

GOING WITH THE FLOW...



APS retires two historic power plants so that Fossil Creek may be reborn

Stakeholder Quotes...

Yavapai-Apache Nation

“We have participated in the decommissioning process as full partners because we believe the waters of Tu Do Tliz should flow freely into Tu Cho (the Verde River). It is also a critical first step in restoring an important place within our home country to a more natural state. Our People are proud to have been involved with the construction of the facility, its maintenance and success over the decades, but now we are happy to let it go back to the way it should be. The facility’s time has passed. This living water is a gauge of the health of the Canyon and it is Sacred to us. Let us all remain vigilant to make sure that the waters continue to flow freely and that Tu Do Tliz is treated with care and respect so all of our Grandchildren can enjoy it and count on it like our ancestors did. The permanent flowing water of Tu Do Tliz gives life to the place. Even though our People do not live there now it remains a home in our heart.”

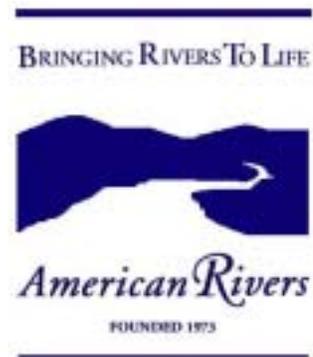


- Vincent Randall, Apache Historian and Yavapai-Apache Tribal Council

American Rivers

“Today Fossil Creek is a river reborn and our newest national treasure. We applaud Arizona Public Service Company for its remarkable environmental stewardship. With this new beginning, we call on the Congress and the U.S. Forest Service to grant Fossil Creek protections and resources to safeguard this gem of the Southwest for generations to come. At a time when most of the news about the environment is dire and full of conflict, Fossil Creek offers us hope that with cooperation and commitment we can protect and restore our natural heritage.”

- Rebecca Wodder, President of American Rivers



Arizona Riparian Council

“The Arizona Riparian Council applauds the decision by Arizona Public Service to cease hydropower production, and to return full stream flows to Fossil Creek. APS has been a true partner in working with the environmental community and others to make this unique opportunity a reality. We gratefully acknowledge the work of several generations of APS workers who have been good stewards of this magnificent stream.”

- **Tim Flood, Chair, Land Use Committee**



Arizona
Riparian
Council

Center for Biological Diversity

"The APS' dam decommissioning and return of full flows to Fossil Creek is truly an historic event. The restoration of this remarkable travertine system will benefit Arizona's imperiled native fish in their time of desperate need. This is also a monumental victory for Arizona's natural heritage and future generations. Careful citizen vigilance will still be necessary to assure proper management and further protections for the creek, and to preserve the investment and efforts made by APS and others that we commemorate today. What a great gift to our kids. This is our legacy, and a great day for Arizona!"

- **Dr. Robin Silver, Conservation Chair of the Center for Biological Diversity**



Center For
Biological Diversity

Northern Arizona Audubon Society

"It is rare in this day and age when a coalition of environmental organizations can work together with a major corporation such as Arizona Public Service to achieve the restoration of such a stunning and remarkable ecosystem as Fossil Creek. It is a credit to the good will and patience of all the parties over a number of years which will leave a legacy of unparalleled beauty and uniqueness found nowhere else in the Southwest. And for those of us in Audubon, the restoration of full flows to the creek holds the exciting possibility of unimagined prospects of greater diversity and numbers of bird species – truly a win-win for the citizens of Arizona and the environment."

- **Phyllis Kegley, President, Northern Arizona Audubon Society**



Northern
Arizona
AUDUBON

The Nature Conservancy

“APS and conservation organizations, including The Nature Conservancy, first began discussions in 1997 about shutting down the Fossil Creek power plants as a historic conservation opportunity. Today the Conservancy applauds APS for voluntarily dismantling the plants to return full creek flow and investing \$13 million in restoration of the creek’s habitat. Now Fossil Creek’s water again will form breathtaking travertine dams, pools and waterfalls. Return of the creek’s natural flow and reintroduction of native fish species also will make it a model for native fish habitat in Arizona. This cooperative effort not only revitalizes a lush streamside home for plants and wildlife, but also signifies a milestone in what business and conservationists can achieve through working together.”

- **Patrick Graham, State Director**



SAVING THE LAST GREAT PLACES ON EARTH

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

“The decommissioning of the APS Childs-Irving Hydroelectric Project and associated return of stream flows to Fossil Creek represents an historic step in the restoration of degraded streams and aquatic biota of Arizona. Native Arizona fishes are among the most endangered group of species in the United States, and flow restoration at Fossil Creek in conjunction with construction of a fish barrier and removal of nonnative fishes from the watershed immeasurably enhances the conservation status of native fishes and other declining riparian biota. The voluntary decommissioning by APS of its hydro facilities at Fossil Creek, and the successful interagency collaboration toward biological restoration now serves as the project to emulate in the future. The importance of this gift of a newly-restored river to the people of Arizona and the Nation cannot be overstated.”



- Bruce D. Ellis, Chief, Environmental Resources Management Division, Bureau of Reclamation, Phoenix Area Office

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

“Arizona Public Service’s unselfish decommissioning of the power plants at Irving and Childs restores more than water flows to Fossil Creek. This gift to Arizonans has provided a window in which a native fishery can be restored and a riparian ecosystem maintained for future generations. APS initiated and lead a complex process than involved over 100 stakeholders to evaluate dam disposition, historical resources, decommissioning schedule, recreation, visitation, access issues and licensing options. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has worked closely with APS and many partners to negotiate, then plan and now restore the authenticity of what lives below the surface of Fossil Creek waters. Due to Arizona Public Service's voluntary decommissioning, we have been able to erect a barrier to prevent upstream movement of predatory and competing non-native fish species, and remove these non-natives above the barrier in order to restore the authentic fish community and protect a sensitive population of lowland leopard frogs. Native fish benefiting from Fossil Creek restoration include Sonora and desert suckers – both important food source of early Native Americans, speckled dace – one of Arizona’s most colorful natives, longfin dace, and roundtail chub – a species whose decline is of great concern. Restoring native fish populations in stream reaches in the Verde River basin helps to reverse the downward trend of native fish populations, hopefully averting the need to add some species to the list of species protected by the Endangered Species Act, and assisting in recovering currently listed species.”



- Dale Hall, Southwest Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

"The decommissioning of the historic Childs Irving Power Station by APS offers Northern Arizona University faculty and students a wonderful living laboratory. For many years, our scientists, engineers, archaeologists, recreation planners and many others have studied the amazing Fossil Creek region. On June 18, we will begin studying the return of an ecosystem unlike any other in the region. Hundreds of NAU students have participated in our research. Thousands more will follow them, observe and learn as the system begins another dramatic change in its evolution."



**NORTHERN
ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY**

- William Auberle, Director, Engineering Program, NAU; Director, Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Program, NAU