



THE ARIZONA WILDERNESS COALITION

PROTECTING ARIZONA'S WILD LANDS & WATERS SINCE 1979

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December 15, 2015

Greetings!,

We wish you most happy holidays! Wilderness is an effective antidote to holiday stress, a great place to escape the pressure of parties, crowds, and house guests. Take time to allow nature to restore your spirit in Arizona's awesome backcountry!

Another great way to restore balance in the holiday season is to join one of our Wilderness Stewardship trips. Learn more about the incredible Superstition, Chiricahua, and Galiuro mountains while helping restore trails and ecosystems through these projects.

For a taste of the Stewardship experience, read more in this issue about recent stream monitoring in the beautiful Arrastra Wilderness. Loyal volunteer Nancy Lewis recorded encounters with wild burros, javelina, and even quicksand.

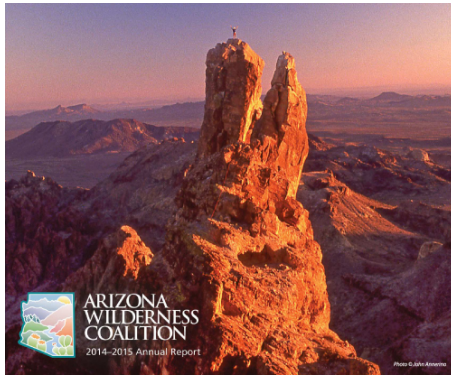
And remember Wilderness in your holiday gift planning. Year-end donations are a major source of support for Arizona Wilderness Coalition, allowing us to continue to protect and preserve our treasured wilderness landscapes. **Giving is easy through our website.** You can also help AWC at no cost to you through AmazonSmile – see the easy steps below!



Warm wishes this season,



Barbara
Barbara Hawke
Executive Director



AWC Annual Report

We are delighted to share with you the myriad of accomplishments of the Arizona Wilderness Coalition for the **2014-2015 fiscal year**. As the pace of change grows ever more rapid, AWC is evolving to respond to the conservation challenges in ways that are effective in the near term, while strengthening the foundation for permanent wilderness protections.

Take a moment to savor the accomplishments of the past year made possible by you!



Celebrate an Epic 2015 Wild Stew Season

Join us as we celebrate an awesome 2015 Wild Stew season with a backpack trip to one of Arizona's most popular wilderness areas – the Superstitions! The wilderness value of the Superstitions has long been recognized; established as a Primitive Area in 1939, it

was named a pre-Wilderness Act "wilderness" in 1940, and became an official wilderness area in 1964. If you've never been there, it truly is a sight to see—miles of barren mountains, haunting canyons and stories of treasure, and impressive geologic formations.

We'll be trail brushing one of the most used and one of the least used trails in the Sups. Be prepared to hike up to approximately 12 miles along the First Water, the Boulder, and the Black Mesa trails. **Learn more & RSVP**

Arrastra Adventure!

AWC was asked to help document conditions for potential Wild and Scenic River designation along segments of the Big Sandy River. **Read more about**

ARRASTRA ADVENTURE



what Nancy Lewis and other volunteers encountered while mud-slogging, bushwhacking, and photopoint monitoring through the Sandy River corridor.



You Shop, Amazon Gives!

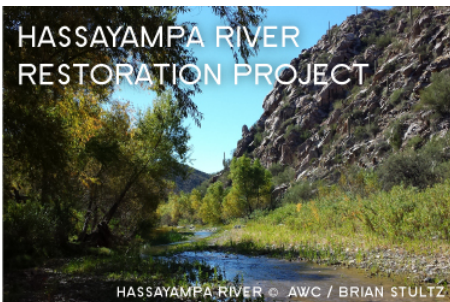
AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support the Arizona Wilderness Coalition every time you shop, at no cost to you.

When you **shop at smile.amazon.com** you'll find an added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase to your favorite charitable organization –

might we suggest AWC?!

Gift-giving that gives twice – **Smile this holiday season!**

UPCOMING EVENTS



Hassayampa River Restoration Project

Beginning mid-January

Our restoration project in the Hassayampa River Canyon Wilderness is officially underway! Beginning in mid-January we will start digging holes and planting native willow and cottonwood trees. If you are

interested in participating, please contact Brian Stultz: brian@azwild.org. *Please note, this is a special project that will not be listed in the events on our Meetup.com page; you must contact Brian directly to participate.*

DEC
19-20

Superstition Mountain Wilderness Trail Restoration

Join us for an overnight backpack trip along the First Water, the Boulder, and the Black Mesa trails for some light trail brushing and maintenance.

Learn more & RSVP

Galiuro Mountains Wilderness Trail

JAN
9

Restoration

Please join us for this special trail restoration event in the Galiuro Mountains Wilderness. This single-day event is part of a wilderness education experience with kids from the Hayden-Winkelman middle school. These students will have two days of nature study prior to the trail restoration day. You're invited to join us, and to

help foster a connection between our public lands and this next generation of conservationists. [Learn more & RSVP](#)

JAN
23-24

Chiricahua Wilderness Trail Restoration

We are excited to invite you to our fourth & final trail restoration event in the Chiricahua Wilderness! We've been steadily working towards the end of the Green Canyon and Hoovey Canyon trails, which were heavily impacted by the Horseshoe Fire and subsequent flooding from heavy rain. We will brush out this

densely overgrown trail, remove logs, and re-establish tread in washed out areas. Please join us on this overnight car-camping trip, and a well-deserved celebration of completion! [Learn more & RSVP](#)



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.



amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

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