

Heritage Fund Public Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2009

Arizona Game and Fish Department

Phoenix, Arizona

Committee Members:

Bob Hernbrode, Tucson (Chairman) - Present
Jim Jett, Kingman (Co-chairman) - Present
Paul Gomben, Show-Low - Absent
Lorna Thurman, Overgaard - Present
Maggie Sacher, Marble Canyon - Present
Tom Mackin, Flagstaff - Present
Randy Lamb, Prescott - Present
John King, Yuma - Present

Valerie Morrill, Yuma - Absent
Sharon Foltz, Tucson - Present
Roseann Hanson, Tucson - Absent
Thom Hulen, Tempe - Absent
Gary Barcom, Payson - Absent
Heidi Vasiloff, Goodyear - Absent
Mary Jo Forman Miller, Scottsdale - Present
Dr. Jack Miller, Gilbert - Present

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- 1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks:** Commissioner Bob Hernbrode, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.
 - 2. Introductions:** Chairman Hernbrode asked committee members to introduce themselves.
 - 3. Approval of Minutes from September 2008:** Upon a motion by Jim Jett and seconded by Randy Lamb, the minutes were unanimously approved.
 - 4. Presenter: Mike Ingraldi, Wildlife Specialist, Arizona Game and Fish Department:**

Dr. Michael Ingraldi presented a summary of the biology and current management of Northern Goshawks in Arizona. Concerns in late 1980's and early 1990's were raised regarding the alteration of forest structure due to timber harvesting practices and how it may impact northern goshawk persistence within the landscape. The belief that Northern Goshawks were declining due to these timber management practices lead to the species being evaluated for listing under the federal Endangered Species Act in 1992 and 1998. These concerns lead the U.S. Forest Service to develop the Management Recommendations for the Northern Goshawk in the Southwestern United States (USDA Forest Service General Technical Report RM-217) in 1992. In 1996, these guidelines were adopted into all Forest Plans in AZ and NM prompting a forest structure designed around 14 prey species that is currently being implemented. In the early 1990's, the Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department) began statewide surveys to evaluate the Northern Goshawk's distribution throughout the state, participated in a nationwide genetic analysis of the species, studied their food habits, and initiated a population viability analysis study on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. Beginning in the spring of 2009 the Department initiated a project on the Springerville Ranger District that will evaluate the response of goshawk prey species to the U.S. Forest Service Goshawk Guidelines. Ideas were presented on future research needs to better understand and manage for the future persistence of this species throughout Arizona's forested landscapes (e.g., given that the forests of northern Arizona are theoretically being treated to benefit Northern Goshawk prey species, are Goshawk's using these treated areas to forage in or are these newly modified landscapes unsuitable as foraging habitat?).

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- 5. Presenter: Tony Guiles, AZGFD Legislative Liaison,** Tony briefed the Committee on the 2009 Legislative session. The first week they held a “budget boot camp.” The Legislature has twenty new members in the House and two new members in the Senate. The committee members were reminded to keep vigilant. All community members and all grant recipients everyone that has benefited from the Heritage fund needs to let their Legislators know how important the Heritage fund is. The Legislature will listen to their constituents because they are the people that vote for them and the people that put them in office. AZGFD has created a revised legislative brochure highlighting the projects funded with Heritage dollars.

- 6. Presenter: Lynda Lambert, AZGFD Heritage Fund Public Information Officer.** Lynda gave an overview of the Department’s Heritage Fund public relations efforts during 2008. Some of the topics discussed were program recognition, community outreach, heritage related publicity, Heritage Grant promotion, legislative efforts, new publications, new wildlife views video, Heritage web site, Arizona lottery campaign and watchable wildlife programs. The committee members had an opportunity to view the new Wildlife Views video.

- 7. Presenter: Jeff Williamson, President of the Arizona Zoological Society: Jeff gave a presentation on “Be outdoors AZ”**
Jeff Williamson is president of the Arizona Zoological Society (AZS), a private, 501(c)(3) corporation. The AZS operates the Phoenix Zoo (serving 1.5 million people per year) and it supports over 30 conservation projects principally in the arid Southwest of the U.S. and northern Mexico. Working with over 130 people representing over 50 organizations, the AZS is collaborating in the formation of a regional partnership network called *Be Outdoors Arizona*, working with others nationally under the banner of Richard Louv’s “Children and Nature Network.” Participants include local, state, and federal open space managers and agencies, Boy and Girl Scout organizations, schools, wildlife and conservation NGO’s, children’s health advocates, universities, foundations, and public and private corporations. Reaching children at home, school, and other places of convening, the network will provide access to experiences and activities that promote investigation, exploration, and discovery of the child’s relationship to both the natural and built communities around them. Recognizing that the urban environment most children find themselves in is complex, these networks will connect to parks, after school programs, zoos, botanical gardens, other cultural attractions, and free play environments, allowing for the exploration of diverse ways of engaging in and interacting with the community and nature. These linked and referred experiences will build knowledge, encourage exploration, enhance personal esteem, inspire physical activity, create opportunity for contribution to quality of life in community and will result in a life-long committed citizen steward. We need our young people to have the opportunity to be active participants of value in stewarding both the natural and built environments that define the quality of their lives.

- 8. Call to the Public:** Janice Mariano, Heritage Alliance requested contact information from all the committee members.

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9. Committee Business:

a) **Open Committee discussion**

Commissioner Hernbrode presented plaques to the HPAC members whose terms are completed in March, 2009. The members were:

Region 1, Paul Gomben

Region II, Maggie Sacher

Region III, Jim Jett

Region IV, Val Morrill

Region V, Roseann Hanson

Region VI, Gary Barcom

Statewide, Heidi Vasiloff

National, Jack Miller

- b) **Future Meetings.** The next meeting will be held in Tucson, Arizona. Exact date, location and activities will be announced as they become known. The fall 2009 meeting will be held in August at the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Sipe White Mountain Wildlife Area. Exact date, location and activities will be announced as they become known.

10. Adjournment: Committee adjourned at 12:00 p.m.