

Wilderness Stewardship Program

Kachina Peaks Wilderness Weatherford Trail Maintenance August 5, 2017 (Saturday)

Difficulty:	Intermediate	Camping:	Day hike
Mileage:	6+ miles <i>Total Mileage</i>	Time:	Start 7:30 am Saturday End 4:00pm Saturday

About Kachina Peaks Wilderness

The United States Congress designated the Kachina Peaks Wilderness in 1984 and it now has a total of 18,720 acres and is managed by the Forest Service.

Rising to truly majestic summits, Kachina Peaks Wilderness area boasts 12,643-foot Humphrey's Peak, the highest point in Arizona. The Wilderness is part of a large and heavily vegetated composite volcano, which bears signs of a rich geologic past that included violent eruptions and lava flows. Arizona's best examples of Ice Age glaciation can be found here in lateral and medial moraines and abandoned stream beds. Erosion and frost have helped shape this area. The only arctic-alpine vegetation in the state grows up here in a fragile two-square-mile zone. Because of this delicate ecosystem, hikers must stay on designated trails, and no camping or campfires are allowed above the tree line or within the Inner Basin. The climb to the top of Humphrey's Peak is a nontechnical five-mile walk up the sometimes steep Humphrey's Trail. Here and nowhere else on Earth grows the fragile San Francisco Peaks groudsel. In addition to some of the best and highest views in Arizona, this area gives visitors a chance to climb in the snow and ice and to set up a winter campsite. These peaks are sacred to tribes including the Havasupai, Hopi, Navajo, and Zuni. Several religious shrines have been identified in the Wilderness, some of which are currently in use. Please respect ongoing religious rites and do not disturb any artifacts you may find in the area.



Trip Description

Join AWC and the Flagstaff Ranger District on the Coconino National Forest for a day of trail maintenance on the Weatherford Trail in the Kachina Peaks Wilderness. Participants will be completing routine trail maintenance including cutting back overgrown vegetation, cleaning out drainages and improving other water mitigation features. We will be starting the day at approx. 9500 feet and potentially working up to 11,000 feet. There is no water along this trail so participants will need to bring enough water for the entire

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day minimum of 4 liters and lunch/snacks. Participants will need to be prepared to hike approx. 1.5 miles from the parking area to the work site, we will continue to work up the trail and then return to the cars at approx. 4pm.

There is no experience necessary for these activities and all tools and training will be provided. **All participants MUST wear long pants, long sleeves, eye protection (sunglasses), and closed toed shoes (sturdy hiking boots) for all work activities. Gloves, are available upon request.**



REGISTRATION REQUIRED

For Kachina Peaks Wilderness, August 5th

Questions? brian@azwild.org

Itinerary

Saturday, August 5th	6+ miles day hiking
7:30 am	Rendezvous at the parking area (directions below)
7:45 am	Briefing & Safety talk
8:15 am	Begin hike up to the Weatherford Trail approx. 1.5 miles Continue working on the Weatherford Trail
12:00 pm	Lunch on the trail
4:00 pm	Arrive back at parking area. Thanks for participating!!

Gear List

- Day Pack to carry supplies on day hike (water, food, camera, etc.)
- Water — minimum 4 liters/day. *Water can be refilled from jugs provided by AWC.*
- Food — *lunch and snacks for the day*
- Sturdy, boots – closed-toe shoes (NO SANDALS). Under our volunteer agreement with the Forest Service, *you must wear closed-toe shoes, long sleeves and pants, gloves, and eye protection 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



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- Hiking pole(s) or stick

Weather

As the event gets closer, please check the weather to ensure you are properly prepared. We will be working at approx. 9500–11,000 ft. The weather forecast nearby: [Kachina Peaks 8/5/2017](#)

Driving Directions

Continue on Hwy 89 north from Flagstaff. Look for signs for Sunset Crater.

1. Turn west onto FR552 (across from entrance to Sunset Crater)
2. Continue on FR552 ~ 5 miles all the way to Lockett Meadow.
 - a. **Go around the meadow and meet at the gate on the east side of the meadow.**

This link will get you close to the rendezvous location – AWC will hang flagging to help guide you once you leave HWY 89

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Flagstaff,+AZ/35.357844,-111.61888/@35.3719015,-111.6018461,14.76z/data=!4m14!4m13!1m10!1m1!1s0x872d8ef7da2e2631:0x8e1f3ca1cedbb300!2m2!1d-111.651302!2d35.1982836!3m4!1m2!1d-111.5963428!2d35.3751889!3s0x873276b8c794b6fb:0x58944276a360c908!1m0!3e0>



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

