

*Come browse
my journal!*

Sonoran Desert
Field Arts Bootcamp
March 31– April 3, 2025

< Click the arrows to flip the pages >

Monday, March 31, 2025

9:15 AM
Waxing
Windy
Partly cloudy
0727a → 0950p
0611a → 0642p

Aravaipa Canyon
32.87°N
110.583°W
2,500'
49°F, 77°F

Drove from Tucson to Aravaipa for our fourth Field Arts Bootcamp in this location. The landscape is very dry — no palo verde, brittlebush, or other flowers driving in.

Birds were also quiet on arrival; heard one Bell's Vireo, and a Gray Hawk right off, though.

Lots of Broad Billed Hummingbirds at the Lantana and Chuparosa.

Clouds moved in, with wind, from West.



striped skunk



Aravaipa Creek

to Pedro's Canyon

(27)

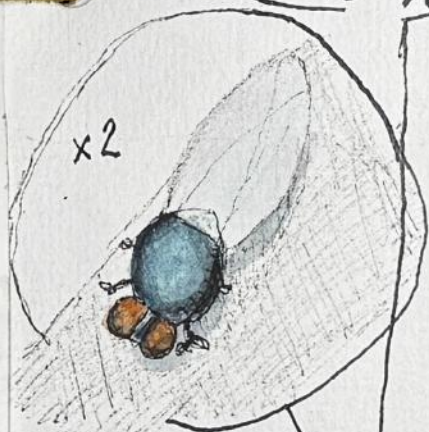


April 1, 2025

43°F low, 63°F high

Seen & Heard

In the morning our tracking walk yielded nice sets of Coatis tracks - a small troop.



fly?
not bee.

The Coatis and probably a raccoon have found the trash & are now raiders.

- Bell's Vireo
- Broad-billed Hummingbird
- Gray Hawk
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Bullock's Oriole (?)

- * Coati tracks
- Striped Skunk
- Harvester ant runway & hole
- Turkey Vulture
- * Dead mt. Lion
- White-tailed Deer
- Scott's Oriole
- American Snow
- Bat sp. - colony above front door (Myotis)

Cont. p. 30

Ranch

Flowers

- Phacelia
- Amsinckia
- Rattlesnake Weed?
- Hyptis emoryi
- Opuntia
- Palo Verde*
- Hedgehog
(hillside on road)
- Chuparosa
- Lantana
by perch
- Willow spp.
- * sparse

On our hike up Brandenburg wash, found a carcass that had been dug up, in the middle of the wash. See below, p. 30. Sleuthed through the signs — surmised it was a mt. lion based on tail, neck processes, size, but head and paws gone. So, probably killed by rancher — as it turned out, yes, but a lion County hunter authorized by AG & F for predator control.

There was also a clump of hair —

2-3" Long → very stiff, does not seem lion — was it javelina from gut? Deer?

dried blood?

Desert Tobacco (Nicotiana trigonophylla)

Leaf miner



miners can be Beetles, Lepidoptera,

afternoon turned windy,
as the storm blew
through. Curious large
group of Common Ravens
'playing' above the
cliffs & harassing
a red-tail.

April 2-4, 2025

Seen & heard
cont. Apr 28.

- Pug moth
- Perimyscus sp.
- Viceroy
- Marine Blue
- Gila W. P.
- Ladder backed
W. P.
- Lucy's Warbler

Cont. p. 31

? What is the body in the
wash?

- not lion-kill - buried in
dirt not debris
- Calf? No - long tail.
- Domestic dog? tail? dog?
- Mt. Lion? poss →

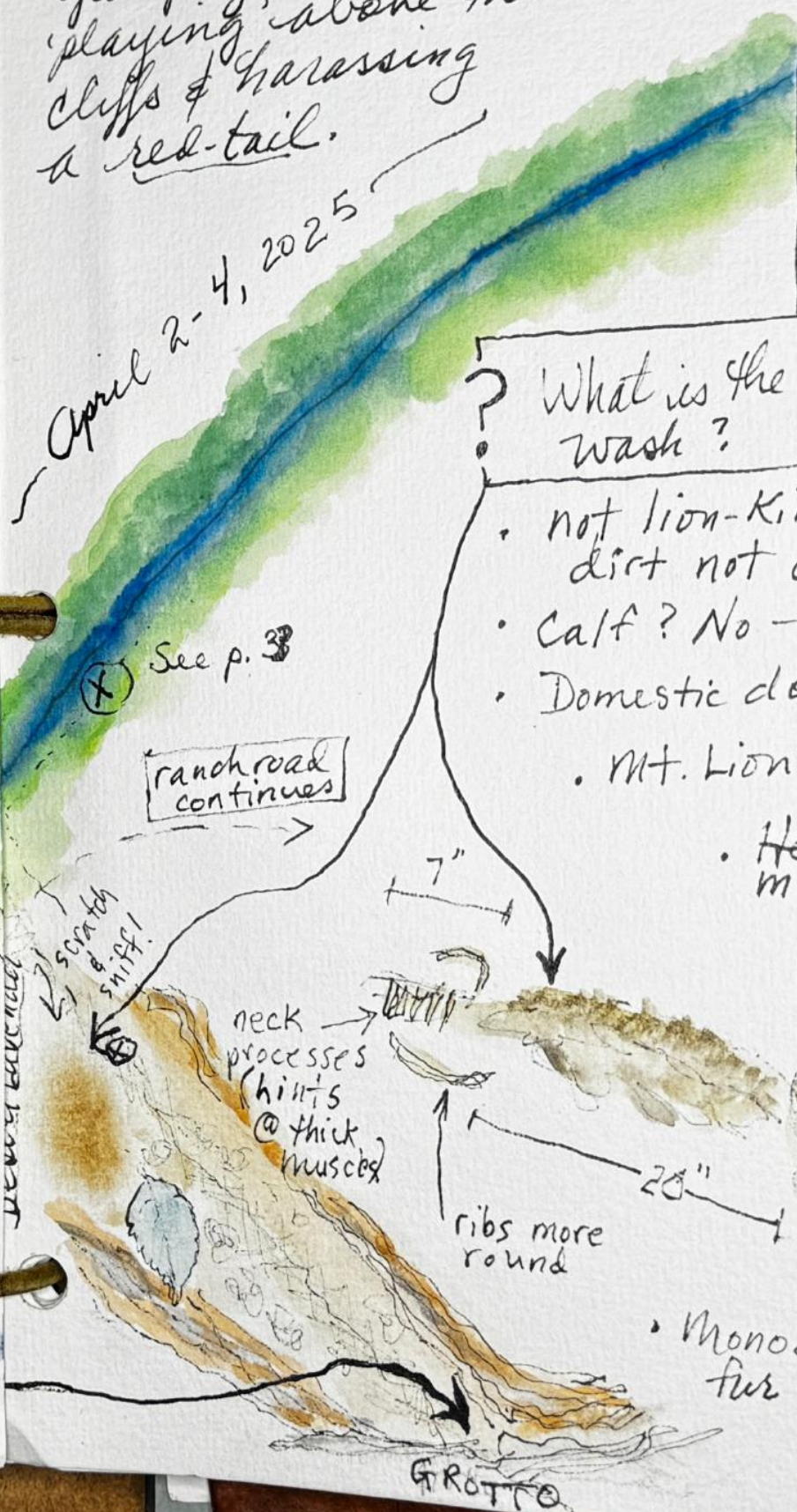
• Head & paws
missing - trophy

• Well-developed
tail muscles
- pelvis

★ yes
Lion
Killed
by
bounty

• Monochrome
fur

(cont.
by owner)



See p. 3

→ ranch road
continues

7"

neck
processes
(hairs
@ thick
muscles)

ribs more
round

20"

Grotto

Seen & Heard

April 5-7, 2025

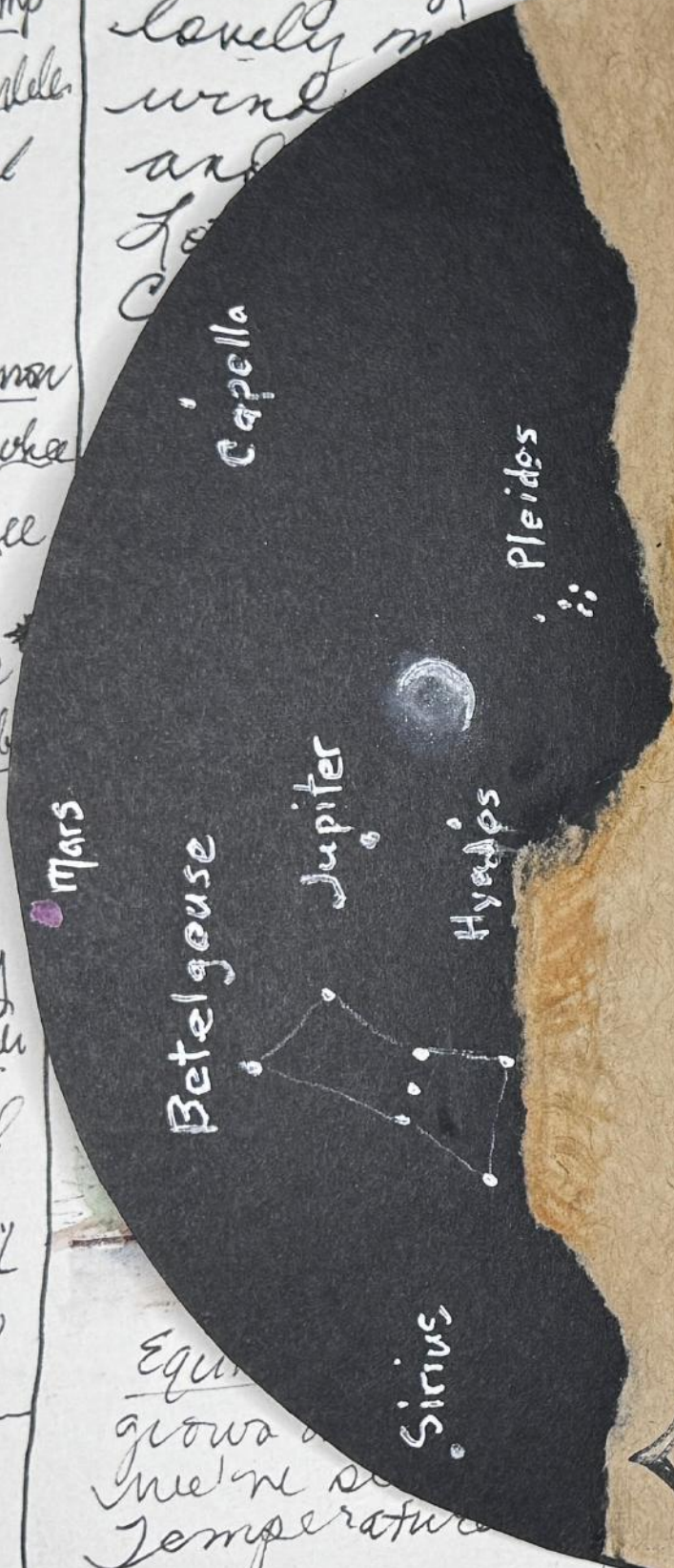
Cont. fr. p. 30

- Yellow-rump
- Yellow Warbler
- N. Cardinal
- Common Raven
- House Sparrow
- Albert's Towhee
- Ornate Tree Lizard
- Digger Bee
- Lucy's Warbler
- Cooper's Hawk
- Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher
- No. Cardinal
- Pipevine Swallowtail
- Fritillary sp

Swarm

Cont. p. 34

Sitting by the
lovely
wind
and
for
C



April 1, 2025



of creek

Wild Colors of the
Canyon



Aravaipa Red Paint

Brandenburg Brown Paint

Mesquite Sap Ink

Block diagram of a slice
of Brandenburg Mt. with
bighorn sheep; igneous inclusion.



Seen & Heard

April 5-7, 2025

Cont. fr. p. 30

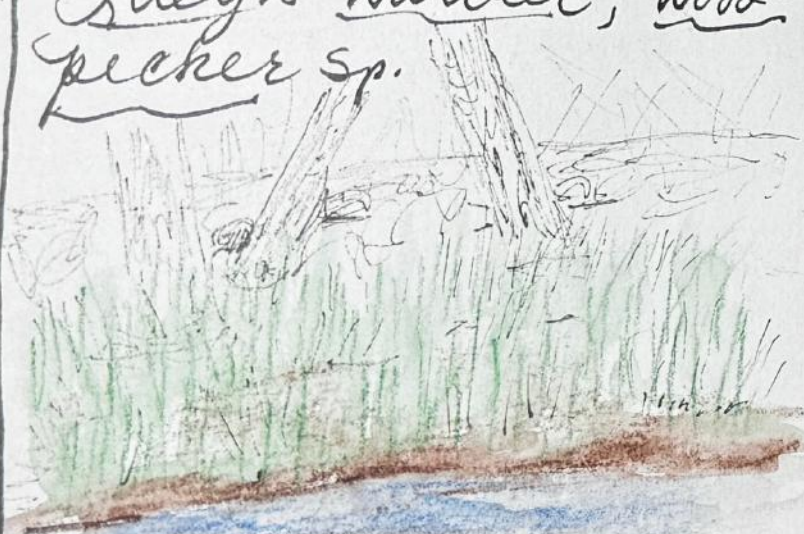
- Yellow-rump
- Yellow Warbler
- N. Cardinal
- Common Raven
- House Sparrow
- Albert's Towhee
- Ornate Tree Lizard
- Digger Bee*
- Lucy's Warbler
- Cooper's Hawk
- Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher
- No. Cardinal
- Pipevine Swallowtail
- Fritillary sp

* Swarm

Cont. p. 34

Sitting by the creek, lovely morning, the wind calmed down and it's 68°F, ~1 mph. Lots of bird activity - Cardinal singing north of the creek, & one "chipping" behind us.

Several Tree Lizards, just heard Western Wood Pewee X 3; Lucy's Warbler; Woodpecker sp.



Equisetum sp. — only grows on North side that we've seen. Sun? Temperature. of creek

the Canyon



Aravaipa Red Paint

Brandenburg Brown Paint

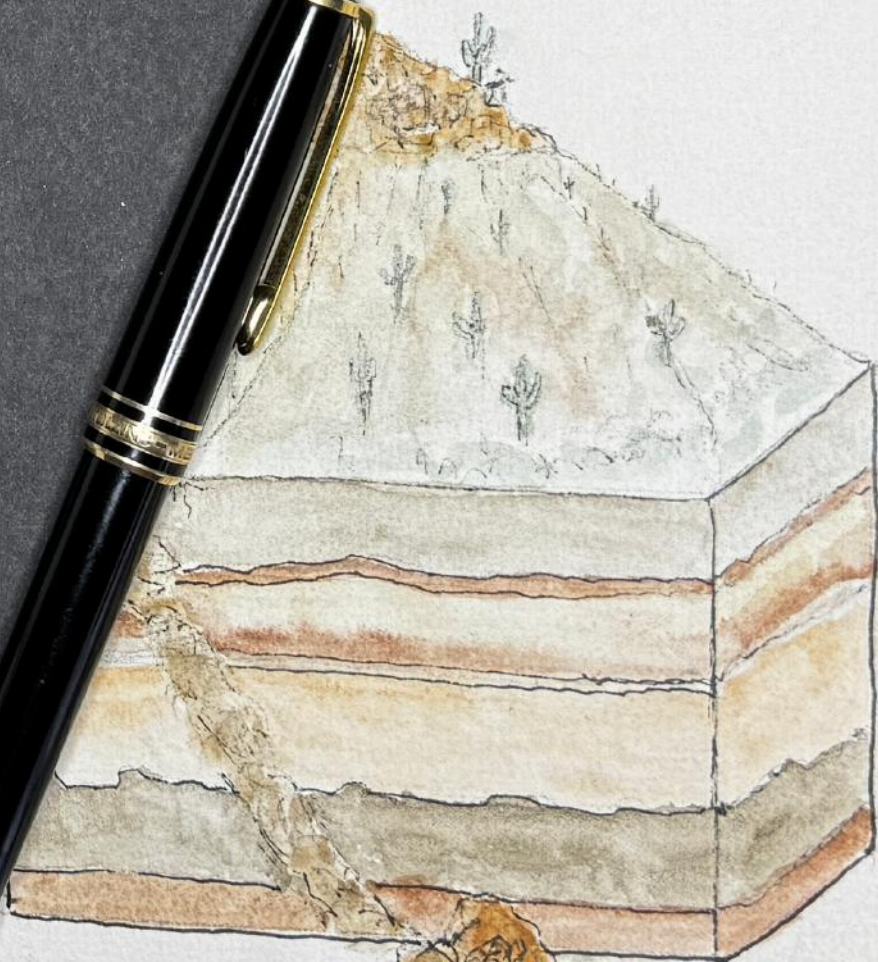
Agave Sap Ink

Fremont

Cottonwood



Big
of
higher



Cravania Creek supports
seven native fish species:

- Roundtail chub
- Speckled dace
- Longfin dace
- Sonora sucker
- Rock minnow
- Spiketail

[Non-native predatory
species: yellow
bullhead & steel
head shiner threaten
the natives.]



*14-16 ravens are cavorting over the South hills — an unusual number this time of year. (Monday, Apr. 7) 330 p.

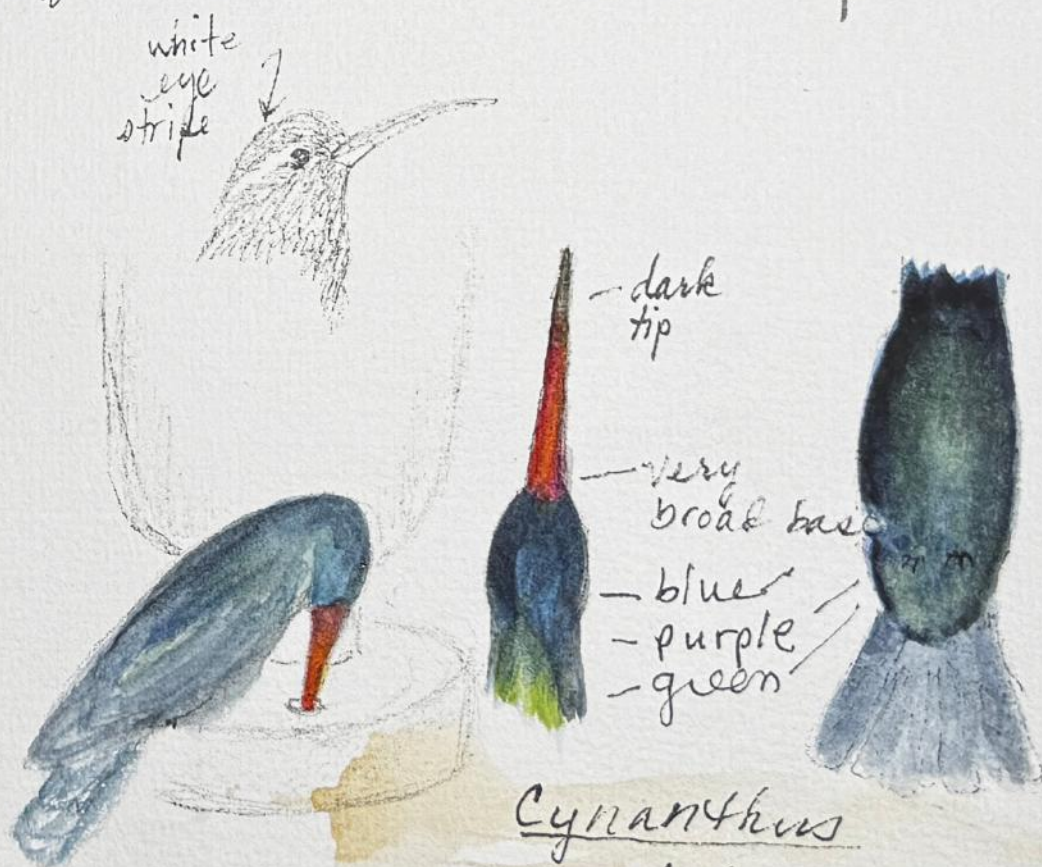
Seen & Heard

Cont. Jr. p. 31

- Whiptail sp.
- Tree Lizard
- Hermit Thrush
- Broad-tailed Humm.
- Turkey Vulture
(increased over 8 days)
- Raccoon

There are a lot of broad-billed hummingbirds at the feeder (which we brought). They are the dominant species and match the aggression of the Anna's in town.

A Costa's came in once & was immediately chased off.

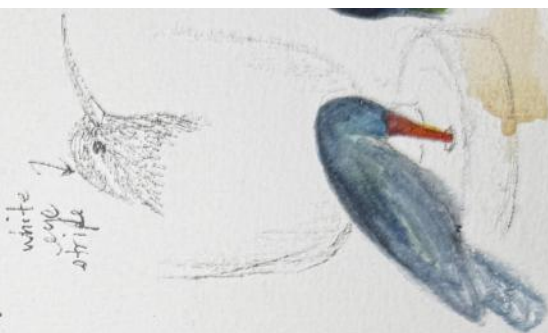


Cynanthus

latirostris

* 14-16 ravens are
over the South hills
unusual number
of year. (Monday, a

There are a lot
billed hummingbirds
the feeder (with
prodigal). These
dominant species
match the age of
Anna's in town.
A Costa's came
was immediately
off.



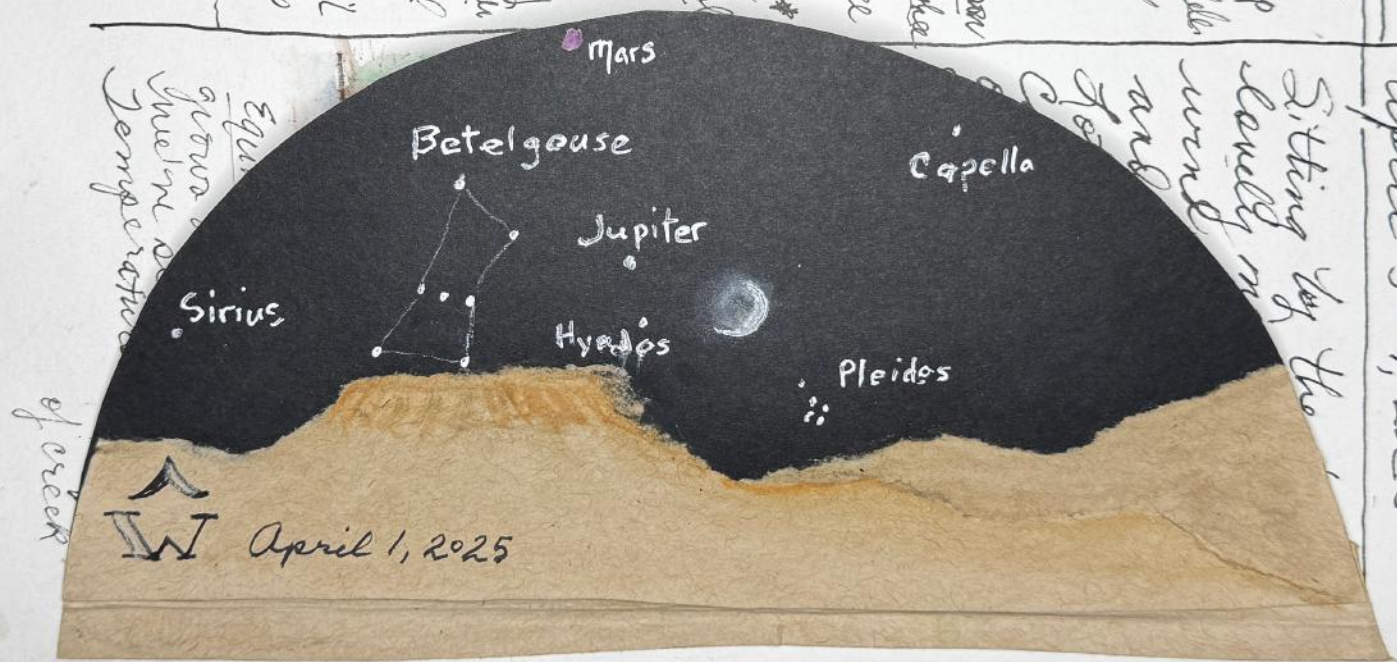
Aravaipa Creek supports
seven native fish species:

- roundtail chub
- speckled dace
- longfin dace
- Sonora sucker
- loach minnow } endangered
- spike dace

[non-native predatory
species: yellow
bullhead & red
shiner threaten
the natives.]



Cont. p. 20
 • Yellow-rump
 • Yellow Warbler
 • N. Cardinal
 • Common Raven
 • House Sparrow
 • Albert's Towhee
 • Ornate Tree Toad
 • Digger Bee
 • Lucy's Warbler
 • Cooper's Hawk
 • Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
 • No. Cardinal
 • Piping Sparrow
 • Swallowtail
 • Trillium sp.
 • S.W. 1/4
 Cont. p. 34



Block diagram of a slice of Brandenburg Mt. with bighorn sheep; igneous inclusion.

Wild Colors of the



*I hope you enjoyed
browsing my journal!*

Roseann Hanson

Field Arts

INSTITUTE

ExploringOverland.com/fieldarts