



# Governor's Natural Resources Review Council

Delivered to Western States Land Commissioners  
Association Conference – Arizona Biltmore Resort -  
Winter 2014



# WHO WE ARE

Arizona 2014

# WHO WE ARE

The Natural Resources Review Council was created by Governor Janice K. Brewer by Executive Order 2013-02 in January 2013

- Nine State Agencies – with different missions
- Administrator
- Collaboration & Autonomy



# WHO WE ARE

Ensuring continued public and private land use for advancement of the state's economy through a system of tools to monitor and engage in the federal decision making process early on. Finding ways to balance project needs with regulatory requirements and conservation advancement



The screenshot shows the official website of the Arizona Natural Resources Review Council (NRRC). At the top, there is a header for the Office of the Arizona Governor, Janice K. Brewer, with a search bar and navigation links for 'NRRC HOME', 'MEETINGS', and 'RESOURCES'. The main content area features the NRRC logo, a description of the council's mission, and a list of council members and additional members. The council members include Commissioner Vanessa Hickman (Chair) from the Arizona State Land Department, Director Michael Lacey (Vice Chair) from the Arizona Department of Water Resources, Director Larry Voyles from the Arizona Game and Fish Department, State Forester Scott Hunt from the Arizona State Forestry Division, Director Lee Allison from the Arizona Geological Survey, Director Henry Darwin from ADEQ (Arizona Department of Environmental Quality), and Acting Director Jack Peterson. Additional members include Kevin Kinsall (Policy Advisor to Governor Janice K. Brewer) from the Office of the Governor and Simone Westbrook Hall (Council Administrator) from the Arizona State Land Department. A sidebar on the right lists 'NRRC REPORTS' including Final Report Draft-Part I, II, and III, and an Interim Report Presentation.

**NRRC WEBSITE:**

**[gis.azland.gov/nrrc](https://gis.azland.gov/nrrc)**

# WHO WE ARE



Increasing regulatory demands and a slow economic rebound – requires new solutions to greater problems

Over the past 2 years, this Council has forged ahead with the development of a plan that provides new solutions

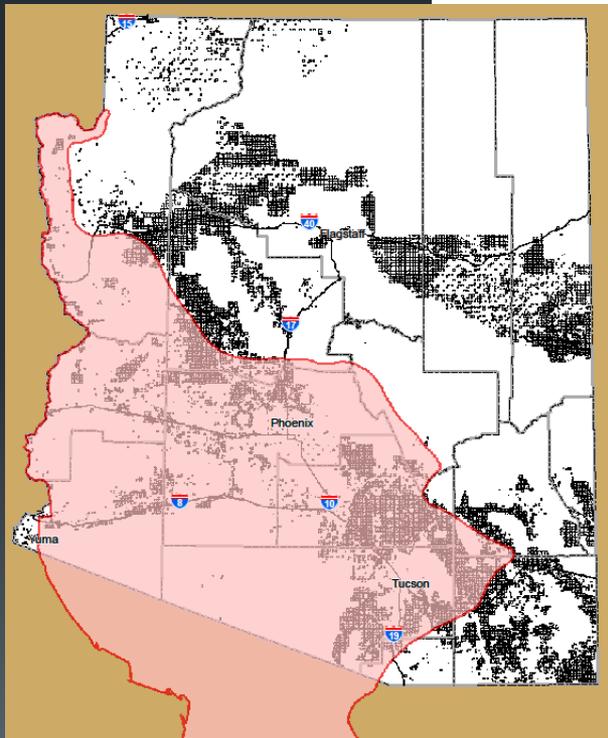
- Develop proactive and preemptive strategies for making the landscape industry-friendly, and balancing conservation goals.
- Employ mechanisms for gathering and sharing information at all levels of government and with the private sector for purposes of engaging in the federal decision making process
- Engage industry and project proponents to identify their needs and work with those entities to approach development and conservation goals more holistically



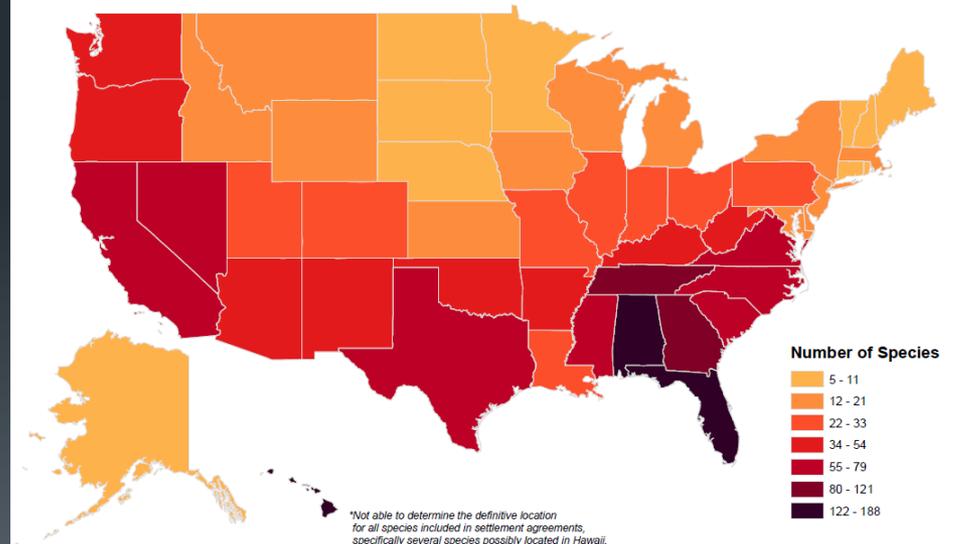
# OUR CHALLENGES

Arizona 2014

# OUR CHALLENGES



Distribution of Species in 2011 Multi-District Litigation Settlement Agreements (1001 species)



Source: Compiled by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts based on information from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NatureServe and species petitions.

Note: The map includes species in the settlements that were petitioned for listing, revisions to critical habitat designation or designation as distinct population segments. This represents only a fraction of the species under review for potential listing or changes to listing status. Species included in this count include only species from the 2011 Multi-District Litigation Settlement Agreements finalized Sept. 9, 2011.\* There is no single, definitive list of all species under review for potential listing under the ESA.

# OUR CHALLENGES



Future increased regulatory permitting that would impose project delays and increased costs for industry, businesses and private landowners.

One such example is the response to the Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to expand the definition of "waters of the United States" under the Clean Water Act.

ESA Candidate Species – State and federal agencies are collectively working to develop and implement proactive measures to preclude the listing of the Sonoran Desert Tortoise and, by doing so, ensure that federal regulations are not imposed upon project proponents throughout the state.

Engage in the pre-decisional process for solutions that meet everyone's needs



# WHAT WE ARE BUILDING

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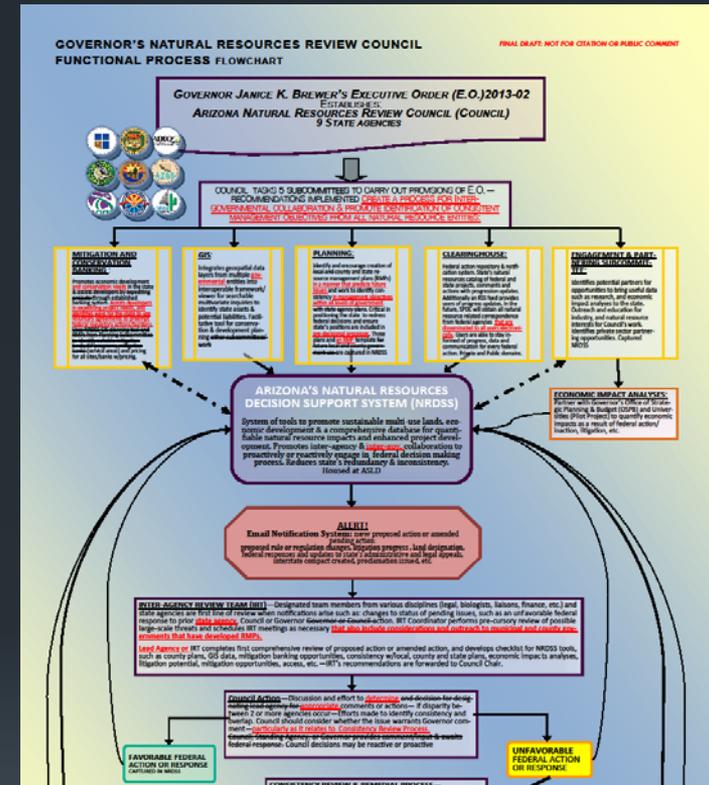


Ultimately, the goal of the work products and actions of this Council is to position the state to attract industry and business by reducing the costs associated with regulatory permits and regulatory delays, while providing project proponents with readily available offsets.

# WHAT WE ARE BUILDING

Holistic approach to planning and managing Arizona's natural resources through:

Better work flow model – includes resource management planning, university support for data gathering, and working more closely with federal agencies in pre-decisional process



# WHAT WE ARE BUILDING

## Natural Resources Decision Support System (NRDSS) – Clearinghouse & Information Sharing Site.

- Library of information, data gathering and sharing
- Centralized location for federal notices with a user alert system
- Collaborative and informative work space for users
- One Stop Shop

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Governor's Natural Resources Review Council Decision Support System. At the top, there is a header for the Office of the Arizona Governor, Janice K. Brewer, with a navigation menu including Home, Create Notice, View Notices, My Subscriptions, About, and Document Catalog. The main content area features a central graphic titled "Balancing Natural Resource Management & Economic Vitality" with a circular diagram of agency logos. To the left, a section titled "Governor's Natural Resources Review Council Decision Support System" lists key features: federal action notification system, central document repository, and a light-weight framework for metadata. To the right, there are sections for "Useful External Resources" (Federal Register, NRRC Catalog) and "Recent Notices" (Navajo Generating Station - Kayenta Mine Complex Project Environmental Impact Statement).

# WHAT WE ARE BUILDING



- Pre-approved mitigation and conservation banking opportunities to expedite industry projects where a federal nexus exists
- Pre-emptive Measures – such as Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (Voluntary) are also part of the Council's holistic approach to balancing the need for new business in the state and the conservation needs of land, species, water and air
- Greater collaboration amongst all levels of government and the stakeholders they serve