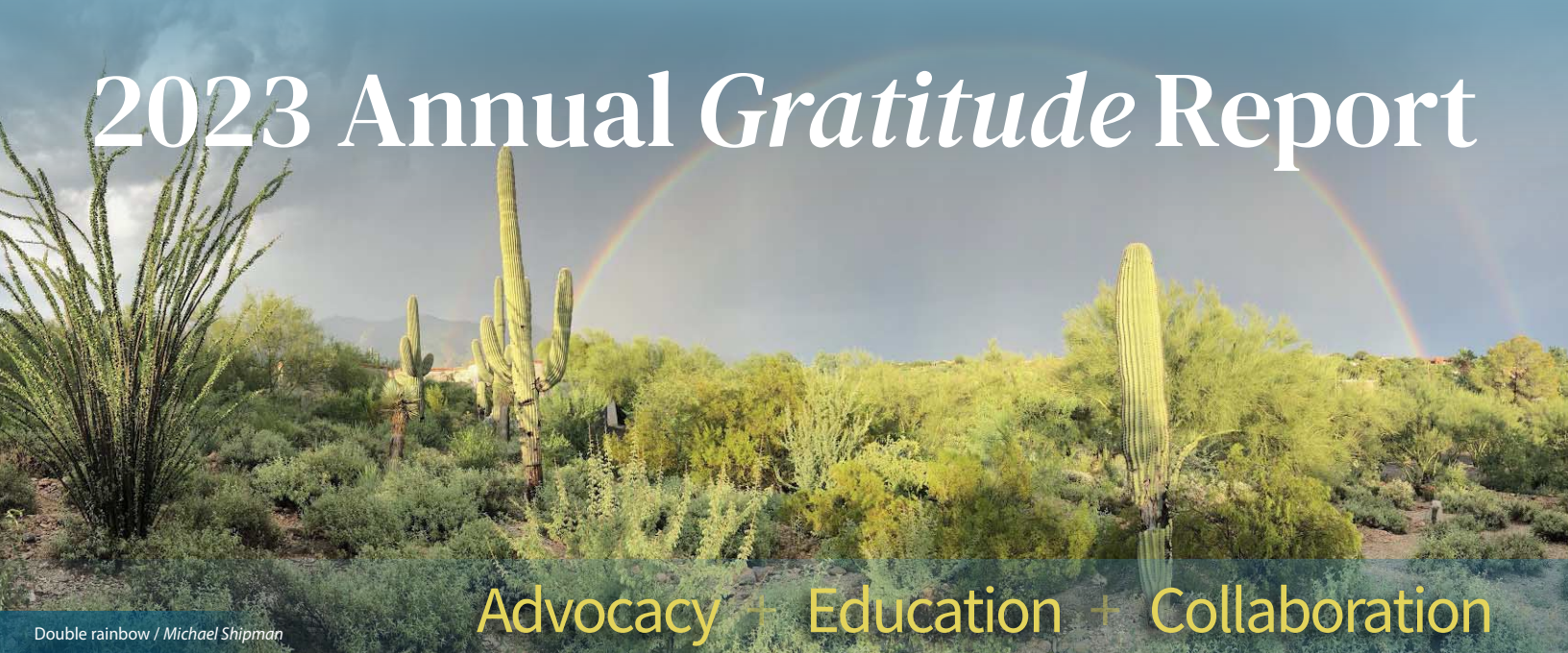


2023 Annual Gratitude Report



Double rainbow / Michael Shipman

Advocacy + Education + Collaboration



The Coalition's mission is to protect the biodiversity of the Sonoran Desert in southern Arizona through science-based advocacy, education, and collaboration.

We work to create a community where ecosystem health is protected; nature and healthy wild animal populations are valued; and residents, visitors, and future generations can all drink clean water, breathe clean air, and find wild places to roam.

738 N. 5th Ave., Suite 205
Tucson, Arizona 85705
520.388.9925
sonorandesert.org



@SonoranDesertProtection

Letter from the Board President

It's time to reflect on last year's activities and look forward to new adventures and accomplishments – time to THANK YOU ALL, our friends, colleagues, members and volunteers who make what we do possible in so many ways. We celebrated the life of our long-time volunteer and intern Josh Skattum early in the year, brought two Desert Wildlife Interns onboard for the fall semester, said goodbye to staff member Whelan, and said hello to our talented and artistic new Program and Communications Coordinator, Jonni Zeman, all while we continued to advocate for sensible policies and development practices.

Through it all, from mailing parties to community science, YOU continue to be the foundation of our work. Numerous volunteers adopt, maintain and monitor our wildlife cameras while others keep our adopted stretch of Oracle Road free of trash and watch for roadkill in specially organized work parties. This year has seen us expand our restoration efforts in partnership with our colleague Carianne Funicelli and her business, Strategic Habitat Enhancements (S.H.E.), removing invasive plants and revegetating the landscape on the Oracle Road wildlife crossings that connect our Catalina and Tortolita mountains.

Coalition staff and volunteers continue to support our Desert Fence Busters (DFB) partnership, removing unnecessary barbed wire fences, most recently in Avra Valley, the northern Altar Valley and the Tortolita Preserve. In the last three work seasons we have opened up over 7,700 acres of habitat on Tucson Water lands alone, removing and recycling over 36.5 miles and 41,000 pounds of obsolete fencing materials. During

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Cactus blooming / Kathy Krucker