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Lush Cosmetics Invests in Southern Arizona Wildlife Refuge

Lush Cosmetics, owner of the Lush bath products and skincare boutique at La Encantada Mall in Tucson, has awarded a grant to the Friends of Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge. The Friends is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization which supports the 118,000 acre U.S. Fish & Wildlife Refuge near Arivaca along the US/Mexico Border.

Quote from Lush Charitable Giving Communication Liaison and Regional Ambassador West, Hilary Pickles:

"I saw a brochure for Friends of the BANWR and got on the phone with Reta Rutledge to learn more. I was impressed with their projects and the drive of the community to address the safety of wildlife in the area. It was clear to me that Friends operates with passion, commitment and scientific facts; they are implementing real solutions and we are thrilled to be supporting them.

When we encounter organizations that are addressing the root causes of the issues at hand, it gets our attention."

The Refuge is home to over 50 mammals and 300 bird species. Their key work includes reintroduction of the endangered Masked Bobwhite Quail plus protecting other endangered and threatened species including the Pronghorn Antelope. Replacing barbed wire fences with wildlife friendly fence allows deer and pronghorn to move safely through the fence instead of being caught or cut by it. Additional work involves removing invasive grasses and restoring water to the landscape by repairing eroded washes.

Funds from Lush will be used by the Friends group to purchase and install three miles of wildlife friendly fence, survey the habitat of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo Bird for protection and improvement and hire a consultant to identify rapidly eroding washes and how they can be repaired.