**Welcome to Marcy DeMillion, Arizona National Scenic Trail Liaison\***

Please join me in welcoming Marcy DeMillion back into the Arizona Trail family! She was selected as the Forest Service Southwestern Region Trails and Dispersed Recreation Regional Program Manager and agency liaison for the Arizona National Scenic Trail. She will be transitioning from the National Park Service, Intermountain Region - Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, and will begin work with the USDA Forest Service on November 22.

Marcy DeMillion has over 30 years of federal government experience working with the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and National Park Service. Marcy worked for the Forest Service Washington Office as a Planner with the Content Analysis Team; Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Pleasant Grove Ranger District as a Natural Resource Staff Officer; and the San Bernardino National Forest as an Interpretive Specialist. For BLM, Marcy worked for the Arizona Strip Field Office as a Recreation and Wilderness Planner, and for the BLM Vermilion Cliffs National Monument as the Monument Planner shortly after it was designated. For NPS, Marcy started her career working as a seasonal Park Ranger at Grand Canyon National Park and later worked for the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program as a Community Planner. Marcy earned a Bachelor’s of Science in Parks and Recreation, and a Master’s of Science in Forestry with an emphasis in restoration ecology from Northern Arizona University. Marcy is known for leading interagency and community partnerships, recreation planning, and securing grants to implement on-the ground trails projects including a section of the Arizona Trail.

Marcy is excited to learn about new places to work and explore in the Southwest. She enjoys backpacking and was one of the first two women to hike the 400-mile length of Grand Canyon recreating Colin Fletcher’s 1967 epic adventure. Her favorite southwestern desert backpacking destination is Cedar Mesa, within Bears Ears National Monument, and her favorite high elevation destinations are in the Pecos and Aldo Leopold Wilderness Areas. She had this to share: “I look forward to working for the Forest Service again and on the Arizona Trail. I’m interested in learning about the forests and grasslands in Region 3, and the best way to provide regional office support.”

I will set up a virtual meet and greet with Marcy and ATA Staff & Board after she in settled into her new position – hopefully in mid-December 2021. She lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico but will make intermittent trips to Arizona throughout the year.

*\* The AZNST Administrator position has effectively been eliminated, which is something the ATA and the Partnership for the National Trails System has been advocating* ***against*** *for years. This is concerning, and is something we will be bringing up with USFS leadership and members of Congress in the near future.*