

Special Status Species

Of the Red Rock Ranger District



Rare Species Include:

- Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate Species (Endangered Species Act)
- Bald and Golden Eagles (Eagle Act)
- Forest Service Sensitive species (FS policy)
- Neotropical Migratory Birds (NTMB Treaty Act)
- State Species of Greatest Conservation Need (State policy)
- Locally Important Species

Mexican Spotted Owl



Photo credit Rob Gibbs

- Nests in steep-sloped forests and canyons in old growth mixed conifer, but also in ponderosa pine/Gambel oak Forests
- Main concerns:
 - Modification to habitat
 - Visual and aural disturbance during the breeding season (March 1 through August 31)

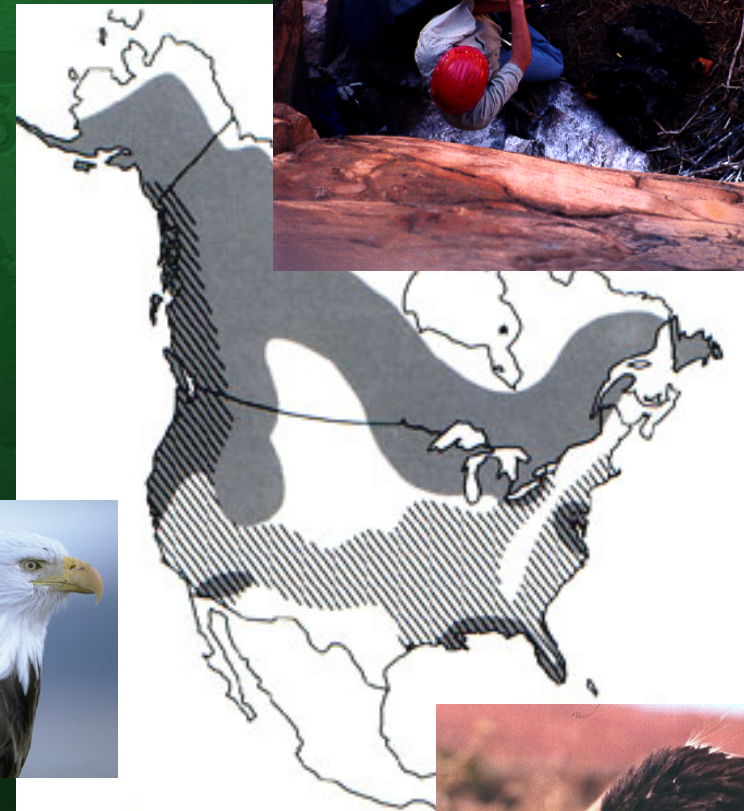
Bald Eagles

Resident (Nesting) Eagles:

- Stay year-round
- Stay close to nesting areas on Verde and major tributaries
- Any eagles observed last of April through September are nesting eagles!
- In accessible areas, 6 month closures protect eagles from disturbance.

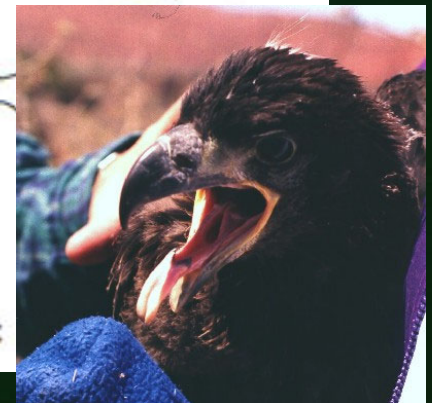
Wintering Eagles:

- Here mid-Oct thru mid-April



RANGE OF
THE BALD EAGLE

	BREEDING RANGE
	WINTERING RANGE



Golden Eagles

Resident Golden Eagles:

- Stay year-round
- Nest in dry canyons, high up on cliff ledges
- Few nest locations known
- Capable of killing large prey but mainly take jackrabbits.



Peregrine Falcon



- Nests on cliffs 300' or taller
- We have 2nd highest density (to Grand Canyon)
- Main concerns:
 - trails close by and within line of sight
 - aircraft and drones
 - rock climbing

06/27/2012

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

- Nests in riparian areas where mesquite woodlands are adjacent
- Forage in Mesquite woodlands
- Very secretive
- Concerns with habitat loss and disturbance from activities in riparian and mesquite woodlands



Southwestern Willow Flycatcher

- Nests in dense riparian areas with multiple layers of vegetation, wetted soil, and abundance insects
- Very rare in the Verde Valley
- Concerns with habitat loss and disturbance from activities in riparian



Common Black-hawk

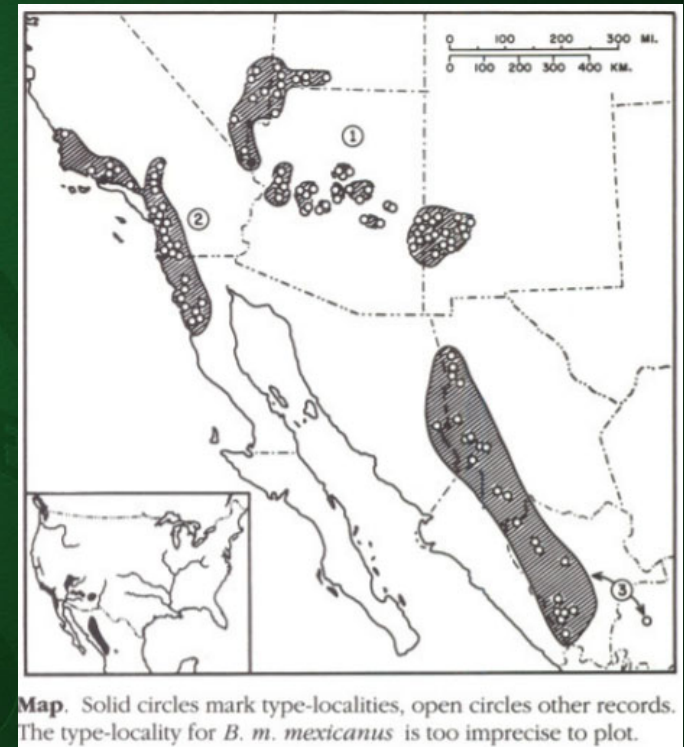
- Migratory (here Mar – Oct)
- Nests along perennial streams
- Have higher nest success with native fish, frogs, and low levels of recreation.
- Abandon nest sites if recreation levels are too high.



Arizona Toad



- Historic: AZ, CA, NM, NV, UT, and Mexico
- Current: AZ, NM, NV, and UT
- In the Verde Valley before 1960 occurred:
 - Verde River from Clarkdale to Camp Verde
 - Oak Creek (near Sedona),
 - mouth of Wet Beaver Creek



Rare Mammal Species

Spotted Bat



Red Bat



Townsend's Big-eared



Cave Myotis



Allen's Lappet-browed Bat



Roost Abandonment Due to Social Trails and Recreation



Narrow-headed Gartersnake

- Once present throughout canyon and into middle Oak Creek, now only in canyon and in low numbers.
- Sedimentation/embeddedness issues affect prey species
- Mistaken as venomous and too often killed.
- Overheat and die when handled out of water too long.
- Forages only on soft-rayed fish (not nonnative fish).



Mexican Garter Snake

Photo © A. T. Holycross



Leopard Frogs

- Northern Leopard Frog
- Lowland Leopard Frog
- Chiricahua Leopard Frog



Efforts to Save Leopard Frogs

- Monitoring
- Crayfish Control
- Drought Emergency Response
 - Hauling water to drying tanks
 - Collecting frogs to avoid dessication
 - Deepening Tanks
- Nonnative Fish Control
- Phased Decommissioning of Fossil Creek
- Temporary Livestock Removal
- Filter Sock Installation
- Predator Control
- Watershed Erosion Control
- Habitat Protection Fencing
- Captive Breeding
- Re-introduction of New Progeny



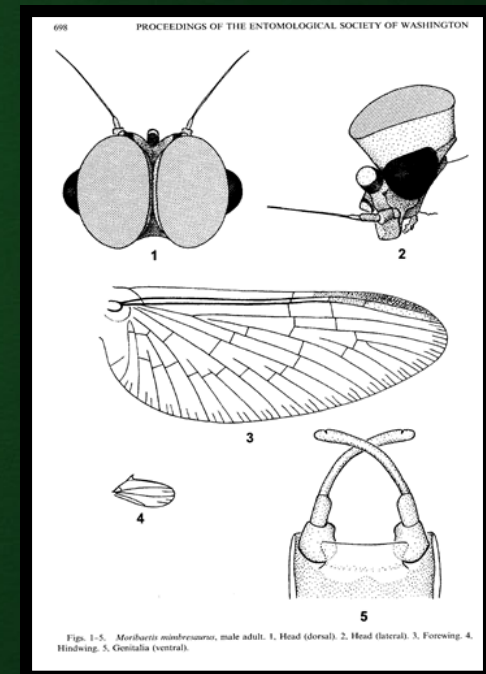
Snails & Clams

- Fossil Springsnail
- Page Springsnail
- California Floater



Invertebrates

- A Mayfly, *Moribaetis mimbresaurus*
- A Caddisfly, *Lepidostoma knulli*
- Balmorhea Saddle-case Caddisfly, *Protoptila balmorhea*
- A Caddisfly, *Wormaldia planae*



Extirpated Wildlife



Mexican Gray Wolf



Thick-billed Parrot



Jaguar



Grizzly Bear



Southwestern
River Otter

© G. Andrejko

Native Fish are in Peril

- 21 percent U.S. fish species on the Endangered Species List are endemic to the Southwest.
- Arizona ranked 1st in the U.S. for the highest percentage (85.7) of fish species at risk.
- 11 of 13 (85%) native fish species on the Coconino are considered special status species.
- Main causes for decline include introduction of nonnative aquatic organisms (fish, bullfrogs, and crayfish) and alteration of habitat.

Introduced fishes harm native fishes by:

- Competing for food or space
- Interbreed (especially trout species)
- Predation (natives as a food source)



Small Minnows and Daces

Loach minnow



Gila Topminnow



Spikedace



The Chubs

Headwater Chub

J. Rinne



Roundtail Chub

Gila Chub



Suckers

Desert Sucker



Sonora Sucker



Desert Sucker



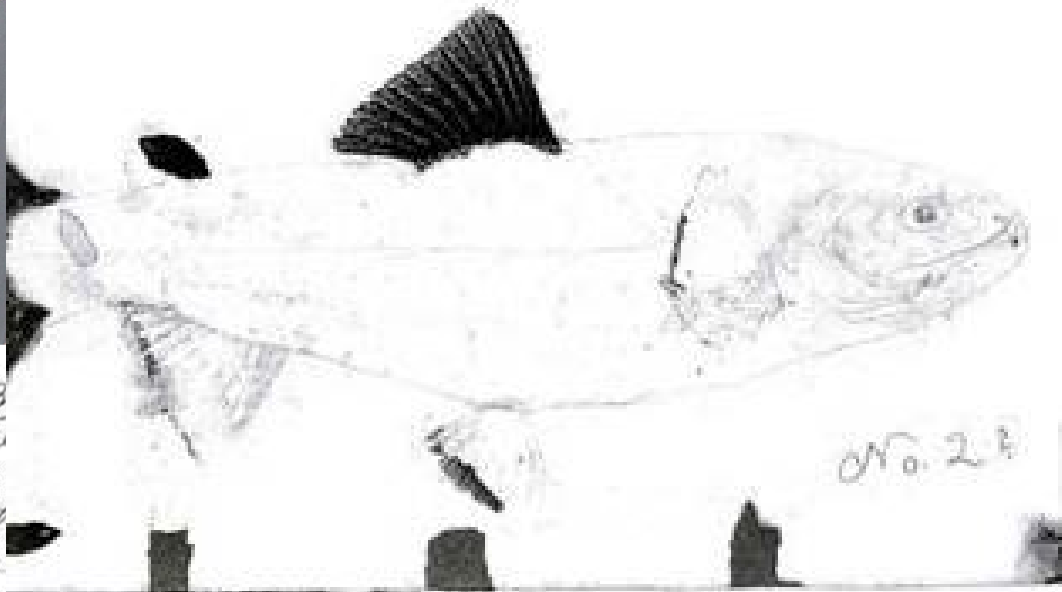
Sonora Sucker

Our Two Big, Big-River Fish

Razorback Sucker



Gila Trout



Oak Creek Brook Trout.

This description was taken from a fish about a foot long (See outline and fin formula Nat. 2), taken at Indian Garden, Oak Creek, Yavapai County, Arizona, June 12, 1886. This specimen was compared, on the spot, with several others the same size and smaller, which were practically like it.

That portion of the under surface which is included between the lines of the pectoral and ventral fins is pure white; sides to or above the lateral line greenish yellow. Above the lateral line the ground-color is olivaceous green, with black spots arranged in longitudinal series, these becoming larger and closer together from below upward until the dorsal aspect becomes almost black. The irides are yellow, mottled with black.

Oak Creek B.

Upon the upper the color is back; but larger and sides of the

yellow. The spots upon the sides of the body are x-shaped or x-shaped. The pectoral, ventral, and anal fins are unspotted and orange yellow in color. The caudal and dorsal fins are finely and thickly spotted with black upon a greenish yellow ground. The adipose fin is spotted with large, round, black spots. There are four rows of "gills". A number of individuals, all captured by Mrs. Lucy Ord Mason in Oak Creek, were examined as to the contents of their stomachs. In some a quantity of sand and small pebbles were found; one quartz pebble from a stomach was 10 mm in diameter and

Neotropical Migratory Birds

Black-chinned Sparrow



Broad-tailed Hummer



Blue Grosbeak



Bullock's Oriole



Logger-head Shrike



Gray Flycatcher



Western Tanager



Summer Tanager



Yellow Warbler

