

*“Eventually, all things
merge into one,
and a river runs
through it.”*



“Stories of life are often more like rivers than books. But I knew a story had begun, perhaps long ago near the sound of water.”

[Page One: The *Black River* is approximately two hours from Springerville, Arizona. Above: The *White Mountains* are surrounded by the Apache-Sitgreaves Forest that contains numerous lakes and more than 690 miles of rivers and streams.]

WHAT MAKES THIS FOREST SO SPECIAL?

(From the US Forest Service)

It's the water...lots of it...draining the high mountains and forming numerous lakes and streams...a fisherman's paradise in the arid Southwest.

The Apache-Sitgreaves has 34 lakes and reservoirs and more than 680 miles of rivers and streams - more than can be found in any other Southwestern National Forest. The White

Mountains contain the headwaters of several Arizona rivers including the Black, the Little Colorado, and the San Francisco.

The Sitgreaves was named for Captain Lorenzo Sitgreaves, a government topographical engineer who conducted the first scientific expedition across Arizona in the early 1850's. On the Sitgreaves, the major attractions for visitors from the hot valleys of Phoenix or Tucson are the Mogollon Rim and the string of man-made lakes. From the Rim's 7600-foot

elevation, vista points provide inspiring views of the low country to the south and west.

Four rivers lie in the forest, including the Black, Little Colorado, the Blue and San Francisco. Elevations in the forest range from 3,500 feet to the 11,590-foot summit of Mount Baldy on the White Mountain Apache Indian Reservation.

The Apache-Sitgreaves provides habitat for over 400 species of wildlife. The forest is home to most big game animals, such as antelope,

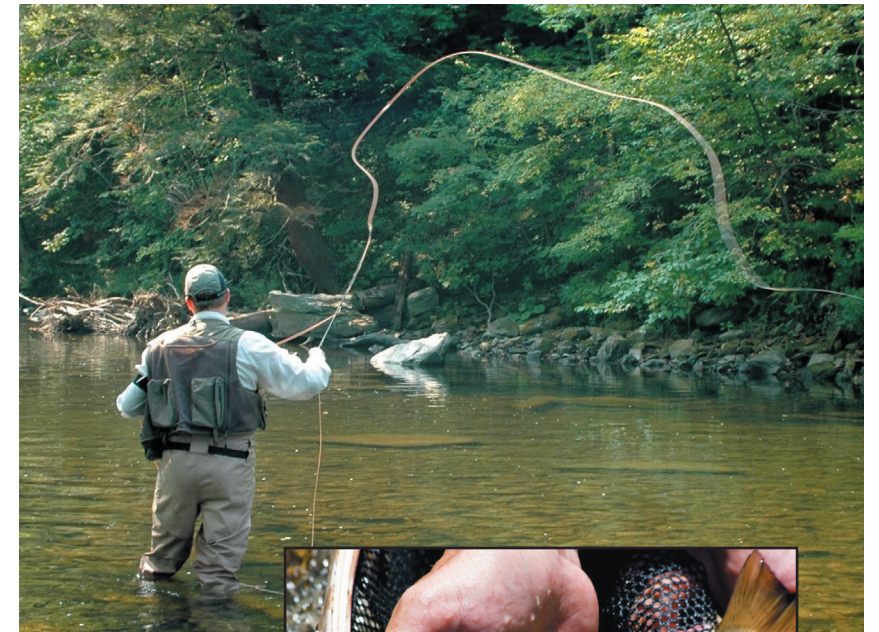


[Above: Several elk in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. The forest surrounds Wenima Valley, Springerville-Eagar, and the adjoining area and is only a few minutes drive away.]

elk, deer, bighorn sheep, and turkey, as well as a variety of songbirds, waterfowl, small mammals, fish, amphibians and reptiles. There are opportunities throughout the forest for photographers, casual observers, hunters, and anglers.

A leisurely drive in the twilight may yield wonderful rewards as it is during the evening twilight and early morning hours that wildlife within the forest are most active and can be seen most anywhere if you look hard enough. Deer and elk come out to feed in the early morning and evening, watch for them at the forest's edge or in meadows.

*“Eventually the
watcher joined the river,
and there was
only one of us.
I believe it was the river.”*



[Top: *Fly Fishing* is popular in the White Mountains. Excursions and one-on-one lessons are offered by seasoned fishermen in the area. Right: *Brown Trout* are found in the lakes and streams of the White Mountains. Below: In the *Mount Baldy Wilderness*.]





[Left: *Becker Lake* is literally just minutes from Wenima Valley. Known for large rainbow trout, the lake is legendary for hosting President Harry Truman for numerous fishing trips. Below: *Big Lake* is a popular location for both fishing and camping. Boat rentals are available seasonally.]



“To him, all good things—trout as well as eternal salvation—come by grace and grace comes by art and art does not come easy.”



[Top: A *Rainbow Trout*. This species of fish was introduced to Arizona in 1898, and some fish may live as long as eleven years. Above: *Upper Blue Campground*, about seventeen miles from Alpine, Arizona is well known for fly-fishing.]

BECKER LAKE is 85 acres, at an elevation of 6,900 ft. It is located two miles northwest of Springerville, off U. S. 60. The lake is known for large rainbow trout, but no special regulations are in effect except for a season that runs from the first Friday in April to Nov. 30. Rest rooms are on-site; other facilities are available in Springerville-Eager. Named for Gustav and Julius Becker, Becker Lake is the oldest man-made lake in Arizona and was created for the first hydro-electric power in

Springerville. Several outlaws reportedly are buried at the bottom.

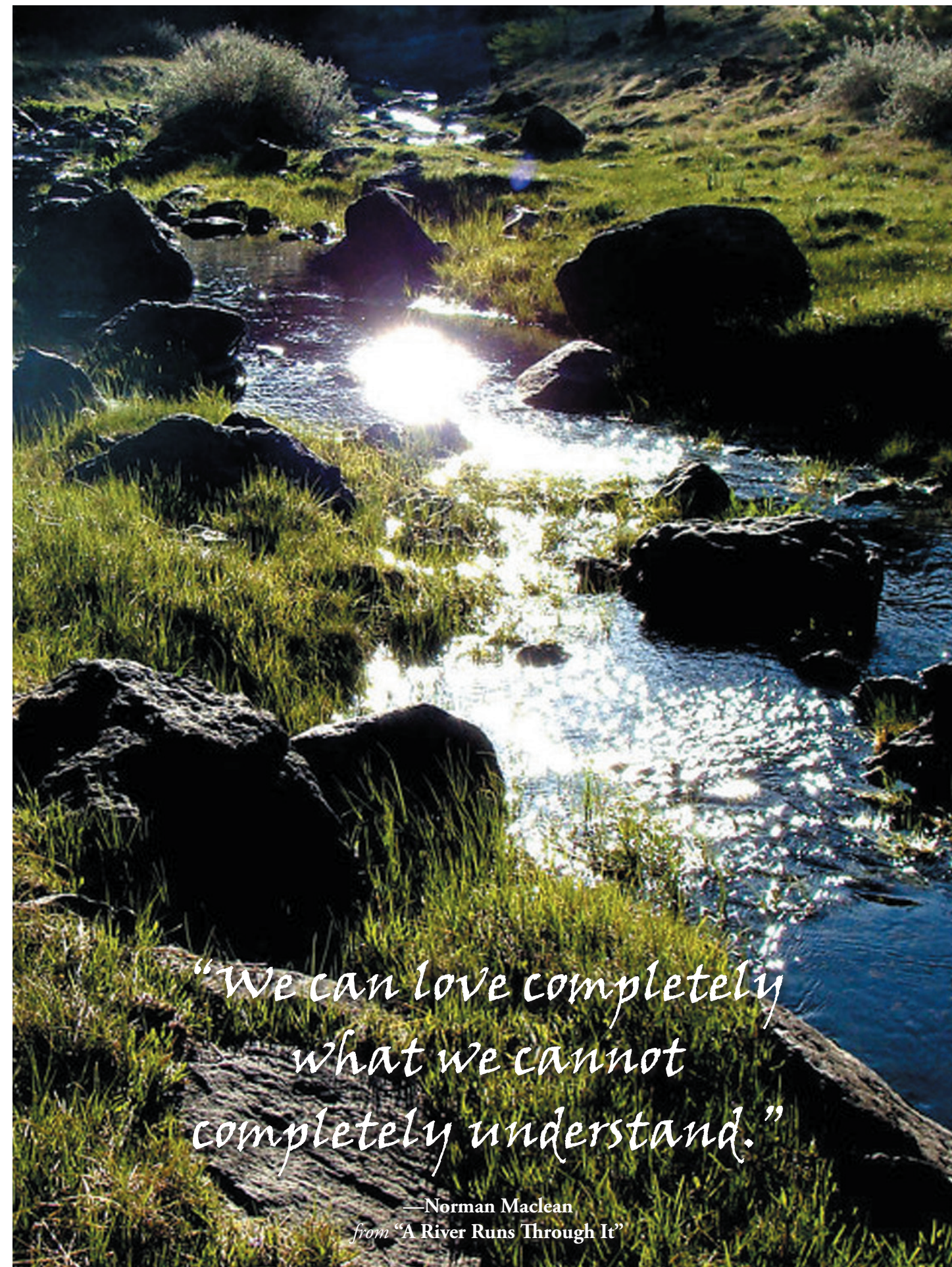
BIG LAKE is 400 acres and rests at an elevation 9,000 ft. Located nineteen miles southwest of Eager on Arizona 260 or U.S. 273—either approaching from the east near Eager or the west near Sunrise Resort. The lake is open May to November, with snowmobile access in the winter. Big Lake is very popular among campers and families.



[Above: *Lyman Lake State Park* is located fifteen miles north of Wenima Valley. Next page: Along the San Francisco River, about thirty miles from Springerville, Arizona.]

LYMAN LAKE STATE PARK is the first recreational state park in Arizona. This 1,180 acre park encompasses the shoreline of a 1,500 acre reservoir. Lyman Lake is at an elevation of 6,000 feet and was created as an irrigation reservoir by damming the Little Colorado River in 1915. The lake is fed by melted snow from the slopes of Mount Baldy and Escudilla Mountain, the second and third highest mountains in Arizona. Water is channeled into this river valley from a 790 square mile watershed which extends into New Mexico. Because of its size, Lyman Lake is one of the few bod-

ies of water in northeastern Arizona with no size restrictions on boats. The west end of the lake is buoyed off and restricted as a no wake (5 mph) limit area. This allows the angler a chance at a variety of fish without being bothered by speed boats and water-skiers. The fishing consists of Trout, Walleye, Channel Catfish, Crappie, and Largemouth Bass. The large remainder of the lake is open for all other types of water sports.



*“We can love completely
what we cannot
completely understand.”*

—Norman Maclean
from “A River Runs Through It”

[Right: The Springerville Airport is a ten minute drive from Wenima Valley.]



TRAVELING TO SPRINGERVILLE, ARIZONA

Located within 10 minutes from the Wenima Valley, Springerville Municipal Field has two lighted and paved runways (8,400- foot and 4,600-foot) with radio and non-directional beacon, a 4,000-square-foot terminal, 14,000-square-foot hanger with complete pilot facilities and lounge.

Springerville is a 3-1/2 to 4-hour drive from Phoenix and Tucson and slightly longer from Albuquerque. Driving from central and southern Arizona offers the breathtaking scenery of the Mogollon Rim or the Salt River Canyon. If you're driving from New Mexico, you'll pass through the splendor of the Datil Mountains or the unique volcanic landforms of El Malpais National Monument.

Boutique Air flies from Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport to Show Low Airport. The flight is approximately 50 minutes, and the airport is 35 minutes from Wenima Valley and Springerville.

For commuter flight information and availability go to: <http://www.boutiqueair.com>

From North Phoenix/Scottsdale Area to Springerville – Mogollon Rim Route

1. Travel east on Shea Blvd. through Fountain Hills to the Beeline Hwy. (Hwy. 87), then turn left/ north and proceed to Payson.
2. In Payson, turn right/east onto Hwy. 260 east to Show Low.
3. When you reach Show Low, Hwy. 260 east comes to a three-way stop at a traffic signal where there is a Victorian-style house on the left corner. Turn left at this intersection onto Hwy. 60.
4. Continue to drive east on Hwy. 60 to Springerville.

From East Valley Area – Salt River Canyon Route

1. Travel east on Superstition Freeway (Hwy. 60) through the Salt River Canyon to Show Low, continue straight on Hwy. 60.
2. Continue to drive east on Hwy. 60 to Springerville.

From Tucson to Show Low

1. Travel north/northeast on North Oracle Road/AZ 77 North through Oracle and Winkelman toward Globe.
2. Just before Globe, turn right/northeast onto Hwy. 60, which will continue through the Salt River Canyon to Show Low.
3. When you reach Show Low on Hwy. 60, continue straight on Hwy. 60.

From Albuquerque to Springerville, Arizona

1. Drive south on Interstate 25 to Socorro.
2. Proceed west on US Hwy. 60 to Springerville, Arizona.