

Condors and Lead

- ▶ Lead poisoning is the leading cause of death in condors and the main obstacle to a self-sustaining condor population in Arizona.
- ▶ More than one-third of condor deaths have been from lead poisoning, and 300 cases of lead exposure have been documented since 1999.
- ▶ Studies show that lead shot and bullet fragments found in game carcasses and gut piles are the main source of lead in condors. To review these studies, visit www.azgfd.gov/condor.
- ▶ Lead shot and bullet fragments remain in game carcasses and gut piles left in the field.
- ▶ Condors are group feeders, so several birds can ingest fragments from one carcass or gut pile containing lead.
- ▶ Radio tracking and visual observations confirm condors feed on game carcasses and gut piles during the fall hunt season in greater concentrations.

Hunters Praise Non-lead Ammunition

- ▶ 100-percent copper bullets have superior knock-down power, are less toxic, and do not fragment like lead.
- ▶ 93 percent of hunters say that non-lead bullets perform as well as or better than lead bullets on game.
- ▶ For more information about non-lead ammunition and a list of available calibers, visit www.azgfd.gov/condor.



BARNES BULLETS PHOTOS



The Arizona Game and Fish Department prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability in its programs and activities. If anyone believes that they have been discriminated against in any of the AZGFD's programs or activities, including its employment practices, the individual may file a complaint alleging discrimination directly with the AZGFD Deputy Director, 2221 W. Greenway Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85023, (602) 942-3000 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Dr., Suite 130, Arlington, VA 22203.

Why Non-lead Ammunition?

TO HELP CONSERVE WILDLIFE!

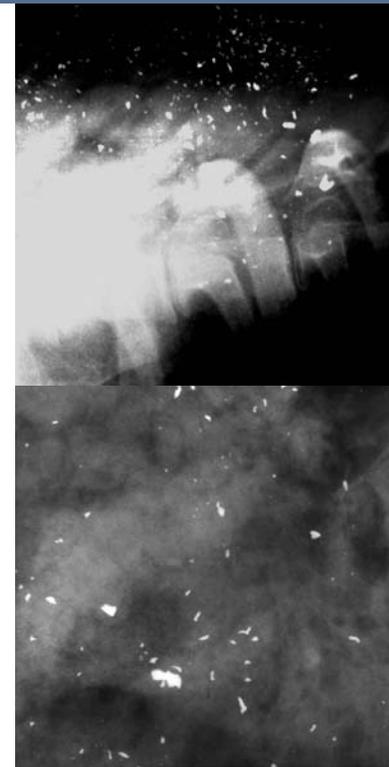
Lead poisoning is the leading cause of death in endangered condors and the main obstacle to a self-sustaining condor population in Arizona.

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT



Hunters Helping Wildlife

- ▶ **Be part of the solution.** The Arizona Game and Fish Department and its partners the Arizona Deer Association, Arizona Elk Society, Arizona Antelope Foundation, Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, and the Arizona Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation ask you to *be part of the solution by using non-lead ammunition when hunting in condor country* (Game Management Units 9, 10, 12A/B, and 13A/B).
- ▶ **Aid conservation.** Hunters who use non-lead ammunition in condor range carry on sportsmen's proud tradition of wildlife conservation.
- ▶ **Switch ammunition.** Hundreds of hunters have switched to non-lead ammunition, but we need more hunters to help.
- ▶ **Join the effort.** Prove to the critics that this problem can be resolved without mandatory measures.



Above: The X-rays show hundreds of lead fragments (fragments appear bright white in X-ray) in a deer carcass and gut pile.

The typical lead-based bullet loses 40 percent of its mass, which is dispersed along the wound channel. Many of these fragments end up in gut piles that are left in the field.