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THE PLANT PRESS

Arizona Native Plant Society
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detach and keep for reference:

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EDITORIAL COMMENT:

Its no surprise that Arizona contains some of the most beautiful lands in the world. Its forested mountains, pristine deserts and rugged river canyons are known the world over and enjoyed by millions every year. Are these natural wonders threatened?

This states' public and private land holdings which contain a wealth of natural resources and provide millions of acres of grazing pasture are jeopardizing much of Arizonas wild and scenic areas.

Arizona is also amidst a population explosion (as are other sun belt states) and this has promoted the development and urban sprawl seen in many of Arizonas metropolitan areas.

These two situations have helped create a demand for Arizonas precious lands and their subsequent natural and mineral resources. It also subjects our native plants to unjust pressures.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that oversees the Endangered Species Act lists five cacti in Arizona as endangered. Two more plants (Agave arizonica and Cowania subintegra) are proposed for listing this year. Many others are threatened or sensitive for listing this year.

One purpose for which the society was founded was to help in the preservation of our indigenous flora. We as an organization have initiated some programs toward this goal, but we haven't done enough. As a state organization and as individuals we need to be more conscious of and respond quickly to the increasing threats to our plant communities, and address specific plants when necessary.

The Arizona Native Plant Society is now supportive by a membership of over 400 in five chapters statewide. The outlook for a sixth chapter in Prescott by years end, and our efforts towards creating chapters in other areas will make the society an ever more cohesive and representative state organization.

The Plant Press becomes a bi-monthly newsletter with this issue in hopes of improving communication among our growing membership, and help US to stay on top of those issues that are confronting this state.

Thanks for your cooperation and best wishes for a rewarding 1983-1984 season.

MARC MITTLEMAN, EDITOR

P.S. Congratulations to all new officers, directors and chairpersons!

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LAND SALES

The BLM has announced that it has already identified approximately 4.3 million acres of land suitable for sale. Section 203 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act provides limited authority for the BLM to sell lands that are small, scattered, costly to manage and would better serve the public needs under non-federal ownership. In Arizona 13,000 acres are being offered for sale this fiscal year which ends September 30. During the next fiscal year 60,000 acres will be offered for sale statewide.

Some of these parcels contain sensitive environmental resources including habitat for rare plants. Once sold to private interests these lands and resource values will be permanently removed from public ownership. For more information contact Ken Hext, Realty Specialist at the BLM Phoenix District Office, at 241-2906.

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE PROPOSES TO LIST THREE ARIZONA PLANTS

Recent progress has been made towards listing Agave arizonica, Hedeoma diffusum, and Cowania subintegra under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

On May 20, 1983, the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) published in the Federal Register a proposal to list A. Arizonica as an Endangered species. The species is endemic to a very small area in the New River Mountains in central Arizona. A. Arizonica is threatened by potential collection for commercial trade and by trampling from cattle, browsing by deer and insect damage.

The proposal to list Hedeoma diffusum as a Threatened Species appeared in the June 29, 1983 Federal Register. H. diffusum, a member of the mint family, is endemic to the Flagstaff area where it is restricted to 10 known localities. Urban development, forest disturbance, and taking of the plant are threats to H. diffusum.

The proposal to list Cowania subintegra as an Endangered Species appeared in the July 15, 1983 Federal Register. C. subintegra is another Arizona endemic and is known from only two widely separated populations in Mohave and Graham counties. Habitat destruction as well as grazing pressure from domestic livestock, mule deer and burros are threats to the species.

The FWS has two years from the date of each proposal to make a final determination. For further information contact Dr. Russell L. Kologiski, Regional Botanist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87103.

ARIZONA WILDERNESS BILL

The Arizona Wilderness Coalition (AWC), representing a broad spectrum of concerned citizens and organizations, has asked the Arizona Congressional delegation to sponsor legislation that would give wilderness protection to more than three million acres in Arizona. Most of the areas are being temporarily managed as wilderness by the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Giving them Congressional protection now would add significantly to Arizona's small wilderness system. Wilderness designation would certainly benefit the Society's interest in the preservation of Arizona's native flora.

The Arizona Congressional delegation is now formulating an Arizona Wilderness Bill. However, the Arizona Wilderness Proposal will become law only with the support of individual citizens. Now is the time to write to your representative, both senators and the governor.

where to write

Senator Barry Goldwater or
Senator Dennis DeConcini
c/o United States Senate
Washington D.C. 20510.

Representatives John McCain, Morris Udall,
Bob Stump, Eldon Rudd or
Jim McNulty
c/o House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Governor Bruce Babbitt
Office of the Governor
State Capitol
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

what to say

- * Tell them you support wilderness and want to see more of Arizona's wild lands and rivers protected.
- * Tell them you support the Arizona Wilderness Coalition Proposal and urge them to do the same.
- * If you know a particular proposed area, well, tell why you care that it be protected.

AWC PROPOSED AREAS AND RARE II NUMBER
(Arizona Wilderness Coalition)

Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest

Bear Wallow (03-131)
Salt House (03-140)
Hot Air (03-141)
Blue Range Primitive Area (NF 3900)
Blue Range Wilderness Additions (P3-169)
Blue Range Primitive Additions
Pipestem (03-137)
Lower San Francisco (03-139)
Centerfire (03-130)
Escudilla (03-130)
Hells Hole (03-138)
Painted Bluff (03-135)

Coconino National Forest

Fossil Springs (03-046)
Jacks Canyon (03-040)
Kendrick Mountain (03-050)
Lower Jacks (03-043)
Rattlesnake (03-054)
Red Rock-Secret Mountain (03-053)
San Francisco Peaks (03-049)
Strawberry Crater North (03-052)
Strawberry Crater South (03-048)
Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Cont. (03-047)
West Clear Creek (03-047)
Wet Beaver (03-045)

Coronado National Forest

Bunk Robinson Peak (03-200)
Chiricahua Wilderness Contiguous(03-109)
Cochise Head (03-112)
Dragoon Mountains (03-201)
Galiuro Additions (03-901)
Miller Peak (03-117)
Mount Graham (03-123)
Mount Wrightson (03-113)
Pajarita #1 (03-115)
Rincon Mountains (03-162)
Santa Teresa (03-121)
Tumacacori (03-114)
Whetstone (03-120)
Whitmire Canyon (03-110)

Rivers to be designated immediately

Salt River
Verde River
San Francisco River

Kaibab National Forest

Kanab Creek (03-060)
Saddle Mountain (03-062)

Prescott National Forest

Apache Creek (03-081)
Arnold Mesa (03-092)
Blind Indian Creek (03-085)
Connell Mountains (03-082)
Granite Mountain (03-084)
Juniper Mesa (03-080)
Pine Mtn Wilderness Contiguous (03-093)
Sheridan Mountains (03-083)
Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Cont. (03-094)
Woodchute (03-088)

Tonto National Forest

Black Cross (03-027)
Four Peaks (03-025)
Goldfields (03-026)
Hell's Gate (03-021)
Horse Mesa (03-028)
Lime Creek (03-020)
Mazatzals Wilderness Contiguous (03-016)
Pine Mtn Wilderness Contiguous (03-017)
Salome (03-022)
Salt (03-029)
Superstition Wilderness Contiguous (03-018)

Game Refuges: Kofa, Cabeza Prieta, Imperial,
Havasu

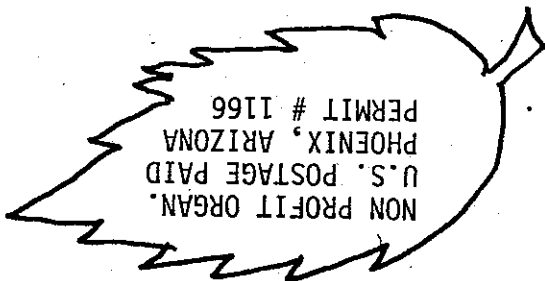
Bureau of Land Management

Apache Box (4-76)
Baker Canyon (4-70)
Guadalupe Canyon
Muleshoe (4-73)
Hoverrocker (4-77)
Kofa #3 South (5-31)
Kofa #4 North (5-33)
South Trigo Mountains (5-23)

Rivers to be authorized for study

Blue River
East Verde River
Gila/Eagle River
Tonto Creek
West Clear Creek
Wet Beaver Creek

Mr and Mrs H.P. Miller
6020 North Canyon Drive
Tucson, AZ 85704



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P.O. Box 41206
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CHAPTER PROGRAMS:

1. Flagstaff:

Oct. 19 -- meeting, tentative program on wildflower photography

Oct. (date not set): fall wildflower walk in Oak Creek Canyon

Flagstaff chapter meets on the third (3rd) Thursday of the month at the Flagstaff Center, 245 North Thorpe Drive, at 7:30 p.m.

2. Phoenix:

Phoenix chapter meets the second (2nd) Monday of the month at the Desert Botanical Garden, Papago Park, at 7:30 p.m.

3. South Central:

Programs to be announced

4. Tucson:

Oct. 15 - Tucson Chapter ANPS Fall propagation workshop and tour of the Tohono Chul Park located at the Haunted Bookshop, 7211 North Northern. The tour will be led by Matt Johnson, director of the gardens. Workshop hours: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Nov. 9 - Dr. Bemis will be our speaker on Gourds of the Desert

5. Yuma:

Yuma Chapter regular monthly meetings are held in the conference room of the Yuma County Extension Service at 1047 Fourth Avenue. They are scheduled for the second (2nd) Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

NOTE:

ALL MEMBERS are cordially invited to attend any events scheduled by the various chapters.