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THE ARIZONA WILDERNESS COALITION

PROTECTING ARIZONA'S WILD LANDS & WATERS SINCE 1979

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May 14, 2015

Greetings!

May is a time when nature bursts forth in blooms and birdsongs. School is ending and family vacations are being planned. Let's harness some of this breaking-free energy to help wilderness and the environment. Below are several opportunities to do just that – we hope you'll join us to preserve Arizona's last wild places by getting involved today.

Yours in Wilderness,



Barbara

Barbara Hawke
Executive Director

Take Action for Wild Arizona



Eagletail Mountains Wilderness

The Bureau of Land Management and the Arizona Game and Fish Department are coordinating efforts to redevelop two wildlife water catchments and potentially reintroduce a population of endangered Sonoran Pronghorn within the Eagletail Mountains Wilderness.

Scoping comments are accepted until tomorrow, May 15th.

[Learn more](#)

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San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area

This NCA's resource management plan and travel management plan are being revised, and there's a lot at stake for this critically important desert stream. The BLM has just published [highlights of draft alternatives](#) – and we need your voice to support wilderness preservation in the following ways:

- Attend the BLM's next Public Meeting on Tuesday, May 19th, 6–8pm in Hereford (near Sierra Vista).
- Or, submit a comment by June 5th to David McIntyre: dmcintyre@blm.gov

We especially need to let the BLM know we want to see wilderness values ("Lands with Wilderness Characteristics") and ecological values preserved in this biodiversity hotspot that harbors hundreds of migratory birds, several threatened and endangered species, and extensive archaeological resources. A number of proposed projects could adversely impact the riparian corridor.

[Click here for more information](#)

on opportunities to submit comments on the San Pedro Riparian NCA.



Be a Hero for Stewardship

AWC has an outstanding lineup of Stewardship projects coming this year – and we need your help to secure funding for this great work! The National Forest Foundation has awarded AWC \$46,000 to complete restoration projects across the state, but we only receive the funds if we raise an equal amount of private

matching funds. [Help us raise \\$10,000 by June 30th!](#)

With your help since Arizona Gives Day, we've already raised \$2,500 toward our goal. Your donation will support projects like these:

- Restoration of trails in the Superstition Mountains to improve visitor experience and increase sustainability
- Restoration of trails in the Chiricahua and Galiuro Mountains to address damage from wildfire and erosion
- Eradication of invasive tamarisk in the Apache Creek watershed
- Trail maintenance and sign installation to improve visitor experience in the Castle Creek Wilderness
- Restoration of native vegetation in the Pine Mountain Wilderness



Wild Stew Heats Back Up in June

For all of you that have been waiting to get back in wilderness and get your hands dirty, the initial schedule of projects should be posted on our website in early June. With our wonderful volunteers we'll be working in the Prescott, Coronado, and Tonto National Forests.

Additional projects are being planned, so there's sure to be a Stew project coming near you – stay tuned!



Wild for the Arizona Trail

We're excited to welcome Brian Stultz as our Stewardship Coordinator, returning to us after he completes a thru-hike of the 800-mile Arizona Trail this month. Brian is hiking with former AWC intern and recent Prescott College graduate Julie Polovitch. Have you been following [their blog](#)? Their trek has been

filled with laughter and pain, desert and mountains, solitude and friends – but mostly it's been about learning.

Experience the exultation and tribulation of Brian & Julie's hike and learn more about AWC's Wild Stew program at one of two presentations at REI in Phoenix:

REI Paradise Valley :: Tuesday, June 16th, 6:30pm :: [more info](#)

REI Tempe :: Thursday, June 18th, 6:30pm :: [more info](#)



Member Specials with Arizona Wilderness Brewing

As a featured business partner for 2015 the good folks at Arizona Wilderness Brewing in Gilbert, AZ are providing a special discount for new and renewing members of AWC! Explore the wilds and then head on over for unlimited discounts on appetizers and refreshments. [Learn more and make your contribution of \\$50 or more to AWC before June 30th to get your discount card!](#)



JOIN US OR RENEW

You can make a tremendous difference in the success of wilderness campaigns by becoming a supporting member and sharing your resources with Arizona's last, best places.



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