## APPLETON-WHITTELL RESEARCH RANCH COORDINATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Research Ranch was established in 1968 by the Appleton family as an ecological field station to provide a large scale exclosure by which various land uses and actions in the Southwest could be evaluated. This role, as a control or reference area, creates challenges to land management actions. Each proposed action must be judged not only on the conservation outcome but also on the potential to have adverse impact on the research values for which the field station was established. Effective management for both conservation and research is only possible if all partners are informed and involved. The Research Ranch, approximately 8,000 acres, is a complicated partnership among land owners and federal land administrative agencies: Coronado National Forest (CNF), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Resolution Copper Mining Co. (RCM), The Research Ranch Foundation (TRRF), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and National Audubon Society (NAS or Audubon). NAS manages the facility via contractual agreements with each entity. The Research Ranch is a Center/Sanctuary of NAS, administered through the Audubon Arizona state office in Phoenix. Audubon's strategic plan is to achieve conservation results on a broad scale by leveraging the NAS network and engaging diverse people; the Research Ranch is evaluated by NAS for its support of the following conservation concerns: Climate Change, Water, Working Lands and Bird Friendly Communities.

This Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) constitutes all ownership along with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Arizona Game & Fish Department (AZGF) and US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS). Planned practices to meet goals listed in this CRMP may not necessarily be implemented on all parcels. There is no livestock grazing on any portion of the plan, however, there are always ongoing research studies which are not addressed in this plan other than to acknowledge that all management actions must consider the impacts on past, present and future research.

This CRMP will be a living document to capture the history, baseline information, and status of resources to date and will identify areas of conservation and management concern. This plan will provide a framework to align all actions with the mission and goals of the Research Ranch:

<u>Mission:</u> To formulate, test and demonstrate methods to safeguard and rehabilitate grasslands and related ecosystems, and to assist policy makers and other citizens in the protection and stewardship of native ecosystems, natural resources, and quality of life.

#### Goals:

• Conservation—to be a premier semi-arid grassland that fosters a natural diversity of native species.

• Research – to understand how grasslands and related ecosystems function, and to recognize the key elements that safeguard these ecosystems.

• Outreach and Education– to advocate for grassland ecosystems by encouraging citizens and policy makers to safeguard and rehabilitate native ecosystems throughout the region.

## Acronyms used in this CRMP

ASLD: Arizona State Trust Land Department AWRR: Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch AZGF: Arizona Game and Fish Department BLM: Bureau of Land Management CNF: Coronado National Forest CRMP: Coordinated Resource Management Plan FS: Forest Service NAS: National Audubon Society NRCS: Natural Resources Conservation Service RCM: Resolution Copper Mining dba Swift Current Land and Cattle Co. RR: Research Ranch TNC: The Nature Conservancy TRRF: The Research Ranch Foundation (formerly The Research Ranch [TRR]) USFS: U.S. Forest Service USFWS: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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## History of the Research Ranch

Humans have influenced the ecology of Southwestern North America for millennia in a succession beginning with Native Americans. Several chronologies have been suggested (Bahre 1977) but in general, it is recognized that Big Game Hunters arrived approximately 10000 bce. Other groups followed such as the Cochise, Preceramic O'otam, the Formative O'otam (Pima), Hohokam, and the Sobaipuri whose occupancy overlapped arrival of Spanish explorers such as Fray Marcos de Niza and Francisco Vasuez de Coronado (1539, 1540) and Padre Eusebio Kino and Captain Juan Mateo Manje (1692). Modern Native Americans relied on gathering of native plants, hunting, and practiced some horticulture on floodplains. Apaches moved into the area near what is currently the Research Ranch in approximately 1680 ce and had largely replaced the indigenous tribes by the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The warlike Apaches and their allies, plus the introduced disease, malaria, kept settlement by those of European descent at low levels until the 1870s.

Large herbivores such as camels, horses, mastodons and mammoth had largely disappeared by the time the Big Game Hunters arrived or shortly thereafter (Bahre 1977). Although bones have been found in archaeological remains that might be bison (*Bison bison*), the number of sites is small and it is generally accepted that ecological impact of these large herbivores did not extend westward much beyond the Pecos River (Bahre 1977, Truett 1996). Consequently, the grasslands of the area did not co-evolve with the pressures of large herds of large herbivores. Domestic livestock were not thought to have significant impact on the landscape under Spanish or Mexican rule. The Gadsen Purchase (1853/54) transferred ownership from Mexico to the United States, but relatively little changed in respect to land management until after the Civil War when the combined efforts of the American military and westward migration of Americans enabled development of a large livestock industry.

A combination of factors including ignorance of the climate and ecology of the region led to a series of overgrazing events in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries which resulted in loss of topsoil, changes in hydrology, and the realization that grasslands/prairies of the Southwest present unique challenges to ranchers. Much of the modern management of the prairies has sought to strike a balance between the economic necessities associated with ranching on a landscape that has little or no natural defense against grazing by domestic livestock.

The area now known as the Research Ranch was homesteaded by numerous individuals including T. B. Titus, Wm. Roth, James L. Finley, Juan Telles, Francis Cuthbert Fenderson, Willard T. Roath, and John D. Riggs (Collins 2008). Many of these homesteaders were already present when the federal lands were surveyed in 1912. These parcels were gradually consolidated. In the mid-20th century Frank and Ariel Appleton purchased the deeded land and grazing allotments of the Clark Ranch and the Swinging H Ranch (approximately 8,000 acres total) and created the Elgin Hereford Cattle Ranch. By the late 1960s the Appletons had determined the land they owned and leased could play a larger purpose than as a small cattle ranch, and developed a vision of an ecological

field station. In 1968 they sold their cattle and converted the ranch into a research facility to serve as a reference area and control site to evaluate large scale land uses, including but not limited to grazing by domestic livestock. The Appletons formed a non-profit organization, The Research Ranch Inc. (TRR), to manage the facility. The Forest Service (FS) and the Arizona State Trust Land Department (ASLD) agreed to suspend grazing on the allotments held by the Appletons.

By the late 1970s the Appletons sought a conservation organization to take over management of the Research Ranch to ensure its continuity into the future. Audubon had become concerned about the decrease in populations of birds that are dependent on grasslands, so accepted management of the Research Ranch in 1980 under conditions outlined in a Memorandum of Agreement between Audubon and The Research Ranch Foundation (TRRF) (previously incorporated as TRR Inc.). The Appletons donated over half of their private land to TRR/TRRF which was then transferred to Audubon. The Whittell Foundation established an endowment within Audubon, distributions from which to be used solely to support the Research Ranch. The name of the ecological field station was changed to the Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch of the National Audubon Society, Inc., (AWRR).

In 1982, Audubon entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the FS for management of grazing allotments within the Coronado Ranger District known as Chuney #1 and 2. A portion of the FS parcel has been designated the Elgin Research Natural Area. Audubon took over the leases of the ASLD [03-1427, 00-1427, 05-86813] formerly managed by the Appletons/TRR Inc. By 1986 the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) acquired title of the ASLD property within the Research Ranch plus additional property owned by Frank Appleton and signed a Cooperative Agreement with Audubon regarding management of these parcels. Land administered by BLM that is within the boundary of the Research Ranch has been declared the Appleton-Whittell Research Area of Critical Environmental Concern and is included in the Las Cienegas Natural Conservation Area. In 2004, Audubon and The Nature Conservancy of Arizona (TNC) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding assigning management responsibilities of a parcel associated with but disjunct from TNC's Canelo Hills Cienega Preserve. Upon the passing of Ariel Appleton, the Appleton children sold all remaining parcels held with clear title to Resolution Copper Mining Co. (RCM), dba Swift Current Land and Cattle Company. Audubon and RCM developed a management agreement in 2008 regarding these properties.

A map showing current ownership of the various parcels managed by NAS as the Research Ranch can be found in Appendix A; Appendix B shows place names used at AWRR. Additional details of the land use and certain land transactions of the Research Ranch are described in Conrad Bahre's "Land-use History of the Research Ranch, Elgin, Arizona," (1977) and by Glendon Collins in "A History of the Lands in the National Audubon Society's Research Ranch near Elgin, in Santa Cruz County, Arizona," (2008). Copies of each are housed in the Research Ranch library and are available in digital form in the library at <u>http://researchranch.audubon.org</u>.

## Geography and Physical Characteristics

<u>Location</u>: AWRR is in southeastern Arizona, USA, and is located in the northeastern part of Santa Cruz County (31° 35' N, 110° 30' W) (various parcels in Township 21S, Range 18E).

<u>Biogeographic Region:</u> The Research Ranch is in the area often described as the Sky Islands, in which relatively discreet mountain ranges such as the Huachucas, Santa Ritas, and Mustangs jut up from surrounding grassland or deserts. This is a subsection of the Basin and Range province.

<u>Elevation</u>: Locations range from 1417 m (4649 ft) in O'Donnell Canyon on the northern boundary, to 1541 m (5056 ft) on Bald Hill, up to 1570 m (5151 ft) in the southernmost part of the Research Ranch. Elevation at the Headquarters is 1465 m (4761 ft).

Resource Area Designation, Soils and Ecological Sites: The Research Ranch is primarily in Major Land Resource Area 41.1 (16-20" precipitation zone). Soils and ecological sites are described in "Soil and Range Resource Inventory" by Breckenfeld and Robinett (2001), which is available on the Research Ranch website. See also Appendices F, G. <u>Floristic Classification:</u> When cattle were removed in 1968 and throughout the 1980s the Ranch was considered to be primarily short-grass prairie, but that was an artifact of the cattle grazing. According to Brown (1992), grasslands of the Research Ranch are classified as Plains and Great Basin Grassland or Semidesert Grassland and the southern portion of the Research Ranch is Madrean Evergreen Woodland. More recent studies by Bock and Bock (2000) and McLaughlin et al., (2001) indicate the Research Ranch has closer floristic affinities with Mexico, and classify most grasslands of the Research Ranch as Madrean Mixed Grass Prairie.

<u>Biota:</u> The known biological diversity of AWRR is rich, due to geographic location, management actions, and nearly 50 years of research and monitoring efforts. See Appendix C for species lists.

<u>Precipitation:</u> AWRR is considered to be a semi-arid, or semi-desert ecosystem based on precipitation. The Research Ranch historically experienced a bi-modal precipitation pattern with two relatively wet seasons, July-August and Dec-Feb (60% and 40% of annual mean, respectively) separated by dry periods. Snow occurs some winters with accumulation of up to 8" but quickly melts. Long-term records show an annual mean of 17 - 17.5". Recently this pattern has shifted towards even dryer winters. The annual mean for 2002-2011 was 14.7" with an accumulated shortfall during this time period of nearly 2 feet.

<u>Surface Water:</u> The drainages within AWRR (Lyle, Turkey, O'Donnell, Post, Vaughn) flow ultimately into the Babacomari River; Post and Turkey drain into O'Donnell first. The Babacomari subwatershed is a major contributor to the San Pedro River

(approximately 6000 af/yr) which flows northward to the Gila River. Water rights within the entire Gila River watershed are being adjudicated – a long process that began in 1974. The streams within the Research Ranch are classed as ephemeral (surface flow only after seasonal precipitation events) or intermittent (flow primarily below ground surface, with occasional surface flows due to geological patterns or to precipitation events). The only perennial, natural water are the tinajas (rocky pools) in South Post Canyon, however the upper portion of O'Donnell (TNC parcel) is usually marshy year round.

## History of Land Management and Conservation Actions

Management actions must be consonant with AWRR's role as an undisturbed natural area envisioned by the founders and signatories, so activities should reduce past negative impacts that modern human actions have caused, protect resources from future degradation and also support the research values for which AWRR was established.

<u>Fire:</u> The historic fire return interval in these grasslands is assumed to be between 7 and 13 years (McClaran & van Devender 1995), but human activities including active fire suppression have altered the natural fire regime and reduced the frequency of natural fires to a level that is unwise for the long-term health of the grasslands. Consequently, prescribed fire may be needed as a management tool on the Research Ranch. A burn plan was developed in the late 1990s but implementation was postponed for several years due to the difficulty of compliance with prescriptions. The Ryan Wildfire of 2002 and the Canelo Wildfire of 2009 together burned virtually all of the land within AWRR (7200 ac and 2300 ac respectively); the original burn plan is no longer valid and should be rewritten. Records of all known fires on AWRR (natural, accidental and prescribed) are archived. In 2006 AWRR and the Babacomari Ranch become a recognized Firewise Community, later joined by TNC's Canelo Hills Cienega Preserve and Kyle and Suzanne Wilcox. Annual reporting requirements are, at this time, completed by AWRR. The following have provided technical or financial assistance to AWRR in matters related to fire management:

- BLM
- TNC
- USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program
- University of Arizona Cooperative Extension
- USFS

<u>Fencing</u>: Arizona is a "fence-out" state, so fences must be constructed and maintained to exclude domestic livestock to protect the integrity of AWRR as an ungrazed control or reference area. Fences, however, do create a "fence-line impact" and present challenges to the free movement of native species. To reduce this impact, over 20 miles of unnecessary interior fences have been removed using primarily volunteer assistance. RCM removed chainlink fencing around the Appleton Bolson Tortoise paddocks in 2013. Perimeter fences have been rebuilt to wildlife friendly standards established by the AZGF wherever possible. Perimeter fence (16.75 miles) has been upgraded in stages with financial support from AWRR operating budget and the following:

- AZ Dept. of Environmental Quality Water Quality Improvement Grant 2002.
- Army Corps of Engineers Mitigation. 2003.
- RMC. 2011.
- NRCS Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program. 2003.
- USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. 2005.

Non-native Invasive Species:

*Plants:* A number of non-native plants have been introduced on what is now the Research Ranch as range improvements, by accident, or in accompaniment to homestead activities.

- Several hundred upland acres, primarily in the NE, were ripped on contour in 1949. Evidence of this ripping is still evident from satellite imagery. Among the species planted in these sites were Lehmann lovegrass, Boer lovegrass and probably Wilman lovegrass. Both Lehmann and Boer have spread dramatically across the uplands.
- Coastal bermudagrass plugs were transplanted onto dams and dikes during the Appleton ranching years (1956-1965). This species has spread downstream of the original sites.
- Populations of Himalayan blackberries at the springs above Finley tank may have been planted by homesteaders.
- Johnsongrass can be found at many riparian sites and also along some roadsides.
- Hoary cress, aka Whitetop is found in O'Donnell Canyon floodplains and may have been introduced in road gravel or brought downstream from offsite.
- Yellow bluestem has been found in the northern portion of AWRR, primarily associated with roads.
- Natal grass plants have found occasionally, but no persistent stands have established.
- Blue panic has been found on dams east of the bunkhouse.
- Onionweed seed was bought in with landscape gravel and is a reoccurring problem near the research complex.

Financial support from the following assisted AWRR in treatment of the above species:

- Arizona State Forestry (pass through from USFS). Invasive Species Grant Program 2014 and Partnership Grant Program 2016.
- RCM: 2012 present.
- BLM: Challenge Cost Share. 2004.
- University of Arizona Forest Health Program (pass through FS). 2005.
- USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. 1999, 2002, 2005.
- NRCS WHIP. 2003.

*Animals:* Non-native animals have deleterious impacts on native species by direct predation, spread of disease, or degradation of habitat. AWRR takes direct action to remove bullfrogs. Others problematic species are crayfish and non-native fish, but no management actions have been taken other than opportunistic removal. No financial assistance has been received from external sources specifically to remove or control non-native animals.

<u>Water for Wildlife and Native Plants:</u> Past overgrazing had negatively impacted the hydrology of the area resulting in less open water and fewer springs that can provide water and habitat for native species. As compensation, AWRR converted water facilities developed during the ranching era into appropriate and safe wildlife waterers and

wetlands. In certain situations, new wells have been drilled. Depth-to-groundwater for all wells (including domestic) are monitored quarterly by AWRR staff.

The following have provided financial assistance to provide water for wildlife and native plants:

- RCM. 2013. Windmills at both Vaughn Canyon and Appleton Homesite.
- AZGF Conservation Stewardship. 2008. Install Solar Panels on Telles Tank well.
- NRCS WHIP. 2008. Water Harvesting Catchments\*
- AGFD Conservation Stewardship. 2006. Replaced windmill head at CNF tank.
- NRCS. 2003. Drill Well at Pronghorn (aka Antelope) Tank.
- Army Corps of Engineers. 2002. Bowjon Wind Generator for Finley Tank.
- Army Corps of Engineers. 2001. Telles Tank wetland rehabilitation.
- USFWS. 2001. Telles Tank Well, solar panel.
- USFWS. 1995. Vaughn Canyon Wetland.

In addition, BLM installed solar arrays at Bald Hill and Pronghorn wells. Contributions in memory of Don and Emroy Kennedy made possible the construction of a small pond south of the Grassland Center, which is now home to endangered Desert Pupfish.

\* NRCS WHIP contract allowed installation of 2 unique water harvesting catchments. Roof runoff structure was utilized with gutters that funnel into large storage tanks beside the main office building and at the barn at the headquarters of the ranch. These tanks have short pipelines that then supply water for two wildlife troughs from the barn and the small pond for Desert Pupfish south of the Grassland Center.

<u>Native Species excluding T & E</u>: The primary effort to protect and promote native species beyond construction of perimeter fences has been directed at rehabilitation of sacaton floodplains and earthworks dominated by non-native Coastal Bermudagrass. The following are providing/have provided financial assistance specific to this topic:

- Riester Conservation Foundation, 2008-2016. Sacaton grassland rehabilitation.
- NRCS 2008. Shrub plantings near water catchment project.
- Army Corps of Engineers. Mitigation. 2006. Sacaton grassland rehabilitation
- NRCS Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program. 2003. Sacaton grassland rehabilitation.
- Army Corps of Engineers. 2001. Greenhouse for propagation

<u>Threatened and Endangered Species:</u> Naturally occurring populations of Northern Mexican Gartersnakes and Yellow-billed Cuckoos are being monitored on AWRR, and the following species have been introduced or re-introduced on AWRR with the assistance of entities noted.

- Huachuca Water Umbel at Finley Tank Springs. 2003. USFWS, Desert Botanical Garden, Transplanted by John & Priscilla Titus.
- Desert Pupfish. 2011. Headquarters Pond under a Certificate of Inclusion to a Safe Harbor Agreement issued to AZGF by USFWS. 2014. Bald Hill and Pronghorn tanks. BLM, AZGF, USFWS.
- Chiricahua Leopard Frogs. Bald Hill and Pronghorn tanks (2015) BLM, AZGF, USFWS. Headquarters pond (2016) AZGF, USFWS.

<u>Erosion control:</u> The heavy lifting on erosion was done before Audubon became involved with the Research Ranch. Ranchers, especially the Appletons, recognized the threats of unchecked erosion and took steps to remedy the situation. Large dams and dikes were constructed in Post, O'Donnell, and Turkey Canyons to stop headcutting and small gully plugs were constructed in many smaller drainages to slow water movement. In large part those steps were successful and structures are still functioning as designed. An effort is underway to map the locations of the dozens of erosion control structures/stockponds on AWRR and reconcile with the records on file at the Arizona Department of Water Resources. Current management actions have been reactive and rather small scale – primarily sites where erosion control structures are weakening or where infrastructure such as roads are causing problems. The following are examples:

- A gabion was rebuilt near McDaniel well in 2010, after the 2009 wildfire facilitated water movement in a tributary to Turkey Creek.
- One rock dams were used to slow overland flow waterbars off Research Ranch Road.
- Small rock dams are stopping further incision of ditches on East Mesa and Post Canyon Roads.
- Tree plantings in Post Canyon were largely unsuccessful.
- The first crossing of O'Donnell Canyon by O'Donnell Road was re-positioned.

Financial Support for Other Conservation or Research Related Projects:

- Arizona Department of Commerce. 2010. Photovoltaic arrays at Headquarters and Research Complex.
- Toyota/Together Green Alliance. 2009, 2010. Reduce Carbon Emissions in Rural Communities Education Program.
- NRCS. 2006. Living Gently on the Land Education Program.
- Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. 2002. Wisconsin Mound Septic System for Swinging H Ranchhouse.
- AZGF. 2002. Research on effects of Ryan Wildfire.
- Maytag Family Foundation. 1998. Construction of Grassland Center

The following have been invited to participate in this Coordinated Plan:

Arizona Game & Fish Department Bureau of Land Management National Audubon Society Natural Resources Conservation Service Resolution Copper Mining dba Swift Current Land & Cattle The Nature Conservancy The Research Ranch Foundation US Fish & Wildlife Service US Forest Service

## Land Status within the Boundary of AWRR

LAND STATUS	ACRES*
National Audubon Society	1460.7
Bureau of Land Management	3126
Swift Current Land & Cattle Co LLC (RCM)	1000
The Nature Conservancy	70.7
The Research Ranch Foundation (Appletons)	16
U.S. Forest Service	2375
Adverse Deeded	70.6
Total	8119

\*Note: The acreage figures shown above are approximate. The location of the adverse deeded piece is shown on the ownership map and is not under Audubon's management.

## GOALS

The following goals were identified during development of this Ranch Plan.

- Conduct management actions in such a manner that the research values of AWRR are not compromised.
- Maintain or improve species composition, diversity and structure for the desired (native) plant communities needed to protect the land and support the planned land uses which are
  - to provide sanctuary for native biota,
  - to provide a non-disturbed study area for ecological research.
- Enhance the diversity and abundance of native wildlife populations within the area by improvement of habitat, reduction of non-native, predatory species, and introduction of appropriate listed species.
- Enhance watershed stability, ensuring longevity of watershed health, maintaining mosaic vegetative structure in the hilly regions and productive grasslands in the lower regions, while contributing to the overall health of the riparian and cienega areas.
- Aid in soil stabilization in the lower elevations of the ranch to increase flood plain capacity within drainage channels and minimize soil transportation onto neighboring ranches.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The management plan will support the above goals by using the best information and applications available to provide for the following objectives, which constitute the desired condition of the AWRR.

- Utilize AWRR operations and cooperative projects with researchers and partners to enhance public understanding of the positive role the AWRR plays in conserving landscapes, research locations and wildlife habitat.
- Maintain the historic fire return interval in both upland and riparian ecosystems by developing and implementation of appropriate fire planning instruments.
- Prevent encroachment of woody species in the uplands using prescribed fire to enhance herbaceous plant cover.
- Develop thresholds to judge whether woody species must be controlled by mechanical or chemical means.
- Protect selected areas from invasion by non-native, herbaceous plants.
- Create new and maintain existing improvements such as rock dams on selected channels and turn-outs on roads to minimize soil transportation.
- Install/maintain water developments as needed for wildlife.
- Install/maintain pumping plants that are dependent on renewable energy sources.

## **Outline of Ranch Plan**

### Overview

One of the primary roles of AWRR is to provide undisturbed reference/control areas by which various land use practices can be evaluated—but an equally important role is that of a sanctuary for native plants and animals. These two roles can, at times, conflict. Every proposed action to preserve or enhance habitat must be examined through the lens of the impact on active research (Appendix D) and past research which may be repeated in the future. Every proposed research project must be evaluated for possible negative impacts on habitat.

Based on the historical research function, AWRR land owning or administrative partners have chosen to keep the current non-grazing management structure with the goal of sustaining natural resources and processes while maintaining the integrity of the facility for ecological research. The partners hope to systematically implement improvements or management practices over a period of years in such a manner as to enhance, rather than to degrade research values.

### Responsibility of Plan Participants

This Ranch Management Plan was developed voluntarily and as a good faith effort to implement scheduled infrastructure improvement and to document past coordination in one easily accessible location. AWRR is a non-grazing ranch and will maintain no livestock. Every improvement listed within this plan may not be installed in a specific time frame or may not be installed at all. In the event policies and laws change or funds are not available post development of this management plan, the participants are not obligated to move forward with all planned items. This plan is <u>not</u> a contract <u>nor</u> is it considered an "action" as determined by Federal Statutes. Signature of this management plan does not require AWRR or other partners to implement or install practices if they are not feasible in the future.

#### **Benchmark** Conditions

"Benchmark Conditions" refer to the existing state of ecological sites and infrastructure. A benchmark inventory of the AWRR was completed during 2000-2001 by Daniel Robinett, NRCS and Donald Breckenfeld, NRCS. The ranch was again re-inventoried in 2014-2015 by Kristen Egen, Katie Cline, Alisha Phipps, Emilio Carrillo, and Wilma Renkin of NRCS and Linda Kennedy, AWRR. James Heitholt, Ed Halloway and Steve Bluemer, USFS, assisted on the USFS land. Field assistance was also provided by Roger Cogan of AWRR, and private consultants who donated their time, Jim Koweek and Daniel Robinett. Benchmark conditions are described in Appendices E, F and G. A climate analysis can be found in Appendix H and the location of vegetation monitoring locations is shown in Appendix I.

## **Range Improvements**

## Current Range Improvements

Current range improvements consist of wells, pumping plants, wildlife watering facilities, ponds, a developed spring, fencelines, non-native vegetation management, road maintenance, and check dams for erosion control. All recent improvements have been

mapped and may or may not be of record in the BLM, USFS or other owner's files. A list of improvements can be found in Appendix E and shown on the map in Appendix J.

## Proposed Improvements

Goals for improvements for the AWRR are listed here. It is understood that funding over and above the Research Ranch operating budget must be sought in order to achieve some of the following goals.

Goal: All management actions must be conducted in such a manner that the research values of AWRR are not degraded.

• AWRR and partners will collaborate and cooperate to accomplish this goal.

Goal: Maintain or improve species composition, diversity and structure for the desired (native) plant communities needed to protect the land and support the planned land uses which are: 1) to provide a sanctuary for native biota and 2) to provide non-disturbed study areas for ecological research.

- Chemically treat defined areas. Maintain as needed.
  - Target species include Lehmann Lovegrass, Boer Lovegrass, Yellow Bluestem, Whitetop, and other non-native, invasive plants.
- Develop and implement a Fire Management Plan.

Goal: Enhance the diversity and abundance of native wildlife populations within the area by improvement of habitat, reduction of non-native, predatory species and introduction of appropriate listed species. Owner or administrative entity of each site is shown in parentheses.

- Rehabilitate wetland at Finley Tank. (RCM).
- Enhance wetland habitat at McDaniel Well. (Audubon).
- Eliminate non-native Green Sunfish from Post Canyon drainage. (BLM).
- Eliminate non-native Bullfrogs from all wetland, riparian and wildlife water sites.
- Establish breeding populations of appropriate listed species at:
  - Telles Tank (Audubon)
  - Finley Tank (RCM)
  - McDaniel Wetlands (Audubon)
  - Appleton Tank (RCM)
  - South Post Tinijas (BLM)
  - Headquarters Pond (Audubon)

Goal: Enhance watershed stability, ensure longevity of watershed health, maintain mosaic vegetative structure in the hilly regions and productive grasslands in the lower regions, while contributing to the overall health of the riparian and cienega areas.

• Cooperate in development of O'Donnell Watershed Plan.

Goal: Aid in soil stabilization in the lower elevations of the Research Ranch to increase flood plain capacity within drainage channels and minimize soil transportation onto neighboring ranches.

## Timeline

AWRR is an active research facility hosting 25-40 research and monitoring projects on the ground annually (Appendix D); this must be taken into account whenever scheduling maintenance or improvement activities. Consequently, improvements or maintenance efforts might not be able to be conducted on a specific timeline. It would be optimal if at least one or two planned improvements listed in the Range Improvement section would be completed yearly. Financial assistance may be sought by Audubon to aid in installment of infrastructure through private, state and federal grants.

- Project designs for three wetland enhancements are being evaluated by USFWS and may be funded through their Partners in Fish and Wildlife program. One is a rehabilitation of the tank at Finley (RCM) and two would be at the McDaniel pond site (Audubon).
- There is a critical need for a Fire Management Plan one grant to support this need is outstanding.
- One grant from Arizona State Forestry to treat non-native invasive plant species is ongoing (Audubon).

## Fire Philosophy

Fires created an annually shifting patchwork of re-sprouting and mature grasses throughout the area before Anglo settlement. The specific impacts within any burn patch depended on soils; species present; winds; precipitation and temperatures before, during, and after burns; season and frequency of the fires; fuel accumulation; etc. Without periodic fires, southeast Arizona's grasslands might never have established, or would have succeeded to shrubland (dominated by woody plants) or other communities, centuries ago. Before Anglo settlement, most areas were naturally ignited every five to twenty years. Mesas probably burned more often, while canyons and riparian areas probably burned less often (estimates are based on the annual rings of pine trees in surrounding mountains, as the oak trees associated with these grasslands produce very indistinguishable annual rings). Under the fire suppression policies of the past 100 years, many grasslands in this area have become shrub savanna or mesquite woodlands and their grassland wildlife has been replaced by species adapted to woody habitats.

Planned fires are carried out only under a set of strict conditions, called the fire prescription, which incorporates the type of fuel, the topography of the land, the relative moisture of the air, the wind direction, wind speed, and other factors. Prescribed fires actually reduce the risk and impact of wildfire by reducing fuel loads (accumulated dry material) in problematic areas.

On AWRR, management preference for naturally occurring fires or accidental fires within the fire prescription would be to let them burn unimpeded unless they posed a risk to humans or structures. In recognition that structures are at risk due to wildfire and that the primary responsibility to protect structures lies with the landowners, AWRR and the Babacomari Cattle Ranch FireWise Community follow defensible space guidelines.

Fires on AWRR have provided data for many scientific publications. Information on timing and location of fires within AWRR is available upon request by partners.

## **Current Resources**

Vegetation types on AWRR fall within the 41AZ Southern Arizona Basin and Range Major Land Resource Areas (MLRAs). There are two Common Resource Areas (CRAs) on the ranch; they are: 41.1AZ Mexican Oak – Pine Forest and Oak Savanna (16-20" precipitation zone) and the 41.3AZ Chihuahuan – Sonoran Semidesert Grasslands (12-16" precipitation zone) with most falling in the former (Appendix F). A list of plant species (Flora) can be found in Appendix C.

Descriptions of the ecological sites, MLRAs and CRAs on AWRR are found in Appendix F and G. Ecological sites that were mapped include: Shallow Hills (41.1), Loamy Hills (41.1), Limy Slopes (41.1), Loamy Bottom, swales (41.1 and 41.3), Loamy Bottom, subirrigated (41.1), Clayey Hills (41.3), Clayey Bottom (41.3), Limestone Hills (41.1), Loamy Upland (41.1) and Sandy Loam Upland (41.1). Data were collected in 2000-2001 by Daniel Robinett of NRCS during the course of a soil survey update being conducted by Don Breckenfeld of NRCS. This report included 32 sites; information from this report can be found in Appendix G. Fourteen of these sites were reassessed in 2014-2015 by NRCS and others. A summary of the sites and changes are also found are in Appendix G. Annual monitoring is conducted by AWRR. A comparison of the 2002, 2014 and monitoring data is also included in Appendix G.

## **Vegetation Monitoring Plan**

Upland Vegetation Monitoring transects have been established on AWRR in 2003 and 2004 based in large part on the 2000-2001 inventory. There are currently 18 sites with at least 15 read annually by the AWRR staff. Summary data is available to all participants within this plan upon request. Riparian vegetation transects were established in 2008 as part of a research grant from Arizona Department of Water Resources and will serve as monitoring sites (5 yr interval). Transects to monitor mesquite encroachment on North Mesa were established in 2010 (to be read on 5 yr intervals). Appendix I is a map of the primary vegetation monitoring sites.

## Methods and Responsibilities:

Monitoring data collected on transects established on AWRR include but are not limited to:

- *Actual Use*: The AWRR will record any use data throughout the year describing any noted wildlife use and trespass cattle if applicable. This will be noted in the annual summary.
- *Climate*: Permanent rain gauges are set and rainfall records are archived at AWRR. Precipitation at Headquarters is shared at: <u>http://rainlog.org/usprn/html/main/maps.jsp</u>. USDA and NOAA also maintain stations. Local climate conditions are described in Appendix H.
- *Trend*: Trend is determined using the Pace Frequency Method for upland vegetation. Belt transects are used at some mesquite sites and riparian areas. Green Line is also used in riparian areas. Trend data will be collected by AWRR.
- *Photographs*: Photographs are taken at each location. General views of the site may serve as the appropriate record of trend.
- *Cover*: Pace Frequency frames are used to estimate cover at each upland vegetation transect (ex.: 200 frames X 3 points = 600 total points per transect).

We, the undersigned, concur with the Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch Management Plan and will act to implement it to the best of our ability.

Signature

Date

-7

Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch of the National Auduhon Society, Inc.

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Linda Kennedy Director

We, the undersigned, concur with the Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch Management Plan and will act to implement it to the best of our ability.

Signature

Natural Resources Conservation Service Tueson Field Office



101 26 6

Kristen Egen District Conservationist



We, the undersigned, concur with the Appleton-Whittell Research Banch Management Plan and will act to implement it to the best of our ability,

Signature

Sierra Vista Ranger District Coronado National Forest

Date 2

Celeste Kinsey District Ranger

**Bureau of Land Management** 

The Nature Conservancy

The Research Ranch Foundation

We, the undersigned, concur with the Appleton-Whittell Research Rauch Management Plan and will act to implement it to the best of our ability.

#### SWIFT CURRENT LAND & CATTLE LLC

Swift Current Land & Cattle LLC An Arizona limited liability company

By: Resolution Copper Company, as Manager and not on its own behalf.

By: Starly Housey

Dated: 11/29/16

Arizona Game and Fish Department

US Fish and Wildlife Service

## **Appendices:**

- A: Ownership Map
- B: Topo Map with Place Names
- C: Biota

Plants Birds Mammals Herpetofauna Reptiles Amphibians Fishes Invertebrates Butterflies Grasshoppers

D: Summary of Active Research/Baseline Projects – 2015

- E: Existing Improvements and Depth-to-Groundwater Examples
- F: Ecosystems and Their Components
- G: Benchmark Inventory Assessments
- H: Climate
- I: Map of Monitoring Transects
- J: Conservation Plan Map with Current Structural Improvements





**Appendix B:** Topo Map with Place Names

## Appendix C: Biota

The known biodiversity of AWRR is extensive, especially considering the rather limited variation in elevation within the sanctuary. Habitat protection and enhancement play a role, but also of tremendous importance is the depth and breadth of the research/monitoring program – there is no overriding focal area of research, thus scientists from a range of disciplines contribute their findings.

*Plants:* 612 species-rank vascular plants have been found on AWRR as of June 15, 2016, based on published floras (McLaughlin et al., 2001; Geiger et al., 2011), voucher records on SEINet and subsequent collections. Included is the Huachuca Water Umbel, a federally listed species which was introduced by USFWS at Finley Springs.

*Birds:* As of April, 2016, there have been 261 species documented on AWRR. In addition to decades of hypothesis driven research, there are three annual efforts: Christmas Bird Count, Important Bird Area transects, and Yellow-billed Cuckoo surveys. A year-round survey of the entire sanctuary has been ongoing since 2013.

*Mammals:* The checklist of mammals of AWRR includes 48 native species, and includes mule and white tail deer, four species of skunk, pronghorn, mountain lion, bobcat, coati, and several species of bats and rodents.

## Herpetofauna:

*Reptiles:* To date on AWRR there have been 43 species of reptile reported: 20 species of lizard (9 genera); 21 species of snake (12 genera), including 4 rattlesnake species and the Northern Mexican Gartersnake, which is federally listed as threatened; and 2 species of turtle, both of which are species of special concern in Arizona.

*Amphibians:* AWRR provides habitat for 11 species of 7 genera. One of these species is non-native, the American Bullfrog, which is actively eliminated wherever found under the auspices of a Scientific Collecting License issued annually by AZGF. Arizona tree frogs were first documented on AWRR in 2015 and is under consideration for possible listing as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Chiricahua Leopard Frogs had been extirpated from AWRR in the mid 1980s but were reintroduced in 2015.

*Fishes:* Seven species have been documented on AWRR, including the federally listed Rio Sonoyta Pupfish and Desert Pupfish. The Rio Sonoyta population was introduced into Finley Tank in the 1970s, into the Headquarters pond in 2002 and repatriated by AZGF into an appropriate watershed before Desert Pupfish were introduced in 2011. Non-native species include mosquitofish, large-mouthed bass (extirpated) and green sunfish.

*Invertebrates:* There have been 104 species of butterflies, moths and skippers and 46 grasshopper species reported on AWRR. Numerous studies on other insects have been published, but no compilation of composition has been conducted. A species new to science, *Acordulacera whittelli*, was discovered on AWRR; the specific epithet reflects the sanctuary.

# Flora of the Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch

**Locality:** (31.572833, -110.498333)

Updated: June 19, 2016 by Linda Kennedy

Based on published floras (McLaughlin et al., 2001; Geiger et al., 2011), records from SEINET and accessions or photo-documentation since last published flora

Taxonomy and nomenclature per SEINET or USDA Plants Database

Families: 82 Genera: 322 Species: 612 (species rank)

#### ACANTHACEAE

*Carlowrightia arizonica* - Arizona wrightwort *Dyschoriste decumbens* - spreading snakeherb

ADOXACEAE Sambucus nigra - European black elder

#### AMARANTHACEAE

Amaranthus albus - prostrate pigweed Amaranthus palmeri - carelessweed Amaranthus powellii - Powell's amaranth Amaranthus torrevi - Torrey's amaranthus Atriplex canescens - fourwing saltbush Atriplex elegans var. fasciculata - wheelscale saltbush Chenopodium berlandieri - pitseed goosefoot Chenopodium berlandieri var. sinuatum - pitseed goosefoot Chenopodium fremontii - Fremont's goosefoot Chenopodium graveolens - fetid goosefoot Chenopodium neomexicanum - New Mexico goosefoot Chenopodium neomexicanum var. neomexicanum - New Mexico goosefoot Chenopodium neomexicanum var. palmeri Chenopodium watsonii - Watson's goosefoot Froelichia arizonica - Arizona snakecotton Gomphrena caespitosa - tufted globe amaranth Gomphrena nitida - pearly globe amaranth Gomphrena sonorae - Sonoran globe amaranth Guilleminea densa - small matweed Salsola kali - Russian thistle

#### AMARYLLIDACEAE

Zephyranthes longifolia - copper zephyrlily

#### ANACARDIACEAE

Rhus aromatica - fragrant sumac Rhus microphylla - littleleaf sumac Rhus trilobata - skunkbush sumac Rhus virens var. choriophylla - evergreen sumac Toxicodendron rydbergii - western poison ivy

#### APIACEAE

*Eryngium heterophyllum* - Wright's eryngo *Lilaeopsis schaffneriana ssp. recurva* – Huachuca Water Umbel *Spermolepis echinata* - bristly scaleseed

## APOCYNACEAE

Apocynum cannabinum - Indianhemp Asclepias asperula - spider milkweed Asclepias asperula subsp. asperula - spider milkweed Asclepias asperula subsp. capricornu Asclepias brachystephana - bract milkweed Asclepias engelmanniana – Engelmann's milkweed Asclepias involucrata - dwarf milkweed Asclepias macrotis - longhood milkweed Asclepias nummularia - tufted milkweed Asclepias nyctaginifolia - Mojave milkweed Asclepias quinquedentata - slimpod milkweed Asclepias subverticillata - horsetail milkweed Asclepias uncialis - wheel milkweed Funastrum hirtellum – hairy milkweed Macrosiphonia brachysiphon - Huachuca Mountain rocktrumpet Sarcostemma crispum - climbing milkweed (generic)

## ARACEAE

*Lemna minor* - common duckweed *Lemna minuta* - least duckweed

## ASPARAGACEAE

Agave palmeri - Palmer's century plant Agave parryi var. huachucensis Asparagus officinalis - garden asparagus Dasylirion wheeleri - common sotol Dichelostemma pulchellum - bluedicks Echeandia flavescens - Torrey's craglily Milla biflora - Mexican star Nolina microcarpa - sacahuista Yucca elata var. elata - soaptree yucca Yucca schottii - Mountain Yucca

#### ASTERACEAE

Acourtia nana - dwarf desertpeony Acourtia thurberi - Thurber's desertpeony Acourtia wrightii - brownfoot Adenophyllum porophyllum ssp. porophyllum – poreleaf dogweed Ambrosia confertiflora - slimleaf bursage Ambrosia psilostachya - Cuman ragweed Artemisia campestris var. scouleriana - field sagewort Artemisia dracunculus - tarragon Artemisia ludoviciana subsp. albula - white sagebrush Artemisia ludoviciana subsp. sulcata - white sagebrush Aster falcatus var. crassulus - white prairie aster Aster subulatus var. ligulatus - southern annual saltmarsh aster Baccharis bigelovii - Bigelow's false willow Baccharis neglecta - Rooseveltweed Baccharis pteronioides - yerba de pasmo Baccharis salicifolia - water wally Baccharis sarothroides - desertbroom Baccharis thesioides - Arizona baccharis Bahia absinthifolia - hairyseed bahia Bahia absinthifolia var. absinthifolia - hairyseed bahia Bahia absinthifolia var. dealbata - Dealbata's bahia Bahia dissecta - ragleaf bahia Baileya multiradiata - desert marigold Berlandiera lyrata - lyreleaf greeneyes Bidens aurea - Arizona beggarticks Bidens bigelovii - Bigelow's beggarticks Bidens ferulifolia - Arizona beggarticks Bidens leptocephala - fewflower beggarticks Brickellia betonicifolia - betonyleaf brickellbush Brickellia californica - brickell-bush Brickellia eupatorioides var. chlorolepis - false boneset Brickellia floribunda - Chihuahuan brickellbush Brickellia venosa - veiny brickellbush Carminatia tenuiflora - plumeweed Carphochaete bigelovii - Bigelow's bristlehead Chaetopappa ericoides - rose heath Chrysothamnus nauseosus - rubber rabbitbrush

Cirsium arizonicum - Arizona thistle Cirsium neomexicanum - New Mexico thistle Cirsium ochrocentrum - yellowspine thistle *Conoclinium greggii* - palmleaf thoroughwort Convza canadensis - Canadian horseweed *Cosmos parviflorus* - southwestern cosmos Dyssodia papposa - fetid marigold Erigeron arisolius - arid throne fleabane Erigeron colomexicanus - running fleabane Erigeron divergens - spreading fleabane Erigeron divergens var. cinereus - running fleabane Erigeron flagellaris - trailing fleabane Erigeron neomexicanus - New Mexico fleabane Gaillardia pinnatifida - red dome blanketflower Gaillardia pulchella - firewheel Gamochaeta purpurea - spoonleaf purple everlasting Gnaphalium canescens - Wright's cudweed Gnaphalium chilense - cottonbatting plant Gnaphalium leucocephalum - white cudweed Gnaphalium luteoalbum - Jersey cudweed Gnaphalium stramineum - cottonbatting plant Guardiola platyphylla - Apache plant Gutierrezia microcephala - threadleaf snakeweed Helenium thurberi - Thurber's sneezeweed Helianthus annuus - common sunflower Helianthus petiolaris - prairie sunflower Heliomeris longifolia var. annua - longleaf false goldeneye Heliomeris multiflora - showy goldeneye Heliopsis parvifolia - mountain oxeye Heterosperma pinnatum - wingpetal Heterotheca subaxillaris - camphorweed *Hymenoclea monogyra* - burrobush Hymenothrix wislizeni - Trans-Pecos thimblehead *Isocoma coronopifolia* - burroweed Isocoma tenuisecta - burroweed Lactuca serriola - prickly lettuce Laennecia coulteri - Coulter's horseweed Laennecia sophiifolia - leafy marshtail Lasianthaea podocephala - San Pedro daisy Lygodesmia ramosissima – Pecos River skeletonplant Machaeranthera gracilis - slender goldenweed Machaeranthera pinnatifida subsp. pinnatifida - spiny haplopappus *Machaeranthera tagetina* - mesa tansyaster

Machaeranthera tanacetifolia - tanseyleaf tansyaster Malacothrix fendleri - Fendler's desertdandelion Melampodium longicorne - Arizona blackfoot Melampodium sericeum - rough blackfoot *Melampodium strigosum* - shaggy blackfoot Microseris lindleyi - silver puffs Pectis filipes - five-bract cinchweed Pectis filipes var. subnuda - fivebract cinchweed Pectis imberbis - beardless cinchweed Pectis longipes - mat cinchweed Pectis prostrata – spreading cinchweed Pectis rusbyi - Rusby's cinchweed Porophyllum ruderale var. macrocephalum - yerba porosa Pyrrhopappus multicaulis - smallflower desert-chicory Rafinesquia neomexicana - New Mexico plumeseed Ratibida columnifera - upright prairie coneflower Sanvitalia abertii - Albert's creeping zinnia Schkuhria anthemoidea var. wrightii - Wright's false threadleaf Senecio flaccidus var. douglasii Senecio flaccidus var. flaccidus - threadleaf ragwort Solidago velutina - threenerve goldenrod Sonchus asper - spiny sowthistle Stephanomeria pauciflora - brownplume wirelettuce Stephanomeria thurberi - Thurber's wirelettuce Thelesperma longipes - longstalk greenthread Thelesperma megapotamicum - Hopi tea greenthread Thymophylla acerosa - pricklyleaf dogweed Tragopogon dubius - yellow salsify Verbesina encelioides - golden crownbeard Verbesina rothrockii - Rothrock's crownbeard Viguiera cordifolia - heartleaf goldeneye Viguiera dentata - toothleaf goldeneve Viguiera dentata var. dentata - toothleaf goldeneye Xanthium strumarium var. canadense - rough cocklebur Xanthocephalum gymnospermoides - San Pedro matchweed Zinnia acerosa - desert zinnia Zinnia grandiflora - Rocky Mountain zinnia Zinnia peruviana - Peruvian zinnia

#### BIGNONIACEAE

Chilopsis linearis subsp. linearis

## BORAGINACEAE

Cryptantha pusilla - low cryptantha

Heliotropium fruticosum - Key West heliotrope
Lithospermum cobrense - smooththroat stoneseed
Lithospermum incisum - narrowleaf stoneseed
Phacelia arizonica - Arizona phacelia
Phacelia bombycina - Mangas Spring phacelia
Phacelia coerulea - caterpillar weed
Plagiobothrys arizonicus - Arizona popcornflower

### BRASSICACEAE

Cardaria draba - globed-podded hoarycress or whitetop Descurainia pinnata - western tansymustard Draba cuneifolia - wedgeleaf draba Lepidium lasiocarpum - shaggyfruit pepperweed Lepidium thurberi - Thurber's pepperweed Lesquerella fendleri - Fendler's bladderpod Pennellia micrantha - mountain mock thelypody Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum - watercress Schoenocrambe linearifolia - slimleaf plainsmustard Sisymbrium irio - London rocket

### CACTACEAE

Cylindropuntia spinosior - walkingstick cactus Echinocereus fendleri - pinkflower hedgehog cactus Echinocereus rigidissimus - rainbow hedgehog cactus Escobaria vivipara - spinystar Mammillaria heyderi var. macdougalii - Macdougal's nipple cactus Opuntia chlorotica - dollarjoint pricklypear Opuntia engelmannii - cactus apple Opuntia laevis – tulip prickleypear Opuntia macrocentra - purple pricklypear Opuntia phaecantha – major pricklypear Sclerocactus intertextus var. intertextus - white fishhook cactus

## CAMPANULACEAE

Lobelia cardinalis - cardinalflower Lobelia fenestralis - fringeleaf lobelia Triodanis perfoliata var. perfoliata - clasping Venus' looking-glass

#### CANNABACEAE

Celtis laevigata var. reticulata - netleaf hackberry

## CARYOPHYLLACEAE

Arenaria lanuginosa subsp. saxosa - spreading sandwort Drymaria glandulosa - Fendler's drymary *Drymaria molluginea* - slimleaf drymary *Drymaria sperguloides* - slimleaf drymary *Silene antirrhina* - sleepy silene

## CLEOMACEAE

Polanisia dodecandra var. trachysperma - sandyseed clammyweed

### COMMELINACEAE

*Commelina dianthifolia* - birdbill dayflower *Tradescantia pinetorum* - pinewoods spiderwort

### CONVOLVULACEAE

Convolvulus equitans - Texas bindweed Dichondra brachypoda - New Mexico ponysfoot Evolvulus arizonicus - wild dwarf morning-glory Evolvulus nuttallianus - shaggy dwarf morning-glory Evolvulus sericeus var. sericeus - silver dwarf morning-glory Ipomoea capillacea - purple morning-glory Ipomoea costellata - crestrib morning-glory Ipomoea cristulata - Transpecos morning-glory Ipomoea hederacea - ivyleaf morning-glory Ipomoea longifolia – pinkthroat morning-glory Ipomoea purpurea - tall morning-glory Ipomoea thurberi - Thurber's morning-glory

#### CUCURBITACEAE

Apodanthera undulata - melon loco Cucurbita digitata - fingerleaf gourd Cucurbita foetidissima - Missouri gourd Cucurbita palmata - coyote gourd

#### CUPRESSACEAE

*Cupressus arizonica* - Arizona cypress *Juniperus coahuilensis* - redberry juniper *Juniperus deppeana* - alligator juniper

## CYPERACEAE

Bulbostylis funckii - Funck's hairsedge Carex lanuginosa - woolly sedge Carex praegracilis - clustered field sedge Carex spissa - San Diego sedge Cyperus esculentus - yellow nutsedge Cyperus mutisii - Mutis' flatsedge Cyperus odoratus - fragrant flatsedge Cyperus pallidicolor - pallid flatsedge Cyperus sphaerolepis - Rusby's flatsedge Cyperus squarrosus - bearded flatsedge Eleocharis montevidensis - sand spikerush Eleocharis palustris - common spikerush Eleocharis rostellata - beaked spikerush Scirpus acutus - great bulrush Scirpus maritimus - Alkali Bulrush

#### EPHEDRACEAE

*Ephedra californica* - California jointfir *Ephedra trifurca* - longleaf jointfir

#### EQUISETACEAE

*Equisetum laevigatum* - smooth horsetail

#### ERICACEAE

Arctostaphylos pungens - pointleaf manzanita

#### EUPHORBIACEAE

Acalypha lindheimeri - shrubby copperleaf Acalypha neomexicana - New Mexico copperleaf Acalypha ostryifolia - pineland threeseed mercury Chamaesyce albomarginata - whitemargin sandmat Chamaesyce dioica - royal sandmat Chamaesyce hirta - pillpod sandmat Chamaesyce hyssopifolia - hyssopleaf sandmat Chamaesyce revoluta - threadstem sandmat Chamaesyce serpyllifolia - thymeleaf sandmat Chamaesyce stictospora - slimseed sandmat Croton pottsii - leatherweed Croton pottsii var. pottsii - leatherweed Euphorbia bilobata - blackseed spurge *Euphorbia exstipulata* - squareseed spurge Jatropha macrorhiza var. septemfida - ragged nettlespurge Poinsettia dentata - toothed spurge Poinsettia heterophylla - Mexican fireplant Poinsettia radians - sun spurge Tragia laciniata - Sonoita noseburn *Tragia ramosa* - branched noseburn

#### FABACEAE

Acacia angustissima - prairie acacia Acacia angustissima var. filicioides Acacia constricta - whitethorn acacia
Amorpha fruticosa - desert false indigo Astragalus allochrous - halfmoon milkvetch Astragalus arizonicus - Arizona milkvetch Astragalus humistratus var. sonorae - groundcover milkvetch Astragalus mollissimus var. bigelovii - woolly locoweed Astragalus nothoxys - sheep milkvetch Astragalus nuttallianus var. nuttallianus Astragalus thurberi - Thurber's milkvetch Calliandra eriophylla - fairyduster Calliandra humilis var. humilis - dwarf stickpea Calliandra humilis var. reticulata - dwarf stickpea Chamaecrista nictitans subsp. nictitans - partridge pea Chamaecrista nictitans var. leptadenia - partridge pea Cologania angustifolia - longleaf cologania Coursetia caribaea var. sericea - anil falso Crotalaria pumila - low rattlebox Dalea albiflora - whiteflower prairie clover Dalea brachystachya - Fort Bowie prairie clover Dalea candida - white prairie clover Dalea candida var. oligophylla - white prairie clover Dalea exigua - Chihuahuan prairie clover Dalea formosa - featherplume Dalea grayi - Gray's prairie clover Dalea jamesii - James' prairie clover Dalea lachnostachys - glandleaf prairie clover Dalea nana - dwarf prairie clover Dalea nana var. carnescens - dwarf prairie clover Dalea nana var. nana - dwarf prairie clover Dalea neomexicana var. neomexicana - downy prairie clover Dalea pogonathera - bearded prairie clover Dalea versicolor var. sessilis - oakwoods prairie clover Desmanthus coolevi - Cooley's bundleflower Desmodium batocaulon - San Pedro ticktrefoil Desmodium cinerascens - spiked ticktrefoil Desmodium grahamii - Graham's ticktrefoil Desmodium neomexicanum - New Mexico ticktrefoil Desmodium rosei - Rose's ticktrefoil Indigofera sphaerocarpa - Sonoran indigo Lathyrus eucosmus - bush vetchling Lotus greenei - Greene's bird's-foot trefoil Lotus humistratus - foothill deervetch Lotus oroboides - New Mexico bird's-foot trefoil Lotus wrightii - Wright's deervetch

Lupinus brevicaulis - shortstem lupine Lupinus concinnus - bajada lupine Macroptilium gibbosifolium - variableleaf bushbean Marina calvcosa - San Pedro false prairie-clover Melilotus albus Melilotus officinalis - yellow sweetclover Mimosa aculeaticarpa var. biuncifera - catclaw mimosa Mimosa dysocarpa - velvetpod mimosa Mimosa grahamii var. grahamii – Graham's mimosa Phaseolus acutifolius var. tenuifolius - tepary bean Phaseolus ritensis - Santa Rita Mountain bean Prosopis glandulosa var. torreyana - western honey mesquite Prosopis juliflora Prosopis velutina - mesquite Psoralidium tenuiflorum - slimflower scurfpea Rhynchosia senna var. texana - Texas snoutbean Senna bauhinioides - twinleaf senna Tephrosia tenella - red hoary-pea

#### FAGACEAE

Quercus arizonica - Arizona Oak Quercus emoryi - Emory oak Quercus grisea - gray oak Quercus oblongifolia - Mexican blue oak Quercus turbinella - Sonoran scrub oak

#### FOUQUIERIACEAE

Fouquieria splendens - ocotillo

GARRYACEAE Garrya wrightii - Wright's silktassel

GENTIANACEAE Centaurium calycosum - Arizona centaury

GERANIACEAE Erodium cicutarium subsp. cicutarium - redstem stork's bill

**GROSSULARIACEAE** *Ribes aureum* - golden currant

**IRIDACEAE** Sisyrinchium demissum - stiff blue-eyed grass

#### JUGLANDACEAE

Juglans major - Arizona walnut

#### JUNCACEAE

Juncus balticus - Baltic rush Juncus interior - inland rush Juncus interior var. arizonicus - Arizona rush Juncus mexicanus - Mexican rush Juncus saximontanus - Rocky Mountain rush

#### KRAMERIACEAE

*Krameria erecta* - littleleaf ratany *Krameria lanceolata* - trailing krameria

#### LAMIACEAE

Hedeoma dentata - dentate falsepennyroyal Hedeoma drummondii - Drummond's false pennyroyal Marrubium vulgare - horehound Mentha canadensis - Field mint Monarda citriodora subsp. austromontana - lemon beebalm Salvia subincisa - sawtooth sage Scutellaria potosina - Mexican skullcap Scutellaria tessellata - skullcap Stachys coccinea - scarlet hedgenettle Tetraclea coulteri - Coulter's wrinklefruit (Clerodendrum coulteri) Trichostema arizonicum - Arizona bluecurls

### LILIACEAE

Calochortus ambiguus - doubting mariposa lily Calochortus kennedyi - desert mariposa lily

#### LINACEAE

Linum puberulum - plains flax

#### LOASACEAE

*Mentzelia albicaulis* - whitestem blazingstar *Mentzelia isolata* - isolated blazingstar *Mentzelia multiflora* - Adonis blazingstar

#### LYTHRACEAE

*Cuphea wrightii* - Wright's waxweed *Lythrum californicum* - California loosestrife

#### MALPIGHIACEAE

Aspicarpa hirtella - chaparral asphead

#### MALVACEAE

Anoda cristata - crested anoda Malva parviflora - cheeseweed mallow Malvella lepidota – scurfy mallow Rhynchosida physocalyx - buffpetal Sida abutifolia - spreading fanpetals Sida neomexicana - New Mexico fanpetals Sida spinosa - prickly fanpetals Sphaeralcea angustifolia var. cuspidata - copper globemallow Sphaeralcea laxa - caliche globemallow

#### MARTYNIACEAE

Proboscidea parviflora - doubleclaw

#### MOLLUGINACEAE

Mollugo verticillata - green carpetweed

### MONTIACEAE

Calandrinia ciliata - fringed redmaids

**MORACEAE** *Morus microphylla* - Texas mulberry

### NYCTAGINACEAE

Allionia incarnata - trailing windmills Boerhavia coccinea - scarlet spiderling Boerhavia coulteri - Coulter's spiderling Boerhavia erecta - erect spiderling Boerhavia purpurascens - purple spiderling Mirabilis coccinea - scarlet four o'clock Mirabilis linearis - narrowleaf four o'clock Mirabilis longiflora - sweet four o'clock

### OLEACEAE

Fraxinus velutina - velvet ash

### ONAGRACEAE

Calylophus hartwegii subsp. pubescens - Hartweg's sundrops Calylophus lavandulifolius - lavenderleaf sundrops Epilobium canum - hummingbird trumpet Epilobium canum subsp. latifolium - hummingbird trumpet Epilobium ciliatum subsp. ciliatum - fringed willowherb Gaura coccinea - scarlet beeblossom Gaura hexandra subsp. gracilis - harlequinbush Gaura parviflora - velvetweed Oenothera brachycarpa - shortfruit evening primrose Oenothera caespitosa subsp. marginata - tufted evening primrose Oenothera flava - yellow evening primrose Oenothera laciniata – cutleaf evening primrose Oenothera primiveris - large yellow desert primrose Oenothera rosea - rose evening primrose

#### OROBANCHACEAE

Brachystigma wrightii - Arizona desert foxglove Castilleja integra - wholeleaf Indian paintbrush Castilleja sessiliflora - downy paintedcup Orobanche fasciculata - clustered broomrape

#### OXALIDACEAE

Oxalis albicans subsp. albicans Oxalis albicans subsp. pilosa - radishroot woodsorrel Oxalis drummondii - Drummond's woodsorrel

#### PAPAVERACEAE

Argemone pleiacantha subsp. pleiacantha - southwestern pricklypoppy Corydalis aurea - scrambled eggs Eschscholzia californica subsp. mexicana - California poppy

#### PHRYMACEAE

*Mimulus guttatus* - seep monkeyflower *Mimulus rubellus* - little redstem monkeyflower

#### PINACEAE

Pinus cembroides - Border pinyon

### PLANTAGINACEAE

Maurandella antirrhiniflora - snapdragon vine Nuttallanthus texanus - Texas toadflax Penstemon barbatus var. barbatus – beardlip penstemon Penstemon dasyphyllus - Cochise beardtongue Penstemon parryi - Parry's beardtongue Penstemon stenophyllus - Sonoran beardtongue Plantago patagonica - woolly plantain Plantago virginica - Virginia plantain Schistophragma intermedia - harlequin spiralseed Veronica anagallis-aquatica - water speedwell Veronica peregrina - neckweed

#### PLATANACEAE

Platanus wrightii - Arizona sycamore

#### POACEAE

Agrostis stolonifera - creeping bentgrass Aristida adscensionis - sixweeks threeawn Aristida divaricata - poverty threeawn Aristida havardii - Havard's threeawn Aristida laxa Aristida orcuttiana - Orcutt's threeawn Aristida purpurea var. longiseta - Fendler threeawn Aristida purpurea var. nealleyi - blue threeawn Aristida purpurea var. parishii - Parish's threeawn Aristida purpurea var. perplexa - purple threeawn Aristida setifolia Aristida ternipes - spidergrass Aristida ternipes var. hamulosa - spidergrass Avena fatua - wild oat Bothriochloa barbinodis - cane bluestem Bothriochloa ischaemum - yellow bluestem Bothriochloa laguroides subsp. torreyana - silver beardgrass Bothriochloa wrightii - Wright's beardgrass Bouteloua aristidoides - needle grama Bouteloua barbata - sixweeks grama Bouteloua chondrosioides - sprucetop grama Bouteloua curtipendula - sideoats grama Bouteloua curtipendula var. curtipendula - sideoats grama Bouteloua eludens - Santa Rita Mountain grama Bouteloua eriopoda - black grama *Bouteloua gracilis* - blue grama Bouteloua hirsuta - hairy grama Bouteloua hirsuta var. hirsuta - hairy grama Bouteloua radicosa - purple grama Bouteloua repens - slender grama Bouteloua rothrockii - Rothrock's grama Brachiaria arizonica - Arizona signalgrass Bromus anomalus - nodding brome Bromus catharticus - rescuegrass Cenchrus carolinianus - mat sandbur Cenchrus spinifex - coastal sandbur *Chloris virgata* - feather fingergrass Cynodon dactylon - Bermudagrass Digitaria californica - Arizona cottontop Digitaria cognata - Carolina cottontop Digitaria cognata var. pubiflora - Carolina crabgrass Digitaria sanguinalis - hairy crabgrass

Echinochloa crus-galli var. crus-galli Elionurus barbiculmis - woolyspike balsamscale Elymus canadensis - Canada wildrye Elymus elymoides - squirreltail Enneapogon desvauxii - nineawn pappusgrass Eragrostis cilianensis - stinkgrass Eragrostis curvula var. conferta - weeping lovegrass Eragrostis curvula var. curvula - weeping lovegrass Eragrostis echinochloida – African lovegrass Eragrostis intermedia - plains lovegrass Eragrostis lehmanniana - Lehmann lovegrass Eragrostis pectinacea - tufted lovegrass Eragrostis pectinacea var. miserrima - desert lovegrass Eragrostis pectinacea var. pectinacea - tufted lovegrass *Eragrostis superba* - Wilman lovegrass Eriochloa acuminata var. minor - tapertip cupgrass Erioneuron avenaceum - shortleaf woollygrass Erioneuron pulchellum - low woollygrass Festuca pratensis - meadow ryegrass Hackelochloa granularis - pitscale grass Heteropogon contortus - tanglehead Heteropogon melanocarpus - sweet tanglehead Hilaria belangeri var. belangeri - curly-mesquite *Hilaria mutica* – tobosagrass (*Pleuraphis mutica*) Hordeum arizonicum - Arizona barley Hordeum jubatum - foxtail barley Leptochloa dubia - green sprangletop Leptochloa fascicularis - bearded sprangletop (Diplachne fusca ssp. fasicularis) Leptochloa uninervia - Mexican sprangletop (Diplachne fusca ssp. uninerva) Lycurus setosus - bristly wolfstail Melinis repens - rose Natal grass *Muhlenbergia arenicola* - sand muhly Muhlenbergia arizonica - Arizona muhly *Muhlenbergia asperifolia* - scratchgrass Muhlenbergia emersleyi - bullgrass *Muhlenbergia fragilis* - delicate muhly Muhlenbergia repens - creeping muhly Muhlenbergia rigens - deergrass Muhlenbergia rigida - purple muhly Muhlenbergia tenuifolia - mesa muhly Panicum antidotale - blue panicum Panicum bulbosum - bulb panicgrass Panicum hallii - Hall's panicgrass

Panicum hirticaule - Mexican panicgrass Panicum obtusum - vine mesquite Paspalum dilatatum - dallisgrass *Paspalum setaceum* - thin paspalum Phalaris canariensis - annual canarygrass Piptochaetium fimbriatum - pinyon ricegrass Poa fendleriana - muttongrass Poa pratensis - Kentucky bluegrass Polypogon monspeliensis - annual rabbitsfoot grass Polypogon viridis - beardless rabbitsfoot grass Schizachyrium cirratum - Texas bluestem Schizachyrium sanguineum var. hirtiflorum - crimson bluestem Scleropogon brevifolius- burrograss Setaria grisebachii - Grisebach's bristlegrass Setaria leucopila - streambed bristlegrass Sorghum halepense - Johnsongrass Sphenopholis obtusata - prairie wedgescale Sporobolus contractus - spike dropseed Sporobolus cryptandrus - sand dropseed Sporobolus wrightii - big sacaton Stipa neomexicana - New Mexico feathergrass Trachypogon secundus - spiked crinkleawn (T. spicatus) Tridens elongatus - slim tridens Tridens muticus var. muticus - slim tridens Triticum aestivum - common wheat Vulpia octoflora - sixweeks fescue

#### POLEMONIACEAE

Eriastrum diffusum - miniature woollystar Gilia flavocincta subsp. australis - lesser yellowthroat gilia Gilia mexicana - El Paso gilia Ipomopsis macombii - Macomb's ipomopsis Ipomopsis thurberi - El Paso skyrocket

#### POLYGALACEAE

Monnina wrightii - blue pygmyflower Polygala alba - white milkwort Polygala barbeyana - blue milkwort Polygala hemipterocarpa - winged milkwort Polygala obscura - velvetseed milkwort Polygala racemosa - blue milkwort

#### POLYGONACEAE

Eriogonum abertianum - Abert's buckwheat Eriogonum alatum – winged buckwheat Eriogonum polycladon - sorrel buckwheat Eriogonum wrightii - bastardsage Eriogonum wrightii var. wrightii - bastardsage Polygonum amphibium var. emersum - longroot smartweed Polygonum pensylvanicum - Pennsylvania smartweed Polygonum punctatum - dotted smartweed Rumex crispus - curly dock Rumex salicifolius var. mexicanus - Mexican dock

#### PORTULACACEAE

Portulaca oleracea - little hogweed Portulaca suffrutescens - shrubby purslane Portulaca umbraticola - wingpod purslane Portulaca umbraticola subsp. coronata

#### POTAMOGETONACEAE

Potamogeton foliosus - leafy pondweed

#### PRIMULACEAE

Androsace occidentalis - western rockjasmine

### PTERIDACEAE

Argyrochosma limitanea - southwestern false cloak fern Astrolepis cochisensis - Cochise scaly cloakfern Astrolepis integerrima - hybrid cloakfern Astrolepis sinuata subsp. sinuata - wavy scaly cloakfern Bommeria hispida - copper fern Cheilanthes eatonii - Eaton's lipfern Cheilanthes fendleri - Fendler's lipfern Cheilanthes lindheimeri - fairyswords Pellaea atropurpurea - purple cliffbrake

### RANUNCULACEAE

Anemone tuberosa - tuber anemone Clematis drummondii - Drummond's clematis Clematis ligusticifolia - western white clematis Delphinium wootonii - Organ Mountain larkspur Myosurus cupulatus - Arizona mousetail Ranunculus hydrocharoides - frogbit buttercup Ranunculus macranthus - large buttercup

#### RHAMNACEAE

*Ceanothus greggii* - desert ceanothus *Rhamnus californica* subsp. *ursina* - California buckthorn *Sageretia wrightii* – Wright's mock buckthorn

#### ROSACEAE

Cercocarpus montanus - alderleaf mountain mahogany Cercocarpus montanus var. paucidentatus - hairy mountain mahogany Purshia stansburiana - Stansbury cliffrose Rubus discolor - Himalayan blackberry

#### RUBIACEAE

Bouvardia ternifolia - firecrackerbush Diodia teres - poorjoe Galium wrightii - Wright's bedstraw Houstonia rubra - red bluet Mitracarpus breviflorus - white girdlepod

#### SALICACEAE

Populus fremontii - Fremont cottonwood Salix exigua - narrowleaf willow Salix gooddingii - Goodding's willow Salix lasiolepis - arroyo willow Salix taxifolia - yewleaf willow

#### SANTALACEAE

*Phoradendron macrophyllum* subsp. *macrophyllum* - mistletoe *Phoradendron villosum* subsp. *coryae* - mistletoe

#### SAPINDACEAE

Sapindus saponaria var. drummondii - western soapberry

#### SOLANACEAE

Chamaesaracha coronopus - greenleaf five eyes Datura ferox - Chinese thorn-apple Datura wrightii - sacred thorn-apple Margaranthus solanaceus - netted globecherry Petunia parviflora - seaside petunia Physalis hederifolia var. fendleri - Fendler's groundcherry Physalis longifolia - longleaf groundcherry Physalis philadelphica - Mexican groundcherry Physalis philadelphica var. immaculata - Mexican groundcherry Physalis pubescens - husk tomato Solanum deflexum - sonoita nightshade Solanum douglasii - greenspot nightshade Solanum elaeagnifolium - silverleaf nightshade Solanum fendleri - Fendler's horsenettle Solanum rostratum - buffalobur nightshade

## TALINACEAE

*Talinum aurantiacum* - orange fameflower *Talinum paniculatum* - jewels of Opar

## ТҮРНАСЕАЕ

*Typha domingensis* - southern cattail *Typha latifolia* - broadleaf cattail

## VERBENACEAE

Bouchea prismatica - prism bouchea Glandularia bipinnatifida var. bipinnatifida - Dakota mock vervain Phyla incisa - turkey tangle fogfruit Verbena ambrosifolia Verbena bracteata - bigbract verbena Verbena gracilis - Fort Huachuca vervain Verbena neomexicana - hillside vervain

## VIOLACEAE

Hybanthus verticillatus - babyslippers

## VITACEAE

Parthenocissus quinquefolia - Virginia creeper Vitis arizonica - canyon grape

## XANTHORRHOEACEAE

Asphodelus fistulosus - onionweed

## ZYGOPHYLLACEAE

Kallstroemia grandiflora - Arizona poppy Kallstroemia hirsutissima – hairy caltrop Kallstroemia parviflora – warty caltrop

## Birds Found on the Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch

Scientific names from the American Ornithologists' Union (www.aou.org/checklist/north/full.php)

Season Code: Y: Year Round; M: Migrant; S: Summer/Breeding; W: Winter Compiled by Tony Leonardini

Common name	Season	Genus	Species
ANSERIFORMES			
ANATADAE			
Wood Duck	М	Aix	sponsa
American Wigeon	М	Anas	americana
Mexican Mallard	Y	Anas	platyrhynchos diaz
Gadwall	W	Anas	strepera
Northern Pintail	W	Anas	acuta
Blue-winged Teal	W	Anas	discors
Cinnamon Teal	W	Anas	cyanoptera
Green-winged Teal	W	Anas	crecca
Northern Shoveler	W	Anas	clypeata
Canvasback	W	Aythya	valisineria
Redhead	W	Aythya	americana
Ring-necked Duck	W	Aythya	collaris
Lesser Scaup	W	Aythya	affinis
Ruddy Duck	W	Oxyura	jamaicensis
GALLIFORMES			
PHASIANIDAE			
Gould's Wild Turkey	Y	Meleagris	gallopavo mexicana
ODONTOPHORIDA	E		
Scaled Quail	Y	Callipepla	squamata
Gambel's Quail	Y	Callipepla	gambelii
Montezuma Quail	Y	Cyrtonyx	montezumae
PODECIPEDIFOR	MES		
PODICIPEDIDAE			
Pied-billed Grebe	Y	Podilymbus	podiceps
PELECANIFORMI	ES		
ARDEIDAE			
Great Egret	W	Ardea	alba
Snowy Egret	Μ	Egretta	thula
Cattle Egret	Μ	Bubulcus	ibis
Great Blue Heron	Y	Ardea	herodias

Green Heron	S	Butorides	virescens
Black-crowned Night			
Heron	Y	Nycticorax	nycticorax
THRESKIORNITHID	AE		
White-faced Ibis	М	Plegadis	chihi
FALCONIFORMES			
CATHARTIDAE			
Black Vulture	S	Coragyps	atratus
Turkey Vulture	S	Cathartes	aura
PANDIONIDAE			
Osprey	Μ	Pandion	haliaetus
ACCIPITRIDAE			
Bald Eagle	W	Haliaeetus	leucocephalus
Golden Eagle	Y	Aquila	chrysaetos
White-tailed Kite	Y	Elanus	leucurus
Northern Goshawk	W	Accipiter	gentilis
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Y	Accipiter	striatus
Cooper's Hawk	Y	Accipiter	cooperii
Gray Hawk	S	Asturina	nitidus
Harris's Hawk	W	Parabuteo	unicinctus
Zone-tailed Hawk	S	Buteo	albonotatus
Swainson's Hawk	Y	Buteo	swainsoni
Red-tailed Hawk	Y	Buteo	jamaicensis
Ferruginous Hawk	W	Buteo	regalis
Rough-legged Hawk	W	Buteo	lagopus
Northern Harrier	W	Circus	cyaneus
FALCONIFORMES			
FALCONIDAE			
Crested Caracara	М	Caracara	cheriway
American Kestrel	Y	Falco	sparverius
Merlin	Y	Falco	columbarius
Peregrine Falcon	S	Falco	peregrinus
Prairie Falcon	S	Falco	mexicanus
GRUIFORMES			
RALLIDAE			
Virginia Rail	W	Rallus	limicola
Sora	W	Porzana	carolina
American Coot	W	Fulica	americana

### CHARADRIIFORMES

CHARADRIIDAE			
Killdeer	Y	Charadrius	vociferus
Mountain Plover	W	Charadrius	montanus
RECURVIROSTRIDA	Е		
Black-necked Stilt	Μ	Himantopus	mexicanus
American Avocet	S	Recurvirostra	americana
SCOLOPACIDAE			
Greater Yellowlegs	W	Tringa	melanoleuca
Lesser Yellowlegs	W	Tringa	flavipes
Solitary Sandpiper	Μ	Tringa	solitaria
Willet	Μ	Tringa	semipalmata
Spotted Sandpiper	Y	Actitis	macularius
Long-billed Curlew	W	Numenius	americanus
Western Sandpiper	Μ	Calidris	mauri
Least Sandpiper	W	Calidris	minutilla
Long-billed Dowitcher	W	Limnodromus	scolopaceus
Wilson's Snipe	W	Gallinago	delicata
Wilson's Phalarope	Μ	Phalaropus	tricolor
LARIDAE			
Black Tern	М	Chlidonias	niger
COLUMBIFORMES			
COLUMBIDAE			
Band-tailed Pigeon	Y	Patagioenas	fasciata
Eurasian Collared			
Dove	S	Streptopelia	decaocto
White-winged Dove	S	Zenaida	asiatica
Mourning Dove	Y	Zenaida	macroura
Inca Dove	Y	Columbina	inca
Common Ground Dove	Y	Columbina	passerina
CUCULIFORMES			
CUCULIDAE			
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	S	Coccyzus	americanus
Greater Roadrunner	Y	Geococcyx	californianus
STRIGIFORMES			

STRIGIPORVIESTYTONIDAEBarn OwlYTytoalbaSTRIGIDAEWhiskered ScreechOwlYMegascopstrichopsis

Western Screech Owl	Y	Megascops	kennicottii
Great Horned Owl	Y	Bubo	virginianus
Northern Pygmy Owl	S	Glaucidium	gnoma
Elf Owl	S	Micrathene	whitneyi
Burrowing Owl	Y	Athene	cunicularia
Long-eared Owl	W	Asio	otus
Short-eared Owl	W	Asio	flammeus

### CAPRIMULGIFORMES

CAPRIMULGIDAE

Lesser Nighthawk	S	Chordeiles	acutipennis
Common Nighthawk	S	Chordeiles	minor
Common Poorwill	Y	Phalaenoptilus	nuttallii

### APODIFORMES

APODIDAE			
Vaux's Swift	Μ	Chaetura	vauxi
White-throated Swift	Y	Aeronautes	saxatalis
TROCHILIDAE			
Broad-billed			
Hummingbird	Y	Cynanthus	latirostris
Blue-throated			
Hummingbird	Μ	Lampornis	clemenciae
Magnificant			
Hummingbird	Μ	Eugenes	fulgens
Black-chinned			
Hummingbird	Y	Archilochus	alexandri
Anna's Hummingbird	Y	Calypte	anna
Costa's Hummingbird	Μ	Calypte	costae
Calliope Hummingbird	S	Stellula	calliope
Broad-tailed			
Hummingbird	S	Selasphorus	platycercus
Rufous Hummingbird	Μ	Selasphorus	rufus
Allen's Hummingbird	Μ	Selasphorus	sasin
CORACIIFORMES			
ALCEDINIDAE			
Belted Kingfisher	W	Megaceryle	alcyon
DICIEODMES			

#### PICIFORMES PICIDAE

TICIDILL			
Lewis's Woodpecker	W	Melanerpes	lewis
Acorn Woodpecker	Y	Melanerpes	formicivorus

Y	Melanerpes	uropygialis
W	Sphyrapicus	nuchalis
Μ	Sphyrapicus	ruber
W	Sphyrapicus	thyroideus
Y	Picoides	scalaris
Y	Picoides	villosus
Y	Picoides	arizonae
Y	Colaptes	auratus
	Y W M W Y Y Y Y Y	YMelanerpesWSphyrapicusMSphyrapicusWSphyrapicusYPicoidesYPicoidesYPicoidesYPicoidesYColaptes

#### PASSERIFORMES

TYRANNIDAE			
Northern Beardless-			
Tyrannulet	S	Camptostoma	imberbe
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Μ	Contopus	cooperi
Western Wood-Pewee	S	Contopus	sordidulus
Greater Pewee	S	Contopus	pertinax
Willow Flycatcher	М	Empidonax	traillii
Hammond's Flycatcher	W	Empidonax	hammondii
Gray Flycatcher	W	Empidonax	wrightii
Dusky Flycatcher	W	Empidonax	oberholseri
Cordilleran Flycatcher	S	Empidonax	occidentalis
Black Phoebe	Y	Sayornis	nigricans
Say's Phoebe	Y	Sayornis	saya
Vermilion Flycatcher	S	Pyrocephalus	rubinus
Dusky-capped			
Flycatcher	S	Myiarchus	tuberculifer
Ash-throated			
Flycatcher	S	Myiarchus	cinerascens
Brown-crested			
Flycatcher	S	Myiarchus	tyrannulus
Sulphur-bellied			
Flycatcher	S	Myiodynastes	luteiventris
Tropical Kingbird	S	Tyrannus	melancholicus
Cassin's Kingbird	S	Tyrannus	vociferans
Western Kingbird	S	Tyrannus	verticalis
LANIIIDAE			
Northern Shrike	W	Lanius	excubitor
Loggerhead Shrike	Y	Lanius	ludovicianus
VIREONIDAE			
Bell's Vireo	S	Vireo	bellii

Gray Vireo	S	Vireo	vicinior
Plumbeous Vireo	S	Vireo	plumbeus
Cassin's Vireo	S	Vireo	cassinii
Hutton's Vireo	Y	Vireo	huttoni
Warbling Vireo	S	Vireo	gilvus
Red-eyed Vireo	S	Vireo	olivaceus
CORVIDAE			
Western-scrub Jay	Y	Aphelocoma	californica
Mexican Jay	Y	Aphelocoma	ultramarina
Clark's Nutcracker	W	Nucifraga	columbiana
Chihuahuan Raven	Y	Corvus	cryptoleucus
Common Raven	Y	Corvus	corax
ALAUDIDAE			
Horned Lark	Y	Eremophila	alpestris
HIRUNDINADAE			
Purple Martin	S	Progne	subis
Tree Swallow	S	Tachycineta	bicolor
Violet-green Swallow	S	Tachycineta	thalassina
N. Rough-winged			
Swallow	S	Stelgidopteryx	serripennis
Bank Swallow	S	Riparia	riparia
Cliff Swallow	S	Petrochelidon	pyrrhonota
Barn Swallow	S	Hirundo	rustica
PARIDAE			
Bridled Titmouse	Y	Baeolophus	wollweberi
REMIZIDAE			
Verdin	Y	Auriparus	flaviceps
AEGITHALIDAE			
Bushtit	Y	Psaltriparus	minimus
SITTIDAE			
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Y	Sitta	canadensis
White-breasted			
Nuthatch	Y	Sitta	carolinensis
CERTHIIDAE			
Brown Creeper	Y	Certhia	americana
TROGLODYTIDAE			
Cactus Wren	Y	Campylor-	
		hynchus	brunneicapillus
Rock Wren	Y	Salpinctes	obsoletus
Canyon Wren	Y	Catherpes	mexicanus
Bewick's Wren	Y	Thryomanes	bewickii
House Wren	W	Troglodytes	aedon
Marsh Wren	W	Cistothorus	palustris

REGULIDAE			
Golden-crowned			
Kinglet	W	Regulus	satrapa
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	W	Regulus	calendula
POLIOPTILIDAE			
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Y	Polioptila	caerulea
TURDIDAE			
Eastern Bluebird	Y	Sialia	sialis
Western Bluebird	Y	Sialia	mexicana
Mountain Bluebird	W	Sialia	currucoides
Townsend's Solitaire	W	Myadestes	townsendi
Hermit Thrush	Y	Catharus	guttatus
Swainson's Thrush	Μ	Catharus	ustulatus
American Robin	Y	Turdus	migratorius
MIMIDAE			
Northern Mockingbird	Y	Mimus	polyglottos
Sage Thrasher	W	Oreoscoptes	montanus
Brown Thrasher	W	Toxostoma	rufum
Curve-billed Thrasher	Y	Toxostoma	curvirostre
Crissal Thrasher	Y	Toxostoma	crissale
STURNIDAE			
European Starling	Y	Sturnus	vulgaris
MOTACILLIDAE			
American Pipit	W	Anthus	rubescens
Sprague's Pipit	W	Anthus	spragueii
BOMBYCILLIDAE			
Cedar Waxwing	W	Bombycilla	cedrorum
PTILOGONATIDAE			
Phainopepla	Y	Phainopepla	nitens
PARULIDAE			
Orange-crowned			
Warbler	W	Oreothlypis	celata
Nashville Warbler	Μ	Oreothlypis	ruficapilla
Virginia's Warbler	S	Oreothlypis	virginiae
Lucy's Warbler	S	Oreothlypis	luciae
Black-throated Blue			
Warbler	Μ	Setophaga	caerulescens
Yellow Warbler	S	Dendroica	petechia
Yellow-rumped			
Warbler	Y	Dendroica	coronata
Black-throated Gray			
Warbler	S	Dendroica	nigrescens
Townsend's Warbler	М	Dendroica	townsendi

Hermit Warbler	М	Dendroica	occidentalis
Palm Warbler	S	Dendroica	palmarum
American Redstart	S	Setophaga	ruticilla
Northern Waterthrush	Μ	Parkesia	noveboracensis
MacGillivray's			
Warbler	Μ	Oporornis	tolmiei
Common Yellowthroat	S	Geothlypis	trichas
Hooded Warbler	S	Setophaga	citrina
Wilson's Warbler	S	Wilsonia	pusilla
Painted Redstart	S	Myioborus	pictus
Yellow-breasted Chat	S	Icteria	virens
CARDINALIDAE			
Summer Tanager	S	Piranga	rubra
Hepatic Tanager	Μ	Piranga	flava
Western Tanager	S	Piranga	ludoviciana
EMBERIDIDAE			
Green-tailed Towhee	Y	Pipilo	chlorurus
Spotted Towhee	Y	Pipilo	maculatus
Canyon Towhee	Y	Melozone	fuscus
Abert's Towhee	Y	Melozone	aberti
Rufous-winged			
Sparrow	Y	Peucaea	carpalis
Cassin's Sparrow	Y	Peucaea	cassinii
Botteri's Sparrow	Y	Peucaea	botterii
Rufous-crowned			
Sparrow	Y	Aimophila	ruficeps
Chipping Sparrow	Y	Spizella	passerina
Clay-colored Sparrow	W	Spizella	pallida
Brewer's Sparrow	W	Spizella	breweri
Black-chinned Sparrow	Y	Spizella	atrogularis
Vesper Sparrow	W	Pooecetes	gramineus
Lark Sparrow	Y	Chondestes	grammacus
Sage Sparrow	W	Amphispiza	belli
Black-throated			
Sparrow	Y	Amphispiza	bilineata
Grasshopper Sparrow	Y	Ammodramus	savannarum
Lark Bunting	W	Calamospiza	melanocorys
Savannah Sparrow	W	Passerculus	sandwichensis
Baird's Sparrow	W	Ammodramus	bairdii
Lincoln's Sparrow	W	Melospiza	lincolnii
Song Sparrow	Y	Melospiza	melodia
White-throated			
Sparrow	W	Zonotrichia	albicollis

White-crowned			
Sparrow	W	Zonotrichia	leucophrys
Dark-eyed Junco	W	Junco	hyemalis
Yellow-eyed Junco	Y	Junco	phaeonotus
McCown's Longspur	W	Rhynchophanes	mccownii
Chestnut-collared			
Longspur	W	Calcarius	ornatus
CARDINALIDAE			
Northern Cardinal	Y	Cardinalis	cardinalis
Pyrrhuloxia	Y	Cardinalis	sinuatus
Black-headed			
Grosbeak	S	Pheucticus	melanocephalus
Blue Grosbeak	S	Guiraca	caerulea
Lazuli Bunting	S	Passerina	amoena
Indigo Bunting	S	Passerina	cyanea
Painted Bunting	S	Passerina	ciris
Varied Bunting	S	Passerina	versicolor
Dickcissel	S	Spiza	americana
ICTERIDAE			
Red-winged Blackbird	Y	Agelaius	phoeniceus
Yellow-headed			
Blackbird	W	Xantho	
		cephalus	xanthocephalus
Western Meadowlark	Y	Sturnella	neglecta
Eastern Meadowlark	Y	Sturnella	magna
Brewer's Blackbird	W	Euphagus	cyanocephalus
Great-tailed Grackle	S	Quiscalus	mexicanus
Brown-headed			
Cowbird	S	Molothrus	ater
Bronzed Cowbird	S	Molothrus	aeneus
Hooded Oriole	S	Icterus	cucullatus
Scott's Oriole	S	Icterus	parisorum
Bullock's Oriole	S	Icterus	bullockii
FRINGILLIDAE			
House Finch	Y	Carpodacus	mexicanus
Purple Finch	W	Carpodacus	purpureus
Cassin's Finch	W	Carpodacus	cassinii
Lesser Goldfinch	Y	Spinus	psaltria
Lawrence's Goldfinch	W	Spinus	lawrencei
American Goldfinch	W	Spinus	tristis
Pine Siskin	W	Spinus	pinus
PASSERIDAE			
House Sparrow	Y	Passer	domesticus

# Mammals of the Research Ranch Compiled by C. Hass, Ph.D., 2007

Taxonomy after Wilson, D.E. and D.M. Reeder, 2005. Mammal Species of the World.

LAGOMORPHA		
LEPORIDAE	Lepus californicus Sylvilagus floridanus	Black-tailed jackrabbit Eastern cottontail
RODENTIA		
SCIURIDAE	Spermophilus spilosoma	Spotted ground squirrel
	Spermophilus variegatus	Rock squirrel
HETEROMYIDAE	Chaetodipus bailevi	Bailey's pocket mouse
	Chaetodipus hispidus	Hispid pocket mouse
	<i>Chaetodipus intermedius</i>	Rock pocket mouse
	<i>Chaetodipus penicillatus</i>	Desert pocket mouse
	Perognathus flavus	Silky pocket mouse
	Dipodomys merriami	Merriam's kangaroo rat
	Dipodomys ordii	Ord's kangaroo rat
MURIDAE	Baiomys taylori	Northern pygmy mouse
	Neotoma albigula	White-throated woodrat
	Onychomys torridus	Southern grasshopper mouse
	Peromyscus boylii	Brush deermouse
	Peromyscus eremicus	Cactus deermouse
	Peromyscus leucopus	White-footed deermouse
	Peromyscus maniculatus	North American deermouse
	Reithrodontomys fulvescens	Fulvous harvest mouse
	Reithrodontomys megalotis	Western harvest mouse
	Reithrodontomys montanus	Plains harvest mouse
	Sigmodon fulviventer	Tawny-bellied cotton rat
	Sigmodon ochrognathus	Yellow-nosed cotton rat
	Sigmodon arizonae	Arizona cotton rat
ERETHIZONTIDAE	Erethizon dorsatum	North American porcupine
CARNIVORA		
CANIDAE	Canis latrans	Covote
	Urocvon cinereoargenteus	Grav fox
URSIDAE	Ursus americanus	Black bear
PROCYONIDAE	Bassariscus astutus	Ringtail
	Nasua narica	White-nosed coati
	Procyon lotor	Northern raccoon
MEPHITIDAE	Conepatus leuconotus	American hog-nosed skunk
	Mephitis macroura	Hooded skunk
	Mephitis mephitis	Striped skunk
	Spilogale gracilis	Western spotted skunk
MUSTELIDAE	Taxidea taxus	American badger

FELIDAE	Lynx rufus	Bobcat
	Puma concolor	Mountain lion
ARTERIODACTY	LA	
TAYASSUIDAE	Pecari tajacu	Javelina
CERVIDAE	Odocoileus hemionus	Mule deer
	Odocoileus virginianus	White-tailed deer (Coues)
ANTILOCAPRIDAE	E Antilocapra Americana	Pronghorn
CHIROPTERA		
VESPERITILIONID	AE	
	Eptesicus fuscus	Big brown bat
	<i>Myotis californicus</i>	California myotis
	Myotis thysanodes	Fringed myotis
	Myotis auriculus	Southwestern myotis
MARSUPIALIA		
DIDELPHIDAE	Didelphis virginiana	Sonora opossum
INSECTIVORA		
SORICIDAE	Notiosorex sp	Shrew
SOMODIAL	ronosoren sp.	

## Herpetofauna of AWRR

Cogan, R.C. http://researchranch.audubon.org/PDFs/Herp%20pdf%202015.pdf

Nomenclature applied is from Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, Herpetological Circular No. 39, Seventh edition, 2012

#### **Reptiles**

**SOUAMATA** Arizona Striped Whiptail Canyon Spotted Whiptail Chihuahuan Spotted Whiptail Gila Spotted Whiptail Sonoran Spotted Whiptail Sonoran Tiger Whiptail Desert Grassland Whiptail Eastern Collared Lizard Madrean Alligator lizard Mountain Skink Great Plains Skink Gila Monster Chihuahuan Earless Lizard Greater Short-horned Lizard Round-tailed Horned Lizard **Regal Horned Lizard** Clark's Spiny Lizard Slevin's Bunchgrass Lizard Southwestern Fence Lizard Ornate Tree Lizard Western Diamondback Rattlesnake Mohave Rattlesnake Banded Rock Rattlesnake Black-tailed Rattlesnake Regal Ringneck snake Chihuahuan Hook-nosed Snake Mexican Hognose Snake Spotted Nightsnake Western Black Kingsnake Desert Kingsnake Arizona Mountain Kingsnake Sonoran Whipsnake Sonoran Coachwhip Sonoran Coral Snake Sonoran Gopher snake Western Patchnose Snake Eastern Patchnose Snake Western Groundsnake

Aspidoscelis arizonae Aspidoscelis stictogrammus Aspidoscelis exsangui Aspidoscelis flagellicaudus Aspidoscelis sonorae Aspidoscelis tigris punctilineatus Aspidoscelis uniparens Crotaphytus collaris Elgaria kingii Plestiodon callicephalus Plestiodon obsoletus Heloderma suspectum Holbrookia maculata flavilenta Phrynosoma hernandesi Phrynosoma modestum Phrynosoma solare Sceloporus clarkii Sceloporus slevini Sceloporus cowles Urosaurus ornatus Crotalus atrox Crotalus scutulatus Crotalus lepidus klauberi Crotalus molossu Diadophis punctatus regali Gyalopion canum Heterodon kennerlyi Hypsiglena chlorophaea Lampropeltis nigrita Lampropeltis splendida *Lampropeltis pyromelan*) *Coluber bilineatus* Coluber flagellum *Micruroides euryxanthus* Pituophis catenifer affinis Salvadora deserticola Salvadora grahamiae Sonora semiannulata

Western Black-necked Gartersnake	Thamnophis cyrtopsis
Northern Mexican Gartersnake	Thamnophis eques
Checkered Gartersnake	Thamnophis marcianus
TESTUDINES	
Sonoran Mud Turtle	Kinosternon sonoriense
Desert Box Turtle	Terrapene ornata luteola
<u>Amphibians</u>	
ANURA	
Red-spotted Toad	Anaxyrus punctatus
Woodhouse Toad	Anaxyrus woodhousii
Sonoran Desert Toad	Incilius alvarius
Couch's Spadefoot Toad	Scaphiopus couchii
Chihuahua Spadefoot Toad	Spea multiplicata stagnalis
Canyon Treefrog	Hyla arenicolor
Arizona Treefrog	Hyla wrightorum
Chiricahua Leopard Frog	Lithobates chiricahuensis (repatriated May 2015)
Lowland leopard Frog	Lithobates yavapaiensis (extirpated)
American Bullfrog	Lithobates catesbeiana (Non-native, invasive)
CAUDATA	
Tiger Salamander	Ambystoma mavortium

## Fish Species Documented on AWRR

<b>Common Name</b> Rio Sonovta	Scientific Name	Status
(Quitobaquito)	Cyprinodon eremus Cyprinodon	Population removed by AZGF Introduced by AZGF, USFWS,
Desert Pupfish	macularis	BLM
Mosquitofish	Gambusia affinis	Present in O'Donnell, South Post
Gila Chub	Gila intermedia	Probably extirpated
Green Sunfish	Lepomis cyanellus Micropterus	South Post
Largemouth bass	salmoides Poeciliopsis	Extirpated
Gila Topminnow	occidentalis	Probably extirpated

# **Butterflies of the Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch** From Bailowitz, 1985

Family	Common design.	Scientific Name	Common Name
HESPERIIDAE	Common Skippers	Achalarus casica	Desert Cloudywing
		Adopaeoides prittwitzi	Sunrise Skipper
		Amblyscirtes aenus	Bronze Roadside-Skipper
		Amblyscirtes eos	Dotted Roadside-Skipper
		Amblyscirtes exoteria	Large Roadside-Skipper
		Amblyscirtes nereus	Slaty Roadside-Skipper
		Amblyscirtes nysa	Nysa Roadside-Skipper
		Amblyscirtes oslari	Oslar's Roadside-Skipper
		Amblyscirtes simius	Simius Roadside-Skipper
		Amblyscirtes texanae	Texas Roadside-Skipper
		Atalopedes campestris	Sachem
		Atrytonopsis lunus	Moon-marked Skipper
		Atrytonopsis ovinia edwardsi	Ovinia Skipper
		Atrytonopsis pittacus	White-barred Skipper
		Cogia caicus moschus	Gold-costa Skipper
		Cogia hippalus	Acacia Skipper
		Copaeodes aurantiaca	Orange Skipperling
		Erynnis brizo burgessi	Sleepy Duskywing
		Erynnis funeralis	Funereal Duskywing
		Erynnis juvenalis clitus	Juvenal's Duskywing
		Erynnis tristis tatius	Mournful Duskywing
		Hesperia pahaska williamsi	Pahaska Skipper
		Hesperia uncas lasus	Uncas Skipper
		Hesperia viridis	Green Skipper
		Hylephila phyleus	Fiery Skipper
		Lerodea eufala	Eufala Skipper
		Pholisora catullus	Common Sootywing
		Piruna aea mexicana	Many-spotted Skipperling
		Polygonus leo	Hammock Skipper
		Pyrgus albescens	White Checkered-Skipper
		Pyrgus philetas	Desert Checkered-Skipper
		Pyrrhopyge araxes arizonae	Dull Firetip Skipper
		Staphylus ceos	Golden-headed Scallopwing
		Thorybes drusius	Drusius Cloudywing
		Thorybes pylades	Northern Cloudywing
		Urbanus dorantes dorantes	Dorantes Longtail

Yvretta carus

Carus Skipper

		Zestusa dorus	Short-tailed Skipper
MEGATHYMIDAE	Giant Skippers	Agathymus aryxna	Arizona Giant Skipper
PAPILIONIDAE	Butterflies	Battus philenor philenor	Pipevine Swallowtail
		Papilio astyalus pallas	Broad-banded Swallowtail
		Papilio cresphontes	Giant Swallowtail
		Papilio multicaudata	Two-tailed Swallowtail
		Papilio polyxenes asterius	Black Swallowtail
	Whites, Sulfurs, and		
PIERIDAE	Orange Tips	Anteos clorinde nivifera	White Angled-Sulphur
		Colias cesonia	Southern Dogface
		Colias eurytheme	Orange Sulphur
		Colias philodice	Clouded Sulphur
		Euchloe hyantis lotta	Pearly Marble
		Eurema boisduvaliana	Boisduval's Yellow
		Eurema mexicana	Mexican Yellow
		Eurema nicippe	Sleepy Orange
		Eurema proterpia	Tailed Orange
		Kricogonia lyside	Lyside Sulphur
		Nathalis iole	Dainty Sulphur
		Phoebis agarithe agarithe	Large Orange Sulphur
		Phoebis sennae marcellina	Cloudless Sulphur
		Pieris pontia (P. protodice)	Checkered White
		Pieris rapae	Cabbage White
	Gossamer-winged		
LYCAENIDAE	Butterflies	Atlides halesus estesi	Great Purple Hairstreak
		Brephidium exillis	Western Pygmy-Blue
		Celestrina ladon cinerea	Spring Azure
		Everes comyntas comyntas	Eastern Tailed-Blue
		Hemiargus cyaunus gyas	Cyaunus Blue
		Hemiargus isola alce	Reakirt's Blue
		Icaricia acmon texana	Acmon Blue
		Leptotes marina	Marine Bllue
		Ministrymon leda	Leda Ministreak
		Mitoura siva siva	Siva Hairstreak
		Strymon melinus franki	Gray Hairstreak
RIODINIDAE	Metalmarks	Apodemia mormo mejicanus	Mormon Metalmark
		Calephelis arizonensis	Arizona Metalmark
		Calephelis nemesis nemesis	Fatal Metalmark
		Emesis ares	Ares Metalmark
		Emesis zela cleis	Zela Metalmark

HELICONIIDAE	Heliconians & Fritillaries	Agraulis vanillae incarnata	Gulf Fritillary
LIBYTHEIDAE	Snout Butterflies	Libytheana bachmanii larvata	American Snout
	Brush-footed		
NYMPHALIDAE	Butterflies	Adelpha bredowii eulalia	California Sister
		Anthanassa texana texana	Texan Crescentspot
		Chlosyne lacinia crocale	Bordered Patch
		Dymasia dymas chara	Tiny Checkerspot
		Euptoieta claudia	Variagated Frittilary
		Euptoieta hegesia hoffmanni	Mexican Fritillary
		Junonia coenia	Common Buckeye
		Junonia nigrosuffusa	Tropical Buckeye
		Limenitis archippus obsoleta	Viceroy
		Limenitis arthemis arizonensis	Red-spotted Admiral
		Marpesia petreus	Ruddy Daggerwing
		Nymphalis antiopa	Mourning Cloak
		Phyciodes picta canace	Painted Crescent
		Phyciodes tharos distincta	Pearn Crescent
		Poladryas arachne gilensis	Arachne Checkerspot
		Texola elada perse	Elada Checkerspot
		Thessalia theona thekla	Theona Checkerspot
		Vanessa annabella	West Coast Lady
		Vanessa atalanta rubria	Red Admiral
		Vanessa cardui	Painted Lady
		Vanessa virginiensis	American Lady
	Nymphs, Satyrs, and		
SATYRIDAE	Arctics	Cyllopsis henshawi	Henshaw's Satyr
		Cyllopsis pyracmon nabokovi	Nabokov's Satyr
		Megisto rubricate cheneyorum	Red Satyr
DANAIDAE	Milkweed Butterflies	Danaus plexippus	Monarch
		Danaus gilippus strigosus	Queen

# Grasshoppers (Orthoptera) Documented on the Research Ranch Nomenclature as per http://animaldiversity.org <u>http://inaturalist.org</u> From Reifel, Jepson

#### **ORTHOPTERA** ACRIDIDAE

Achurum sumichrasti	Sumichrast Toothpick Grasshopper
Ageneotettix deorum	White-whiskered Grasshopper
Amphitornus coloradus	Striped Grasshopper
Arphia conspersa	Speckle-winged Rangeland Grasshopper
Arphia pseudonietana	Red-winged Grasshopper
Aulocara femoratum	White Cross Grasshopper
Barytettix humphreysii	Humphrey's Grasshopper
Boopedon flaviventris	Yellow-bellied Boopie
Boopedon nubilum	Ebony Grasshopper
Conalcea humphreysii	
Conozoa carinata	Ridged Grasshopper
Cordillacris crenulata	Crenulated Grasshopper
Dactylotum bicolor variegatum	Rainbow Grasshopper
Eritettix simplex	Velvet-striped Grasshopper
Hadrotettix trifasciatus	Threebanded Grasshopper
Heliaula rufa	Rufous Grasshopper
Hesperotettix viridis	Meadow Purple-striped Grasshopper
Leprus robustus	
Leprus wheelerii	Blue-winged Grasshopper
Melanoplus arizonae	Arizona Spur-throat Grasshopper
Melanoplus desultorius	Red Whiskers Grasshopper
Melanoplus differentialis	Differential Grasshopper
Melanoplus femurrubrum	Red-legged Grasshopper
Melanoplus gladstoni	Gladstone Grasshopper
Melanoplus lakinus	Lakin Grasshopper
Melanoplus mexicanus	Migratory Grasshopper
Melanoplus regalis	Regal Grasshopper
Melanoplus thomasi	Two-striped Grasshopper
Mermiria bivittata	Two-striped Slantfaced Grasshopper
Mermiria picta	Lively Merimiria Grasshopper
Opeia obscura	Obsure Grasshopper
Paropomala wyomingensis	Wyoming Toothpick Grasshopper
Phoetaliotes nebrascensis	Large-headed Grasshopper
Poecilotettix pantherinus	Panther-spotted Grasshopper
Psoloessa delicatula	Brown-spotted Range Grasshopper
Psoloessa texana	Texas Spotted Range Grasshopper
Spharagemon collare	Mottled Sand Grasshopper
Syrbula montezuma	Montezuma's Grasshopper
Tomonotus ferruginosus	Oak Leaf Grasshopper
Trachyrhachis mexicana	
Trimerotropis latifasciata	Broad-banded Grasshopper
Trimerotropis melanoptera	**
Trimerotropis pallidipennis	Pallidwinged Grasshopper
Xanthippus corallipes	Red-shanked Grasshopper
Brachystola magna	Lubber Grasshopper
Phrynotettix tshivavensis	Toad Lubber
Taeniopoda eques	Horse Lubber

ROMALEIDAE

## Appendix D: Summary of Active Research/Baseline Projects - 2015

Active: One or more of following: Proposal approved but project not commenced; Field work/research within past two years; Publication received within past two years; Publications pending; Publications in demand within past two years; Projects with return intervals >1 year; Repeated, long term efforts.

Investigating the effect of livestock on the physical properties of soil in an arid grassland Allington, Ginger. Michigan Univ. and Thomas J. Valone; Saint Louis University. Subject: Collect water infiltration and soil compaction data on grazed and ungrazed land Application: Evidence of impacts of livestock on physical properties may assist restoration efforts at desertified sites. Effect of mesquite cover on avian diversity, density and reproductive success in desert grasslands Andersen, Erik and Dr. Robert Steidl. SNRE, University of Arizona. Subject: Sites on Research Ranch to be used as control/reference compared to grazed grasslands Application: Better understanding of ecological processes driving grassland ecosystems and aid development of sound management practices. Chiricahua Leopard Frog Recovery Arizona Game & Fish Dept.: Hunter McCall (2015), Cody Mosley (2014) Subject: Establish and support populations Application: Enhance long-range stability of federally threatened species. Springsnail Survey Arizona Game & Fish Dept.: Jeff Sorensen (2015). Subject: Determine presence/absence of snail species in Finley Tank Application: Baseline population information. Northern Mexican Gartersnake Management Arizona Game & Fish Dept.: Tom Jones (2014), Taylor Cotton. Roger Cogan & Linda Kennedy, Volunteers, covered under AZGF Section 6 authority to manage federally threatened species. Subject: Capture, mark, process and release Mexican Gartersnakes Application: Document recruitment and recaptures of federally threatened species. Desert Pupfish Arizona Game & Fish Dept.: Ross Timmons (2010). Subject: Monitor and protect population of pupfish introduced into ranch stockponds and wildlife waters Application: Conserve native species Survey of Gould's Turkeys near Huachuca Mountains Arizona Game and Fish Dept. John Millican (ret); 555 North Greasewood; Tucson, AZ 85745 Project: Estimate populations Application: Track success of re-introduction effort Avian Monitoring for Research Ranch IBA Audubon staff: Tice Supplee, L Kennedy, Project: Monitor bird species on AWRR Application: Support IBA nomination (see also Wonkka), examine longterm trends Bullfrogs: Monitoring and removal on the Research Ranch Audubon Staff: L. Kennedy, R. Cogan Subject: Discover and eradicate individuals within boundary of ARR Application: Protect native fish, reptiles and amphibians from predatory, non-native species Christmas Bird Count - Appleton Whittell Circle Audubon staff. Suzanne Wilcox, Compiler (Audubon) and Tony Leonardini, volunteer Subject: Conduct bird count as per Audubon standards. Application: Pooled data yield important information re avian populations, movement and trends. Depth to groundwater on Research Ranch Audubon Staff & Volunteers Project: Monitor the depth to groundwater of the wells on Research Ranch. Application: This study helps establish a water consumption baseline for the Sonoita Valley.

Upland Vegetation (Ecological Site) Monitoring (ESM) Audubon Staff– Linda Kennedy Project: Establish permanent points to monitor vegetation change. Based on Ecological Site Map (Robinett & Breckenfeld) Application: Identify trends in vegetation change Precipitation at Ecological Sites Audubon Staff – Linda Kennedy Project: Establish range gages to correspond with ESM. Based on Ecological Site Map (Robinett & Breckenfeld) Application: Correlate precipitation with changes in vegetation. Wild Turkeys on the Research Ranch Audubon Staff; Linda Kennedy, Assistant Director Project: Record sightings of wild turkeys. Application: Document spread of sub-species reintroduced in Huachuca Mtsn. Effects of fire and climate change on mesquite Audubon Staff: Kennedy, Linda Project: Monitor the effects of fire and climate change on mesquite. Effects of fire and climate change on cacti Audubon Staff: Kennedy Linda, Project: Monitor the effects fire and climate change on native cacti Application: Baseline information for future research Small mammal populations on the Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch Audubon Staff: Linda Kennedy Project: Develop long-term monitoring program based on Jones, Bock and Kennedy Applicability: Indicate trends in small mammal populations Survivorship of Riparian Trees in the Southwest Bock, Carl & Jane Bock. University of Colorado (retired) Project: Resurvey the riparian trees tagged in the 1980s. Application: Determine the survivorship of native trees after fires, flood and drought Agave Site Monitoring BLM (Tucson Field office) and University of Arizona (Cochise Co. Extension). Kristen Duarte (BLM), Kim McReynolds (U of A) Project: Establish permanent transects to monitor agave numbers, class and herbivory. Application: Ungrazed land to function as control. Assessing condition of O'Donnell Creek BLM. Simms, Jeffrey, BLM Fish Biologist, Tucson Field Office, Nate Dietrich, BLM Hydrologist. Project: Use Proper Functioning Condition Standards to evaluate the condition of a portion of O'Donnell Creek Application: Environmental Assessment Minimizing the effects of Green Sunfish (Lepomis cyanellus) on native competition. Carter, Sean. Colorado College. Project: Remove predatory, non-native sunfish from South Post Canyon pools Application: Study changes in behavior of Sonora mud turtle when experiencing levels of competitive release. Population dynamics and habitat characteristics of Montezuma (Mearn's) Quail in southeastern Arizona Chavarria, Pedro Mazier, Ph.D., Northern New Mexico College and Louis Harveston, Ph.D., Sul Ross State University Subject: Monitoring life history of Montezuma quail. Application: Fill knowledge gaps about life history and determine how behavior and genetic viability is affected in areas where hunting is, and is not, allowed. Annotated Bibliography of Lehmann Lovegrass Chasey, Richard Adam. San Francisco State University Project: Gather all known publications associated with non-native, invasive Eragrostis Lehmanniana Application: Aid to research and management

Arizona Tree Frog documentation Cogan, Roger C., Conservation Program Manager, AWRR. Project: Discovered amphibian species new to AWRR. Document all sightings. Application: Species is candidate for federal listing. May inform critical habitat designation. Survey of herpetofauna (reptiles and amphibians) including den sites of Crotalids on the Research Ranch Cogan, Roger C., Conservation Program Manager, AWRR. Project: Document sightings of herps and monitor winter den sites Application: Determine whether new species are on AWRR and if species earlier recorded are extant, plus document sites of critical importance to rattlesnake survival. Use of Cover Boards to Locate and Monitor Reptile Species Cogan, Roger C., Conservation Program Manager, AWRR. Project: Distribute coverboards in specific locations across AWRR Application: Evaluate technique to further baseline knowledge about reptiles. A History of the Lands in the National Audubon Society's Research Ranch near Elgin, in Santa Cruz County, Arizona Collins, Glendon E, Bureau of Land Management (retired), Arizona State Trust Lands (retired). Phoenix. Subject: Compile and document history of land transactions involving federal and state lands. Application: Background Honeybee communication and the ecological context Donaldson-Matasci, Matina. Assistant Professor. Harvey Mudd College Project: Explore relationship between resource distribution and value of communication. Application: Basic science on species Current Distribution and Status of Slevin's Bunchgrass Lizard, Sceloporus slevini, in southeastern Arizona d'Orgeix, Christian, Ph.D. Virginia State University; Project: Survey for bunchgrass lizard. Application: foundation for determining genetic relatedness of different populations and effects of bottlenecks on populations Survey of Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch Drainages and Ponds for the Mexican Garter Snake d'Orgeix, Christian, Ph.D., Virginia State University Project: Survey for presence of Mexican garter snakes (Telles tank, O'Donnell Canyon, Post Canyon), and conduct long-term study of population at Finley tank. Application: Management implications for Threatened species Annotated bibliography of selected reports, publications and theses Dyson Ruth E, Mason, Mi. Project: Prepare annotated list/bibliography of publications of particular interest to ARR. Application: Facilitate information exchange and document publications Genetic approach for using pollen to determine plant resources used by nectarivorous bats. Ferguson, George, University of Arizona, Tucson Arizona Project: Collect tissue samples from Agave parryii v huachucaensis Application: Determine usage of this species by Lesser Long Nosed Bats (Endangered Species) Using soil moisture to assess ecosystem function following exotic lovegrass invasion in semiarid grasslands of southeastern Arizona Fernald, Alexander G. (Sam), Ph.D., New Mexico State University Project: Measure soil moisture under Plains lovegrass (Eragrostis intermedia), a native species, and Lehmann lovegrass (E. lehmanniana), an exotic species. Application: Determine whether a semiarid grassland retains its functional integrity following the invasion of an introduced, exotic grass. Merging functional ecology and phylogenetics to predict the response of grasslands to global change Forrestel, Elisabeth, Melinda Smith, Ph.D., Yale University. Project: Compare natural grassland sites across broad precipitation gradients in North America, Australia and South Africa. Application: Provide evolutionary history and functional biology of ecologically and economically important grass species here.

Ecological and evolutionary responses of lizards to resource limitation

Gilbert, Anthony. Ohio University

Project: Quantify how resource limitation impacts lizard performance, fitness and social dominance.

Application: Furthering knowledge of how lizards may respond to anthropogenic disturbances such as climate change

Research Ranch boundary surveying and mapping

Greene, Dale and Kristen L. Greene. TerraData AZ. LLC.

Project: Survey and map Audubon property boundary and certain water catchments. Application: 1) The exact perimeters of property owned by Audubon will be determined with upto-date equipment and marked for posterity. 2) Location and physical characteristics of artificial water catchments will be determined and compared to existing records.

Survey of high desert grasslands Hymenoptera

Grissell, Eric, Sonoita, AZ

Project: Study insect diversity in southwest

Application: Significant contribution to state of knowledge

Introduction of Species Diversity into Boer Lovegrass Monocultures

Hershdorfer, Mary, formerly with USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center.

Project: Determine effectiveness of various methods to increase native biodiversity into monoculture created by non-native lovegrass.

Application: Protect native grasslands

Linking individual behavior, microhabitat use, and spatial population structure with fitness

Jaworski, Kortney. John Carrol University

Project: Study behavior of adult male mountain spiny lizards (Sceloporus jarrovii) Application: Insight onto the relationship between individual traits and population spatial structure and influence upon fitness.

Camera-trap Network

Joder, Greg, Tucson, AZ

Project: Collect photographic or video for archival purposes.

Application: Augmentation of research, ecosystem conservation and education/outreach goals of AWRR.

Photo-herbarium for the Research Ranch

Kennedy Linda, Director, Research Ranch

Project: Document life stages of plant species found on the Research Ranch.

Application: Baseline information for future research; Aids identification.

#### Sacaton Rehabilitation

Kennedy Linda, Ph.D. Research Ranch

Project: Re-establish Sporobolus wrightii in appropriate degraded sites.

Application: Improve wildlife habitat, bioremediation of sites dominated by exotic, invasive Bermudagrass.

Oak (Quercus) water use strategies in Sky Island Systems

Lackey, Russell, Dylan Schwilk. Texas Tech University,

Project: Determine physiological drought tolerance of native oak species

Application: Explain current patterns in community composition and distribution in relation to water balance.

#### Modeling impacts of habitat alterations on habitat use and diet selection of desert reptile communities

Lattanzio, Matthew S. Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA. Project: Determine how management practices and climatic variability affect resource availability and use by grassland reptiles

Application: Management practices may be altered to enhance habitat and use

Avian Survey/Monitoring on the Research Ranch

Leonardini, Tony. Volunteer, Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch

Project: Document avian species composition and population size.

Application: Baseline information and trends. Develop database to track and archive data.

#### Evaluating Avian Use of Restored Desert Grasslands

Levandoski, Greg. Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

Project: Determine wintering abundance, distribution and habitat needs of grassland birds. Application: Enable conservation of grassland birds by establishing baseline (control) response to restoration.

Flora of the Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch

McLaughlin Steven P., Ph.D., University of Arizona, (Ret.) Tucson AZ, Erika L. Geiger; USGS ; Janice E. Bowers; U.S. Geological Survey (Ret) Tucson AZ

Project: Compile a flora –a complete list of all flowering plants, ferns, and conifers on the Research Ranch.

Flora of Upper O'Donnell Canyon

Miller, Kathryn. Patagonia Union High School

Project: Collect plant specimens at TNC's Canelo Hills Cienega Preserve

Application: Creation of flora and herbarium for CHCP will establish baseline presence via voucher specimens. Duplicate specimens will be lodged at AWRR herbarium. Information will be available to researchers via SEINET.

Long-term meteorological, evaporation and carbon flux measurements

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); Tilden P. Meyers, Ph.D. Meterologist; NOAA, Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, Oak Ridge, TN; John Hughes, NOAA, National Data Climatic Center, U.S. Climate Reference Network, Ashville, NC Subject: Climate Reference Network site – to characterize the water and carbon balance for typical ecosystem for arid southwest grasslands.

Application: Data will be used to improve the current land use models for climate change

The Effects of Fire and Grazing on Grassland Bird Diversity and Abundance in an Arizona Oak-Savanna Nichols, Clay. Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, New Mexico

Project: Re-survey bird diversity on oak transects established by Bock & Bishop after Ryan fire. Application: Provide information, long-term, on effect of wildfire on avian diversity and abundance

Impacts of grazing, fire and precipitation variability on woody plant cover in Chihuahuan Desert grasslands, USA

O'Neal, Kelley. Department of Geography, University of Maryland,

Project: Quantify changes in woody plant cover, map occurrence of grazing, fire and precipitation using (in part) Landsat and MODIS satellite data

Application: Identify trends, develop methodology

The Babacomari Restoration Project

H. Ron Pulliam. Borderlands Restoration, L3C

Subject: Re-establish avian plots from 1970s & 1980s to serve as control/reference areas. Applicability: Evaluate effectiveness of rehabilitation efforts on Babacomari Cattle Ranch.

Babocomari River Protection

Robinett, Daniel G., Robinett Rangeland Resources, Elgin, AZ;, Coronado RD & D., Inc. Willcox. Project: Establish transects and monitor streamside conditions of Babocomari River, O'Donnell and Turkey Creek for 5 years.

Application: Results will enable sound management decisions to maintain and/or improve vegetation conditions on Babocomari watershed. Will have application to other desert rivers.

Effects of the Ryan Wildfire (April 2002) on Wintering Grassland Birds in the Sonoita Valley, Arizona Ruth, Janet M. Ph.D., (Ret.) USGS Arid Lands Field Station, Fort Collins Science Center, Department of Biology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM Project: Compare pre-fire data collected on the Audubon Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch in

Project: Compare pre-fire data collected on the Audubon Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch in 1999-2001 with post-fire data collected on the same transects and plots.

Application: Evaluate the effect of wild fire on wintering avian abundance/densities and vegetation structure/composition in desert grassland habitats.

Wintering habitat use by priority grassland birds

Ruth, Janet M. Ph.D., USGS (Ret). Arid Lands Field Station, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

Project: How do high priority grassland birds use habitats during the winter season? How is winter habitat use affected by land use practices such as grazing?

Distribution and abundance of breeding Arizona Grasshopper Sparrow (Ammodramus savannarum *ammolegus*), and associated priority grassland species, throughout its known range in the Southwest U.S. Ruth, Janet M. Ph.D., (Ret.) USGS Arid Lands Field Station, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM Project: Document current distribution and abundance of Arizona Grasshopper Sparrows and associated priority grassland bird species. Test methodologies. Application: Understanding status and distribution, population trends, ecology and habitat relationships is essential for conservation of avian species of concern. Continuously Monitor Groundwater Levels Salywon, Andrew, Ph.D., and R.J. Tiller, Ph.D., Desert Botanical Garden, Phoenix, AZ 85008 Project: Install pressure transducers in wells and piezometers to expand research program begun on northern portion of Las Cienegas NCA. Application: Enhance ability to record temperature and water depth and data sharing capability. Locate Native Pectis imberbis Schmalzel, Robert (Bob). Sonoran BioQuest, LLC. Tucson, AZ Project: Relocate historic sites of rare plant. Document habitat. Application: Information may be used in support of or against federal listing. Biomass of grassland in proximity to Thomas study plots and inspection of dead cactus carcasses for evidence of insect Schmalzel, Robert (Bob). Sonoran BioQuest, LLC. Project: Determine above-ground biomass and examine cacti for weevils Application: comparison of biomass associated with Thomas study plots to Altar Valley grasslands **Evolution of Hummingbird Visual Traits** Simpson, Richard (Rick). Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ Project: Film male hummingbird courtship displays and measure plumage coloration Application: Understand the mechanisms by which multiple ornaments evolved Population and habitat assessment of Spiranthes delitescens Stromberg, Juliet, Ph.D., and Dustin Wolkis. Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ. Kimberlie McCue, Ph.D., and Steve Blackwell, Desert Botanical Garden Project: Survey for and assess population size of Spiranthes delitescens (Canelo hills ladies tresses) and the wetland habitat. Application: Information necessary for development of recovery plan for this federally Endangered species. Wet-Dry Mapping The Nature Conservancy. Miller, J.B., Canelo Hills Cienega Preserve Project: Map extent of open water in O'Donnell Canyon Application: Track the health of the San Pedro River by monitoring surface water during driest time of year. Research and reintroduction effort for Huachuca Water Umbel Titus, Jonathan H., Ph.D., SUNY-Fredonia, Fredonia, NY; Priscilla Titus, Fredonia NY Project: Transplant plugs and monitor success Application: Protect listed species, aid in development of recovery plan for species Meteorological Station USDA-ARS. Keefer Tim, Hydrologist; Southwest Watershed Research Center; Tucson, AZ Project: Station jointly owned by ARR & USDA Application: Baseline information on climate available to researchers and land managers of region Pre-monsoon post-fire sediment survey USDA-ARS. Nichols Mary, Ph.D. Hydraulic Engineer, Tucson, AZ Subject: Survey several stock tanks on ARR to determine level of sediment movement after monsoon. Ground cover lost due to Ryan Wildfire. Application: Predict one factor in rangeland health post fires.

Conservation Effects Assessment Project on the Cienega Creek Watershed USDA-ARS. Goodrich, David C. and Haiyan Wei. Southwest Watershed Research Center, Tucson, AZ Project: Use data from the Research Ranch as a control to judge vegetation cover and condition for a non-grazed condition for a number of years. Application: Quantify the benefits of conservation management and practices. Soil inventory update USDA-NRCS. Breckenfeld, Donald J., Daniel Robinett; Tucson, AZ Project: A soil inventory update that coincides with soil surveys that have been done elsewhere in southern Arizona - updating the old soil survey to the new soil series and map units used in MLRA 41-1. Application: Baseline information needed by other research projects. Inventory of ecological sites, their present day condition, trend and rangeland health USDA-NRCS: Robinett Dan, Don Breckenfeld, Tucson, AZ Project: Mapped the ecological sites on ARR and compared present day plant communities to what our site guides show as potential for MLRA 41. Application: Baseline information for future research and land management. Control area for comparison by ranch managers. Natural Resources Inventory - Primary Site Unit USDA-NRCS. Tucson, AZ. Emilio Carrillo (2004), Kristen Egen (1992), Steve Barker (1982) Project: Repeated measures: vegetation and soil. Transects established in 1982, to be resampled on approximately decadal basis. Application: Identification of trends - reference area for MLRa-41 Rangeland Health Reference Areas USDA-NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service). Wilma Renken (2014), Ecological Site Inventory Specialist. Tucson Soil Survey Office. Tucson, AZ Project: Determine reference areas for Ecological Sites Descriptions in MLRA-41 (high functioning rangelands with minimal human and livestock impacts) Application: Reference areas to support rangeland health descriptions in 2-3 mil acres of SW. National Soil Health & Sustainability USDA-NRCS Dial, Heather. Tucson Plant Materials Center. Project: Haney Soil Test on loamy upland, sacaton bottom, Boer monoculture Application: Reference for comparison through time and against other land uses. Agave Monitoring on the Coronado National Forest US Forest Service. Biedenbender, Sharon, Ph.D. (Ret), James Heitholt Project: Monitor impacts of livestock grazing on florivory of agave Application: Management of food source for lesser long-nosed bat Pectis imberbis surveys USFWS. Julie Crawford. Tucson, AZ. Project: Survey reported sites Application: Information on species that may become federally listed. Examining long-term effects of drought and fire on vegetation using high-resolution satellite phenometrics Villarreal, Miquel. U.S.G.S. Tucson, AZ Project: Field truth satellite imagery. Application: Estimate changes on cover and phenology related to climate and fire Chiricahua Leopard Frog reintroduction to the Research Ranch, a conservation strategy Volentine, Sandy. Prescott College, Prescott AZ Project: Explore opportunities and suitability for reintroduction effort of *Lithobates [Rana]* chiricahuensis to historic habitat Application: Protect federally listed species Inventory of native plant-feeding insects Arizona Wheeler, Alfred G., Department of Entomology, Clemson University, Clemson, SC Project: Collect insects that feed on Eragrostis spp. and other plants to identify species, and compare species composition with collections from NM, OK and TX. Application: Baseline information on species occurrence and host plants

Ground Beetle (Coleoptera: Carabidae) assemblage responses to fire in southern Arizona. Wright, Corynne A., Dept. of Organismal and Environmental Biology, Christopher Newport University, Newport News. Virginia

Project: Study Carabid diversity at four sites with varying fire histories.

Application: Contribute to understanding of how ground beetle assemblages respond to fire and habitat succession.

Comparison of the soil ecology and nutrient cycling in adjacent viticulture and native grassland habitats Wyant, Karl. Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

Project: Compare soil characteristics and fauna between ungrazed grassland and vineyards Application: Elucidate the detrital food web associated with desert grasslands and adjacent viticulture operations.

Pollination without a keel: an investigation of floral form change in the genus *Dalea* (Fabaceae) Zweck, Justin. Saint Louis Univ. St. Louis MO

Project: Compare pollination biology of *Dalea* species with "closed" and "open" floral forms Application: May encourage planting of specific *Dalea* species to serve as host plants for pollinators that are important for legume crops.
# Appendix E

#### Existing Improvements

Listed below are improvements which currently exist on the ranch. Some of the improvements may or may not be in working order or reflect what is listed on the AWRR leases/operating agreements. Following the list of improvements are examples of records of depth-to-groundwater available.

Existing Fence		Ownership	Description	Condition
1	N-S center Sec 17 & 20; S edge Sec 20; W edge Sect 28; S <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Sec 28; W edge Sec 34; T22S R18E	RCM BLM TNC	West Boundary	Functional
2	W <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Sec 3; T21S R18E	USFS	West Boundary	Functional
3	S <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Sec 2 & 3; T22S R18E	USFS	South Boundary	Functional
4	E 1/2 Sec 2; T22S R18E	USFS	East Boundary	Functional
5	E <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Sec 35; E <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> Sec 26; E edge Sec 23; E edge Sec 14; T21S R18E	Audubon BLM, USFS	East Boundary	Functional, lacks <sup>1</sup> ⁄4 mi wildlife friendly*
6	N edge Sec 14; Sec 15; Sec 16; N <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Sec 17; T21E R18S	Audubon RCM BLM	North Boundary	Functional
7	N edge Sec 26, Sec 34, E edge Sec 27; T22S R18E	Audubon/USFS	Pasture Division	Functional
	*adjacent to Westgete (wildest on	mmunity) wildlife f	Friendly fonce would b	a irralayant

\*adjacent to Westgate (wildcat community), wildlife friendly fence would be irrelevant

Ex	xisting Wells**	Ownership	Description	Condition
1	NE¼ Sec 16; T21S R18E	BLM	Pronghorn (Antelope) Well	Functioning
2	SW <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 22; T21S R18E	Audubon	Headquarters Well (2)	Functioning
3	NW <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 23; T21S R18E	Audubon	Bunkhouse Well	Functioning
4	SE¼ Sec 27; T21S R18E	Audubon	McDaniel Well	Functioning
5	SW <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 35; T21S R18E	USFS	Roadside Well	Not Functional
6	NW <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 3; T22S R18E	USFS	F.S. Well	Functioning
7	NW1/4 Sec 15; T21S R18E	RCM	Telles Well	Functioning
8	SW1/4 Sec 14; T21S R18E	RCM	Finley Well	Functioning
Ex	isting Storage	Ownership	Description	Condition
1	SW <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 22; T21S R18E	Audubon	Headquarters Storage	Functioning
2	NW <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 23; T21S R18E	Audubon	Bunkhouse Storage	Functioning

3	NW ¼ Sec 3; T22s R18E	USFS	Forest Service Storage	Functioning
4	NE ¼ Sec 28 T21S R18E	RCM	Appleton Storage	Functioning

Ex	isting Troughs	Ownership	Description	Condition
1	SW <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 22; T21S R18E	Audubon	Barn Trough (2)	Functioning
2	NE <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 16; T21S R18E	BLM	Pronghorn (Antelope) Trough	Functioning
3	SE <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 27; T21S R18E	Audubon	McDaniel Trough	Bypassed
4	NE ¼ Sec 28 T21S R18E	RCM	Appleton Trough	Functioning
5	SE 1/4 Sec 16; T21S R18E	BLM	Bald Hill Trough	Functioning
6	NE ¼ Sec 17; T21S R18E	RCM	Vaughn Canyon Trough	Functioning
7	SW1/4 Sec 14; T21S R18E	RCM	Finley Trough	Functioning
8	NE ¼ Sec 22: T21S R18E	Audubon	Swinging H Drinker	Functioning
9	NW ¼ Sec 3; T22s R18E	USFS	Forest Service Well (2)	Functioning

Ey	xisting Dirt Tank	Ownership	Description	Condition
1	NW¼ Sec 15; T21S R18E	Audubon	Telles Tank	Functioning/Well fed
2	SW <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 14; T21S R18E	RCM	Finley Tank	Leaking/Well fed
3	SW <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 22; T21S R18E	Audubon	HQ Pond Tank	Endgrd Spp Pond Pipeline Fed
4	SE <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 26; T21S R18E	USFS	Mesa Tank	Unknown
5	SE <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 34; T21S R18E	USFS	Forest Tank	Unknown
6	NE ¼ Sec 17; T21S R18E	RCM	Vaughn Tank	Reliable/Well Fed
7	SE <sup>1</sup> /4 Sec 27; T21S R18E	Audubon	McDaniel Tank	Reliable/Well Fed

Existing Developed Springs	Ownership	Description	Condition
1 NW1/4 Sec 15; T21S R18E	Audubon	Telles	Functioning
Existing Undeveloped Springs	Ownership	Description	Condition
Existing Undeveloped Springs	Ownership	Description	Condition

Existing Concrete Dams	Ownership	Description	Condition
1 SW <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> Sec 28; T21S R18E	BLM	South Post Canyon	Functioning
2 SW <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> Sec 28; T21S R18E	BLM	South Post Canyon	Functioning
<b>3</b> SE <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> Sec 28; T21S R18E	BLM	O'Donnell Canyon	Functioning
4 SE <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> Sec 28; T21S R18E	BLM	O'Donnell Canyon	Functioning
Existing Pipeline	Ownership	Description	Condition
$\Omega \Gamma 1/\Omega = 1 C N W 1/\Omega = 0.1 N W 1/$			NT 4

Existing Pipeline		Ownership	Description	Condition
1	SE <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> Sec 16, NW <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> Sec 21, NW <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> Sec 22; T21S R18E	BLM	Bald Hill Pipeline	Not functioning

Exi	isting Erosion Control Structures	Ownership	Description	Condition
	On File w/Arizona Dept of Water			Most in
1	Resources. Audubon is gathering	Various		good
	GPS locations.			condition

\*\*Wells are monitored quarterly by AWRR staff. Below are examples of results. Bald Hill is on land administered by BLM, Forest Service Well by CNF.





# **Appendix F – Ecosystems and Their Components**

**Major Land Resource Areas (MLRAs):** Broad geographical areas that are characterized by a particular pattern of physiographic features. Soils, climate, vegetative, water resources, and land use are used to delineate the different land resource areas throughout the state. In accordance with NRCS guidelines, AWRR falls within the 41AZ Southern Arizona Basin and Range MLRA.

Land Resource Areas/Common Resource Area: A Land Resource Area (LRU) is the basic unit from which MLRAs are determined. They are also the basic mapping units for State Land Resource Maps and have been more historically used in the southwestern portion of the United States. Common Resource Areas (CRA), much like LRUs, are mapping units that are created by subdividing MLRAs by resource concerns, soil taxonomy and groups, hydrologic units, resource use, topography, other landscape features, human considerations affecting land use and land treatment needs. CRAs are a more specific description of local land sites and are named as a subunit under the MLRA symbol followed by a dot numeric code (e.g. 40.1AZ). CRAs are not State specific; they cross State boundaries as described by their geographic areas and physical characteristics. CRAs are more widely accepted across the nation for land unit descriptions and will be used for the ecological site descriptions in this management plan although LRUs may commonly be used in written descriptions. Ecological sites are described in accordance with the CRA descriptions local to the AWRR within this plan. CRAs mapped within the 41AZ are the: 41.1 AZ Mexican Oak-Pine Forest and Oak Savannah and the 41.3AZ Semidesert Grassland CRA. Ecological sites were mapped in accordance with these CRAs.

**Ecological Sites:** The ecological concept of plant succession and historic climax plant community is the foundation by which universities, the NRCS, federal and state land management agencies, and other landowners and managers categorize and evaluate rangelands. The concept of plant succession is based upon the process of vegetation community development through time where an area is successively occupied by different plants of higher ecological order and greater species diversity. The climax plant community refers to the highest ecological development of plant community on a given site as determined by climate, soil and soil parent material, and by topographic, vegetative, fire and animal factors. Some species have greater genetic amplitude than others and may occur throughout the different plant successional stages. Sometimes reaching the climax plant community is an impractical objective, such as where a naturalized plant community of non-native species becomes established and dominant or where historic soil erosion has removed most of the soil surface (A horizon).

The ecological site is the basic mapping unit used in this rangeland inventory. An ecological site is a distinctive kind of rangeland that has the potential to support a native community typified by an association of species different from that of other sites. Ecological site descriptions have been developed within each MLRA. For this ranch, each ecological site was mapped in accordance with these guidelines. Non-native species are not included in the typical ecological site descriptions.

**Appendix G - Benchmark Inventory Assessments:** An ecological site and similarity survey for AWRR was conducted in the years 2000 and repeated in 2014-15 by Audubon and NRCS. Annual plant production was included in these surveys. The inventories were conducted using the Range Inventory and Condition (AZ-SCS-Range 1) format and the Double Sampling method with the old Ecological Site Descriptions (Range Site Guides).

Dan Robinett of the Tucson Resource Support Team Office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) completed an inventory of ecological sites on AWRR with the assistance of Linda Kennedy. This inventory was completed during the course of the soil survey update being done by Don Breckenfeld, also of NRCS. Others participating in this effort include Phil Heilman of the Southwest Watershed Research Center of Agricultural Research Service, Joan Scott of the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Dana Backer of the Nature Conservancy and Emilio Carrillo of the NRCS. The work was done from October 16 through 20 and November 14 and 15, 2000 and February 8, 2001. Thirty-two sites were evaluated using NRCS methods for rangeland inventory (see NRCS Nat. Range and Pastureland Handbook, Sept. 1997). Arizona NRCS ecological site descriptions for MLRA 41-3 and 41-1 were used to compare existing plant communities to potentials (see NRCS Site Descriptions for 41-3, 1988 and 41-1 1992). This part of the rangeland condition classification is called the "Similarity Index" and refers to the similarity of the existing plant community to the potential plant community. In addition, each site was assessed as to the "Trend" of the plant community towards or away from the site potential and finally each site was assessed a rangeland health. This is a technique developed by the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS), NRCS and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) which evaluates 17 indicators of ecosystem function relating to the condition of the site to; soil and site stability, biotic integrity and hydrologic function (see BLM and NRCS Tech. Ref 1734-6, Ver. 4, Interpreting Indicators of Rangeland Health).

Eleven different ecological sites were identified and mapped on the Research Ranch. Four were assessed using the Ecological Site Descriptions for MLRA 41-3; the others were assessed using the descriptions for MLRA 41-1. Some inclusions of other ecological sites occur within each of the larger sites but were too minute to exclude from the larger units.

Thirteen of locations were revisited in November of 2014 by NRCS and others. A new site was added on USFS in November of 2015. Current years' growth was clipped at each of these locations to estimate annual production of all species using the Double-Sampling method. Changes since the initial inventory 14 years ago are described briefly under each site assessed. In addition, a table is included comparing Similarity Index and Rangeland Health at the end of this section.

The names of certain ecological sites have been changed; the original name is in brackets.

### Clayey Swales [Clayey Bottom] 41-3 (12-16pz)

<u>2000-2001</u>: This site occurs in one area as a small floodplain in the northwest end of O'Donnell canyon. Soils are deep and clayey and have high shrink-swell potentials.

Slopes are less than one percent. The site receives extra water in the form of runon from adjacent uplands. The present day and potential plant communities are similar being dominated by tobosa (*Hilaria mutica* [*Pleuraphis mutica*]) and vine mesquite (*Panicum obtusum*) grasses. Similarity index is high and the site is healthy. 2014: This site was not revisited.

#### Loamy Bottom [Loamy Bottom, subirrigated] 41-3 (12-16pz)

<u>2000-2001</u>: This site occurs as the major floodplains of O'Donnell, Post and Turkey Creek canyons. Soils are deep and silty-clayloam in texture. Slopes are less than one percent. The soils benefit from extra water received as both, flooding of the stream channels and high water tables (1 to 10 meters). The present day and potential plant communities are similar both being dominated by giant sacaton (*Sporobolus wrightii*). One area of this site was assessed and had a very high similarity index and was healthy. <u>2014</u>: A site similar to this was examned. It continues to have very high similarity index and remains dominated by sacaton. Range Health showed all attributes were stable.

# Loamy Swales [Loamy Bottom, swales] 41-3 (12-16pz)

<u>2000-2001</u>: This site occurs as small floodplains of the tributaries of major streams throughout the area. Soils are deep and range in texture from sandyloam to clayloams. Slopes are from one to two percent. They benefit from extra water received as runon from adjacent uplands. The present day and potential plant communities are similar and the two areas of this site that were assessed both had high similarity indices and were healthy. Historic severe gully erosion dating from the 1920's and 1930's has healed extremely well in all of these bottoms. Native grasses like blue and sideoats gramas (*Bouteloua gracilis, B. curtipendula*), cane beardgrass (*Bothriochloa barbinodis*), vine mesquite (*Panicum obtusum*), and Arizona cottontop (*Digitaria californica*) dominate the plant community.

<u>2014:</u> These sites were found to have increases in sideoats grama (*Boutuloua curtipendula*), mesa threeawn (*Aristida ternipes v. hamulosa*) and shrubby buckwheat (*Eriogonum wrightii*). Burmudagrass (*Cynodon dactylon*) has now come into some of these areas as well so the biotic integrity is at risk. Production is very similar to 2000.

# Clayey Slopes [Clayey Hills] 41-3 (12-16pz)

<u>2000-2001</u>: This site occurs as small areas of steep hillslopes in the breaks along the north end of O'Donnell canyon. Soils are deep and clayey and developed in lacustrine (lakebed) deposits. They have high amounts of gypsum causing them to be highly erodible. Slopes are from 15 to 45 percent. The present day and potential plant communities are both dominated by tobosa grass (*Hilaria mutica [Pleuraphis mutica]*) but historic accelerated erosion caused by cattle trails have put areas of this site in an "unhealthy" classification. This erosion is probably proceeding at geologic rates at present and should not be cause for alarm. 2014: This site was not reassessed.

### Sandy Loam Upland 41-1 (16-20pz)

<u>2000-2001</u>: This site occurs as fan terraces and inset fans alongside the bottomlands of Post Canyon. Soils are deep, reddish colored and loamy. Slopes are from one to five

percent. The surface soil is sandy loam six to twelve inches thick over clayey subsoils. Soils are neutral to slightly acid pH. The thick, coarse textured surface takes summer rainfall very well and lets it slowly infiltrate the heavy textured subsoils. Native grasses dominate the plant community including blue, black and sideoats gramas (*Bouteloua gracilis, B. eriopoda, B. curtipendula*), cane beardgrass (*Bothriochloa barbinodis*), Arizona cottontop (*Digitaria californica*), plains lovegrass (*Eragrostis intermedia*), fall witchgrass (*Digitaria cognata*), and threeawns (*Aristida* spp.).

2014: This location is included in the area Audubon staff treats annually to control exotic grass species. This site was first sampled on October 19, 2000. The data from that inventory show a native plant community with low production (700 lbs./ac.) the summer after a spring prescribed burn. The similarity index was 82 but that was calculated using the older 1996 NRCS site guides and not adjusting for production. The year 2000, through time of inventory, had slightly below average precipitation. In October 10.5 inches of rain occurred but did not influence production of grasses. When we adjusted the 2000 similarity index of 82 for production the score came down to 42. The site was resampled for condition and production by NRCS in November 2014. The similarity index calculated from this inventory used the 2005 NRCS site guides and was adjusted for average year production (1645 lbs./ac). The NRCS score in 2014 was 40. Precipitation in 2014 was very close to the historic average. The trend monitoring data shows a nearly static trend in the plant community. Production is still low on this site but fires have occurred in 2000, 2002 and 2009 perhaps having an impact on the survival and recruitment of native mid-grass species need to improve annual production and increase the condition score.

### Loamy Upland 41-1 (16-20pz)

2000-2001: This site is the most common upland ecological site on the Research Ranch. It occurs as fan terraces and mesa tops. Soils are deep, reddish colored and loamy textured. Slopes are from one to ten percent. Soils are neutral to slightly acid pH. Soils surfaces are very gravelly sandy loams one to three inches thick over a clay loam horizon about six inches thick. Dense, red, clayey subsoils underlie this surface. The thin coarse textured surfaces do not take summer rainfall very well and when the native grass cover is depleted this site can easily produce runoff and erosion at accelerated rates. Eight areas of this site were evaluated. Three of these areas were either dominated by non-native lovegrasses or are being invaded by them and were rated as "at risk" with low similarity indices. One area had historic heavy soil erosion and may not have enough soil surface left to ever recover to the sites potential. It also rated as "at risk" and other areas between Post Canyon and O'Donnell Canyon appeared to be in the same condition. Five areas had high similarity indices and rated as "healthy". Native grasses dominate this plant community and include blue, sideoats and sprucetop gramas (Bouteloua gracilis, B. curtipendula, B. chondrosioides), cane beardgrass (Bothriochloa barbinodis), plains lovegrass (Eragrostis intermedia), wolftail (Lycurus setusus), and threeawns (Aristida spp.). Herbaceous production on one inventory point was determined to yield 1,500 lbs./acre of annual production (dry weight) by clipping current year growth. 2014: Three original transects and an additional three on this ecological site were examined. In general, the sites continue to show increases in Lehmann lovegrass, having over 50% of the production. Annual production varied from 1500 to 2500 lbs per acre due

to this Lehmann increase which also caused biotic integrity to be at risk on most sites. Similarity Indices are much lower due to this increase as well. There are still native grasses at each site, but, in much lower amounts than 14 years ago.

### Limy Slopes 41-1 (16-20pz)

<u>2000-2001</u>: This site occurs on moderate to steep slopes in the canyons around Bald Hill and the breaks into O'Donnell, Turkey and Post canyons. Soils are deep, gravelly and/or cobbly, and very calcareous. Soil textures range from very gravelly sandy loams to loams. The surface six to ten inches is dark colored over light colored subsoils. Soil reaction is alkaline with pH of about 8.

Slopes are from 10 to 45 percent. Seven areas of this site were evaluated. The present day and potential plant communities are very similar with indices of 72 to 95 and all sites rated as "healthy". Native grasses dominate the plant community including black and sideoats gramas (*Bouteloua eriopoda, B. curtipendula*), slim (slender) tridens (*Tridens muticus*), wooly bunchgrass (*Elionurus barbiculmis*), crinkleawn (*Trachypogon secundus*), blue threeawn (*Aristida purpurea v. nealleyi*) and New Mexico feathergrass (*Stipa neomexicana*). Numerous perennial forbs are unique to these calcareous soils. The dominant shrubs are beargrass (Nolina microcarpa), sotol (*Dasylirion wheeleri*), spreading ratany (*Krameria lanceolata*), false mesquite (*Calliandra eriopoda*) and mimosa species. On some north aspects this site has an overstory of Emory and Arizona white oaks (*Quercus emoryii, Q. arizonica*) resembling the same site in a higher precipitation zone that is oak woodland.

2014: This ecological site was not revisited.

# Loamy Slopes [Loamy Hills] 41-1 (16-20pz)

2000-2001: This site occurs in complex with the Limy Slopes described above. Soils are deep and gravelly to cobbly loams to clay loams. Soil reaction is neutral to slightly acid pH. Slopes are from 10 to 45 percent. The soil surface is typically a very dark colored cobbly and/or gravelly loam two to eight inches thick over reddish clay subsoils. Seven areas of this ecological site were evaluated. Similarity indices ranged from 56 to 90. In two areas non-native lovegrasses are increasing resulting in low indices and "at risk" ratings for range health. In three other areas the present day and potential plant communities were very similar and the sites were "healthy". Native grasses dominate the plant community. On southern aspects the main species are sideoats grama (Bouteloua curtipendula), cane beardgrass (Bothriochloa barbinodis), tanglehead (Heteropogon contortus), plains lovegrass (Eragrostis intermedia), and green sprangletop (Leptochloa dubia). On northern aspects the dominant grasses include these plus bullgrass (Muhlenbergia emersleyi), Texas bluestem (Schizachryium cirratum) and threeawn (Aristida sp.). Important native shrubs on this site are wait-a-bit and velvet-pod mimosas (Mimosa aculeaticarpa v. binucifera, M. dysocarpa), false mesquite (Calliandra eriopoda), Palmers agave (Agave palmeri), yerba-de-pasmo (Baccharis pternioides), and rainbow cactus (Echinocereus rigidissimus). This site appears to be the most important site for Palmer agave within its range in southern Arizona. Two areas (#14 and 25) of this ecological site were inventoried on steep north aspects where the plant communities are more characteristic of the same site in a higher precipitation zone. These areas had an oak woodland community dominated by Emory and Arizona white oak (Quercus emoryii, Q.

*arizonica*). The canopy cover at both sites was from 20 to 25 percent and understory production was about 1000 pounds per acre per year, which is normal for the site. These two areas had very high similarity indices and rated as "healthy". <u>2014:</u> These sites were not revisited.

## Limestone Hills 41-1 (16-20pz)

2000-2001: A few small areas of this site occur on steep slopes in Post and O'Donnell Canyons. Soils are shallow to calcareous conglomerate parent materials. Slopes are from 15 to 60 percent. Soil reaction is alkaline with pH of about 8. Soil textures are very gravelly loams to clayloams and light colored or pinkish. One area of this site was evaluated and the present day and potential plant communities are very similar except that shrubby species have thickened in the absence of natural fires. Historic erosion has put this site in an "at risk" classification and present day erosion is probably occurring at geologic rates. Dominant plants of this site are shrubs including desert ceanothus (Ceanothus greggii), mountain mahogany (Cercocarpus montanus), cliffrose (Purshia stansburiana), silktassle (Garrya wrightii), sotol (Dasylirion wheeleri), beargrass (Nolina *microcarpa*), and skunkbush sumac (*Rhus trilobata*). Common grasses are black, purple and sideoats gramas (Bouteloua eriopoda, B. radicosa, B. curtipendula), purple multy (Muhlenbergia rigida), bullgrass (Muhlenbergia emersleyi), New Mexico feathergrass (Stipa neomexicana), woolly bunchgrass (Elionurus barbiculmis), and crinkleawn (Trachypogon secundus). Alligator juniper (Juniperus deppeana), Mexican pinyon (Pinus cembroides), Emory and Arizona white oaks (Quercus emoryii, Q. arizonica) dominate on cool north aspects.

<u>2014:</u> These sites were not revisited.

# Sandy Wash [Sandy Bottom, subirrigated] 41-1 (16-20pz)

<u>2000-2001</u>: This site occurs along stream channels and on low stream terraces. It is the sandy bottoms of Turkey Creek and Post and O'Donnell Canyons. Soils are deep and sandy and gravelly. Slopes are less than one percent. This site benefits both from extra water received as flooding of stream channels and periodic high water tables. One area of this site was evaluated in Post Canyon and the present day and potential plant communities are very similar. This is a woodland site and the dominant tree species include cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*), willow (*Salix gooddingii*), Arizona ash (*Fraxinus velutina*), Arizona black walnut (*Juglans major*), and desert willow (*Chilopsis linearis*). The main shrubs and vines are canyon grape (*Vitus arizonica*), coyote willow (*Salix exigua*), batamote (*Baccharis salicifolia*) and rabbitbrush (*Ericameria nausosus*). Deergrass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*), sedges (*Carex, Cyperus* spp), rushes (*Eleocharis, Scirpus* spp.) and horsetail (*Equisetum laevigatum*) dominate the grasslike component of the understory.

2014: This site was not revisited.

**Granitic Hills [Shallow Hills] 41-1 (20-23pz)** This site name is listed as Granitic Hills but is likely going back to the name of Shallow Hills in the future. <u>2000-2001</u>: This site occurs as moderate to steep slopes in the upper drainages of Post and O'Donnell Canyons. Slopes are from 15 to 55 percent. Soils are shallow very gravelly loams to clay loams over parent materials of granite, rhyolite, quartzite and other

metamorphic rocks. Soil reaction is slightly acidic. Two areas of this site were evaluated and the present day and potential plant communities are similar with indices of 60 and both were assessed as "healthy". Shrubby species have thickened on this site in the absence of historic fires and reduces the similarity indices. The plant community is open woodland of Emory and Arizona White oaks (Quercus emoryii, Q. arizonica) with lesser amounts of Mexican pinyon (Pinus cembroides) and alligator juniper (Juniperus deppeana). Canopy cover averages 15 to 25 percent. Common understory grasses are sideoats, purple and hairy gramas (Bouteloa curtipendula, B. radicosa, B. hirsuta), bullgrass (Muhlenbergia emersleyi), plains lovegrass (Eragrostis intermedia), Texas bluestem (Schizachrium cirratum), cane beardgrass (Bothriochloa barbinodis), and threeawns (Aristida). Common shrubs include the mimosas (Mimosa aculeaticarpa v. binucifera, M. dysocarpa), agave (Agave palmeri), Schott yucca (Yucca schottii), sotol (Dasylirion wheeleri), beargrass (Nolina microcarpa), manzanita (Arctostaphylos pungens), skunkbush sumac (Rhus trilobata), yerba-de-pasmo (Baccharis pteronioides), shrubby buckwheat (Erigonum wrightii) and cane cholla (Cylindropuntia spinosior). Forbs are primarily shade tolerant species like herbaceous sage (Artemesia ludoviciana), ferns, and daisy (Erigeron spp.).

#### 2014-2015:

One location (TNC parcel) was not revisited, but has been monitored annually (beginning 2003) by Audubon staff using the Pace Frequency method. This transect (#666) burned in the 2002 Ryan Wildfire, but appears to be stable or trending upward. Cane beardgrass has increased in frequency from 7% to 28%; Sideoats grama from 22% to 50%. Transect #772 is on USFS and has been monitored by Audubon beginning in 2004. Frequency of Yerba de pasmo decreased from 19% to 1% in 2013, but has rebounded to 7% in 2015. Spidergrass has increased greatly, from 2% to 35%. Cane beardgrass has increased from 2% to 10%. Sprucetop grama has dropped from 60% down to 38%, however sideoats has increased from 36% to 53%. Plains lovegrass has shown a dramatic decrease from 29% to 4%, as has curley mesquite (44% to 26%). A new transect was established in 2015 on USFS, #1351. Similarity Index is 63 here mainly due to the low amounts of mid-grasses (plains lovegrass, Cane beargrass, green sprangletop).

**2000 and 2014 Comparison of Ecological Sites on AWRR**: Ecological Sites are a distinctive kind of land with specific physical characteristics that differs from other kinds of land in its ability to produce a distinctive kind and amount of vegetation, and its ability to respond to management actions and natural disturbances. In essence, Ecological Sites are a way to divide landscapes into basic units of study, evaluation and management.

The potential plant communities found on an ecological site are naturally variable. Composition and production will vary with yearly conditions, location, aspect, and the natural variability of the soils. The Climax Plant Community represents the natural potential plant communities found on relict or relatively undisturbed sites. NRCS uses a Similarity Index to compare existing plant communities to the plant communities described in an Ecological Site Description. Similarity index is determined by comparing the annual production and composition of a plant community to the annual production of a plant community described in the Ecological Site Description. To determine Similarity Index, comparison of the production (air dry weight) of each species to that shown in the plant community description.

Thirty-two locations were inventoried in 2000. Fourteen locations were inventoried in 2014 and 2015. Some sites were the same and some sites were added that are currently monitored by AWRR staff.

From the total species composition data, we are able to derive similarity indices by comparing current annual weights of individual plant species to that of the sites potential weights. These comparisons convey a sites likeness to that of the desired plant community on a scale range from 1 to 100; one indicating low or no similarity, 100 being the potential plant community. The similarity index can be used as an assessment of the current plant community in relationship to the desired or climax plant community. Indices that are collected over time can depict the trend or direction of change the current plant communities are heading in relationship to the desired plant community. Management practices are directly affected and may have to be adjusted or implemented to maintain or improve a declining state of a site in order to meet management goals.

Production was estimated based on clipping data and ocular estimates gathered from the AZ-SCS-Range 1 and 417 which summarized data gathered using the Comparative Yield methods on individual ecological sites. Total annual production includes all trees, shrubs, perennials grasses, perennial forbs, annual grasses and forbs and cacti species. In 2000-2001 most were estimated while in 2014-15 all sites were clipped and weighed utilizing a Double Sampling technique.

The table on the next page illustrates the differences found.

SITE	ECOLOGICAL	Similarity Index	Similarity Index		Range Health	Production	Production
#	SITE	2000	2014	Range Health 2000	2014	2000	2014
	Loamy Bottom				Biotic Integrity		
5	Swales	70	62	All Stable	At Risk	2000*	2448
				Biotic Integrity At	<b>Biotic Integrity</b>		
8	Loamy Upland	52	45	Risk	At Risk	1000*	2567
				Watershed Function			
15	Loamy Slopes	56	80	At Risk	All Stable	500*	2083
	Sandy Loam						
20	Upland	82	40	All Stable	All Stable	700*	842
	· · · · ·		20		Biotic Integrity		1.670
23	Loamy Upland	90	30	All Stable	At Risk	1516	1653
				Biotic Integrity At	Biotic Integrity	10001	
24	Loamy Slopes	67	29	Risk	At Risk	1000*	1953
29	Granitic Hills	60	53	All Stable	All Stable	900*	713
					<b>Biotic Integrity</b>		
30	Loamy Upland	79	26	All Stable	At Risk	1000*	1483
					<b>Biotic Integrity</b>		
650	Loamy Upland		43		At Risk		1569
					<b>Biotic Integrity</b>		
706	Loamy Upland		36		At Risk		1309
TRR1	Loamy Bottom		49		All Stable		1632
C1	Loamy Upland		57		All Stable		1558
C2	Granitic Hills		102, 93		All Stable		4256
ARR					Biotic Integrity		
1351	Granitic Hills		63		At Risk		786
						*Estimate	

#### Field Notes on Each Site Inventoried

<u>Site 5 – Loamy Bottom Swales</u> - Change in 2014 is sideoats increase, mesa 3-awn now present, bermudagrass now present. Shrubby buckwheat increase, forbs similar. Production similar. Biotic Integrity at departed now.

<u>Site 8 – Loamy Upland</u> – Change in 2014 is Boers is gone but Lehmann is 1467 lbs of 2567 lbs production. It was estimated at just 1000 lbs in 2000. Hairy, sprucetop gone. Forbs similar. Mesquite slight increase. Biotic Integrity at risk both surveys.

<u>Site 15 – Loamy Slopes</u> - Change in 2014 – sideoats and cane beardgrass increased. Lehmann and blue grama on site in small amounts. Forbs are down. Yerba-de-pasmo is up a little. Watershed function now stabilized. Production went from 500 estimated to 2085 clipped in 2014. Similarity Index way up.

<u>Site 20 – Sandy Loam Upland</u> – Change in 2014 is loss or decrease in midgrasses, perhaps because site burned in 2000, 2002 and 2009. Yerba-de-pasmo increase by 5% also. Range Health Assessment (RHA) is stable.

<u>Site 23 – Loamy Upland</u> – Change in 2014 is huge Lehmann increase – 2/3 of all production now. Most other grass still there, but, lower amounts. Yerba-de-pasmo increased as well. Forbs similar. Similarity Index from 90 to 30 due to Lehmann and Biotic Integrity now at risk.

<u>Site 24 – Loamy Slopes</u> – Lehmann huge increase with 60% of all production now. Boers on site now as well. Sideoats lower, missing: Plains lovegrass, falls witchgrass, sprangletop, cottontop, most shrubs. Goldeneye is on site now. Biotic Integrity was and is at risk. Production is doubled but it is Lehmann. Similarity Index: 67 to 29.

<u>Site 29 – Granitic Hills</u> – Change in 2014 is loss of plains lovegrass and hairy grama. Other grasses similar and no introduced on site. Forbs increase fourfold and shrubs similar. Similarity Index similar 60 to 53. Site still stable.

<u>Site 30 – Loamy Upland</u> – Change in 2014 is no Lehmann's before, now it is 2/3 of production. Native grasses still here but in low amounts – plains lovegrass, blue grama, sideoats, cane beardgrass and cottontop. Forbs and shrubs similar. Similarity Index from 79 to 26, Biotic Integrity at risk.

**General observations** – Loamy Upland and slopes mostly seeing Lehmann lovegrass increase and natives down. Loamy Slopes – one increased in SI and one decreased due to Lehmann. Sandy Loam Uplands losing natives, Granitic Hills similar and Loamy Bottom similar but gaining Bermudagrass. All watershed functions are stable now, just many at risk on Biotic Integrity.

#### Sites only done in 2014 Summary:

<u>650 – Loamy Upland</u> -Sideoats, blue grama, plains lovegrass and sprucetop are here but in much lower amounts than ecological site guide. Lehmann lovegrass is on this site for about 20% of production. Yerba-de-pasmo is higher than should be. Similarity Index just 43 and Biotic Integrity at risk. Production ok but not correct species composition. Sprucetop has slowly declined since 2003 Frequency monitoring set up. Sideoats, Blue and Hairy hanging in. Lehmann has increased steadily. Yerba-de-pasmo shows steady increase. Species richness is about the same now as first monitoring.

<u>706 – Loamy Upland</u> - Natives are here but much lower than should be for the site. Cane beardgrass is much higher than expected. Some Lehmann's but not much as once was. Goldeneye is very high for site and so is mesquite. Similarity Index is only 36 due to this. Forbs are ok. Production ok but not correct spp. Frequency set up in 1997 here. Shrubby buckwheat decreased. Cane beard increased starting 2011. Steady decline in curly mesquite, wolftail, and Plains lovegrass. Forbs up and down through years.

<u>C-1 – Loamy Upland</u> - Cane beardgrass and some other native grasses low. Forbs and shrubs less than expected for site. Production a little higher than guide, mainly due to high blue grama and sprucetop grama and some Lehmann's. Similarity Index 49. Frequency transect set up in 2004 shows 90% hits on Blue grama, rest of grasses low. Similar on forbs and shrubs – ragweed was 20%. Sprucetop increases in 2005 and has remained steady around 40% hit.

<u>C-2- Granitic Hills</u> – Native grasses in high amounts but missing several midgrass. Lehmann's on site but not much. Forbs ok, shrubs a little low. Similarity Index is 57. Production a little higher than guide. Frequency started in 2004. Shrubs steady decline, Sprucetop and sideoats up and down. Plains down through years, Curley about ½ from start now. Forbs up and down too.

<u>TRR1 – Loamy Bottom</u> – Mainly sacaton, no shrubs. Perfect site. Using normal production got Similarity Index of 102. When using precipitation at its highest potential, this number became more realistic with a 93.

<u>ARR 1351 – Granitic Hills</u> – The site has high diversity of grass species with sideoats grama, vine mesquite and spidergrass in high amounts. It is missing sprangletop and plains lovegrass as main component, they are there but small amounts. Some Lehmann and velvet pod as invaders. Arizona white oak was very high production but probably from hitting a large tree in transect. Production was much higher than reference due to this.

**Soils:** A soil survey by SCS and published in 1979 (Soil Survey of Santa Cruz and Parts of Cochise and Pima Counties, AZ) provided base nomenclature and mapping units. The table, below, crosswalks this soil survey and the survey conducted by Breckenfeld & Robinett (NRCS) in 2001 (available on the AWRR website).

		SOIL FROM 1979	SOIL FROM 2001
SITE #	ECOLOGICAL SITE	SURVEY	SURVEY
5	Loamy Bottom Swales	BhD	90
8	Loamy Upland	WgC	110
15	Loamy Slopes	BhD	10
20	Sandy Loam Upland	WgC	100
23	Loamy Upland	WgC	10
24	Loamy Slopes	WgC	110
29	Granitic Hills	FrE	10
30	Loamy Upland	FrE	120
650	Loamy Upland	WgC	110
706	Loamy Upland	Haf	10
TRR1	Loamy Bottom	Pima	40
C1	Loamy Upland	WgC	110
C2	Granitic Hills	FrE	10
ARR 1351	Granitic Hills	FrE	10

**Rangeland Health:** The Rangeland Health assessment evaluates how well ecological processes on a given site are functioning. Ecological processes include the water cycle (the capture, storage and safe release of precipitation), energy flow (conversion of sunlight to plant and then animal matter), and nutrient cycle (the cycle of nutrients through the physical and biotic components of the environment). The product of this qualitative assessment is not a single rating of rangeland health, but an assessment of 3 components called attributes. These attributes are; Soil/Site Stability, Hydrologic Function, and Biotic Integrity. Each of the attributes relate to the ecological processes described above. There are 17 indicators used for the evaluation of the 3 attributes. A rangeland health assessment provides information in the functioning of ecological processes relative to the reference state for the ecological site or other functionally similar unit for that land area.

Range Health was assessed on each ecological site during the inventory period. Attributes including Soil/Site Stability, Hydrologic Function and Biotic Integrity are evaluated and given a rating depicting the site's departure from a reference state. Reference states are a depiction of the proper functioning condition of a site. Each ecological site has a specific reference state and desired states should help guide management goals and objectives. Management practices have an effect on the health of a site and should be adjusted according to the management goals. There are 17 indicators used for the evaluation and when combined give a qualitative assessment of the entire site.

## Trend

Rangeland trend is defined as the direction of change in an existing plant community relative to the climax plant community as described in the ecological site descriptions or the desired plant community as described by the client's goals. Trend is also measured on long term monitoring transects by comparing frequency fluctuations. It can be determined as apparent trend or measured trend. Apparent trend is a point in time determination of the direction of change. Measured trend requires measurements of the trend indicators over a period of time. Rangeland trend is monitored on all rangelands ecological sites and is described as: *Toward or upward* - Moving towards the historic climax plant community. *Not apparent or stable* - No change detectable. *Away from or downward* - Moving away from the climax plant community.

Overall trend of each is depicted in the frequency data collected by the AWRR. Data sheets from the 2014/2015 inventory are available upon request by partners.



Figure 1. Ground cover data of transect 651 from 2000 through 2014.



Figure 2. Pace frequency data of transect 651 from 2000 through 2014.



Figure 3. Ground cover data of transect 706 from 1997 through 2014.



Figure 4. Pace frequency data of transect 706 from 1997 through 2014.



Figure 5. Ground cover data of transect 772 from 2004 through 2014.



Figure 6. Pace frequency data of transect 772 from 2004 through 2014.

# Appendix H

# Climate

The WWDT and NOAA weather station at the headquarters show the average maximum temperature for the area is 76 degrees Fahrenheit and the average minimum temperature is 45 degrees Fahrenheit. Below are charts of the yearly average and monthly mean temperatures of the AWRR climate station located at the headquarters.



**Figure 1**. Average yearly temperatures for the AWRR climate station over a 46 year period (1968 through 2014).



**Figure 2**. Average monthly temperatures for the AWRR climate station over the last 46 year period (1968 through 2014).

Monthly average data for the AWRR climate station indicate temperatures are between 1 and 3 degrees cooler over the last 20 year period compared to the 71 year average.

#### **Precipitation** Averages

Precipitation ranges between 12 to 16 inches in the lower elevations and 16 to 20 inches in the upper elevations annually. Rainfall fluctuations are common; some years post 1982 have received well over 20 inches in precipitation annually and as low as 8 inches annually. Approximately 30% of the areas precipitation falls in the cool season months between November and April, while 70% normally falls in the warm season months between May and October. Following are charts depicting precipitation records from the AWRR Ranch for years from 1968 to 2014. Seasonal precipitation totals provided by the AWRR was used to develop these charts.



Figure 3. Annual precipitation totals for the AWRR from 1968 to 2014.



**Figure 4.** Cool season verses warm season precipitation averages for the AWRR for the years 1968 through 2014. Months considered winter or cool season months are October to March. Summer or warm season months are April through September. Annual precipitation reflects the total rainfall for the water-year, October through September.

Plant vigor and productivity have been affected by the prolonged drought. On certain sites, many of the plant species have been severely affected. Many species that are expected on sites have reduced their production, or they have dropped out completely. Introduced species have a drastic effect on many sites as well.

# **Appendix I: Map of Monitoring Transects**



# Appendix J: Conservation Plan Map with Current Structural Improvements and Names

