

2022-Year in Review - Looking Ahead to 2023

-Jim Darling

It has been a really productive year for the FOSC as we began to emerge from the Covid Pandemic. We have started to meet in person again with our Partner organizations and the staff from the USFS. It has been a welcomed change.

First of all, I would like to thank our entire Board for their tireless work in conserving, protecting and enhancing Sabino Canyon and its natural beauty for over 1 million visitors a year.

In 2022 we entered into a funding agreement with the National Forest Foundation in which FOSC contributed \$80,000 over two years to provide the match to a federal grant to address invasive species in the Canyon. That work is getting underway and will go a long way to protect the Canyon. Many thanks to our members and donors! (See the NFF article)

We continue to work closely with our Partner organizations. We supported the Volunteer Naturalists by providing funds for their Title 1 school program that ensures that these young students can experience environmental education at the Canyon. Likewise, we support the work of the Volunteer Patrol in their training efforts of new patrol members.

And we continue to work with the USFS in making repairs to historic stone structures throughout the Canyon. Many thanks to our stone mason- Darrell Klesh- whose craftsmanship will preserve those facilities for generations to come.

In looking forward, and in close coordination with our Partner organizations and the USFS staff, we identified several new projects that will have a significant positive impact on the Canyon and the visitor experience.

This year we undertook an architectural analysis of the stone structure at Rattlesnake Trail with the possibility of converting it to an interpretive outpost focused on indigenous peoples – (See Hank Harlow's article)

We also embarked on exploring the feasibility of creating a

new master plan for the Visitor Center. The need to update the current Visitor Center infrastructure to better meet the needs of Sabino Canyon visitors as well as the USFS was first identified in a 2015 USFS Sustainable Recreation Concept Plan. In 2022, FOSC began discussions with the USFS and our Partners to explore developing a master plan and fund-raising campaign that would support an extensive update of the facilities. This is a major undertaking-look for more updates in 2023.

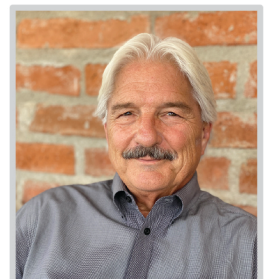
Internally, we continue to strengthen our ability to successfully fund projects that are prioritized for the Canyon. To that end, in 2022 we addressed a number of functional needs of the FOSC:

- ✓ We added six new members to our Board of Directors. They each bring individual skills and energy to support our work. We are still looking for new Board members with specific skills in communications.

- ✓ The FOSC website was updated and refreshed. Website improvements will increase our ability to increase membership, raise funds, and tell the great story of Sabino Canyon.

- ✓ Our budgeting process was improved and now includes multiyear financial forecasting, which is especially important as we begin to work on long range capital projects. The Board of Directors greatly appreciate every members support and we look forward to seeing you in the Canyon and an exciting 2023! A special thanks to Jim DeGrood for his leadership and hard work in making the Sabino Canyon Crawler Shuttle Service such a great success!

Sincerely,
Jim Darling
President, Friends of Sabino Canyon



FOSC and National Forest Foundation Focus on Invasive Species Treatment and protection of Sabino and Bear Canyons

-Rebecca Davidson

In 2020, the National Forest Foundation (NFF) began working with the Friends of Sabino Canyon (FOSC) and the Santa Catalina Ranger District to map, monitor and treat invasive species, including buffelgrass and fountain grass. These species are rapidly spreading across the Santa Catalina Mountains and have fueled fires that may ultimately convert our rich desert ecosystem into a barren buffelgrass grassland, impacting native wildlife, people, and the Tucson way of life.



With FOSC support, NFF partnered with the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum's Invasive Plant Conservation Science Team to assist NFF with GIS mapping, monitoring, site mapping protocols, and treatment site assessments.

Treatment of invasive species is costly and difficult, and on USFS land can only be done by hand-pulling or with field crews with backpack sprayers hiking across the rough terrain. In addition, herbicide application is only effective when plants are green and actively growing, often during the hottest time of year. Effective treatment also requires multiple seasons of herbicide

application, even up to five years/seasons, because of the persistent seed banks that exists.

On average, including labor, chemicals, equipment, and mobilization, costs are approximately \$500-\$1,000 per acre (2022). Federal funds are enabling treatment of more acres in 2022-2023 than in previous years, but federal funds alone can't get everything done! Support from FOSC and other partners is vital; NFF is working to leverage every federal dollar available to treat as many acres as possible.



The NFF has launched its 2022 Southern Arizona Forest Fund campaign to raise additional funds to support ongoing treatment, with a 1:1 match supported by a substantial donation by FOSC. **Working together we can protect Sabino Canyon from this threat.**



FRIENDS OF SABINO CANYON

Friends of Sabino Canyon Donor Recognition Program -Linden Darling - Program Lead

Friends of Sabino Canyon is proud to display beautiful tile fresco panels designed by the Tucson ceramic artist Nina Borgia-Aberle that honor the generous contribution of donors.

There are two types of panels that FOSC uses to honor major donors. The first is the **Legacy Fresco Panel** which is reserved for businesses and donors that have made large contributions to enrich Sabino Canyon. The second panel is the **Wall of Friends Fresco Panel** that honors individuals that support Sabino Canyon and that have made significant contributions.

These frescos will continue to grow along the walkway to the Sabino Canyon Visitor's Center. Frescos are commissioned and placed one panel at a time, as each panel and tile is handmade. The Frescos are a wonderful way to honor our generous donors and connect visitors through the beauty of the artwork.

With over 1 million visitors a year Sabino Canyon needs friends now more than ever.



Congratulations to Charles “CJ” Woodard on his recent selection as the Holly Springs-Tombigee District Ranger in Mississippi.

For the last four years he has provided great leadership at Sabino Canyon as the District Ranger and will be greatly missed. A big thank you to “CJ” for his service to Sabino Canyon.

The Friends wish you all the best in your new position.



Rattlesnake Trailhead Interpretive Outpost

-Hank Harlow, Project Lead

Over the past several months FOSC has been working closely with the Coronado National Forrest, Santa Catalina Ranger District for the adaptive reuse of the stone structure at the main road and Rattlesnake Trailhead. This effort is consistent with the 2015 USFS Sustainable Recreation Concept Plan to enhance education and interpretation, to preserve settings in remote locations in Sabino Canyon, and to create partnerships. The building, constructed in 2008, has served as a restroom and is to be replaced with a more modern and eco-friendly vault toilet. FOSC has proposed conversion of the old stone building into a back country interpretive site augmenting the Visitor Center's mission to celebrate the biological and cultural diversity of the canyon. The site will be called the Rattlesnake Trailhead Interpretive Outpost.

While not on the historic register, the structure presents an esthetically pleasing landmark which is reminiscent of WCC projects in the canyon. It is our intent to make this site an educational attraction to walkers and hikers. FOSC wants to enhance this as a destination site through physical modification of the building that invites visitors inside and add an acclaimed interpretive exhibit that excites their interest and is noteworthy to visitors of all backgrounds.

In early 2022 USFS began a NEPA review which sanctioned the adaptive reuse of this existing structure. FOSC has employed the architectural firm of Eglin & Bresler to assess the structural fitness of the building and provide a design that maximizes the use of internal space and stimulate visitor curiosity from the outside. Modifications include removal of internal masonry walls, plumbing and doors. The present entryways will be enclosed with a decorative metal screen and a single door entrance on the south side. A proposed shade ramada on the west side will attract visitors and increase opportunities for group programs. These alterations will enhance the buildings appeal and provide approximately 400 sq ft of inside exhibit space.

The focus of the interpretive display has evolved over the past several months through input and discussion with Santa Catalina Forest District administrators, Cultural Heritage staff and outside advisors. The history of human culture in and around Sabino Canyon has been inadequately expressed. The overall adopted theme of the exhibit is – “Let indigenous people speak with a voice that is lifted and centered” using this site as a platform for self-expression. Tribal representation will be inclusive with contributions representing Apache, O’odham as well as Hohokam and other people not with us today but who have lived in the desert, riparian, and mountain habitats characteristic of Sabino Canyon.

A steering committee representing the USFS, ethnohistorians and tribal partners is being assembled to oversee the content. A proposal to the USFS is in progress that outlines the goals, time frame, budget, and obstacles to overcome. Once agreed upon, a “government-to-government” dialogue will be initiated between the USFS and Tribal Nations to determine the final interpretive content. The FOSC will undertake a targeted fund-raising campaign beginning in 2023 followed by construction. We look forward to this great enhancement to the Sabino Canyon experience.

Tucson Students and Environmental Awareness

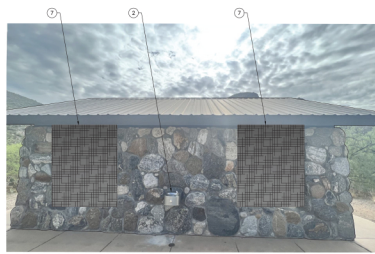
For over 30 years the Friend's partner- Sabino Canyon Volunteer Naturalists- have provided education programs for Tucson area elementary students and began including kindergarteners in 1995. Friends has been proud to support these important programs by providing funds for buses to support attendance by Title 1 school students.

In 2023, Friends, in conjunction with the Naturalists, is launching a campaign to make improvements to the student drop off area at the 'turnaround'. Envisioned improvements include a shade structure (ramada) to protect these young learners while they wait for buses and assemble for walking tours. This effort has been seeded with a very generous donation and we look forward to a successful campaign in 2023.

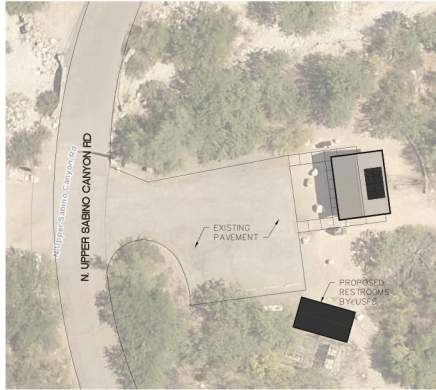
Rattlesnake Trailhead Interpretive Outpost



8 NORTH ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



9 WEST ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



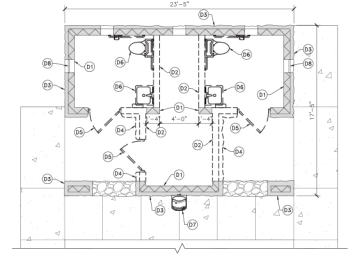
7 SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



4 SOUTH ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



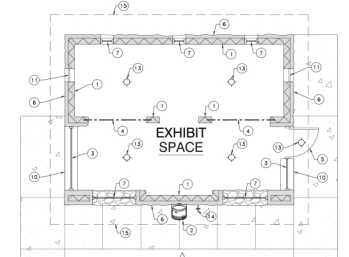
5 EAST ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



1 DEMOLITION FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

DEMOLITION KEYNOTES

- 1 EXISTING WALL TO REMAIN
- 2 REMOVE PORTION OF EXISTING MASONRY WALL
- 3 EXISTING DOOR AND FRAME TO BE REMOVED
- 4 REMOVE EXISTING PLUMBING FIXTURES, PIPING, ETC. AND CAP AS REQUIRED
- 5 EXISTING ROCK VENEER TO REMAIN
- 6 EXISTING DRINKING FOUNTAIN TO REMAIN
- 7 REMOVE PORTION OF ROCK VENEER
- 8 EXISTING VENT TO REMAIN



2 FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

FLOOR PLAN AND ELEVATIONS KEYNOTES

- 1 EXISTING WALL TO REMAIN, TYP.
- 2 EXISTING DRINKING FOUNTAIN TO REMAIN
- 3 NEW AL. WINDOW
- 4 NEW METAL VENT STRUCTURAL (V.I.F.)
- 5 NEW 3/4" S.F. DOOR
- 6 EXISTING ROCK VENEER TO REMAIN
- 7 NEW DECORATIVE METAL SCREEN
- 8 EXISTING WINDOW TO REMAIN
- 9 NEW METAL FASCIA TO MATCH EXISTING
- 10 NEW CONCRETE P.I.P. BALANCEHEAD
- 11 EXISTING VENT TO REMAIN
- 12 PROPOSED SOLAR PANEL
- 13 NEW LIGHT FIXTURE
- 14 EXISTING ROCK VENEER TO REMAIN
- 15 NEW HOSE BIBB
- 16 EXISTING ROOF G.I.



FRIENDS OF SABINO CANYON

Rattlesnake Trail-Interpretive Outpost

Sabino Canyon, Recreation Area

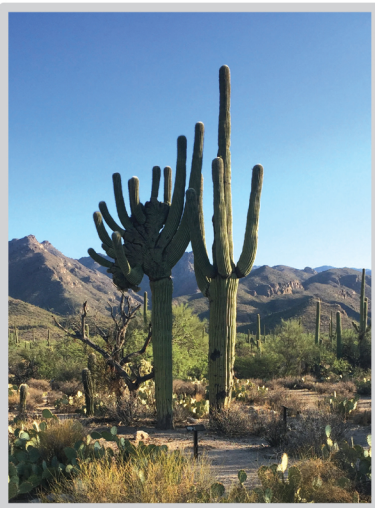
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JBR 3490-22

Beautiful Sabino Canyon Scenery



Special Recognition and a Big Thanks!

Thanks so much to those individuals that have stepped down in the last few years from the Board - after years of great service to the organization and the Canyon...



Josh Baylson
Terry DeWald (Director Emeritus)
Jim Dobbins
Ted Forsberg
Esther Holloway
Jude McCarthy (Director Emeritus)
Gretchen McFarren
Sharon Vandergriff

**Our success depends on many supporters, but especially on the untiring work of our Board.
Thank you!**

In 2022 we have been fortunate to add several new Board members...

Linden Darling
Jim DeGrood
Arianna DuPont
Hank Harlow
Michael Reynolds
Tyler Tingley

**We look forward to their support and contributions to our success...
thanks to each and every one!**

And we are looking for new Board members with a love of the Canyon and skills in communications. If you are interested, please contact our President at president@sabinocanyon.org



FRIENDS OF SABINO CANYON





FRIENDS of SABINO CANYON

Sabino Canyon Recreation Area
5700 N Sabino Canyon Road
Tucson, AZ 85750

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FOSC Newsletter Winter 2022

Current Board Members

Jim Darling	Jim DeGrood
Conrad Grims	Arianna DuPont
Diane Meuser	Hank Harlow
Susan Walker	Jim McDougal
Kate Blute	Michael Reynolds
Riley Blute	Tyler Tingley
Linden Darling	

FOSC Directors Emeritus

Terry DeWald	Jude McCarthy
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FOSC Partner Organizations & Representatives

Regional Partnering Center - Rob Samuelsen
Southern Arizona Rescue Association - Nic Jones
Santa Catalina Volunteer Patrol - Judith Peters
Sabino Canyon Volunteer naturalists - Jo Eaton

Join Us in Support of Sabino Canyon!

Your donation of \$25 or more registers you as a member of Friends of Sabino Canyon (FOSC) for one year.

Your contributions fund the projects that FOSC undertakes to conserve, protect, and enhance Sabino Canyon in support of the US Forest Service. Your contributions also support educational, ecological, and enhancement activities of our partner organizations — the Regional Partnering Center, the Southern Arizona Rescue Association, the Santa Catalina Volunteer Patrol, and the Sabino Canyon Volunteer Naturalists.

Sabino Canyon is a vibrant and engaged community because of your financial support as well as your valuable volunteer time commitments. We would also like to give a special nod to those of you who support FOSC through AmazonSmile and employer matched contributions. Thank you!

FOSC is a 501(C)(3) charitable organization.
If you would like to update your contact information or advise us of your communication preferences, please email us: donors@sabinocanyon.org.
Thanks!

There are two ways to contribute to FOSC-

In the enclosed envelope, please include a check made out to FOSC

OR

Go to our website at sabinocanyon.org and contribute with a credit card. Our site is secure and takes all major credit cards.
And it saves a stamp!

We invite you to visit our web site:
sabinocanyon.org

If you'd like to update your contact information or advise us of your communication preferences, please email us at donors@sabinocanyon.org. Thanks!