



"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." — Mahatma Gandhi



A pair of coyotes play in the desert *photo by George Andrejko*

Hi everyone!

This week the Arizona Legislature did a couple of good things, but unfortunately also advanced a bill to the Governor that will limit emergency voting and the establishment of emergency voting centers. [SB1090 emergency voting procedures; board action](#) (Ugenti-Rita) passed out of the Senate on final passage 16-13-1, mostly along party lines with Senator Bowie out sick and Senator Carter joining the Democrats in voting no. It is now on the Governor's desk, so this would be a good time to ask for a veto.

Outside the Legislature, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission has initiated a rulemaking to ban wildlife killing contests. This is an important step in limiting these unethical contests that destroy wildlife and serve no purpose relative to wildlife management. You can comment through May 12th by emailing rulemaking@azgfd.gov or via the mail at Arizona Game and Fish Department, Attn.: Rules Section, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086. We have some talking points available, if you need them.

Please keep calling and emailing on [HB2701 state parks; lottery; heritage fund](#) (Osborne: Cano, Cobb, et al.). This bill restores the State Parks Heritage Fund with \$10 million in annual funding from the Arizona Lottery as originally supported by Arizona voters in 1990. The State Parks Heritage Fund will support historic preservation and preservation of archaeological sites, create and improve community and state parks, promote and maintain trails, and provide funding for environmental education.


[Please contact your senator today and ask them to support HB2701 and funding for the Heritage Fund in the state budget.](#)

Take Action!

81% of voters support preserving Arizona's Permanent Early Voter List (PEVL) including **77%** of Republican voters.

Call **701-484-0521** and tell your AZ House Rep to vote **NO on SB 1188** which would purge 200,000 early voters.

#StopThePurge #VotingMattersAZ



We need to keep up the pressure against voter suppression and anti-initiative measures as well. As you saw, SB1090 already made it to the Governor. We want to keep worse bills from reaching his desk.

[Please join the day of action against SB1188 on April 16th.](#) You can just call your two representatives that day and/or use the alert below and share on social media.

[SB1188 permanent early voting list](#) (Ugenti-Rita) purges voters from the Permanent Early Voting List (PEVL) if they fail to vote by early ballot in two consecutive election cycles or two elections, depending on how it is interpreted. This will remove people prematurely and result in fewer people voting.

[Please send a message to your representatives and ask them to vote NO on SB1188, to say no to the voter purge.](#)

Take Action!

[SB1451 statewide ballot measures; circulators; procedures](#) (Leach) is still in the mix. It erects additional barriers for citizen initiatives and referenda, including for signature gathering. It also provides more reasons to disqualify signatures, including for petitions that are not properly grouped by circulator and that don't have the paid circulator number on them. The Legislature has already made it nearly impossible for anyone other than wealthiest interests to promote a citizen initiative. [Help stop this attack on our democracy.](#)

Take Action!

To see more on bills we are tracking, go to [Sierra Club Legislative Tracker](#).

To find out who your legislators are, just go [here](#) and enter your address. It will provide your legislative district. You can then look up your legislators [here](#).

Thank you for taking action to protect our right to vote!



Sandy Bahr
Chapter Director
Sierra Club -- Grand Canyon Chapter



photo by Sandy Bahr

Coming Up This Week

Monday, April 15th

House Rules Committee agenda is not yet posted, but it will likely meet.

Senate Rules Committee at 1:00 PM

Tuesday, April 16th

[Day of Action against Voter Suppression!](#)

Wednesday, April 17th

Senate Committee on Water and Agriculture in SHR1 at 2:00 P.M.

- Presentation - Drought Contingency Plan Update - Tom Buschatzke, Director of the Department of Water Resources and Ted Cooke, General Manager of the Central Arizona Project.

Mark your calendar for Monday, April 22nd at 12:45 P.M. There will be an Earth Day news conference and rally at the Capitol.

For more information on what's happening at the Legislature, please contact Sandy Bahr at (602) 253-8633 or sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org.



Saguaro Blossoms photo by Sky Jacobs and Jessica Lee

To call your legislators, go to [Member Roster](#) and find their phone numbers. If you're outside the Phoenix area, you can call your legislators' offices at 1-800-352-8404. In the Phoenix area call 602-926-3559 (Senate) or 602-926-4221 (House) and ask to be connected with your legislators.



Sierra Club Grand Canyon Chapter

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