



## A SEASON FOR REFLECTION

November 18, 2016

**November has long been a time for reflection**. We honor those who gave their lives for our country through Veterans' Day, and acknowledge the contributions of Indigenous Peoples through <u>Native American Heritage Month</u>. Varied cultures across the world begin a new year in the fall, with holidays contemplating what's gone before, and what lies ahead.

So perhaps this November is a sobering time to take stock, yet no exception to the annual cycle of life. For our part at Arizona Wilderness Coalition, we continue to celebrate the aweinspiring virtues of our wild lands, and cheer for the dedicated volunteers who give in so many ways to protect and preserve our public lands.

Looking forward, it's clear we need to align ourselves as a cohesive force to preserve wild lands and vulnerable ecosystems. We need to be smart in the new political environment, seeking advances in conservation while defending protections already secured for beloved wild lands.

We need your help more than ever to prepare for the coming changes that will affect the lands that we - and our wildlife kin - rely on for sustenance and inspiration. You can become part of the force for good by staying informed, volunteering, and <u>supporting our work</u>. Learn more below about how to get involved - and remember, we're all in this together.

Yours in wild Gratitude, *Barbara Hawke* Executive Director



### New Talent for Stew

Our Wilderness Stewardship program is pleased to introduce Stephanie Landers, who joins us as a Project Assistant for the 2016-17 stewardship season. Stephanie is a person of many talents, with professional background in communications, in addition to great enthusiasm for preserving the wild outdoors. You'll meet her on upcoming stewardship projects, and we know you'll enjoy her amiable and capable approach.

## Get Involved with Your Forest

Several of Arizona's National Forests are considering actions that can affect the future of land and natural resources for many years to come. The Coronado National Forest is <u>seeking your opinion</u> on how to make developed recreation sites more sustainable. This is a great opportunity to share your priorities, concerns or ideas for your favorite campground or trailhead.

And watch for updates on the Tonto National Forest Plan - we expect <u>public meetings on wilderness</u> <u>resources</u> to be coming soon!





# Express your Gratitude with Giving Tuesday!

Express your Gratitude with Giving Tuesday! After Black Friday and Cyber Monday, you can recharge your karma by giving back through Giving Tuesday. It's a national day of giving, and what better year to invest in causes that will strive for a promising future. <u>Make your donation for AWC here today!</u>

#### Land Law in the News

On October 21st, we celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, or "FLPMA". The Act with a funny name pioneered many important land management approaches, notably mandating a look at wilderness resources for the Bureau of Land Management. Read more and <u>catch a quote from AWC here</u>.

#### Your Opinion Matters!

If you're receiving this email, you likely received a survey about AWC from TREC - Training Resources for the Environmental Community. Please take a few moments to complete this survey, as the results will greatly help us in planning programs for next year. The survey closes November 23, so we hope you'll hop right on this!





## JOIN A VOLUNTEER EVENT

It's that time of year again - our event season is up and rolling! We would love to see you out on the trail at one of these upcoming projects:

#### Arnett Creek, Tonto NF - Phase II

Saturday, December 3rd 8:00 AM to Sunday, December 4th, 4:00 PM Completing invasive tree removal and restoring a riparian ecosystem. Help up improve sustainable recreation opportunities near Superior and enhance linkages for the Arizona Trail. There will be a volunteer dinner Saturday night! <u>RSVP here</u>

#### Red Rock Secret Mountain Wilderness - Coconino NF

Saturday, January 21st and Sunday, January 22nd, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Calling all hands! We are removing the remains of an illegal marijuana growing operation in the beautiful Red Rock Secret-Mountain Wilderness and we need at least a dozen volunteers each day. You won't want to miss this opportunity to work and play with some of your favorite AWC friends! <u>RSVP</u> <u>here</u>

#### South Mountain Park, City of Phoenix

Saturday, January 21st, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

It's a great time of year for a Trail Beautification project in South Mountain Park! Join us in a day of work and fun along the National Trail, this job promises miles and miles of beautiful scenery. <u>RSVP here</u>





The Arizon a Wilderness Coalition actively engages and empowers citizens like you who care about Arizona's wild lands. For more than 35 years, we have been working with volunteers to conduct wild land inventories, educate citizens about the unique attributes of Arizona's landscape, and empower our activists to build support for their lasting protection. We need your help protecting our wild lands for the future...join us today!





amazonsmile

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protecting arizona's wild lands & waters since 1979