

# Western Rivers Action Network

Protecting rivers across the Colorado River Basin



Bald Eagle  
Photo: Mick Thompson



Arizona's Rivers.  
Photo: Wikimedia Commons



Apache Trout  
Photo: Arizona Game and Fish Department

## The Little Colorado River

- **The Little Colorado River (LCR) is one of only two major tributaries to the Colorado River in Arizona.**
- **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 that ranges 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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### More Information:

- [Audubon Arizona](http://audubon.org) [az.audubon.org](http://az.audubon.org)
- [Western Rivers Action Network - Arizona](http://audubon.org/western-rivers-action-network-0) [az.audubon.org/western-rivers-action-network-0](http://az.audubon.org/western-rivers-action-network-0)
- [White Mountain Audubon Society](http://whitemountainaudubon.org) [whitemountainaudubon.org](http://whitemountainaudubon.org)
- [Northern Arizona Audubon Society](http://northernarizonaaudubon.org) [northernarizonaaudubon.org](http://northernarizonaaudubon.org)
- [Trout Unlimited - Arizona](http://az-tu.org) [az-tu.org](http://az-tu.org)
- [Arizona Wildlife Federation](http://azwildlife.org) [azwildlife.org](http://azwildlife.org)
- [Upper Little Colorado River Watershed IBA](http://aziba.org/?page_id=648) [http://aziba.org/?page\\_id=648](http://aziba.org/?page_id=648)