

Western Rivers Action Network

Protecting rivers across the Colorado River Basin



Yellow-billed Cuckoo.
Photo: Mary Miguez/Audubon Photography Awards



Photo: Knusser, Wikimedia Commons



Agua Fria National Monument.
Photo: Morgan Moore

The Agua Fria River

- Each year, the Agua Fria River **provides 83,000 acre-feet of water to Lake Pleasant**. This water is used to hydrate Phoenix via the CAP canal system during the summer.
- In 2001, anglers recreating in the Agua Fria River basin **contributed over \$81 million to local economies**.
- The 79,000 acre Agua Fria National Monument, which sits just 40 miles north of central Phoenix, **contains valuable riparian forests and high mesa semi-desert grassland** – unique and disappearing habitats in central Arizona.
- The Agua Fria National Monument Riparian Corridors Important Bird Area **supports twenty-eight bird species with special conservation status** including Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Common Black Hawk, Peregrine Falcon, and Golden Eagle.
- **Support for the Agua Fria River can be found across agencies and political boundaries.** Agencies and organizations involved in the protection of the Agua Fria include the Bureau of Land Management, the Arizona Game and Fish Department, the United States Forest Service, the Friends of the Agua Fria National Monument, Audubon Arizona, and the Sonoran Audubon Society.
- During the continuing drought, **one of the greatest threats to the Agua Fria River is increased groundwater pumping along the rapidly developing I-17 corridor.**
- The Horseshoe Ranch property, found on the Agua Fria National Monument, sits at the geographic center of the state. **This symbolic location underlines the partnerships created to protect this valuable area.**

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The Agua Fria River:

More Information:

- [Audubon Arizona](http://az.audubon.org) az.audubon.org
- [Western Rivers Action Network - Arizona](http://az.audubon.org/western-rivers-action-network-0) az.audubon.org/western-rivers-action-network-0
- [Maricopa Audubon Society](http://maricopa.audubon.org) maricopa.audubon.org
- [Sonoran Audubon Society](http://sonora.audubon.org) sonora.audubon.org
- [Prescott Audubon Society](http://prescott.audubon.org) prescott.audubon.org
- [Trout Unlimited - Arizona](http://az-tu.org) az-tu.org
- [Arizona Wildlife Federation](http://azwildlife.org) azwildlife.org
- [Agua Fria National Monument](http://blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/blm_special_areas/natmon/afria.html) blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/blm_special_areas/natmon/afria.html
- [Agua Fria National Monument IBA](http://aziba.org/?page_id=727) aziba.org/?page_id=727
- [Friends of the Agua Fria National Monument](http://aguafriafriends.org) aguafriafriends.org