

An Act for Preservation

INTRODUCTION

In the 1984 Arizona legislative session, a great deal of effort was focused on passage of the Uniform Conservation Easement Act introduced in the Senate by the Honorable John U. Hays (R-Yarnell) and in the House of Representatives by Representative Larry Hawke (R-Tucson). Governor Bruce Babbitt was also a strong supporter of the bills.

The identical bills represented the work of a coalition of preservationists and environmentalists.

THE CONCEPT

The conservation easement is a voluntary tool for protecting the historical or architectural significance of a building or site and open spaces and natural resources.

The easement agreement is a legal document that sets forth (1) the significant values of the property worth protecting and (2) the property owner's agreement to protect the significant aspects of the property against adverse development or changes by transferring ownership of the right to develop or change the property to another entity such as a public agency or nonprofit group.

In exchange for voluntary relinquishment of the right to develop or change the property forever and possibly committing to appropriate protection of the property, the owner is eligible for a federal income tax deduction and peace of mind knowing that the property will be retained as the owner desires even after the owner has died. The owner also retains all rights of ownership; therefore, the owner may deny public access and use the property any way the owner desires (as long as that does not conflict with the easement agreement). The owner also continues to pay taxes on the property. The public agency or nonprofit group that accept the easement agrees to administer and enforce the terms of the agreement.

THE BILL

The Uniform Conservation Easement Act is a bill that was drafted in 1981 by a group known as the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws; the group is often referred to as the legislative drafting arm

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Thorner's Fishhook (Mammillaria thornberi) Cactus Survey Team on the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument are: front, l-r, Stephanie Meyer, Mary Butterwick, Robin Coon, Marc Mittleman, Jim Honcoop, Peggy Olwell (FWS), Roz Bentley. Standing, l-r, Charlie McDonald (FWS), Barry Feldman, Matthew Johnson, Bob Perrill, Kent Newland, Susan Groesbeck, Dan James, Jack Norman. This enthusiastic group volunteered to help the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service survey the monument for this threatened cactus. More to follow in the next Plant Press.

The
Arizona
Native
Plant
Society

Flagstaff
Phoenix
Prescott
South Central
Tucson
Yuma



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Chapter Events



Tucson

JULY 12. Meg Quinn leads desert wash walk. Refreshments afterwards at Mosaic Cafe.

JULY 14. Trip to Canelo Hills Cienega. Meet and carpool at 8:00 A.M. at Denny's parking lot at St. Mary's Road and I-10. The Cienega is located in Cochise County about 70 miles southeast of Tucson and about 18 miles southeast of Sonoita. Good background reading is the special issue of *Desert Plants* on cienegas (Vol. 6, No. 3, 1984)

JULY 20. Annual Meeting in Flagstaff.

AUGUST 3-4. Tim Clark conducts trip to the White Mountains. Call Tim at 621-7191 (w) for further info.

AUGUST 17. Annual trip to the alpine meadows of Mt. Graham, Pinaleno Mountains, Graham County.

AUGUSTS 29-Sept. 2. Chiricahua Workshop, Cochise County, Arizona. The sixth annual session to be held at the Southwestern Research Station of the American Museum of Natural History near Portal on the east side of the Chiricahua Mountains.

NOTES. Taxonomy classes during the Spring were a great success! A different instructor every week donated their time. Introductory session covered the composites Borages and grasses. We appreciate the time and preparation given by members to teach the classes.

Chapter meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Tucson Botanical Garden.

Flagstaff

JULY 20-21. Annual Meeting.

Chapter meets on third Thursday of the month at Flagstaff Adult Center, 7:30 p.m. For information call Susan Husband 774-7924.

Prescott

JULY 20-21. Annual Meeting in Flagstaff.

The Prescott Chapter is a new edition to our organization. Lets give them our full support by offering our ideas and programs. For information call Robert Mason (w) 778-7202, (h) 778-7592.

South Central

JULY 20-21. Annual Meeting in Flagstaff.

Chapter meets the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at the Central Arizona College. For more information contact Bill Kinnison 836-8562 or 836-8243. Call Lewis Ehrlich for field trip information at 466-5107.

Yuma

JULY 20-21. Annual Meeting in Flagstaff.

Chapter meets on the first Monday, 7:30 p.m. at the Yuma Extension Service Office. For information call Pat Callahan at 627-2773.

Phoenix

JULY 20-21. Annual Meeting in Flagstaff.

Chapter meets the second Monday of the month at Desert Botanical Garden at 7:30 p.m. For more information about field trips contact Dan James 899-2564 or Marc Mittleman 265-0670.

Preservation

continued from front

of the American Bar Association. The Act was drafted so that it could be adopted in all fifty states. So far at least, five states have adopted the Act or similar version. Other states are considering it.

The Act could be adopted in all fifty states because it is merely enabling legislation. The statute is necessary to respond to potential legal questions raised through the use of an easement as a mechanism to deal with property ownership rights. Statutory law abrogates common law (judge-made-law). Early judicial precedents could call into question the use of a conservation easement. To prevent that from happening, a statute is necessary.

ARIZONA IMPACT

If the Easement Act were adopted, Arizona might see three general types of easements preserving and protecting significant properties, as follows:

1. Scenic or open space land would be preserved. Generally the property owner would agree not to develop the property. Such property could include ecologically significant property or the setting of historically or architecturally significant property or historic and scenic views or just open space.
2. Exterior or facade easements would protect the outside appearance of a significant building. This type of easement usually prohibits alterations to the facade and includes control of additional development such as air rights or the right to construct additional stories. Also, often included in facade easements are requirements for proper maintenance of the building.
3. Interior easements may protect the significant interior features of a building. An interior easement may be granted in conjunction with an exterior feature easement.

POLITICAL ISSUES

We believe that the bill will be introduced in the 1985 legislative session. The key issues, again, will probably be the voluntary nature of easements, especially if donated "in perpetuity" or forever, understanding the language of the bill since it is somewhat legalistic, and convincing people that easements are an important tool in preserving significant historical, architectural, and environmental properties.

CONCLUSION

The informal coalition of environmentalists and preservationists would welcome your support for the Uniform Conservation Easement Act. If you are interested in helping in this effort, please check with the Arizona Parks and Recreation Board vice president, Michael Ramnes, Arizona State Parks Director, or Donna Schober, State Historic Preservation Officer, at State Parks 255-4174.

Editors Note: Reprinted from the Arizona Parks and Recreation Fall 1984, Donna Schober.

Annual Meeting Arizona Native Plant Society

**The Arboretum at Flagstaff
South Woody Mountain Road
Flagstaff, Arizona
July 20, 1985**

The Flagstaff Chapter has arranged two different hikes for Sunday, July 21st. If you are from out of town, why not stay overnight and join us on Sunday?

HIKE #1

Greg Goodwin, a wildlife biologist with the U.S. Forest Service will lead a hike at Dairy Springs, an interesting riparian scrub habitat near Mormon Lake. Meet at Camp Mardecor at 9:00 a.m. This will be a lush, leisurely hike which should have everyone back to the camp by noon.

HIKE #2

Dr. Jim Rominger, Curator of the Deaver Herbarium at NAU, will lead a hike into the Inner Basin on the San Francisco Peaks. Meet at the South Parking lot of the Dome on NAU campus at 8:00 a.m. to carpool to Lockett Meadow Trailhead or meet at the Trailhead. This will be a beautiful, but demanding hike. Due to frequent summer thunderstorms, hikers will start down off of the mountain after lunch. Bring a sack lunch and water.

The following overnight accommodations are available for July 20th:

CAMP MARDECOR - Mormon Lake

Bunk House style accommodations with bathroom and shower facilities. This is a 4-H camp which consists of a series of cabins, 10 bunks to a cabin. No meals will be provided, so plan to have dinner in town or at Mormon Lake Lodge. Cost for the night is \$5.50 per person.

MOTELS

Holiday Inn, 774-5221, 1 person \$57, 2 people \$63.

Quality Inn, 774-8771, 1 person \$48, 2 people \$53.

Travel Lodge West, 774-3381, 1 person \$48, 2 people \$52.

Comfort Inn, 774-7326, 1 person \$43, 2 people \$45.

Saga Motel, 779-3631, 1 person \$36, 2 people \$36.

July is a busy time in Flagstaff, so we suggest that you make your motel reservations at least two (2) weeks in advance.

PROGRAM

10:00	Meeting at the Administration Building.
10:00-10:30	Business Meeting - President E. LeRoy Brady presiding.
10:30-11:00	The Arboretum at Flagstaff, its history and programs.
11:00-11:30	The Endangered Species Program at the Museum of Northern Arizona, by Dr. Arthur Phillips.
11:30-12:00	View Endangered Species Show.
12:00-1:00	LUNCH
1:00-4:00	The Arboretum at Flagstaff and the Museum of Northern Arizona will host an Open House for ANPS members. MNA will provide free passes to view the exhibits at the Museum as well as open the Biology Collections in the research area. Tours of the grounds and facilities of the Arboretum at Flagstaff will be available.

NOTE: Please carpool. Parking at the Arboretum is very limited.

Pre-registration is greatly appreciated. If you plan to have lunch: BBQ ribs or chicken, cole slaw, beans, roll & beverage; or desire overnight accommodations at Camp Mardecor, confirmation and payment is needed by July 1st. Please send to: The ARBORETUM at Flagstaff, P.O. Box 670, Flagstaff, AZ 86002.

I plan to attend the ANPS annual meeting on July 20, 1985.

Name _____

Chapter _____

Enclosed is \$4.50 for lunch. Yes No.

I plan to stay at Camp Mardecor and have enclosed \$5.50 for a bunk. Yes No.

BOYCE FOERMAN'S

Annual Gardening Guide

PART TWO



JULY brings the summer rainy season.

Accompanying humidity is of some relief to plant foliage but not to local gardeners, who swelter in 100-degree-plus temperatures.

Some lightning and wind injury to palms and other trees may occur during these storms and, with the warmth and wetness, fungi become more prevalent around the landscape.

Ant and termite activity is stimulated by such weather. And large, green June beetles also may be evident. They're attracted to over-ripe, rotting fruit, garbage or compost piles.

Summer lawns thrive during hot, humid weather, often accumulating thick thatches. By slightly raising the mowing height now, less of the brown under-thatch will be exposed to view.

Water cautiously. Plant need for water, as well as evaporation losses, is lessened by the higher humidity. Risks of fungus diseases in turf and ground covers, as well as root rots, are greater with prevailing warmth and wetness.

It is a good time to prune palms, particularly if it's only done once each year. By now, most of their flower stalks will have emerged, so they can be removed at the same time. And with their major bloom passed, oleanders can be pruned too, but minimize the pruning of most other landscape plants during intense, hot weather.

AUGUST offers little relief from the hot, humid weather, and the summer doldrums are evident among gardeners. It is a good time to break away for a vacation.

Phytophthora root rot becomes highly infectious in warm, wet soils, so continue to avoid over-watering. It's also the season to expect Texas root rot.

Weak chlorotic spots showing up in turf may be due to

caliche soils, shallow watering or scale insects.

Some burst-open fruit may be evident on orange and tangerine trees now. Sunburned, or otherwise injured rinds simply burst open with rapid fruit enlargement. Some nut drop from pecan trees may be evident in August. It's a natural shed of injured or otherwise no-good nuts.

Watch for mealy bug infestations on hibiscus and various other shrubs at this time and control them promptly. Damage due to earlier egg laying of cicadas may become evident about now. These sawtooth-like wounds are sometimes severe enough that twigs die back to the injury. Prune them out for appearance sake.

Fruit bunches of date palms should be thinned and skirted with weatherproof paper to assure better quality fruit.

SEPTEMBER brings the fall season and welcome relief to summer-weary gardens and gardeners, but hot weather can be expected to persist until the middle of the month. It's a good season to evaluate landscape plantings for local adaptability. Tour your community as well as your own grounds and make a list of those plants that have endured the best. Give such plants priority in future planting.

The arrival of shorter days and cooler nights enables weakened plants to recoup some growth vigor lost during summer stress. A fertilization, followed by a deep watering, can help stimulate and speed their recovery.

Early September is an appropriate time to prepare local soils for fall vegetable and flower gardens. Wait until later in the month or October to plant.

It's a good season to plant container trees and shrubs. The lingering soil warmth favors rooting while the weather is becoming less stressful to foliage.

Some touch up pruning now can help improve appearances around the landscape.

Nuisance insects such as roaches, earwigs and crickets may become more invasive into homes and buildings as fall approaches.

OCTOBER offers Phoenix gardeners a good growing season, even though the influence of fall is evident. Shorter days induce leaf maturity, so varying amounts of yellowing and dropping of leaves can be expected. Even indoor plants experience the effects of fall. Stressed plants are first and most affected.

The season continues favorable for planting containered trees and shrubs, and it's a good time to plant fall vegetable and flower gardens.

If green lawns are desired during the winter, Bermuda grasses can be satisfactorily overseeded from mid-October to mid-November.

By this time, watering frequencies should be cut back to about half mid-summer schedules. Needs are lessened by shorter days, cooler weather and slower plant growth.

Be alert to possible "damping-off" diseases in flower beds, particularly those being kept overly wet.

Watch vegetables and flower gardens attentively for pests of various sorts, and don't disregard birds. They love emerging seedlings.

Pecan aphids can be expected during this month. So-called "honeydew" secreted by these pests causes leaves and ground cover to become sticky and glisten.

NOVEMBER brings a noticeable slow-down of plant growth. Although the days are yet sunny and warm, the cooling nights strongly induce plant dormancy. It is nature's way of getting plants ready for the winter.

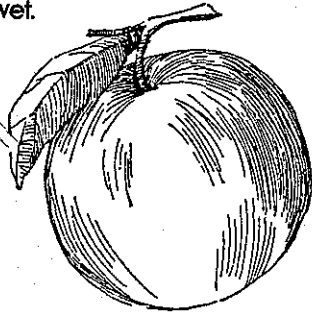
Abrupt weather changes now may provoke abnormal or excessive leaf drop. Mesophyll collapse of citrus trees is a typical example.

Progressively reduce watering frequencies, but continue to water adequately each time. Do not fertilize freeze-tender plants.

Pomegranates ripen this month and citrus fruits begin to color. Pecans also begin to mature and become ready for harvest. By Thanksgiving, leaves of deciduous shade trees and shrubs take on autumn hues and begin to drop. If you notice a nauseating fragrance in the neighborhood, it's most likely to be blooming carob trees.

Expect winter weeds to appear, particularly following rains. If pre-emergence herbicides are used to prevent them in bare soil areas, applications during late November through early December seem appropriate. Caution: Do not apply these materials where seeds are to be planted.

Winter lawns may require a nitrogen fertilization later in the month to sustain good, green color. Weekly mowing to 3 inch height seems best for most. Winter lawns seem more vulnerable to fungus disease infection than warm season grass, so avoid excessive sprinkling. Don't water if the grass is wet.



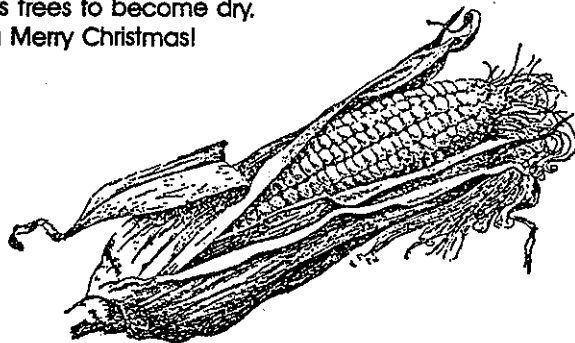
DECEMBER brings transition from fall to winter and some lull in gardening chores. Night temperatures normally cool into the 40s, but days are sunny and pleasantly mild. Frost can be expected in cooler areas around Phoenix this month, so freeze protection should be in readiness for tender plantings. Trunk wrappings can be left on young citrus and other freeze-tender trees through the winter, but any foliage covering should be removed during the daytime.

The warm days and cold nights of this season can be injurious to actively growing foliage. The so-called "blight" of Aleppo pines is a typical example.

Do not neglect landscape watering during the winter. Good soil moisture is essential to the well-being of plants, even during dormancy; only the amount and urgency are less.

The purchase of living Christmas trees, poinsettias and other container plants for later planting outdoors continues to gain popularity. The idea has much merit; however, attentive care should be provided to minimize stresses from the typical warm and dry indoor environment. Do not prolong their stay indoors. And for the sake of safety and appearance, do not allow cut Christmas trees to become dry.

Have a Merry Christmas!



Endangered Plants of Arizona Exhibit

Now available to all chapters for display and educational purposes.

Make your reservations now!
Call Marc Mittleman at 265-0670

Endangered Species Act Reauthorization



Mammillaria thomberi *Thomber's Fishhook* proposed threatened.

Congress is once again considering reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Without Congressional action the authority to spend federal money to protect endangered species will expire in October. Several conservation organizations are working cooperatively to ensure reauthorization of a strong ESA. Their joint newsletter, *Endangered Species Reauthorization Bulletin (ESARB)*, addresses a variety of issues concerning endangered species conservation. The following excerpts from two recent issues outline the provisions of the ESA and the plant-related issues that will receive congressional attention this year.

THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

The conservation of endangered species and their habitats is the goal of the Endangered Species Act, enacted by Congress in 1973. The Secretaries of Commerce and Interior have principal responsibility for the implementation of the Act; the former has responsibility for marine species, the latter for all others. Major features of the Act are:

Listing §4 - The first step in protecting an animal or plant species under the Act is "listing" it as endangered or threatened. Based on the best available scientific information, the Department may determine that a species is either "endangered; if it is in danger of extinction throughout a significant portion of its range, or "threatened" if it is likely to become so in the foreseeable future.

Harvest and Trade Controls §9 - With few exceptions, endangered species may not be purchased or sold in interstate or foreign commerce. Endangered animals (but not plants) may not be killed, hunted, collected, injured, or otherwise "taken." The controls on threatened

international organizations, providing financial assistance for training foreign conservation personnel, and law enforcement investigations and research. Section 8 also authorizes U.S. implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere.

PROTECTION FOR PLANTS AND CANDIDATE SPECIES

Plants - Listed plants receive the same protection as listed animals, with one key exception. Whereas the Act broadly prohibits the "taking" of any endangered animal, only a very narrow prohibition applies to plants. Specifically, only when the taken plant is "reduced to possession". That means vandals can cut, uproot or otherwise destroy endangered plants on federal lands without violating the Act. On private and other non-federal lands, the Act does nothing to prevent vandals, collectors, and others from destroying or collecting imperiled plant species. In one of the Act's inexplicable

"In one of the Act's inexplicable ironies, a landowner is free to bulldoze the last stand of an endangered shrub on his property, but if in the process he happens to kill an endangered animal living on that same shrub, he has committed an offense potentially punishable by a heavy fine and imprisonment."

species vary with the conservation needs of the species.

Habitat Acquisition §5 - Section 5 authorizes the Department of Interior and Agriculture to acquire habitat for conserving listed species. In doing so they may use funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

State-Federal Cooperation §6 - State conservation agencies also have a major role in conserving listed species. Many states have adopted endangered species laws that complement the federal Act. Section 6 authorizes matching federal funding for qualified state endangered species programs.

Federal Agency Activities §7 - Section 7 directs all federal agencies to conserve endangered and threatened species. It also requires them to ensure that actions they authorize, fund, or carry out do not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or destroy or adversely modify its critical habitat. The designation of "critical habitat" is a means of alerting federal agencies, landowners, and others that the area is important in conserving the species.

Section 7 is carried out through interagency consultation, a process intended to identify reasonable development alternatives that do not conflict with species conservation. Few serious conflicts have yet occurred. If conflicts should occur over a proposed federal action that is economically sound and of regional or national importance, the Act provides a mechanism for seeking an exemption.

International Cooperation §8 - Section 8 provides for international cooperation for conserving wild animals and plants through conservation agreements with foreign nations, assignment of personnel to foreign countries and

ironies, a landowner is free to bulldoze the last stand of an endangered shrub on his property, but if in the process he happens to kill an endangered animal living on that same shrub, he has committed an offense potentially punishable by a heavy fine and imprisonment.

Mounting evidence shows that effective plant conservation requires more than the Act provides. Many listed or candidate plants have been seriously reduced through overcollecting, including Chapman's rhododendron, certain cacti, and insectivorous plants of interest to hobbyists. Vandalism directed against endangered plants is also a problem for certain species such as the Virginia round-leaf birch tree.

Many landowners cooperate willingly in the conservation of rare plants growing on their property. For example, in Maryland about three-fourths of the landowners contacted by the state's natural areas program agreed to cooperate to protect rare plants on their property. But the Endangered Species Act does little to reinforce the cooperative spirit of these landowners. Trespassers who enter private property to take or vandalize endangered plants do so with no fear of the stiff federal penalties that apply to those taking endangered animals. Instead, only generally ineffectual state trespass laws apply. The time has come to give plants the protection they need by strengthening the Act's plant taking prohibitions.

Candidate Species. As outlined earlier, there now exists a substantial backlog of species that are candidates for listing, but are neither formally proposed nor listed. These species enjoy no legal protection whatsoever under the

Act, yet many have declined seriously, even to the point of extinction. Clearly, some degree of protection is necessary if we are to avoid further losses. One mechanism for providing interim protection to candidate species is to treat them as "proposed; species for purposes of Section 7(a)(4) of the Act. That provision requires agencies to confer with the Secretary about planned actions that are likely to affect proposed species adversely. Candidate species should enjoy at least this protection because the Secretary has already determined that only federal resource limitations have delayed proposing them for listing.

During the March hearing in the House, the Garden Club of America and other conservation organizations advocated increased protection for endangered plant

"Most private landowners take pride in the presence on their lands of unique or rare species and are eager to cooperate in their conservation."

species. Specifically, conservationists called for amending the Endangered Species Act to prohibit intentional destruction of listed plants on federal lands, where collecting is already prohibited except under a permit, and to prohibit collecting or destruction of listed plants on non-federal lands except with consent of the landowner.

Such an amendment would promote cooperation in the conservation of rare plants by non-federal landowners on whose lands they grow. Currently, the Endangered Species Act treats plants and animals differently. Any taking of an endangered animal is prohibited on both public and private land, whereas only the collection and removal from federal lands of endangered plants is proscribed. The historical basis for this distinction, apparently, was the recognition that landowners have traditionally been accorded greater rights with respect to plants growing on their lands than with respect to animals. This amendment would not interfere with the rights traditionally accorded landowners but would instead reinforce them in a way that also benefits conservation.

Information presented at the hearing showed that most private landowners take pride in the presence on their lands of unique or rare species and are eager to cooperate in their conservation. At the same time, however, because the Act only prohibits the taking of plants on federal lands, it provides no deterrent against collectors, vandals, or others who enter non-federal lands to remove or destroy these plants. Typically, the only resource for conservation-minded landowners is reliance on generally ineffectual state trespass laws.

A further purpose of the amendment is to make unlawful acts of vandalism directed against endangered plants on federal lands. Currently, the Act does not prohibit such activities unless the person responsible also removes the plant from the area of federal jurisdiction. Clearly,

however, the malicious destruction of endangered plants on federal lands can seriously impair the conservation of the species concerned whether or not the plant is ultimately removed from the area of federal jurisdiction.

Conservation groups have also proposed to strengthen the Act by giving limited protection to species that have been formally identified for further listing. These species, called "category 1 candidate species", have been determined to warrant being proposed for listing but have not yet been proposed because of the Secretary's resource limitations. Testimony presented at the March hearings in the House indicated that many of these candidate species have declined substantially, and at least a few have apparently gone extinct while they have been candidates. Clearly, the Secretary is in need of a much better mechanism for monitoring the status of candidate species so that he can utilize his regular or emergency listing authority in a timely fashion to prevent such serious declines. The proposed amendment would require that federal agencies informally confer with the Secretary on actions that may adversely affect such species, and thus provide an important means by which the Secretary can monitor their well being.

Despite the clear benefits that such amendments would bestow, citizen support will be needed to persuade Congress to make these changes. Thus, **we urge readers to write their Representatives and Senators** to ask their support for strengthened protection of endangered plants and candidate species.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS CONCERNS

On March 5 and 6, congressional Interior Appropriations subcommittees will conduct hearings on FY86 appropriations for key agencies responsible for implementing the Endangered Species Act. Two of the larger agencies, the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management deserve particular mention, as their responsibility to manage endangered and threatened species on public lands is a large and growing one. The U.S. Forest Service manages 191 million acres of forest and grasslands in 44 states. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages some 300 million acres, primarily in the West, and subsurface minerals under an additional 66 million acres in the East. Currently, 65 listed species occur on national forests and 86 on BLM lands.

Historically, neither agency has devoted sufficient financial or staff resources to meet its obligations under the Endangered Species Act. Although the Forest Service's total wildlife and fisheries program currently has a budget of 36.607 million and a staff of 877, only 7% of that is targeted for conservation of endangered species. Furthermore, even this small amount is concentrated on only eleven species; the remaining 54 species have received minimal attention at best.

The Forest Service requires a budget of at least \$5 million to maintain its endangered, threatened, and sensitive species program. Even this amount will not permit it to address the needs of newly listed species, much less the many candidate species. As additional species are listed, the agency will fall further behind the goals set by Congress and supported by the American public. Agency ignorance about these species also contributes to delays in processing proposals for timber, grazing, and other multiple uses of the national forests.

Funding for the BLM's endangered species program is at an all-time high level, yet it has been able to implement only 26 of the 44 recovery plans for species occurring on

"Agency ignorance also contributes to delays in processing proposals for timber, grazing, and other multiple uses of the national forests."

its lands. Efforts to implement the other 20 plans, or on behalf of species for which recovery plans have not been completed, are virtually non-existent. As to candidate species, BLM is able to address them for the first time this year, thanks to congressional instructions to spend \$2 million of general wildlife funds on "high priority" species.

In total, FY85 BLM is spending \$3.6 million for federally listed threatened and endangered species and \$350,000 for proposed and candidate species. The work includes conducting inventories to ensure adequate species data, monitoring effects of ongoing activities, developing recovery plans, protecting habitat by fencing or other means, improving habitat, and reintroductions. BLM's budget and staff are clearly inadequate to meet the agency's endangered species obligations.

As the number of listed species on BLM lands increases and recovery plans are completed, BLM will find itself even less able to carry out conservation programs, causing delays in lease processing and the further decline and probable extinction of individual species. BLM should receive at least \$5 million in FY86 to conserve endangered, threatened, and candidate species.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Congress needs to know that the American public supports a strengthened endangered species program. Please write to your Senators (U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC 20510) and Representatives (U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC 20510) to let them know your opinion. You may also reach them by calling the capitol switchboard, (202) 224-3121. If you are not already receiving action alerts on the 1985 Endangered Species Act reauthorization and wish to, please contact ESARB P.O. Box 27056, Washington, DC 20038.

COMMITTEES REAUTHORIZING THE ESA:

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee - John H. Chafee, RI, Subcommittee Chairman

House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee - John B. Breaux, LA, Subcommittee Chairman

Senate Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, The Judiciary, and Related Matters - Paul Laxalt, NV, Chairman

Senate Subcommittee on Interior and Related Matters - James A. McClure, ID, Chairman

House Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary

House Subcommittee on Interior - Sidney R. Yates, IL, Chairman

Editor's note: The next issue of the Plant Press will report on the society's recent involvement in endangered plant inventories.

Public hearing on the Arizona Native Plant Law

The Arizona Commission of Agriculture and Horticulture will be conducting a public hearing on the Native Plant Regulations that will address changes to the list of protected plants. The hearing probably will take place sometime in September or October. The Commission's staff proposal of recommended changes will be available this summer.

This hearing provides an important opportunity to push for a more meaningful state list of protected plants and members are urged to participate. Members interested in learning more about the hearing or in obtaining copies of the staff proposal may write Larry Richards at Arizona Commission of Agriculture and Horticulture, 1688 W. Adams, Phoenix, AZ 85007 or call at 255-4373.



A Call for Volunteers!

The Bureau of Land Management Phoenix District Office is looking for volunteers to prepare plant specimens for the district's herbarium. The past few years of botanical inventory of BLM land has resulted in quite a backlog of unmounted specimens. The district office is located at 2015 West Deer Valley Road and working hours are 7:30 to 4:15 Monday-Friday. Volunteers will be reimbursed for gas and meal expenditures. Members interested in helping out please contact:

MARY BUTTERWICK

863-4464

Thankyou!