

BABBITT TIMES REVIEW FootNotes



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Footnotes is an online newsletter extension of *Babbitt Times Review*, the annual newsletter for and about the Babbitt Ranches Community.



Young people involved in the "Peaks to Park" youth mountain bike summer adventure recently spent a day building trail on Babbitt Ranches.

PHOTO COURTESY/DANIEL SNYDER

Volunteers Being Recruited for Babbitt Ranches Singletrack Project July trail-building weekend includes camping, hiking and construction on the CO Bar

Arizona Trail Association Executive Director Matthew Nelson is calling it "a trail-building extravaganza." ATA and Babbitt Ranches are kicking off the Babbitt Ranches Singletrack Project on the July 20th weekend in coordination with RunFlagstaff and members of the local trail running community.

The plan includes camping near the Cedar Ranch trailhead on Friday and Saturday nights, July 19 and 20. "Weather permitting, we'll hike between one and two miles to the area where we'll be building fresh singletrack," said Nelson. "There will be something for everyone, from the experienced trail dog to someone who's never even seen a McLeod before."

Nelson adds that progress already is being made. "Coconino County has built a few miles of trail with their machinery; Arizona Trail Association volunteers put in a solid day of trail construction near Chapel Mountain in May; and recently a group of young people, who were mountain biking from Flagstaff to Grand Canyon as part of our annual 'Peaks to Park' youth mountain bike summer adventure, spent a day

building trail, too."

The nearly 13-mile stretch on the CO Bar Ranch is the only portion of the Arizona Trail on private land. Previously, it connected the Coconino and Kaibab National Forests with a two-track dirt road.

"The trip through CO Bar Ranch is already a beautiful one, but a separate, non-motorized singletrack trail provides a more intimate experience, allowing recreationists an improved opportunity to interact with nature," said Babbitt Ranches Recreation Manager Evan Reimondo. "The revised route will pass near Tub Ranch Camp, which was important to Babbitt Ranches and helps tell the history of the region and show that these are still working lands."

Trail-building efforts are being made possible through an agreement between Babbitt Ranches, Coconino County and ATA. A Memorandum of Understanding signed last fall grants permission and identifies resources to develop and maintain the trail, including county funds, "an amount not to exceed \$30,000," toward the Babbitt Ranches segment that is expected to be completed by September 2021.

For the July event, ATA will provide tools, personal protective equipment, instruction and lunch. "Trail-building is a lot of fun and the Babbitt Ranches Singletrack Project will be a great opportunity for many people to experience a whole different view of Arizona and its rich cattle ranching history," said Nelson.

"Babbitts is excited to participate in such a wonderful project," said Babbitt Ranches General Manager Billy Cordasco. "We believe this section between Flagstaff and the Grand Canyon is very special and adds to the historic, cultural and wildland experience for recreationists."

ATA recommends that volunteers be at least 15 years old. Those interested can find more information and sign up at http://volunteer.aztrail.org/need/detail/?need_id=425394.



Discovery Podcast Explores Relationships

Every family business needs to be a "relationship-first business" because the nature and quality of the family relationships determine long-term success. That from family business and relationship management expert Ed Hoover, Ph.D. "Significant relationships are the foundation of the lives we live every day," says the psychologist. In the first of a three-part-series, hear how relationships shape and define who we are as Hoover joins Discovery with Babbitt Ranches Host Billy Cordasco.

Additional trail-building events are being scheduled for the Babbitt Ranches Singletrack Project between now and November. For details, visit volunteer.aztrail.org.

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"We are really looking forward to providing more of an 'Arizona Trail experience' for hikers, runners, mountain bikers and equestrians instead of the roads currently used to connect the Arizona Trail on the Coconino and Kaibab National Forests," said Arizona Trail Association Executive Director Matthew Nelson.

Through our efforts of learning and understanding, Babbitt Ranches, a family business and pioneering land company, raises livestock, manages natural resources, promotes science and participates in the broader community in order to join, share and do the very best we know how.

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