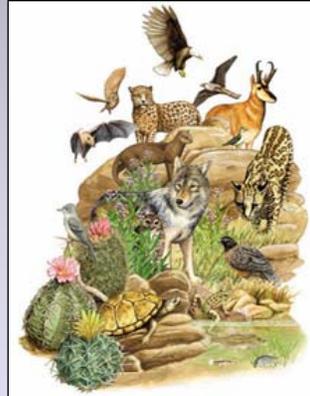
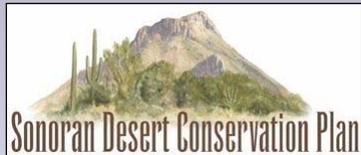


The Panel Recommendations to Pima Co. / Pima County Board of Supervisors

Natasha Pearce, Jenny Bauman, Nicolas Ramos-Lara, Samantha Redmon



History of the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan

In 1998 the Pima County Board of Supervisors began the debate about land use in planning and conservation in biological concepts.

The plan comes together to fulfill three areas of need:

- A science based conservation plan
- An update of the comprehensive land use plan
- Compliance with federal regulations that protection of endangered species be addressed through a multiple species conservation plan.

Initial areas studied by the plan included:

- Critical habitat and biological corridors
- Riparian restoration
- Mountain Parks
- Historical and Cultural Preservation
- Ranch Conservation



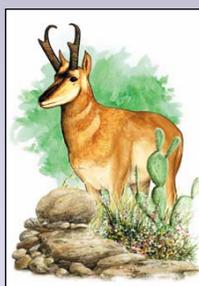
Acuna cactus

Biological Corridors, Critical Habitats and Critical Riparian Habitats

After the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan was initiated, a long term scientific basis was established in research, monitoring and adaptive management. Also, critical habitat designations were established promoting sustained Sonoran Desert Bio-diversity.



Mexican spotted owl



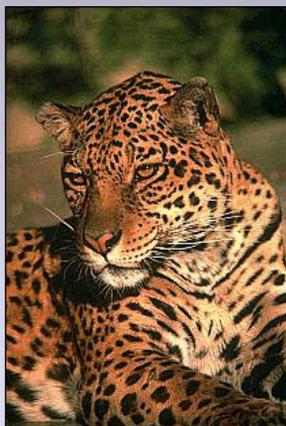
Sonoran Pronghorn



Chiricahua Leopard Frog

Priority Habitats and Corridors Include:

- Baboquivari Mountains
- Sabino Canyon
- Tortolita Mountains
- Tucson Mountains



Jaguar



Masked bobwhite

Threatened and Endangered Species of Pima County include:

- Bald Eagle
- Masked Bobwhite Quail
- Desert Pupfish
- Jaguar
- Ocelot



Bald eagle

Mountain Parks

The Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan will expand mountain parks and natural reserves (www.co.pima.az.us/cmo/sdcp/parks). The primary threat to the open space resource base is urbanization and development.

Conservation Strategies:

- Expand Las Cinegas National Conservation Area
- Expand 3 existing mountain parks (Tortolita, Colossal Cave, Catalina)
- Establish Santa Rita Mountain Park
- Establish reserves at Davidson Canyon and Buehman-Brinham Reserve



Lesser Long-Nosed Bat

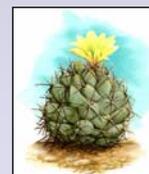
Cultural Resources

Cultural Resources of Pima County Include:

- Almost 4,000 archaeological sites
- 4,000 historical buildings including 121 places listed on the National Register of Historic Places as well as 10 historic communities and 3 significant historic trails.
- 13 Ghost towns

Conservation Strategies Include:

- Work with federal, state and local governments to achieve shared goals.
- Develop a regional management strategy.
- Purchase land containing high value cultural resources when and if public monies become available.
- Inform and educate the public about the past and to save our future.



Pima Pineapple Cactus

Ranch Conservation

1.4 million acres of private and public ownership are used for ranching. Pima county will encourage viable and sustainable ranching operations to combat urban encroachment and fragmentation. Ranching is compatible with the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan as extensive low intensity land use.

Conservation Strategies Include:

- Establish a program that provides certainty for long-term State, BLM and Forest Service leases
- Establish means to compensate ranchers for decreases in their investment value of grazing lease.
- Establish "grass banks" program which would allow ranchers to "rest" pastures more frequently.



Sonoyta Mud Turtle

Endangered Species Act: Section 10

The Secretary may permit any act prohibited by section 9 for scientific purposes or to enhance propagation or survival of affected species and for the establishment and maintenance of experimental populations.

The conservation plan must specify:

- The impact of taking
- Steps to minimize and mitigate such impacts
- Funding for such steps
- What alternatives were considered and why they weren't used

If the Secretary agrees to permit application and conservation plan:

- Taking is incidental
- Minimize and Mitigate impacts to maximize extent practicable
- applicant ensures adequate funding
- Taking will not appreciably reduce likelihood of survival



Desert pupfish