

## Arizona Trail Association Volunteer Program Report

3/2019 – 07/2019

**Volunteer Hours Reported: 4,447**

**Unique Volunteers Engaged: 1,024**

### Key Events and Programs:

#### **Completed Canelo Hills Singletrack Project**

Our Volunteer Vacation group from American Hiking Society, bolstered by participation from AZT regulars, completed the reroute of the Canelo Hills East passage in late March. Being on the southern portion of the trail in through-hiker season was a particular treat for many of our volunteers, including one who was through hiking the trail and took 5 days off to join the fun! 14 participants built .3 miles of new trail and worked to rehab a further .5 miles of the existing singletrack. Also discovered a new use for an iron rake as a s'more roasting machine.

#### **Volunteer Vacation on Happy Jack Singletrack**

Even up at 6,700' it can be hot on Memorial Day weekend – or that's what they warned us about when we planned our Volunteer Vacation in late May. Instead, nightly lows were routinely in the mid-20's and water bottles froze in our tents. Despite the cold, the 15 participants managed to build almost a mile of new trail under the pines on the southern portion of the Happy Jack reroute. First time volunteers Tyler McKee and Mike Spahle are both susceptible to being coerced convinced to adopting nearby passages as stewards. Upon completion of the singletrack project, the passage will be reevaluated and divided to make more even segments and we hope to plug them in. One more Volunteer Vacation project is scheduled for Happy Jack for October 22-27 and we need leaders!

#### **Trail Skills Institute**

The popularity of this course continues to grow and increase the visibility of the ATA as a leader in trail training. Partnering with Flagline Trails' Matt Roberts, we've offered four training sessions in 2019 with 39 participants. Two more courses are scheduled for 2019: Modules 1&2 in September in conjunction with AZ Trail Day Flagstaff and Module 4 in October back in Happy Jack.

#### **Steward Trail Days**

Stewardship events hosted by passage stewards that were planned and tracked through the ATA's volunteer calendar include: 2 events on Reavis Canyon Passage, Pine Mountain Hike and Brush, Raz the Haz on the Maz (Mazatzal Divide), Boulder Canyon Brushing, Coconino Rim Work Event, Santa Catalinas Annual Maintenance Trip, Las Colinas Horse Bypass Cleanup, Oracle Ridge Work Event and Huachuca Mountains Maintenance Weekend.

#### **Continuing Effort on Hours Collection and Recruitment**

We continue to see improvement in interaction with our Volunteer Management System (Galaxy) and are improving our reporting capacity. We know, for instance, that we have 145 new users (potential volunteers) registered since April 1. There have been 180 "responses" to opportunities in the same time period (this is an RSVP essentially) on 25 different passages. 446 people have responded to at least 1 opportunity and 92 have responded to at least 3.

#### **Outreach Events: (Mission Responsibility #4 Strategic Goal)**

Oracle State Park Earth Day 4/20 ; Patagonia Earthfest 4/20; REI Garage Sale 6/8 ; Grand Canyon Centennial Summerfest 6/29

#### **New Stewards:**

Patrick Andrews (25b – Whiterock Mesa); Christian Timmerman (10a – Redington Pass); Fred Ahrens (11a – Santa Catalina Mountains); Tom Matthew (7b – Las Cienegas); Jack Johnson (33a – Flagstaff).