
	Oct 31 - Nov 6, 2008	(9)	35A (except Fort Huachuca) and 35B	Any antlered deer	50	0
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(9)	35A (except Fort Huachuca) and 35B	Any antlered deer	50	0
	Dec 12 - Dec 31, 2008	(7,8,13)	39, 40A, 40B, 41, and 42 (except White Tank Mountain Park) (Special Restrictions Apply - See Footnote 7)	Any antlered deer	50	0
	Oct 24 - Dec 31, 2008	(9)	Fort Huachuca in Unit 35A	Designated deer		
Total					1015	85

WHEN APPLYING FOR BIG GAME HUNT PERMIT-TAGS, YOU MUST USE HUNT NUMBERS!

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Muzzleloading weapons as prescribed in R12-4-101 and R12-4-318, crossbow or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Deer hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

Juniors-Only (Muzzleloader) Deer

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits	
	Dec 19 - Dec 31, 2008		15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, and 18A	Any antlered deer	30	30
No Hunt	Dec 14 - Dec 31, 2007		16A (except Mohave County Park Lands)	Any antlered deer	0	-30
Total					30	0

WHEN APPLYING FOR BIG GAME HUNT PERMIT-TAGS, YOU MUST USE HUNT NUMBERS!

When applying for a Juniors-Only Hunt, do not reapply for the same species with family on a separate application.

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Muzzleloading weapons as prescribed in R12-4-101 and R12-4-318, crossbow or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Deer hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

ELIGIBLE HUNTERS: Persons are eligible to participate up to and throughout the calendar year of their 17th birthday, provided that persons between the ages 10 and 13 have satisfactorily completed a Hunter Education Course that is approved by the Director as per ARS 17-335 (C).

Archery-Only Deer

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits	
	Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(14)	1	Any antlered deer	190	190
	Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(14)	3A and 3C	Any antlered deer	150	150
	Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(14)	3B	Any antlered deer	60	60
	Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(14,19)	7	Any antlered deer	800	800
	Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(2,14,17)	12A (NORTH KAIBAB HABITAT MANAGEMENT STAMP REQUIRED)	Any antlered deer	1000	1000
	Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(13,14,17)	12B	Any antlered deer	15	15
	Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(5,13,14,17)	12B West	Any antlered deer	75	75
	Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(13,14)	13A	Any antlered deer	45	45
	Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(13,14)	13B	Any antlered deer	40	40
Total					2375	2375

WHEN APPLYING FOR BIG GAME HUNT PERMIT-TAGS, YOU MUST USE HUNT NUMBERS!

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318 and crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-216.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Archery Deer hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

Archery-Only Nonpermit Tag Required Deer

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	
	Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(1,6,11,19,21,22,23)	2A, 2B, 2C, 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, 6A, 6B (except Camp Navajo), 8, 9, 10, 11M, 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, 16A (except Mohave County Park Lands), 17A, 17B, 18A, 18B, 19A, 19B, 20A, 20B, 20C, 21 (except Cave Creek Recreation Area), 22, 23, 24A, 24B, 27, 28, 29, 30A, 30B, 31, 32, 33, 34A, 34B, 35A (except Fort Huachuca), 35B, 36A, 36B, and 36C	Any antlered deer	
	Jan 1 - Jan 16, 2009	(19)	4A, 4B, 8, 9, and 19A	Any antlered deer	
	Dec 12, 2008 - Jan 31, 2009	(6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,16,20,22,24)	10, 16A (except Mohave County Park Lands), 17B, 18A, 18B, 19B, 20B, 20C, 21 (except Cave Creek Recreation Area), 24A, 24B, 25M, 26M, 28, 29, 30A, 30B, 31, 32, 33, 34A, 34B, 35A (except Fort Huachuca), 35B, 36A, 36B, 36C, 37B, 38M (including Tucson Mountain Wildlife Area), 39, 40A, 40B, 41, 42, 43A, 43B, 44A, 44B, and 47M	Any antlered deer	
No Hunt	Sep 14 - Sep 27, 2007	(13)	12A, 12B, and 13A	Any antlered deer	0
	Jan 1 - Jan 31, 2009	(6,23)	15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, 17A, 20A, 22, 23, 27, 37A, 45A, 45B, and 45C	Any antlered deer	
	Aug 29 - Sep 21, 2008	(1)	Camp Navajo in Unit 6B	Any antlered deer	
	Aug 29, 2008 - Jan 28, 2009	(9)	Fort Huachuca in Unit 35A	Designated deer	

0

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318 and crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-216.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Archery Deer hunt nonpermit-tag obtained from a license dealer as prescribed in R12-4-114.

Notes:

1. Camp Navajo in Unit 6B is open to deer hunting only to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Camp Navajo hunting permit. A hunter education course is required. Hunt numbers must be obtained from the Arizona National Guard. For more information on how to apply for a Camp Navajo hunt, go to www.campnavajo.com and select Hunting. Increases in Force Protection may result in hunt cancellations at any time with little or no prior notification. In the event a hunt is cancelled due to an increase in security, hunters drawn for these permits will not be reimbursed or otherwise compensated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Applications for these hunts must be submitted to the Arizona Game and Fish Department by the published deadline.
2. A Unit 12A (North Kaibab) Habitat Management Stamp is required for all Unit 12A (North Kaibab) deer hunters. Stamps are available at a cost of \$15.00 at all Arizona Game and Fish Department offices or wherever hunting licenses are sold. All 12A North Kaibab deer hunters shall have this stamp attached to their hunting license. Stamps cannot be obtained through the draw process. Successful Unit 12A (North Kaibab) firearms deer hunters must check out and personally present their deer for inspection at the Jacob Lake Checking Station in accordance with R12-4-308. A check station will not be operated during the Unit 12A (North Kaibab) archery deer season.
3. 12A East Hunt Unit - that portion of Unit 12A located east of AZ Hwy 67 and south of U.S. Hwy 89A.
4. 12A West Hunt Unit - that portion of Unit 12A located west of AZ Hwy 67 and also that portion of Unit 12A located north of U.S. Hwy 89A.
5. 12B West Hunt Unit - that portion of Unit 12B beginning at the Arizona-Utah Stalene and BLM Rd. 1065; south on BLM 1065 to U.S. Hwy 89A; west on U.S. Hwy 89A to Kaibab National Forest boundary; north then west then south on the Kaibab National Forest boundary to Kanab Creek; north on Kanab Creek to the Arizona-Utah Stalene; east on the Arizona-Utah Stalene to BLM 1065.
6. The Buenos Aires, Cibola, Imperial, and Kofa National Wildlife Refuges are open to deer hunting as permitted by refuge regulations; all other Refuges are closed.
7. Entry into portions of Units 40A, 40B, 46A, and 46B is subject to military closure and requires coordination with the Barry M. Goldwater Range for hunting access. For specifics about accessing the Barry M. Goldwater Range refer to the Index: Hunting on Military Reservations.
8. The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground is closed to deer hunting, except those areas open in accordance with U.S. Army regulations to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Yuma Proving Ground Hunting Program Access permit and coordination with YPG Range Control. Hunters drawn for units 41W, 43A, or 43B who plan to hunt on YPG must check in with the YPG Hunting Program by calling the toll-free number prior to conducting any hunting activities on the range. Occasionally, due to military activities, some affected hunting areas may be temporarily closed. For information write: U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground - Bldg. 105, Attn: Hunting Program, 301 C. Street, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498 or call toll-free 1-877-788-HUNT (4868) or (928) 328-2148, or www.yuma.army.mil/hunting_program.htm.

9. The Fort Huachuca Army Garrison in Unit 35A is open to deer hunting only to properly licensed military and Fort Huachuca civilian personnel holding a valid Fort Huachuca post hunting permit. Juniors only hunts are only open to properly licensed military and Fort Huachuca civilian dependents holding a valid Fort Huachuca post hunting permit. CHAMP hunts are open to the general public. Hunt numbers, season dates and/or special regulations must be obtained from Fort Huachuca. Increases in Force Protection may result in hunt cancellations at any time with little or no prior notification. In the event a hunt is cancelled due to an increase in security, hunters drawn for these permits will not be reimbursed or otherwise compensated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Applications for these hunts must be submitted to the Arizona Game and Fish Department by the published deadline.
10. The Santa Rita Wildlife Area in Unit 34A is actively used for studies in wildlife management. Researchers are present all months and study sites are not always recognizable; hunters are urged to use caution while hunting and take care not to disturb study sites.
11. Hunter access in Units 29, 30A, 30B, and 32 is extremely restricted. Applicants should not apply for these units unless they have secured access.
12. An "antlerless deer" is a deer, any age, without antlers.
13. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
14. Archery deer hunters who received a hunt permit-tag through the draw process are not required to call the toll free Archery Deer Harvest Reporting telephone number to report their deer kill. We encourage hunters to return the Hunter Survey they will receive in the mail. Unit 12A archery deer hunters are not required to check their deer for inspection at the Jacob Lake Checking Station.
15. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 4 East.
16. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 47M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the City of Mesa known as the Elliott and Hawes County Island in Section 16, Township 1 South, Range 7 East.
17. Individuals with permits for these hunts are eligible to purchase Restricted Nonpermit tags for the corresponding buffalo population management seasons listed in Commission Order 26.
18. Winter Range Hunt Area in Unit 12A West - That portion of Unit 12A West located west of the following line: beginning at the junction of FR 22 (West Side road) and the Kaibab National Forest boundary; south on FR 22 to FR 462; southeasterly on FR 462 to the intersection of FR 462, FR 22, and FR 270; south on FR 270 to the Grand Canyon National Park boundary.
19. The U.S. Forest Service has expressed concern regarding road damage during wet weather. The Department is working with the U.S. Forest Service to provide limited access via designated core roads in units 5A, 5B, 6A, 6B, 7, 8, and 9 that will remain open during periods when other roads may be closed. When weather is deemed severe, the core roads may also be closed to prevent excessive road damage, provide for public safety, and protect natural resources. Roads that have been closed are closed to all users. Hunters should respect and obey road closures and drive responsibly during wet periods. It is recommended that hunters contact the appropriate Forest Service office to determine current road status for their hunt area (see the Index: Hunting on Public Lands).
20. The Florence Military Reservation (training areas B and D: the areas north and south of Cottonwood Canyon Road) in Unit 37B is subject to short term closures due to military operations, including live fire operations, and requires coordination with the Florence Military Reservation for hunting access. For specific closure dates or any other access concerns, contact the Florence Military Reservation at 602-267-2062. A map of the Florence Military Reservation is located on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's website, azgfd.gov (type Florence Military Reservation in the search box).
21. In the northern portion of Unit 5A, access is permitted on the Clear Creek Ranch by written permission only. Written permission may be obtained at the Ranch headquarters located west of AZ Highway 87 at mile post 333.
22. Unit 31 and 32 hunts -- Access to Aravaipa Canyon Wildlife Area (as prescribed in R12-4-802) is allowed by permit only, available through the Safford Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management. For more information, contact the Safford Field Office at (928) 348-4450 or www.blm.gov/az/sfo/aravaipa/aravaipa.htm.
23. The area within the fenced enclosure inside the loop formed by Tonto National Forest Road 647, also known as the Walnut Canyon Enclosure, is open to public entry and the taking of deer during open season.
24. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 25M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the Town of Queen Creek in Pinal County in Sections 5, 7, 8, and 18 of Township 3 South, Range 8 East.

DEFINITION: ANTLERED - means having an antler fully erupted through the skin and capable of being shed as defined in R12-4-101.

DEER BAG LIMIT: One (1) deer per calendar year except as prescribed in R12-4-120.

ARCHERY DEER SPECIAL REGULATION: All Archery hunters must contact an Arizona Game and Fish Department office in person, or by telephone (1-866-903-DEER [3337]), within ten (10) days of taking a deer pursuant to R12-4-308.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 5: Turkey

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Turkey

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		1	Any turkey	625 0
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		4A and 4B	Any turkey	525 100
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		5A	Any turkey	450 0
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008	(2)	5B North	Any turkey	35 0
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		5B South	Any turkey	75 75
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		6A	Any turkey	475 0
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008	(1)	6B (except Camp Navajo)	Any turkey	300 -50
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		7	Any turkey	200 75
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		8 and 10	Any turkey	700 0
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		9	Any turkey	25 0
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		12A	Any turkey	1000 0
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008	(3)	13A	Any turkey	10 5
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008	(3)	13B (south of Wolfhole - Jacobs Well Road)	Any turkey	5 0
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		17A, 17B, and 18B	Any turkey	25 0
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		22	Any turkey	150 25
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		23	Any turkey	700 0
	Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		27	Any turkey	800 0
				Total	6100 230

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any shotgun shooting shot as prescribed in R12-4-318 or crossbow or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Spring Turkey hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

Juniors-Only Nonpermit Tag Required (Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot) Turkey

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		1	Any turkey
Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008	(4)	6A	Any turkey
Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		8 and 10	Any turkey
Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		23	Any turkey
Oct 3 - Oct 9, 2008		27	Any turkey

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any shotgun shooting shot as prescribed in R12-4-318 or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Turkey nonpermit-tag obtained from a license dealer as prescribed in R12-4-114.

ELIGIBLE HUNTERS: Persons are eligible to participate up to and throughout the calendar year of their 17th birthday, provided that persons between the ages 10 and 13 have satisfactorily completed a Hunter Education Course that is approved by the Director as per ARS 17-335 (C).

Archery-Only Nonpermit Tag Required Turkey

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(1)	1, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, 6A, 6B (except Camp Navajo), 7, 8, 9, 10, 11M, 12A, 17A, 17B, 18B, 20A, 22, 23, and 27	Any turkey
Aug 29 - Sep 21, 2008	(1)	Camp Navajo in Unit 6B	Any turkey

Archery-Only Nonpermit Tag Required Turkey

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
--------------	-------	------------	----------------

LAWFUL TAKING DEVICES: Bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318 and crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-216.
LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Archery Turkey hunt nonpermit-tag obtained from a license dealer as prescribed in R12-4-114.

Notes:

1. Camp Navajo in Unit 6B is open to turkey hunting only to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Camp Navajo hunting permit. A hunter education course is required. Hunt numbers must be obtained from the Arizona National Guard. For more information on how to apply for a Camp Navajo hunt, go to www.campnavajo.com and select Hunting. Increases in Force Protection may result in hunt cancellations at any time with little or no prior notification. In the event a hunt is cancelled due to an increase in security, hunters drawn for these permits will not be reimbursed or otherwise compensated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Applications for these hunts must be submitted to the Arizona Game and Fish Department by the published deadline.
2. 5B North Hunt Unit - That portion of Unit 5B located north of the following roads: Beginning at the junction of FH 3 (Lake Mary/Clints Well Road) and FR 125; east on FR 125 to FR 82; south on FR 82 to FR 69B; east on FR 69B to FR 69.
3. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
4. 5B South Hunt Unit - That portion of Unit 5B located south of the following roads: Beginning at the junction of FH 3 (Lake Mary/Clints Well Road) and FR 125; east on FR 125 to FR 82; south on FR 82 to FR 69B; east on FR 69B to FR 69.

TURKEY BAG LIMIT: One (1) turkey per calendar year except as prescribed in R12-4-120.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 6: Javelina

Juniors-Only Javelina

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(2)	16A (except Mohave County Park Lands)	Any javelina	50 50
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008		17B	Any javelina	50 50
	Nov 21 - Nov 30, 2008		18B	Any javelina	75 75
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008		20A	Any javelina	50 50
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008		28	Any javelina	50 50
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008		28	Any javelina	50 50
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(5)	29	Any javelina	50 50
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(5)	29	Any javelina	50 50
	Nov 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(2,5)	30A	Any javelina	50 50
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(2,5)	30A	Any javelina	50 50
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(5)	30B	Any javelina	50 50
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(5)	30B	Any javelina	50 50
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(7)	31	Any javelina	50 50
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(7)	31	Any javelina	50 50
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(5,7)	32	Any javelina	100 100
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(5,7)	32	Any javelina	100 100
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008		33	Any javelina	135 135
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008		33	Any javelina	135 135
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(4)	34A	Any javelina	100 100
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(4)	34A	Any javelina	100 100
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008		34B	Any javelina	25 25
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008		34B	Any javelina	25 25
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(1)	35A (except Fort Huachuca)	Any javelina	25 25
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(1)	35A (except Fort Huachuca)	Any javelina	25 25
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008		35B	Any javelina	25 25
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008		35B	Any javelina	25 25
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(2)	36A	Any javelina	70 70
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(2)	36A	Any javelina	70 70
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(2)	36B	Any javelina	100 100
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(2)	36B	Any javelina	100 100
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(2)	36C	Any javelina	75 75
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(2)	36C	Any javelina	75 75
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(3)	37A	Any javelina	125 125
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(3)	37A	Any javelina	125 125
	Oct 10 - Oct 16, 2008	(6)	37B	Any javelina	170 170
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008	(6)	37B	Any javelina	165 165
				Total	2620 2620

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Javelina hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

ELIGIBLE HUNTERS: Persons are eligible to participate up to and throughout the calendar year of their 17th birthday, provided that persons between the ages 10 and 13 have satisfactorily completed a Hunter Education Course that is approved by the Director as per ARS 17-335 (C).

Juniors-Only (Muzzleloader) Javelina

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Nov 21 - Nov 27, 2008		39	Any javelina	10 10

Juniors-Only (Muzzleloader) Javelina

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
				Total	10 10

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Muzzleloading weapons as prescribed in R12-4-101 and R12-4-318, crossbow or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Javelina hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

ELIGIBLE HUNTERS: Persons are eligible to participate up to and throughout the calendar year of their 17th birthday, provided that persons between the ages 10 and 13 have satisfactorily completed a Hunter Education Course that is approved by the Director as per ARS 17-335 (C).

Juniors-Only (Archery-Only) Javelina

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Nov 7 - Nov 16, 2008		39	Any javelina	15 15
				Total	15 15

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318 and crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-216.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Javelina hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

ELIGIBLE HUNTERS: Persons are eligible to participate up to and throughout the calendar year of their 17th birthday, provided that persons between the ages 10 and 13 have satisfactorily completed a Hunter Education Course that is approved by the Director as per ARS 17-335 (C).

Notes:

1. The Fort Huachuca Military Reservation in Unit 35A is open to javelina hunting only to properly licensed Fort Huachuca military and civilian personnel holding a valid Fort Huachuca post hunting permit. Hunt numbers, season dates and/or special regulations must be obtained from Fort Huachuca. Increases in Force Protection may result in hunt cancellations at any time with little or no prior notification. In the event a hunt is cancelled due to an increase in security, hunters drawn for these permits will not be reimbursed or otherwise compensated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Applications for these hunts must be submitted to the Arizona Game and Fish Department by the published deadline. Fort Huachuca contact information: Commander, U.S. Army Garrison, ATTN: ATZS-ISB (Wildlife), Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613-6000, (520)-533-1867 or (520) 533-7083, disenrd@hua.army.mil, or www.huachuca.army.mil/usag/dpw/hunting.html.
2. The Buenos Aires Refuge is open to javelina hunting as permitted by refuge regulations; all other Refuges are closed.
3. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
4. The Santa Rita Wildlife Area in Unit 34A is actively used for studies in wildlife management. Researchers are present all months and study sites are not always recognizable; hunters are urged to use caution while hunting and take care not to disturb study sites.
5. Hunter access in Units 29, 30A, 30B, and 32 is extremely restricted. Applicants should not apply for these units unless they have secured access.
6. The Florence Military Reservation (training areas B and D: the areas north and south of Cottonwood Canyon Road) in Unit 37B is subject to short term closures due to military operations, including live fire operations, and requires coordination with the Florence Military Reservation for hunting access. For specific closure dates or any other access concerns, contact the Florence Military Reservation at 602-267-2062. A map of the Florence Military Reservation is located on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's website, azgfd.gov (type Florence Military Reservation in the search box).
7. Unit 31 and 32 hunts -- Access to Aravaipa Canyon Wildlife Area (as prescribed in R12-4-802) is allowed by permit only, available through the Safford Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management. For more information, contact the Safford Field Office at (928) 348-4450 or www.blm.gov/az/sfo/aravaipa/aravaipa.htm.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 7: Bighorn Sheep

General Bighorn Sheep

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits	
	Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,12)	9 and 10	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,8,9,12,13)	12A and 12B West	Any ram	2	-1
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,8,10)	12B East	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,12,13)	13A	Any ram	3	-2
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,8,13)	13B (north of Wolfhole - Jacobs Well Road)	Any ram	4	-1
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,8,12)	13B (south of Wolfhole - Jacobs Well Road)	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,12)	15A and 15B (east of Temple Bar Road)	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,13)	15B (west of Temple Bar Road)	Any ram	3	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,13)	15C (north of Cottonwood Road)	Any ram	3	1
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1)	15C (south of Cottonwood Road)	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,13)	15D	Any ram	3	-2
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2)	16A (except Mohave County Park Lands)	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,13)	16B	Any ram	2	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1)	22	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1)	24B North (north and west of AZ Hwy 88)	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1)	24B South (south and east of AZ Hwy 88)	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1)	28 (south of U.S. Hwy 70)	Any ram	1	1
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,13,14)	31 and 32	Any ram	2	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,13)	37A	Any ram	2	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,13)	39 (west of AZ Hwy 85)	Any ram	2	0
No Hunt	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2007	(1,3,8)	40A (Special Restrictions Apply - See Note 3)	Any ram	0	-1
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,3,13)	40B Gila Mtns (north of Cipriano Pass) (Special Restrictions Apply - See Note 3)	Any ram	3	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,3,13)	40B Mohawk and Copper Mtns (Special Restrictions Apply - See Note 3)	Any ram	3	1
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,3)	40B Tinajas Altas Mtns (south of Cipriano Pass) (Special Restrictions Apply - See Note 3)	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,13)	41E (east of the Dateland-Palomas-Harquahala Rd [Clanton Hills Rd])	Any ram	3	1
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,4,13)	41W (west of the Dateland-Palomas-Harquahala Rd [Clanton Hills Rd] and south of the El Paso Natural Gas Pipeline) (Special Restrictions Apply - See Note 4)	Any ram	3	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,4)	43A (Special Restrictions Apply - See Note 4)	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,4,13)	43B (Special Restrictions Apply - See Note 4)	Any ram	5	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1)	44A East (Harquahala Mtns, Black Mtns, Harcuvar Mtns, and Granite Wash Mtns)	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2)	44A West (west of Swansea Rd. and south of Bill Williams River Rd.)	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,13)	44B (north of I-10)	Any ram	3	1
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2)	44B (south of I-10 and that portion of 45A and 45B north of the El Paso Natural Gas Pipeline - Kofa National Wildlife Refuge)	Any ram	1	-1
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,13)	45A (south of the El Paso Natural Gas Pipeline - Kofa National Wildlife Refuge)	Any ram	3	-2
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,13)	45B (south of the El Paso Natural Gas Pipeline - Kofa National Wildlife Refuge)	Any ram	2	1
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,13)	45C (Kofa National Wildlife Refuge)	Any ram	4	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,3,5,13)	46A (Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge) (Special Restrictions Apply - See Note 3)	Any ram	2	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,3,5,13)	46B (Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge) (Special Restrictions Apply - See Note 3)	Any ram	6	0
	Nov 1 - Nov 30, 2008	(1,6)	Black River Hunt Area in Units 1 and 27	Any ram	1	0

General Bighorn Sheep

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits	
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1)	23 and 24A	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,11)	Bear Canyon Hunt Area in Unit 27	Any ram	1	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 15, 2008	(1,13)	27 (south of FR 217 and west of U.S. Hwy 191) and 28 (north of U.S. Hwy 70)	Any ram	3	0
	Dec 16 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,13)	27 (south of FR 217 and west of U.S. Hwy 191) and 28 (north of U.S. Hwy 70)	Any ram	3	0
	Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,7,13)	Foote Creek Hunt Area in Unit 27 North	Any ram	3	-2
			Total		90	-6

WHEN APPLYING FOR BIG GAME HUNT PERMIT-TAGS, YOU MUST USE HUNT NUMBERS!

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any firearm or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) Bighorn Sheep hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

Notes:

- All bighorn sheep hunters must personally check out within 3 days following the close of the season in accordance with R12-4-308. Unsuccessful hunters and those who did not hunt must also check out either in person or by telephone.
- The Bill Williams River, Cabeza Prieta, Havasu, Imperial and Kofa National Wildlife Refuges are open to bighorn sheep hunting as permitted by refuge regulations; all other Refuges are closed.
- Entry into portions of Units 40A, 40B, 46A, and 46B is subject to military closure and requires coordination with the Barry M. Goldwater Range for hunting access. For specifics about accessing the Barry M. Goldwater Range refer to the Index: Hunting on Military Reservations.
- The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) is closed to bighorn sheep hunting, except those areas open in accordance with U.S. Army regulations to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Yuma Proving Ground Hunting Program Access permit and coordination with YPG Range Control. Hunters drawn for units 41W, 43A, or 43B who plan to hunt on YPG must check in with the YPG Hunting Program by calling the toll-free number prior to conducting any hunting activities on the range. Occasionally, due to military activities, some affected hunting areas may be temporarily closed. For information write: U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground - Bldg. 105, Attn: Hunting Program, 301 C. Street, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498 or call toll-free 1-877-788-HUNT (4868) or (928) 328-2148, or www.yuma.army.mil/hunting_program.htm.
- Due to travel restrictions in the Wilderness Area, those persons interested in hunting bighorn sheep on the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge should contact the Refuge Manager (520) 387-6483 for information regarding special refuge regulations prior to applying.
- Black River Hunt Area in Units 1 and 27 - That portion of Units 1 and 27 beginning at the Fort Apache Indian Reservation boundary and FR 82; east on FR 82 to FR 25; east on FR 25 to FR 24 (Buffalo Crossing); north on FR 24 to FR 249E; east on FR 249E to FR 249; east on FR 249 to FR 406; east on FR 406 to FR 276; south on FR 276 to FR 37; south on FR 37 to FR 405; south on FR 405 to FR 24; south on FR 24 to FR 25; northwest on FR 25 to FR 25D; west on FR 25D to the San Carlos Indian Reservation boundary; north along the San Carlos Indian Reservation boundary to FR 82.
- Foote Creek Hunt Area in Unit 27 North - That portion of Unit 27 beginning at the Junction of U.S. Hwy 180 and the New Mexico state line; south along the New Mexico state line to FR 232; west on FR 232 to FR 281; south on FR 281 to Forest Trail 75; west on Forest Trail 75 to Forest Trail 76; west on Forest Trail 76 to U.S. Hwy 191; north on U.S. Hwy 191 to U.S. Hwy 180; east on U.S. Hwy 180 to the New Mexico state line.
- The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
- 12B West Hunt Unit - That portion of Unit 12B lying west of BLM road 1065 and north of U.S. Hwy 89A from the BLM 1065/ U.S.Hwy 89A junction west to the Kaibab National Forest boundary.
- 12B East Hunt Unit - That portion of Unit 12B lying east of BLM road 1065 and south of the segment of U.S. Hwy 89A between the Kaibab National Forest Boundary easterly to Navajo Bridge.
- Bear Canyon Hunt Area in Unit 27 - That portion of Unit 27 beginning at the junction of U.S. Hwy 191 and Forest Trailhead 76 at Hannagan Meadow; east-northeast on Forest Trail 76 to Forest Trail 75; east on Forest Trail 75 through Grant Creek drainage to FR 281 (the Blue Road); north on FR road 281 to Forest Trail 52; east-southeast on Forest Trail 52 in Lanphier Canyon to Forest Trail 55; south-southwest on Forest Trail 55 through Bear Valley to Blue River; north-northwest in Blue River to Forest Trail 20; west on Forest Trail 20 to U.S. Hwy 191; north on U.S. Hwy 191 to Forest Trailhead 76 at Hannagan Meadow.
- This unit has a low density bighorn sheep population in a remote area with difficult access. Hunters should be prepared for backcountry camping and extensive strenuous hiking in an extremely remote, harsh hunting environment.
- Non-residents: Permits are available within these hunt numbers for which you may be drawn in accordance with R12-4-114(E).
- Unit 31 and 32 hunts -- Access to Aravaipa Canyon Wildlife Area (as prescribed in R12-4-802) is allowed by permit only, available through the Safford Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management. For more information, contact the Safford Field Office at (928) 348-4450 or <https://www.blm.gov/az/sfo/aravaipa/aravaipa.htm>.

BIGHORN BAG LIMIT: One (1) desert bighorn sheep in a lifetime except as prescribed in R12-4-120. One (1) Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep in a lifetime except as prescribed in R12-4-120.

DEFINITION: RAM - means any male bighorn sheep, excluding male lambs.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 8: Buffalo

General Buffalo

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
No Hunt	Sep 22 - Sep 23, 2007	(1)	5A and 5B (Raymond Wildlife Area Herd)	Adult bull buffalo only	0 -1
	Oct 4 - Oct 5, 2008	(1)	5A and 5B (Raymond Wildlife Area Herd)	Yearling buffalo only	2 2
	Oct 11 - Oct 12, 2008	(1)	5A and 5B (Raymond Wildlife Area Herd)	Yearling buffalo only	2 2
No Hunt	Sep 22 - Sep 23, 2007	(1)	5A and 5B (Raymond Wildlife Area Herd)	Adult cow buffalo only	0 -1
No Hunt	Oct 13 - Oct 14, 2007	(1)	5A and 5B (Raymond Wildlife Area Herd)	Adult cow buffalo only	0 -2
No Hunt	Oct 27 - Oct 28, 2007	(1)	5A and 5B (Raymond Wildlife Area Herd)	Adult cow buffalo only	0 -2
	Sep 27 - Sep 28, 2008	(1)	5A and 5B (Raymond Wildlife Area Herd)	Adult cow buffalo only	2 0
Total					6 -2

WHEN APPLYING FOR BIG GAME HUNT PERMIT-TAGS, YOU MUST USE HUNT NUMBERS!

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow, centerfire handguns, centerfire rifles, muzzleloading rifles, or all other rifles using black powder as prescribed in R12-4-304. Note that bow and arrow or centerfire handguns may NOT be used at Raymond Wildlife Area.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Buffalo hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

Notes:

1. A hunter with a buffalo hunt permit-tag for the Raymond Wildlife Area herd shall be accompanied by an authorized Department employee who shall designate the animal to be harvested and shall hunt in the order scheduled by the Department in accordance with R12-4-306.
2. An unsuccessful hunter with a buffalo hunt permit-tag for the House Rock Wildlife Area herd shall check out in person or by telephone at either the Department's Flagstaff regional office or the House Rock Wildlife Area headquarters within three days following the close of the season. A successful buffalo hunter shall report information about the kill to the Department within five business days after taking the buffalo either in person at the House Rock Wildlife Area headquarters or in person or by telephone at the Department's Flagstaff regional office. If the kill is reported by telephone, the report shall include the name of the hunter, the hunter's tag number, the sex of the buffalo taken, the number of days hunted, and a telephone number where the hunter can be reached for additional information. (R12-4-306).
3. Successful applicants will be contacted in writing by the Arizona Game and Fish Department to provide them with additional information regarding their hunt.

BUFFALO BAG LIMIT: One (1) buffalo in a lifetime except as prescribed in R12-4-120.

HOUSE ROCK BUFFALO HUNT SPECIAL NOTE: During the fall and spring hunts at the House Rock Wildlife Area (HRWA), a significant portion of the herd has in the past moved to the Grand Canyon National Park where hunting is not allowed. Hunters are advised that if this occurs, their ability to successfully harvest a buffalo may be significantly impacted. As with any hunt, circumstances beyond the control of the Arizona Game and Fish Department may prevent the permit holder from being successful. The Arizona Game and Fish Department and Commission disclaims any responsibility to reissue or replace a permit, to reinstate bonus points, to refund any fees, or to provide any other form of relief.

The HRWA buffalo hunt is considered to be one of the most difficult hunts in the state. Buffalo can be difficult to locate. Plan on spending the entire season hunting, as an abbreviated hunt will lower your chances of success. Buffalo hunters must dress and care for their own animals; the Department will not assist. Take time to improve your physical condition. Hunters are often required to walk considerable distances (up to 8 miles) every day over rugged terrain. House Rock hunters should be prepared for remote and primitive conditions.

High clearance or four-wheel drive vehicles are recommended. Some portions of HRWA are included in the U.S. Forest Service wilderness system that does not preclude hunter access but does limit their means of transportation and equipment usage. For more information, call the Flagstaff Regional Office at 928-774-5045.

BUFFALO SPECIAL REGULATIONS: Buffalo meat taken under this Order may be sold as prescribed in R12-4-305. SEE BUFFALO HUNT REGULATIONS UNDER R12-4-306.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 9: Bear

General Bear

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Fem Harv Obj
Aug 1 - Aug 21, 2008	(1,2,10)	1, 2A, 2B, and 2C	Any bear except sows with cubs	4
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	1, 2A, 2B, and 2C	Any bear except sows with cubs	4
Aug 1 - Aug 21, 2008	(1,2,10)	3B	Any bear except sows with cubs	3
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	3B	Any bear except sows with cubs	5
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	3C	Any bear except sows with cubs	2
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	4A and 5A	Any bear except sows with cubs	2
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	4B	Any bear except sows with cubs	2
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	5B	Any bear except sows with cubs	1
Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(1,2,10)	6A	Any bear except sows with cubs	1
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	6A	Any bear except sows with cubs	2
Aug 1 - Aug 21, 2008	(1,2,10)	6B (except Camp Navajo)	Any bear except sows with cubs	3
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	7 and 9	Any bear except sows with cubs	1
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	8	Any bear except sows with cubs	3
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	10, 18A, 19B, 20A, and 20B	Any bear except sows with cubs	2
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	17A, 17B, and 18B	Any bear except sows with cubs	2
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	19A	Any bear except sows with cubs	2
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,8,10)	21	Any bear except sows with cubs	4
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,3,10)	22 North	Any bear except sows with cubs	4
Aug 1 - Aug 21, 2008	(1,2,4,10)	22 South	Any bear except sows with cubs	1
Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(1,2,4,10)	22 South	Any bear except sows with cubs	1
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,4,10)	22 South	Any bear except sows with cubs	1
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,5,10)	23 North	Any bear except sows with cubs	5
Aug 1 - Aug 21, 2008	(1,2,6,10)	23 South	Any bear except sows with cubs	2
Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(1,2,6,10)	23 South	Any bear except sows with cubs	2
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,6,10)	23 South	Any bear except sows with cubs	3
Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(1,2,10)	24A	Any bear except sows with cubs	2
Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(1,2,10)	24B	Any bear except sows with cubs	1
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	27	Any bear except sows with cubs	12
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	28	Any bear except sows with cubs	1
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,10)	29 and 30A	Any bear except sows with cubs	3
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,9,10)	31	Any bear except sows with cubs	3
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,2,9,10)	32	Any bear except sows with cubs	2
			Total	86

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any firearm or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Bear nonpermit-tag obtained from a license dealer as prescribed in R12-4-114.

Archery-Only Bear

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Fem Harv Obj
Aug 22 - Oct 2, 2008	(1,2,10)	4B	Any bear except sows with cubs	2
Aug 22 - Oct 2, 2008	(1,2,10)	6B (except Camp Navajo) and 11M	Any bear except sows with cubs	1
Aug 22 - Oct 2, 2008	(1,2,10)	19A	Any bear except sows with cubs	1
Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(1,2,3,10)	22 North	Any bear except sows with cubs	1
Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(1,2,5,10)	23 North	Any bear except sows with cubs	2
Aug 22 - Oct 2, 2008	(1,2,10)	27	Any bear except sows with cubs	5

Archery-Only Bear

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Fem Harv Obj
Aug 22 - Oct 2, 2008	(1,2,9,10)	32	Any bear except sows with cubs	1
Aug 22 - Oct 2, 2008	(1,2,7,10)	Fort Huachuca in Unit 35A	Any bear except sows with cubs	
			Total	13

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318 and crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-216.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Bear nonpermit-tag obtained from a license dealer as prescribed in R12-4-114.

Notes:

1. No person shall knowingly use any substance as bait at any time to attract or take bear.
2. When the number of female bears equaling the female harvest objective for a particular hunt has been reported killed, by either hunters or the Department, the unit(s) will be closed at sundown the Wednesday immediately following. Hunters are responsible for calling 1-800-970-BEAR (2327) before hunting to determine if their desired hunt unit is still open. The female harvest objective is combined for Unit 35A/35B and Fort Huachuca hunts, and both hunts will close when the female harvest objective is reached for Unit 35A/35B.
3. 22 North Hunt Unit - That portion of Unit 22 located north of the following: Beginning at the confluence of the Verde River and the East Verde River; easterly along the East Verde River to FR 406; easterly on FR 406 to Payson; easterly on AZ Hwy 260 to the Unit Boundary.
4. 22 South Hunt Unit - That portion of Unit 22 located south of the following: Beginning at the confluence of the Verde River and the East Verde River; easterly along the east Verde River to FR 406; easterly on FR 406 to Payson; easterly on AZ Hwy 260 to the Unit Boundary.
5. 23 North Hunt Unit - That portion of Unit 23 located north of the following: Beginning at the junction of Tonto Creek and Spring Creek; east along Spring Creek to FR 134; east on FR 134 to FR 129; east on FR 129 to AZ Hwy 288; east on AZ Hwy 288 to FR 54; east on FR 54 to FR 202; south on FR 202 to FR 127; east on FR 127 to FR 127A; east on FR 127A to the Fort Apache Indian Reservation boundary.
6. 23 South Hunt Unit - That portion of Unit 23 located south of the following: Beginning at the junction of Tonto Creek and Spring Creek; east along Spring Creek to FR 134; east on FR 134 to FR 129; east on FR 129 to AZ Hwy 288; east on AZ Hwy 288 to FR 54; east on FR 54 to FR 202; south on FR 202 to FR 127; east on FR 127 to FR 127A; east on FR 127A to the Fort Apache Indian Reservation boundary.
7. The Fort Huachuca Military Reservation in Unit 35A is open to bear hunting only to properly licensed Fort Huachuca military and civilian personnel holding a valid Fort Huachuca post hunting permit. Hunt numbers, season dates and/or special regulations must be obtained from Fort Huachuca. Increases in Force Protection may result in hunt cancellations at any time with little or no prior notification. In the event a hunt is cancelled due to an increase in security, hunters drawn for these permits will not be reimbursed or otherwise compensated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Applications for these hunts must be submitted to the Arizona Game and Fish Department by the published deadline. Fort Huachuca contact information: Commander, U.S. Army Garrison, ATTN: ATZS-ISB (Wildlife), Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613-6000, (520)-533-1867 or (520) 533-7083, disenrd@hua.army.mil, or www.huachuca.army.mil/usag/dpw/hunting.html.
8. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
9. Unit 31 and 32 hunts -- Access to Aravaipa Canyon Wildlife Area (as prescribed in R12-4-802) is allowed by permit only, available through the Safford Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management. For more information, contact the Safford Field Office at (928) 348-4450 or www.blm.gov/az/sfo/aravaipa/aravaipa.htm.
10. Annual Female Harvest Objective – If the Annual Female Harvest Objective for a given unit is met during a calendar year, that unit or portion thereof will close to bear hunting for the current and future bear seasons during that calendar year. The Annual Female Harvest Objective is comprised of any female bear killed by a hunter or the Department. Refer to the table below for the Annual Female Harvest Objective by unit.

BEAR BAG LIMIT: One (1) bear per calendar year except as prescribed in R12-4-120.

BEAR SPECIAL REGULATIONS: As prescribed in R12-4-308, all hunters must contact an Arizona Game and Fish Department office in person or by telephone at 1-800-970-BEAR (2327) within 48 hours of taking a bear. The report shall include the hunter's name, hunting license number, tag number, sex of the bear taken, management unit where the bear was taken, and telephone number at which the hunter can be reached to obtain additional information. Within 10 days of taking a bear, the hunter shall present the bear's skull, hide, and attached proof of sex to a designated Arizona Game and Fish Department employee for inspection. If a hunter freezes the skull or hide before presenting it for inspection, the hunter shall prop the jaw open to allow access to the teeth and ensure that the attached proof of sex is identifiable and accessible (pursuant to R12-4-308). A premolar tooth will be removed during the inspection. Successful hunters are encouraged to contact the nearest Department office by telephone to coordinate inspections.

BEAR SPECIAL NOTE: In accordance with R12-4-305(H), an individual may retain the carcass of a bear taken under ARS 17-302 when the season is closed.

ANNUAL FEMALE HARVEST LIMIT (refer to Note 10)					
Unit	Objective	Unit	Objective	Unit	Objective
1,2A,2B,2C	10	8	5	24A	8
3B	10	10, 18A, 19B, 20A,20B	2	24B	2
3C	4	17A,17B,18B	2	27	25
4A,5A	5	19A	3	28	5
4B	4	21	8	29, 30A	10
5B	2	22N	10	31	9
6A	5	22S	4	32	6
6B	4	23N	15		
7, 9	2	23S	12		

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 10: Mountain Lion

General Mountain Lion

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Harvest Obj
Sep 1, 2008 - May 31, 2009	,9,10,11,12,1	Statewide (except National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M, and any hunt listed below in Commission Order 10 with a multiple bag limit)	Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spotted kittens	
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(2,11)	6A South	Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spotted kittens	15
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(2,5,6)	13B South	Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spotted kittens	10
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(2)	15B (west of Temple Bar Rd), 15C, and 15D	Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spotted kittens	10
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(2,14)	16A South and 18B South	Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spotted kittens	15
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(2)	22 (south of AZ Hwy 87 and FR 143, and west of AZ Hwy 188)	Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spotted kittens	12
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(2,9)	Bear Canyon Hunt Area in Unit 27	Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spotted kittens	5
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(2,10)	Pipestem Hunt Area in Unit 27	Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spotted kittens	10
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(2,5,12)	40A	Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spotted kittens	4
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(2)	42 (south of the Buckeye-Aguila Rd and west of 355th Ave)	Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spotted kittens	2
			Total	83

General Mountain Lion

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Harvest Obj
	LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any firearm or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.			
	LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Mountain Lion nonpermit-tag obtained from a license dealer as prescribed in R12-4-114.			

Archery-Only Mountain Lion

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Harvest Obj
Sep 1, 2008 - May 31, 2009	(4,7,8)	11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M	Any lion except spotted kittens or females accompanied by spotted kittens	
			Total	

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318 and crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-216.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license (excluding Class H) plus Mountain Lion nonpermit-tag obtained from a license dealer as prescribed in R12-4-114.

Notes:

1. Camp Navajo is open to mountain lion hunting. For information on access and special regulations on Camp Navajo, go to www.campnavajo.com and select Hunting.
2. When the number of mountain lions equaling the multiple bag limit for a particular hunt has been reported, that hunt will revert to the statewide bag limit of one (1) lion per calendar year at sundown the Wednesday immediately following. Hunters are responsible for calling 1-877-438-0447 before hunting to determine if the multiple bag limit for their desired hunt unit is still in effect.
3. The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground is closed to mountain lion hunting, except those areas open in accordance with U.S. Army regulations to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Yuma Proving Ground Hunting Program Access permit. Occasionally, due to military activities, some affected hunting areas may be temporarily closed. For information write: U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground - Bldg. 105, Attn: Hunting Program, 301 C. Street, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498 or call toll-free 1-877-788-HUNT (4868) or (928) 328-2148, or www.yuma.army.mil/hunting_program.htm.
4. Method of take may be further restricted by local government regulations.
5. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
6. 13B South Hunt Unit - That portion of Unit 13B south of the following line: beginning at the junction of the Arizona/Nevada state line and county road 101. Northeast along county road 101 to county road 5. Southerly on county road 5 to county road 257. Southerly on county road 257 to BLM road 1045. Southerly on BLM road 1045 to the bottom of Whitmore Canyon. South in Whitmore Canyon to the Colorado River.
7. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 47M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the city of Mesa known as the Elliott and Hawes County Island in Section 16, Township 1 South, Range 7 East.
8. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 4 East.
9. Bear Canyon Hunt Area in Unit 27 - That portion of Unit 27 beginning at the junction of U.S. Hwy 191 and FR trail 76 at Hannagan Meadow; east-northeast on FR trail 76 to FR trail 75; east on FR trail 75 through Grant Creek drainage to FR 281 (the Blue Road); north on FR road 281 to FR trail 52; east-southeast on FR trail 52, in Lanphier Canyon, to FR trail 55; south-southwest on FR trail 55 through Bear Valley to Blue River; north-northwest in Blue River to FR trail 20; west on FR trail 20 to U.S. Hwy 191; north on U.S. Hwy 191 to FR Trailhead 76 at Hannagan Meadow.
10. Pipestem Hunt Area in Unit 27 - That portion of Unit 27 beginning at the Junction of U.S. Hwy 191 and FR trail 20; east on FR trail 20 to Blue River; south in Blue river to FR trail 55; east-northeast on FR trail 55 to FR trail 41; east-southeast on FR trail 41 to the Arizona-New Mexico stateline; south on the Arizona-New Mexico stateline to the San Francisco River; west in the San Francisco River to Blue River; north in Blue River to FR 475 (the Juan Miller road); west on FR 475 to U.S. Hwy 191; north U.S. Hwy 191 to FR trail 20.
11. 6A South Hunt Unit - That portion of 6A east of I-17 and south of FR 213 (Stoneman Lake Road).
12. Entry into portions of Units 40A, 40B, 46A, and 46B is subject to military closure and requires coordination with the Barry M. Goldwater Range for hunting access. For specifics about accessing the Barry M. Goldwater Range refer to the Index: Hunting on Military Reservations.

13. The Florence Military Reservation (training areas B and D: the areas north and south of Cottonwood Canyon Road) in Unit 37B is subject to short term closures due to military operations, including live fire operations, and requires coordination with the Florence Military Reservation for hunting access. For specific closure dates or any other access concerns, contact the Florence Military Reservation at 602-267-2062. A map of the Florence Military Reservation is located on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's website, azgfd.gov (type Florence Military Reservation in the search box).
14. Unit 16A South and 18B South Hunt Unit -- Those portions of Units 16A and 18B beginning in Wikieup at Chicken Springs Road and U.S. Hwy 93; north on U.S. Hwy 93 for 2.2 miles to Pump Station Road; east on Pump Station Road for 0.9 miles to Back Road; north on Back Road for 1.8 miles to Boner Canyon Road (unmarked); northeast on Boner Canyon Road to Bogles Ranch Road near SV Ranch headquarters (stay right at each road fork); south on Bogles Ranch Road for 3.5 miles to Black Canyon drainage; northeast in Black Canyon drainage to Francis Creek; southeast on Francis Creek to Burro Creek; northeast on Burro Creek to Conger Creek; southeast on Conger Creek to Conger Springhead; south on access road to Bozarth Mesa Road; east on Bozarth Mesa Road to Camp Wood (Yolo) Road, the Unit 17B-18B boundary; southwest on Camp Wood Road to AZ Hwy 96 in Bagdad; southeast on AZ Hwy 96 to the Santa Maria River; southwest along Santa Maria River to Alamo Lake; westerly along the north shore of Alamo Lake to Alamo Road; northwest on Alamo Road to Chicken Springs Road; southeast on Chicken Springs Road to U.S. Hwy 93.

MOUNTAIN LION BAG LIMIT: One (1) mountain lion per calendar year statewide. In units with a multiple bag limit, hunters may take one (1) mountain lion per day until the multiple bag limit is reached. Once the multiple bag limit has been reached, the season will remain open and revert to calendar year bag limit of one (1) mountain lion. Mountain lions taken under the one (1) per day multiple bag limit do not apply towards the calendar year bag limit until the multiple bag limit is reached.

MOUNTAIN LION SPECIAL REGULATION: As prescribed in R12-4-308, all hunters must contact an Arizona Game and Fish Department office in person or by telephone at 1-877-438-0447 within 48 hours of taking a lion. The report shall include the hunter's name, hunting license number, tag number, sex of the lion taken, management unit where the lion was taken, and telephone number at which the hunter can be reached to obtain additional information. Within 10 days of taking a lion, the hunter shall present the lions skull, hide, and attached proof of sex for inspection. If a hunter freezes the skull or hide before presenting it for inspection, the hunter shall prop the jaw open to allow access to the teeth and ensure that the attached proof of sex is identifiable and accessible (pursuant to R12-4-308). A premolar tooth will be removed during the inspection. Successful hunters are encouraged to contact the nearest Department office by telephone to coordinate inspections.

MOUNTAIN LION SPECIAL NOTE: Hunters may encounter mountain lions wearing radio collars around Flagstaff, Prescott, Payson, and Tucson. The lions instrumented with these collars are part of several ongoing research projects. The collars are used to track lion movements as researchers try to learn how the lions use various habitat types and urban interface areas. The longevity of these lions is important to the ongoing research, and data collected will help to improve Arizona's management of lions in the future. If you would like more information about any of these research efforts please contact the Arizona Game and Fish Department Research Branch at (602) 789-3247. Also, if one of these animals is harvested, the hunter is asked to return the collar, as well as any other marking device, such as an ear tag, to a Department office or officer when doing the required physical check-in of the carcass parts.

MOUNTAIN LION SPECIAL NOTE: In accordance with R12-4-305(H), an individual may retain the carcass of a lion taken under ARS 17-302 when the season is closed.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 26: Population Management Seasons

Buffalo

Buffalo General Population Management Seasons

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008	(8,9,10,11,12,15)	12A East	Any buffalo	150
Nov 21 - Nov 30, 2008	(8,9,10,11,12,15)	12A East	Any buffalo	50
Oct 31 - Nov 9, 2008	(8,9,10,11,13,15)	12A West	Any buffalo	850
Nov 21 - Nov 30, 2008	(8,9,10,11,13,15)	12A West	Any buffalo	175
			Total	1225

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow, centerfire handguns, centerfire rifles, muzzleloading rifles, or all other rifles using black powder as prescribed in R12-4-304. Bow and arrow or centerfire handguns may NOT be used on Raymond Wildlife Area.

Buffalo Muzzleloader Population Management Seasons

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
Nov 14 - Nov 20, 2008	(8,9,10,11,12,15)	12A East	Any buffalo	50
			Total	50

Buffalo Archery-Only Population Management Seasons

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(8,9,10,11,15)	12A	Any buffalo	1000
			Total	1000

Notes:

8. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
9. Restricted nonpermit tags for these population management seasons will be available to permit holders in corresponding big game seasons.
10. Successful buffalo hunters must check out and personally present their elk and/or buffalo for inspection at the Jacob Lake Checking Station in accordance with R12-4-308.
11. Individuals that have previously harvested a buffalo in Arizona and have met the one (1) per lifetime bag limit are not eligible to purchase the restricted nonpermit tag for buffalo.
12. 12A East Hunt Unit - that portion of Unit 12A located east of AZ Hwy 67 and south of U.S. Hwy 89A.
13. 12A West Hunt Unit - that portion of Unit 12A located west of AZ Hwy 67 and also that portion of Unit 12A located north of U.S. Hwy 89A.
14. 12B West Hunt Unit - That portion of Unit 12B lying west of BLM Rd. 1065 and north of U. S. Hwy 89A from the BLM 1065/ U.S. Hwy 89A junction west to the Kaibab National Forest boundary.
15. An unsuccessful hunter, or hunter who did not hunt, with a buffalo restricted nonpermit-tag for the House Rock Wildlife Area herd shall check out in person or by telephone at either the Department's Flagstaff regional office or the House Rock Wildlife Area headquarters within three days following the close of the season. A successful buffalo hunter shall report information about the kill to the Department within five business days after taking the buffalo either in person at the House Rock Wildlife Area headquarters or in person or by telephone at the Department's Flagstaff regional office. If the kill is reported by telephone, the report shall include the name of the hunter, the hunter's tag number, the sex of the buffalo taken, the number of days hunted, and a telephone number where the hunter can be reached for additional information (R12-4-306).

Special Notes:

LICENSE REQUIRED: Class F or G license plus restricted nonpermit-tag for legal wildlife. Successful applicants for Population Management Hunts may not exceed the bag limit except as prescribed in R12-4-120.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 11: Tree Squirrel

General Tree Squirrel

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(1)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands and Units 11M)	Any tree squirrel except the Mount Graham red squirrel
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009		31	Tassel-eared tree squirrel
Sep 1, 2008 - May 31, 2009		33	Tassel-eared tree squirrel

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-301 and R12-4-304.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Tree Squirrel

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Oct 3 - Dec 31, 2008	(2)	11M	Any tree squirrel

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Shotgun shooting shot, bow and arrow, pneumatic weapons, sling shots and falconry as prescribed in R12-4-304, R12-4-318, and R12-4-422.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Archery-Only Tree Squirrel

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Aug 22 - Oct 2, 2008	(1)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands and Units 12A and 13A)	Any tree squirrel except the Mount Graham red squirrel
Aug 22 - Sep 11, 2008	(1)	12A and 13A	Any tree squirrel

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318 and crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-216.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Notes:

1. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
2. Method of take may be further restricted by local government regulations.

TREE SQUIRREL BAG LIMIT: Five (5) tree squirrels per day.

TREE SQUIRREL POSSESSION LIMIT: Ten (10) tree squirrels of which no more than five (5) may be taken in any one day.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 12: Cottontail Rabbit

General Cottontail Rabbit

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(1,5,8,9)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Any cottontail rabbit
Sep 1, 2008 - Feb 8, 2009	(2)	Bill Williams River, Buenos Aires, Cibola, Havasu, Imperial and San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuges	Any cottontail rabbit
Oct 10, 2008 - Feb 8, 2009	(2)	Kofa National Wildlife Refuge	Any cottontail rabbit

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-301 and R12-4-304. The use of rifled firearms is prohibited in the Bill Williams River, Buenos Aires, Cibola, Havasu, Imperial, Kofa and San Bernadino National Wildlife Refuges.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Rimfire Cottontail Rabbit

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(3,4,5,6,7,10)	25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M	Any cottontail rabbit

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Rimfire rifled firearms, shotgun, bow and arrow, pneumatic weapons, sling shots and falconry as prescribed in R12-4-301, R12-4-304, R12-4-318, and R12-4-422.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Cottontail Rabbit

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(3)	11M	Any cottontail rabbit

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Shotgun shooting shot, bow and arrow, pneumatic weapons, sling shots and falconry as prescribed in R12-4-304, R12-4-318, and R12-4-422.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Notes:

1. The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground is closed to hunting, except those areas open in accordance with U.S. Army regulations to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Yuma Proving Ground Hunting Program Access permit. Occasionally, due to military activities, some affected hunting areas may be temporarily closed. For information write: U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Building 105, Attn: Hunting Program, 301 C. Street, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498 or call toll-free 1-877-788-HUNT (4868) or (928) 328-2148 or www.yuma.army.mil/hunting_program.htm.
2. National Wildlife Refuges are open to cottontail rabbit hunting as permitted by Refuge regulations. The use or possession of other than non-toxic shot is prohibited in the Bill Williams River, Cibola, Havasu, and Imperial NWRs .
3. Method of take may be further restricted by local government regulations.
4. Tucson Mountain Wildlife Area is limited to archery only.
5. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
6. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 4 East.
7. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 47M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the City of Mesa known as the Elliott and Hawes County Island in Section 16, Township 1 South, Range 7 East.

8. Entry into portions of Units 40A, 40B, 46A, and 46B is subject to military closure and requires coordination with the Barry M. Goldwater Range for hunting access. For specifics about accessing the Barry M. Goldwater Range refer to the Index: Hunting on Military Reservations.
9. The Florence Military Reservation (training areas B and D: the areas north and south of Cottonwood Canyon Road) in Unit 37B is subject to short term closures due to military operations, including live fire operations, and requires coordination with the Florence Military Reservation for hunting access. For specific closure dates or any other access concerns, contact the Florence Military Reservation at 602-267-2062. A map of the Florence Military Reservation is located on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's website, azgfd.gov (type Florence Military Reservation in the search box).
10. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 25M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the Town of Queen Creek in Pinal County in Sections 5, 7, 8, and 18 of Township 3 South, Range 8 East.

COTTONTAIL RABBIT BAG LIMIT: Ten (10) cottontail rabbits per day.

COTTONTAIL RABBIT POSSESSION LIMIT: Twenty (20) cottontail rabbits of which no more than ten (10) may be taken in any one day.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 13: Predatory & Fur-bearing Mammals

General Predatory & Fur-bearing Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(1,8,11,12)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Coyote and skunks
Apr 1 - May 31, 2009	(2)	Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge	Coyote and skunks
Oct 10, 2008 - Feb 8, 2009	(2)	Kofa and Imperial National Wildlife Refuges	Coyote and foxes
Aug 1, 2008 - Mar 31, 2009	(1,3,4,8,11,12)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Raccoon, bobcat, foxes, ringtail, weasel and badger

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-301 and R12-4-304.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Rimfire Predatory & Fur-bearing Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(5,6,8,9,10,13)	25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M	Coyote and skunks
Aug 1, 2008 - Mar 31, 2009	(3,4,5,6,8,9,10,13)	25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M	Raccoon, bobcat, foxes, ringtail, weasel and badger

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Rimfire rifled firearms, shotgun, and bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-301, R12-4-304, and R12-4-318.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Predatory & Fur-bearing Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(5)	11M	Coyote and skunks
Aug 1, 2008 - Mar 31, 2009	(3,4,5)	11M	Raccoon, bobcat, foxes, ringtail, weasel and badger

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Shotgun shooting shot, and bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Pursuit-Only Predatory & Fur-bearing Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1 - Jul 31, 2008 and Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2009	(1,7,8,12)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Raccoon

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: An individual participating in a "pursuit-only" season may use dogs to pursue raccoons but shall not kill or capture the quarry as prescribed in R12-4-318.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Notes:

1. The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground is closed to hunting, except those areas open in accordance with U.S. Army regulations to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Yuma Proving Ground Hunting Program Access permit. Occasionally, due to military activities, some affected hunting areas may be temporarily closed. For information write: U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Building 105, Attn: Hunting Program, 301 C. Street, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498 or call toll-free 1-877-788-HUNT (4868) or (928) 328-2148 or www.yuma.army.mil/hunting_program.htm.
2. The Buenos Aires, Kofa, and Imperial National Wildlife Refuges are open to predatory and fur-bearing mammal hunting. A refuge permit may be required; contact the individual refuges for their regulations (see Index: Hunting on Public Lands).
3. Any raw bobcat pelt sold or exported must have attached permit tag in accordance with R12-4-305.
4. Raccoon may be taken at night with the aid of artificial light; however the light may not be attached to or operated from a vehicle.
5. Method of take may be further restricted by local government regulations.
6. Tucson Mountain Wildlife Area is limited to archery only.
7. A person participating in a "pursuit-only" season may use dogs to pursue raccoons, but shall not kill or capture the quarry, pursuant to R12-4-318.
8. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
9. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 4 East.
10. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 47M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the City of Mesa known as the Elliott and Hawes County Island in Section 16, Township 1 South, Range 7 East.
11. Entry into portions of Units 40A, 40B, 46A, and 46B is subject to military closure and requires coordination with the Barry M. Goldwater Range for hunting access. For specifics about accessing the Barry M. Goldwater Range refer to the Index: Hunting on Military Reservations.
12. The Florence Military Reservation (training areas B and D: the areas north and south of Cottonwood Canyon Road) in Unit 37B is subject to short term closures due to military operations, including live fire operations, and requires coordination with the Florence Military Reservation for hunting access. For specific closure dates or any other access concerns, contact the Florence Military Reservation at 602-267-2062. A map of the Florence Military Reservation is located on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's website, azgfd.gov (type Florence Military Reservation in the search box).
13. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 25M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the Town of Queen Creek in Pinal County in Sections 5, 7, 8, and 18 of Township 3 South, Range 8 East.

PREDATORY & FUR-BEARING MAMMALS BAG LIMIT: Unlimited. In the "pursuit-only" season, an individual shall not kill or capture any mammal.

PREDATORY & FUR-BEARING MAMMALS POSSESSION LIMIT: Unlimited. In the "pursuit-only" season, an individual shall not kill or capture any mammal.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 14: Other Birds & Mammals

General Other Birds & Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(1,5,8,9)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	House (English) sparrow and European starling
Sep 1 - Dec 31, 2008	(1,5,8,9)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Crow
Sep 1, 2008 - Mar 31, 2009	(5,8,9)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Coati
Jul 1, 2008 - Mar 31, 2009 and Jun 16 - Jun 30, 2009	(5,8,9)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 29, 30A, 30B, 34A, 34B, 35A, 35B, 38M, and 47M)	Gunnison's prairie dog
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(1,2,5,8,9)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	All mammals EXCEPT game mammals, furbearing mammals, predatory mammals, bats, coati, black-footed ferret, Hualapai vole, Gunnison's prairie dog, black-tailed prairie dog, jaguar, jaguarundi, ocelot, otter, porcupine and wolves

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-301 and R12-4-304.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Rimfire Other Birds & Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(3,4,5,6,7,10)	25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M	House (English) sparrow and European starling
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(3,4,5,6,7,10)	25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M	All mammals EXCEPT game mammals, furbearing mammals, predatory mammals, bats, coati, black-footed ferret, Hualapai vole, black-tailed prairie dog, jaguar, jaguarundi, ocelot, otter, porcupine and wolves

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Rimfire rifled firearms, shotgun, bow and arrow, pneumatic weapons, sling shots, traps and falconry as prescribed in R12-4-301, R12-4-304, R12-4-307, R12-4-318, and R12-4-422.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Other Birds & Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(3)	11M	House (English) sparrow and European starling
Jul 1, 2008 - Jun 30, 2009	(3)	11M	All mammals EXCEPT game mammals, furbearing mammals, predatory mammals, bats, coati, black-footed ferret, Hualapai vole, black-tailed prairie dog, jaguar, jaguarundi, ocelot, otter, porcupine and wolves

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Other Birds & Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
--------------	-------	------------	----------------

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Shotgun shooting shot, bow and arrow, pneumatic weapons, sling shots, traps and falconry as prescribed in R12-4-303, R12-4-304, R12-4-307, R12-4-318, and R12-4-422.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Notes:

1. The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground is closed to hunting, except those areas open in accordance with U.S. Army regulations to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Yuma Proving Ground Hunting Program Access permit. Occasionally, due to military activities, some affected hunting areas may be temporarily closed. For information write: U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Building 105, Attn: Hunting Program, 301 C. Street, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498 or call toll-free 1-877-788-HUNT (4868) or (928) 328-2148 or www.yuma.army.mil/hunting_program.htm.
2. Other mammals may be taken at night with the aid of artificial light as prescribed in R12-4-304E. No firearms may be used at night.
3. Method of take may be further restricted by local government regulations.
4. Tucson Mountain Wildlife Area is limited to archery only.
5. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
6. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 4 East.
7. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 47M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the City of Mesa known as the Elliott and Hawes County Island in Section 16, Township 1 South, Range 7 East.
8. Entry into portions of Units 40A, 40B, 46A, and 46B is subject to military closure and requires coordination with the Barry M. Goldwater Range for hunting access. For specifics about accessing the Barry M. Goldwater Range refer to the Index: Hunting on Military Reservations.
9. The Florence Military Reservation (training areas B and D: the areas north and south of Cottonwood Canyon Road) in Unit 37B is subject to short term closures due to military operations, including live fire operations, and requires coordination with the Florence Military Reservation for hunting access. For specific closure dates or any other access concerns, contact the Florence Military Reservation at 602-267-2062. A map of the Florence Military Reservation is located on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's website, azgfd.gov (type Florence Military Reservation in the search box).
10. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 25M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the Town of Queen Creek in Pinal County in Sections 5, 7, 8, and 18 of Township 3 South, Range 8 East.

OTHER BIRDS & MAMMALS BAG LIMIT: Unlimited, except for coati which is one (1) per calendar year. House (English) sparrows, European starlings and mammals of the Orders Rodentia (except beaver, black-tailed prairie dog, muskrat, porcupine or tree squirrel) and Insectivora may be taken alive and held in captivity pursuant to R12-4-404.

OTHER BIRDS & MAMMALS POSSESSION LIMIT: Unlimited, except for coati which is one (1) per calendar year.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 15: Pheasant

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Pheasant

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Sep 19 - Sep 21, 2008	(1)	40B (Yuma Valley, west of East Main Canal)	Any rooster pheasant	40
	Sep 26 - Sep 28, 2008	(1)	40B (Yuma Valley, west of East Main Canal)	Any rooster pheasant	40
	Oct 3 - Oct 5, 2008	(1)	40B (Yuma Valley, west of East Main Canal)	Any rooster pheasant	40
	Oct 10 - Oct 12, 2008	(1)	40B (Yuma Valley, west of East Main Canal)	Any rooster pheasant	40
				Total	160

WHEN APPLYING FOR HUNT PERMIT-TAGS, YOU MUST USE HUNT NUMBERS!

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Shotgun shooting shot as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license plus Pheasant hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

LIMITED WEAPON-SHOTGUN SHOOTING SHOT PHEASANT BAG LIMIT: Two (2) pheasants. Each pheasant possessed shall have a hunt permit-tag attached.

Juniors-Only Limited Weapon Shotgun Shooting Shot Pheasant

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Sep 12 - Sep 14, 2008	(1)	40B (Yuma Valley, west of East Main Canal)	Any pheasant	30
				Total	30

WHEN APPLYING FOR HUNT PERMIT-TAGS, YOU MUST USE HUNT NUMBERS!

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Shotgun shooting shot as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license plus Pheasant hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

ELIGIBLE HUNTERS: Persons are eligible to participate up to and throughout the calendar year of their 17th birthday.

JUNIORS-ONLY LIMITED WEAPON SHOTGUN SHOOTING SHOT PHEASANT BAG LIMIT: Two (2) pheasants. Each pheasant possessed shall have a hunt permit-tag attached.

Archery-Only Pheasant

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Oct 3, 2008 - Feb 8, 2009	(2)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges and Mohave County Park Lands)	Any pheasant

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318 and crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-216.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license.

PHEASANT BAG LIMIT: Two (2) pheasants per day.

PHEASANT POSSESSION LIMIT: Four (4) pheasants of which no more than two (2) may be taken in any one day.

Falconry-Only Pheasant

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Oct 3, 2008 - Feb 8, 2009	(2)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, and Mohave County Park Lands)	Any pheasant

Falconry-Only Pheasant

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
	LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Falconry as defined in R12-4-101 and as prescribed in R12-4-318.		
	LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license plus Sport Falconry License as prescribed in R12-4-422 or R12-4-407.		
	PHEASANT BAG LIMIT: Two (2) pheasants per day.		
	PHEASANT POSSESSION LIMIT: Four (4) pheasants of which no more than two (2) may be taken in any one day.		

Notes:

1. For the Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Pheasant application acceptance date see the Table of Contents: Application Info and Fees. Submitting your application before the acceptance date will result in your application being rejected.
2. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 16: Quail

General Quail

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Oct 3, 2008 - Feb 8, 2009	(1,3,4,5,6,7)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges and Mohave County Park Lands)	Gambel's, Scaled and California quail
Oct 3, 2008 - Feb 8, 2009	(2)	Bill Williams River, Cibola, Havasu, Imperial, Kofa and San Bernadino National Wildlife Refuges	Gambel's, Scaled and California quail
Nov 28, 2008 - Feb 8, 2009	(3,4,5,6,7)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges and Mohave County Park Lands)	Mearns' quail

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-301 and R12-4-304.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

GENERAL QUAIL BAG LIMIT: Fifteen (15) quail per day in the aggregate of which no more than eight (8) may be Mearns' quail.

GENERAL QUAIL POSSESSION LIMIT: Thirty (30) quail in the aggregate after opening day of which no more than fifteen (15) Gambel's, Scaled, or California quail in the aggregate may be taken in any one day. After Mearns' season opens, the 30 quail possession limit may include Mearns' quail of which no more than eight (8) may be taken in any one day.

GENERAL QUAIL SPECIAL NOTE: Quail hunters are reminded that A.R.S. 17-309 requires wildlife in possession be identifiable as to species. Commission Rule R12-4-305 states that for a person transporting or possessing quail, that each quail have attached a fully feathered head, or a fully feathered wing, or a leg with foot attached.

Falconry-Only Quail

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 1, 2008 - Oct 2, 2009	(3,6,7)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Any quail
Jul 1, 2008 - Mar 31, 2009	(3,4,5,8)	25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M	Any quail

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Falconry as defined in R12-4-101 and as prescribed in R12-4-318.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license license plus Sport Falconry License as prescribed in R12-4-422 or R12-4-407.

FALCONRY-ONLY QUAIL BAG LIMIT: Three (3) quail per day.

FALCONRY-ONLY QUAIL POSSESSION LIMIT: Six (6) quail of which no more than three (3) may be taken in any one day.

FALCONRY-ONLY QUAIL SPECIAL NOTE: Quail hunters are reminded that A.R.S. 17-309 requires wildlife in possession be identifiable as to species. Commission Rule R12-4-305 states that for a person transporting or possessing quail, that each quail have attached a fully feathered head, or a fully feathered wing, or a leg with foot attached.

Notes:

1. The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground is closed to hunting, except those areas open in accordance with U.S. Army regulations to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Yuma Proving Ground Hunting Program Access permit. Occasionally, due to military activities, some affected hunting areas may be temporarily closed. For information write: U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Building 105, Attn: Hunting Program, 301 C. Street, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498 or call toll-free 1-877-788-HUNT (4868) or (928) 328-2148 or www.yuma.army.mil/hunting_program.htm.
2. National Wildlife Refuges are open to quail hunting as permitted by Refuge regulations. The use or possession of other than non-toxic shot is prohibited in the Bill Williams River, Cibola, Havasu, and Imperial NWRs.
3. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
4. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 4 East.
5. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 47M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the City of Mesa known as the Elliott and Hawes County Island in Section 16, Township 1 South, Range 7 East.
6. Entry into portions of Units 40A, 40B, 46A, and 46B is subject to military closure and requires coordination with the Barry M. Goldwater Range for hunting access. For specifics about accessing the Barry M. Goldwater Range refer to the Index: Hunting on Military Reservations.

7. The Florence Military Reservation (training areas B and D: the areas north and south of Cottonwood Canyon Road) in Unit 37B is subject to short term closures due to military operations, including live fire operations, and requires coordination with the Florence Military Reservation for hunting access. For specific closure dates or any other access concerns, contact the Florence Military Reservation at 602-267-2062. A map of the Florence Military Reservation is located on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's website, azgfd.gov (type Florence Military Reservation in the search box).
8. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 25M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the Town of Queen Creek in Pinal County in Sections 5, 7, 8, and 18 of Township 3 South, Range 8 East.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 17: Chukar Partridge

General Chukar Partridge

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 12, 2008 - Feb 8, 2009	(1)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges and Mohave County Park Lands)	Any chukar

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Notes:

1. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.

CHUKAR PARTRIDGE BAG LIMIT: Five (5) chukar per day.

CHUKAR PARTRIDGE POSSESSION LIMIT: Ten (10) chukar of which no more than five (5) may be taken in one day.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 18: Blue Grouse

General Blue Grouse

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 12 - Nov 16, 2008	(1)	Open areas Statewide (except for Units 4A and 5A, National Wildlife Refuges, and Mohave County Park Lands)	Blue grouse

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Notes:

1. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.

BLUE GROUSE BAG LIMIT: Three (3) blue grouse per day.

BLUE GROUSE POSSESSION LIMIT: Six (6) blue grouse of which no more than three (3) may be taken in any one day.

Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 23: Trapping

Trapping

Open Areas do not include any area closed to trapping under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-108, R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Nov 1, 2008 - Feb 28, 2009	(1)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Coyote, bobcat, foxes, ringtail, badger, beaver, raccoon, skunks, weasels and muskrat

Notes:

1. Refer to ARS 17-301D for trapping restrictions on public land.

TRAPPING BAG LIMIT: Unlimited.

TRAPPING POSSESSION LIMIT: Unlimited.

TRAPPING SPECIAL NOTE: Hunting or trapping seasons are closed on state and federal refuges, parks, and monuments, unless specifically opened by Commission Order (ARS 17-101 A.17).

DEFINITION: TRAPPING - means the taking of wildlife in any manner except with a gun or other implement in hand (ARS 17-101 A.20).

TRAPPERS: Be sure to file your trapping report annually by April 1 at the Phoenix office of the Arizona Game and Fish Department (2221 W Greenway Road, Phoenix AZ 85023).

2009-2010 Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 11: Tree Squirrel

General Tree Squirrel

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Oct 2 - Dec 31, 2009	(1)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands and Units 11M)	Any tree squirrel except the Mount Graham red squirrel
Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010		31	Tassel-eared tree squirrel
Sep 1, 2009 - May 31, 2010		33	Tassel-eared tree squirrel

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-301 and R12-4-304.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Tree Squirrel

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Oct 2 - Dec 31, 2009	(2)	11M	Any tree squirrel

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Shotgun shooting shot, bow and arrow, pneumatic weapons, sling shots and falconry as prescribed in R12-4-304, R12-4-318, and R12-4-422.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Archery-Only Tree Squirrel

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Aug 21 - Oct 1, 2009	(1)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands and Units 12A and 13A)	Any tree squirrel except the Mount Graham red squirrel
Aug 21 - Sep 10, 2009	(1)	12A and 13A	Any tree squirrel

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318 and crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-216.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Notes:

1. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
2. Method of take may be further restricted by local government regulations.

TREE SQUIRREL BAG LIMIT: Five (5) tree squirrels per day.

TREE SQUIRREL POSSESSION LIMIT: Ten (10) tree squirrels of which no more than five (5) may be taken in any one day.

2009-2010 Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 12: Cottontail Rabbit

General Cottontail Rabbit

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010	(1,5,8,9)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Any cottontail rabbit
Sep 1, 2009 - Feb 7, 2010	(2)	Bill Williams River, Buenos Aires, Cibola, Havasu, Imperial and San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuges	Any cottontail rabbit
Oct 9, 2009 - Feb 7, 2010	(2)	Kofa National Wildlife Refuge	Any cottontail rabbit

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-301 and R12-4-304. The use of rifled firearms is prohibited in the Bill Williams River, Buenos Aires, Cibola, Havasu, Imperial, Kofa and San Bernadino National Wildlife Refuges.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Rimfire Cottontail Rabbit

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010	(3,4,5,6,7,10)	25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M	Any cottontail rabbit

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Rimfire rifled firearms, shotgun, bow and arrow, pneumatic weapons, sling shots and falconry as prescribed in R12-4-301, R12-4-304, R12-4-318, and R12-4-422.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Cottontail Rabbit

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010	(3)	11M	Any cottontail rabbit

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Shotgun shooting shot, bow and arrow, pneumatic weapons, sling shots and falconry as prescribed in R12-4-304, R12-4-318, and R12-4-422.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Notes:

1. The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground is closed to hunting, except those areas open in accordance with U.S. Army regulations to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Yuma Proving Ground Hunting Program Access permit. Occasionally, due to military activities, some affected hunting areas may be temporarily closed. For information write: U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Building 105, Attn: Hunting Program, 301 C. Street, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498 or call toll-free 1-877-788-HUNT (4868) or (928) 328-2148 or www.yuma.army.mil/hunting_program.htm.
2. National Wildlife Refuges are open to cottontail rabbit hunting as permitted by Refuge regulations. The use or possession of other than non-toxic shot is prohibited in the Bill Williams River, Cibola, Havasu, and Imperial NWRs .
3. Method of take may be further restricted by local government regulations.
4. Tucson Mountain Wildlife Area is limited to archery only.
5. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
6. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 4 East.
7. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 47M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the City of Mesa known as the Elliott and Hawes County Island in Section 16, Township 1 South, Range 7 East.
8. Entry into portions of Units 40A, 40B, 46A, and 46B is subject to military closure and requires coordination with the Barry M. Goldwater Range for hunting access. For specifics about accessing the Barry M. Goldwater Range refer to the Index: Hunting on Military Reservations.
9. The Florence Military Reservation (training areas B and D: the areas north and south of Cottonwood Canyon Road) in Unit 37B is subject to short term closures due to military operations, including live fire operations, and requires coordination with the Florence Military Reservation for hunting access. For specific closure dates or any other access concerns, contact the Florence Military Reservation at 602-267-2062. A map of the Florence Military Reservation is located on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's website, azgfd.gov (type Florence Military Reservation in the search box).
10. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 25M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the Town of Queen Creek in Pinal County in Sections 5, 7, 8, and 18 of Township 3 South, Range 8 East.

COTTONTAIL RABBIT BAG LIMIT: Ten (10) cottontail rabbits per day.

COTTONTAIL RABBIT POSSESSION LIMIT: Twenty (20) cottontail rabbits of which no more than ten (10) may be taken in any one day.

2009-2010 Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 13: Predatory & Fur-bearing Mammals

General Predatory & Fur-bearing Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010	(1,8,11,12)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Coyote and skunks
Apr 1 - May 31, 2010	(2)	Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge	Coyote and skunks
Oct 9, 2009 - Feb 7, 2010	(2)	Kofa and Imperial National Wildlife Refuges	Coyote and foxes
Aug 1, 2009 - Mar 31, 2010	(1,3,4,8,11,12)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Raccoon, bobcat, foxes, ringtail, weasel and badger

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-301 and R12-4-304.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Rimfire Predatory & Fur-bearing Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010	(5,6,8,9,10,13)	25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M	Coyote and skunks
Aug 1, 2009 - Mar 31, 2010	(3,4,5,6,8,9,10,13)	25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M	Raccoon, bobcat, foxes, ringtail, weasel and badger

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Rimfire rifled firearms, shotgun, and bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-301, R12-4-304, and R12-4-318.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Predatory & Fur-bearing Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010	(5)	11M	Coyote and skunks
Aug 1, 2009 - Mar 31, 2010	(3,4,5)	11M	Raccoon, bobcat, foxes, ringtail, weasel and badger

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Shotgun shooting shot, and bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Pursuit-Only Predatory & Fur-bearing Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1 - Jul 31, 2009 and Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2010	(1,7,8,12)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Raccoon

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: An individual participating in a "pursuit-only" season may use dogs to pursue raccoons but shall not kill or capture the quarry as prescribed in R12-4-318.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Notes:

- 1 . The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground is closed to hunting, except those areas open in accordance with U.S. Army regulations to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Yuma Proving Ground Hunting Program Access permit. Occasionally, due to military activities, some affected hunting areas may be temporarily closed. For information write: U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Building 105, Attn: Hunting Program, 301 C. Street, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498 or call toll-free 1-877-788-HUNT (4868) or (928) 328-2148 or www.yuma.army.mil/hunting_program.htm.
- 2 . The Buenos Aires, Kofa, and Imperial National Wildlife Refuges are open to predatory and fur-bearing mammal hunting. A refuge permit may be required; contact the individual refuges for their regulations (see Index: Hunting on Public Lands).
- 3 . Any raw bobcat pelt sold or exported must have attached permit tag in accordance with R12-4-305.
- 4 . Raccoon may be taken at night with the aid of artificial light; however the light may not be attached to or operated from a vehicle.
- 5 . Method of take may be further restricted by local government regulations.
- 6 . Tucson Mountain Wildlife Area is limited to archery only.
- 7 . A person participating in a "pursuit-only" season may use dogs to pursue raccoons, but shall not kill or capture the quarry, pursuant to R12-4-318.
- 8 . The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
- 9 . Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 4 East.
- 10 . Hunting is not permitted in Unit 47M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the City of Mesa known as the Elliott and Hawes County Island in Section 16, Township 1 South, Range 7 East.
- 11 . Entry into portions of Units 40A, 40B, 46A, and 46B is subject to military closure and requires coordination with the Barry M. Goldwater Range for hunting access. For specifics about accessing the Barry M. Goldwater Range refer to the Index: Hunting on Military Reservations.
- 12 . The Florence Military Reservation (training areas B and D: the areas north and south of Cottonwood Canyon Road) in Unit 37B is subject to short term closures due to military operations, including live fire operations, and requires coordination with the Florence Military Reservation for hunting access. For specific closure dates or any other access concerns, contact the Florence Military Reservation at 602-267-2062. A map of the Florence Military Reservation is located on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's website, azgfd.gov (type Florence Military Reservation in the search box).
- 13 . Hunting is not permitted in Unit 25M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the Town of Queen Creek in Pinal County in Sections 5, 7, 8, and 18 of Township 3 South, Range 8 East.

PREDATORY & FUR-BEARING MAMMALS BAG LIMIT: Unlimited. In the "pursuit-only" season, an individual shall not kill or capture any mammal.

PREDATORY & FUR-BEARING MAMMALS POSSESSION LIMIT: Unlimited. In the "pursuit-only" season, an individual shall not kill or capture any mammal.

2009-2010 Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 14: Other Birds & Mammals

General Other Birds & Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010	(1,5,8,9)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	House (English) sparrow and European starling
Sep 1 - Dec 31, 2009	(1,5,8,9)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Crow
Sep 1, 2009 - Mar 31, 2010	(5,8,9)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Coati
Jul 1, 2009 - Mar 31, 2010 and Jun 16 - Jun 30, 2010	(5,8,9)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 29, 30A, 30B, 34A, 34B, 35A, 35B, 38M, and 47M)	Gunnison's prairie dog
Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010	(1,2,5,8,9)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	All mammals EXCEPT game mammals, furbearing mammals, predatory mammals, bats, coati, black-footed ferret, Hualapai vole, Gunnison's prairie dog, black-tailed prairie dog, jaguar, jaguarundi, ocelot, otter, porcupine and wolves

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-301 and R12-4-304.
 LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Rimfire Other Birds & Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010	(3,4,5,6,7,10)	25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M	House (English) sparrow and European starling
Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010	(3,4,5,6,7,10)	25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M	All mammals EXCEPT game mammals, furbearing mammals, predatory mammals, bats, coati, black-footed ferret, Hualapai vole, black-tailed prairie dog, jaguar, jaguarundi, ocelot, otter, porcupine and wolves

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Rimfire rifled firearms, shotgun, bow and arrow, pneumatic weapons, sling shots, traps and falconry as prescribed in R12-4-301, R12-4-304, R12-4-307, R12-4-318, and R12-4-422.
 LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Other Birds & Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010	(3)	11M	House (English) sparrow and European starling
Jul 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2010	(3)	11M	All mammals EXCEPT game mammals, furbearing mammals, predatory mammals, bats, coati, black-footed ferret, Hualapai vole, black-tailed prairie dog, jaguar, jaguarundi, ocelot, otter, porcupine and wolves

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Other Birds & Mammals

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates

Notes

Open Areas

Legal Wildlife

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Shotgun shooting shot, bow and arrow, pneumatic weapons, sling shots, traps and falconry as prescribed in R12-4-303, R12-4-304, R12-4-307, R12-4-318, and R12-4-422.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Notes:

- 1 . The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground is closed to hunting, except those areas open in accordance with U.S. Army regulations to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Yuma Proving Ground Hunting Program Access permit. Occasionally, due to military activities, some affected hunting areas may be temporarily closed. For information write: U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Building 105, Attn: Hunting Program, 301 C. Street, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498 or call toll-free 1-877-788-HUNT (4868) or (928) 328-2148 or www.yuma.army.mil/hunting_program.htm.
- 2 . Other mammals may be taken at night with the aid of artificial light as prescribed in R12-4-304E. No firearms may be used at night.
- 3 . Method of take may be further restricted by local government regulations.
- 4 . Tucson Mountain Wildlife Area is limited to archery only.
- 5 . The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
- 6 . Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 4 East.
- 7 . Hunting is not permitted in Unit 47M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the City of Mesa known as the Elliott and Hawes County Island in Section 16, Township 1 South, Range 7 East.
- 8 . Entry into portions of Units 40A, 40B, 46A, and 46B is subject to military closure and requires coordination with the Barry M. Goldwater Range for hunting access. For specifics about accessing the Barry M. Goldwater Range refer to the Index: Hunting on Military Reservations.
- 9 . The Florence Military Reservation (training areas B and D: the areas north and south of Cottonwood Canyon Road) in Unit 37B is subject to short term closures due to military operations, including live fire operations, and requires coordination with the Florence Military Reservation for hunting access. For specific closure dates or any other access concerns, contact the Florence Military Reservation at 602-267-2062. A map of the Florence Military Reservation is located on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's website, azgfd.gov (type Florence Military Reservation in the search box).
- 10 . Hunting is not permitted in Unit 25M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the Town of Queen Creek in Pinal County in Sections 5, 7, 8, and 18 of Township 3 South, Range 8 East.

OTHER BIRDS & MAMMALS BAG LIMIT: Unlimited, except for coati which is one (1) per calendar year. House (English) sparrows, European starlings and mammals of the Orders Rodentia (except beaver, black-tailed prairie dog, muskrat, porcupine or tree squirrel) and Insectivora may be taken alive and held in captivity pursuant to R12-4-404.

OTHER BIRDS & MAMMALS POSSESSION LIMIT: Unlimited, except for coati which is one (1) per calendar year.

2009-2010 Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 15: Pheasant

Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Pheasant

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Sep 18 - Sep 20, 2009	(1)	40B (Yuma Valley, west of East Main Canal)	Any rooster pheasant	40
	Sep 25 - Sep 27, 2009	(1)	40B (Yuma Valley, west of East Main Canal)	Any rooster pheasant	40
	Oct 2 - Oct 4, 2009	(1)	40B (Yuma Valley, west of East Main Canal)	Any rooster pheasant	40
	Oct 9 - Oct 11, 2009	(1)	40B (Yuma Valley, west of East Main Canal)	Any rooster pheasant	40
				Total	160

WHEN APPLYING FOR HUNT PERMIT-TAGS, YOU MUST USE HUNT NUMBERS!

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Shotgun shooting shot as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license plus Pheasant hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

LIMITED WEAPON-SHOTGUN SHOOTING SHOT PHEASANT BAG LIMIT: Two (2) pheasants. Each pheasant possessed shall have a hunt permit-tag attached.

Juniors-Only Limited Weapon Shotgun Shooting Shot Pheasant

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
	Sep 11 - Sep 13, 2009	(1)	40B (Yuma Valley, west of East Main Canal)	Any pheasant	30
				Total	30

WHEN APPLYING FOR HUNT PERMIT-TAGS, YOU MUST USE HUNT NUMBERS!

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Shotgun shooting shot as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license plus Pheasant hunt permit-tag obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applicants must apply by Hunt Number.

ELIGIBLE HUNTERS: Persons are eligible to participate up to and throughout the calendar year of their 17th birthday.

JUNIORS-ONLY LIMITED WEAPON SHOTGUN SHOOTING SHOT PHEASANT BAG LIMIT: Two (2) pheasants. Each pheasant possessed shall have a hunt permit-tag attached.

Archery-Only Pheasant

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Oct 2, 2009 - Feb 7, 2010	(2)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges and Mohave County Park Lands)	Any pheasant

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304 and R12-4-318 and crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-216.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license.

PHEASANT BAG LIMIT: Two (2) pheasants per day.

PHEASANT POSSESSION LIMIT: Four (4) pheasants of which no more than two (2) may be taken in any one day.

Falconry-Only Pheasant

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Oct 2, 2009 - Feb 7, 2010	(2)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, and Mohave County Park Lands)	Any pheasant

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Falconry as defined in R12-4-101 and as prescribed in R12-4-318.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: Any valid hunting license plus Sport Falconry License as prescribed in R12-4-422 or R12-4-407.

PHEASANT BAG LIMIT: Two (2) pheasants per day.

PHEASANT POSSESSION LIMIT: Four (4) pheasants of which no more than two (2) may be taken in any one day.

Notes:

1. For the Limited Weapon-Shotgun Shooting Shot Pheasant application acceptance date see the Table of Contents: Application Info and Fees. Submitting your application before the acceptance date will result in your application being rejected.
2. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.

2009-2010 Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 16: Quail

General Quail

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Oct 2, 2009 - Feb 7, 2010	(1,3,4,5,6,7)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges and Mohave County Park Lands)	Gambel's, Scaled and California quail
Oct 2, 2009 - Feb 7, 2010	(2)	Bill Williams River, Cibola, Havasu, Imperial, Kofa and San Bernadino National Wildlife Refuges	Gambel's, Scaled and California quail
Nov 27, 2009 - Feb 7, 2010	(3,4,5,6,7)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges and Mohave County Park Lands)	Mearns' quail

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-301 and R12-4-304.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

GENERAL QUAIL BAG LIMIT: Fifteen (15) quail per day in the aggregate of which no more than eight (8) may be Mearns' quail.

GENERAL QUAIL POSSESSION LIMIT: Thirty (30) quail in the aggregate after opening day of which no more than fifteen (15) Gambel's, Scaled, or California quail in the aggregate may be taken in any one day. After Mearns' season opens, the 30 quail possession limit may include Mearns' quail of which no more than eight (8) may be taken in any one day.

GENERAL QUAIL SPECIAL NOTE: Quail hunters are reminded that A.R.S. 17-309 requires wildlife in possession be identifiable as to species.

Commission Rule R12-4-305 states that for a person transporting or possessing quail, that each quail have attached a fully feathered head, or a fully feathered wing, or a leg with foot attached.

Falconry-Only Quail

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 1, 2009 - Oct 1, 2010	(3,6,7)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Any quail
Jul 1, 2009 - Mar 31, 2010	(3,4,5,8)	25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M	Any quail

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Falconry as defined in R12-4-101 and as prescribed in R12-4-318.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license plus Sport Falconry License as prescribed in R12-4-422 or R12-4-407.

FALCONRY-ONLY QUAIL BAG LIMIT: Three (3) quail per day.

FALCONRY-ONLY QUAIL POSSESSION LIMIT: Six (6) quail of which no more than three (3) may be taken in any one day.

FALCONRY-ONLY QUAIL SPECIAL NOTE: Quail hunters are reminded that A.R.S. 17-309 requires wildlife in possession be identifiable as to species. Commission Rule R12-4-305 states that for a person transporting or possessing quail, that each quail have attached a fully feathered head, or a fully feathered wing, or a leg with foot attached.

Notes:

- 1 . The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground is closed to hunting, except those areas open in accordance with U.S. Army regulations to properly licensed hunters holding a valid Yuma Proving Ground Hunting Program Access permit. Occasionally, due to military activities, some affected hunting areas may be temporarily closed. For information write: U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Building 105, Attn: Hunting Program, 301 C. Street, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498 or call toll-free 1-877-788-HUNT (4868) or (928) 328-2148 or www.yuma.army.mil/hunting_program.htm.
- 2 . National Wildlife Refuges are open to quail hunting as permitted by Refuge regulations. The use or possession of other than non-toxic shot is prohibited in the Bill Williams River, Cibola, Havasu, and Imperial NWRs.
- 3 . The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
- 4 . Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 4 East.
- 5 . Hunting is not permitted in Unit 47M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the City of Mesa known as the Elliott and Hawes County Island in Section 16, Township 1 South, Range 7 East.
- 6 . Entry into portions of Units 40A, 40B, 46A, and 46B is subject to military closure and requires coordination with the Barry M. Goldwater Range for hunting access. For specifics about accessing the Barry M. Goldwater Range refer to the Index: Hunting on Military Reservations.
- 7 . The Florence Military Reservation (training areas B and D: the areas north and south of Cottonwood Canyon Road) in Unit 37B is subject to short term closures due to military operations, including live fire operations, and requires coordination with the Florence Military Reservation for hunting access. For specific closure dates or any other access concerns, contact the Florence Military Reservation at 602-267-2062. A map of the Florence Military Reservation is located on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's website, azgfd.gov (type Florence Military Reservation in the search box).
- 8 . Hunting is not permitted in Unit 25M in the following described area: an unincorporated portion of land within the Town of Queen Creek in Pinal County in Sections 5, 7, 8, and 18 of Township 3 South, Range 8 East.

2009-2010 Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 17: Chukar Partridge

General Chukar Partridge

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 11, 2009 - Feb 7, 2010	(1)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges and Mohave County Park Lands)	Any chukar

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-304.
LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Notes:

- 1 . The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.

CHUKAR PARTRIDGE BAG LIMIT: Five (5) chukar per day.

CHUKAR PARTRIDGE POSSESSION LIMIT: Ten (10) chukar of which no more than five (5) may be taken in one day.

2009-2010 Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 18: Blue Grouse

General Blue Grouse

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 11 - Nov 15, 2009	(1)	Open areas Statewide (except for Units 4A and 5A, National Wildlife Refuges, and Mohave County Park Lands)	Blue grouse

LAWFUL TAKING METHODS: Any lawful methods as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license obtained from a license dealer.

Notes:

- 1 . The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermilion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.

BLUE GROUSE BAG LIMIT: Three (3) blue grouse per day.

BLUE GROUSE POSSESSION LIMIT: Six (6) blue grouse of which no more than three (3) may be taken in any one day.

2009-2010 Hunt Recommendations

Commission Order 23: Trapping

Trapping

Open Areas do not include any area closed to trapping under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-108, R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Nov 1, 2009 - Feb 28, 2010	(1)	Open areas Statewide (except for National Wildlife Refuges, Mohave County Park Lands, and Units 11M, 25M, 26M, 38M, and 47M)	Coyote, bobcat, foxes, ringtail, badger, beaver, raccoon, skunks, weasels and muskrat

Notes:

- 1 . Refer to ARS 17-301D for trapping restrictions on public land.

TRAPPING BAG LIMIT: Unlimited.

TRAPPING POSSESSION LIMIT: Unlimited.

TRAPPING SPECIAL NOTE: Hunting or trapping seasons are closed on state and federal refuges, parks, and monuments, unless specifically opened by Commission Order (ARS 17-101 A.17).

DEFINITION: TRAPPING - means the taking of wildlife in any manner except with a gun or other implement in hand (ARS 17-101 A.20).

TRAPPERS: Be sure to file your trapping report annually by April 1 at the Phoenix office of the Arizona Game and Fish Department (2221 W Greenway Road, Phoenix AZ 85023).