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***A research and advocacy association, supporting efficient, responsive county government in Arizona.***



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## Greenlee County Celebrates the Career of County Administrator Kay Gale



Last Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Greenlee county community along with county managers, supervisors and professional staff from across the state joined together to celebrate the career of Greenlee County Administrator Kay Gale in Clifton, AZ, who retired on August 5<sup>th</sup>.

Freeport McMoRan hosted the event at their historic guesthouse. Supervisors, professional staff and friends joined Ms. Gale's husband, daughters and grandchildren in making speeches honoring Kay and her achievements before Kay stood to express her gratitude and thanks to those whom she loves and have stood by her side over the years.

Kay will be extremely missed by her peers and community that she has worked so hard to serve for over 40 years. CSA staff was honored to be in attendance to express their gratitude to Kay and to wish her a wonderful retirement.

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## Navajo County Proposition 421 Passes

On Tuesday, voters in Navajo County supported a one-third cent sales tax for a Jail District (District). The new District was approved for twenty years and will provide a sustainable funding source for public safety and the ongoing operation and maintenance of the Navajo County Jail system. There was a 22 percent voter turnout, 66.24 percent (9,480) voted in support of the District, and 33.76 percent (4,831) voted against the District. The Navajo County Board of Supervisors will govern the District and the Navajo County Sheriff will continue to operate the jail.



For more information on the election results please, click [here](#).

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## Affiliate Group ACDEHSA Meets

On Wednesday, the Arizona County Directors of Environmental Health Services Association (ACDEHSA) met with state agency partners regarding a variety of functions delegated to counties by the state.

The Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS) provided an update on the number of confirmed rabies cases recorded statewide in 2019. AZDHS also discussed the number of mosquito pools that have tested positive for West Nile Virus and noted there have been about four times more human cases than expected. Pinal County noted they have collaborated with the Arizona Game and Fish Department to breed the Gila topminnow to help control mosquitoes, to learn more about the program please, click [here](#).

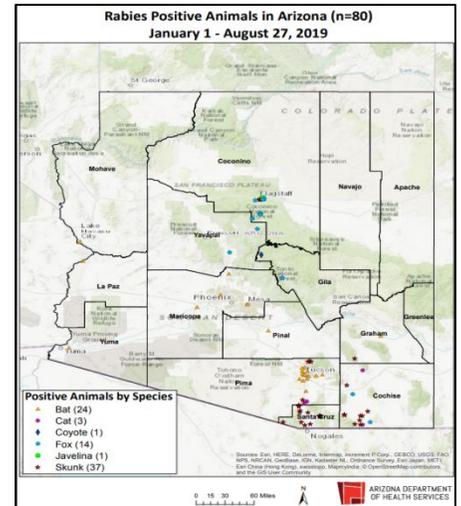
Arizona is currently in peak mosquito season, which runs from May to October. One critical way to reduce exposure to mosquito borne illness is to preventing mosquito breeding sites. To view mosquito prevention and protection tips please, click [here](#). To view the *Arizona Mosquito Activity Report* please, click [here](#).

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality discussed potential changes to delegation agreements between the counties and the state.

CSA staff provided an update on the 2020 county submitted legislative proposals.

Image Source: [AZDHS](#)

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## CSA Staff Attends NACo Forum



This week CSA participated in the National Association of Counties (NACo) - National Council of County Association Executives (NCCAE) Knowledge Management Forum in Washington, D.C.

The forum convened association staff from across the country for peer-to-peer information sharing on top issues facing county governments. Specific categories for discussion were 1) justice and public safety, 2) finance, pensions and intergovernmental affairs, and 3) transportation. The event also

included training sessions on messaging strategies and how to better utilize data, research and technology to bolster advocacy work.



CSA thanks the team at NACo and NCCAE for hosting this important professional development opportunity for state association executive directors and staff!

Image Source: [@NACoTweets](#)

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## Western States Staff Meet-Up



The Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) hosted the Western States Staff Meet-Up in Spokane County last week. Representatives from Alaska, Arizona, California, Idaho, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah and Washington attended the meeting and shared best practices on communications and policy. The keynote speaker Ms. Jean Steel discussed a variety of self-improvement topics focused on resiliency and stress reduction. To learn more about Ms. Steel's work please, click [here](#).

Image Source: [@AZCounties](#)

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## JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights

On August 20<sup>th</sup>, the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) staff released their monthly fiscal highlights for July 2019 revenues and expenditures. General Fund collections were 8.8 percent above July 2018, about \$39.5 million above forecast. State sales and use tax collections were \$25.2 million above the previous year, with the contracting classification continuing its strong growth at 14.4% above July 2018. JLBC staff noted that revenue from individual income tax was also up from the previous year, 12.7 percent, primarily driven by higher revenue from withholdings.

The deposits into the state's Budget Stabilization Fund (BSF) enacted in the FY 2020 budget have been completed ahead of schedule. The BSF's balance now sits at roughly \$1.02 billion, up from its previous typical balance of about \$460 million.

Over \$131.7 million was deposited into Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) in July. This is 8.5 percent above July 2018, and \$4.8 million above the state's budget forecast.

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## Mohave County West Basin Water Users Study Committee Meets

The Mohave County West Basin Water Users Study Committee (Committee) convened on Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at the House of Representatives. CSA backed HB 2467 created the Committee during the 2019 session, along with a complementary committee investigating water issues La Paz County. The Committee is tasked with analyzing groundwater withdrawal data and providing recommendations regarding programs and policies for the basin to the Director of the Department of Water Resources, the Governor and the Legislature.



Discussion at the hearing largely surrounded the Hualapai Valley Basin and studies regarding the size, depth and structure of the basin, along with how long the existing water supply may last. Jeff Inwood with the Hydrology Division of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) provided an update on the ADWR study of the Northwest Basins Planning area initiated in January of this year. A final report of the ADWR study is due by December 31, 2019. An update on the status of the basin study being done by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) was also provided by Mohave county engineer Nicholas Hont. Mr. Hont stated that the USGS study is due by May, 2020, but that it may potentially come earlier than that and will provide the best possible idea of the specifications of the basin.

The Committee plans to meet several more times before the upcoming legislative session and then again after the USGS study is released.

To view an archived recording of the meeting, please click [here](#).

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## House Ad Hoc Committee on Abuse and Neglect of Vulnerable Adults



On Tuesday, August 20, 2019 the 13-member House Ad Hoc Committee on Abuse and Neglect of Vulnerable Adults (Committee) met. The Committee is charged with reviewing and identifying best practices for the reporting and investigative processes to ensure the safety of vulnerable adults.

The Committee heard testimony from a variety of stakeholders, including the Department of Economic Security (DES), DES Adult Protective Services, the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System. Presentations included a rundown of the existing services provided to Arizonans with disabilities and how abuse or neglect may be investigated by DES Adult Protective Services.

The committee plans to meet five more times over the coming months to have legislative recommendations for the upcoming legislative session.

The Committee consists of Chairwoman Representative Jennifer Longdon, with Representative Timothy Dunn serving as Vice-Chairman, along with various representatives of state agencies and other organizations catering to elderly and vulnerable adults.

To view an archived recording of the meeting, please click [here](#).

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## Wildfire Update

County leaders continue to work hard to ensure that proper resources are deployed to protect public safety during a fire. When possible fire fighters create control lines that allow fires that are not threatening infrastructure to reduce fuel and refresh the ecosystem.

There are currently six wildfires burning in Arizona, including:

- Castle Fire – a lightning-caused fire, burning about 11 miles south of Jacob Lake in the Kaibab National Forest. The fire covers over 19,368 acres and is currently burning in a contained area and is being allowed to act as a natural disturbance process in the ecosystem.
- Ikes Fire – a lightning caused fire has been allowed to burn over 6,000 acres in the Grand Canyon National Park within a defined planning area of 7,785 acres.
- Boulin Fire – was discovered on August 6<sup>th</sup> and has burned 4,039 acres in the northwest corner of Spring Valley. The fire is 75% contained and will be contained within a 4,200 acre planning area to remove excess forest fuels for the restoration of the area.
- Saber Fire – is located 1.5 miles south of Turkey Butte Lookout and 12 miles northwest of Sedona. Fire managers have determined the fire will benefit the area by burning dense forest fuels. The fire has burned 3,279 acres and is currently 58% contained.
- Trumbull Fire – the fire has reached 2,925 acres about 53 miles southeast of St. George, Utah after being ignited by a lightning strike on August 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Sheridan Fire – The Prescott and Tri-City area fire is currently 13,489 acres. Firefighters are establishing control lines and will allow for safe burning to reduce the buildup of fuel.



For up to date information on wildfires, please click on the following links:

[Arizona Interagency Wildfire Prevention](#)  
[Arizona State Forestry Division](#)  
[Arizona State Parks Fire Restrictions and Information](#)  
[InciWeb – Interagency All-Risk Incident Information Management System](#)  
[Federal: Active Fire Maps](#)  
[Fire Restrictions](#)  
[National Weather Service](#)

Image Source: [@PrescottNF](#)

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## CSA on the Road



CSA enjoyed traveling to Gila County last week to meet with county supervisors and professional staff. Over the course of the summer, staff is looking forward to visiting with all 15 counties.

In the coming weeks, staff will travel to Yavapai County before closing out the 15-county visits in Maricopa County.

- Yavapai County: September 18<sup>th</sup>
- Maricopa County: October 7<sup>th</sup>

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