

JOIN US! SUPPORT THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION FOR ARIZONA OUTDOOR RECREATION & TRAILS



The Network for Arizona Trails seeks to elevate outdoor recreation in Arizona - especially that related to motorized and non-motorized trails. As a first step we have initiated a bipartisan movement to bring outdoor recreation to the political forefront through crafting a legislative resolution recognizing the importance of outdoor experiences to Arizona residents.

Our goal is to get both chambers of the 55th Legislature to endorse this concurrent resolution, SCR 1010 and HCR2019, making a clear statement of their support for outdoor recreation in "the Grand Canyon State."

The outdoor industry in Arizona is a major economic engine that brings jobs, prosperity and wellness to all state residents annually.

201,000 JOBS

\$21.2 B CONSUMER SPENDING

\$1.4 B LOCAL & STATE TAX REVENUE

Source: The Outdoor Recreation Economy in Arizona
Outdoor Industry Association, 2012



Research shows that time spent in nature leads to physical, mental, developmental, and behavioral health benefits. During the pandemic, the popularity of outdoor recreation has exploded, stressing resources at our parks, trails, mountains, rivers and lakes.

We are committed to developing sustainable infrastructure, expanding trails to match this increased interest and creating equitable access for Arizona's diverse communities.

TAKE ACTION JOIN US IN SUPPORT OF THE RESOLUTION

WHO CAN HELP?

Recreation Groups
Conservation Organizations
Businesses
Government Partners
Any Interested Advocate

HOW TO HELP?

Formal letters of support are not needed, just a verbal agreement that your organization supports the language and intent of the resolution (see attached).



LONG TERM VISION

Arizona would benefit from a unified voice to promote the economic value of outdoor recreation, trails and public lands. Current State Agencies have focused missions such as wildlife conservation, tourism, and management of state parks and trails. Creation of an **Outdoor Recreation Office** would help to enhance the quality of life for Arizona's residents, promote sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities for residents and visitors, expand and invigorate the outdoor recreation economy to every corner of the State and bring jobs, prosperity and wellness to all state residents.

Our neighboring states of Utah, Colorado and New Mexico have already created a State Division/Office for Outdoor Recreation in recognition of the economic and social benefits. Colorado's statement: *"The Colorado Outdoor Recreation Industry Office (OREC) provides a central point of contact, advocacy, and resources at the state level for the diverse constituents, businesses, and communities that rely on the continued health of the outdoor recreation economy. OREC's mission is to champion industry, communities, and people to come to life through Colorado's great outdoors."*

Recreational trails are a critical economic, social, health and environmental asset to the people of Arizona.

The **Network for Arizona Trails (NAzT)** is a broad collaborative of non-motorized and motorized trail builders, planners, managers, advocates and supporters that seeks to elevate trail recreation throughout our State and communities.

The NAzT creates essential space for the trail community in Arizona to come together:

- ❖ Space to connect organizations, agencies and peers with similar goals to share resources and knowledge.
- ❖ Space for advocacy around access, funding and policy on the local, regional, state and national level.
- ❖ Space to advance specific topics and initiatives that benefit and educate trail users and communities.

KEY PRIORITIES

At the inaugural **Summit for Arizona Trails** in February 2020, participants identified the following topics of shared interest for action and potential working groups:

- ❖ Statewide Political Advocacy for Access, Policy & Funding
- ❖ Statewide Collaboration Around Outdoor Recreation
- ❖ Volunteerism
- ❖ Diversity & Inclusion
- ❖ Training & Skills
- ❖ National Environmental Policy Act & Environmental Streamlining
- ❖ Fundraising & Operational Sustainability
- ❖ Trails & Environmental Considerations



The Network for Arizona Trails works to forge partnerships and create a shared sense of stewardship among residents, government, land managers, and trail user groups. These partnerships will help us plan, build, and care for our trails into the future. We are committed to communicating the many ways trails are a part of healthy, vibrant communities and seek to educate trail users about the best practices for ensuring safe and enjoyable trail experiences for everyone. We also seek to connect people and communities to Arizona's spectacular landscapes through the promotion of progressive trail design, environmentally sensitive trail construction techniques and effective volunteer programming.

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We are here to advocate for, and promote trails, throughout Arizona. Join us!
<https://www.networkforaztrails.org>