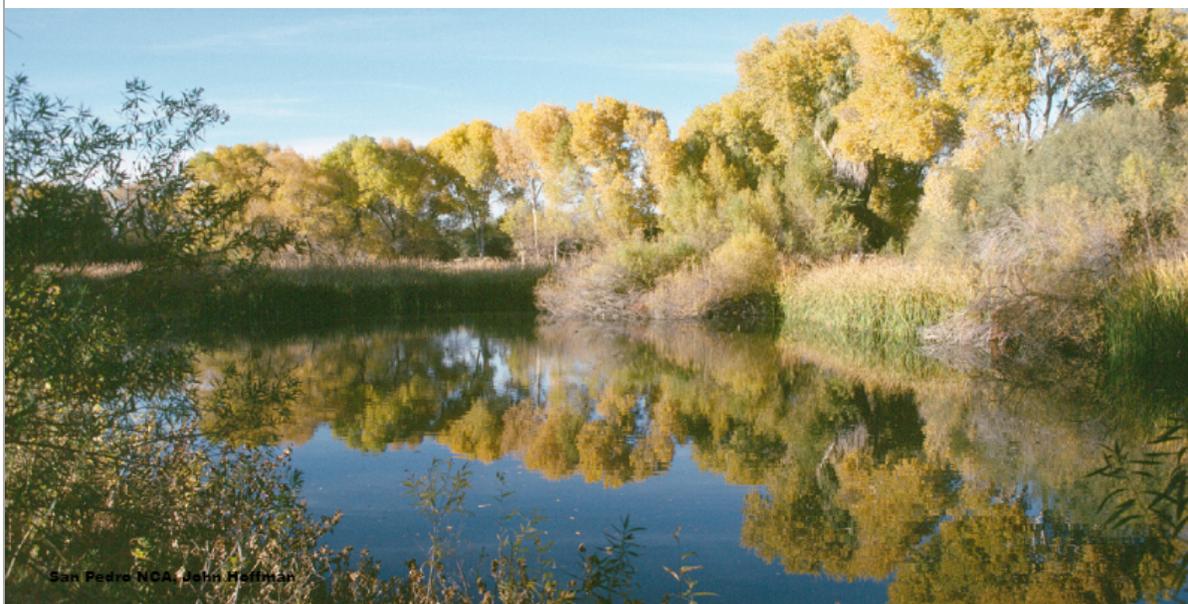


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Connecting people with birds & the places they live



CONSERVATION ACTION ALERT

The time is now to send in comments on the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area's Draft Resource Management Plan or SPRNCA RMP. Yes, is a mouth full.

Comments can be made on the BLM's webpage:

<https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/planAndProjectSite.do?methodName=dispatchToPatternPage¤tPageId=48115>

Scroll down to "Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement" and click on "**Comment on Document**".

Or. Email Amy Markstein directly at amarkstein@blm.gov. This is the best option for including any documents or additional reports.

Comments are due September 27th

In order to file a complaint once the rule is proposed and open for final comment, you need to comment now first.

All comments are helpful:

1. Technical review. If you have a science or social science background, work in the field or have on-the-ground experience at the SPRNCA, please consider reviewing the parts of the draft plan which you have the most experience in. Chapter 3 in the Plan deals with the impacts certain management decisions will have and would be the most impactful area to comment.
2. Emotional appeals: Tell BLM you love the SPRNCA. It is as simple as that. Remind the BLM that their directive is to protect the riparian health of the San Pedro River. Some additional talking points:
 - a. Remind BLM that their directive is to “conserve, protect and enhance the riparian area and the aquatic, wildlife, archaeological, paleontological, scientific, cultural, educational, and recreational resources of the conservation area.” Allowing grazing in the SPRNCA would be counter to this purpose. Anything which degrades the riparian health would be counter this purpose.
 - b. Tell the BLM you value a healthy riparian ecosystem. Provide stories of birding and enjoying the beauty of SPRNCA. Remind BLM your birding and enjoyment of the SPRNCA means economic impact on the surrounding community. But that value and impact only exists with a healthy riparian ecosystem.
 - c. Tell SPRNCA you do not see any of the proposed alternatives, especially their preferred alternative, as reasonable options and demand a reconsideration of a new alternative that truly addresses the riparian health and enjoyment of SPRNCA. Grazing should not be an option. Climate realities need to be thoroughly researched.
 - d. Explain why SPRNCA is unique. The San Pedro is the last free-flowing river in Arizona. The habitat in SPRNCA is irreplaceable. In a State where residents have watched the death of so many rivers, SPRNCA needs to be protected and preserved.

Tell why the San Pedro River is important to you.

Please forward along this email and encourage all your neighbors to comment as well. You do not need to be in Arizona to comment.

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