

**Conservation Security Program
Animas Valley/Cloverdale Watersheds
2008 Wildlife Guidance**

Wildlife Friendly Habitats are defined as those non-cropland habitat elements (NCHE) that meet the minimum size requirements. Non-cropland habitat elements must be greater than 0.1 acres and must be greater than 30 feet in width. Additionally; NCHE must provide one or more habitat functions. Habitat functions to be provided include cover, food, and connectivity between two NCHE areas that provide suitable habitat.

Wildlife Friendly Plants include those plant species which appear in the ecological site description and are non-invasive or are not present at invasive levels. A partial list appears below.

Grass	Shrubs	Forbs
Muhly spp.	4 Wing Saltbush	Globe Mallow
Sand Dropseed	Little Leaf Sumac	Afileria
Grama spp.	Snakeweed	Croton
Arizona Cottontop	Winter Fat	Wild Buckwheat
Plains Bristlegrass	Yucca	Desert Holly
Vine Mesquite		Sun Flower

Introduced species that are non-invasive and provide similar habitat features to those species listed above can be consider wildlife friendly.

Wildlife Unfriendly Species are defined as species that reduce the habitat value of NCHE. Wildlife unfriendly species include all species listed on the noxious weed lists, invasive species that are dominating the NCHE. Additionally monotypic stands of introduced grass species such as weeping lovegrass or crested wheatgrass are considered wildlife unfriendly species.

Nesting Season. The primary nesting season for the Animas Valley and Cloverdale watersheds is March 1 through July 15.

Wildlife Friendly Fences are those having no more than 4 wires. The top wire is no more than 42 inches above the ground. The spacing between the top wire and the next wire is 10 inches or greater. The bottom wire is at least 15 inches above the ground.

There are no wildlife friendly woven wire fences.

Vineyards. The ranking tool for vineyards is located at the “other” tab.

Wildlife Friendly Brush Management. Woody species (such as mesquite, juniper, sage, chamise, and creosote) are managed so that populations are consistent with the desired ecological state or targeted wildlife species. Brushy draws or other areas containing desirable brush species (those providing needed habitat elements such as food, browse and fruits, cover, thermal, hiding, overhead, nesting cover, or connectivity to other habitats) should not be treated. Special habitat features such as soap tree yucca for aplomado falcon nesting should be retained.

Wildlife Friendly Waters. In areas where bats occur water tanks should not have wire or other obstructions across the tank as these are collision hazards. Water storage facilities should have properly installed escape ramps for wildlife that falls into the water.