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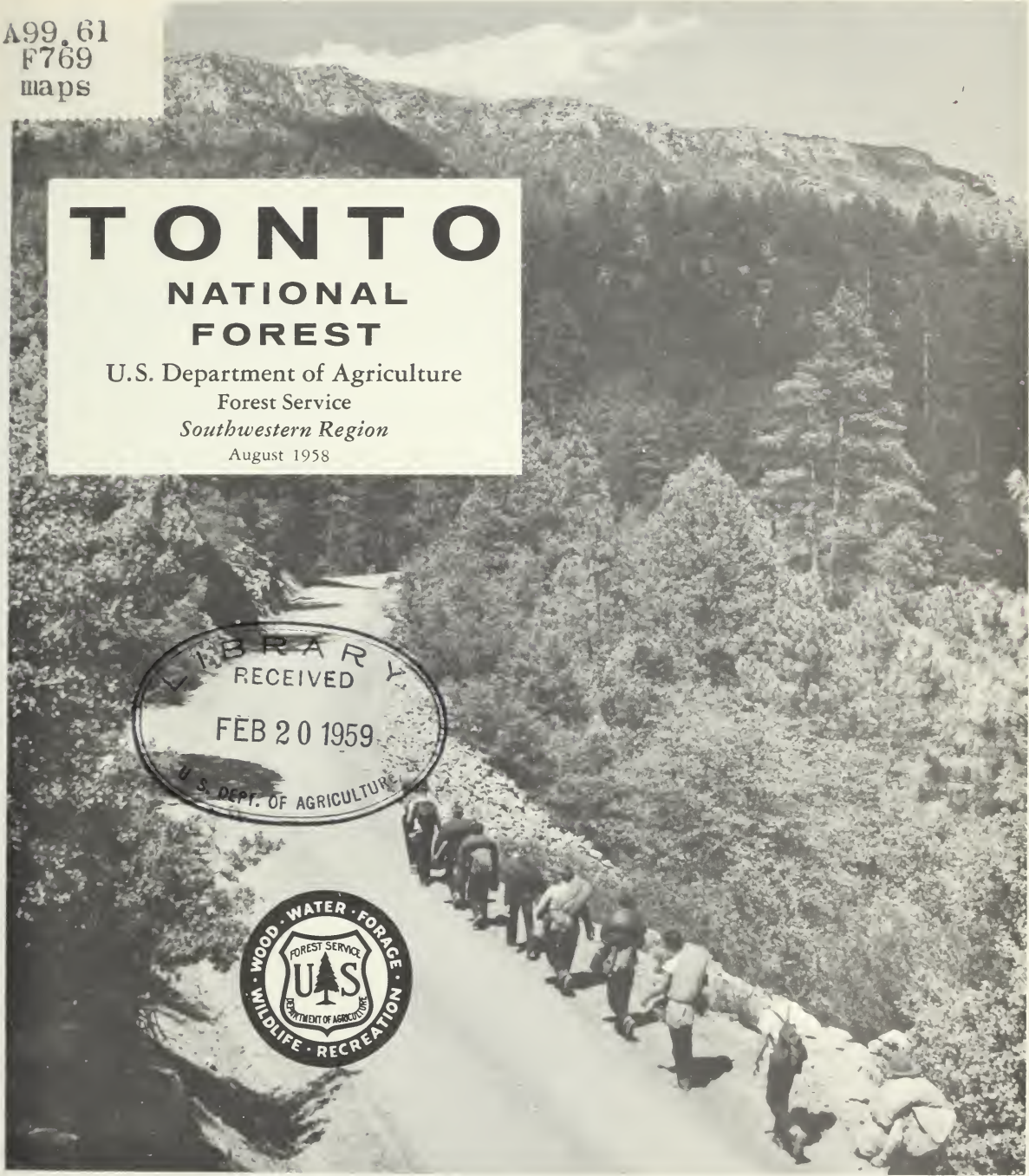
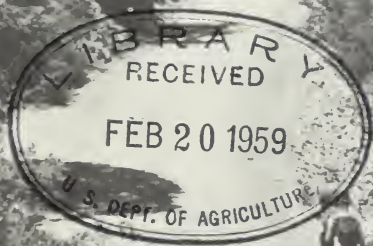


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# TONTO

## NATIONAL FOREST

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service  
*Southwestern Region*  
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COURTESY OF ARIZONA PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES, PHOENIX

Sparkling trout streams lure anglers.

## MANAGING NATIONAL FOREST RESOURCES

. . . It must be clearly borne in mind that all land is to be devoted to its most productive use for the permanent good of the whole people and not for the temporary benefit of individuals or companies. . . . Where conflicting interests must be reconciled, the question will always be decided from the standpoint of the greatest good to the greatest number in the long run.

So wrote the Secretary of Agriculture, James Wilson, to Gifford Pinchot, first Chief Forester, when organizing the Forest Service in 1905. Still following this guiding philosophy, the Forest Service has developed two basic principles of land use: Sustained yield and multiple use.

### Sustained Yield

Sustained yield means using our forest lands without using them up—getting lumber and beef-steaks and warm wool coats out of our woods and ranges without destroying their continued ability to produce. The basic conservation idea is to use only the interest earned by our inheritance without squandering the capital. National Forest revenue, chiefly from timber sales and grazing fees, is over \$100,000,000 a year. A percentage of each forest's receipts is paid to the State for the benefit of schools and roads in the counties where the forest lies. In a recent year, receipts of the Tonto were about \$162,000.

### Multiple Use

Multiple use means using every acre of forest land wisely for as many purposes as are suitable without seriously hindering primary uses. This requires more than management for a perpetual supply of timber or grass. It also means managing land use to regulate streamflows, to prevent floods and soil erosion, to maintain a proper home for fish and other wildlife, and to provide for varied outdoor recreation. Naturally, a few uses may conflict. Balancing them for the greatest good to the greatest number of all the people is no small task. This is the continuing responsibility of the Forest Service.

## TONTO NATIONAL FOREST

The Tonto National Forest of central Arizona covers 2,900,000 acres. Almost the size of Connecticut, it divides naturally into three bands of terrain typical of the Southwest. The northern third is cool pine country just under the Mogollon (pronounced Muggy-own) Rim, a great escarpment along the forest's northern border. Altitudes in this area range from 4,900 feet at Payson to 7,300 feet near the top of the rim. The broad central belt is mainly at 2,500–4,900 feet, in the open woodland type. Here the fairly dry hills bear scattered junipers and pinyons, with patches of pines on high ridges. The southern part, except for a few peaks, is low country, much of it treeless semidesert, included in the Tonto National Forest to help protect the watersheds of the Salt and Verde Rivers. Much of the forest is as remote from civilization (for lack of roads and water) as any part of Arizona—despite its nearness to populous Phoenix and neighboring communities.

The forest provides yearlong recreational opportunities to visitors and residents alike. The pine country is very popular during the warmer months. The lower Tonto is especially enjoyable in the cool season, when the Phoenix winter climate attracts visitors from all of the States.

## THE DISTRICT RANGER

The Tonto National Forest is organized into seven ranger districts, with headquarters in Globe, Mesa, Payson, Phoenix, Roosevelt, Tonto Basin, and Young. The district rangers are professionally trained specialists in the management of timberlands, rangelands, recreation and watershed resources, and wildlife habitat. Each ranger is responsible for the management, protection, and development, under multiple use, of a district covering three to six hundred thousand acres. He and his assistants will do all they can to make your visit to the National Forest both safe and enjoyable.



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Saguaros and the Superstition Mountains.

## THE SOUTHWESTERN REGION

The Tonto is one of the 148 National Forests throughout the United States and Alaska. This far-flung public property, totaling nearly 181,000,000 acres, is administered by the Forest Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Broad principles of wise use of this property are fixed by Congress and the Secretary of Agriculture. To manage the lands in an efficient, decentralized manner, the Chief Forester in Washington delegates responsibility to 10 regional foresters, each in charge of the National Forests in a region. The Southwestern Region, with headquarters in Albuquerque, N. Mex., includes 12 National Forests located in Arizona and New Mexico. On each National Forest a forest supervisor is responsible for the on-the-ground operations of several district rangers in managing the wild-land resources. The men and women of the Southwestern Region, with some 20,000,000 acres of mountain watershed in their charge, feel a great responsibility to their employer, the people of the United States.

### TIMBER

It is news to many visitors that commercial forestry is practiced in Arizona and New Mexico. Yet the largest continuous belt of ponderosa pine in the Nation is located here, and its southern edge extends into the Tonto. Roughly a fourth of the Southwestern Region is classified as commercial forest land, now supporting a sustained timber cut of some 350 million board-feet annually. As forest management is intensified, the yearly regional cut may well go up to over 600 million board-feet. Most of the logs cut are ponderosa pine, but fair amounts of Douglas-fir, white fir, and spruce are also harvested. Sale of National Forest timber in Arizona and New Mexico brings in more than \$3,000,000 a year. Natural regeneration is almost the only means of reforestation. Present methods of planting have not been successful under the severe dry conditions often prevailing in the Southwest.

## WATER

The number one product of the National Forests, especially in the dry Southwest, is water. Three-fourths of the water supply of Arizona and New Mexico comes directly from the high-mountain areas, principally National Forest lands. This water, lifeblood of agriculture and industry, is vital to rancher and city dweller alike. It falls to earth as rain or snow in the high country and moves in surface streams and underground channels to supply springs, wells, and the spectacular chain of man-made lakes watering the desert.

To control water flowing from the mountains, there must be a good plant cover on the watershed. This cover helps the land absorb rainfall and snow-melt and gradually feed it out through streams and springs—rather than as a torrent raging off denuded hills, sluicing away the irreplaceable soil.

Purity, steadiness of flow, and quantity of water are all influenced directly and indirectly by the management practiced on the watershed. Use of the forage, timber, recreation, and other resources each has its effect. Proper management of all the forest resources is necessary to provide a healthy watershed and support a growing economy.

### RESEARCH

The Forest Service, by scientific research, is constantly seeking better ways to manage the watersheds. On the Tonto, at the Sierra Ancha Experimental Forest, studies have been going on since 1932 to determine what management is best for southwestern forest and range lands. The goal is to get the best balance between a dependable water supply, the control of floods and erosion, and consistent crops of timber, forage, and wildlife along with opportunities for recreation. In the Southwest with its booming population and frequent droughts, this is a constant challenge to the land manager.

**THEY'RE YOUR NATIONAL FORESTS  
ENJOY THEM; DON'T DESTROY THEM**



Boating on Canyon Lake, a Salt River reservoir.



## WILDLIFE

Wildlife values of the forests are largely intangible and therefore difficult to measure. The chief benefits of game and fish to modern man are the pleasures of flicking a fly rod over a rushing mountain stream, stalking the wily deer, or just taking the family out to see or photograph animals in the wild. The industry based on these recreational pursuits is large and expanding rapidly, but the relaxation and inspiration they afford transcends dollar values.

On the Tonto National Forest people make over 150,000 visits a year to fish the lakes and streams. Lakes offer such warm-water fish as bass, crappie, perch, bluegill, and catfish. In the cool, higher mountain streams are the trout: Cutthroat, eastern brook, brown, and rainbow. The Arizona Game and Fish Department stocks practically all fishable waters in the State and assists in developing new ones.

Each year more than 30,000 people hunt on the Tonto in season in quest of such big game as white-tailed and mule deer, elk, black bear, peccary (javelina or wild pig), and turkey. Certain parts of the Tonto also support antelope and bighorn sheep. No grizzly bears remain in the region: the last verified kill was in the Black Range of New Mexico in the early 1930's. Predators on the Tonto include the coyote, bobcat, raccoon, fox, and mountain lion or cougar. Several varieties of squirrel, rabbit, quail, and dove also occur.

## GRASS AND OTHER FORAGE

More than 200,000 cattle and nearly 150,000 sheep graze on the National Forest lands of the Southwestern Region. Grazing fees paid by the 2,900 forest permittees exceed \$500,000 a year. On the Tonto alone some 40,000 cattle and 14,000 sheep graze annually. Careful management is required to insure maximum use of grass and other forage, while maintaining enough plant vigor to regenerate these crops and to hold the soil. A stable and profitable livestock industry is impossible without sustained forage production. The stockmen cooperate with the Forest Service by building fences, salt and feed boxes, corrals, pastures, and watering places so located as to keep livestock properly distributed.

## RECREATION

Recreation on the National Forests is part of the American heritage. As city populations increase and the pressures of daily living continue to mount, conservation of the human resource assumes first importance. Millions of citizens find relief from routine tensions in the quiet of the forest, and return to the teeming cities refreshed in mind and body. Recognizing this fact, the Forest Service continually analyzes, plans, and develops the recreation resources of the National Forests.

To help you enjoy forest recreation activities on the Tonto, there are more than 40 camp and picnic areas (see table and map on other side). Also concessioner-operated resort accommodations are available in many places of heavy recreation use. These facilities will doubtless increase in the future because of the ever-growing demand. Available to the hiker or horseman on the Tonto are about 1,500 miles of mountain trails, some traversing the 350,000 acres of Wild and Wilderness Areas within the forest boundary.

## THE IMMEASURABLE VALUE OF FORESTS

"It's comforting to be reasonably self-supporting, but the National Forests were not established to make money. The Forest Service does not measure all of the values of the National Forests in terms of dollars. Which of you can measure in dollars the value of a quiet forest to soothe nerves high strung by the noise and pressure of city life? How can you measure in dollars and cents the value of well-kept watersheds when water is worth whatever you have to pay to get it? What sort of dollar formula can you use to measure the value of raw materials that keep industries going, provide jobs, keep families together, help stabilize community existence? Who among you can put a dollar value on the sound of happy laughter of children playing beside a forest stream?"

Richard E. McArdle  
Chief, Forest Service



College students enjoy a lunch stop at Seven Springs Picnic Area.

## POINTS OF INTEREST

### The Lakes

On the lower Tonto are 30,000 acres of man-made lakes, all within 90 miles of Phoenix. These are impounded by four dams on the Salt River and two on the Verde. The largest and oldest is Roosevelt Lake, 25 miles of blue water behind Roosevelt Dam. This dam, finished in 1911, was the first big project of the Bureau of Reclamation. It is the world's highest masonry dam—almost 300 feet. Freight wagons with 12- and 16-mule teams hauled all its equipment and materials over the tortuous Apache Trail in 1904–09. Also on the Salt River, behind smaller dams, are Apache, Canyon, and Saguaro Lakes; and on the Verde River are Bartlett and Horseshoe Lakes.

Thus man has created not only a vast development for irrigation farming, but 60 miles of water for fishing, swimming, boating, and water skiing. The popularity of these sports has made the desert city of Phoenix one of the boating capitals of the Nation.

### Apache Trail and Copper Cities Loop

Along the southern shore of the Salt River lakes runs the beautiful Apache Trail. Once a path for hard-fighting Apache warriors, it is now a scenic drive through desert and mountain. For a pleasant one-day trip from Phoenix, follow the Apache Trail to Roosevelt and return by way of the Copper Cities of Globe, Miami, and Superior. Outbound you have lake and mountain scenery; returning, you see mines and smelters. Another point of interest is the Tonto National Monument just east of Roosevelt. Here are cliff dwellings in an excellent state of preservation, plus some of the best examples of the pre-Columbian Indian culture—irrigation ditches, tools, and weapons—to be found within many miles. Between Superior and Florence Junction is the Southwestern Arboretum, established by the late William Boyce Thompson. Some 10,000 varieties of plants from all over the world are growing here. In making this loop, the traveler will completely circle the Superstition Mountains, famous for their "lost mine" stories and waterless desolation.

### The Mogollon Rim

The Mogollon Rim is an intermittent escarpment several hundred feet high, extending from near Silver City, N. Mex., to Ashfork, Ariz. It marks the southern edge of the vast Colorado Plateau which covers most of northern Arizona. The Coconino and Sitgreaves National Forests to the north are "on top of the rim," whereas the Tonto National Forest and the Fort Apache Indian Reservation are "under the Tonto Rim." An important military wagon road once ran along the rim, connecting the army posts of Fort Apache and Camp Verde. Parts of the present Rim Road follow this same route. From nearby Baker Butte Lookout on the Coconino National Forest are tremendous views of almost the entire Tonto National Forest to the south and the Coconino Plateau to the north. Heavy snows often fall along the top of the rim in winter, yet the same storms shower rain on the Tonto just below.

### High Country Resort Centers

The towns of Payson, Pine, and Young are resort centers in this Tonto high country. Cool green forests, sparkling trout streams, and excellent mountain trails lure visitors. Privately owned dude ranches and resorts arrange horseback riding and pack trips. The Forest Service maintains numerous picnic areas and campgrounds for public use. Points of interest include Tonto Natural Bridge—a pleasant side trip from the Payson-Pine road—and Tonto Creek Fish Hatchery, 5 miles off Recreation Route 5 east of Payson.

### The Experimental Forest and Pleasant Valley

On Recreation Route 5, the road to Young just northeast of Roosevelt Lake, is the Sierra Ancha Experimental Forest, set aside by the Forest Service for scientific research on forestry, soils, and watershed problems. Interested groups may arrange for demonstration tours of this important experimental area by writing to the Sierra Ancha Research Center, Arizona State College, Tempe. Farther north on Route 5, as it climbs toward the Mogollon Rim country, is Young, scene of the Pleasant Valley range war between cattle and sheep men in pioneer days.



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Fire destroys ponderosa pine forests.

**SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS** During dangerous fire weather you will be asked to follow special restrictions posted at National Forest entrances. Be sure to abide by these regulations, for then the fire danger is extreme.

# FOLLOW SMOKEY'S RULES AND PREVENT A FIRE

Smokey, the national symbol of forest fire prevention, was born on a forest in the Southwestern Region. As a cub, he experienced the terrors of a disastrous forest fire and suffered the pain of being burned. As a symbol he is well qualified to tell the inexperienced how to use fire safely and enjoy the National Forests.





RECREATION AREAS — TONTO NATIONAL FOREST

Map No.	Name	Location on map	Approximate elevation	ACTIVITIES <sup>1</sup>										FACILITIES <sup>2</sup>			
				Camping	Picnicking	Swimming	Hunting	Fishing	Boating	Drinking water	Tables	Trailer	Other information				
1	Granite Reef	C-8	1400	X	X												
2	Cool Bluff	D-7	1300	X	X												
3	Blue Point—West	D-7	1300	X	X												
4	Blue Point—East	D-7	1300	X	X												
5	River Picnic Area	D-7	1300	X	X												
6	Saguaro Lake	D-7	1400	X	X												MHBT
7	Butcher Jones	D-7	1300	X	X												MHBT
8	Canyon Lake	E-7	1500	X	X												PHMHT
9	Palo Verde—Canyon Lake	E-8	1500	X	X												PHMHT
10	Boulder Creek—Canyon Lake	E-8	1500	X	X												PHMHT
11	Torilla—Canyon Lake	F-7	2000	X	X												PHMHT
12	Apache Lake	F-7	2000	X	X												PHMHT
13	Burnt Corral	F-7	2000	X	X												PHMHT
14	Hotel Point	F-6	2250	X	X												PHMHT
15	Roosevelt Campground	F-6	2100	X	X												PHMHT
16	Grapevine Spring	G-7	2100	X	X												PHMHT
17	Jones Water	I-7	4000	X	X												PHMHT
18	Globe Recreation Area	H-9	4000	X	X												PHMHT
19	Pinal Mountain	H-9	7850	X	X												PHMHT
20	Pioneer Pass	H-9	6500	X	X												PHMHT
21	Kellner Canyon	H-9	5000	X	X												PHMHT
22	Warner Springs	H-9	5000	X	X												PHMHT
23	Oak Flat	C-8	4137	X	X												PHMHT
24	Peralta Canyon	E-8	1400	X	X												PHMHT
25	Carney Springs	E-8	1300	X	X												PHMHT
26	Harlett Dam	D-5	2300	X	X												PHMHT
27	Horseshoe	C-1	2200	X	X												PHMHT
28	Seven Springs	B-1	3300	X	X												PHMHT
29	Cave Creek	B-1	3300	X	X												PHMHT
30	Sunflower	E-5	5500	X	X												PHMHT
31	Sycamore	E-2	5000	X	X												PHMHT
32	Pine	E-1	5000	X	X												PHMHT
33	Washington Park	F-1	5000	X	X												PHMHT
34	Bear Flat	G-2	3000	X	X												PHMHT
35	Tonto Creek Trailer Camp	G-2	5000	X	X												PHMHT
36	Tonto-Horton	G-2	5000	X	X												PHMHT
37	Christopher	G-2	5000	X	X												PHMHT
38	Halger Creek	G-3	5000	X	X												PHMHT
39	Young Community	H-1	5140	X	X												PHMHT
40	Reynolds Creek	G-5	6000	X	X												PHMHT
41	Rose Creek	G-5	6000	X	X												PHMHT
42	Geronimo	G-2	5000	X	X												PHMHT

<sup>1</sup>KEY: D—Danger. Swimming unregulated; no lifeguards provided. Do not swim alone. Be alert to prevent drownings. If you fall out of your boat, hang onto it, and paddle astern.  
 B—boat for rent N—stream fishing H—lodging available on National Forest from concessioner.  
 L—lake fishing T—table for rent M—meals  
 R—boat ramp X—available F—provisions  
<sup>2</sup>Camping and trailer time limits vary with each area. Make best inquiry.  
 Don't be a "litterbug." The money spent cleaning up the Tonto last year might have financed the building of a campground.



BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE!

**MATCHES** Break them in two before you throw them away—to be sure they're out.

**SMOKING** Put out your cigarettes at pipe heels in an ashtray, or in pure mineral soil. When going through the woods on foot or horseback, stop for a "smoking break" and clear a place down to mineral soil where the burning tobacco or falling ashes can be tamped out.

**CAMPFIRES** Make your campfires in fire gates if provided. If none is available, clear a space 4 feet in diameter of all flammable material. Build a small campfire in the center. Large bonfires are useless and dangerous. Never leave a fire unattended, even for a few minutes. Always put out your fire with water. Stir the coals while soaking them, and turn burned sticks to drench both sides. Feel with your bare hands for hidden sparks. Remember, only an experienced woodsman can put out a campfire without water.

THE NATIONAL FORESTS IN ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO — THE SOUTHWESTERN REGION (3)



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The Tonto Basin seen from the Mogollon Rim.