

**Statewide Shooting Range Update**  
For the Arizona Game and Fish Commission  
June 14, 2007  
Phoenix, AZ

**Northern Arizona Shooting Range**

- The Department has awarded the contract to conduct a self-contained restricted appraisal on Commission-owned non-federal lands proposed to be exchanged for Forest land at the Willard Springs site, a potential location for the Northern Arizona Shooting Facility (NASF). The completed restricted appraisal will be delivered no later than September 30, 2007.
- On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Department sent a letter to Nora Rasure, Forest Supervisor for the Coconino National Forest (CNF) informally requesting the Forest's position on the potential of issuing a Special Use Permit (SUP) to the Commission for the construction and operation of a regional shooting facility in northern Arizona. The letter was also copied to U.S. Forest Service Chief, Gail Kimbell in Washington DC. A 40-page response was received from CNF on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Despite liability concerns, the Forest continues to support a land exchange with the Department.
- An executive summary letter was prepared for the Arizona Congressional Delegation delineating the chronology of events surrounding the exhausted Bellemont proposed land exchange with the CNF. The letter emphasized the Department's continued cooperation with the Forest to identify a suitable site for NASF construction while meeting the Department's commitment to provide significant recreational alternatives for area residents.
- The Geotechnical survey has been completed and forwarded to the Department's Engineering Program for their evaluation of the report. Preliminary feedback indicates the Willard Springs site would be acceptable for development of a shooting range.
- The Department also met with members of the Coconino County Board of Supervisors (BOS) to convey information and address any concerns they had. The meeting provided valuable feedback from the BOS and indicated they continue to be supportive of a shooting range in northern Arizona.