

## A4WDA Info #3 – Non public lands



Now that you know what public lands are, how about what lands are not public.

Tribal Land – are not public lands. They belong to the various tribes; the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) helps administer tribal land on behalf of federally recognized tribes. Many tribes require permits to access the back country.

Private property – belongs to individual owners and permission is required unless otherwise stated.

Local/State Governments – are not public lands they are managed according to private interests or specific regulations.

Arizona State Trust Land – are **not** public lands and require a recreation permit. ASLD lands typically checkerboarded across the state. You will more than likely cross ASLD on any road or trail.

Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) – ASLD was established on February 24, 1863, by an Act of Congress, granted sections 16 and 36 of each township for the benefit of the common schools. Arizona-New Mexico Enabling Act of 1910 - Authorized the Territory of Arizona to assign sections 2 and 32 of each township to be held in trust for the Common Schools (K-12 education).

While public use of Trust land is not prohibited, it is regulated to ensure protection of the land and reimbursement to the beneficiaries for its use, as prescribed in the State's Constitution and supporting case law.

You are required to buy a yearly Recreation permit from the ASLD to access, cross, stop or camp on state land. A yearly permit costs \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family. These permits are available online at: <https://azland.my.salesforce-sites.com/recreationalpermit/>

A hunting license is not adequate; it is only good while in the pursuit of game. Users can be fined up to \$500 if stopped on state land without an ASLD permit. It might also be arrestable offence.

Other permits available through ASLD are Small and Large Group Permits. A small group permit is good for up to 19 people to access ASLD for five consecutive days, at a cost of \$15. Large Group permits are for groups larger than 20 people; you will need to submit a request to the department for this one.

Update: there are fourteen beneficiaries for the ASLD funds. Of the funds 90% goes to the Common Schools with the remaining 10% allocated to the following trusts which include: University of Arizona Trust, Miners Hospital Trust, Other educational Institutions. More information can be found at: <https://land.az.gov/our-agency-mission/beneficiaries>

*The AZ 4 Wheel Drive Association (www.A4WDA.org) has been around since 1976; we are a not for profit association that is funded entirely by our members and donations.*

*The following information is for your use and our association, and member clubs are not responsible for any injury or damage. These posts are for your information so that we can educate our users on responsible motorized recreation.*

**Next – A4WDA #4 – Leased Lands**

**A4WDA #5 – Acronyms**

Titles are subject to change