

NOTEWORTHY ACHIEVEMENTS



DEAR FRIENDS OF TUCSON AUDUBON,

Like you, I find comfort and joy in the songs of our Sonoran Desert and Madrean Sky Island birds. Strolling through Sweetwater Wetlands, the Cuckoo Corridor at our Paton Center for Hummingbirds, or the trails on mountain ranges is always a delight, with dozens of avian voices joining together in a masterful choral performance.

My six-year journey as a volunteer board member for Tucson Audubon has been a similar delight. I've heard a multitude of voices joining together to ensure the long term success of our mission. Your financial gifts and commitments as members and donors have led the chorus of support that sustains us. Government grants, earned revenue at our Nature Shop and other programs, Festival and event attendance fees have chimed in, to allow our work to grow in impact each year.

I'm pleased to share with you the 2021 Annual Report. More than just a financial snapshot, this is a record of the successes that you have helped our staff and volunteers achieve in 2021. We have secured funding to engage in a long-term project to restore saguaro cactus habitat. We have continued our vital work in community science. We've brought more people into our festivals and field trips and have expanded our capacity in a number of areas. **In short, we've reached new heights in our mission of inspiring the public to enjoy and protect birds.**

I hope your year is filled with the sweet song of our local birds, and filled as well with the comfort and joy of knowing Tucson Audubon has a bright future ahead.



Mary Walker

Mary Walker
Board President



CONSERVATION

- Tucson Audubon staff worked on conservation projects in **AZ, CO, KS, NM, OK, TX, UT, & WY** in 2021!
- The **5.5-ACRE PLOT** between the Paton Center and TNC's Patagonia-Sonoita Creek Preserve was successfully purchased completing a contiguous **2-MILE CORRIDOR** of Sonoita Creek under conservation status
- Successfully launched a brand-new program, **BIRD-SAFE BUILDINGS**, with **120 PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS** to continue our effort of reducing hazards to birds. Distributed **814 FREE ANTI-COLLISION DECAL KITS** to the public
- Installed **17 OWL BOXES AT 16 COMMUNITY GARDENS** of Tucson for mutual benefit of owl habitat and pest control for the gardens
- **218 ELF OWLS** found during surveys with Saguaro NP and Pima County
- **2,167 LUCY'S WARBLER NESTBOXES** installed on the landscape
- Partnered with Arizona Department of Environmental Quality in their **COMMUNITY SCIENCE** effort to gather water quality and flow data along Sonoita Creek

Invasive plant treatment in Mansfield Canyon, Santa Ritas, Tony Figueroa; Kari Hackney planting Arizona eryngo in the Paton Center stream, Dan Lehman; Paton Center Pavilion, Jeff Goldberg/ESTO; Lucy's Warbler feeding young in a nestbox, Paula Redinger; Vermilion Flycatcher, David Quanrud

RESTORATION

- **HABITAT AT HOME: 40 new registrants**, sold **888 PLANTS** during seasonal plant sales, completed **6 HOME HABITAT EVALUATIONS** and **6 HABITAT INSTALLS**
- **CORAZON SIN FUEGO:** With Northwest Fire, completed **8 FIREBREAKS** in the Santa Cruz river to limit fire spread and keep the community safe, and removed **15 ACRES** of invasive saltcedar paving the way for a major riparian restoration project by the county
- Saguaro Climate Adaptation and Post-Burn Restoration Project funded by **3 GRANTS FOR OVER \$500K** throughout Southeast AZ
- Completed a **REFUGIA POND** and stream for desert pupfish in the Patagonia Mountains

RESEARCH

- Our partners on **WESTERN YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO REFUGIA MODELING** made a presentation to the annual meeting of The Wildlife Society
- **DESERT PURPLE MARTINS:** We made the first official documentation of multiple concurrent martin nests in a single saguaro (9!) and have identified **114 SAGUAROS WITH MARTIN NESTS**
- Our **TUCSON BIRD COUNT** data is being used to inform University of Arizona research on urban habitat



INVASIVE PLANTS

- Secured organizational business license for invasive plant control leading to securing a **5-YEAR MASTER AGREEMENT** with Pima County
- Created the **IN-HOUSE INVASIVE PLANT STRIKE TEAM** with **7 STAFF** working on projects with 3 HOAs and numerous private landowners
- The Federal Strike Team worked at **9 NATIONAL PARKS** and **MONUMENTS** and **10 WILDLIFE REFUGES** throughout AZ, NM, and OK
- Created an **INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT PLAN** for Luke Air Force Base and their auxiliary sites
- Excellent work controlling invasive plants in the Santa Rita Mountains for the Coronado National Forest has led to a **3-YEAR EXTENSION** of that mine-reclamation project



BIRDS + COMMUNITY

SOUTHEAST ARIZONA BIRDING FESTIVAL

- **690 ATTENDEES** from **33 STATES** and **6 COUNTRIES**
- **116 BIRDING FIELD TRIPS**; **216 BIRD SPECIES** seen

VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON EVENTS

- **8,716 PARTICIPANTS** at **89 EVENTS**

BIRDATHON

- **51 TEAMS** of **135 PEOPLE** collectively found roughly **200 BIRD SPECIES**
- **\$113,816.35** funds raised to support Tucson Audubon's work (48% increase)

FIELD TRIP PROGRAM

- Shared the wonders of birds with **1,460 ATTENDEES** on **162 BIRDING FIELD TRIPS**

VOLUNTEER WORK

- **384 VOLUNTEERS** logged **7,263 HOURS** for a value of **\$207,286** (based on the Independent Sector rate)

NATURE SHOP

- *Finding Birds in Southeast Arizona* guide: **545 COPIES SOLD** and **\$11,463** in sales (216% increase)
- **IN-PERSON SHOP VISITORS: 2,074**
- **ONLINE ORDERS: 17,563 VISITORS** generated **1,379 ORDERS** and **\$58,360** in sales (35.7% increase in orders shipped)
- **OVERALL SALES: 10,325 ITEMS** sold and **\$340,600** in sales (34.6% increase)

MEMBERSHIP, DONORS, SOCIAL MEDIA

- **INCREASED MEMBERSHIPS BY 5.12%**, representing roughly **3,347 INDIVIDUALS**
- Received contributions from **1,508 DONORS**
- **INCREASED OUR SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWING TO 24,600**, an increase of 13%

PATON CENTER

- Daily operations and visitor services handled by **16 DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS**
- **188 BIRD SPECIES** seen (eBird)

2021 FINANCIALS

