

# PREDATOR'S PRIDE



## ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS

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October 2017

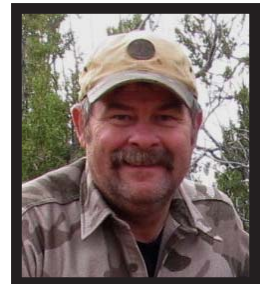
APC

P.O. Box 1172

Mesa, AZ 85211-1172

## The President's Message

by Dennis Slade, APC President



Fellow hunters, fall is finally arriving and soon it will be time to hit the fields with renewed determination and get some prime fur. I am still sitting at my desk in Alaska as I type this but will be departing this afternoon after 5 months in the Arctic.

I am very anxious to get home and do some hunting. I have not had the opportunity to hunt up here but have had to deal with my share of problem animals. We have had black bears in town that have torn up vehicles, raided homes and gotten into our aircraft hangar-eating everything in sight. This morning a moose walked down the main road right past my house. I have half dozen snowshoe hares in my yard every morning. The only birds left around are the whiskey jacks and ravens. I enjoy seeing the jays every day. They follow you around in hopes that you have some meat for them. I can really appreciate a bird that is a meat eater. All this is not a complete replacement for getting out in the wilds and calling in a sneaky coyote.

I never did see a wolf this summer. My wife came to visit and floated the Koyukuk River and she saw a wolf. I will have to get back some time I suppose. I did see lots and lots of bears. By the time you read this the spring draw will be closed. I hope you got your javelina and spring turkey applications in. The fall turkey and deer hunts are starting this month. Take the time to do a little coyote calling in your deer hunting areas - the deer will benefit for sure.

We are under attack again for our lifestyle by the anti-hunters. Make sure you stay abreast of the latest threats and do your part to be proactive in saving our heritage. I look forward to sharing a few campfires and hunts with you and hope to have a very enjoyable and productive calling season.

Happy Hunting - *Dennis*

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## October Meeting Program

### “Camouflage”

The October APC meeting will have a panel discussion on “Camouflage”. The panel will include outstanding predator hunters **Kara Jensen and Jeff Heinze**. Their combined knowledge will be passed on to our APC members. They will cover clothing, firearm camo and other means to conceal you and your equipment from the predators.

The next Arizona Predator Callers meeting is:  
**Thursday, October 12, 2017 at 7:00 PM.**

The meetings are held monthly at the **Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #9 at 1450 E. Main Street, Mesa**. The FOP Lodge is on the north side of Main Street between Stapley and Gilbert Road in Mesa, in the plaza behind Filiberto’s.

The meeting is free to APC members and students under 18, and \$5 for non-members. Refreshments and door prizes are included in the admission price.

## Hunt and Events Calender

APC General Meeting.....	October 12, 2017
Club Hunt.....	October 14, 2017
Board Meeting.....	October 30, 2017
APC General Meeting.....	November 9, 2017

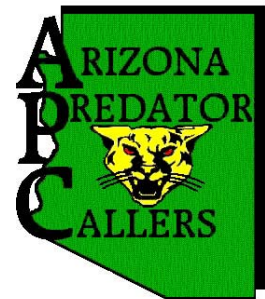
Please get these dates and events onto your calendar.

Dates and events are subject to change.

All APC General meetings are held on the **2nd Thursday** of each month.

All APC Board meetings are held on the last Monday of each month.

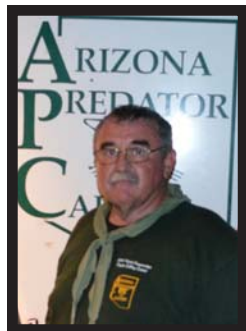
Any APC member is welcome to attend.



This is one of the problem bears that sadly had to be eliminated.



This is what Dennis was up to most of the time in Alaska.



## Hunt Report

by Dusty M., Hunt Chairman

It's October and finally starting to cool off. As I've stated before, I don't hunt over the summer, it's not much fun when it's hot.

We have several club/novice hunts coming up, if any of the new members would like to go let me know. We need some of the experienced hunters to step up and take out a novice. Also, please keep track of your kills, as I will be asking for hunt records next April. If you need a form, see me at the meeting.

We will be having a skinning and fur handling demonstration at Decembers meeting. If you are able to harvest some animals and have room in your freezer we would appreciate you saving some for this meeting. Be sure to have them thawed out for the meeting though.

You can't kill anything from your couch and "nothing is dying unless lead is flying", so get out there.

Be Safe, Have Fun, Shoot to Kill!..... *Dusty*

### Arizonans for Wildlife Striving to Ban the Hunting of Mountain Lions and Other Cats

**Arizonans for Wildlife Chairperson Kellye Pinkleton** has submitted an application for an Initiative Petition to ban the hunting and trapping of mountain lions, bobcats and other large cats in Arizona. The petition brief states:

*Bobcats, mountain lions, lynx, jaguars and ocelots, defined in this measure as "wild cats", have significant ecological value and these vulnerable animals should be shielded from trophy hunters looking to kill them for their heads and fur. This measure protects these species by prohibiting needless killing and injuring of wild cats by shooting, trapping, using packs of hounds, or other inhumane methods. The measure authorizes exceptions for killing wild cats that threaten personal safety, property, or livestock. The measure also allows for conservation activities by researchers, zoos and rehabilitation facilities.*

The full Initiative Petition can be viewed on the APC website.

Arizonans for Wildlife will be circulating petitions to get this measure on the ballot in November 2018. They will need only 150,642 valid signatures by July 5, 2018 to make this onto the ballot. The Humane Society of the United States is working on this initiative with the Arizonans for Wildlife, lending their support and significant funds in an effort to ban lion hunting.

AZ for Wildlife has a facebook site that you can go to to voice your opinion on this effort to ban hunting in Arizona. Lions are merely the first step.

Also, APC has a twitter account set up to combat this initiative. Go to: <https://twitter.com/AZPredatorhunt> to comment. Tell anyone you know to avoid signing this petition. Keep an eye on the APC website for more on this subject in the future. See page 11 of this newsletter for lion info.





# ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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## Local sportsmen's groups awarded almost \$70,000 in grants

*AZGFD invests in retention programs for new hunters, anglers*

PHOENIX – The Arizona Game and Fish Department has awarded \$68,357 in grant funding for local sportsmen's organizations to provide public, hands-on, mentored projects focused on the retention of new hunters and anglers.

Of 20 proposals submitted in this latest grant cycle, 18 were rated by a three-member panel. The grants were approved and awarded through a competitive application process that closed July 30.

"We continue to hone the Local Sportsmen's Group grant program using the latest science for developing – and, more importantly – retaining new hunters," said Doug Burt, hunting and shooting sports program manager. "It's only through the network of dedicated groups who do the boots-on-the-ground work of sharing the knowledge, skills and passion of ethical, legal hunting and fishing to assure the next generation of conservationist."

The department is committed to developing and retaining the next generation of hunter-angler conservationists. A growing body of science points to the need for multiple experiences, social support and the mentoring required to develop hunter-angler conservationists. The 18 projects approved meet those objectives.

"While we provide this critical funding to groups, it represents only a fraction of the events and programs that are open each year to the public interested in learning about the great outdoors," Burt said.

The following projects have been awarded:

- **Arizona Deer Association**, "ADA Unit 23 Youth Deer / Cow Elk Camp," awarded \$5,000.
- **Arizona Elk Society**, "AES Junior Elk Camp Units 6A/5BS," awarded \$3,900.
- **Arizona Predator Callers**, "37B Small Game and Youth Javelina Camp APC," awarded \$6,500.
- **Ben Avery Clay Busters**, "Upland Bird Hunting for Women and Youth," awarded \$2,622.
- **Christian Hunters of America**, "CHA Mentored Javelina Hunt," awarded \$5,800.
- **Mule Deer Foundation**, "Unit 22/23 MDF Youth Deer Camp," awarded \$3,000.
- **Mule Deer Foundation**, "Unit 17B-20A Prescott MDF Youth Deer Camp," awarded \$3,000.
- **Mule Deer Foundation**, "Unit 34A MDF Youth Deer Camp," awarded \$3,000.
- **Mule Deer Foundation**, "Unit 42 MDF Youth Deer Camp," awarded \$3,000.
- **Mule Deer Foundation**, "Unit 21 MDF Youth Deer Camp," awarded \$2,000.
- **Mule Deer Foundation**, "Unit 8 MDF Youth Deer Camp," awarded \$2,500.
- **Southern Arizona Quail Forever**, "Southern Arizona Quail Forever Youth Quail Camp," awarded \$3,590.
- **Southwest Fur Harvesters**, "SWFH November Youth Trappers Education and Camp," awarded \$4,470.
- **Youth Outdoors Unlimited**, "Wallow Fire Turkey Science and Hunting Camp Unit 1 and Unit 27," awarded \$6,575.
- **Youth Outdoors Unlimited**, "Junior Javelina, Small Game and Predator Camp Unit 20C, Unit 18B and Unit 16A," awarded \$3,900.
- **Youth Outdoors Unlimited**, "Youth Deer, Javelina and Small Game Camp in Unit 18B, Unit 20C and Unit 17B," awarded \$2,500.
- **Youth Outdoors Unlimited**, "Unit 1 Squirrel Camp," awarded \$2,000.
- **Yuma Valley Rod and Gun Club**, "Youth Small Game Camp," awarded \$5,000.

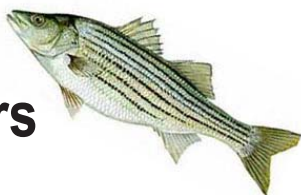
To learn more about the annual Local Sportsmen's Group grant program, visit [www.azgfd.gov/LSG](http://www.azgfd.gov/LSG)

For a listing of Outdoor Skills Network recruitment and retention events, visit [www.azgfd.gov/outdoorskills](http://www.azgfd.gov/outdoorskills).

There is no cost to Arizona taxpayers for the Local Sportsmen's Group grant program. The program is funded through the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, hunt permit-tags and stamps, and is an investment in the continuance of wildlife conservation efforts and outdoor recreation participation in Arizona. Game and Fish does not receive any of the state's general funds and operates on a user-pay, public-benefit model.

**Capt. Don Martin**

**Striper Hunters**



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**Stan Schepers** has an open invitation to APC members or prospective members for one-on-one training on skinning and preparing your fur for sale.

Stan can be reached at **602-499-0505**.

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*Your ad could go here.*

*If you are a current APC member, submit your business card or other information to John Albin, Editor.  
johnalbin1@msn.com*

# September APC Meeting Highlights



Jeff Heinze, Ken Eaton and Dusty Mosier put on an excellent round table presentation on general coyote hunting.



**Novice Caller of the Year 2016-2017** awards were presented to two recipients this year. Tying for the Novice Award were **Nicholas Elias** in the photo on the left and **Vince Gibbens** on the right, both shown with John Arterburn who made the presentations.





**Raffle Winners**



**Door Prize Winner**

Winner of the September Raffle was **Neale S.** shown holding his new rifle with scope. Thanks to John Arterburn of Pinnacle Peak Ace Home Center for supplying the raffle prizes to choose from.





## Share the Adventure

Hank “The Harvester” S. had a couple of successful hunts recently. Here is a dialog of his harvesting of a coyote and bobcat.

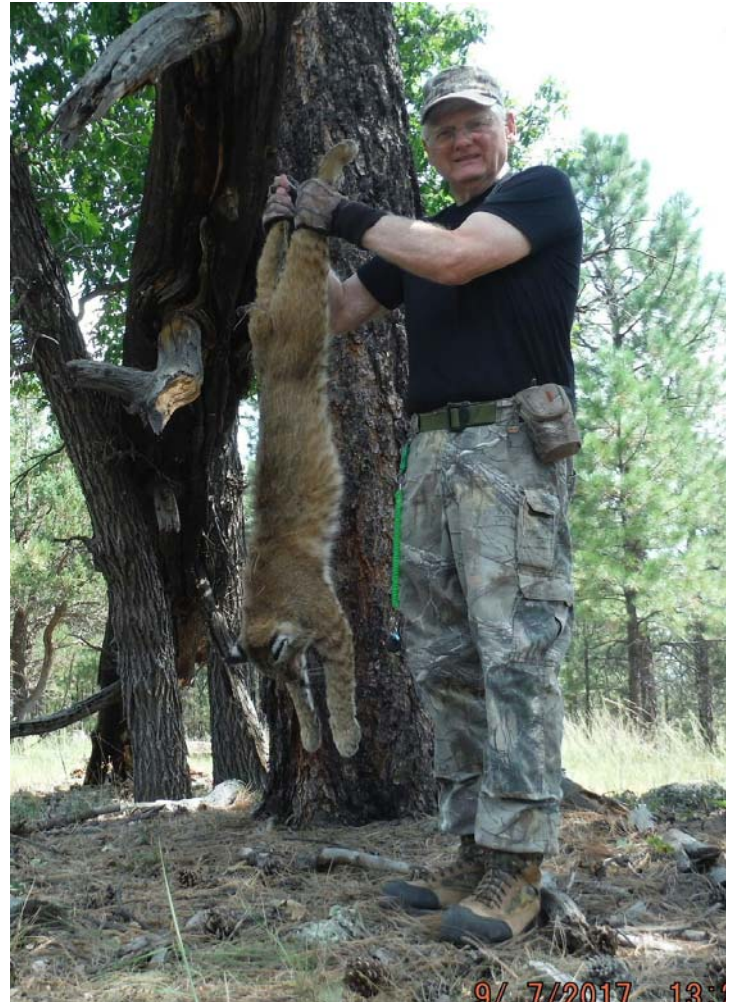
Through foot-tall pale-yellow grass, I could see the outline of an object. It was round and had points on either side near the top. The color blended with the grass but just a little darker. It looked like the head of a bobcat, but then I often see rocks and stumps that look like various critters.

I watched the object for a while but saw no movement so I continued shifting my eyes left to right and back again looking for coyotes. My eyes kept coming back to this object because it was directly beyond my caller, about 25 yards farther out. If it was anywhere else I probably would not have seen it. After another three or four minutes, it moved. A bobcat was coming in to my caller. It came about 20 yards closer and sat down on its haunches next to a log. I shot it in the chest.

According to everything I've been told about bobcats there was nothing typical about this harvest. It was one-o'clock in the afternoon and I had been calling for only about five minutes when I first spotted this cat; it was a total of ten minutes from the time I started the caller to when I shot it. The terrain was flat with no rocks or thick brush in sight, only tall pine trees. I attribute my MoJo Critter for getting this cat to come out of the protection of the tall grass so quickly. I think the lesson learned is that 'conventional wisdom' often does not apply when hunting predators.

I was hunting in tight cover when two coyotes came charging in from behind on my right side, one a few yards behind the other. I did not get my shotgun up fast enough for a shot at the first one but I was ready for the second coyote, the smaller one. It made a sharp right turn, around a large thick shrub, trying to get away. With the shrub between me and the coyote I lost sight of it, but I knew exactly where it should be. I shot. The number 4 buckshot ripped through that thick shrub, hit the coyote, and it was down. I think number 4 buckshot is the only way to go in tight cover.

**“Share the adventure”  
Send your articles and photos  
to: [johnalbin1@msn.com](mailto:johnalbin1@msn.com)**





# APC Schedule of Events for 2017/18

*The following tentative schedule has been developed by your Executive Board as a guideline to be used for this seasons APC events. General Meetings are the first dates on the list for any given month. Hunt events are generally the Saturday following the club meetings. Please look this over and get the dates on your calendar.*

Event Date	Topic	Speaker/Location
October 12, 2017	Camo	Kara Jensen & Jeff Heinze
October 14, 2017	Club Novice Hunt	Florence Junction Check In
November 9, 2017	Bobcat Hunting	Stan Schepers & Ned Burris
November 11, 2017	Club Novice Hunt	Florence Junction Check In
December 1-3, 2017	World Championship Coyote Calling Contest	By Invitation Only
December 14, 2017	Fur Preparation	Stan Schepers
December 16, 2017	Club Hunt	Florence Junction Check In
January 11, 2018	Javelina	Kara Jensen, Jef Heinze & Dennis Slade
January 20-21, 2018	Multi-Club Hunt	TBD
January 25-28, 2018	Junior Javelina Hunt	Freeman Rd, Unit 37B
February 8, 2018	Lion	Mark Healy
March 8, 2018	Bear	Dennis Slade
March 10, 2018	Club Hunt - Save A Fawn	Heber Check In
March 24-25, 2018	Game and Fish Expo	Ben Avery
April 12, 2018	Firearms & Equipment	Jef Heinze, Dennis Slade & Grant Pierce
April 14, 2018	Adopt A Ranch Clean up Project	Griffin Ranch, Globe, AZ
May 10, 2018	Awards Banquet	

## Membership Report

### Welcome New Members:

*David W. of Chandler, Dusty W of Gilbert, Adam J of San Tan Valley and Lee D. of Buckeye*

### Thanks to the following members for renewing their APC memberships:

*Dusty M., Jeff H., Ken E., Eric A., James J., Bill R., Vince G., Jason C. and Hank S.*

### Expiring Soon:

*Michel Lamothe, Chuck Flewelling, April Howard, Leo Sstewart, Darren Winslow, Scott Taylor and Joshua Kroll*



Hank's bobcat

# September Club Hunt

## Dobson Ranch

### September 16, 2017

The September club hunt had 8 participants who showed up at the Dobson Ranch check in and camping location. Even though the ranch owner stated that there were an abundance of coyotes in the area, they were few in actual appearance. John Arterburn who hunted with novices saw only one which was in and around a herd of cattle. Dinner on Friday night and Saturday night was supplied by APC and a good time was had by all. Maybe not the non-red meat eater.



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## Next Club Hunt is October 14, 2017

Attend the October 12, 2017 general meeting to obtain the check in location.

If you have an interest in becoming editor of the APC Newsletter contact Jeff Heinze. Current editor has been doing it for 10 yrs and would like a break. New ideas are always good. Really, I mean it. Last Chance



## Learn About Arizona's Big Cats

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has links on the AGFD website that gives information on Mountain Lions and Bobcats. The information contained on this page comes directly from the AGFD pages.

### Mountain Lions

Mountaing lions are an important part of Arizona's ecosystem, but over time a number of misconceptions about mountain lions have been perpetuated. Read the FAQ document below to learn the facts about mountain lions and to clear up misconceptions.

**What is the status of mountain lions in Arizona?** Mountain lions are **not** endangered, threatened, or sensitive species in Arizona. An independent scientific organization, the International Union of Conservation in Nature, documents that mountain lion populations are expanding in North America and are listed as species of "Least Concern," a ranking that supports that mountain lions are not at risk in any fashion. In Arizona, mountain lions are expanding into regions where they were once rare, supporting the fact that in this state mountain lions are following the continental pattern of expanding.

**Does Arizona have a "trophy" mountain lion hunt?** No, mountain lions are managed as are all hunting wildlife for sustainable harvest in a fashion that does not put the species at risk. To ensure this, all mountain lions that are harvested by hunters have to be physically checked in at an Arizona Game and Fish Department office so data can be collected on the age and sex of the animal so that population status can be monitored. The term "trophy" has repeatedly been misused to mislead people into a distorted view of mountain lion harvest.

**How are mountain lions managed in Arizona?** Mountain lions are regulated by several statutes and Commission Order. For example, it is unlawful to harvest a female lion with kittens or to harvest a spotted kitten. The Department has implemented several changes to update "best management practices" as part of the agency's adaptive management protocols that dictate the Commission evaluate and establish management guidelines on a periodic basis. An example of these changes is the establishment of several zones in the state which harvest thresholds that would close the season in that zone when a predetermined number of mountain lions have been harvested in that zone.

**What data does the Department use to manage mountain lions?** Mountain lions are difficult to survey due to their cryptic behaviors, and similarly to moust wildlife agencies, the Department manages this species on data that are derived from harvested animals. Every harvested mountain lion has to be physically checked in by a Department employee so age and sex data can be collected and analyzed to determine the age distribution of harvested animals. These data are used to create a demographic representation of the population in the wild. In addition, the Department uses harvested female data to adjust open areas if a predetermined percentage of the harvest is adult females. This threshold, which is based on the best available science, has never been met in Arizona.

**Is there any indication that mountain lion harvest in Arizona is not sustainable?** No, to the contrary, all of the harvest data that the Department uses to ensure sustainable populations suggests that the population is stable to increasing in many parts of the state. The age distribution is "normally distributed," a measure that suggests that based on the best available literature, the population is not being over exploited. The age of every harvested animal is determined by "cementum aging" techniques, a time-proven method to assess age.

**If mountain lion populations are not effectively managed, will there be an increase in human-lion conflicts?** In looking at California, where mountain lion sport harvest has been banned for decades, there has been an increase in lion-human conflicts. While it is difficult to determine casue and effect, there has been an increase and the same is a potential in Arizona.

If a law to ban regulated mountain lion harvest were to pass in Arizona, will thke Arizona Game and Fish Department still be able to adequately respond to mountain lion incidents? Currently, the Department not only receives funding from our regulated hunting for this species, but our hunters also provide a valuable management tool. The loss of this tool and the rduced funding that the Department receives from the sale of these tags which are used for conservation purposes whould reduce our ability to manage mountain lions. Depending on the language of a law, the Department's ability to address human-mountain lion conflicts could be compromised.

**For more information on lions and bocats go to the AGFD website:** <https://www.azfd.com/wildlife/mountainlionsinarizona/>

Another excellent link in response to the anti-hunters:

<https://kdminer.com/news/2017/oct/10/anti-hunting-groups-seek-ban-hunting-mountain-lion/>

## Arizona Predator Callers - Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hm Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell/Wk Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
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ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS LIABILITY RELEASE: by signing below I understand that I will not hold APC and/or APC board of directors, officers, committee Members, Judges, Members, and volunteers responsible in any way for accidents, losses, judgments, or any Act of God that may happen while participating in any APC sponsored or co-sponsored meeting or event. APC policy is to promptly report to law enforcement all suspected abuse and sexual molestation. Have you been convicted of a Crime? \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_No.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Family Members (Family Membership is for spouse and non-adult children of primary member)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Primary Annual Membership.....\$30.00  
Family Membership add \$5.00.....\$35.00  
Lifetime Individual Membership.....\$350.00

New Membership

Renewal

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Send To:**  
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Address Correction Requested

