

# THE PINE CONE

Official Newsletter of the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation



Albuquerque  
**WILDLIFE**  
Federation

conservationists since 1914

*December 2020*

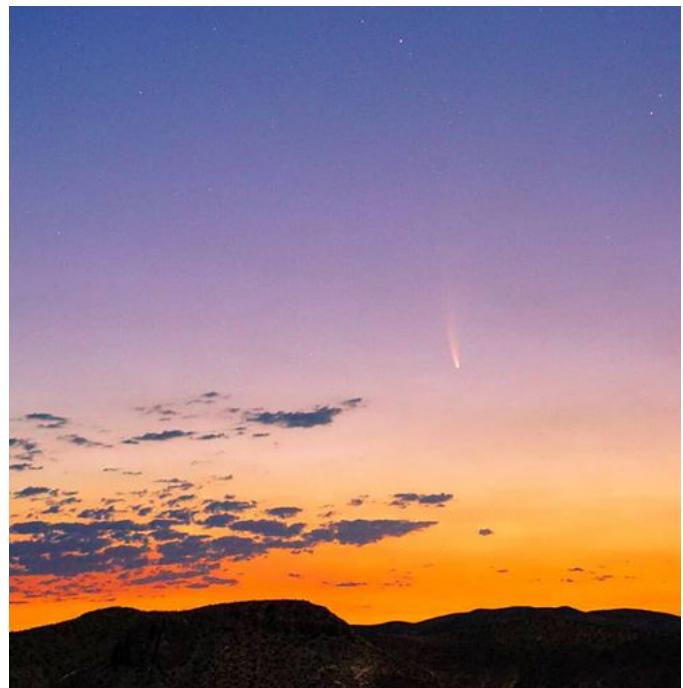
## Reasons for Hope in the Year Ahead

As we close out this strange, hard year, I find many reasons to be hopeful heading into 2021.

I am hopeful that, thanks to the extraordinary work of scientists all over the world, we may well have multiple effective Covid-19 vaccines developed and distributed by next summer – as we head into the heart of AWF’s next project season. We were very sad to have to cancel many of our projects this year, and grateful to be able to hold a few smaller ones in late summer and early fall, with many pandemic precautions in place. Hopefully next summer we will be able to once again share potlucks and hugs as we come together to restore New Mexico’s public lands.

I am also hopeful that those lands will be safer under a new federal administration. The last four years were full of assaults on our public lands, from the border wall slicing through critical wildlife corridors, to unprecedented attempts to shrink national monuments, to an overall policy of prioritizing extractive development above all else.

Even in these waning days, we are seeing disheartening attempts to lock in drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, transfer the sacred site of Oak Flat, Arizona to an international copper mining company, gut the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA),



and prevent the Migratory Bird Treaty Act from protecting millions of bird that would otherwise be killed by industrial operations each year.

In the next four years, hopefully we will have a chance to repair some of the damage that has been done and make forward progress toward protecting our land and water, recovering imperiled wildlife, and combatting catastrophic climate change.

All good reasons to do our best to keep one another safe and healthy through this challenging winter so that we can all be a part of building a better world next year, both through national policy and on the ground here in New Mexico.

*Kristina G. Fisher  
AWF Secretary*

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## DECEMBER 10, 2020: Annual Members Meeting & Board Election

*Join us for our annual members meeting & help elect the AWF board for 2021!*

**Thursday, December 10, 2020, 7:30-8:00 pm  
Location: Online (link below)**

We're very sad not to be able to hold our traditional holiday potluck with all of you this month, but this gathering is one more thing that will have to look different in 2020. Instead of our usual get-together, we'll be meeting up online – see details below.

We'll show a brief slideshow of some of the work that was done this year and some changes we've seen over the years at AWF's legacy sites, we'll have a chance to chat and share stories, and we'll elect AWF's board for 2021! If you are interested in helping organize our volunteer restoration projects and recruiting speakers for our meetings, we hope you'll consider running for the board. Any dues-paying AWF member is eligible to vote for and serve on the board.

### Time to renew your AWF membership!

Annual memberships expire in December, so please renew yours today! You can renew online at [abq.nmwildlife.org](http://abq.nmwildlife.org) or by filling out and mailing in the form on the last page of this newsletter. Your dues pay for restoration tools and supplies and make it possible for AWF to provide snacks at meetings and meals at projects. Thank you!



### Directions to the Online Members Meeting

#### Link to Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87149837114?pwd=L2tBWmJ4ZmJUZjA3MjdvREcrSmpQdz09>

**Passcode: 616919**

Or join the meeting by phone: 1-346-248-7799

**Meeting ID: 871 4983 7114**

**Passcode: 616919**

### AWF BOARD 2020

#### OFFICERS

President – Cameron Weber

Vice President – Braden Belliveau

Treasurer – Laurie Marnell

Secretary – Kristina G. Fisher

#### DIRECTORS

Phil Carter

Rachel Moore

Toby Rosenblatt

Michael "Scial" Scialdone

Hamish Thomson

Bob Tilley

Bill Zeedyk - Director Emeritus

## 2020 ACTIVITIES REPORT



### Ecological Restoration Service Projects

**March 7, 2020** – Tree-planting at Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge, Albuquerque

**July 17-19, 2020** – Wetland restoration in the Ring Place Meadow of Valle Vidal

**August 21-23, 2020** – Wetland restoration in the Ring Place Meadow of Valle Vidal

**September 4-6, 2020** – Riparian restoration in Limestone Canyon in the San Mateo Mountains

**September 18-20, 2020** – Riparian restoration along Wolf Creek on Ft. Union Ranch

**October 24, 2020** – Day project along Cedro Creek near Tijeras, NM

### Educational Presentations & Meetings

**February 13, 2020** – Citizen Science & Conserving Bighorn Sheep in New Mexico, Dan Parkinson

**April 16, 2020 & June 11, 2020** – Online fireside chats with AWF's board

**October 8, 2020** – Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease in New Mexico, Drs. Gary W. Roemer & Matt Gompper

### Advocacy & Outreach

**June 1, 2020** – submitted comments on U.S. Forest Service Environmental Assessment on restoration projects in Northern New Mexico

**August 28, 2020** – Signed onto NM Wild letter to U.S. Forest Service asking them to address the problem of feral cattle in the Gila

**November 20, 2020** – Signed on in support of Green Amendment to New Mexico's constitution



## UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST



### Landscape Restoration on the Valles Caldera National Preserve

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 7:00-8:00 pm**

**PAJARITO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER**

Join Bob Parmenter, Chief of Science & Resource Stewardship for Valles Caldera National Preserve, for this live-streamed talk about landscape restoration at Valles Caldera National Preserve. For more info: <https://peecnature.org/events/details/?id=36468>

### Protecting Wildlife Corridors to Safeguard Biodiversity and People

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 5:00 pm**

**WILDLANDS NETWORK**

Join wildlife corridors champion Senator Tom Udall and wildlife experts from across the nation for an exclusive conversation on how protecting and investing in wildlife corridors and crossings can support state and local economies, as well as the wildlife and wild lands we cherish.

For more info: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_1ZRQu\\_JaT12hnu8dWur1eA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1ZRQu_JaT12hnu8dWur1eA)

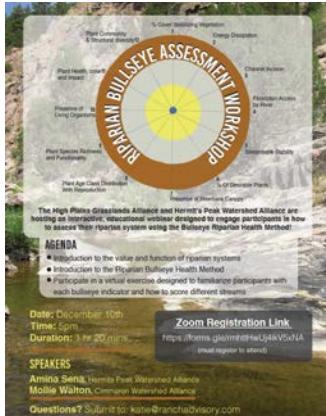
### Transforming State Wildlife Management to Protect Biodiversity in the U.S.

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 5:30-7:00 pm**

**UNM Biodiversity Webinar Series**

This online panel discussion will focus on the critically important role that states play in protecting species and natural habitats in the U.S., and how outdated policies and attitudes are preventing them from being the biodiversity champions we need them to be. For more info and to register:

<https://speciesinperil.unm.edu/wp/unm-biodiversity-webinar-series-fall-2020-program/>



### Riparian Bullseye Assessment Workshop

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 5:00-6:30 pm**

**HERMIT'S PEAK WATERSHED ALLIANCE**

The High Plains Grasslands Alliance and Hermit's Peak Watershed Alliance are partnering to host an online riparian assessment workshop. Instructors will be Mollie Walton from the Cimarron Watershed Alliance and Amina Sena of Hermit's Peak Watershed Alliance. This is in lieu of the in-person workshop originally planned for the Sol Ranch earlier this year, and the interactive and engaging webinar that will introduce the Bullseye Riparian Health method of assessment.

Register here to receive the zoom link: <https://forms.gle/rmhhtHwUj4ikV5xNA>

### 121st Annual Christmas Bird Count

**DECEMBER 14, 2020-JANUARY 5, 2021**

**AUDUBON NEW MEXICO, Statewide**

As participants in the Audubon Christmas Bird Count, you can be one of more than 70,000 counters at more than 2,300 locations stretching from the Arctic Circle to the tip of South America. Since 1900, the Christmas Bird Count has provided scientists with critical data about bird populations in the Americas. For more information: <https://nm.audubon.org/conservation/audubon-new-mexicos-christmas-bird-count>

Send your event information to: [abqwildlife federation@gmail.com!](mailto:abqwildlife federation@gmail.com)

# JOIN US!

## Become a Member of the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation

The Albuquerque Wildlife Federation is an all-volunteer organization founded by Aldo Leopold and dedicated to protecting and restoring New Mexico's wildlife and habitat resources.

**Our work is only possible thanks to the generous support of our members.**

If you like the work we do, we hope you will help keep this legacy going by becoming a member or renewing your membership.



### AWF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation | P.O. Box 20225 | Albuquerque, NM 87154

Yes, I'd like to join AWF!     This is a gift membership from: \_\_\_\_\_

name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

address: \_\_\_\_\_

city, state, zip: \_\_\_\_\_

phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$25

Family \_\_\_\_\_ \$35

Sustaining \_\_\_\_\_ \$50-99

Patron \_\_\_\_\_ \$100

Lifetime \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 (*one-time payment*)

Dues: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Extra Contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_