Expand Your Capacity

Wilderness Ranger Academies are a time honored tradition that herald the start of a new field season. Their benefits - the dissemination of knowledge, preparation of your wilderness field force, investment in partner organizations, and peer relationship and network building - are indisputable. But the resources required to adequately develop, plan, and hold Academies can be extensive. The Society for Wilderness Stewardship (SWS) works with you to add capacity where it is needed by helping with planning, logistics, and instruction.

We offer a gradient of support, from providing you with a turn-key training; to participating in your planning process, managing items therein, and
instructing and helping during the Academy; to sending a few expert instructors to help where you need them. We can vary our support from training to training and year to year, so when you have a staff member who has newly taken on a training we can provide structure and content at every level, and when you have an expert who has run the training for years, we can pitch in only where necessary. No matter your desired level of SWS involvement, we provide an array of services for all three phases of training - preparation, registration, and the training itself.

## Preparation

**Planning Schedule** - We will work with you to set up a planning and achievement schedule to make sure everything is ready to go when it needs to be.

**Logistics** - Water, lodging, classroom space, bathrooms...we’ll walk you through each logistical component.

**Risk Management** - Together we’ll develop an emergency plan and hazard analysis, and make sure you are prepared with communication devices, first aid kits, and trained personnel onsite.

**Instructors** - We’ll create a list of the amount and type of instructors and assistant instructors you will need, help you identify the right people, communicate with them about planning and preparation.

**Agenda** - Over a series of calls, we’ll participate in or facilitate the building of the agenda.

**Curriculum** - Based on your agenda, we’ll pull or develop curriculum including course descriptions for your training.

## Registration

**Webpage** - We will develop a webpage(s) for you on the SWS site that covers general information, FAQ, what to bring, and registration.

**Instructors** - You may want instructors to register separately than the rest of your attendees, so we will design a unique registration and communication process for them, either prior, or simultaneous to, your mass registration.

**Attendees** - Through our web portal, we will manage all aspects of

## Technical Skill Sessions and Certifications

No matter what certifications you plan to offer at your training, we will work with you to identify expert instructors, gear needed, appropriate locations, and time required for certificate completion.
attendee registration. You can customize your registration to ask participants questions about what sessions they wish to attend, whether they have been to your training before, etc. You can elect to charge a dollar amount for some or all participants, or make participation free.

**Certifications** - Whether you allow participants to sign up directly for certifications or choose certification preferences, we can input that data into a multi-faceted spreadsheet so you can filter via location, program, name, or something else.

**Attendee Communication** - We will manage communication with your attendees, from answering individual questions to sending out a packet of information (agenda, certification class bookings, directions, what to bring) prior to the start of training.

**Training**

**Instruction and Facilitation** - We will find expert trainers and/or facilitators to fill any holes you have in your instruction staff and bring them to your training.

**Flow and management** - Our staff is available to be on-site helping with event management should you need it.

**Evening activities** - We specialize in creating community, and are happy to help you identify and enact fun and fruitful evening programming.

**Customization**

Every training is unique. However you need to add capacity to your planning or implementation, we will help you every step of the way. For more information, contact:

Heather MacSlarrow  
Executive Director  
h.macslarrow@wildernessstewardship.org  
(406) 212-5464