

Cochise County

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATUS	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	ELEVATION	HABITAT	COMMENTS
Beautiful shiner	<i>Cyprinella formosa</i>	Threatened	Small (2.5 inches) shiny minnow, very similar to red shiner. Males colorful during breeding (yellow-orange or orange on caudal and lower fins, bluish body).	Cochise	< 4,500 ft	Small to medium sized streams and ponds with sand, gravel, and rock bottoms.	Virtually extirpated in the United States, with the exception of a few populations on San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuge. Same critical habitat as Yaqui Chub and Catfish (see 49 FR 34490, 08-31-84).
Canelo Hills ladies' tresses	<i>Spiranthes delitescens</i>	Endangered	Slender, erect member of the orchid family (Orchidaceae). Flower stalk 20 inches tall, may contain 40 white flowers spirally arranged on the flowering stalk.	Cochise, Santa Cruz	~ 5,000 ft	Finely grained, highly organic, saturated soils of cienegas.	Found in the San Pedro watershed. Potential habitat occurs in Sonora, Mexico, but no populations have been found.
Chiricahua leopard frog	<i>Lithobates [Rana] chiricahuensis</i>	Threatened	Cream colored tubercles (spots) on a dark background on the rear of the thigh, dorsolateral folds that are interrupted and deflected medially, and a call given out of water distinguish this spotted frog from other leopard frogs.	Apache, Cochise, Coconino, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Navajo, Pima, Santa Cruz, Yavapai	3,300-8,900 ft	Streams, rivers, backwaters, ponds, and stock tanks that are mostly free from introduced fish, crayfish, and bullfrogs.	Require permanent or nearly permanent water sources. Populations north of the Gila River may be a closely-related, but distinct, undescribed species. A special rule allows take of frogs due to operation and maintenance of livestock tanks on State and private lands.
Cochise pincushion cactus	<i>Coryphantha robbinsorum</i>	Threatened	A small unbranched cactus with no central spines and 11-17 white radial spines. The bell-shaped flowers are borne on the ends of tubercles (protrusions). Flowers: bell shaped, pale yellow-green. Fruits: orange-red to red.	Cochise	> 4,200 ft	Semidesert grassland with small shrubs, agave, other cacti, and grama grass.	Grows on gray limestone hills. Species also occurs in Sonora, Mexico

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Desert pupfish	<i>Cyprinodon macularius</i>	Endangered	Small (2 inches) smoothly rounded body shape with narrow vertical bars on the sides. Breeding males blue on head and sides with yellow on tail. Females and juveniles tan to olive colored back and silvery sides.	Cochise, Graham, Maricopa, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Yavapai	< 4,000 ft	Shallow springs, small streams, and marshes. Tolerates saline and warm water.	Two subspecies are recognized: Desert Pupfish (<i>C.m. macularis</i>) and Quitobaquito Pupfish (<i>C.m. eremus</i>). Critical habitat includes Quitobaquito Springs, Pima County, portions of San Felipe Creek, Carrizo Wash, and Fish Creek Wash, Imperial County, California.
Gila chub	<i>Gila intermedia</i>	Endangered	Deep compressed body, flat head. Dark olive-gray color above, silver sides. Endemic to Gila River Basin.	Cochise, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Yavapai	2,000-5,500 ft	Pools, springs, cienegas, and streams.	Found on multiple private lands, including the Nature Conservancy and the Audubon Society. Also occurs on Federal and state lands and in Sonora, Mexico. Critical habitat occurs in Cochise, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, and Yavapai counties.
Gila topminnow	<i>Poeciliopsis occidentalis occidentalis</i>	Endangered	Small (2 inches), guppy-like, live bearing, lacks dark spots on its fins. Breeding males are jet black with yellow fins.	Cochise, Gila, Graham, Maricopa, Pima, Santa Cruz, Yavapai	< 4,500 ft	Small streams, springs, and cienegas vegetated shallows.	Species historically also occurred in backwaters of large rivers but is currently isolated to small streams and springs.
Huachuca water umbel	<i>Lilaeopsis schaffneriana ssp. recurva</i>	Endangered	Herbaceous, semi-aquatic perennial in the parsley family (Umbelliferae) with slender erect, hollow, leaves that grow from the nodes of creeping rhizomes. Flower: 3 to 10 flowered umbels arise from root nodes.	Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz	3,500-6,500 ft	Cienegas, perennial low gradient streams, wetlands.	Species also occurs in adjacent Sonora, Mexico, west of the continental divide. Critical habitat in Cochise and Santa Cruz counties (64 FR 37441, July 12, 1999).
Jaguar	<i>Panthera onca</i>	Endangered	Largest species of cat native to Southwest. Muscular, with relatively short, massive limbs, and a deep-chested body. Usually cinnamon-buff in color with many black spots. Weights ranges from 90-300 lbs.	Cochise, Santa Cruz, Pima	1,600-9,000 ft	Found in Sonoran desertscrub up through subalpine conifer forest.	Also occurs in New Mexico. A Jaguar conservation team is being formed that is being led by Arizona and New Mexico state entities along with private organizations.

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Lesser long-nosed bat	<i>Leptonycteris curasoae yerbabuena</i>	Endangered	Elongated muzzle, small leaf nose, and long tongue. Yellowish brown or gray above and cinnamon brown below. Tail minute and appears to be lacking. Easily disturbed.	Cochise, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Maricopa, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Yuma	1,600-11,500 ft	Desert scrub habitat with agave and columnar cacti present as food plants.	Day roosts in caves and abandoned tunnels. Forages at night on nectar, pollen, and fruit of paniculate agaves and columnar cacti. This species is migratory and is present in Arizona usually from April to September and south of the border the remainder of the year.
Loach minnow	<i>Tiaroga cobitis</i>	Threatened	Small (<3 inches) slender, elongated fish, olive colored with dirty white spots at the base of the dorsal and caudal fins. Breeding males vivid red on mouth and base of fins.	Apache, Cochise, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Navajo, Pinal	< 8,000 ft	Benthic species of small to large perennial streams with swift shallow water over cobble and gravel. Recurrent flooding and natural hydrograph important.	Presently found in Aravaipa Creek, Deer Creek, Turkey Creek, Blue River, Campbell Blue Creek, San Francisco River, Eagle Creek, North Fork of the East Fork Black River, and White River in Arizona, and Dry Blue Creek, Pace Creek, Frieborn Creek, the Tularosa River, West Fork Gila River, and the mainstem upper Gila River in New Mexico. Populations have been recently reintroduced in Hot Springs and Redfield canyons in Cochise and Graham counties; Fossil Creek in Gila County; and Bonita Creek in Graham County Arizona. Critical habitat (72 FR 13356-13422, March 21, 2007) found in Apache, Graham, Greenlee, and Pinal counties, Arizona, as well as portions of the Blue River, San Francisco River, Tularosa River, Negrito Creek, Pace Creek, Dry Blue Creek, Frieborn Creek, Whitewater Creek, Gila River, and its West, Middle, and East Forks in Catron, Grant, and Hidalgo counties in New Mexico.
Mexican spotted owl	<i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i>	Threatened	Medium sized with dark eyes and no ear tufts. Brownish and heavily spotted with white or beige.	Apache, Cochise, Coconino, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Maricopa, Mohave, Navajo, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Yavapai	4,100-9,000 ft	Nests in canyons and dense forests with multi-layered foliage structure.	Generally nest in older forests of mixed conifer or ponderosa pine/gambel oak type, in canyons, and use variety of habitats for foraging. Sites with cool microclimates appear to be of importance or are preferred. Critical habitat was finalized on August 31, 2004 (69 FR 53182) in Arizona in Apache, Cochise, Coconino, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Maricopa, Navajo, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, and Yavapai counties.

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New Mexico ridge-nosed rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus willardi obscurus</i>	Threatened	Small 12-24 inches, secretive grayish-brown with a distinct ridge on the end of the snout. The dorsal surface has obscure, irregularly spaced white crossbars edged with brown (not a bold pattern).	Cochise	5,000-6,600 ft	Primarily canyon bottoms in pine-oak communities.	The subspecies has been documented in the Peloncillo Mountains in Arizona. There are only three known records from Arizona. Also occurs in Animas Mountains of New Mexico and Sierra San Luis in Sonora/Chihuahua.
Northern aplomado falcon	<i>Falco femoralis septentrionalis</i>	Endangered	Rufous underparts, gray back, long banded tail, and a distinct black and white facial pattern. Smaller than peregrine falcon but larger than a kestrel. Breeds between March and June.	Currently extirpated from AZ with unconfirmed sightings occasionally reported in Cochise County.	3,500-9,000 ft	Grassland and savannah	Non-essential experimental population designated in Arizona and New Mexico in 2006. Species formerly nested in southwestern U.S., now rarely occurs. Good habitat has low ground cover and mesquite or yucca for nesting platforms. Pesticide use in Mexico had endangered this species but DDT use is now banned there. Reintroductions are occurring in New Mexico and Texas. One confirmed sighting in AZ occurred in recent years.
Ocelot	<i>Leopardus (=Felis) pardalis</i>	Endangered	Medium-sized spotted cat that is yellowish with black streaks and stripes running from front to back. Tail is spotted and about 1/2 the length of head and body. Face is less heavily streaked than the back and sides.	Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz	< 8,000 ft	Desert scrub in Arizona. Humid tropical and sub-tropical forests, and savannahs in areas south of the U.S.	May persist in partly-cleared forests, second-growth woodland, and abandoned cultivated areas reverted to brush. Universal component is presence of dense cover. Unconfirmed reports of individuals in the southern part of the State continue to be received.
Sonoran tiger salamander	<i>Ambystoma mavortium stebbinsi</i>	Endangered	Large, light-colored blotches or reticulations on a dark background. Metamorphosed individuals are 1.8 to 5.9 inches in snout-vent length. Aquatic larvae are uniform dark colored with plume-like gills and developed tail fins.	Cochise, Santa Cruz	4,000-6,300 ft	Stock tanks and impounded cienegas; rodent burrows, rotted logs, and other moist cover sites.	Populations occur within the headwaters of the Santa Cruz and San Pedro Rivers. These include San Rafael Valley and in the foothills of the east slope of the Patagonia and Huachuca Mountains and Fort Huachuca.

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Southwestern willow flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	Endangered	Small passerine (about 6 inches) grayish-green back and wings, whitish throat, light olive-gray breast and pale yellowish belly. Two wingbars visible. Eye-ring faint or absent.	Apache, Cochise, Coconino, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, La Paz, Maricopa, Mohave, Navajo, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Yavapai, Yuma	< 8,500 ft	Cottonwood/willow and tamarisk vegetation communities along rivers and streams.	Migratory riparian-obligate species that occupies breeding habitat from late April to September. Distribution within its range is restricted to riparian corridors. Difficult to distinguish from other members of the Empidonax complex by sight alone. Training seminar required for those conducting flycatcher surveys. Critical habitat was finalized on October 19, 2005 (50 CFR 60886). In Arizona there are critical habitat segments in Apache, Cochise, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Maricopa, Mohave, Pima, Pinal, and Yavapai counties.
Spikedace	<i>Meda fulgida</i>	Threatened	Small (<3 inches) slim fish with silvery sides and "spine" on dorsal fin. Breeding males are a brassy golden color.	Cochise, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Pinal, Yavapai	< 6,000 ft	Medium to large perennial streams with moderate to swift velocity waters over cobble and gravel substrate. Recurrent flooding and natural hydrograph important to withstand invading exotic species.	Presently found in Aravaipa Creek, Eagle Creek, Verde River, and the Gila River from the San Pedro River to Ashurst-Hayden Dam in Arizona, and the Gila River and its East and West Forks in New Mexico. Populations have been recently reintroduced in Hot Springs and Redfield canyons in Cochise and Graham counties; Fossil Creek in Gila County; and Bonita Creek in Graham County Arizona. Critical habitat (72 FR 13356-13422, March 21, 2007) in Graham, Greenlee, Pinal, and Yavapai counties in Arizona, and in Catron, Grant, and Hidalgo counties in New Mexico.
Yaqui catfish	<i>Ictalurus pricei</i>	Threatened	Similar to channel catfish (<i>Ictalurus punctatus</i>) except anal fin base is shorter and the distal margin of the anal fin is broadly rounded with 23-25 soft rays. Body usually profusely speckled.	Cochise	4,000-5,000 ft	Moderate to large streams with slow current over sand and rock bottoms.	Critical habitat includes all aquatic habitats on San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuge.
Yaqui chub	<i>Gila purpurea</i>	Endangered	Medium sized minnow (<6 inches) dark colored, lighter below. Dark triangular caudal spot.	Cochise	4,000-6,000 ft	Deep pools of small streams near undercut banks and debris; pools associated with springheads, and artificial ponds.	Introduced populations exist in Leslie Canyon, in San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuge, and ponds and mainstem of West Turkey Creek in the Chiricahua Mountains. Critical habitat includes all aquatic habitats on San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuge.

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Yaqui topminnow	<i>Poeciliopsis occidentalis sonoriensis</i>	Endangered	Small (2 inches) guppy-like, live bearing fish (lacking dark spots on fins). Breeding males are jet black with yellow fins.	Cochise	< 4,500 ft	Small to moderate sized streams, springs, and cienegas. Generally found in shallow areas with aquatic vegetations or debris. Tolerates relatively high water temperature and low dissolved oxygen.	Natural and introduced populations occur on San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuge and an introduced population is found in Leslie Canyon. Populations also exist in Mexico.
Arizona treefrog (Huachuca/Canelo DPS)	<i>Hyla wrightorum</i>	Candidate	Small (1.8 inches in length) green frog; dark eye stripe extends past shoulder onto the sides of the body, may break into spots or dashes past shoulder, throat on males dusky green or tan; larger tadpoles golden brown above and below with mottled black tails.	Cochise, Santa Cruz	5,000-8,500 ft	Madrean oak woodlands, savannah, pine-oak woodlands, and mixed conifer forests.	Known from less than 20 localities in the Huachuca Mountains and adjacent Canelo Hills. Believed this population is geographically disjunct from the other known locality in the wetlands at Rancho Los Fresnos, Sonora, Mexico.
Huachuca springsnail	<i>Pyrgulopsis thompsoni</i>	Candidate	Very small (.06-.12 inches) conical shell. Identification must be verified by characteristics of reproductive organs.	Cochise, Santa Cruz	4,500-7,200 ft	Aquatic areas, small springs with vegetation and slow to moderate flow.	Individuals found on firm substances (roots, wood, and rocks). Other populations found on Fort Huachuca.
Lemmon fleabane	<i>Erigeron lemmonii</i>	Candidate	A prostrate perennial in the sunflower family. Stems and leaves are densely hairy. Flowers look like small delicate daisies, with white to light purple outer petals and yellow inner petals.	Cochise	1,500-6,000 ft	Grows in dense clumps in crevices, ledges, and boulders in canyon bottoms in pine-oak woodland.	Found only at one site on Fort Huachuca.
Northern Mexican Gartersnake	<i>Thamnophis eques megalops</i>	Candidate	Background color ranges from olive, olive-brown, to olive-gray. Body has three yellow or light colored stripes running down the length of the body, darker towards tail. Species distinguished from other native gartersnakes by the lateral stripes reaching the 3rd and 4th scale rows. Paired black spots extend along dorsolateral fields.	Apache, Cochise, Coconino, Gila, Graham, Navajo, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Yavapai	130-8,500 ft	Cienegas, stock tanks, large-river riparian woodlands and forests, streamside gallery forests.	Core population areas in the U.S. include mid/upper Verde River drainage, mid/lower Tonto Creek, and the San Rafael Valley and surrounding area. Status on tribal lands unknown. Distributed south into Mexico along the Sierra Madre Occidental and Mexican Plateau. Strongly associated with the presence of a native prey base including leopard frogs and native fish.

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San Bernardino springsnail	<i>Pyrgulopsis bernardina</i>	Candidate	Aquatic snail of family Hydrobiidae. Narrow-conic shell; height 1.3-1.7 mm; 3.25-4.0 whorls.	Cochise	3,806 ft	Springs with firm substrate composed of cobble, gravel, woody debris, and aquatic vegetation.	Distribution limited to Snail Spring on Slaughter Ranch in southeastern Arizona.
Yellow-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Candidate	Medium-sized bird with a slender, long-tailed profile, slightly down-curved bill that is blue-black with yellow on the lower half. Plumage is grayish-brown above and white below, with rufous primary flight feathers.	Apache, Cochise, Coconino, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, La Paz, Maricopa, Mohave, Navajo, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Yavapai, Yuma	< 6,500 ft	Large blocks of riparian woodlands (cottonwood, willow, or tamarisk galleries).	Neotropical migrant that winters primarily in South America and breeds primarily in the U.S. (but also in southern Canada and northern Mexico). As a migrant it is rarely detected; can occur outside of riparian areas. Cuckoos are found nesting statewide, mostly below 5,000 feet in central, western, and southeastern Arizona. Concern for cuckoos are primarily focused upon alterations to its nesting and foraging habitat. Nesting cuckoos are associated with relatively dense, wooded, streamside riparian habitat, with varying combinations of Fremont cottonwood, willow, velvet ash, Arizona walnut, mesquite, and tamarisk. Some cuckoos have also been detected nesting in velvet mesquite, netleaf hackberry, Arizona sycamore, Arizona alder, and some exotic neighborhood shade trees.
Ramsey Canyon leopard frog	<i>Rana subaquavocalis</i>	Conservation Agreement	Brown or green frog, 2.5 to 4 inches long; rear thigh pattern formed by small, raised cream-colored spots on a dark background; dorsolateral folds are interrupted posteriorly and deflected medially; relatively rough-skinned; knob-like terminal swellings on toes; stocky body proportions.	Cochise	4,924-6,000 ft	Aquatic systems, primarily ponds, in pine-oak and oak woodlands and semi-desert grasslands.	Known from six localities in canyons on the southeastern portion of the Huachuca Mountains (Ash, Miller, Carr, Ramsey, Brown, and Tinker). A Conservation Agreement and Conservation Assessment and Strategy was finalized in August 2007, which renews the former agreement that was signed in 1996.

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American peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	Delisted	A crow-sized falcon with slate blue-gray on the back and wings, and white on the underside; a black head with vertical "bandit's mask" pattern over the eyes; long pointed wings; and a long wailing call made during breeding. Very adept flyers and hunters, reaching diving speeds of 200 mph.	Apache, Cochise, Coconino, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, La Paz, Maricopa, Mohave, Navajo, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Yavapai, Yuma	3,500-9,000 ft	Areas with rocky, steep cliffs, primarily near water, where prey (primarily shorebirds, songbirds, and waterfowl) concentrations are high. Nests are found on ledges of cliffs, and sometimes on man-made structures such as office towers and bridge abutments.	Species recovered with over 1,650 breeding birds in the US and Canada.