

Arizona Trail Association



Segment Steward Job Description and Qualifications

Segment Stewards are individuals or organizations who volunteer to monitor and maintain a designated segment (or segments) of the Arizona National Scenic Trail. Their goal is to ensure a safe, enjoyable, and high-quality experience for all trail users. Stewards serve a **3-year term** and receive support from Regional Stewards, ATA Volunteer Program staff, and the wider ATA community.

Responsibilities

- **Monitor** the condition of the segment by hiking, biking, or riding at least twice per year. Submit a [Trail Assessment Form](#) at least once annually.
- **Determine and implement** appropriate actions to address basic maintenance needs on the passage. When more significant issues are identified—such as potential reroutes or major sustainability concerns—the Regional Steward and/or Trail Director should be consulted. Land management agencies must always be included in any major changes to the trail's location or character.
- **Coordinate** trail work activities to address issues on the segment, including one or more trail maintenance events as needed. Land managers should always be notified prior to any maintenance activities.
- **Communicate** information about the segment to trail users, agencies, and the general public. Because a Steward's contact information is listed on the ATA website, they serve as a point of contact for trail users with questions or concerns about activities on the trail.
- **Be the expert** for their segment. Stewards may be called upon to assist in updating ATA publications, maps and other materials as needed.
- **Track and record** volunteer hours and activities spent on above activities and other ATA related tasks.
- **Engage** actively with the ATA and other members of the AZT community. Active engagement includes responding to communications, reviewing quarterly Stewards Letters, and staying up to date on the resources and tools available for stewards on the ATA website.

Qualifications

Qualifications for Segment Stewards are evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the recruiting Regional Steward and ATA staff. Preferred qualifications include:

- Participation in a minimum of two ATA Volunteer Events during the previous year
- Basic familiarity with the segment
- Current member of the ATA
- Ability to travel the passage quarterly via foot, bicycle, or horseback

Professional Development

Segment Stewards are expected to attend at least one training event per year, which may include Stewardship Conferences, Trail Skills Institute sessions, and/or ATA Annual Meetings. Other opportunities may count toward annual training requirements at the discretion of the Regional Steward or ATA staff.