Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/25/2024 4:32:07 AM First name: Brittany Last name: Chavez Organization: Title:

Comments: The Arizona Trail is incredibly special to me, and has helped me grow a deeper appreciation and pride in the natural wonders of this state. I am so grateful that agencies like the Forest Service and the Arizona Trail Association have dedicated and invested in this trail. Thank you for recognizing the importance of indigenous lands and culture, the acknowledgment of the incredible biodiversity that is protected along the trail, and the benefits that the trail brings to both the peoples and rural economies throughout Arizona.

I fully support the efforts to prioritize the protection of these scenic resources and other trail values within the national trail planning corridor (1-mile-wide) as well as the acquisition of state trust lands to protect the Arizona Trail in perpetuity. The Arizona Trail is truly a multi-use trail and is used and enjoyed by so many different recreation groups, including hikers, equestrians, mountain bikers, hunters, and many more. These interests are not always protected by local agencies, and it is of vital importance that this plan include these protections.

In addition, I support the recommended changes put forth by the Arizona Trail Association from those who are most familiar with the Arizona Trail.

Again, I am grateful for the members of the Forest Service who have worked on this plan for many years, and who are actively involved in supporting the Arizona Trail. You have invested time and resources into a truly remarkable trail that will benefit future generations. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.