

# ANSAC News



A publication of the Arizona Navigable Stream Adjudication Commission—ANSAC

March 2005

## MISSION STATEMENT

To determine the navigability of Arizona's 39,039 watercourses as of statehood, February 14, 1912, and to determine the Public Trust Values of watercourses that are determined to have been navigable.

### Governor of Arizona Janet Napolitano

#### Commissioners

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## NEXT SCHEDULED HEARINGS

March 29, 2005 in Prescott, Arizona — Yavapai County  
April 25, 2005 in Holbrook, Arizona — Navajo County  
April 26, 2005 in St. Johns, Arizona — Apache County

### Commission Sunset

The Commission is making an effort to conclude its watercourse navigability hearings by the Fall of 2005.

Although ANSAC believes it can complete the actual watercourse navigability hearings in sufficient time to Sunset on June 30, 2006, there may be additional work it cannot complete by the Sunset date. For example, if any appeals are filed in Superior Court, or if the Court orders additional work ANSAC will not be able to complete this work by the current Sunset date. ANSAC has not approached the Legislature regarding the Sunset date because no one has filed an appeal, although most people regularly involved with ANSAC believe it is very likely that some appeals will be filed.

If ANSAC does not complete all of its work by the Sunset date, then either ANSAC will require funding and the Sunset date will need to be extended, or the Legislature will need to put some other mechanism into place so the work can be finished. The terms for the Commissioners end June 30, 2008.

The Commission has completed its work, appeal times have expired, and results have been recorded regarding the more than 15,000 small and minor watercourses in 7 counties, plus the Blue and San Francisco Rivers. The 7

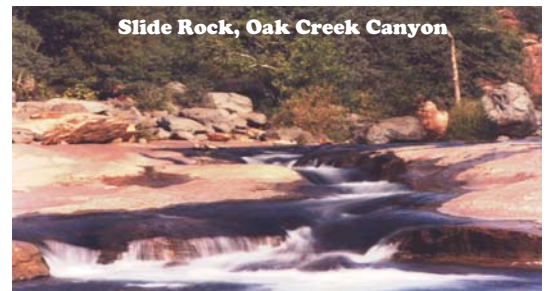
counties are Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, La Paz, Mohave, Santa Cruz, and Yuma.

### Commission Budget Status

The Commission budget for FY2006 as recommended by the Executive and the JLBC, appears sufficient to complete its watercourse navigability hearings work. This does not include either additional funding or additional time that will be necessary if appeals are filed. As of this time, there is no amount recommended for FY2007.

Although ANSAC has not asked for additional funding for itself, the Commission has asked the Legislature to fund the State Land Department an additional \$64,000.00 to pay engineers to appear and testify at Commission hearings. These same engineers have already been hired on contract by the State Land Department to prepare reports that are used as exhibits at ANSAC hearings, and the Commissioners and their attorney believe it is essential that the engineers appear at each hearing to answer questions by the commissioners, by local citizens, and by other parties.

Slide Rock, Oak Creek Canyon



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