



Western Rivers Action Network

Arizona

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, habitats unique in the Phoenix Area.**
- **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.
- Other **wildlife supported by the Agua Fria River** includes coyotes, bobcats, pronghorn antelope, mule deer, javelina, and native fish including the federally listed Gila chub and Gila topminnow.
- **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.**



Western yellow-billed cuckoo, George Andreko, AZGFD



Gila River Basin: Kmusser (2007) Wikimedia Commons



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FACT SHEET

Arizona

Arizona's Rivers



Where to Find 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://sonorana.audubon.org), sonorana.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 Riparian Corridors IBA](http://aziba.org/?page_id=727), aziba.org/?page_id=727

[Friends of the Agua Fria National Monument](http://aguafriafriends.org), aguafriafriends.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 lsarah@msn.com

Visit our website: <http://az.audubon.org/western-rivers-action-network-0>

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WesternRiversAZ>