



# HAPPENINGS

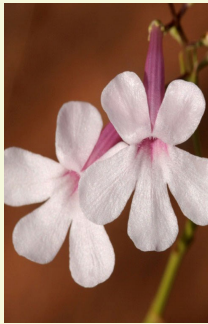
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Arizona Native Plant Society  
Our mission is to promote knowledge, appreciation, conservation  
and restoration of Arizona's native plants and their habitats

## Join Any Chapter E-List

The best way to keep up with the latest AZNPS events is to join the chapter e-list, which notifies members about meetings, events, conferences, field trips, workshops, and volunteer opportunities in the area. Don't forget to keep us updated on e-mail address changes. To be added to any chapter e-list, send your name and e-mail address to:

Cochise	Amy Metz	<a href="mailto:amy13jsa@gmail.com">amy13jsa@gmail.com</a>
Flagstaff	Susan Holiday	<a href="mailto:naris123@cs.com">naris123@cs.com</a>
Peach Springs	Carrie Cannon	<a href="mailto:Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov">Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov</a>
Phoenix	Mark Cirillo	<a href="mailto:markecirillo@gmail.com">markecirillo@gmail.com</a>
Prescott	Sue Smith	<a href="mailto:PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com">PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com</a>
Santa Cruz	Robin Kulibert	<a href="mailto:santacruz.aznps@gmail.com">santacruz.aznps@gmail.com</a>
Tonto Basin	Becky Settje	<a href="mailto:tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com">tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com</a>
Tucson	Lyn Loveless	<a href="mailto:nativeplantstucson@gmail.com">nativeplantstucson@gmail.com</a>
Upper Gila	Vacant	<a href="mailto:uppergilaaznps@gmail.com">uppergilaaznps@gmail.com</a>
White Mountain	Jess Rollar	<a href="mailto:aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com">aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com</a>
Yuma	Valerie Morrill	<a href="mailto:yumaaznps@gmail.com">yumaaznps@gmail.com</a>





**2026 Annual Symposium  
June 12-14, 2026  
Lowell Observatory,  
Flagstaff AZ**



*“Exploring the Botanical Diversity,  
Ecology, and History of Arizona’s Native  
Flora and the Special Contributions to  
the Arizona Flora by Penstemons”*



**Presented by  
The Arizona Native Plant Society  
And  
The American Penstemon Society**



**Registration includes:**  
**Friday evening Social Hour and speaker**  
**Admission to Lowell Observatory**  
**Presentations and displays**  
**Saturday dinner and speaker**  
**Field trips to public and private gardens**



**Meeting  
Details**



**Register**

***Additional details and registration***

**[American Penstemon Society Meetings](https://penstemons.org/index.php/annual-meetings)**

**<https://penstemons.org/index.php/annual-meetings>**

**Help us explore Arizona’s remarkable botanical diversity by  
presenting oral presentations or posters on any topic related to  
the Arizona native flora**



## Botany 2026 – Biodiversity at the Boundaries

August 1-5th  
Tucson, Arizona

*Your Colleagues – Your Collaborators – Your Conference!*



- 🏠 Welcome & Announcements
- 📅 Registration
- ★ Featured Speakers
- 🏨 Hotel/Travel
- 👤 Symposia
- 🗨️ Colloquia
- 🗺️ Field Trips
- ♿ Accessibility
- ★ Want to Exhibit at Botany 2026?
- 📄 Exhibitor Floor Plan
- 👤 Exhibitors and Sponsors
- 📄 Exhibitor Listing
- 🍽️ Nearby Restaurants
- 📍 Venue Map
- 👤 Family & Mother's Respite Room
- 🏆 Presentation Awards for the Meeting
- 📄 Awards, Applications & Deadlines

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN!! [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#).** Take advantage of early registration rates by April 30.

**Tentative Schedule of Events to help with your planning:**

Saturday, August 1 - Field Trips  
 Sunday, August 2 - Workshops and Field Trips, Sunday evening Plenary Session and Opening Reception  
 Monday, August 3-Wednesday, August 5 - Sessions  
 Wednesday evening, August 5 - Closing Celebration

**Botany 2026 Swag!**

To get your pick of sizes, colors and options, order directly from the store [HERE!](#)



This annual meeting of six leading professional botanical societies (the American Bryological and Lichenological Society, the American Fern Society, the American Society of Plant Taxonomists, the International Society of Plant Taxonomy, the Society for Herbarium Curators, and the Botanical Society of America) brings together a diverse mix of researchers, professors, educators, government employees and motivated graduate and undergraduate students, all focused on what's new in the botanical sciences.

For Botany 2026 we return to one of our highest rated locations, Tucson, Arizona. We anticipate over 1000 participants from around the world to present over 700 scientific contributions including special symposia, papers, posters, and special lectures. A full slate of field trips and scientific and educational workshops will round out the program.

**Be a part of the best scientific conference of the summer!**

Check back here often for updates, more information will be coming soon!

**The annual Botanical Society of America Meeting will be held on 1-5 August 2026 in Tucson. Many presentations, workshops, and field trips will be of interest to AZNPS members. For more information and registration:  
<https://www.xcdsystem.com/botany/program/QCq9cvK/index.cfm?pgid=3919>**

# Chapter News

## Cochise Chapter



**The chapter returns!** We are pleased to announce that the Cochise Chapter is being brought back to life! A very successful meeting was held on October 11, 2025, at the San Pedro House in Sierra Vista, during which plans for the rejuvenation of the chapter were presented to current members along with prospective new members. Attendees were asked to explain what types of activities they would like to see the chapter pursue. The attendees concurred with a suggestion that monthly meetings should resume and feature a guest speaker. Other activities such as field trips were also discussed and they will be organized as the new chapter progresses. For more information, contact [Amy Metz](mailto:amy13jsa@gmail.com) ([amy13jsa@gmail.com](mailto:amy13jsa@gmail.com)).

## Flagstaff Chapter



The Flagstaff Chapter offers in-person meetings with the option to watch from home via Zoom. The meetings take place on the third Tuesday of the month, March through October, at 7:00 PM and are held at the Northern Arizona University Biology Sciences Building, Room 328. Street parking is available nearby.

Some of the meetings have been recorded and can be viewed the Flagstaff Chapter's Facebook or at The Arizona Native Plant Society. For details about upcoming meetings, please see our email distribution list ([naris123@cs.com](mailto:naris123@cs.com)), Facebook page, or [AZNPS.com](http://AZNPS.com).

Register in advance once in order to attend any of the meetings virtually:  
(<https://uso2web.zoom.us/meeting/register/gWhRf79ZSEuoMH8rpAf9Ig>)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Use the link Zoom sends or the passcode Flagstaff! to join the meeting.

## Chapter Offices

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President: Kirstin Phillips ([flagstaffAZNPS@gmail.com](mailto:flagstaffAZNPS@gmail.com)); Chapter Contact: Melissa Amberson ([azmelissa@yahoo.com](mailto:azmelissa@yahoo.com)); Email Distribution: Sue Holiday ([naris123@cs.com](mailto:naris123@cs.com)); Hike Information: Barbara Phillips ([bagphillips@yahoo.com](mailto:bagphillips@yahoo.com)).

## Meetings

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### June 12 - 15: Please join us for the Arizona Botany/American Penstemon Society Conference

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#### Tuesday, July 21, 7:00 PM. **Ries Lindley: What is a Moss? A Short Story About a Walk in the Woods**

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When we walk through the woods and get swept away by the beauty of what we see, we don't always have time to stop and think about the various microcosms that make up the ecology we see in nature. What are those tiny green plants that can grow in hot, dry deserts or under ice and snow? Ries will take us through an introduction to the wonderful world of mosses. What are they, where can they be found, do they have names, and a few other things you may find interesting.

Ries is a retired city bureaucrat who took up botany in retirement and is still working his way through the plants of Arizona. His interest in mosses was given a big boost by the pandemic of 2019.

**Hybrid meeting: in-person and via Zoom.**



Juniper haircap moss with a mushroom centerpiece. Photo: Micah

## Field Trips

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**Please watch for specific details. Carpooling is usually available.**

**June 13 - 15. Please join us for the Arizona Botany/American Penstemon Society Conference for field trips to Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument, Mt Elden, NAU Greenhouse, Michael Moore Medicinal Garden, and Sedona**

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### **Sycamore Canyon, LO Spring: Search for sweetgrass (*Hierochloa odorata*)**

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Sweetgrass. Photo: Eric Voeller

Tentative date: Saturday, July 11.

The sweetgrass in Robin Wall Kimmerer's book *Braiding Sweetgrass* grows in northern Arizona. According to Kimmerer, sweetgrass increases in abundance after being harvested. We'll check out the population at the Michael Moore Medicinal Garden at the Museum of Northern Arizona on the way to Sycamore Canyon.

### **Anderson Mesa: Search for Arizona sunflower (*Helianthus arizonensis*)**

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Arizona sunflower. Photo: Debra Crisp

Tentative date: Saturday, August 15.

Arizona sunflower (*Helianthus arizonensis*) is critically imperiled in Arizona. Debra Crisp found a population in 2020 that had not been documented since 1945. We'll go back to that population and make a collection.

## Hakdagwi:va Peach Springs Chapter



For information on chapter activities, contact Carrie Cannon ([Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov](mailto:Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov)).

### Chapter Offices

President: Carrie Cannon; Secretary: Shaileen Gonzalez; Treasurer: Alicia Cesspooch

## Phoenix Chapter



The Phoenix chapter has a monthly virtual members meeting on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. Register in advance once in order to attend any of the meetings virtually. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/2p5v5h8u>

Join our email list using this link (<https://tinyurl.com/54p6zche>)

Follow us at [facebook.com/aznpsphoenix](https://facebook.com/aznpsphoenix) and Instagram at @aznpsphoenix.  
Contact: [phoenixaznps@gmail.com](mailto:phoenixaznps@gmail.com)

The chapter has a Discord! Members are encouraged to join and collaborate (<https://discord.gg/cMAhVQw6MR>)

### Chapter Offices

President: Daniela Howe ([imdanielahowe@gmail.com](mailto:imdanielahowe@gmail.com)); Treasurer: Thierry Haynesworth ([t.haynesworth2015@gmail.com](mailto:t.haynesworth2015@gmail.com)); Communications Lead: Mark Cirillo ([markecirillo@gmail.com](mailto:markecirillo@gmail.com)); Secretary: vacant

### Field Trips

**Botanical Hikes:** We host a hike once a month (weather permitting) at a rotating location in the valley. We provide a field guide on local plants and magnification tools. Please check the Events page on the AZNPS website for more details. Hikes are easy to moderate and about 2.5 miles long.

**June:** Shadow Mountain

**July:** Papago Park

**August:** North Mountain

## Volunteer Opportunity

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Once a month, in partnership with the Maricopa Native Seed Library, we will be building seed packets and packing them with native seeds. These seed packets are for the library to hand out to the community. All materials are provided; please check the Events page on the AZNPS website to see details. For more information, visit the seed library (<https://libguides.maricopa.edu/seed>).

## Prescott Chapter



The chapter continues to manage species growing in Walnut Meadow at the Highlands Center for Natural History, to provide workshops on plant families, to make seed balls to help with Prescott National Forest restoration, and to schedule evening programs.

### Chapter Offices

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President: Sue Smith; Steering Committee: Jeannie Tutone and Sara Vincent. We can be reached at ([PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com](mailto:PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com)).

## Santa Cruz Chapter



For information on chapter events, you can be added to our email list and/or follow our [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/aznpssantacruz) (<https://www.facebook.com/aznpssantacruz>). Send an [email](mailto:santacruz.aznps@gmail.com) ([santacruz.aznps@gmail.com](mailto:santacruz.aznps@gmail.com)) to join our mailing list or for any other questions.

### Chapter Offices

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President: Robin Kulibert; Vice President: Rick Kulibert

## Tonto Basin Chapter



The Tonto Basin Chapter invites anyone interested in learning about native plants in Gila County to join us for chapter meetings, botany walks, and conservation activities.

Our chapter meets on the first Friday of each month, October through May, and includes guest speakers, botany walks, and field trips. Please join our email list ([tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com](mailto:tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com)) to receive up-to-date information and meeting reminders. You can also visit our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts for additional information.

### Chapter Offices

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President: Becky Settje; Vice President: Teri Balaska; Lead Botanist: Eric Sjoden. We can be reached at ([tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com](mailto:tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com)).

## Tucson Chapter



Monthly chapter meetings featuring local speakers are held the second Thursday of the month at the ENR2 building (Environmental and Natural Resources 2), room 225, on the University of Arizona campus. Meetings are in a hybrid format so that interested folks can attend in person or via Zoom.

If you are not on our mailing list and wish to attend one of our meetings on Zoom, email us ([nativeplantstucson@gmail.com](mailto:nativeplantstucson@gmail.com)) to request the Zoom link. Videos of past meetings can be viewed on our [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVBSV1oOi6enVYcI2CSHTfw) (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVBSV1oOi6enVYcI2CSHTfw>). To receive notices of field trips, chapter meetings, and other events, send a message to the chapter [email](#).

Watch our [chapter page](https://aznps.com/chapters/tucson/) (<https://aznps.com/chapters/tucson/>) on the website for more information.

### Chapter Offices

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President: Lyn Loveless; Treasurer: Andrew Gourevitch; Secretary: Georgette Mehalik. We can be reached at ([nativeplantstucson@gmail.com](mailto:nativeplantstucson@gmail.com)).

**Update from Susan Husband:** Many people leave for the summer, seeking cooler and greener spaces, but there are also those who shelter in place. We enter the dry summer, patiently waiting for the entourage of clouds, wind, dust, lightning, and finally—rain!

Our monthly meetings go on hiatus in May and resume in September. Two summer events that are anticipated each year are 1) a nature hike and plant walk in Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mountains, led by renowned naturalist Doug Moore, and 2) the Monsoon Mixer.

The walk with Doug Moore has not been scheduled yet, and it will be limited in attendance and also only open to current AZNPS members.

The Monsoon Mixer is scheduled for Thursday, August 20, at Slow Body Beer Co, 831 E 17th Street, in Tucson. This informal gathering is open to all interested and is an opportunity to share stories and plant adventures, beverages, and food with fellow plant fanatics. You might come away with a plant, a book, or some other appropriate item.

Chapter events are advertised through e-blasts. You may be added to the mailing list by sending a message with your name and email address to ([NativePlantsTucson@gmail.com](mailto:NativePlantsTucson@gmail.com)).

## Upper Gila Chapter



To keep up-to-date on chapter activities, please contact us at our [chapter email](mailto:uppergilaaznps@gmail.com) ([uppergilaaznps@gmail.com](mailto:uppergilaaznps@gmail.com)).

### Chapter Offices

President: Vacant; Vice President: Diane Drobka; Secretaries: Julie Plath and Clara Gauna; Treasurer: Julie Davis.

## White Mountain Chapter



Our chapter covers all of Navajo and Apache counties, but welcomes native plant enthusiasts from Greenlee and northern Gila Counties also. For more information, contact the [chapter](mailto:aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com) ([aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com](mailto:aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com)). Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/AZNPSwhitemountain) for updates and weekly native plants reports (<https://www.facebook.com/AZNPSwhitemountain>).

### Chapter Offices

President: Jess Rollar; Education Coordinator: Anita Thompson; Treasurer: Bob Rollar; Master Gardener: Michelle Straight.

**June 5, 9:00 AM:** Native Plant Walk at Show Low Creek. We will explore and help you to identify some of the many native species that grow on this small, popular trail in town.

**June 12, 9:00 AM:** Join us at Woodland Lake Park for another sketch and photo walk hosted by Jess Rollar, Karen Suedmeier, and Bob Rollar. Participants will have the option of joining either the sketching or photography groups.

## Yuma Chapter



Yuma will forgo regular monthly, in-person meetings for the foreseeable future. Instead, we will focus on outdoor activities, such as field trips and work projects, with a virtual format for meetings and similar indoor activities.

Announcements of these events and other news updates will be posted via email. If you would like to receive updates, please contact us at our [chapter email](mailto:yumaaznps@gmail.com) ([yumaaznps@gmail.com](mailto:yumaaznps@gmail.com)) and ask to be put on our list.

## Chapter Offices

President: Valerie Morrill; Vice President: Karen Reichhardt; Secretary: Deirdre MacDonald; Treasurer: Tom Fox

## Welcome New Chapter Members!

**Cochise:** Fred Sladen

**Flagstaff:** Dale Brown, Emily Dorsey, Carla Roybal

**Peach Springs:** Nancy McDonald, Lyndee Hornell, Angelina Chee, Marcie Craynon, Wynona Sinyella, Jorigine Paya, Sterling Selana, Bennett Wakayuta, Loveena Watahomigie, Sharon Munoz, Earldene Havatone, Deserae Perry, Cliffany Mowana, Jolene Delacerna, Doris Laubacher Crow, Sonwai Wakayuta, Brandon Siewiyumptewa, Courtney Beecher

**Phoenix:** Deborah Betz, Mandy Boggs, Deborah Bonte, Carol Bryant, Jake Conrad, Jason DiGiacomo, Morgan Elliott, Sara Lolley, Gabriella Mayer, Barbara Reisinger, Caitlin Sample, Michelle Schrade, Stephan Stellmacher, Lauren Terrell, Betty Davis Voelkel, Eddie Vargas, Kayla Lewis

**Prescott:** Gregory Baigent

**Tonto Basin:** Karen Bennett, Karen Burbach, Bryan Gunnoe, Rachel Hunter, Annmarie Kmetz, Eileen Menefee

**Tucson:** Christine Chulick, Cheryl Daniel, Renata Hill, Aimee McAuliffe, Alana Stern, Don Swann, Ellen Sosin, James Holderer

**For More Information, Contact the Chapter Officers**Or visit the AZNPS [website \(www.aznativeplantsociety.org\)](http://www.aznativeplantsociety.org).**AZNPS Headquarters**Administrator: [Pat Sanchez](mailto:Pat.Sanchez@arizonanativeplantsociety@gmail.com) [arizonanativeplantsociety@gmail.com](mailto:arizonanativeplantsociety@gmail.com)**Cochise Chapter**Acting President: [Amy Metz](mailto:Amy.Metz@gmail.com) [amy13jsa@gmail.com](mailto:amy13jsa@gmail.com)

Vice President: Vacant

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Vacant

**Flagstaff Chapter**President: [Kirstin Phillips](mailto:Kirstin.Phillips@gmail.com) [flagstaffaznps@gmail.com](mailto:flagstaffaznps@gmail.com)Contact: [Susan Holiday](mailto:Susan.Holiday@cs.com) [naris123@cs.com](mailto:naris123@cs.com)

Treasurer: Patti Van Tuyl

Presentations/Field Trips: Barbara Phillips

**Peach Springs Chapter**President: [Carrie Cannon](mailto:Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov) [Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov](mailto:Carrie.Cannon@hualapai-nsn.gov)

Secretary: Shaileen Gonzalez

Treasurer: Alicia Cesspooch

**Phoenix Chapter**President: Daniela Howe [phoenixaznps@gmail.com](mailto:phoenixaznps@gmail.com)

Vice President: vacant

Treasurer: Thiery Haynesworth

**Prescott Chapter**President: [Sue Smith](mailto:Sue.Smith@PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com) [PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com](mailto:PrescottNativePlantSociety@gmail.com)**Santa Cruz Chapter**President: [Robin Kulibert](mailto:Robin.Kulibert@santacruz.AZNPS@gmail.com) [santacruz.AZNPS@gmail.com](mailto:santacruz.AZNPS@gmail.com)

Vice President: Rick Kulibert

**Tonto Basin Chapter**President: [Becky Settje](mailto:Becky.Settje@tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com) [tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com](mailto:tontobasinnativeplants@gmail.com)

Vice President: Teri Balaska

Lead Botanist: Eric Sjoden

**Tucson Chapter**President: [Lyn Loveless](mailto:Lyn.Loveless@nativeplantstucson@gmail.com) [nativeplantstucson@gmail.com](mailto:nativeplantstucson@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Andrew Gourevitch

**Upper Gila Chapter**Vice President: [Diane Drobka](mailto:Diane.Drobka@uppergilaaznps@gmail.com) [uppergilaaznps@gmail.com](mailto:uppergilaaznps@gmail.com)

Secretaries: Julie Plath and Clara Gauna

Treasurer: Julie Davis

**White Mountain Chapter**President: [Jess Rollar](mailto:Jess.Rollar@aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com) [aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com](mailto:aznpswhitemountain@gmail.com)

Education Coordinator: Anita Thompson

Treasurer: Bob Rollar

Master Gardener: Michelle Straight

**Yuma Chapter**President: [Valerie Morrill](mailto:Valerie.Morrill@yumaaznps@gmail.com) [yumaaznps@gmail.com](mailto:yumaaznps@gmail.com)

Vice President: Karen Reichhardt

Secretary: Deidre MacDonald

Treasurer: Tom Fox

**AZNPS Happenings** is a forum to promote chapter news and activities throughout the state. Please contact your chapter president or program coordinator to contribute information, or email the *Happenings* editor, [Shelley Silva](mailto:Shelley.Silva@gmail.com) ([shelley.a.silva@gmail.com](mailto:shelley.a.silva@gmail.com)).



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|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> New                                  | <input type="radio"/> Renewal                                      |
| <input type="radio"/> \$15 Student                         | <input type="radio"/> \$30 Individual, \$50 Individual for 2 years |
| <input type="radio"/> \$35 Family, \$60 family for 2 years | <input type="radio"/> \$50 Organization                            |
| <input type="radio"/> \$75 Commercial                      | <input type="radio"/> \$100 Plant Lover                            |
| <input type="radio"/> \$500 Patron                         | <input type="radio"/> \$1,000 Lifetime                             |

Preferred Chapter:

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|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
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| <input type="radio"/> Tonto Basin | <input type="radio"/> Tucson    | <input type="radio"/> Upper Gila    | <input type="radio"/> White Mountain | <input type="radio"/> Yuma     |                                  |

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