

Ground Truth

A Publication of the Diablo Trust - A Northern Arizona Collaborative Grassroots Land Management Team



The Diablo Trust is a 501(c)(3) land management team created in 1993 to promote the social, biological, and economic sustainability of 426,000 acres of intermingled federal, state, and private lands southeast of Flagstaff, AZ, by engaging in a collaborative stewardship process that is in harmony with the natural environment and the broader community.

The phrase "**Learning from the land and sharing our knowledge, so there will always be a West**" captures our mission.

Ground Truth is the publication of the Diablo Trust, mailed free-of-charge to everyone on our mailing list. If you would like to be added to or removed from the mailing list, please contact us at:

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Contributors are solely responsible for the content of their articles, and the opinions expressed in the articles, linked materials, and comments are not necessarily those of the Diablo Trust.

Recreation Summit:

Collaboration is Key

By Ellen Parish

Diablo Trust hosted a very successful Recreation Summit on August 12, 2021, at the Elks Lodge in Flagstaff. Participants numbered over 80 with a diverse array of city, county, state and federal agencies, local businesses, clubs, community groups, individuals, NGOs, ranchers, and local residents. Attendees gathered to address the alarming impacts on the land and wildlife populations observed in the previous 16 months. In 2020,



much of the west experienced a dramatic increase in outdoor recreation. For decades Flying M Ranch and Bar T Bar Ranch have worked with recreators, land managers and neighboring communities to ensure these lands remain open for multi-use opportuni-

ties. The recreation increase in 2020 was a shock to us all and there is a clear need to address the dramatic impacts to our open spaces.

(Continued on page 6)

Using Our Outdoor Voices in Support of Outdoor Recreation:

The Statewide Collaboration for Outdoor Recreation Engagement

By Kirk A. Astroth, Network for Arizona Trails Steering Committee

There's an exciting movement underway to elevate outdoor recreation and trails to a prominent place in the political discourse here in Arizona, and we are looking to raise awareness and build support for this effort.

In February 2020, a group of advocates came together to develop strategies for enhancing the future of outdoor recreation in Arizona. As a result of this summit, the Network for Arizona Trails (NAZI) was created

along with several subcommittees (see more at: <https://www.networkforaztrails.org/>), including the Statewide Collaboration for Outdoor Recreation Engagement (SCORE). During the Summit, we heard from Tom Adams, formerly the director of the Utah Office for Outdoor Recreation (and now with Petzel Company), about their efforts to elevate outdoor recreation in the Beehive State. We de-

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Save the Dates

November

30

#GivingTuesday

GivingTuesday is a global day of generosity taking place on **November 30, 2021** and Diablo Trust will be participating. Not only do we need your support, we need your help to spread the word. Please tell your friends and family why you believe in our work and encourage them to support us too!

December

10

Diablo Trust Christmas Party

On **Friday, December 10th** from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., come celebrate another great year with good friends, yummy food and drink. The gathering will be held at White Dove Coffee located at 2211 E. 7th Ave in Flagstaff. Please bring a dish or dessert to share. Drinks will be provided by Diablo Trust. Happy holidays to all!

February

25

Diablo Trust Annual Meeting

Please join us for Diablo Trust's Annual Meeting on **Friday, February 25, 2022** at the Elks Lodge in Flagstaff (2101 N. San Francisco St.). We'll hear updates from Diablo Trust and the ranches followed by speakers presenting about recreation impact solutions and ideas. Meeting times and agenda are still in the works. Keep an eye on our emails and website calendar for more details.

Notable News

Diablo Trust Receives Arizona Community Foundation Award



Thank you to the Arizona Community Foundation of Flagstaff and its collaborators, Cambium Wealth & Legacy Strategies and the Ernest & Evelyn Chilson Fund. Earlier this year, through the ACF of Flagstaff competitive grant cycle, Diablo Trust was awarded a grant to support the production and distribution of our Ground Truth newsletter. This Fall 2021 issue and the upcoming Spring 2022 are partially funded through the Environmental Education and Conservation Fund. We are excited and grateful to be using these grant funds to help distribute information about land stewardship, natural resources conservation and recreation impacts and solutions in Northern Arizona.

Left: Kit and Lisa accept the grant award at the ACF Awards Celebration event on October 22, 2021. Photo: Arizona Community Foundation

President's Message

By Kit Metzger

It has been a busy summer and fall for Diablo Trust. We are thankful to be holding some more frequent in-person events and getting back to “normal”.

The Recreation Working Group has continued to successfully move their efforts forward. The Recreation Summit, held in August, had great attendance and representation. Out of that Summit came six Focus Committees – Ambassadorship, Education, Funding, Policy, Technology and Waste Management. These six committees continue to regularly meet to advance ideas and solutions for recreation impacts. Diablo Trust and the ranches are excited about furthering our role as a learning lab by pursuing pilot projects with partners. Please see Ellen Parish's cover article for more about the Recreation Summit.

We held our Annual Meeting in August which focused on recreation and was followed by the Annual Campout. The Campout was another success with a lot of good times.

While recreation has been the focus for many of our efforts in 2021, we have been busy keeping up with some of our regular programs as well: Integrated Monitoring for Sustainability, Forage Resource Study Group (FRSG) monitoring, advancements in the Rangeland Technology Partnership and Stockpond Monitoring, Annual Meeting and Campout, and our newest partnership program—the Three Forest Monitoring Agreement with University of Arizona.

We've added some new elements to our website including a “Recreation Working Group” section to keep folks involved and informed on our efforts. If you have not been able to join us for a while, read our newsletter, please check out our website, look over our list of upcoming activities or give Lisa call and join us so we can keep collaborative part of land management on Diablo Trust lands.



FRSG Monitoring on Flying M Ranch, November 2021. Photo: Kit Metzger

Kit Metzger

Kit Metzger, Board President
Contact: president@diablotrust.org

From the Office

By Lisa Bolton

For the last two years, we all prayed for at least a normal monsoon season. Monsoon season delivered, and then some. Flagstaff Pulliam Airport recorded almost 11 inches of rainfall, 142% of normal levels. At my home near Mt. Elden, a single storm dropped three inches in just 45 minutes!

While the rainfall was a welcome relief to dry, drought-stricken lands, its intensity wreaked havoc in many areas. Several communities experienced historic flooding and rapid erosion leaving exposed and severe landscapes. But what followed were lush, green fields blanketed with wildflowers and resilient communities working together to rebuild. Ecosystems are again thriving with more biomass and wildlife activity. It's been wonderful to observe a sense of normalcy return to our forests and ranchlands.

It has also been a welcome change to return to some in-person events. Our Collaborative Resource Operational Plan (CROP) meetings returned in person in both June and early November. CROP meetings allow for regular discussion and an exchange of information between the Diablo Trust ranches and agency partners to coordinate ongoing and upcoming operations.

The Recreation Working Group continues to meet virtually on the first and third Monday of each month. Zoom meetings do have their benefits—allowing folks from all over the state to meet regularly without having to travel is a plus in my book. We've had great attendance and involvement and look forward to advancing some on the ground projects soon.

Through the statewide recreation network, Diablo Trust has connected with some new partners who are working on some exciting efforts including but not limited to the Network for Arizona Trails (see Kirk Astroth's cover article) and the new Red Rock OHV Conservation Crew out of Sedona (see Tread Lightly!'s article on page 5). We are thrilled to join forces with such dynamic groups to strengthen efforts that support our goals.

We couldn't accomplish a fraction of our efforts without our Diablo Trust community. Thank you for your ongoing support. Wishing you a productive winter and a happy and healthy holiday season!



Lisa Bolton

Lisa Bolton, Program Manager
Contact: info@diablotrust.org

Getting to Know...

Larry Phoenix, AZGFD Region 2 Supervisor



Many of you might remember Larry Phoenix; he was the Flagstaff Field Supervisor for the Arizona Game and Fish Department from 1996 until 2017. In September of 2017, he moved to Kingman as the Region 3 Regional Supervisor. After 3 ½ years, Larry has returned to Region 2 as the Regional Supervisor out

of the Flagstaff office. He started his career with the Department as a fisheries intern for Region 2 in 1989 while attending Northern Arizona University. He then continued as a wildlife intern and was promoted to a wildlife assistant for Region 5 in Tucson while attending the University of Arizona. In May of 1991, he became a Wildlife Manager where his first district was Game Management Units 43B/C in Region 4 out of Yuma. While in Yuma, Larry became one of the few Department helicopter capture net-gunners. In 1995, Larry was promoted to the Yuma Sector Field Supervisor. In September of 1996, he transferred to the Flagstaff area where he spent the next 22 years as the Flagstaff Field Supervisor.

Larry enjoys the outdoors in any way possible. Over the last several years, his passions have included long-distance running. In addition to completing many marathons, over the last year he ran the entire Arizona Trail, 800 miles from Mexico to Utah.

Occupation: Region 2 Supervisor

Favorite hobbies: Anything outside (hunting, fishing, boating, running...)

Favorite things to do: Not sit in one place

Favorite western wear item: Boots

Fondest outdoor memories: Spending time outside with family and friends

Favorite ranch recipe: A good steak followed by Dutch oven cobbler

Favorite western movie: Outlaw Josey Wales

Favorite quote: "Life is what you make of it"

-Unknown author

Message from the

By Kit Metzger



What a difference a year makes. 2021 has been the year of the water truck and well generator. The first five months of the year were dominated by hauling water, pumping wells and feeding



Water truck filling on Flying M Ranch.

hay. Over the next five months, we continued to haul water but were thankfully spared the need for well pumping and feeding hay. Over those ten months, we hauled 1,250,000 gallons of water across the ranch and pumped our wells for another 1,750,000 gallons. We hauled all summer long to five locations on Anderson Mesa regardless of whether we



Water haul on Flying M Ranch.

had cattle in the pasture as the wildlife need to drink, too. The little bit of water in our dirt tanks was not enough for our livestock and wildlife, so keeping water across the landscape was the right thing to do.

July was a blessing with good rains everywhere, including the winter ranch and on Anderson Mesa. We grew more feed or biomass in July 2021 in our winter range than the last three years combined! Every dirt tank had water this fall, even those that had been dry for two to three years. The rains did rearrange many spots on all of our roads in winter country. Never underestimate the force of moving water.

Anderson Mesa fared well in the rains as well, growing abundant biomass and a lot of flowers. Our portion of the Mesa does not run much water from rainfall due to heavy clay soil, so we hauled water until mid-October.



Abundant biomass on Flying M Ranch.

Recreation use was more normal this year, with much less "COVID camping" than we experienced over the summer of 2020. Still, there were a lot of people enjoying the outdoors and that has kept our Recreation Working

(Continued on page 10)

Red Rock OHV Conservation Crew Announces Dedicated Funds For Trail Improvements and OHV Rider Education

Reprinted with permission from Tread Lightly!

The Sedona Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau is announcing the formation of the Red Rock OHV Conservation Crew (RROCC), a coalition of more than a dozen private industry partners from Cottonwood to Sedona to Flagstaff in partnership with Tread Lightly!, a national nonprofit group dedicated to ethical and responsible motorized recreation, to tackle the effect of increased Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use in the region.

Beginning in September, private OHV rental and guided tour companies began dedicating 1% of sales to land preservation and rider education, a commitment that could achieve \$400,000 in annual contributions to the US Forest Service Coconino National Forest Red Rock Ranger District.

Participating companies include Arizona Safari Jeep Tours, Barlow Adventures, Outback ATV, Pink Jeep Tours, Rainbow Adventures comprised of A Day in the West, Earth Wisdom, Red Rock Western Jeep Tours and Sedona Off-Road Adventures, additionally Red Rock ATV, Sedona ATV and Vortex ATV.

The collaboration originates from the City of Sedona's OHV Work Group, which brought together the US Forest Service, Arizona State Parks, Arizona Game & Fish, the motorized industry, citizens and nonprofits to discuss the issue back in 2013.

“For years, increased Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs) use in the Greater Sedona area has affected public lands, cultural assets and residential neighborhoods,” said Sedona

Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau President and CEO Candace Carr Strauss.

During the pandemic, the number of OHV's registered in Arizona skyrocketed to more than 452,000. This coupled with urbanites flocking to Sedona to socially distance outdoors while enjoying motorized recreation provided by regional businesses raised community concerns.

“Sustaining recreation access on National Forest lands requires a collaborative approach,” said Ranger Amy Tinderholt of the Red Rock Ranger District. “Fortunately, our OHV businesses along with Tread Lightly! are ready to do their part to reduce resource impacts, address stakeholder concerns and improve recreation opportunities.”

“Red Rock Country is a sought-after destination for motorized recreationists who contribute substantially to our tourism-based economy,” said Strauss. “We must strike a balance between the right to recreate on our public lands with environmental stewardship, preservation of cultural heritage and our resident quality of life,” she added.

In addition, RROCC is working with Tread Lightly! to produce educational content on public safety, limiting speed, noise and dust, respecting others who use the roads, observing sensitive areas such as the grasslands west of Sedona and leaving historical or archeological sites undisturbed.

“Tread Lightly! is the leading nonprofit spearheading

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Sedona red rocks from the Teacup Trail. Photo: Lisa Bolton

Recreation Summit...

(Continued from page 1)

During the Summit, participants heard from Bob Prosser of Bar T Bar Ranch and Kit Metzger of Flying M Ranch about the increased impacts of recreation on Diablo Trust lands. Coconino County Sheriff Jim Driscoll and Chief Deputy Bret Axlund shared data regarding the increase in OHV traffic and OHV traffic-related safety issues in Coconino County. Matt McGrath, USFS Flagstaff District Ranger, explained the Coconino National Forest Recreation Management Plan. David Wessel, Flagstaff MetroPlan Planning Manager and Diablo Trust Board Member, shared a very interesting look into the data available on visitors to Northern Arizona. Where they come from, how long they stay and their travels while in our region are just a few of the tidbits of information available when analyzing the data. Aireona Raschke, Central Arizona Conservation Alliance Program Director, spoke about the role social media can play in helping to preserve open spaces in Arizona. These interesting and educational presentations inspired the audience who then broke into smaller discussion groups to address specific issues related to the impacts of recreation. As a result of these breakout groups, several focus committees have formed and continue to meet. The focus committees include Ambassadorship Programs, Education and Signage, Funding, Policy, Technology Solutions and Waste Management.

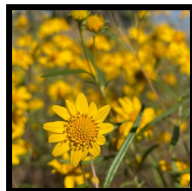
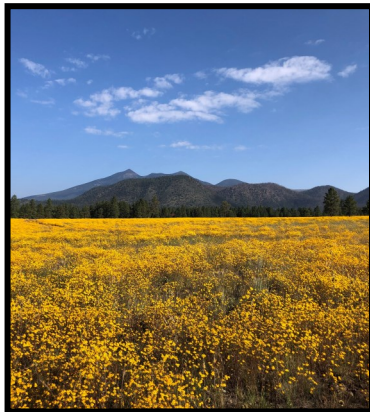


Recreation Summit attendees participate in focus group sessions.

The diverse landscape of the Diablo Trust ranches makes this area a popular destination for recreators of all types. The high elevation ponderosa pine forests and meadows, lower pinyon-juniper grasslands, canyons and lakes provide an exciting range of recreation opportunities. Some of the common uses are camping, hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, OHV travel, hiking and photography. Due to the mixture of private, state, and National Forest lands, it's imperative that recreators know where they are and what the rules are governing each type of land use. Bar T Bar Ranch and Flying M Ranch are committed to a model of shared use and along with responsible recreation, this area provides well for us all.

Diablo Trust is committed to our mission of ensuring the long-term economic, social and ecological sustainability of the Diablo Trust Land Area by providing a forum for active community participation in a collaborative land stewardship process. We continue to host two monthly zoom meetings where we support and share information with the committees listed above and connect with other efforts in Arizona and throughout the West to find solutions that foster and promote responsible recreation. Our efforts and those of the committees will be successful with the continued support and new enthusiasm of our members, partners and donors. If you are interested in getting involved or learning more please visit www.diablotrust.org/recreation.

Plant Spotting



Common Name:

Longleaf false goldeneye, Annual goldeneye, tallow weed

Scientific Name:

Heliomeris longifolia var. annua

Family:

Asteraceae

Ecology:

Found in deserts, mountains and pinyon-juniper communities, from 2,000-8,800 feet elevation often blanketing fields and meadows in a sea of yellow. Flowers June through October. Plants are poisonous and can sicken cattle.

Photos: L. Bolton Information Source: SEINet

Working and Wild Landscapes: Seeking Land-Based Knowledge

Excerpt from the Diablo Trust Working and Wild Landscapes Booklet

The goal for working landscapes is to sustain the natural processes that create and protect the health and resilience of the region's remarkable open landscapes, to support diverse, flourishing plant, animal, and human community life. To accomplish this, it is essential to build commu-



Healthy land is good for pollinators too. Photo: Jack Haskell, NPS Flickr

nity understanding of how local ecosystems work. Land-based knowledge is acquired through scientific inventories, condition and trend monitoring assessments, and data sharing. This involves cooperation between government land management agencies, agricultural producers, educational institutions, environmental organizations, and the general public.

The Coconino County Comprehensive Plan provides strategies for protecting the health, vitality, and integrity of the county's biotic communities and ecosystems, which includes minimizing the fragmentation of large contiguous areas of habitat, to assure wildland connectivity.

The Diablo Trust ranches are a unique and effective example of a collaboration of diverse people working together to meet county management objectives.

In 1999, the Diablo Trust collaborated with agencies to create a comprehensive Range Management Plan, covering management of all land jurisdictions across all five life zones, from tall pines on Forest Service land down to desert grasslands on State and private lands. The plan describes detailed desired landscape conditions for each life zone, including management steps for high ground cover of a diversity of plants to increase water percolation and vegetation growth. Planning includes on-the-ground monitoring projects for land and wildlife improvement. Among them is long-running research by Northern Arizona University scientists and agency scientists. Since 1987 they have been documenting grazing effects on native plants, wildlife, general ranch health, and shedding important insights into the complex interaction of grazing and climate change.

Scientific monitoring is required at many levels. It can verify that current management produces healthy resources



The land benefits when ranchers and government agencies cooperate on resource monitoring. Photo Dan Daggett

results, provide immediate feedback to daily management actions, and secure trust among the many stakeholders who guide management decisions.

The Diablo Trust Working and Wild Landscapes booklet highlighting five components of what keep our landscapes of Coconino County wild and working:

- Restoring Healthy Forests
- Recreating for Land Health
- Seeking Land-Based Knowledge
- Building Water and Climate Resilience
- Making Room for Wildlife on Grasslands

This newsletter feature presented the "Seeking Land-Based Knowledge" section. Our Spring 2021 newsletter featured the "Recreation for Land Health" and the "Building Water and Climate Resilience" sections. Subsequent newsletters will continue to feature each of the five components with associated content. Stay tuned for more from our Working and Wild Landscapes booklet series.

A special thank you to Coconino County Board of Supervisors for funding the Working and Wild Landscapes booklet. Also, thank you to Shine Creative Industries, Norm Lowe, Rose Houk and Arizona Lithography for your work in writing, designing and producing the booklet.

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Using Our Outdoor Voices

(Continued from page 1)

cided to replicate their efforts here in Arizona. Because our timing was short, we focused on crafting a concurrent resolution expressing the importance of outdoor recreation to Arizonans' social, economic, behavioral, and physical well-being for the 2021 legislative session.

This concurrent resolution, HCR2034 and SCR1046, was introduced in the 2021 session. Rep. Regina Cobb (LD-5) was the House sponsor, and Sen. Kirsten Engel (LD-10) was the Senate sponsor. More than 40 conservation and recreation groups signed on as supporters of the resolution. The resolution immediately enjoyed broad support and passed out of their respective committees unanimously. The resolution was also approved unanimously in the first and second floor readings in both chambers and was sent to the other chamber before the transmittal date. Unfortunately, the Senate version in the House was subjected to a "striker amendment" and eventually died since the replacement language had nothing to do with outdoor recreation. The House version in the Senate still enjoyed broad support, but because of the last-minute budget wrangling, HCR2034 never got its third reading and so was never brought to a vote of the whole chamber even though it was included in a consent agenda and passed both the Democratic and Republican caucuses.

As a result, the Network for Arizona Trails is now rebooting its efforts around the same concurrent resolution for the 2022 session. The language of the resolution is largely unchanged, and again seeks to ask the legislature to go on record recognizing the importance of outdoor recreation in Arizona. This resolution is the first step in a planned series of efforts to elevate outdoor recreation and trails as critical to Arizona's economy, well-being, and future health.

Following the Utah model, our hope is to eventually get legislative and gubernatorial support for establishing an Office of Outdoor Recreation. Statewide outdoor recreation planning requires coordination among a wide range of government entities, private businesses, and interest groups—coordination that Arizona currently lacks. Eighteen states (including our neighbors in California, Colorado, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming) have recently set up official government offices of outdoor recreation. We have been interviewing the directors of these offices to learn from their experiences and benefit from lessons learned. These offices are measuring the contribution of outdoor recreation to the states' economies, promoting out-

door tourism, identifying new business opportunities, creating jobs, developing statewide outdoor recreation plans, and providing economic development assistance to rural communities around outdoor recreation.¹ As Brett Prettyman, Intermountain Communications Director for Trout Unlimited commented: "It's time for every state to have one. It's important to recognize the value of recreation."²

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, you may have noticed how crowded trailheads and outdoor spaces have become. Spaces which provide safe and accessible opportunities for residents to escape the confinement of their homes, exercise and recreate are in high demand.

Unfortunately, you may have also noticed how worn or tired some of these spaces are—facilities and landscapes suffering from trash, wear and tear, graffiti, trespassing and vandalism. We're seeing damage to valuable cultural sites and private property, and more frequent conflicts between users—motorized, non-motorized, equestrians, dog walkers, trail runners, hikers and more.³ In terms of use, every day is a weekend, and every weekend is a holiday. As a result, we are loving our outdoor spaces to death. Without sufficient long-term plans and statewide coordination for managing and investing in these spaces to meet the growing demand, the quality of outdoor experience for Arizonans and our visitors will be lost.

We are seeking allies to support our legislative initiatives, particularly for the upcoming 2022 session where we hope to see our concurrent resolution passed by both chambers and recorded by the Secretary of State in the official state records. We welcome the involvement of partners in this and future efforts aimed at statewide collaboration for outdoor recreation. For more information on this effort, email: kirkastroth@gmail.com



¹ Margaret Walls, *The Outdoor Recreation Economy and Public Lands*, October 2018. Online at: <https://www.resources.org/archives/the-outdoor-recreation-economy-and-public-lands/>

² Caspar Star-Tribune, November 2, 2017.

³ Increase in Outdoor Activities Due to COVID-19. Outdoor Industry Association Report 2020. <https://outdoorindustry.org/article/increase-outdoor-activities-due-covid-19/>

Diablo Trust's Annual Meeting and Campout

The Diablo Trust Annual Meeting was held on August 13th at Ashurst Run on the Flying M Ranch. Not our usual time or setting for our Annual Meeting, but the last year has been anything but usual. The company, conversation, food and fun had were thankfully as good as always. About 45 folks gathered under the pines to enjoy the Annual Meeting program. After some quick updates from Diablo Trust and the Flying M and Bar T Bar ranches, the group participated in a facilitated discussion recapping the events held the previous day during Recreation Summit (see cover article by Ellen Parish for more details).

Following the Recreation Summit recap, the group heard presentations from Steve Cassady, AZGFD Landowner Relations Program Specialist, and Rebecca Antle, President of Arizona State Association of 4-WD Clubs. Steve spoke about Landowner Compacts. Landowner Compacts help landowners manage recreation use of their property, promote a land use ethos for recreation and for agriculture and represent a working relationship between the landowner and the agency. Ranches have their own ranch rules that visitors are required to follow in order to access the ranch lands. If visitors violate the rules set forth by the ranch or the agency, there are a series of penalties with increasing severity for subsequent violations, the most severe being a lifetime loss of access. An apt slogan on the Landowner Compact website embodies the program's pur-



Rebecca Antle presents at the Annual Meeting.



Cannon Family Chuckwagon Catering work their magic.

pose: "Respected access is open access." For more information on Landowner Compacts, visit www.azgfd.com/landowner-compact/

The group heard next from Rebecca Antle who shared information about the Arizona State Association of 4-WD Clubs (ASA4WDC). Their mission is to promote a more responsible attitude towards the use of motorized vehicles on public lands and to encourage state and federal land management agencies to

develop and maintain roads and trails for outdoor recreation. ASA4WDC also participates in the planning process and trail maintenance with private, local and federal land managers including ranches, USFS and AZGFD. For more information on ASA4WDC, please visit: www.asa4wdc.org

After the Annual Meeting program, the event cheerily transitioned into our Annual Campout. The weather was pleasant as folks visited with one another. Cannon Family Chuckwagon Catering cooked up a mouth-watering dinner of tri-tip, beans, scalloped potatoes, salad, biscuits and peach cobbler. After dinner, campers were surprised by a storm that set up right over Ashurst Run, especially when lightning struck the chuckwagon and table! The wagon cover blew off, the food table flipped and the Dutch oven full of peach cobbler went flying! Thankfully, everyone was unharmed though sadly, the peach cobbler was lost. Many thanks to all who came out!

Red Rock OHV Conservation Crew

(Continued from page 5)

initiatives that protect outdoor recreation assets and opportunities," said Executive Director Matt Caldwell. "We are proud to be part of the Red Rock OHV Conservation Crew, heightening the good stewardship that is part of Sedona's commitment to sustainability."

"In anticipation of a busy weekend with Indigenous Peoples Day on October 11, an official USFS OHV Ambassador Program of participating company staff members will be out on the 525 west of Sedona, engaging one-on-one with riders to promote responsible recreation," said Strauss.

This effort is not an entirely new endeavor however. All businesses permitted to operate on National Forest lands are required to contribute 3% of gross revenue, 95% of which stays on the local Forest for maintenance of existing infrastructure, ground operations, monitoring and administration. Revenue collected from permitted OHV companies, including jeep tours and ATV tours, has helped to support road and trail maintenance, resource protection, projects and administration and monitoring efforts to ensure sustainability of uses into the future.

Follow the continued work of RROCC at rohvconservationcrew.com.

Message from the Flying M

(Continued from page 4)



Group front and center on Diablo Trust’s agenda.

Our cattle had a rough winter and spring but by this fall, most were fat and sassy. The same can be said for the wildlife! We are still seeing fewer than normal little creatures like mice, rats, squirrels, bugs, birds, etc. However, with more precipitation and favorable conditions, we expect those numbers will increase. For now, we are hoping for a somewhat normal winter and we will all be here in 2022.

Photo at right: False Goldeneye, also called Tallow Weed, blankets the fields at Ashurst Run on Flying M Ranch.



Monsoon Totals Around N.AZ

 Monsoon 2021 Rainfall Summary  June 15 – September 30					
Location	2021 Observed Precipitation (in)	Normal Precipitation (in)	Departure From Normal (in)	Percent of Normal	All-Time Ranking (Period of Record)
Bagdad	5.08"	5.10"	-0.02"	100%	39 th Wettest (1925-2021)
Bellemont	8.13"	7.87"	+0.26"	103%	8 th Wettest (1994-2021)
Blue Ridge Ranger Station	13.26"	8.24"	+5.02"	161%	2 nd Wettest (1965-2021)
Bright Angel Ranger Station	5.27"	6.64"	-1.37"	79%	24 th Driest (1925-2021)
Canyon de Chelly (Chinle)	4.26"	3.37"	+0.89"	126%	33 rd Wettest (1909-2021)
Flagstaff Airport	10.90"	7.68"	+3.22"	142%	14 th Wettest (1898-2021)
Grand Canyon Airport	4.73"	5.34"	-0.61"	89%	8 th Driest (1997-2021)
Heber (Ranger Station)	14.29"	7.80"	+6.49"	183%	3 rd Wettest (1950-2021)
Jerome	10.07"	7.26"	+2.91"	139%	26 th Wettest (1897-2021)
Page Airport	2.10"	2.03"	+0.07"	103%	23 rd Wettest (1957-2021)
Payson	14.74"	7.09"	+7.65"	208%	Wettest on Record (1940-2021)
Phantom Ranch	3.96"	3.49"	+0.47"	113%	27 th Wettest (1935-2021)
Prescott (Sundog Water Plant)	13.42"	7.28"	+6.14"	184%	8 th Wettest (1898-2021)
Prescott Airport	9.16"	5.86"	+3.30"	156%	10 th Wettest (1948-2021)
Saint Johns Airport	8.74"	4.75"	+3.99"	184%	Wettest on Record (1999-2021)
Seligman	6.27"	5.36"	+0.91"	117%	32 nd Wettest (1904-2021)
Show Low Airport	12.50"	7.03"	+5.47"	178%	Wettest on Record (1984-2021)
Sunset Crater Natl Mon	8.44"	8.00"	+0.44"	106%	23 rd Wettest (1969-2021)
Walnut Canyon Natl Monument	11.30"	7.72"	+3.58"	146%	5 th Wettest (1910-2021)
Williams	14.96"	8.18"	+6.78"	183%	3 rd Wettest (1897-2021)
Window Rock	4.74"	5.17"	-0.43"	92%	9 th Driest (1998-2021)
Winslow	3.29"	3.00"	+0.29"	110%	50 th Driest (1915-2021)
Wupatki Natl Monument	5.42"	4.13"	+1.29"	131%	16 th Wettest (1940-2021)

Here are monsoon season rainfall totals across northern Arizona. Graphic and text from [US National Weather Service Flagstaff Arizona](#), posted on Facebook, October 2, 2021.

Recipe Corner

Beef Egg Roll in a Bowl

- 1 tbsp. sesame oil
- 6 green onions sliced, green and white parts divided
- 1/2 cup red onion, diced
- 1 lb. Diablo Beef ground beef
- 1 tsp. fresh grated ginger
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2-3 tbsp. sriracha, divided
- 14 oz bag coleslaw mix
- 3 tbsp. soy sauce or coconut aminos
- 1 tbsp. rice wine vinegar
- 1/8-1/4 tsp. black pepper
- Salt to taste

Garnish

- Toasted sesame seeds
- Sliced green onion

Creamy Chili Sauce

- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1-2 tbsp. sriracha or hot sauce
- Salt to taste

1. Heat sesame oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add white parts of green onions and red onion and sauté, stirring frequently, until red onion begins to soften, about 5 minutes.
2. Add ground beef, grated ginger, minced garlic and 1 tablespoon of sriracha or hot sauce and cook until beef is browned, broken up and cooked through, about 7-10 minutes.
3. Add coleslaw mix, soy sauce or coconut aminos, rice wine vinegar, pepper and salt to taste. Stir until well combined. Cook, stirring regularly, until cabbage is tender, about 5 minutes. Meanwhile, in a small bowl whisk together mayonnaise and 1-2 tablespoons of sriracha or hot sauce and a pinch of salt to taste. To drizzle, place creamy chili sauce in a small plastic bag.
4. To serve, spoon a hearty helping of the ground beef mixture over a bowl of rice or along side a green salad. Snip off the corner of the plastic bag with the creamy chili sauce and drizzle over the egg roll in a bowl mixture. Garnish with green parts of the green onions and toasted sesame seeds. Enjoy!

Yield: 4 servings

Adapted from Cooking With The Cowboy: <https://cookingwiththecowboy.com/2018/10/02/beef-egg-roll-in-a-bowl/>



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Upcoming Events*

**Due to COVID-19, all event details are subject to change.*

Please see our website calendar for details and updates or email info@diablotrust.org.

- Mon, Nov 15: **Recreation Working Group** • Via Zoom 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (email Diablo Trust for Zoom info)
RWG meets regularly to collaborate and engage in solution-based discussions for recreation impacts in Northern Arizona.
- Tue, Nov 30: **Giving Tuesday** • All day
A day to celebrate community through giving, collaboration, and acts of kindness. Please consider supporting Diablo Trust on Giving Tuesday.
- Mon, Dec 6: **Recreation Working Group** • Via Zoom 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (email Diablo Trust for Zoom info)
RWG meets regularly to collaborate and engage in solution-based discussions for recreation impacts in Northern Arizona.
- Fri, Dec 10: **Diablo Trust Christmas Party** • 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at White Dove Coffee (2211 E. 7th Ave in Flagstaff)
Come celebrate another year with us! Please bring a dish/dessert to share. Drinks provided by Diablo Trust.
- Fri, Feb 25: **Diablo Trust Annual Meeting** • Elks Lodge in Flagstaff, time TBD
Details TBD, check our website for updates

Please visit our website www.diablotrust.org/calendar for more details, updates, and safety measures for these and future events. If you have suggestions for events, books, films, presentations, or field trips, please do not hesitate to contact us at info@diablotrust.org