

Wilderness Stewardship Program

Red Rock Secret Mountain Wilderness Trail Upkeep

February 21st, 2015 (Saturday)

Difficulty:  3+ / 5 [read more](#)

Camping: Day hike

Mileage: 6.5+ miles *Total Mileage*

Time: Start 8:00am Saturday
End 4:00pm Saturday

About Red Rock Secret Mountain Wilderness

The United States Congress designated the Red Rock-Secret Mountain Wilderness in 1984 and it now has a total of 47,194 acres. All of this wilderness is located in Arizona and is managed by the Forest Service. The Red Rock-Secret Mountain Wilderness is bordered by the Sycamore Canyon Wilderness to the west.

Tan, buff, and predominantly red-rock cliffs mark the edge of the Colorado Plateau across this Wilderness, just east of Sycamore Canyon Wilderness. Here the high mesas of Secret Mountain and Wilson Mountain jut out into the lower country, and outstanding canyons as deep as 1,500 feet drain into beautiful Oak Creek and the Verde River. The high rims are rather cool and moist compared with the lower desert-land, and a wide variety of vegetation supports plentiful wildlife, including elk, mule deer, white-tailed deer, javelinas, coyotes, rabbits, mountain lions, and black bears. A close look at the canyon walls may reveal ancient rock art and long-abandoned cliff dwellings. Although this is one of Arizona's most accessible Wildernesses, you can still find solitude here, largely due to the deep canyons, the many hidden grottoes, and the dense riparian vegetation. The rough terrain prevents trails from crossing the entire area.



Trip Description

This Wild Stew trip will be a one-day event to perform light trail up-keep consisting of light brushing, dismantling fire rings, and obscuring social trails on the Bear Mountain trail. Bear Mountain trail is an approx. 2.5 mile hike one-way, with an elevation gain of approx. 1200 feet. Bear mountain is a strenuous hike so please be prepared with appropriate foot wear and trekking poles if desired. There is **NO WATER on the trail so please bring extra water** for the day.

All necessary training for tool use and transport will be given at the event. AWC will have gloves and eye protection for you if needed.

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REGISTRATION REQUIRED

For Red Rock Secret Mountain Wilderness, February 21st

Questions? wildstew@azwild.org

Itinerary

Saturday, February 21st

5+ miles day-hiking carrying tools

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 8:00 am | Rendezvous Bear Mountain Trailhead, <i>directions below</i> |
| 8:15 am | Briefing & Safety Talk
Hike Bear Mountain Trail performing light trail upkeep along the way |
| 12:00 pm | Lunch along the trail |
| 3:00 pm | Return to trail head |
| 4:00 pm | Arrive at vehicles. <i>Thank you for participating!!</i> |

Gear List

- Day Pack to carry supplies on day hike (water, food, camera, etc.)
- Water — 3–4 liters/day. ***No water on trail, Bring Extra***
- Food —lunch, snacks.
- Sturdy, closed-toe shoes (NO SANDALS). Under our volunteer agreement with the Forest Service, *you must wear closed-toe shoes or you will not be able to join us.*
- Appropriate clothing. Warm layers for the evening. *See weather link below to plan appropriately.*
- Sun protection (sun screen, sunglasses, hat, etc.)

Optional items

- Camera/Binoculars
- Hiking pole(s) or stick

Weather

As the event gets closer, please check the weather to ensure you are properly prepared. Elevation is 4,600 ft. The weather forecast nearby: [Red Rock Secret Mountain Wilderness, 2/21/2015](#)



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Driving Directions

From I-17 and HWY 179

1. Take Hwy 179 towards Sedona approx. 14.5 miles
2. Head west on Hwy 89A approx. 3.1 miles to Dry Creek Road
3. Turn right and continue approx. 2.8 miles to the three way intersection with a stop sign.
4. Turn left and follow approx. 1.5 miles to the three way intersection
5. Turn left and follow approx. 1.2 miles to Bear Mountain trail head on the left.



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Trip Leader: Brian Stultz (775) 340-9154 (cell)