



Western Rivers Action Network

Arizona

The Little Colorado River:

- The Little Colorado River (LCR) is one of only two major tributaries to the Colorado River.
- The LCR drains 27,000 square miles nearly 20% of Arizona's total land area.
- Due to diversions and groundwater pumping, many reaches of the LCR are dry below Lyman Lake, a large reservoir and State Park in the White Mountain community of St. Johns.
- The Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Important Bird Area, which encompasses nearly 27 miles of the LCR from its headwaters on Mount Baldy, provides habitat for several bird species of conservation concern including Mexican spotted owl, northern goshawk, southwestern willow flycatcher, and bald eagle.
- Many of Arizona's native fish still persist in the LCR including the Apache trout and the endangered humpback chub.
- Flow in the LCR is directly connected to the health of over 5,000 acres of streamside habitat which range from high elevation woodlands and meadows to lower elevation deserts and cottonwood-willow forests.
- Several endangered species depend upon the habitats within the LCR basin including the Mexican gray wolf and black-footed ferret.
- Reductions to flow caused by groundwater pumping, loss of native vegetation due to lowering water table levels, and extended wildfires fueled by drought conditions continue to threaten the LCR.









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Arizona's Rivers



Where to Find More Information:

Audubon Arizona, az.audubon.org

Western Rivers Action Network - Arizona, az.audubon.org/western-rivers-action-network-0

White Mountain Audubon Society, whitemountainaudubon.org

Northern Arizona Audubon Society, northernarizonaaudubon.org

Trout Unlimited - Arizona, az-tu.org

Arizona Wildlife Federation, azwildlife.org

<u>Upper Little Colorado River Watershed IBA</u>, aziba.org

Join Audubon's Western Rivers Action Network as we rise to this historic challenge to create healthier western rivers for birds, other wildlife, and people.

http://audubonaction.org/western rivers

For more information contact Arizona's WRAN coordinator Sarah Luna at llsarah@msn.com

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