

Arizona State Parks Board August 18, 2022

Dale Larsen – Chair John Sefton – Vice Chair, Lisa Atkins, Jeffrey Buchanan, Debbie Johnson, Sarah King, Terri Palmberg



AGENDA – A

Fort Lowell Park Tour





Call to Order



AGENDA – C

Pledge of Allegiance



AGENDA – D

Member Roll Call

Dale Larsen (Chair) John Sefton (Vice-Chair) Lisa Atkins Jeffrey Buchanan Debbie Johnson Sarah King Terri Palmberg



AGENDA – D

Mission Statement

"As Board members we are gathered today to be the stewards and voice of the Arizona State Parks and its Mission Statement to manage and conserve Arizona's natural, cultural and recreation resources for the benefit of the people, both in our parks and through our partners."



Study Session. Arizona State Parks and Trails Grant Program



Approval of Minutes The Board will review and may consider action to approve the meeting minutes from June 16, 2022.



Motion: I move to approve minutes of the June 16, 2022 Board Meeting.



Update on the City of Tucson Grants Program. Lara Hamwey, Director and Greg Jackson, Deputy Director, City of Tucson







Planning for the future of Tucson Parks and Recreation

Engagement, investment, equity, and sustainability





ABOUT TUCSON PARKS AND RECREATION

City of Tucson is 241 square miles.

Contracted operations for

- The nationally accredited Reid Park Zoo
- Five city-owned public golf courses

130 Parks

19 Recreation Centers

26 Swimming Pools



ABOUT US - BY THE NUMBERS

9 Dog Parks
5 Skate Parks
3 Tennis Centers
3 Urban Fishing Lakes
124 Baseball/softball fields
46 Soccer/Football
27 Multipurpose





Engagement

- Since the bonds passed, significant community engagement
- Engagement changed
- Transforming the use of parks now, meeting the current needs
- Master planning processes
- Making improvements through bonds, impact fees and grant dollars
- Delivering their visions



Building community through parks and recreation.



Engagement

Fort Lowell improvements (Grant)

- Goal of investment preservation and activation.
- Increased programming with a local museum operator.
- Preserving as many historical assets as possible.
- Creating spaces that will allow more activation of the property.
- Destination for school groups, tourist and the community.



Building community through parks and recreation.



Investment

\$225M Parks + Connections bond

- Splashpads 11 wading pools converted, 14 new, 3 renovated
- Playgrounds 22 new, 36 replaced, 17 shaded added, 2 shade replaced
- Walking paths 28 new, 27 renovated
- Basketball courts 4 new, 56 renovated
- Pickleball courts 22 new
- Tennis courts 54 renovated









Building community through parks and recreation.

Investment

\$225M Parks + Connections bond

- Irrigation improvements 19 parks
- Baseball fields 1 new w/lights, 1 lights added, 5 converted to LED
- Little league 5 new w/LED lights, 8 LED lights added, 3 converted to LED
- Softball 4 new w/LED lights, 2 LED lights added, 12 converted to LED
- Multipurpose 6 new w/LED lights, 13 LED lights added, 12 converted to LED
- 3 new parks!!!









Building community through parks and recreation.



Investment

- Deferred maintenance
- Developing a long-term capital improvement program
- Broadening funding sources
 - \circ Bonds
 - \circ General fund
 - Impact fees
 - o Grants
- Investment needed in recreation centers
- Increasing staff levels and reorganizing

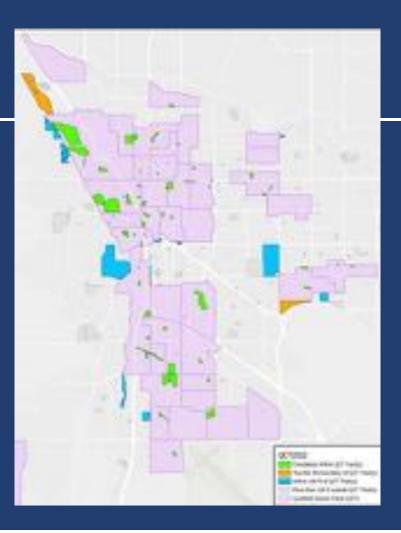


Building community through parks and recreation.



Equity

- Increase investment in historically disinvested areas.
 - Upgrading older parks.
 - Bringing them up to current standards.
 - QCT focus areas.
 - Making them resilient for future generations.
- Ensuring 10-minute walkability.

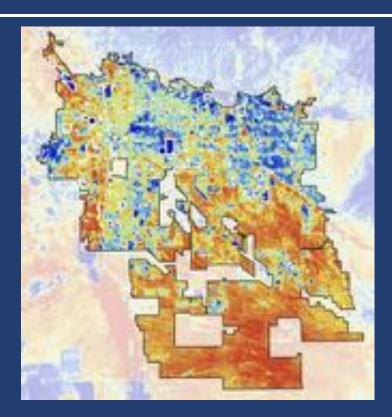




Equity

- Increasing tree canopy.
- Mayor's goal of planting 1,000,000 trees.
- QCT areas are often the hotter areas of town.

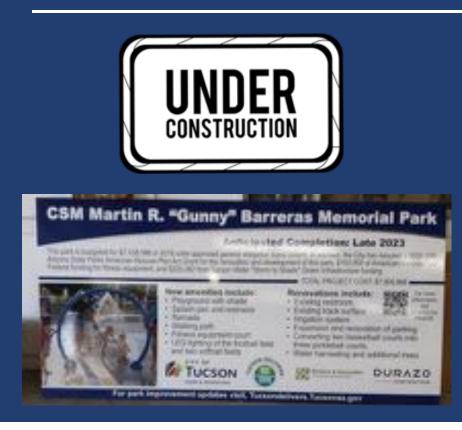




Building community through parks and recreation.



Equity



- Leisure/Recreation Needs Assessment
- Priorities tied to capital investment (ARPA funds)
- CSM Gunny Barreras Memorial Park improvements (Grant) - \$7.9M
 - \$7M bonds, \$500K State ARPA, \$150K City
 ARPA, \$220K GSI
 - Much needed renovation of the park.
 - Increased recreation opportunities.
 - Partnership with SUSD.

Building community through parks and recreation.



Sustainability

- COT/UA research project.
- Future planning and design decisions.
- Select turf reduction, reduce water usage.
- Implementing green stormwater infrastructure.





Sustainability

- Increase use of solar.
- Increasing tree canopy.
- ByBlock as potential material for construction
 - testing benches and ramada.







Building community through parks and recreation.





Questions?

Building community through parks and recreation.



Patagonia Area Resource Alliance Carolyn Shafer, Board Member and Mission Coordinator, Patagonia Area Resource Alliance





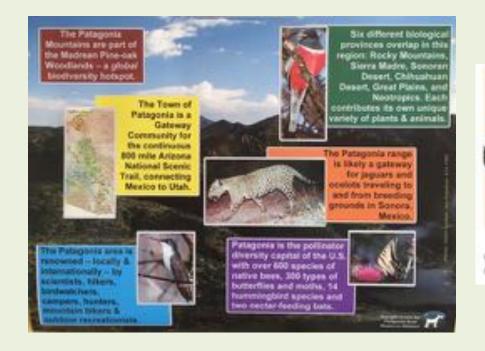
Patagonia Mountains Sonoita Creek Watershed





The Patagonia Mountains and Sonoita Creek Watershed have likely been inhabited for about 10,000 years. There is archeological evidence of inhabitants during the Archaic period (7000 - 1 BCE). The Hohokam and Sobaipuri (predecessors of the Tohono O'odham peoples) thrived in this area from about 1050 CE to 1450 CE.





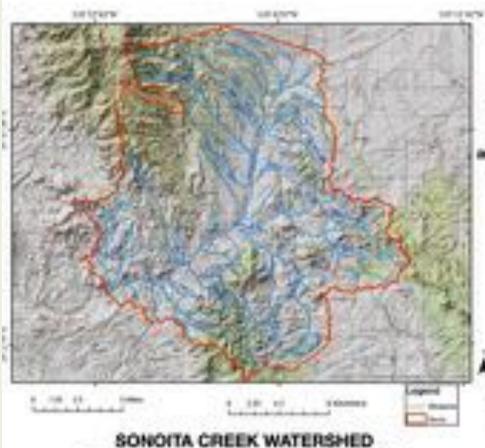
HALF-EARTH Our Planer' Pight for Life EDWARD O. WILSON Half-Earth proposes an achievable plan to save our imperiled biosphere: devote half the surface of the Earth to nature.

In order to stave off the mass extinction of species, including our swn, we must move swiftly to preserve the biodiversity of our planet, says Edward D. Wittom in his must impassioned book to date, *nlaV-Earth* argues that the situation facing us is too large to be solved precement and proposes a solution commensurate with the magnitude of the problem: dedicate fully half the surface of the Earth to nature.

If we are to undertake such an architious endeavor, we first must understand just what the biosphere is, why it's essential to our survival, and the manifold threats now facing it. In doing so, Wilson describes how our species, in only a

more block of geological time, became the architects and rulers of this epoch and outlines the consequences of this that will affect all of life, both ours and the natural world. far into the future,

The Patagonia Mountains and Sonoita Creek Watershed are part of the Madrean mountain chains of Mexico and the Sky Islands heights of the southwestern US. The world's senior naturalists (each with international expertise in biodiversity and ecology) include the Patagonia Mountains as "... one to five places in the world..." considered best on the basis of richness, uniqueness, and **MOST IN NEED OF RESEARCH and PROTECTION**.



is an important tributary to the Banta Cruz River

The Sonoita Creek Watershed has unique geological features, six biomes with a great diversity of plant and animal species and vast natural beauty. There are over 300 species of birds, 600 species of native bees, 300 types of butterfiles and moths, and more than 100 federal threatened endangered, and sensitive species.

It is a cultural crossroads with archeological evidence of Tohono O'Ocham and Pascus Yaqui presence, a Spanish colonial past, and a history of mining during the 1860-1960 period and a long history of ranching that continues today.

The watershed will experience increased commercial activities including significant proposed 21st century industrialized mining activity.



The Sanoita Creek Watershed is defined by the Patagonia and Santa Rita mountain ranges on the North and South and the unincorporated area of Sonoita on the West running through the Town of Patagonia and Lake Patagonia to join the Santa Cruz River mear Rio Rice, Arleona.

The origin of the name Sonsita is the local Hohskam tribal word jan 'Oldag, which is best translated as "spring field."

NOTE: not to exact scale or precise watershed shape

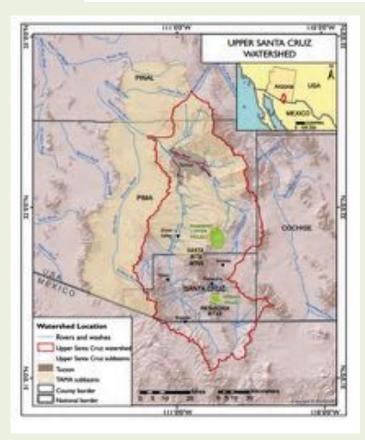
SONOITA CREEK WATERSHED is a major tributary to the

SANTA CRUZ RIVER WATERSHED that serves more than one million people, including Tucson



PATAGONIA AREA RESOURCE ALLIANCE





Inspiring Stewardship

PARA's VISION:

The Coronado Forest throughout the Patagonia Mountains are protected from 21st century industrialized mining.

The 1872 Mining Law is rewritten.

Arizona state laws eliminate all mining company exemptions.

Restoration of the land continues and the people are pro-active stewards of the ecosystem that supports all life forms.



The first tenet of responsible mining should be a recognition that there are some places that should NOT be mined, especially knowing the threats we face against our planetary ecosystem.



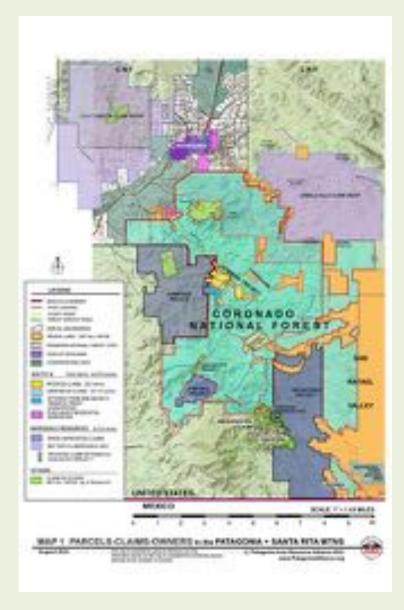


21st CENTURY INDUSTRIALIZED MINING

Exploits the 1872 Mining Law

Free minerals

- The 1872 Mining Law was signed by Ulysses S Grant 150 years ago.
- Mineral resources are "free" to mining companies.
- Public land was sold for \$5 an acre creating "patented" claims that do not have federal environmental oversight.
 There are no hardrock mining regulations for underground, lateral drilling under public lands.
 Lobbying Social Licensing Greenwashing



21st Century Industrialized Mining

The Trump Administration severely weakened federal environmental protections.

The State of Arizona is identified by the mining industry as the 2nd friendliest mining jurisdiction in the world because of weak environmental protections and mining company favoritism.

The Patagonia Mountains and Sonoita Creek Watershed are currently imperiled by proposed industrial mining operations totaling 74,597 acres (104.5 square miles) of claims by:

- South32 (an Australian mining company) Hermosa Project 563 patented acres, 34,391 acres of unpatented claims on USFS public lands.
- Barksdale Resources (a Canadian exploratory company) with multiple project areas: Sunnyside, San Antonio, 4 Metals, Canelo Hills, Goat Canyon
 – 39,643 acres of unpatented claims on USFS public lands.
- 732 acres of unpatented claimed public lands by others.

This watershed will also be impacted by mining activity proposed by Hudbay (a Canadian mining company) at its Rosemont project in the Santa Rita Mountains.



ATAGONIA AREA RESOURCE ALLIAN





PARA's Mission:

- collaborate with Strategic Partners to protect the water, land and wildlife of the Patagonia Mountains and the Sonoita Creek Watershed from the negative impacts of modern industrialized mining
- work to assure that any mining activities meet the highest science-based standards of protection of our region's natural assets, and
- support the expansion of the nature-based restorative economy that depends on the remarkable biodiversity and cultural heritage of our region



SUCCESSES

- 2011: A group of local citizens form Patagonia Area Resource Alliance (PARA) in response to modern exploratory mining activity in the Patagonia Mountains.
- 2015: Sunnyside (Regal Resources) exploratory drilling plan is withdrawn following successful lawsuit by PARA, Defenders of Wildlife, and Sky Island Alliance against US Forest Service for issuing a permit.
- 2015: Hermosa Project (Wildcat Silver) withdraws its open pit mining plan following a PARA report looking at the impacts of the mining proposal for an open pit mine.
- 2016: State of Arizona proposes to accept consideration of \$10 and remediation of historic Trench Mine toxic tailings to Wildcat Silver. A passive water treatment plant and the remediation work was estimated to cost the mining company \$1.5 million (plus \$1.5 million ASARCO bankruptcy funds), PARA filed expert comments and the consideration changed to an active water treatment plant. The new plant and required remediation work ended up costing \$25 million paid by the mining company (South32 after its acquisition of the project in mid-2018).
- 2017: Town of Patagonia Road restrictions affirmed by AZ Attorney General after being challenged by the mining industry.
- 2021: AZ Dept of Environmental Quality permit to South32 to discharge pollutants is improved following comments by PARA and other organizations.
- 2022: Organizational comments result in a USFS Decision Memo restricting exploratory drilling activities to outside breeding season of Yellow Billed Cuckoo in San Antonio project area.

ONGOING ACTIONS - 2022:

Appeal of issuance of an Aquifer Protection Permit to South32 by the AZ Dept of Environmental Quality that will allow the mine company to discharge 6.5 millions gallons of treated water per day into the Harshaw Creek with no defined points of compliance to monitor the discharge.

Delay Forest Service permit filed by Barksdale Resources for exploratory drilling at Sunnyside.

Delay of Forest Service granting a Small Tracts Application to acquire 13.74 acres of public lands by South32.

Delay of key infrastructure requirements by South32 to move into production: roads, power, water.

Working with national, regional, and local organizations:

- · PARA's water focus with the Town of Patagonia Flood & Flow Committee
- PARA's work with AZ water lawyer and hydrologists
- PARA's work with local organizations to release a University of Arizona economic report on the nature based restorative economy (NBRE) of Santa Cruz County
- PARA's work with Defenders of Wildlife including possible legal actions on pending Forest Service decisions for exploratory drilling
- PARA's work with Earthworks on reform of the 1872 Mining Law
- PARA's work with the Santa Cruz County Advisory Panel on the Hermosa Project: bringing truth to power
- PARA's work to get the Forest Service to recognize that the agency's highest duty is to protect the natural resources rather than to allow extraction of mineral resources



It is also PARA's role to participate with alliance organizations working to influence decision makers to change these weak regulations.

PARA Watchdogs are the "eyes on the ground" to alert the major environmental players who have the time, staff, and money to pursue lawsuits to protect the unique biologically diverse ecosystem that is the Patagonia Mountains.



MEGA-DROUGHT IS REAL

SPECIES EXTINCTION IS REAL



WE CAN'T FORECAST HOW THIS STORY ENDS, but

WE CAN GUARANTEE IT WILL BE A BETTER STORY IF WE WORK FOR THE BEST SOLUTION FOR THE ECOSYSTEM

Legislative Update.

The Board will be briefed on the legislative bills before the 2022 Arizona State Legislature. Brittany Hudson, Legislative Liaison



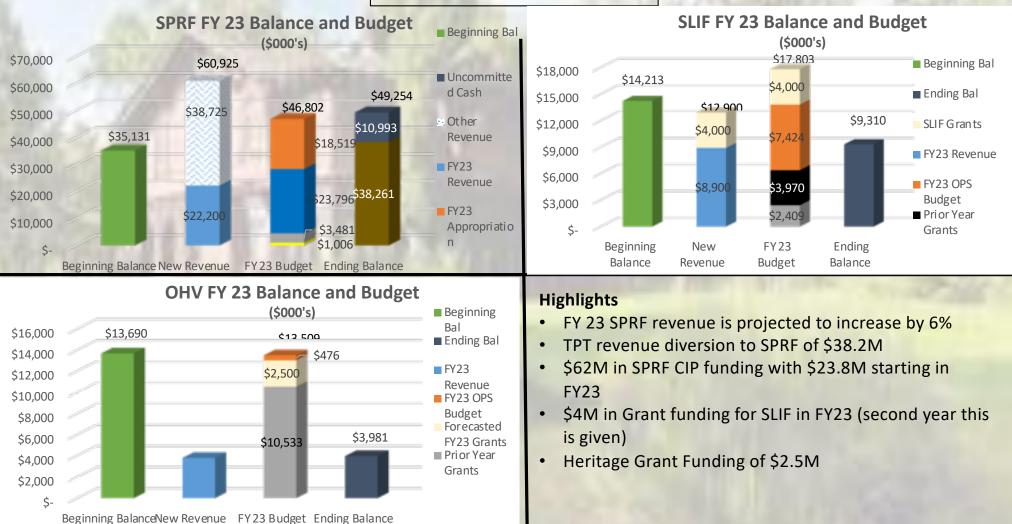
Overview of the Arizona State Parks and Trails Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget and Capital Budgets. -Kevin Brock, Assistant Director, CFO



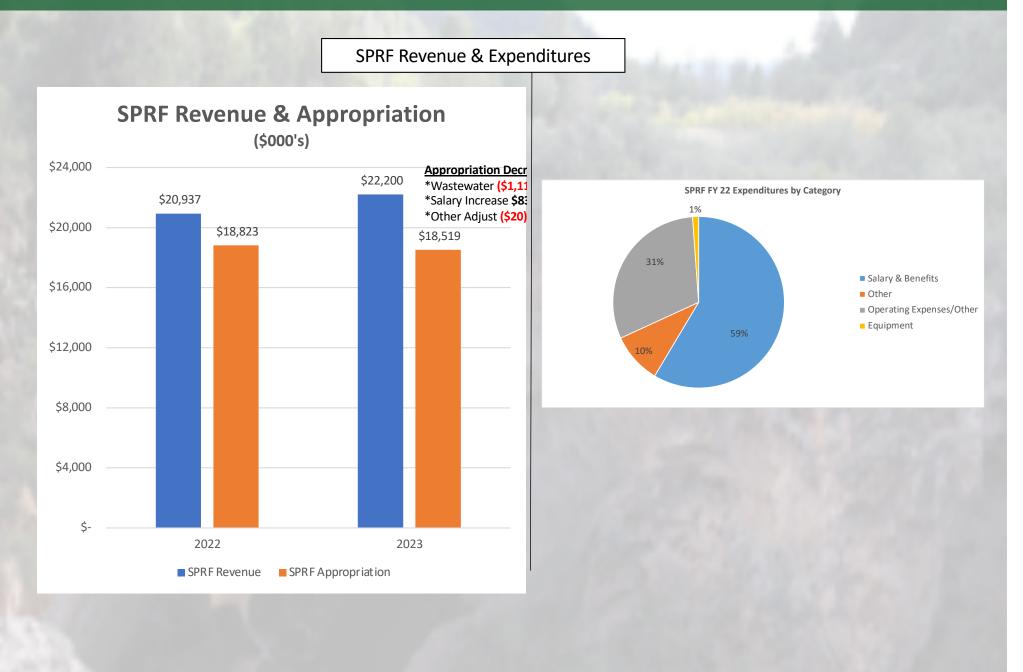
| | FY 2023 Budgets | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Fund Balances (\$000's) | STATE PARK REVENUE FUND | STATE LAKE IMPROVEMENT FUND | FEDERAL FUNDS | OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE FUND | PARTNERSHIP FUND | SUSTAINABLE PARKS & ROADS FUND | DONATIONS FUND | PARK STORE FUND | HERITAGE FUND | TOTAL |
| Balance Carry Forward from Prior Year | 35,131 | 14,213 | 1,101 | 13,690 | 1,312 | 674 | 766 | 1,250 | 4,594 | 72,731 |
| Operating Revenue Other Revenue (Grants, Donations & Other) | 22,200 38,725 | <u> </u> | 7,880 | | 2,738 | - 150 | 221 | | 2,500 | <u>32,600</u> 60,014 |
| TOTAL STATE PARKS REVENUES | 60,925 | 12,900 | 7,880 | 3,800 | 2,738 | 150 | 221 | 1,500 | 2,500 | 92,614 |
| Operating Expenditures | 18,519 | 7,424 | 1,060 | 476 | | | - | 1,012 | | 28,491 |
| Other Expenditures (GRNTS, DON & OTH) Capital Projects (FY23) | - 23,796 | 4,000 | 6,820 | | | | | | | 20,407 |
| Capital Projects (Prior Years) Prior Year Commitments (Admin, GRNTS & OTH) | 3,481 | 2,409 3,970 | | - 10,533 | - | - | - | - | - 4,594 | 5,890 |
| TOTAL STATE PARKS EXPENDITURES | 46,802 | 17,803 | 8,981 | 13,509 | 2,738 | 474 | 887 | 1,500 | 7,094 | 99,788 |
| PROJECTED FUND BALANCE | 49,254 | 9,310 | | 3,981 | 1,312 | 350 | 100 | 1,250 | - | 65,557 |

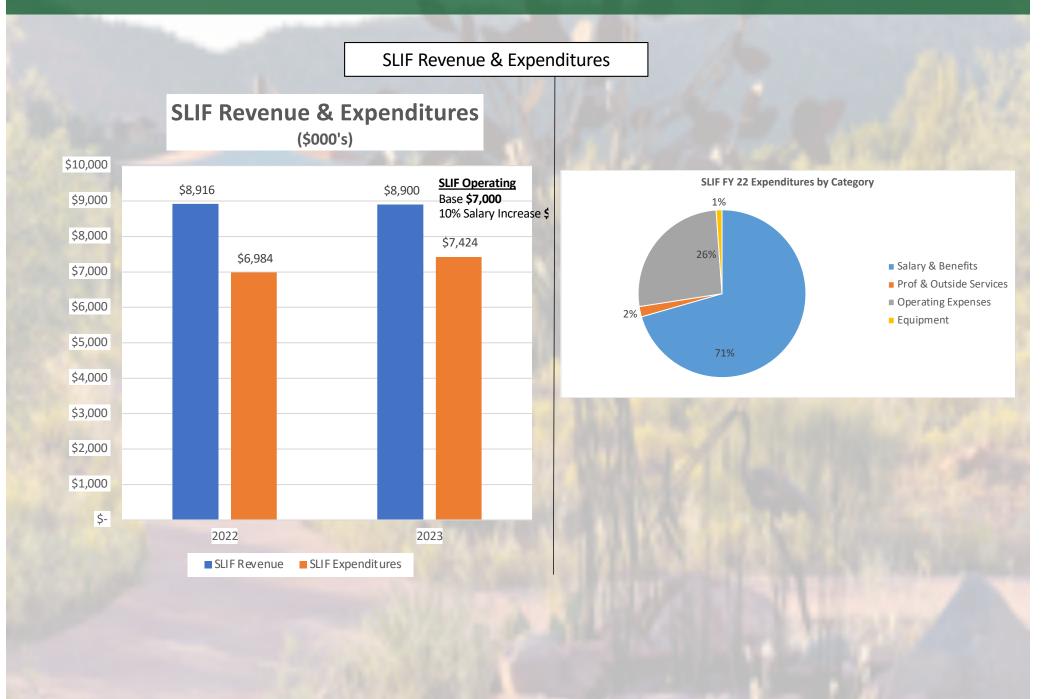
*Buddies (Governor's Office Budget Submission) data has not been finalized

** All Revenues & Expenditures are Projected



FY 2023 Budget and Fund Balance





SPRF Funded Capital Projects

| Project Name | FY23 | FY24 | FY25 | Totals |
|---|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Statewide Campground/Shade Improvements | \$ 6,333,333 | \$ 6,333,333 | \$ 6,333,333 | \$ 18,999,999 |
| Statewide Water Conservation | \$ 1,339,000 | \$ 1,339,000 | \$ 1,339,000 | \$ 4,017,000 |
| Catalina Main Entrance Bridge | \$ 1,500,000 | \$ 5,813,000 | | \$ 7,313,000 |
| Major Maintenance | \$ 2,742,800 | | | \$ 2,742,800 |
| Deadhorse & Rockin River Project Increase | \$ 546,800 | | | \$ 546,800 |
| Jerome Fire Suppression System | \$ 1,540,000 | | | \$ 1,540,000 |
| Southern Const SVCS Relocation | \$ 2,000,000 | | | \$ 2,000,000 |
| Tonto Historic Building Renovation | \$ 3,500,000 | | | \$ 3,500,000 |
| Tombstone Renovation | \$ 2,008,500 | | | \$ 2,008,500 |
| Rockin River Ranch Renovation | \$ 1,750,000 | | | \$ 1,750,000 |
| Smartphone Application | \$ 535,600 | | | \$ 535,600 |
| | \$ 23,796,033 | | | |

SPRF Funded Capital Projects

| Project Name | FY23 | FY24 | FY25 | Totals | |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--|
| Yuma Territorial Prison | | \$ 750,000 | \$ 5,945,000 | \$ 6,695,000 | |
| Riordan Mansion Renovation | | \$ 2,900,000 | | \$ 2,900,000 | |
| Oracle Renovation | | \$ 2,008,500 | | \$ 2,008,500 | |
| Red Rock Renovation | | | \$ 4,000,000 | \$ 4,000,000 | |
| San Rafael Renovation | | | \$ 1,500,000 | \$ 1,500,000 | |
| | \$ 23,796,033 | \$19,143,833 | \$19,117,333 | \$ 62,057,199 | |

| ARPA Wastewater Projects | 85,950,925 | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|---|-------------|---------------|
| ARPA Broadband | 20,600,000 | G | irand Total | \$168,608,124 |

Update of the Implementation of the New Integrated Arizona State Parks and Trails Reservation System. Kevin Brock, Assistant Director, CFO



Integrated Parks Reservation System Update

"Go Live" - July 20th

- The new reservation system went live on July 20th several days prior to the public announcement
- All core functionality for the reservation system and the web-site are now operational
- The Booking response was immediate with \$450k of new reservations in the first 24hours
- Weekly meetings with UseDirect continue as we work through anticipated new system "bugs"
- Prioritization of other add-on functions:

- Retail Inventory & Management – Manage, report and financially control Inventory; Tracking of transfers between locations; Manage by store location (Now Fully Functional)

- Waitlist/ Standby – List for customers to receive automated notification of Cabin & Campsite openings

- Automated Self Check-in and Check-out for Camping & Cabins using personal mobile devices (internet connected)

 Apple Pay/ Google Pay – Touchless payment system at sales points using mobile phones or chipped cards

- Advanced campsite maps with enhanced details, Latitude/ Longitude, trails and points of interest

August Park Highlight: Catalina State Park. -Steve Haas, Park Manager

CATALINA STATE PARK: History, Challenges, and Future Opportunities

STEVEN HAAS PARK MANAGER CATALINA STATE PARK August 18 Parks Board Meeting

History

- Private property known as Rancho Romero- plans for a variety of housing units that would accommodate 17,000 people and multiple golf courses
- In the face of impending development of this scenic natural resource the citizens of the Tucson (Rancho Romero Coalition) metro area expressed a desire for resource preservation
- House Bill 2280 signed on May 1, 1974

History

- Dedicated and opened as an Arizona State Park by Governor Bruce Babbitt on May 25, 1983
- The park was State Trust Land initially and then on April 22,1991 all the state land within the boundaries of the park became property of the USFS through the Santa Rita Land Exchange
- The park is 5,525 acres of deeded USFS land currently managed by Arizona State Parks and Trails through two special use permits

The Numbers

- Revenue:
 - FY 2021 = \$1,779,675
 - FY 2022 = \$
- Visitation
 - FY 2021 = 245,549
 - FY 2022 = 260,000

Challenges: BIGHORN FIRE

- Started on June 5th, 2020 and declared 100% fully contained on July 23rd
- Burned approximately 119,978 Acres
- 44 million dollars
- Zero structures lost
- Approximately 30% of Catalina State Park (CSP) burned
- CSP trails burned: Birding trail, Alamo Canyon, Canyon Loop trail, Romero Canyon trail, and the Sutherland trail
- CSP trails not burned: Nature trail, Romero Ruins trail, 50 year trail

Challenges: BIGHORN FIRE

- Southwest Area Type I Incident Management Team 2 (Incident Commander - John Pierson)
- Catalina State Park was closed on June 7, 2020 and reopened on August 2
- Group Areas were used as Helipad for water and slurry drops
- The whole park was used during the closure (e.g., EQ center, campgrounds, group areas, day use parking...)
- Wildlife Camera in park burned but was salvaged with great videos
- Many staff and volunteer hours of post fire clean up (e.g., trail work, brush cutting, chipping)

BIGHORN FIRE - CANYON LOOP TRAIL



BIGHORN FIRE - TRAILHEAD PARKING



BIGHORN FIRE - ROMERO CANYON



BIGHORN FIRE - ALAMO CANYON



Bighorn Fire - Wildlife Camera



Bighorn Fire- Wildlife Camera



Bighorn Fire- Wildlife Camera



- Approximately 13.5 inches of rain fell from July 1 through September 30, 2021
- "Normal" is 12 inches of rain all year
- Park Closed for approximately 20 days 4 nights was longest stretch of stranded campers
- Amaranth (AKA pigweed) and Morning Glory went "wild"
- Lots of wildlife responding to excess moisture

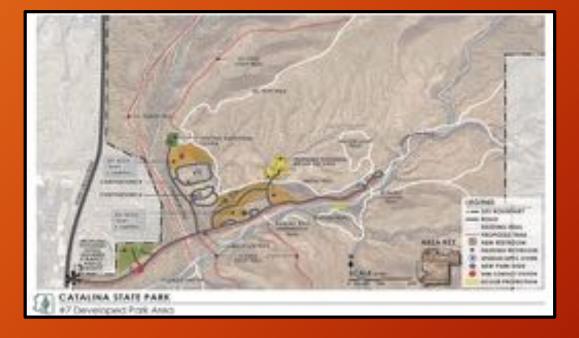








- Catalina State Park is leased land under a Special Use Permit (SUP) with the United States Forest Service (USFS) but managed as an Arizona State Park
- In March 2021 the USFS approved the current Master Development Plan (MDP) which describes eleven projects for future development over the next 10-20 years
- Next steps: Approved MDP with USFS (complete), Public Scoping (partially complete), NEPA (in process), funding, design, and finally construction of designated projects



- Proposed Development Projects-Trails:
- 1. The Alamo Loop Trail
- 2. The Multi-Use Paved Trail
- 3. The Tribute Trail Pima County
- 4. The 50-year Trail Loop

- Proposed Development Projects Structures/Amenities:
- 1. A new Visitor Center and/or replacement of current Contact Station
- 2. New Campground in between Campground B and Equestrian Center
- 3. Replacement/enhancement of Park Entry Sign
- 4. Replacement/enhancement of Maintenance/Shop Building
- 5. Main Park Road Protection on Sutherland Wash
- 6. A bridge over the Canada Del Oro Wash

Sewer and Restroom Projects

- Funding from Federal Covid Relief given to the individual States
- Includes hooking up all of our waste disposal to county sewer on west side of Oracle Rd
- Includes decommissioning all leach fields and tanks
- Replacing the restroom/shower building in Campground A
- Replacing Vault toilets at the trailhead and Equestrian Center with flush toilets
- Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) is administering the projects

My Highest Priority - New Campground

- A new campground loop is in our current approved USFS Master Development Plan, but currently no funding that I am aware of
- We operate an Overflow and also an "Overflow to the Overflow" in our busy season and could easiely sell another 75-100 sites for 6 months of the year
- A high ROI (Return on Investment)

Thank You!

- Questions????
- Contact Information:
- Steven Haas
- Park Manager
- Catalina State Park
- 11570 N. Oracle Rd, Tucson, AZ 85737
- (520) 628-5798
- shaas@azstateparks.gov

AGENDA – F

Future Agenda Items

Board members may identify items or issues they wish to be considered for inclusion on a future agenda.



AGENDA – G

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON CURRENT EVENTS

The Executive Director may present a summary of current events and/or recent experiences of interest to the outdoor recreation community and/or the status of any projects with which they are currently involved. The Board will not discuss or take any action on any current event summary.



AGENDA – H

Current Events

Board members may present a brief summary of current events and/or recent experiences of interest to the outdoor recreation community and/or the status of any projects with which they may be involved. The Board will not discuss or take action on any current events.



AGENDA – I

Call to the Public

The chair will recognize those wishing to address the Board.



AGENDA – J

| Arizona State Parks & Trails 2022 Board Meeting Schedule | | | | | |
|--|----------------|--|--|--|--|
| Date | Location | | | | |
| Thursday, September 15, 2022 | Central Office | | | | |
| Thursday, October 20, 2022 | Central Office | | | | |
| Thursday, November 17, 2022 | Central Office | | | | |
| Thursday, December 15, 2022 | Central Office | | | | |



THANK YOU!

