



Arizona Legislative Updates



Special Session on Fires Fails to Consider the Climate Crisis



A healthy ponderosa pine forest with mature trees and where fire has played its ecological role and there is no livestock grazing. Fire Point, Grand Canyon National Park.

June 18, 2021

Hi everyone!

We are just under two weeks away from the end of the state's fiscal year and still there is no budget. This week the Governor called a special session on fire even though everything could have been addressed in the regular session -- lots of theater. Sadly, there was nothing in the package to help address a key contributor to larger fires -- climate change -- or to invest in climate resiliency. The State Forester refused to acknowledge the role of climate change in bigger fires and the worsening drought, and in fact refused to acknowledge that humans are contributing to climate change. Some legislators and agriculture interested offered up livestock as a solution to fires when it is well-known that livestock help to spread invasive plants that help fuel fires and cattle also contribute to soil erosion if grazing is allowed post-fire. [Read our comments on the Governor and Legislature's failure to act on climate here.](#) Please consider a letter to the editor or to your legislators asking for real action on the climate crisis.

There has been no additional action on any of the bills we are tracking and as noted above, nothing on the budget.

There are local communities acting on climate, however and opportunities for you to participate in your community's climate action plan. Currently, the City of Phoenix is holding workshops and taking comments on its [draft climate action plan](#). Check the workshops [here](#).

On Saturday, June 26th, Districts 7 and 8, the American Lung Association, and Chispa AZ, are hosting a workshop titled "[The Air We Breathe: Climate Equity in Phoenix](#)" in order to create space for Phoenixians to take an active part in updating Phoenix's Climate Action Plan.

Congratulations to Flagstaff for adopting a Carbon Neutrality Plan to advance the City Council's goal of achieving community-wide carbon-neutrality by 2030.



PHOENIX D8 OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER CARLOS GARCIA

COUNCILWOMAN YASSAMIN ANSARI PHOENIX DISTRICT 7

CHISPA AZ IGNITING THE MOVEMENT. ADVANCING CLIMATE JUSTICE. LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION.

THE AIR WE BREATHE:

Climate Equity in Phoenix

The City of Phoenix's Climate Action Plan

Saturday, June 26 | 10am-11:30am | phoenix.gov/climate

[You can see bills we are tracking here.](#)

If you don't know who your legislators are, just use this [Find My Legislator link](#) and enter your address to find your district, then go to [Members](#) to see who represents your district. You will find their phone numbers and email addresses there as well.

If you are not receiving these updates directly, you can sign up for them [here](#).

Thank you for acting on climate!



Sandy Bahr
Chapter Director
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter



Coming Up This Week at the Arizona Legislature

They will be back in session on Monday, but nothing is currently posted.



Chiricahua leopard frog tadpole photo by Jim Rorabaugh

