The Verde River

- **American Rivers** has designated the **Verde River** among America’s most endangered rivers due to heavy and increasing groundwater pumping.

- **The Verde River** sustains $100 million in economic output annually in the Verde Valley.

- Water from the Verdee and Salt Rivers are part of the supply for a water service area of about 375 square miles mainly in the Phoenix Metro Area, which includes parts of 10 municipalities.

- Forty percent of the surface water provide to Phoenix comes from the Verde River.

- The Verde River’s watershed supports 78% of Arizona’s breeding bird species, as well as other critical carnivore, reptile, and amphibian species.

- Only 57.3 miles of Arizona rivers are included in the National Wild and Scenic River System. All of the designated miles are within the Verde River’s watershed - 40.5 on the Verde itself and 16.8 on Fossil Creek.

- 7,000 wells in the Verde Valley are intercepting water that would otherwise be going to the Verde River.

- The population of Yavapai County has increased by nearly 200,000 residents over the last 50 years and growth is expected to continue. **The groundwater that sustains the Verde River is in serious jeopardy.**
Western Rivers Action Network
Protecting rivers across the Colorado River Basin

The Verde River:

More Information:

- Audubon Arizona az.audubon.org
- Western Rivers Action Network - Arizona az.audubon.org/western-rivers-action-network-0
- Northern Arizona Audubon Society northernarizonaaudubon.org
- Desert Rivers Audubon Society desertriversaudubon.org
- Maricopa Audubon Society maricopaaudubon.org
- Trout Unlimited - Arizona az-tu.org
- Arizona Wildlife Federation azwildlife.org
- Upper Verde Wildlife Area azgfd.gov/outdoor_recreation/wildlife_area_upper.shtml
- Upper Verde River State Wildlife IBA aziba.org
- Salt/Verde IBA http://aziba.org/?page_id=953
- Friends of the Verde River Greenway verderivergreenway.org