Sharing Habitats

Planning for compatible communities of both wildlife and human occupants
Open Space

- Travel Corridors
- Migration Routes
- Habitat Blocks
- Permeability of our infrastructure
  - Species prescriptive
  - Conflict preventive
Water Demand and Supply

• Surface Water
  – SRP: Verde Watershed
  – Springs

• Groundwater
  – Aquifer basins independent of surface topography
  – Pumping may affect spring flow
Unique Habitat Elements

• Rogers Lake
• Dry Lake
• Sinkholes
• Connectivity corridors/ hub
Featured Wildlife Species

• Lens focused by human bias, based on esthetics, economics and legalities
  – Avifauna
    • Water feature at Rogers Lake critical to migratory shorebirds and waterfowl, during spring migration
  – ESA
    • Spotted owl
    • Black footed ferret
  – Game species
    • Pronghorn antelope
    • Elk
Pronghorn Antelope

• Most prominent wildlife ID by Anglo explorers
• Migration pattern adapted to obstacles built across their traditional pattern
  – Fences
  – Transportation infrastructure
    • ATSF- Burlington Northern
    • I-40
    • Combination effect
Antilocapra americana gaskaii
Elk

• Population induced by management after the native elk population was eliminated-
  Initial transplants in 1903-1920’s from Yellowstone

• Interstate highways and some feeder routes demarcate populations but still permeable; Hazard to motorists significant
Replaced Pronghorn as Most Notary WL
Elk Telemetry
Free (with ear jewelry)
Department Management Objective

- Maintain populations within habitat capability, moderating the cycles of density fluctuation
- Allow limited harvest of surplus, generally male cohort
Challenges and Opportunities

• Maintain and enhance linkages of residual habitat polygons and travel corridors
• Permeability of urban footprint: Conceptual disconnect- High density, minimal footprint versus moderate density, tentacle footprint
• Wise use of water resources, inclusive of ground water