

For more information:  
Keep Sedona Beautiful, Inc. (928) 282-4938



## **Special Status Species in the Verde Valley**

### **KSB Virtual Speaker Series on Wednesday October 13**

Keep Sedona Beautiful is pleased to present U.S. Forest Service District Wildlife Biologist Janie Agyagos, on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at **5:00 p.m.** for its monthly *Preserving the Wonder™* Speaker Series webinar. Please visit the KSB website, [www.keepsedonabeautiful.org](http://www.keepsedonabeautiful.org) for details.

Join KSB to discover what species swoop, soar, slither, crawl and bloom around the diverse Verde Valley ecosystem. Janie Agyagos will discuss the special status species in the Verde Valley, what has caused their decline, and what is needed to recover these species and their habitat.

Agyagos currently serves the Red Rock Ranger District where she has served as district wildlife biologist since 1994. This 550,000-acre District of the Coconino National Forest supports a high diversity of flora and fauna due to the large number of vegetation types (or biotic communities), an elevation range from 3,500 up to 6,700 feet, and aspects that provide varying temperatures and humidity. Of the nine main biotic communities in Arizona, the Verde Valley contains all but two; true desert (less than 9" of rainfall) and alpine tundra (which is only found on top of the San Francisco Peaks). Most of the special status species in the Verde Valley are associated with riparian areas which are easily distinguished by the band of lush green vegetation that grows along wet drainages and around springs and seeps.

Janie's main focus includes inventorying and monitoring rare birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish, invertebrates and plants; conducting project effect analyses and developing design features and mitigations for over 100 special status species; designing and implementing habitat improvement projects; managing area closures for the protection of rare fish, wildlife and plant species and/or their habitat; and coordinating with multiple agencies in the management of plant, fish, and wildlife species and their habitat.

KSB's next Speaker Series will finish out the year with Sedona Photographer Ted Grussing on November 10, 2021.

Keep Sedona Beautiful's monthly *Preserving the Wonder™* Speaker Series focuses on presenting a diversity of programs relevant to the unique environment of our region. A nonprofit since 1972, Keep Sedona Beautiful, Inc. is committed to protecting and sustaining the unique scenic beauty and natural environment of the Greater Sedona Area, now and in the future. KSB activities range from education and advocacy to hands-on tasks such as litter lifting, as well as preserving the quality of Oak Creek and maintaining Sedona's dark, star-studded night skies. For more information about Keep Sedona Beautiful, please visit

<http://www.keepsedonabeautiful.org/>.