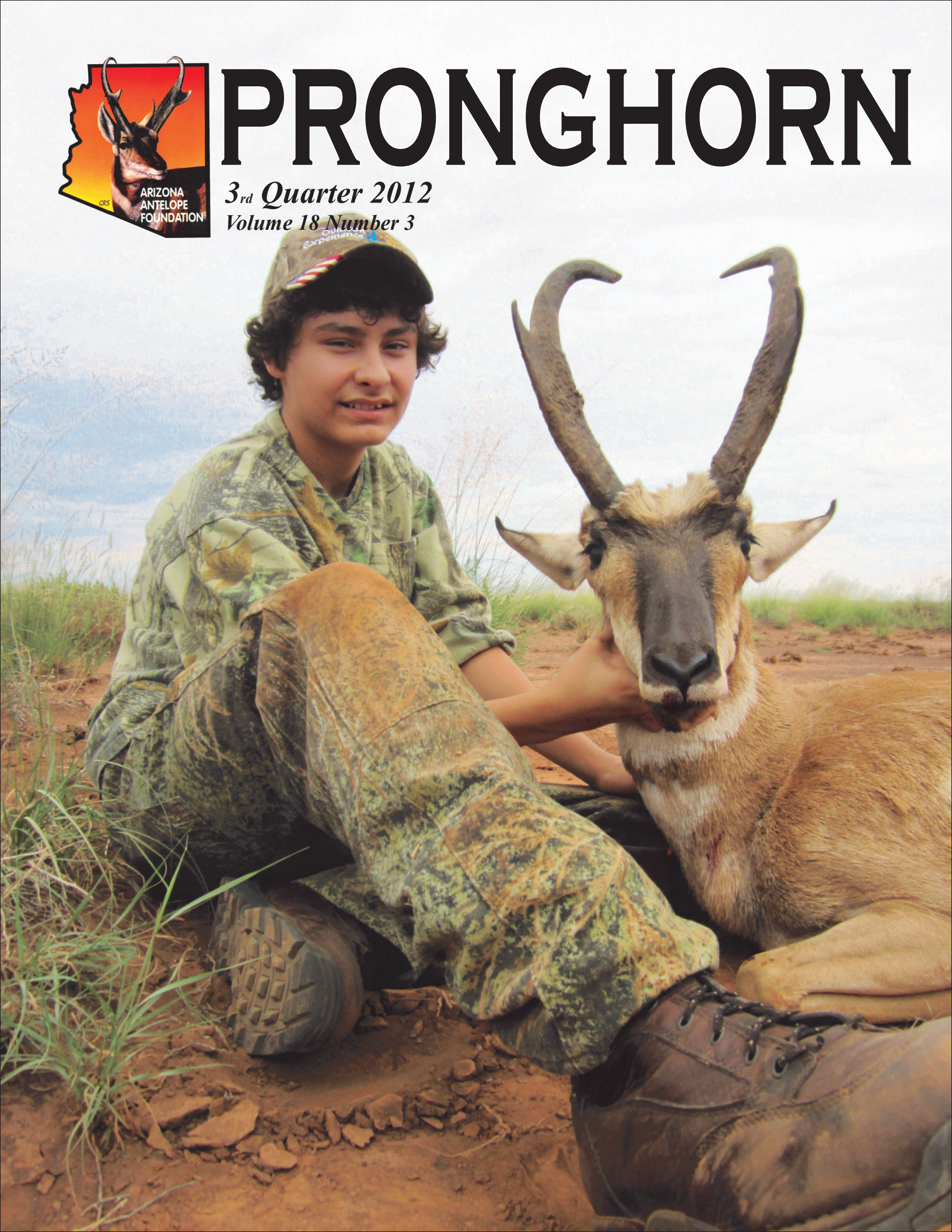
PRONGHORN

3rd Quarter 2012
Volume 18 Number 3



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In This Issue

AAF Mission Statement:
The Arizona Antelope Foundation is an organization dedicated to the welfare of pronghorn antelope. The Foundation's Mission is to actively seek to increase pronghorn populations in Arizona through habitat improvements, habitat acquisition, the translocation of animals to historic range, and public comment on activities affecting pronghorn and their habitat.

Annual Membership Meeting
November 12th 6:30 PM

El Zaribah Shrine
552 N. 40th St. Phoenix
Election of Officers and Directors

See page 19 for more information

On Our Cover

AAF Director Eddy Corona is the co-founder of Outdoor Experience 4 All (OE4A), which is a non-profit organization that offers outdoor experiences to young people diagnosed with life threatening illnesses, children of fallen heroes, and children with disabilities. Shown on our cover is Matthew Gonzales, who was a recent participant in Eddy's program. You can read Matthew's story on page 6.

Pronghorn is a quarterly newsletter for the members of AAF. Letters, comments, news items, articles, pictures and stories are all welcome and will be considered for publication. **Address all such items to:**
Tracy Unmacht, Pronghorn Editor, PO Box 12590, Glendale, AZ 85318, or by email at info@azantelope.org.

President's Message

It has been said that an act of conservation can never be made too early for we never know when it is too late. It is with this principle and sense of urgency that Arizona Antelope Foundation is currently moving forward.

We cannot rely solely on the government to protect our natural heritage. Conservation-related government agencies are stretched too thin and remain susceptible to the shifting priorities of politics. Private charities are stepping in to fill this void, and the majority of conservation in the future will be accomplished not by government entities but instead by private organizations, such as AAF.

A few simple facts illustrate the point. The United States Park Service currently encompasses approximately 84 million acres. In the year 2000 the total acres protected in the United States by private land trusts was approximately 24 million, and by 2010 that figure had jumped to 47 million. In terms of acreage, private organizations will in the foreseeable future eclipse government entities as the largest positive force for conservation.

AAF is proud to be a part of this great, private conservation effort. But we can not do it alone. For those who are able to donate in terms of financial contributions or support of our work projects, I thank you.

Please help and support our mission by joining our Facebook page. By doing so you will be connected to the latest news and you will immediately make a difference as the display of support advances awareness of our organization and its cause.

Please also consider joining or renewing your membership. Your dues help us in numerous ways: funding to conduct our habitat projects which are critical to assuring antelope will continue to have places to roam; producing this publication, our website, and Enewsletter which all help us spread our message; conducting our annual Hunter Clinic, which teaches how to hunt antelope responsibly; and attendance at expos and information fairs, which educate those not familiar with

issues facing pronghorn and wildlife.

While the threats facing our planet may be great, it is important to not lose sight of the fact that all human-caused problems have human-based solutions. AAF is part of the solution and with your help we can ensure that future generations will enjoy the beauty and wonder of nature.

Please contact us if you have any questions, need assistance, or would like to learn more about our organization. We would love to hear from you.

"LIBERTAS AD VAGOR"... FREEDOM TO ROAM"

Shane Stewart

Mark your calendar

Board Meeting Schedule

October 8
November 12
December 10

Other Events

November 12 Annual Meeting/Elections
March 30 Annual Fundraiser
June Annual Hunter Clinic

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation SE Arizona Grasslands Pronghorn Initiative Partnership and Project Development Update for summer 2012

By John Millican, AAF Field/Project Manager

Developing partnerships is the key to project implementation. After approximately four months of attending meetings, developing contacts, and spreading the word about the AAF Initiative and the NFWF grant, these two major prerequisites have been largely accomplished.

A number of Region V District Wildlife Managers have been instrumental in developing partnerships which will aid in the development of projects to enhance pronghorn habitats throughout Southeast Arizona. Mike Richins, Wildlife Manager for unit 30A, led the charge throughout the San Bernardino Valley by developing contacts between various landowners, the Malpai Borderlands Group and myself. These initial introductions have led to the development of an HPC grant that will result in the cleanout of two large dirt reservoirs, supplying yearlong water to pronghorn, mule deer, and a variety of avian and terrestrial wildlife. A second project, which will improve connectivity between habitats, will be completed on September 29th by volunteers of the AAF, along with members of the Mule Deer Foundation (MDF). This project will involve rebuilding nearly 3 miles of fence to pronghorn specifications, and allow AAF to be a working partner throughout the San Bernardino Valley.

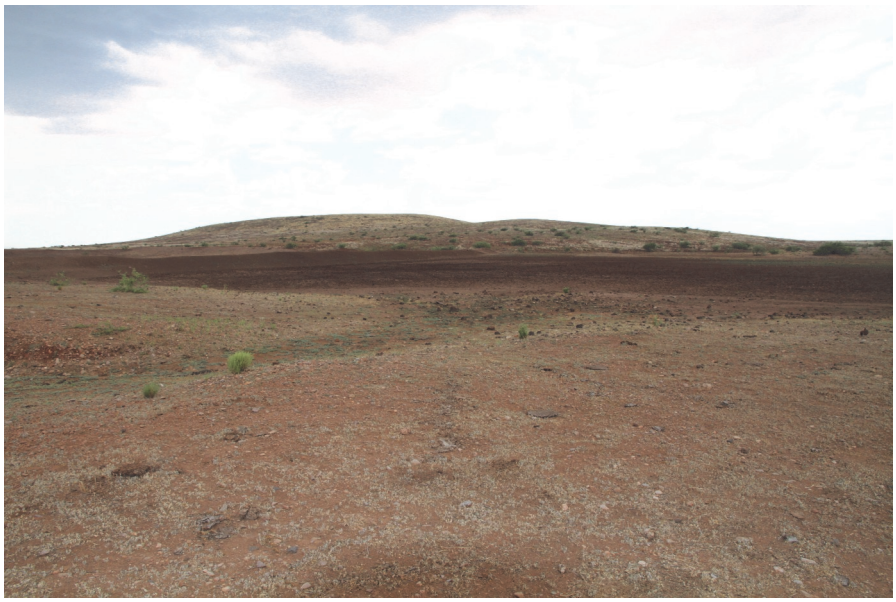
John Bacorn, Wildlife Manager for unit 32, has been a driving force in restoring grasslands by way of mesquite grubbing throughout the Bonita grasslands. Recently, we teamed up to conduct a field review of past projects, discuss future project needs, and to meet with a partnering landowner. The future looks bright in developing fencing projects that will im-

(Continued on page 5)

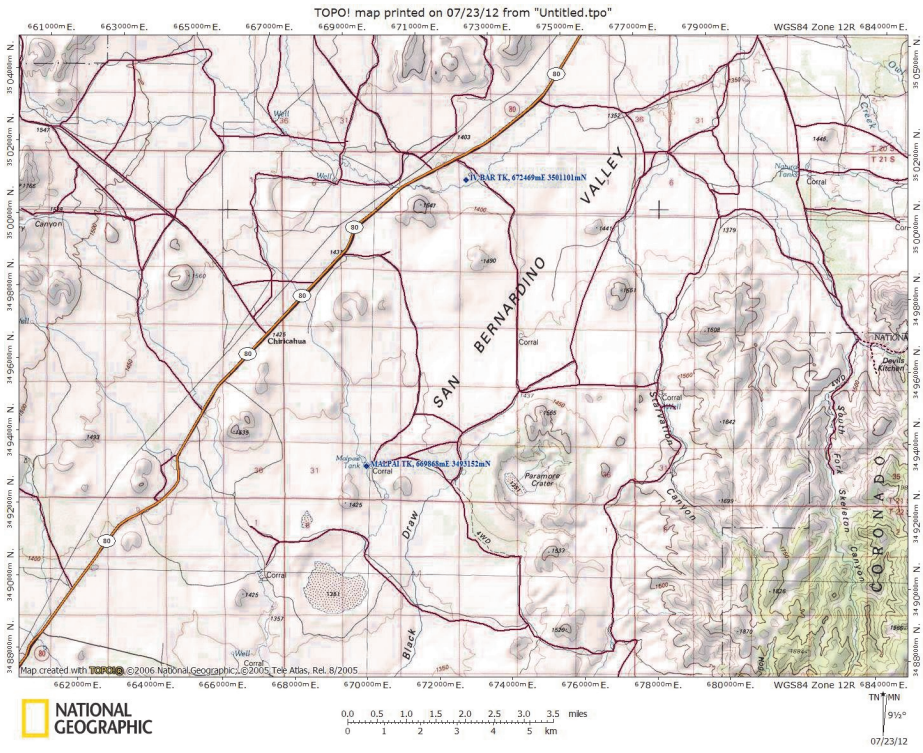
Malpai Ranch fence project site set for September 29th

Malpai Ranch Pronghorn Habitat

*(**SEAZ Grasslands Project Update** continued from page 4)*



Malpai Tank – HPC Reservoir Cleanout proposal, located on IV Bar Ranch in San Bernardino Valley, in prime Pronghorn habitat. Cleanout capacity after cleanout to exceed 8 million gallons



Malpai and IV Bar Headquarter Tanks. HPC - IVBar Water Development Project locations. Cleanout of 2 dirt reservoirs providing yearlong water. Total storage capacity after cleanout to exceed 13 million gallons of water.

prove connectivity between habitats, and across ranch boundaries. John's knowledge of the projects will enhance the GIS database that is being developed by Caroline Patrick Geo-data Base Manager who formally joined the AAF's Grant staff in July, as they will have the opportunity to corroborate data layers, which will greatly aid in the development of projects. As these partnerships are developed, fence reconstruction will complement the grassland restoration efforts, allowing AAF to be a major player in this pronghorn ecosystem development.

Karen Klima, Wildlife Manager for unit 36A is working with USFWS on the Buenos Aires Refuge to develop multi-year water projects to aid pronghorn and other wildlife species. Through her efforts I was able to interject pronghorn needs, as well as, to meet Terry Herndon, Arizona Mule Deer Foundation Regional Director, who has come to the table as a partner with AAF to aid in funding the San Bernardino HPC project, and to involve Mule Deer volunteers in upcoming projects.

Various Game and Fish personnel throughout the Sonoita/San Rafael Valley have been a great asset in development of contacts and providing input in future activities. Wildlife Managers, Aaron Miller (unit's 34A/B) has assisted in relationships between the BLM and the Vera Earl Ranch. Matt Braun (unit's 35A/B) and Brad Fulk (Sector 8 Field Supervisor) have developed working relationships with various landowners and have worked non-stop in developing pronghorn management objectives for the area. Future project development and pronghorn population dynamics will be greatly enhanced by their efforts.

Even though a number of partnerships have been developed, much is yet to be accomplished. Over the past month, four southeast Arizona ranches have been sold, purchased by one owner.

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A Hunt for Matthew

By Gilbert Gonzales, Wildlife Manager AZGFD

I remember it so vividly

It was March 26th, 2012 and my 13 year old son Matthew and I were talking about the upcoming 2012 Elk and Pronghorn Antelope draw results and praying that we or someone in our family drew tags. Matthew was so anxious to find out about the results as he had taken up archery and had killed or put the fear into all of the jackrabbits around the 10 acres that surrounded our house in Willcox, AZ. Conversations were usually short and in between his naps, but every time he woke he would continue the conversation right where we had left off. Draw result discussions were common in our household during this time of the year, but the difference this year is this conversation was taking place on the fifth floor of the Phoenix Children's Hospital.

Just a few days earlier, Matthew was in the middle of a 5 hour surgery to his spine to remove a rare tumor that had grown in his spinal column. What was initially thought to be growing pains, ended up to be a tumor the size of a grown man's finger. It had grown and put pressure on nerves running down his left leg and usually after soccer practice he would complain of his leg going to sleep. Thankfully, our local doctors were determined to find the cause of the numbness and ordered an MRI. That MRI showed the doctors the cause of the numbness. Next thing we knew, our family was told to travel to Phoenix immediately and he would be in emergency surgery tomorrow morning to remove the tumor to prevent permanent damage to his spinal column.

A few more days after surgery, the doctor came in to explain to the family what his limitations would be. No sports until follow up appointments and MRI's show how the spine has recovered and very limited exercise. Matt's only question was when can he hunt and how soon can he pull his bow back. I explained to him to not rush his recovery and do what the doctor ordered. He was upset, especially since he didn't know if he had drawn his archery bull tag. Matthew was then informed by his team of outstanding doctors that he would be recommended to complete radiation therapy at the University of Arizona Oncology Department. Again, no complaints as long as they are completed before the September Archery Elk hunt opener.

Matthew was released from the Phoenix Children's Hospital on March 30th and was instructed to use a walker for the next week. He used the walker two days and slowly started walking on his own. A few weeks later the draw results were released and unfortunately we were not drawn for either Elk or Pronghorn Antelope. Although he was disappointed, his new goal was to harvest a whitetail deer with his bow.

Through Gabe Paz, a close family friend, it was recommended that I submit an application for Matthew to Eddy Corona at Outdoor Experience 4 All. Gabe had met Eddy at several meetings and was impressed with his program, how he inspires people and how he assists children. I must admit, I had never heard of Outdoor Experience 4 All and researched it online. I was so impressed with the website; I downloaded an application and called Eddy right away. Since my first telephone call with Eddy, it seemed as if we had known each other forever. He not only explained the program, we talked about Matthew's illness and how it affected our family. His advice and kind words inspired me. I told Eddy that I would be submitting an application for Matthew. After Eddy contacted Matthew's doctors, it was determined that he met the criteria to enter the program and would now be part of the Outdoor Experience 4 All family.

Eddy explained the program and said if Matthew loves to hunt, he may receive several hunts a year. I think what I like most about the program is Eddy's expectations of the kids. They must continue to help out at home, get good grades and not get into trouble. Exactly what I expect of my kids.

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*(**A Hunt for Matthew** continued from page 6)*

Not knowing what to expect next, Eddy called in the middle of August to offer a 5A rifle antelope tag. First Eddy made sure Matthew's health was in good order, his grades were good and if I would be able to take him. I overwhelmingly said yes…. Eddy said he would call Matthew after school to let him know about the hunt. After Eddy called, Matthew could not stop smiling and was extremely excited. The next several weeks, Matthew would not stop talking about his upcoming antelope hunt.

Now we are in early September, Matthew, Beto- my dad, Dan- my brother and I are travelling up to Unit 5A. The excitement in the vehicle is overwhelming. We can't wait to get there and set up camp to start scouting for Matthew's antelope. I must admit, initially I was thinking we would hunt for a Boone and Crockett buck, but soon realized this is Matthews hunt. I would allow him to harvest the buck that he wanted. Score does not matter to him and he simply wanted to shoot a "goat". After talking with Wildlife Manager Garrett Fabian and Mike Hancock, we had areas picked out to start hunting.

The night before the hunt was restless as usual, but this time it was worse as we were about to pursue antelope for Matthew. I think the camp slept maybe a few hours, but everyone was up and awake at 3:00am. We hurriedly ate a breakfast fit for a king that Eddy, Ronnie Bennett and Jim Unmacht had made and left for the area that had numerous antelope for Matthew to look over.

As the sun rose, we immediately started seeing antelope. Several bucks had been spotted, but nothing of interest until Mike and Brad Remfrey spotted a nice buck about 800 yards out. This buck peaked Matthew's interest and the crew decided to try and get a closer look. Matthew said he liked the way the antelope's horns curved back a lot and said if given the chance he would attempt a shot. The crew slowly walked to a high spot and anxiously looked for the buck. Initially we thought we had lost the buck, but finally it was spotted again about 800

(Continued on page 9)

MY SPRING PRONGHORN ADVENTURE

By Caitlin Kelley, High School Senior

July 20, 2012

From April 30 through May 18, I volunteered for the Arizona Antelope Foundation's "Southeastern Arizona Grasslands Pronghorn Initiative" (Initiative) with Wulf, Deiter, and Netzin Steklis. It was an experience unlike any I've had before that's simple enough for anyone who's interested to participate in whatever way s/he can.

The goal of the portion of the Initiative that I worked on was to attempt to make an account of the pronghorn on the Sonoita plains surrounding Sonoita. We were recording not only where the pronghorn were and their numbers, but also their genders, coat conditions, and whether or not the females appeared to still be pregnant. To help us keep an eye out for the pronghorn, we also searched for cattle, water, and coyotes (who would hunt the fawns).

How were we able to get this data? We were given maps with circled areas where locals had seen pronghorn fawn over the years. With the maps in hand and a GPS to guide us to the circled areas, we marked several waypoints within each circle, where we would do a three-sixty with binoculars, and mark everything we did and didn't see. This way, we would begin to know where the pronghorn were fawning this year as well as where they were staying away from. To be sure we didn't just happen to miss a pronghorn sighting one day, we checked in on the waypoints throughout the week to see if any arrived. Outside of the areas, we would record a waypoint if we saw any pronghorn.

So, now we have all of this information, but what good does it do? Thanks to knowing where the pronghorn are fawning, down to the elevation, we were able to discover what areas ranchers should keep preexisting water tanks full during that time of year, what fences were the most critical to update and fix to pronghorn standards, and the quality of the vegetation where the pronghorn were. We hope that this will keep the Initiative on the right track and help guide what steps should be taken next to ensure the safety and growth of the species. With the knowledge of fawning grounds made public, ranchers will know what pastures need increased grass height in May and early June, and future researchers will have an idea of where to look for fawns as well as have an organized, uniform layout for recording their data based on the tables we made for this year's work.

This Initiative was something I never expected to do in my life, but I'm glad

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*(**My Spring Pronghorn Adventure** continued from page 8)*

I did. Once I got the hang of collecting data (and, believe me, it's not as difficult as you would think), I was able to go out in the pastures and on the plains by myself on a daily basis. It felt great knowing that I was doing something that would help the pronghorn, and it was amazing to spend so much time in the silent, wide-open outdoors. But the most incredible part was how capable of handling myself I felt. Having to rely on myself to take high quality data and to take care of my tools and to find my way around, I felt like I could do anything. Where I used to rely on a speaking GPS to get anywhere new, I can now find my way with a compass, map, and absolutely nothing familiar in my surroundings. This newfound feeling of being self-reliant is huge for me as I go off to college this fall. I feel more confident and sure of myself, and I feel like I don't have to rely on others so much anymore. For anyone who enjoys relaxing in the outdoors while helping the environment and getting a "beginner's guide to outdoor survival," I strongly recommend volunteering in the AAF's Southeastern Arizona Grasslands Pronghorn Initiative. Its well worth it and the pronghorn will thank you.

A lot of this project was made possible not only thanks to the Steklis' who peaked my interest and introduced me to everyone involved, but also thanks to the AAF and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for the funding. With it, we were able to have high quality binoculars and GPS's that made data so much easier to collect and improved the accuracy of our work and to have our vehicles gas paid. Had we not had the funding, a lot of the data would have been recorded by hand rather than right on the GPS where human error was eliminated. The high quality binoculars allowed us to see further in higher detail, so pronghorn that would have ordinarily escaped notice were accounted for. This funding providing advanced tools to volunteers interested in conserving the pronghorn and the data becomes faster and easier to collect as well as more accurate.

The AAF's Southeastern Arizona Grasslands Pronghorn Initiative was a great way to get involved in a hands-on way with one of my passions, wildlife, and I would like to thank everyone who makes the conservation effort possible. Without you guys, I would have never had the chance to discover something as new and exciting as the Southeastern Arizona Grasslands Pronghorn Initiative, and the number of pronghorn in Southern Arizona would continue to decrease.

*(**A Hunt for Matthew** continued from page 7)*

yards out. Matthew stated he would like to shoot this buck. The group sat down and Matthew and I crawled approximately 50 yards ahead of the guys and set up the Western Precision 7mm magnum on the bipod and waited to see what the buck would do. Mike immediately removed his camouflaged shirt and exposed his white t-shirt. The buck started walking right towards us. He would walk about 100 yards, stop and stare, then again come 100 yards. Finally, the buck came in to 500 yards and seemed he would come no more. I ranged the buck at 480 yards and told Matt to relax and breathe. As Dad, I was a nervous wreck, but couldn't show it. I told him if he wanted the buck, to wait until he is broadside and slowly squeeze the trigger. I had full confidence that Matthew and the gun could make the shot. He had been practicing out to 500 yards at the range and I knew he could do it.

I whispered and asked Matthew, "Do you think you could make the shot?" He whispered back with confidence in his voice "Well yeah" and smiled. He then turned, settled in behind the gun and looked through the scope patiently at the antelope. After what seemed like an eternity, finally the buck slowly turned broadside and stopped. I heard Matthew slowly exhale and squeeze the trigger. Immediately, the buck hit the dirt. I was so very proud, I grabbed him with a big bear hug and kissed him.

We could hear the crew behind us erupt in cheers. The entire crew witnessed Matthew fulfill his dream and it was all caught on film. We walked up to the antelope and cheers erupted again and along with a few tears. What a wonderful experience that we will never forget. It couldn't have happened if it weren't for Mr. George Dalton, the original tag recipient and Eddy Corona of Outdoor Experience 4 All. We can't thank them enough for this wonderful program and for the support of my family and friends that assisted with the hunt.

Outdoor Experience 4 All
Changing Lives One Adventure at a Time!

www.oe4a.org

Sonoran Pronghorn Update

By Jill Bright AZ Game & Fish
July 31, 2012

Captive Breeding:

Cabeza Prieta Captive Breeding Pen

All the pronghorn in the pen are doing well. We still have 14 fawns in the north half (6 females and 8 males), and 18 fawns (10 females, 8 bucks) in the south half.

Diagnostic lab testing did not find a cause of death for the adult doe that died last month in the pen. They found no sign of any disease, and all the tissues looked normal. Cause is still unknown.

We had over 5 inches of rain at the Cabeza pen during July in several rain storms. One storm, on the evening of July 21, dumped 2.5 inches of rain on the pen in just a couple hours. This caused all the washes to run, and the larger washes ran 3-4 feet high, knocking out several sections of the main fence, and destroying large sections of the electric fence. The fence dividing the pen into north and south halves was also knocked down in several spots and irrigation pipelines were broken.

The next morning, the pen crew in Ajo was able to quickly put up some temporary snow fence across the areas where the main fence was washed away. They also were able to rebuild the main fence across the washed out areas that day. Personnel from Yuma, and from Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument came out to Ajo in the next several days to help remove debris, repair electric fences and other clean up. No pronghorn got out of the pen, and there has been no evidence of any predators getting into the pen. The pen and Child's Valley is now very green from all the rain.

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Damage from the storm on the west side of the pen

Damage along the midline fence, showing debris, missing fence, and broken irrigation pipe.

*(**Sonoran Pronghorn Update** continued from page 10)*

Status of Pronghorn in Cabeza Pen

June 2012

NORTH HALF		SOUTH HALF	
Adult Females	9	Adult Females	12
Yearling Females (*b* 2011)	4	Yearling Females (*b* 2011)	6
Breeding Buck (Blue)	1	Breeding Buck	0
Back-up Buck	1	Back-up Buck (Yellow 3)	1
Yearling Bucks (*b* 2011)	4	Yearling Bucks (*b* 2011)	8
Fawns (born 2012)	14	Fawns (born 2012)	18
TOTAL	**33**	**TOTAL**	**45**
Total Pen	**78**		

Kofa Captive Breeding Pen

All the pronghorn in the Kofa pen are well. One of the last born twin fawns has not been seen since the first couple of days and is presumed to have died, leaving 9 fawns in the Kofa Pen (4 females and 5 males). Kofa did not get nearly as much rain as the Cabeza pen, but did get nearly 0.5 inches of rain. A few small washes ran, but no damage occurred. The pen is starting to green up, and the pronghorn are using less alfalfa.

Status of Pronghorn in Kofa Pen

	June 2012
Adult Females	6
Yearling Females (*b* 2011)	3
Breeding Buck	1
Back-up Buck	1
Fawns (born 2012 4F, 5M)	9
TOTAL	**20**

Released Pronghorn

Most of the recently released pronghorn are either in the vicinity of the pen, or in a group to the northeast of the pen in Child's Valley. Prior to the rain, they had been using one of the the feed/water sites set up at either the east side of the pen, or further northeast in Child's Valley. With the recent rain, the entire Child's Valley area has become very green, with numerous forbs, and new succulent growth on the perennials. Pronghorn use at the feed/water sites has consequently decreased greatly.

Water Projects: The rain has added to or filled all our pronghorn waters. We are going through the necessary NEPA/cultural resource processes to build 2 new waters for pronghorn this winter – one at the experimental 1B site on South Tac, and one at the site in Child's Valley.

Forage Enhancements: The recent rains have made irrigation at Charlie Bell forage plot unnecessary. The Devils Hills forage plot did not get as much rain, and we are trying to get that site repaired so we can begin irrigation before the forage starts drying out again.

Other Projects: Nothing new to report.

Wild Pronghorn: One of the collared pronghorn using the Valley of the Ajo in Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument has moved back west and is now on the Cabeza Refuge, west of Organ Pipe. The other collared pronghorn is still in the northern part of the Valley of the Ajo. Both still have one fawn. The collared female who was caught in the Tule Desert, who moved north to the Point of the Pintas area, has now moved back south, near the Fawn Hills. One the last telemetry flight, we observed 16 fawns with 22 females.

*(**SEAZ Grasslands Project Update** continued from page 5)*

Two of these are within the San Bernardino Valley and two in the San Rafael Valley. Three of the four contain prime occupied pronghorn habitat. Becoming acquainted with the new owner, and he with us is an important component and one that the AZGFD and AAF has begun through the drafting of a letter of introduction. It is hoped that the future will result in the development of a mutual relationship which will benefit pronghorn and livestock, by implementation of projects that improve grassland ecosystems and provide pronghorn connectivity between habitats.

Partnerships are not only about working with agencies, conservation groups, and landowners but also with government entities. Recently, I had the opportunity to be involved with the Cochise County Public Lands Advisory Committee (PLAC). This committee discusses various environmental issues that affect Cochise County residents and bring recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Fencing along county and state highway right-of-ways, particularly where pronghorn are present is a growing concern. Currently, PLAC and Cochise County are reviewing the AZGFD Wildlife Fencing Standards and will be discussing the merits of possibly implementing those standards throughout the county.

These efforts by many will continue to drive the effectiveness of the AAF's southeastern Arizona Initiate. Various funding sources, including HPC and NFWF will provide the financial stimulus to make these necessary projects a reality. Partnerships and the willingness to work together will foster project development, which will enhance grassland habitats and allow pronghorn populations to rebound.

Potential connectivity fence project on Malpai Ranch

Born in the Hands of Hunters
The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation
By John F Organ, Ph.D., Shane P. Mahoney, and Valerius Geist, Ph.D
Reprinted with permission from The Wildlife Society

Wildlife conservation in the United States and Canada has evolved over the last century and a half to acquire a form distinct from that of any other nation in the world. It's a conservation approach with irony at its core—sparked by the over-exploitation of wildlife, then crafted by hunters and anglers striving to save the resources their predecessors had nearly destroyed. Now a series of principles collectively known as the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation (Geist 1995, Geist et al. 2001), it helps sustain not only traditional game species but all wildlife and their habitats across the continent. The key to its future lies in understanding its origins.

Historical Context

The North American Model (the Model) has deep social and ecological roots. In the early days of North American exploration, English and French settlers came from cultures where wildlife at various times in their histories was the private property of an elite landed gentry (Manning 1993). The explorations of these settlers were driven by the incredible wealth of North America's renewable natural resources— and by an unfettered opportunity to exploit it. Today, wildlife conservation in Canada and the United States reflects this historic citizen access to the land and its resources. Indeed, the idea that natural resources belong to the citizenry drives democratic engagement in conservation and forms the heart of North America's unique approach (Krausman 2009).

After resource exploitation fueled the expansion of people across the continent, the Industrial Revolution brought social changes that indelibly marked the land and its wildlife. In 1820, 5 percent of Americans lived in cities, but by 1860, 20 percent were urban dwellers, marking the greatest demographic shift ever to occur in America (Riess 1995). Markets for wildlife arose to

(Continued on page 13)

*(**Born In the Hands of Hunters** continued from page 12)*
feed these urban masses and to festoon a new class of wealthy elites with feathers and furs. Market hunters plied their trade first along coastal waters and interior forests. With the advent of railways, hunters exploited the West, shipping products from bison, elk, and other big game back to eastern cities. The march of the market hunter left once abundant species teetering on the brink of extinction.

By August 1886—when Captain Moses Harris led cavalry troops into Yellowstone National Park to take over its administration and stop rampant poaching—bison, moose, and elk had ceased to exist in the U.S. as a viable natural resource (U.S. Dept. Interior 1987). The Army takeover of Yellowstone is symbolic of the desperate actions taken to protect the remnants of American wildlife from total extinction. Ironically, the sheer scale of the slaughter was to have some influence in engendering a remarkable new phenomenon: the conservation ethic (Mahoney 2007).

The increasing urban population found itself with something that farmers did not have: leisure time. The challenges of fair-chase hunting became a favored pastime of many, particularly those of means. Conflicts soon arose between market hunters, who gained fortune on dead wildlife, and the new breed of hunters who placed value on live wildlife and the sporting pursuit of it.

These "sport" hunters organized and developed the first wildlife hunting clubs (such as the Carroll's Island Club, founded in Maryland in 1832) where hunters protected game from market hunters. Recreational hunters also pushed for laws and regulations to curtail market hunting and overexploitation. The New York Sportsmen's Club, for example, drafted laws recommending closed seasons on deer, quail, woodcock, and trout—laws which passed in 1848 (Trefethen 1975).

Pioneers in Conservation

An early advocate of game protection, Yale-educated naturalist George Bird Grinnell acquired the sporting journal Forest and Stream in 1879 and turned it into a clarion call for wildlife conservation. Grinnell had accompanied George Armstrong Custer on his first western expedition in 1874, where he saw herds of bison and elk. A decade later, in 1885, Grinnell reviewed Hunting Trips of a Ranchman by fellow New Yorker Theodore Roosevelt. In that review, Grinnell criticized Roosevelt for his limited experience in the West and for presenting hunting myths as fact. Roosevelt went to talk with Grinnell, and upon comparing experiences the two realized that big game had declined drastically. Their discussion inspired them to found the Boone and Crockett Club in 1887, an organization whose purpose would be to "take charge of all matters pertaining to the enactment and carrying out of game and fish laws" (Reiger 1975).

Roosevelt and Grinnell agreed that America was strong because, like Canada, its people had carved the country from a wilderness frontier with self-reliance and pioneer skills. With the demise of the frontier and a growing urban populace, however, they feared that America would lose this edge. They believed that citizens could cultivate traditional outdoor skills and a sense of fair play through sport hunting, thereby maintaining the character of the nation (Brands 1997).

Endorsing these ideals, influential members of the Boone and Crockett Club used their status to great advantage, helping to create some of North America's most important and enduring conservation legacies. In 1900, for example, Congressman John Lacey of Iowa drafted the Lacey Act, making it a federal offense to transport illegally hunted wildlife across state borders. Canadian Charles Gordon Hewitt wrote the Migratory Bird Treaty of 1916 to protect migratory birds from egg and nest collectors and unregulated hunting. And during his presidency from 1901 to 1909, Theodore Roosevelt protected more than 230 million acres of American lands and waters, doing more to conserve wildlife than any individual in U.S. history.

The Canadian effort revolved around the Commission on Conservation, founded in 1909 under the guidance of Prime Minister Wilfrid Laurier and noted conservationist Clifford Sifton, who served as the Commission's chairman and was eventually knighted for his efforts. Established to combat resource exploitation, the Commission— and its prestigious panel of scientists, academics, and policymakers—sought to provide scientific guidance on the conservation of natural resources. Working committees conducted research on agricultural lands, water, energy, fisheries, forests, wildlife, and other natural-resource issues, eventually publishing the first comprehensive survey of Canadian resources and the challenges to their conservation.

Emergence of a Profession

By the early 20th century, much of the infrastructure of wildlife conservation was already in place. In the 1920s, however, leading conservationists recognized that restrictive game laws alone were insufficient to stem wildlife's decline. To help address such concerns, ecologist Aldo Leopold and other conservationists published American Game Policy in 1930, which proposed a program of restoration to augment existing conservation law. "For the first time," writes Leopold biographer

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*(**Born In the Hands of Hunters** continued from page 13)*
Curt Meine, "a coherent national strategy directed the previously disparate activities of sportsmen, administrators, researchers, and … landowners" (Meine 1991).

Leopold and others also promoted wildlife management as a profession, advocating for trained biologists, stable funding for their work, and university programs to educate future professionals. Within 10 years many of these goals had been realized. Among them:

- Wildlife curriculum. In 1933, the University of Wisconsin launched the first wildlife management curriculum, a program that taught wildlife science, setting a standard for other universities.
- Cooperative Wildlife Research Units. Federal legislation in 1935 established a nationwide network of what are now known as Cooperative Research Units, where federal and state a agencies and universities cooperate in fish and wildlife research and training.
- Professional societies. In 1937, W. L. McAtee, Aldo Leopold, and others founded The Wildlife Society, the first professional scientific society for those working in wildlife management and conservation. Said McAtee, "The time is ripe for inaugurating a professional society" to promote discourse on issues facing wildlife conservation.
- Funding legislation. Congress passed the Duck Stamp Act of 1934 and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937 (or the Pittman-Robertson Act) to provide reliable funding sources for federal and state wildlife conservation.

Though initially launched in the U.S., these initiatives were endorsed and mirrored by Canadian policies and programs. In both nations, subsequent decades have brought expanded conservation legislation— such as the U.S. Endangered Species Act and Canadian Species at Risk Act—as well as partnership programs to promote and fund wildlife conservation, including the U.S. Migratory Bird Joint Ventures and the Teaming with Wildlife coalition.

The Model's Seven Pillars

Such key conservation laws and programs were built upon a firm foundation—the seven underlying principles of the North American Model (Geist et al. 2001). Those principles have stood the test of time, proving resilient to sweeping social and ecological changes (Mahoney and Jackson 2009). Will they stand the test of the future? That question can't be answered without a strong understanding of the principles themselves.

1. ***Wildlife as a Public Trust Resource***. The heart of the Model is the concept that wildlife is owned by no one and is held by government in trust for the benefit of present and future generations. In the U.S., the common-law basis for this principle is the Public Trust Doctrine, an 1841 Supreme Court Decision declaring that wildlife, fish, and other natural resources cannot be privately owned (Martin v. Waddell). In drafting the Public Trust Doctrine, Supreme Court Chief Justice Roger Taney drew upon the Magna Carta, which in turn was rooted in ancient Greek and Roman law. A subsequent Supreme Court Decision in 1896 regarding illegal transport of hunted ducks across a state border firmly made wildlife a trust resource (Geer v. Connecticut). Today, however, each state or province has its own laws regarding wildlife as a public trust. Those laws face potential erosion from multiple threats—such as claims of private ownership of wildlife, commercial sale of live wildlife, limits to public access, and animal-rights philosophy— which are prompting moves for model language to strengthen existing laws (Batcheller et al. 2010).

2. ***Elimination of Markets for Game***. Historically, the unregulated and unsustainable exploitation of game animals and migratory birds for the market led to federal, provincial, and state laws that greatly restricted the sale of meat and parts from these animals. Those restrictions proved so successful that today there is an overabundance of some game species—such as snow geese (Chen caerulescens) and white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus) in suburban areas—which may warrant allowing hunting and the sale of meat under a highly regulated regime. Such regulated hunting and trade could enhance public appreciation of hunting as a management tool by reducing human-wildlife conflicts with overabundant species. In addition, trapping of certain mammal species in North America and commerce in their furs are permitted, but are managed sustainably through strict regulation such that the impacts on populations lie within natural ranges (Prescott-Allen 1996). Unfortunately, trade in certain species of amphibians and reptiles still persists with little oversight, and should be curtailed through tighter restrictions.

3. ***Allocation of Wildlife by Law***. As a trustee, government manages wildlife in the interest of the beneficiaries—present and future generations of the public. Access and use of wildlife is therefore regulated through the public law or rule-making process. Laws and regulations, such as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, establish the framework under which decisions can be made as to what species can be hunted, what species cannot be harmed due to their imperiled status, and other considerations relative to public use of or impact on wildlife.

(Continued on page 15)

*(**Born In the Hands of Hunters** continued from page 14)*

4. ***Kill Only for Legitimate Purpose***. Killing wildlife for frivolous reasons has long been deemed unacceptable. The U.S. Congress passed a bill against "useless" slaughter of bison in 1874 (Geist 1995), and the "Code of the Sportsman" as articulated by Grinnell mandated that hunters use without waste any game they killed (Organ et al. 1998). Today, 13 states and provinces have "wanton waste" laws requiring hunters to salvage as much meat from legally killed game as possible. In Canada, the Royal Commission on Seals and Sealing recognizes that harvest of wildlife must have a practical purpose if it is to remain acceptable in society (Hamilton et al. 1998). Food, fur, self-defense, and property protection are generally considered legitimate purposes for the taking of wildlife. Other practices that conflict with this principle—such as prairie dog shoots or rattlesnake roundups—are under increasing scrutiny.

5. ***Wildlife as an International Resource***. One of the greatest milestones in the history of wildlife conservation was the signing of the Migratory Bird Treaty in 1916. Noted Canadian entomologist C. Gordon Hewitt, who masterminded the treaty, saw the protection of migratory songbirds as essential to the protection of agricultural crops against insect pests. Affecting far more than hunted wildlife, this was the first significant treaty that provided for international management of terrestrial wildlife resources. The impetus, of course, was that because some wildlife species migrate across borders, a nation's management policies—or lack thereof—can have consequences for wildlife living in neighboring countries. International commerce in wildlife, for example, has significant potential effects on a species' status. To address this issue, in 1973, 80 countries signed the first Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). Today there are 175 parties to the treaty.

6. ***Science-based Wildlife Policy***. Science as a basis for informed decision-making in wildlife management has been recognized as critical to wildlife conservation since the founding days of North American conservation (Leopold 1933). The subsequent application of this principle has led to many advances in management of diverse species, often under highly complex circumstances such as adaptive management of waterfowl harvest (Williams and Johnson 1995). Unfortunately, funding has been largely inadequate to meet the research needs of management agencies. In addition, a trend towards greater influence in conservation decision making by political appointees versus career managers profoundly threatens the goal of science-based management (Wildlife Management Institute 1987, 1997). So, too, do the divisions within the wildlife science community itself, which often splits along a human-versus-animal divide. The integration of biological and social sciences, which Leopold hoped would be one of the great advances of the 20th century, is necessary to meet the conservation challenges of the 21st century.

7. ***Democracy of Hunting***. Theodore Roosevelt believed that society would benefit if all people had an access to hunting opportunities (Roosevelt et al. 1902). Leopold termed this idea the "democracy of sport" (Meine 1988)—a concept that sets Canada and the U.S. apart from many other nations, where the opportunity to hunt is restricted to those who have special status such as land ownership, wealth, or other privileges. Yet some note that the greatest historical meaning of the public trust is that certain interests—such as access to natural resources—are so intrinsically important that their free availability marks a society as one of citizens rather than serfs (Sax 1970).

Moving Beyond the Model

Bedrock principles of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation evolved during a time when game species were imperiled and ultimately led to a continent-wide resurgence of wildlife at a scale unparalleled in the world, as evidenced by the restoration of deer, elk, waterfowl, bear, and many other species. It is clear that these principles have served wildlife conservation well beyond hunted species and helped sustain the continent's biodiversity, especially through the millions of acres of lands purchased with hunter dollars for habitat protection and improvement. Indeed, the structure of modern endangered species legislation harkens back to the old game laws, where the focus was on prevention of take.

As wildlife conservation advances into the 21st century, these founding principles should be safeguarded and improved, and new approaches to biodiversity conservation should be developed that go beyond what the Model currently provides. A U.S.-Canadian treaty securing the Model and improvements in wildlife law would be the most powerful form of protection. As we seek solutions to new challenges, we should remember that only a minority of our citizens have a passion for the perpetuation of wildlife, and among those, the people who call themselves sportsmen and sportswomen have been answering this call for well over one hundred years. Wildlife can ill afford to lose them in a future that is anything but secure.

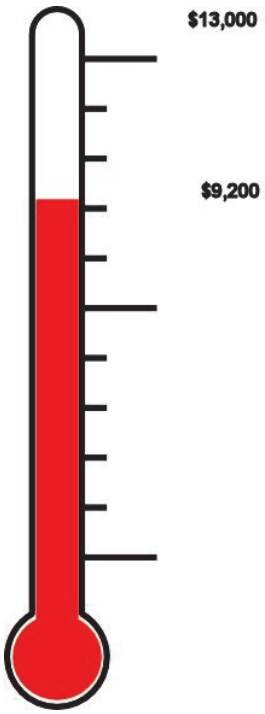
Harry Hussey Memorial Fund
Trailer Purchase Update

The AAF is moving along with the research and purchase of a new cook trailer. For those of you who have attended a project, you know our current model is "packed to the gills!" and we have outgrown it. The Board has decided to purchased a new trailer from Trail Boss of Phoenix. It will be an 18' V-nose with front 4' partition for merchandise.

Costs are estimated as follows:

Trailer Purchase	$7,000
Vinyl Wrap	$3,500
Interior Buildout	$2,500
Total Initial Cost	$13,000

Fundraising Goal



Last spring at the request of Harry Hussey's son David, we established a Memorial Fund to assist with purchase of the trailer. To date we have received memorial pledges totaling $2200. In addition, the AAF applied for, and received a grant from the AZ Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation WCC License Plate fund (see info below) in the amount of $7,000. The Board is continuing to seek additional funding sources, but we are calling on the membership to match the pledges already received to help us reach our final goal. Any funding we receive over and above our goal will be set aside to be used for future maintenance.

Please send your donations to:
AZ Antelope Foundation
Attention Hussey Memorial Trailer Fund
PO Box 12590
Glendale, AZ 85318

You may also click on the DONATE button on our website at **www.azantelope.org**

Thanks to the following who have already made pledges:

Tom Boggess
Art Boswell
David Brown
Glen & Betty Dickens
Don & Janet Johnson
Bill & Mary Keebler
Nancy Lewis
Jim & Deb McCasland
Jay Morrison
Richard Ockenfels
Craig Pearson
Joe Bill Pickrell
Shane & Jodi Stewart
Al & Marsha Sue
Tice Supplee
Connie & Rose Taylor
Frank Tennant
Jim & Tracy Unmacht

Do you have one of these license plates on your vehicle?
When you purchase this plate you will be making a contribution to Arizona's wildlife and wildlife habitat. Seventeen dollars ($17) of each twenty-five ($25) special license fee goes to AZSFWC's Wildlife Conservation Habitat Fund. The Wildlife Conservation Committee (WCC) reviews and approves all grants from the special license plate program revenues. These grants fund important outdoor recreational and educational opportunities and on-the-ground wildlife habitat restoration and enhancement projects. As we mentioned above, the AAF received one of these grants to assist with purchase of our trailer.

These plates can be purchased at MVD offices around the state or online, and can also be personalized with up to seven (7) characters with an additional $25. To order an AZSFWC Conservation License Plate online go to: **www.servicearizona.com**

For more information about Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation and the license plate program go to **www.azsfwc.org**

Capture Activities

The AZ Game & Fish Department has scheduled 2 capture activities they would like volunteers to assist with. The first is a capture and collar activity on October 9-10 near Unit 21. Volunteers are needed to help spot antelope on the ground. If interested you must RSVP to Scott Sprague at 480-528-4686 or ssprague@azgfd.gov

The second activity is scheduled for October 10 north of Prescott and involves constructing a wing fence for a future transplant activity. Contact Erin Butler at 928-692-7700 ext. 2330 or ebutler@azgfd.gov.

Final construction phase will take place on January 23 with capture/transplant occurring on January 24-25. If you wish to help with the capture, your are expected to participate in one of the construction phases.

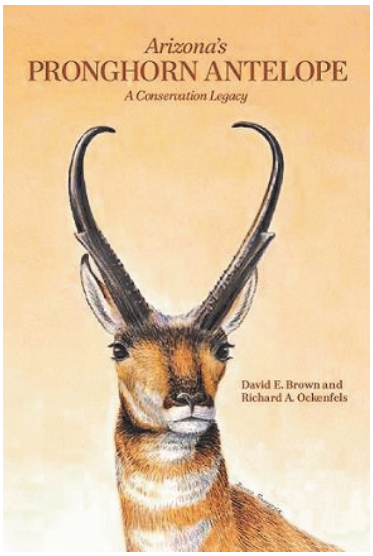
The animals captured during this activity will be transplanted as part of the overall Southeastern Arizona Grasslands Initiative to restore antelope herds in that part of the state.

Holiday Shopping

Hard to believe but the holidays are just around the corner! And we have the perfect gift!

"*Arizona's Pronghorn Antelope – A Conservation Legacy*" By David Brown and Richard Ockenfels

Get your copy today!
Soft cover copies: $20.00
Hardcover collector editions signed by the authors: $60.00



Visit our website to purchase online or for a printable order form, or call Tracy at 602-361-6478.

WWW.AZANTELOPE.ORG

March 30th, 2013
Annual Fundraising Banquet
Windmill Inn
Chandler

Details and ticket order forms will be mailed with your membership renewal in late November. Tickets will also be available on our website soon.

Did you Hunt Antelope This Fall?

We'd love to share your success with our readers. Please send us your stories and photos for consideration in an upcoming issue of the *Pronghorn*. Make sure the photos you submit are in good taste. All blood must be removed from the animal, hunter and surrounding area. We accept digital images/stories via email at **info@azantelope.org**.

Special tag Fund for 2012

One of the most successful habitat improvement programs has been those financed by raising money through the issuing of special pronghorn tags. All of the monies obtained through the sale or raffle of these tags are used solely for the management of the species. In 2012, these tags raised nearly $100,000 for pronghorn. The AAF takes part in the decision making process for expenditures from these funds.

$42,000 Tag Auctioned at AAF Banquet
$25,000 Tag Auctioned at AZ Elk Society Banquet
$32,560 AZ Big Game Super Raffle

Operation Game Thief
1-800-352-0700
24 HOURS A DAY

Membership

Life Members

1. Art Pearce, Phoenix
2. Jim Mehen, Flagstaff
3. Larry D. Adams, Bullhead City
4. James K. McCasland,
5. Nina Gammons, Payette, ID
6. Nancy Lewis, Phoenix
7. Pete Cimellaro, Phoenix
8. Jerry Weiers, Phoenix
9. Harry Carlson, Phoenix
10. David Brown, Phoenix
11. Art Boswell, Tucson
12. Charlie Kelly, Scottsdale
13. Chrissy Weiers, Phoenix
14. Al Sue, Scottsdale
15. Mary Keebler, Happy Jack
16. Bill Keebler, Happy Jack
17. James Stewart, Phoenix
18. Terry Schupp, Tempe
19. Dale Hislop, Calgary Canada
20. Mick Rusing, Tucson
21. George Welsh, Kingman
22. Matthew Massey, Gilbert
23. Don Parks, Peoria
24. Bill & Kerrie Jacoby, Chandler
25. Adam Geottl, Cottonwood
26. Shane Stewart, Gilbert
27. Don Davidson, Mesa
28. Terry Petko, Mesa
29. Gary M. Johnson, Phoenix
30. Richard Guenzel, Laramie WY
31. Randy Cherington, Scottsdale
32. Joe Del Re, Chandler
33. Bob Walker, Phoenix
34. Cookie Nicoson, Williams
35. Tim Blank, Mesa
36. Jodi Stewart, Gilbert
37. Keith Joyner, Scottsdale
38. David Hussey, Cave Creek
39. Susan Pearce, Tucson
40. Glen Dickens, Tucson
41. Will Garrison, Peoria
42. Tom Waddell, New Mexico
43. Josiah Austin, Pearce
44. Connie Taylor, Mesa
45. Mark Boswell, Mesa
46. Jessica R. Pearce, Socttsdale

Sustaining Members

James Bowen, Cave Creek
Robert Bushong, Yuma
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William Cordasco, Flagstaff
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Michael Domanico, Scottsdale
Randy Gaskill, Show Low
Thomas McDaniel, Phoenix
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Richard & Julia Chabak, Glendale
Ken & Kathy Cook, Casa Grande
Brian & Dorothy Dolan, Tucson
Ron & Sharon Eichelberger, Alpine
Joe & Chris Heilman, Surprise
David Justice, Prescott
Dave & Sue Laird, Peoria
Tom Mackin, Flagstaff
Jeff & Cynthia Mason, Scottsdale
Kim Neill & Family, Mesa
Amy & Stephen Ostwinkle, Gilbert
Daniel Robinett, Catalina
David & Debra Scott, Glendale
James & Joyce Sivley, Scottsdale
William & Jan Skibbe, Tucson
Barry Sopher, Tucson
Floramae & Tomas Teskey, Mayer
Michael Tindle, Mesa
Jim Wood, Glendale

Welcome New Member

Eldon Rusin, Tucson

We would love to hear what our members are up to. If you have any conservation news or activities you'd like to share, please drop us a line at info@azantelope.org

ANNUAL MEETING

Election of Officers and Directors

November 12, 2012 6:30 PM
El Zaribah Shrine 552 N. 40th St. Phoenix

We encourage you to attend, and if you are a member in good standing, cast your vote for the 2013 Officers and Directors. Each Individual, Sustaining, or Life Member, or Family as a whole is entitled to one vote for each item if current with their dues. If you are unable to attend you may use the form below to vote by mail.

Our Directors serve staggering 2 year terms. Directors with terms ending 12/31/13 were elected at our Annual Meeting in 2011 and those listed below have agreed to continue to serve the remainder of their term. Eddy Corona vacated his seat when he agreed to serve as an officer for 2013, and Mary Keebler has been nominated to replace him. We also have an open position for a Director serving a 2-year term ending 12/31/14. Please call Shane Stewart (602-616-0383) if you are interested in serving.

Officers:	**Previously Elected Directors with terms ending 12/31/13:**	**Directors with terms ending 12/31/14:**
President, Shane Stewart	Jim McCasland	Richard Ockenfels
Vice President, Glen Dickens	Mary Keebler	Al Sue
Secretary, Eddy Corona	Connie Taylor	OPEN POSITION
Treasurer, Jodi Stewart		

Mail Ballot

Mark an X next to the candidate(s) you wish to vote for below.

Officers & Directors:

___ President, Shane Stewart ___ Vice President, Glen Dickens

___ Secretary, Eddy Corona ___ Treasurer, Jodi Stewart

Director with terms ending 12/31/13:

___ Mary Keebler

Directors with terms ending 12/31/14:

___ Richard Ockenfels

___ Al Sue

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Mail to: AZ Antelope Foundation ♦ Attn: Elections ♦ PO Box 12590 ♦ Glendale AZ 85318