

# Ride for the Salt River Wild Horses

The Ride for the Salt River Wild Horses took place January 28, 2023, with participants once again signing in and starting off from the American Legion Post 58 in Fountain Hills.

At Post 58, there were breakfast burritos to go from Bachelors Pad BBQ, a Pura Vida Grinds coffee truck, and a SRWHMG merchandise booth.

623 riders departed on a scenic run through the Lower Salt River area. While it is actually a self-paced ride, many opted to group up for a parade along the route, giving photographers the opportunity for some great pix & video!

There was a ride stop at the Goldfield Recreation Site, off of Usery Pass Road, with the last stop & party at Superstition Harley-Davidson, located at 2910 W Apache Trail in Apache Junction.

Vendors & booths included sponsor Law Tigers, SHD's HOG Chapter #3774, 'MoreShade' Motorcycle Shades, the ClipMan, Blades & Shades, Renaissance Festival, Twisted Treasures Jewelry, Thighbrush, K & K Kandles, additional apparel & bling, plus SRWHMG support merchandise. There was also a variety of food trucks - offering empanadas, hot dogs, tacos, & more.

Raffles included Superstition HD goodies, adult beverages, NRA gear, 'man cave' items, photographic artwork of some Salt River Wild Horses, & other goodies. Music was provided by headliner Bobby Joe Bell, a country music artist based in Phoenix. Band break entertainment came from Mistress Bawd, a performer from the Renaissance Festival.

Event Sponsors include Superstition HD, Law Tigers, Len Novin from The Bull 1340am, The Rattler 97.5 fm, and the AZ Renaissance Festival.

Event coordinator Skeeter sent along Thanks to the Photographers Randy Anagnostis (SHD), and SRWHMG volunteers Debra Mykitiak, Terisa Gracia, Destini Rhone, & Angela Kellam. Thanks also to Joseph Mendoza and Cindy Smith as the mascot 'Salty'. Special thanks go to Superstition HD's Events and Promotional Director Brina Brown, GM Justin Umbs, and their SHD team for another great year supporting the Salt River Wild Horses. Thanks and recognition also need to go out to "Simone Netherlands, our SRWHMG founder and president, for the endless days and nights she puts in to making it possible for the Salts to remain in the Tonto National Forest; to Makenzie

Gleave, our liaison from the AZDA {AZ Dept of Agriculture} Tonto National Forest Service Lower Salt River; and to the MCSO Saguaro Lake Division."

While the needs of the Salt River Wild Horses will always be foremost in the efforts of the Salt River Wild Horses Mgmt Group, this year's event also included a call for support to pass SB1057 for the Alpine Wild Horse Herd Management in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest; in the eastern region of our state. You can read a bit about them here.

This annual Ride For the Salt River Wild Horses event helps support the Salt River Wild Horses Management Group. The SRWHMG is under contract with the AZDA to manage the wild horses humanely. The day raised \$14,600.00 to support that mission.

You can read all about the SRWHMG, their work on behalf of these iconic horses, and learn how you can help – via their website <https://saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org>

My thanks to Skeeter for her help with this article.

Betsy

*Click title for more pix PLUS on the Ride for the SRWH fb page*



photo by Angela Kellam