While we would rather be together in-person, we hope this week of training and networking fills you with new skills, inspiration, and energy that propels you into a season of stewarding wilderness and wild & scenic rivers. Thank you for taking the time to join us on this adventure!

The National Wilderness Skills Institute Core Team is staff from the USDA Forest Service and partner organizations from across the nation.

**Welcome!**

Bill Hodge  
Executive Director  
Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation

Jimmy Gaudry  
Northern Region Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers Program Manager, USDA Forest Service

Jacob Wall  
Program Director  
Society for Wilderness Stewardship

John Campbell  
Southern Region Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers Program Manager, USDA Forest Service

Angie Fuhrmann  
River Training Center Coordinator  
River Management Society

J. Dan Abbe  
Wilderness Specialist, USDA Forest Service Representative, Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center

Risa Shimoda  
Executive Director  
River Management Society

Carol A. Hennessey  
Recreation, Trails, Wilderness, Outfitter & Guide & Rivers Program Manager, Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, USDA Forest Service

Eric Giebelstein  
Regional Director  
Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards

Nancy Taylor  
Pacific Northwest Wilderness, Wild & Scenic Rivers, Congressionally Designated Areas Program Manager, USDA Forest Service

Ian Davidson  
Program Manager  
Selway Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation

Dusty Vaughn  
Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers Specialist, USDA Forest Service
ASSIGNMENT:
Participate in the National Wilderness Skills Institute, a free online training event focused on wilderness and wild & scenic river stewardship, with classes ranging from traditional field skills to data management for all levels of experience.

INSTRUCTIONS:
Using the links provided in agenda, join virtual Zoom rooms. Your control panel appears at the bottom of the screen:

☐ Join Audio 🎧 or click Unmute 🎤 / Mute 🎤 microphone. Click the ^ arrow to change microphone or speaker.

☐ Click Start Video 📹 / Stop Video 📹 for camera. Click the ^ arrow to change cameras or a virtual background.

☐ Click Participants 📌 to see who’s currently in the meeting. To rename yourself, hover over your name, click More, and choose Rename. “Name, Organization” is ideal.

☐ Use the Chat 🗤 to ask or respond to questions.

☐ If the host allows, use Share Screen ➡️ to select the desktop or application you want to share.

☐ Reactions 😊 allow you to communicate to the presenter without disrupting. Use Raise Hand 👁️ icon if asked.

Test your connection and controls at https://zoom.us/test

WHAT TO PACK:
☐ Eagerness to learn – ask questions, respond to polls, participate in breakout rooms, Volunteer to share!

☐ Grace – This is a new format for many instructors and participants. Technical difficulties will likely happen.

☐ Use a photo of your wilderness or river where you work as your virtual background – or take your computer outside!

JOB HAZARD ANALYSIS:
☐ Log on early and join sessions ahead of start time to test connection and settings of microphone and camera.

☐ Remain on mute unless asked to speak by instructor.

☐ Stay present - multi-tasking will trammel your learning.

☐ Use scheduled breaks to stand up, go outside, drink water, eat snacks, or take “bio breaks”. Don’t forget to blink!

CONDITION SURVEYS:
☐ Complete the overall NWSI Event Evaluation.

☐ Complete the Session Survey for specific presentations

DISPATCH:
If you run into any issues, contact the following:

• Zoom - https://support.zoom.us/
  Video not working Audio not working
• Check the daily agenda for scheduled points of contact
NORMS AND EXPECTATIONS

- Plan Ahead and Prepare – log on early
- Stay on the Trail – be present and avoid multi-tasking
- Be considerate of other visitors - Everyone deserves respectful dialogue, no matter how different opinions may be, we can respectfully agree to disagree. Assume good intent.
- Make space for all voices – ensure all gets a turn to share.
- Keep video on but microphone on mute.
- Ask questions, respond to polls, and complete evaluations.
- Attend coffee and happy hour sessions to connect with peers.

PROHIBITED BEHAVIORS

At this time we have no prohibitions in place.

Help keep it that way by practicing responsible participation methods and showing kindness to others that are participating.

Thank you,
NWSI Core Team

INFORMATION

TRAIL REGISTER: locations of participants from around the world

USA

CANADA

AUSTRIA

JORDAN

ECUADOR
### MONDAY, MAY 26TH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EASTERN TIME</th>
<th>Traditional Skills</th>
<th>Visitor Use</th>
<th>Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers</th>
<th>Wilderness I</th>
<th>Wilderness II</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Welcome and Keynote</td>
<td>Core Team</td>
<td>Vicki Christiansen</td>
<td>Bill Hodge</td>
<td>Dr. Drew Lanham</td>
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<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Public Lands in the US - A More Inclusive Examination</td>
<td>Paul Sanford, Liz Vogel, &amp; Sharon Musa</td>
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<td>12:30 PM</td>
<td>Mastering the Basics: An Examination of the Physics, Nuances, &amp; Mechanics of Traditional Skills</td>
<td>Bob Beckley, Dolly Chapman, Aaron Klug, Doug Hunt, Jess Kehoe, Susan Jenkins, Jeremy Watkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>The Wonderful World of Visitor Use Management</td>
<td>Linda Merigliano</td>
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<td>Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers: Mastering the Basics</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>How &amp; Why The Wilderness Act Became Law</td>
<td>Bill Hodge</td>
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<td>History of the Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers Act</td>
<td>Ed Krumpe &amp; LuVerne Gruessing</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>Wilderness Stewardship Performance (WSP) Overview</td>
<td>Eric Sandeno &amp; Dusty Vaughn</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30 PM</td>
<td>Wilderness Character Monitoring (WCM)- An Interagency Perspective</td>
<td>Dr. Peter Landres, Julie King, Kaitlin de Varona, Peter Mali, Roger Semler, Peter Keller, Marissa Edwards</td>
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<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>Visitor Use Management on the Appalachian Trail</td>
<td>Morgan Sommerville</td>
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<td>4:30 PM</td>
<td>Wilderness Act 101</td>
<td>Ralph Swain</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Happy Hour - Keynote Discussion</td>
<td>Bill Hodge</td>
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</table>

**Click on class for description and to access Zoom room**

**Need Help? Contact Dispatch:**

- 11:00 am – 2:00 pm: Angie Fuhrmann, angie@river-management.org
- 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm: John Campbell, john.campbell@usda.gov
- 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm: Dusty Vaughn, gary.vaughn@usda.gov
## TUESDAY, MAY 25TH

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### Coffee Hour - Regional Breakouts
11:00 - 11:50

### WIDOM: A Six-Step Process for Effective Public Contacts and Authority of the Resource
Ralph Swain & Jack Ader
12:00 - 1:20

### Wildfire Incidents and Wild & Scenic River Resource Considerations
Kai Allen
12:30 - 1:20

### WISDOM - Authority of the Resource
Ralph Swain & Jack Ader
12:00 - 1:20

### WSP - Natural Role of Fire
Frankie Romero & Colter Pence
12:30 - 1:20

### Monitoring Campsite and Trail Conditions
Dr. Jeff Marion & Dr. Jeremy Wimpey
12:30 - 1:20

### Understanding Your Wild & Scenic River I
Steve Chesterton, Kristen Thrall, Tangy Wiseman, Liz Townley
1:30 - 2:20

### Understanding Your Wild & Scenic River II
Steve Chesterton, Kristen Thrall, Tangy Wiseman, Liz Townley
1:30 - 2:20

### Understanding Your Wild & Scenic River III
Steve Chesterton, Kristen Thrall, Tangy Wiseman, Liz Townley
1:30 - 2:20

### Monitoring Campsite and Trail Conditions
Dr. Jeff Marion & Dr. Jeremy Wimpey
1:30 - 2:20

### Understanding Wilderness Character
Linda Merigliano
2:30 - 3:20

### WSP - Recreation Sites
Stacy Duke & Eric Sandeno
2:30 - 3:20

### Happiness Stock I
USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region Pack Stock Center for Excellence
3:30 - 4:50

### Lessons from the Field - Digital Kiosks and Visitor Use Management
Chrysann Jaeger
3:30 - 4:50

### Understanding Your Wild & Scenic River IV
Steve Chesterton, Kristen Thrall, Tangy Wiseman, Liz Townley
3:30 - 4:50

### Wilderness Values, Four Cornerstones, and Benefits
Ken Straley & Jason Taylor
3:30 - 4:50

### WCM - Implementing with the Forest Service
Kaitlin de Varona, Mike Smith, & Jacob Wall
3:30 - 4:50

### Happy Hour - Trivia Night
Pete Irvine & Dusty Vaughn
5:00 - 6:00

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**Need Help? Contact Dispatch: 11:00 am – 2:00 pm:** John Campbell, john.campbell@usda.gov  
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm: Risa Shimoda, executivedirector@river-management.org  
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm: Dusty Vaughn, gary.vaughn@usda.gov

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<tr>
<th>EASTERN TIME</th>
<th>Traditional Skills</th>
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<th>Wilderness I</th>
<th>Wilderness II</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Coffee Hour - Exploring Native Land Acknowledgements</td>
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<td>Colter Pence &amp; Dr. Serra Hoagland</td>
<td>11:00 - 11:50</td>
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<td>11:30 AM</td>
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<td>10-Year Trail Stewardship</td>
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<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Crosscut Saws II</td>
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<td>Assessing and Developing Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities for River Rangers I</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bill Hodge</td>
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<td>Colter Pence &amp; Angie Fuhrmann</td>
<td>12:00 - 1:20</td>
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<td>12:30 PM</td>
<td>Trail Conditions Via Electronic Formats</td>
<td>10 Year Trail Shared Stewardship Challenge</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>Solitude Monitoring</td>
<td></td>
<td>Assessing and Developing Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities for River Rangers II</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr. Troy Hall</td>
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<td>Colter Pence &amp; Angie Fuhrmann</td>
<td>1:30 - 2:20</td>
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<td>Solitude Monitoring</td>
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<td>Dr. Troy Hall</td>
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<td>3:00 PM</td>
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<td>Trail Management Objectives on the Trail: An Introduction to the Backend of Trail Work</td>
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<td>3:30 PM</td>
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<td>Jessica May</td>
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<td>4:00 PM</td>
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<td>Leave No Trace Outdoor Skills &amp; Ethics - Introductory</td>
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<td>4:30 PM</td>
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<td>Erin Collier &amp; Brice Esplin</td>
<td>3:30 - 4:50</td>
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<td>5:00 PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Happy Hour - Movie Night</td>
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<td>5:30 PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>&quot;The Dark Divide&quot;</td>
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<td>6:00 PM</td>
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<td>Followed by a Panel Discussion with the Producers</td>
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<td>5:00 - 8:00</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
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<td>WCM - Support &amp; Resources</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
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<td>Julie King, Jim Edmonds, Mike Smith, Kaitlin de Varona, Drew Lindsey, &amp; Portia Jelinek</td>
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<td>8:00 PM</td>
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**THURSDAY, MAY 27TH**

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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Coffee Hour - Topic Breakouts 11:00 - 11:50</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Wilderness Research, Jason Taylor</td>
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<td>- International &amp; Global Initiatives, Adam Hanson &amp; Hanna Öllös</td>
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<td>- Using &quot;Field Maps&quot; Applications in Wilderness Management, Dylan McCoy</td>
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<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Crosscut Saws III</td>
<td>The Sustainable Camping &amp; Trail Management Toolbox</td>
<td>Introduction to This is Who We Are</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dave Haberl</td>
<td>Dr. Jeff Marion</td>
<td>Colter Pence</td>
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<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Field Leadership Development: Giving Leader’s Intent and Field Briefings</td>
<td>The Central Cascades Wilderness Permit System</td>
<td>Minimum Requirements Analysis / Minimum Requirements Decision Guide (MRDG)</td>
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<td>Colter Pence</td>
<td>Jason Fisher</td>
<td>Dan Abbe, Dan Morris, &amp; John Campbell</td>
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<td>1:30 PM</td>
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<td>To Permit or Not to Permit: Addressing Visitor Capacity</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Katy Nelson</td>
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<td>2:30 PM</td>
<td>Backpacking &amp; Backcountry Nutrition</td>
<td>Leave No Trace - Teaching Tools for Responsible Recreation</td>
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<td>Katie Currier &amp; Jessica Satterfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>Happy Hour - Regional Virtual Campfire Chats</td>
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**Need Help?:**
- 11:00 am – 2:00 pm: Angie Fuhrmann, angie@river-management.org
- 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm: Nancy Taylor, nancy.taylor@usda.gov
- 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm: Dusty Vaughn, gary.vaughn@usda.gov

**Click on class for description and to access Zoom room**
# FRIDAY, MAY 28TH

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<tr>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>Crosscut Saws IV</td>
<td><strong>Coffee Hour</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pete Duncan, Bill Hodge, &amp; Dave Haberl</td>
<td>Message from the USDA Chief: 11-11:30</td>
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<td>Micro-Mentoring: Colter Pence 11:30-11:50</td>
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<td>12:30 PM</td>
<td>Pack Stock II</td>
<td><strong>Funding Programs</strong></td>
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*Click on class for description and to access Zoom room*

**What We Learned**
- Bill Hodge
  - 3:00 - 3:50

**Happy Hour – Take-Aways & Next Steps**
- Core Team
  - 4:00 - 4:50

**Need Help?**
- 11:00 am – 2:00 pm: Angie Fuhrmann, angie@river-management.org
- 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm: Jimmy Gaudry, christopher.gaudry@usda.gov
# TRACK & CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

## Coffee Hour
Join us each morning as we start the day with a brief welcome and updates followed by various topical discussions including regional breakouts, exploring native land acknowledgements, research, global initiatives, field mapping, and micro-mentoring.

## All Tracks Combined
A few larger sessions have been developed that cross all tracks including the opening keynote session, exploring public lands management, history, and conservation with a focus on telling a more inclusive narrative, funding programs, review of the week, and a closing discussion around take-aways and next steps.

## Traditional Skills
Provides a foundation for the skills needed to work in a wilderness setting. With an overview of hand tools, using pack stock, trail maintenance techniques, crosscut use, field leadership and backpacking and backcountry nutrition, participants will have a solid foundation for some actual time in the field to practice these skills.

## Visitor Use Management
Provides participants with the tools needed to adapt to a variety of challenges and opportunities that are present in current land management settings. These sessions will go from the theoretical to the applied with an overview of the Visitor Use Management Framework and a variety of lessons from the field.

## Wilderness I
Join us on a journey from the beginnings of the Wilderness Act through the foundations that guide wilderness stewardship today. Learn from experienced instructors working in a variety of wilderness settings who will share their expertise in the fundamentals of wilderness history, character, values, benefits, science, and prohibited uses. Leave No Trace instructors will lead us through outdoor skills, ethics, and provide teaching tools for responsible recreation.

## Wilderness II
Building upon content covered in the Wilderness I sessions, the courses in this track dives deeper into Wilderness Stewardship Performance (WSP) elements, Wilderness Character Monitoring (WCM), and Minimum Requirements Analyses (MRA/MRDG).

## Wild & Scenic Rivers
This track assists agency personnel and partners learn more about the management of Wild & Scenic Rivers (WSRs). Courses explore the history of the WSR Act, core competencies and management principles for field staff, wildfire within WSR corridors, and the network of organizations working to protect and defend existing and potential WSRs.

## Happy Hour
End each day with informal and relaxed hangouts ranging from reflecting on the keynote message, testing your wilderness and river knowledge in a friendly game of trivia, join us for movie night, and sharing your story around a virtual campfire with your regional peers.

*Return to Agenda*
MONDAY, MAY 24TH

11:00-12:20 pm

Welcome and Keynote:
A New Way into the Wild – Inclusion as a Criterion for the Future of Conservation

Bill Hodge
Executive Director
Bob Marshall
Wilderness Foundation

Dr. Drew Lanham
Alumni Distinguished Professor of Wildlife Ecology
Master Teacher and Certified Wildlife Biologist
Forestry and Environmental Conservation Department
Clemson University

Join us as we kick-off the National Wilderness Skills Institute followed by an in-depth discussion with Dr. Drew Lanham. He is a cultural and conservation ornithologist whose work addresses the confluence of race, place, and nature. Drew is an accredited author, a lifelong bird watcher and hunter-conservationist living in Seneca, South Carolina.

View Welcome Message  View Keynote Recording

12:30-1:50 pm

Public Lands in the US:
A More Inclusive Examination

Presented by The Wilderness Society

Pre-Work: read “How Did Public Lands Come to Be?” ahead of participating in this session (2-hour read)

Paul Sanford
National Director of Recreation Policy

Liz Vogel
National Director for Access and Education

Sharon Musa
High Meadows Fellow

In this interactive virtual class, we’ll explore public lands management, history, and conservation with a focus on telling a more inclusive narrative presented by The Wilderness Society. Participants will:

• Review the definition of public lands and management of public lands.

• Understand that the common historical narrative of public lands has done little to reckon with the sometimes-atrocious means by which public lands were created.

• Explore how social and political movements affected and continue to affect how and for whom public lands were and are created.

• Learn about some of the historic and current contributions that Black people, Indigenous people, and People of Color have had and continue to have in the conservation movement. See “Groups Diversifying the Outdoors Detailed Information” handout

View Recording

*All times in Eastern Time

Return to Monday’s Agenda
MONDAY, MAY 24TH
2:00-3:20 pm

Mastering the Basics: An Examination of the Physics, Nuances, & Mechanics of Traditional Skills

Bob Beckley
Retired, National Technology & Development Center
USDA Forest Service

Susan Jenkins
Project Leader
National Technology & Development Center
USDA Forest Service

Jeremy Watkins
Wilderness/Trails Specialist
Seeley Lake Ranger District
Lolo National Forest
USDA Forest Service

Aaron Klug
Bob Marshall Wilderness Trail Specialist
USDA Forest Service

Dolly Chapman
Retired, Wilderness Trail Crew Leader
& Owner of Chapman's Sharp Saws

Doug Hunt
Retired Packer
Selway Bitterroot Wilderness
USDA Forest Service

Jessica Kehoe
PT,DPT,CSCS
Alpine Physical Therapy

Recommended Pre-work:
Posters, Publications & Videos

View Recording

This session provides participants an opportunity to learn from traditional tool experts with a focus on learning how to use a tool rather than just learning the “how to do it” technique. The foundational teaching by these experts puts more emphasis on the science, physics and dynamics of the work and the proper shape, size, and balance of the tool. This understanding improves efficiency and safety of tool use regardless if tool users are new to the skill set or have years of experience. There is nothing easy about using traditional tools, it is hard work, but improving proficiency of tool use enhances the experience and promotes the recognition of value in the work and tools used in wilderness.

The Wonderful World of Visitor Use Management

Linda Merigliano
Recreation and Wilderness Program Manager
Bridger-Teton National Forest
USDA Forest Service

View Recording

Are you frustrated by visitor behavior? Do you want to address management challenges in a meaningful way that lasts? Do you feel like you’re lacking the tools and information you need to tackle visitor use challenges? This session will provide an introduction to visitor use management and to valuable tools that will help you tackle challenges big and small.

*All Times in Eastern Time
MONDAY, MAY 24TH
2:00-2:50 pm

Wilderness Stewardship Performance Overview

Table of Elements

View Recording

Provides attendees background of the Wilderness Stewardship Performance (WSP) measure, results from the first six years, accomplishment trends, and funding opportunities. From this presentation, participants will gain a better understanding of WSP, where to find resources, and possible funding opportunities. (Note: This class is also presented on Friday, May 28th at 1:00-1:50 pm)

2:30-3:20 pm

How and Why The Wilderness Act Became Law

View Recording

We will explore the cultural shifts that happened to launch a system of public commons, and how that shift and a vision of the future informed the subsequent movement to secure wild public lands within the framework of the larger public domain. We will explore critical moments and crucial characters, while laying open the fissures and cracks left to us by those that advocated for what we serve today.

Return to Monday’s Agenda
MONDAY, MAY 24TH

3:00-4:50 pm

Wilderness Character Monitoring - An Interagency Perspective

Dr. Peter Landres
Emeritus Scientist, Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute
USDA Forest Service

Kaitlin de Varona
Program Manager & WCM Team Leader
Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards

Marissa Edwards
Wilderness Fellow
American Conservation Experience

Peter Mali
National Wilderness Program Manager
USDA Forest Service

Julie King
National WCM Program Manager
USDA Forest Service

Roger Semler
Wilderness Stewardship Division Manager
National Park Service

Peter Keller
National Wilderness Program Lead
Bureau of Land Management

View Recording

A look at wilderness character monitoring history, development, overview, and an interagency update.

3:30-4:50 pm

Trail Maintenance Basics for Field Staff

Jessica May
Trails Specialist
Hungry Horse-Glacier View Ranger District
Flathead National Forest
USDA Forest Service

Kerry Wood
Wilderness & Trails Program Manager
Sandia Ranger District
Cibola National Forest
USDA Forest Service

View Recording

An overview of definitions of common terms, some details of trail clearing and basic tread, and a run through of the most common trail tools. This is targeted at the novice trail maintainer.

3:30-4:50 pm

History of the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act

Ed Krumpe
Professor Emeritus
Department of Natural Resources & Society
University of Idaho

LuVerne Gruessing
Retired, Outdoor Recreation Planner
Cottonwood Field Office
Bureau of Land Management

View Recording

This course will explain the events that contributed to the passage of the Wild & Scenic Rivers (WSR) Act, discuss the importance of the WSR Act, describe the key primary concepts included in the WSR Act, and describe the role of federal land management agencies in implementing the WSR Act.

*All Times in Eastern Time

Return to Monday’s Agenda
MONDAY, MAY 24TH

3:30-4:50 pm

Wilderness Act 101

Ralph Swain
Retired
Rocky Mountain Region Wilderness and Rivers Program Manager
USDA Forest Service

View Recording

This presentation is targeted to first- or second-year seasonal wilderness rangers, volunteers and those that are new to wilderness stewardship. The power-point will focus on the fundamentals of the Wilderness Act, specifically section 2 and 4 of the Law. It will also address the "why" wilderness was needed in 1964 and for future generations. The presentation will conclude with the challenges forthcoming, including climate change, intervention, and the need to "Let it Be."

4:00-4:50 pm

Lessons from the Field - Visitor Use Management on the Appalachian Trail

Morgan Sommerville
Director of Visitor Use Management
Appalachian Trail Conservancy

View Recording

I'll describe the history of VUM on the Appalachian Trail (AT), Appalachian Trail Conservancy's (ATC) adoption of the Interagency Visitor Use Management Council's (IVUMC) Visitor Use Management (VUM) planning framework, give some examples of AT VUM planning work, and describe ATC's strategic VUM plan for future A.T. VUM work.

5:00-6:00 pm

Happy Hour – Keynote Discussion

Bill Hodge
Executive Director
Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation

View Recording

Join us as we spend time exploring the messages shared in the keynote discussion with Dr. Drew Lanham. What role do we each play in promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion and what connection does this have to stewarding Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers?

Return to Monday's Agenda
TUESDAY, MAY 25TH

11:00-11:50 am

Coffee Hour – Regional Breakouts

Northern Region - northeastern Washington, northern Idaho, Montana, North Dakota & northwestern South Dakota

Rocky Mountain Region - Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas

Southwestern Region - Arizona & New Mexico

Intermountain Region - Utah, Nevada, western Wyoming, and southern Idaho

Pacific Southwest Region - California, Hawaii, and Pacific Islands

Pacific Northwest Region - Washington and Oregon

Southern Region - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North & South Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Puerto Rico

Eastern Region – Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Wisconsin, Vermont, West Virginia,

Alaska Region - Alaska

Regional breakout room discussions intentionally not recorded

Join a breakout room based on your location to participate in regional presentations, group discussions, and project showcases. The goal is to build relationships that hopefully result in some synergy moving forward on projects or future regional training events.

12:00-1:20 pm

Crosscut Saws I

Resources

View Recording

Day one we will cover personal protective equipment, equipment requirements, human factors, and the five-step cutting process: Objective, Hazards/obstacles, Leans/binds, Escape paths and Cut plan (OHLEC). We will also present an overview of the USDA Forest Service Saw Program.
**TUESDAY, MAY 25**

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<th>Time</th>
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| 12:00-1:20 pm | **WISDOM: A Six-Step Process for Effective Public Contacts and Authority of the Resource Technique** | Ralph Swain  
Retired, Rocky Mountain Region  
Wilderness & Rivers Program Manager  
USDA Forest Service  
Jack Ader  
Wilderness Ranger  
West Fork Ranger District  
Bitterroot National Forest  
USDA Forest Service | View Recording |
| 12:00-12:25 pm | **Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers Fire Resource Advisors (READs)**  
|            | Dylan McCoy  
Lead Wilderness Ranger  
McKenzie River Ranger District  
Willamette National Forest  
USDA Forest Service | View Recording |
| 12:30-1:20 pm | **Wildfire Incidents and Wild & Scenic Rivers Resource Considerations**  
|            | Kai Allen  
Outdoor Recreation Planner  
Rogue National Wild & Scenic River  
USDI Bureau of Land Management | View Recording |

Learning how to make professional public contacts with wilderness visitors is truly an art and a science that comes with experience. However, managers and rangers can improve their techniques by using a systematic six-step process called WISDOM that has been field-tested and used in congressionally designated wildernesses throughout America. Following the WISDOM presentation, a separate follow-up Authority of the Resource Technique (ART) presentation will conduct role-playing skits using volunteers from the audience to reinforce the six-step process. The ART presentation is intended to be interactive.

This course will include a brief introduction into what a Fire Resource Advisors (READ) is, how they are related to Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers (WWS) specifically, some of what a WWSR READ does, why that is important to WWSR management, and how people can get started on this path if they are interested.

This session will focus on Wild & Scenic Rivers (WSR) in the context of Wildland Fire Incident Management. The presentation will review the requirements of the WSR Act, consider river specific resource protection measures during a wildland fire incident, and examine the framework for integrating river resources into the overall incident management strategy. This session will benefit a wide range of river professionals and resource specialists tasked with ensuring the protection of river values before, during, and after a wildland fire.
Wilderness Stewardship Performance – Natural Role of Fire

View Recording

Provides attendees details about the five scoring components, with specific examples, of the Natural Role of Fire Wilderness Stewardship Performance element. From this presentation, participants will gain a better understanding of the Natural Role of Fire element and deliverables needed to improve element scores.

Monitoring Campsite and Trail Conditions

View Recording

This presentation will address how monitoring can supply a Visitor Use Management process with accurate information about campsite and trail conditions to evaluate thresholds/standards of quality and aid in selecting corrective actions and evaluating their efficacy. The bulk of the talk will be focused on developing and implementing effective monitoring programs, with helpful guidance for both program leaders and field staff.

Beyond the Banks, Understanding Your Wild & Scenic River

View Recording

Field staff implement law, agency policy and regulation often without realizing their day to day work is designed to align with broader goals and objectives. Understanding the requirements for stewarding a Wild & Scenic River (WSR) and the management plans that provide the basis for how and why WSRs are managed increases knowledge of field level practitioners creating ownership and lasting stewardship of the resource. This session focuses on the fundamentals of managing a WSR.
TUESDAY, MAY 25™

Management Case Studies: Resolving the Worst Appalachian Trail Camping Impacts

Dr. Jeff Marion
Recreation Ecologist
USDI U.S. Geological Survey
Eastern Ecological Science Center

Morgan Sommerville
Director of Visitor Use Management
Appalachian Trail Conservancy

This presentation will present and discuss three cases studies where management-science collaborations sought to resolve the recognized “worst” Appalachian Trail camping locations by shifting camping from popular flat areas, where campsite proliferation and expansion had created unacceptably large “mega-clusters” of campsites and impact, to sustainable side-hill campsites in sloping terrain. The cases studies are Annapolis Rocks vista, Maryland, Slaughter Gap, Georgia, and Hawk Mtn Shelter, Georgia. The “lessons-learned” from each will be shared and discussed.

Understanding Wilderness Character

Linda Merigliano
Recreation and Wilderness Program Manager
Bridger-Teton National Forest
USDA Forest Service

This presentation will provide a brief overview of wilderness character - how it is defined, why it matters, and what each of the 5 qualities is about. How is wilderness character used with emphasis on use at field level - communication, education.

Wilderness Stewardship Performance – Recreation Sites

Stacy Duke
Forest Recreation Program Manager
Hoosier National Forest
USDA Forest Service

Eric Sandeno, Information Manager
Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers
Washington Office
USDA Forest Service

This presentation provides attendees details about the five scoring components, with specific examples, of the Recreation Sites Wilderness Stewardship Performance element. From this presentation, participants will gain a better understanding of the Recreation Sites element and deliverables needed to improve element scores.
Pack Stock I

Ken Graves
Forest Packer
PSCOE Co-Director
Shasta-Trinity National Forest

Michael Morse
Wilderness & Trails Supervisor
PSCOE Co-Director
Inyo National Forest

Katy Bartzokis
PSCOE Lead Packer
Shasta-Trinity National Forest

Debbie Mcdougald
Special Uses Permit Administrator & Stock Program Manager
Sierra National Forest

View Recording

This session will introduce participants to the capabilities of pack stock and their role in managing public lands throughout the nation. We will also discuss safely working around stock, including horse psychology, stock on the trail, all the way up to some of the safety factors that packers consider when putting a string together. Interact with a panel of professional USFS packers.

Lessons from the Field:
Digital Kiosks and Visitor Use Management

Chrysann Jaeger
Conservation Education Specialist (acting)
Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests
USDA Forest Service

View Recording

USDA Forest Service Northern Region digital kiosk program: Explanation and background of what digital kiosks are, and how digital kiosks can assist with visitor use management. How can we think of new ways to use this technology to encourage certain visitor use patterns?

Wilderness Values, Four Cornerstones, and Benefits

Ken Straley
Acting Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers Program Manager
Rocky Mountain Region
USDA Forest Service

Jason Taylor
Director
Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute
USDA Forest Service

View Recording

This session will look in depth at the Four Cornerstones of wilderness stewardship (preserve wildness and natural conditions; provide and use the minimum necessary; manage wilderness as a whole; and protect wilderness benefits). These foundational principles will be connected with values that are fundamental to those who work in wilderness as well as visit these special lands for diverse reasons. The final cornerstone, protection of wilderness benefits, will lead into discussion of a timely report on wilderness benefits to present and future generations of wilderness visitors and for those who value wilderness from afar.
Wilderness Character Monitoring - Implementing WCM with the USDA Forest Service

Kaitlin de Varona
Program Manager & WCM Team Leader
Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards

Mike Smith
WCM Team Leader (Senior)
Society for Wilderness Stewardship

Jacob Wall
Program Director
Society for Wilderness Stewardship

View Recording

Implementing the Wilderness Character Monitoring (WCM) framework with the USDA Forest Service including legislative and administrative document compilation, narrative writing, measure selection, the USDA Forest Service WCM Technical Guide, and baseline assessment report writing (Wilderness Stewardship Performance points 2-8).

Happy Hour – Trivia Night

Pete Irvine
Retired USDA Forest Service

Dusty Vaughn, Specialist Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers Washington Office, USDA Forest Service

Trivia Night intentionally not recorded – play anytime using this link: https://kahoot.it/challenge/005047229

Join us for a fun evening of wilderness and wild & scenic rivers trivia! We will be using KaHoot! to host the game while sharing a screen with the questions and results. Instructions for joining the game:
1. On a smartphone, tablet or on your computer, go to https://kahoot.it/challenge/005047229 (or scan the code to the right).
2. Type in a nickname.
3. The questions will be displayed with up to 4 answers to choose from. Each answer has an assigned color and shape.
4. Pick the matching color(s)/shape(s) on your separate screen to answer the question.
5. Points are determined by whether the correct answer was chosen and how fast the question was answered.
WEDNESDAY, MAY 26TH

11:00-11:50 am

Coffee Hour – Exploring Native Land Acknowledgements

Colter Pence
Wilderness, Wild & Scenic Rivers and Trails Program Manager
Flathead National Forest
USDA Forest Service

Dr. Serra J. Hoagland
Acting Tribal Relations Program Manager
Intermountain Region
USDA Forest Service

*All times in Eastern Time

Discussion will center around the concept of native land acknowledgements and offer resources and reflection points for Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers staff wanting to explore this.

12:00-1:20 pm

Crosscut Saws II

Bill Hodge
Executive Director
Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation

Day two will explore binds and tension, setting your cut, compound cuts and spring polls

12:00-12:25 pm

10 Year Trail Shared Stewardship Challenge

Brenda Yankoviak
National Trail Program Manager
USDA Forest Service

This session will include an overview of the national trail program (who’s who and what we’re all working on), and a synopsis of the 10 Year Trail Shared Stewardship Challenge (why it’s needed, how it’s structured, and what to expect).
**Assessing and Developing Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities for River Rangers**

Colter Pence
Wilderness, Wild & Scenic Rivers and Trails Program Manager
Flathead National Forest
USDA Forest Service

Angie Fuhrmann
River Training Center Coordinator
River Management Society

*View Recording*

Learn about core competencies, knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) needed for entry level river ranger work, in order to develop a personal development and training plan, and then identify resources to develop those KSAs. This session will be shared in three modules:

I. Review the Interagency Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordinating Council Technical Core Competencies for River Management Specialists and Non-Specialists paper

II. Assess your own river KSAs

III. Learn about resources to further develop your KSAs: USDA Forest Service; Other River Rangers; IWSRCC Resources

**Lessons from the Field – Providing Up to Date Trail Conditions Via Electronic Formats**

Joshua Simpson
Wilderness, Trails, Recreation and Noxious Weeds Program Manager
Krassel Ranger District, Payette National Forest
USDA Forest Service

*View Recording*

An overview of mapping products that deliver real-time information to the public at large: ArcGIS online, trails data, maintenance schedules and reporting.

**Wilderness Stewardship Performance – Trails**

Brenda Yankoviak
National Trail Program Manager
USDA Forest Service

Matt Able
Assistant National Trails Program Manager (Acting)
USDA Forest Service

*View Recording*

Provides attendees details about the five scoring components, with specific examples, of the Trails Wilderness Stewardship Performance element. From this presentation, participants will gain a better understanding of the Trails element and deliverables needed to improve element scores.

Return to Wednesday’s Agenda
Dr. Troy Hall will present on the legislative process involved in the passage of the Wilderness Act to explore how “outstanding opportunities” and its parts were historically understood. Specifically, Dr. Hall will dissect the parts of the phrase “outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation” (from Section 2[c] of the Wilderness Act) through an examination of how the terms “solitude,” “rugged,” “primitive,” and “unconfined” were represented and likely understood by participants in the wilderness bill hearings.

This session will review the Wilderness Act prohibitions, exceptions to them and special provisions.

Provides attendees details about the five scoring components, with specific examples, of the Opportunities for Solitude Wilderness Stewardship Performance element. From this presentation, participants will gain a better understanding of the Opportunities for Solitude element and deliverables needed to improve element scores.
Trail Management Objectives on the Trail: An Introduction to the Backend of Trail Work

**View Recording**

This session will review Trail Management Objectives (TMO) in the context of field work and accomplishment reporting. The goal is to explain some of the national standardization of our trails system while acknowledging local variation. It is also meant to connect what field workers are doing on the ground with the bigger picture of trail system management. If you are novice to trail work, it will be helpful for you to take the Trail Maintenance Basics for Field Staff prior to attending this session.

Leave No Trace Outdoor Skills & Ethics – Introductory

**View Recording**

This course provides an overview of Leave No Trace (LNT) principles that protect the outdoors while minimizing our impacts to the land, soil, vegetation, water, wildlife, cultural resources, and other visitors. Participants will learn about LNT guidelines to practice, promote, and share whether in the backcountry, front country, your favorite local parks, and natural areas or in your everyday life. Participants will also be introduced to programs and resources of the LNT Center for Outdoor Ethics and ways to get more involved. Lastly, the course will cover LNT recommendations to keep ourselves, our communities, and our outdoor spaces safe and healthy during COVID-19.
**Wilderness Character Monitoring – Support & Resources**

3:30-4:50 pm

- **Wilderness Character Monitoring – Support & Resources**
  - Julie King
    - National WCM Program Manager
    - USDA Forest Service
  - Kaitlin de Varona
    - Program Manager & WCM Team Leader
    - Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards
  - Drew Lindsey
    - Data Service Specialist
    - USDA Forest Service
  - Jim Edmonds
    - Central Data Analyst
    - USDA Forest Service
  - Mike Smith
    - WCM Team Leader
    - Society for Wilderness Stewardship
  - Portia Jelinek
    - Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers NRM Account Manager
    - USDA Forest Service

**View Recording**

An introduction to the USDA Forest Service Wilderness Character Monitoring (WCM) Central Team roles and responsibilities as well as a look at resources available to staff working on wilderness character monitoring.

**Happy Hour – Movie Night**

5:00-8:00 pm

- **Happy Hour – Movie Night “The Dark Divide”**
  - David Cross
    - Actor
  - Debra Messing
    - Actor
  - Tom Putnam
    - Producer
  - Dr. Robert Michael Pyle
    - Lepidopterist, writer, teacher, & founder of the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

**Trailer**

“*The Dark Divide*” is based on the true story of renowned butterfly expert Dr. Robert Pyle’s (David Cross) perilous 1995 journey across one of America’s largest undeveloped wildlands. At the urging of his dying wife Thea (Debra Messing), the shy author finds himself in over his head on an epic, life-changing expedition through Washington’s Gifford Pinchot National Forest in search of new species of butterflies. Over the course of his six-week adventure Pyle battles self-doubt, the grueling trail, and the people and creatures who call this forest home. And, somewhere deep in the heart of The Dark Divide, he makes a discovery that challenges everything he knows about the natural world. Based on the book “*Where Bigfoot Walks: Crossing the Dark Divide*” by Robert Michael Pyle.

**Rent or Purchase Movie for Viewing Online**

*Post movie screening panel discussion intentionally not recorded*
THURSDAY, MAY 27TH

Coffee Hour – Topic Breakouts

Jason Taylor
Director
Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute
USDA Forest Service

Adam Hanson
NAWPA Facilitator & Manager of Conservation Programs
The WILD Foundation

Hanna Öllös
Carpathian Region & Wilderness Specialist
European Wilderness Society

Dylan McCoy
Lead Wilderness Ranger
McKenzie River Ranger District
Willamette National Forest
USDA Forest Service

Wilderness Research - This session will be an informal discussion, focused on addressing questions from attendees about the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute, the use of science to support Wilderness or other public lands stewardship, science careers at resource management agencies, and other questions about research related to Wilderness. [View Recording]

International & Global Initiatives – Learn about various initiatives that are building global movements to protect wild places and rivers including updates on the World Wilderness Congress, international wilderness guidelines, rewilding projects, and inclusivity in the wilderness culture. [View Recording]

Using "Field Maps" Applications in Wilderness Management - Quick introduction to getting a GIS account, then talking about Field Maps mobile application, how it works, how it's been applied to Wilderness Management, it's capacity and limitations, lessons learned, and time for Q&A. Outcome is a better understanding of Field Maps and how it may be a tool folks can use to track management data. [View Recording]

Crosscut Saws III

Dave Haberl
Crosscut Saw Instructor and Evaluator
Pre-Sale Forester, Rochester Ranger District
Green Mountain & Finger Lakes National Forests
USDA Forest Service

Day three will cover use and maintenance of the saw, ergonomics in using the saw, saw types and handle types
The Sustainable Camping & Trail Management Toolbox

**Resources**

View Recording

This presentation will discuss the use-impact relationship and its implications for managing visitor use to minimize resource impacts. Management begins by developing a sustainable infrastructure of trails and campsites so we will discuss the most influential attributes that make these features sustainable and how maintenance can enhance their sustainability. Next we will discuss visitor use management options, such as camping management options (dispersed, established site, and designated site), trail management options (pairing type of use to trails that are sustainable for each use), and when redistributing or limiting visitor use is necessary. Finally, we will discuss the role of visitor education and Leave No Trace practices.

Introduction to “This is Who We Are”

View Recording

Learn about the USDA Forest Service’s “This Is Who We Are” program with engagement and reflection around the agency’s mission, purpose, and core values. There will be facilitated discussion intended to help participants envision how they and others deliver on the Forest Service’s mission and core values. All Forest Service employees AND partners are welcome.

Field Leadership Development: Giving Leader’s Intent and Field Briefings

View Recording

How to give and seek Leader’s Intent in moving and dynamic situations, give Field Briefings, and facilitate After Action Reviews.
Lessons from the Field – The Central Cascades Wilderness Permit System

View Recording

The Central Cascades Wilderness Permit System is a joint project between the Deschutes and Willamette National Forests to limit entry on both day and overnight use within three Wilderness areas in order to protect them for current and future generations. This presentation gives a brief history of the project and what the system looks like as it is implemented in May of 2021.

Minimum Requirement Analysis/Minimum Requirements Decision Guide (MRDG)

View Recording

Overview of Minimum Requirement Analysis, where it comes from, why we do it, and tips for how to complete.

To Permit or Not to Permit: Addressing Visitor Capacity

View Recording

Have you ever thought to yourself, "What is visitor capacity and how do I determine the visitor capacity of an area?" or "How would I even go about addressing visitor capacity?" or "A permit system would solve everything!" This session will provide an introduction to visitor capacity and will provide some useful tools and a framework that will help you navigate the complex world of visitor capacity.
THURSDAY, MAY 27th

3:30-4:50 pm

**Backpacking & Backcountry Nutrition**

Katie Currier  
Masters Candidate  
University of Idaho  
Former Program Manager  
Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards

Jessica Satterfield  
Conservation Education Specialist  
Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests  
USDA Forest Service

Carol A. Hennessey  
Recreation, Trails, Wilderness, Outfitter & Guide & Rivers Program Manager, Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, USDA Forest Service

*All Times in Eastern Time*

**View Recording**

Katie has been Crew Member, Crew Leader, Field Operations Coordinator and Program Manager for backcountry programs in virtually every landscape across our public lands and she will share the what and how of packing your pack for extended time in the wilderness. Jesse has led and prepared crews for extended hitches in the backcountry and has established some best practices for preparing for feeding diverse (and hungry) crews, with critical decisions coming before ever leaving the workstation.

3:30-4:50 pm

**Leave No Trace Outdoor Skills & Ethics – Teaching Tools for Responsible Recreation**

Subaru/Leave No Trace Team:

Brice Esplin

Erin Collier

*View Recording*

This course is designed for park and recreation staff, outdoor educators, and guides who will gain skills and knowledge to incorporate Leave No Trace (LNT) into their work as well as teach LNT to all experience levels and in varied environments. Participants will receive an overview of LNT principles, practices, and ethics, including both the how’s and whys behind the importance of practicing LNT. Participants will learn about LNT guidelines to practice, promote, and share whether in the backcountry, front country, your favorite local parks or in your everyday life. Instructors will cover tips, tools, and best practices for effectively communicating and teaching LNT to others (both online and in-person), including interactive activities and techniques such as Authority of the Resource. They will also review programs and resources of the LNT for Outdoor Ethics and ways to get more involved. Lastly, participants will learn about LNT recommendations to keep ourselves, our communities, and our outdoor spaces safe and healthy during COVID-19.

**Note:** Participants who are new to LNT or have not had LNT training in recent years are encouraged to participate in the Wednesday, May 26th Introductory session or complete the self-paced (30-45 minute) LNT Online Awareness Course in advance.
Wilderness Stewardship Performance – Agency Management Actions

Provide attendees details about the five scoring components, with specific examples, of the Agency Management Actions Wilderness Stewardship Performance element. From this presentation, participants will gain a better understanding of the Agency Management Actions element and deliverables needed to improve element scores.

Resources:
- 2 pt - Multiple Forest – Forest Supervisor Untrammeled Letter
- 2 pt - Suggestions for Forest Supervisor Untrammeled Quality Letter
- 4 pt - Trammeling Meeting Recommendations
- 6 pt - Agency Trammeling Action Tracker Instructions
- 6 pt - Agency Trammeling Action Tracker
- List of Potential Agency Trammeling Actions

Happy Hour – Regional Virtual Campfire Chats

Northern Region - northeastern Washington, northern Idaho, Montana, North Dakota & northwestern South Dakota
Rocky Mountain Region - Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas
Southwestern Region - Arizona & New Mexico
Intermountain Region - Utah, Nevada, western Wyoming, and southern Idaho
Pacific Southwest Region - California, Hawaii, and Pacific Islands
Pacific Northwest Region - Washington and Oregon
Southern Region - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North & South Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Puerto Rico
Eastern Region – Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Wisconsin, Vermont, West Virginia,
Alaska Region - Alaska

Regional Virtual Campfire Chats intentionally not recorded

Join a breakout room based on your location to participate in regional presentations, group discussions, and project showcases. The goal is to build relationships that hopefully result in some synergy moving forward on projects or future regional training events.
FRIDAY, MAY 28TH

11:00-11:50 am

Coffee Hour –

Message from the USDA Forest Service Chief

Micro Mentoring

Vicki Christiansen
Chief
USDA Forest Service

Colter Pence
Wilderness, Wild & Scenic Rivers
and Trails Program Manager
Flathead National Forest
USDA Forest Service

Prior-year in person trainings slideshow View Recording

Message from the USDA Forest Service Chief: Chief Christiansen will be sharing some thoughts as we begin to wrap up the week with our last day of sessions. Be sure to join us for this special message. View Recording

Micro Mentoring: Get connected with a National Wilderness Skills Mentor to schedule for a micro-mentoring session. Micro-mentoring is typically 1 short (30-45 minute) session where a mentor and mentoree discuss perspectives, career goals, leadership, and personal challenges. Mentorees are encouraged to share with the mentoree before the mentoring session occurs a resume and a brainstorm of things they would like to discuss with the mentor. We will use the session at NWSI to match mentors and mentorees, and coach mentorees on how to be best prepared for the mentoring session they will then schedule. View Recording Mentor List

12:00-1:20 pm

Crosscut Saws IV

Pete Duncan
National Saw Program Manager
USDA Forest Service

Dave Haberl
Crosscut Saw Instructor and Evaluator
Pre-Sale Forester, Rochester Ranger District
Green Mountain & Finger Lakes National Forests
USDA Forest Service

Bill Hodge
Executive Director
Bob Marshall
Wilderness Foundation

View Recording

Day four will be a tool overview, sharpening of the saw, and a recap of the week.

Return to Friday’s Agenda
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00-12:50 pm</td>
<td>Funding Programs</td>
<td>Randy Welsh, Executive Director, National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance</td>
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<td>Kerry Morse, Conservation Awards Manager, National Forest Foundation</td>
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<td>Sharon Seim, Alaska Region Wilderness &amp; Trails Program Manager, USDA Forest Service</td>
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<td>Brenda Yankoviak, National Trail Program Manager, USDA Forest Service</td>
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<td>Dusty Vaughn, Specialist, Wilderness and Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers, USDA Forest Service</td>
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<td>We will hear from a panel of guests, all of whom have a connection to funding programs specific for wilderness and trail stewardship.</td>
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<td>1:00-1:50 pm</td>
<td>Lessons from the Field – Overcoming Challenges and Continuous Improvement in Wyoming’s Snake River Canyon</td>
<td>David Cernicek, M.S., Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers, Special Uses, Partnerships, &amp; River Ranger, Bridger-Teton National Forest, USDA Forest Service</td>
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<td>Visitor use reached over 200,000 boaters a season in the Snake River Canyon during the 1990's. While the quality of the river experience was dropping, conflicts were on the rise and stakeholders demanded change. Please join for a discussion of initial interventions and fine tuned that has followed.</td>
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<td>1:00-1:50 pm</td>
<td>Wilderness Stewardship Performance</td>
<td>Eric Sandeno, Information Manager, Wilderness and Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers, USDA Forest Service</td>
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<td>Dusty Vaughn, Specialist, Wilderness and Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers, USDA Forest Service</td>
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<td>Provides attendees background of the Wilderness Stewardship Performance (WSP) measure, results from the first six years, accomplishment trends, and funding opportunities. From this presentation, participants will gain a better understanding of WSP, where to find resources, and possible funding opportunities. (Note: This class is also presented on Monday, May 24th at 2:00-2:50 pm)</td>
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View Recording

Pack Stock II

This session will demonstrate and compare methods of packing the three pack saddles most commonly used in the United States: sawbuck, Salmon River, and decker. Watch demonstrations and join packers for what is sure to be a lively discussion comparing the advantages of each saddle.

Wilds & Scenic Rivers Coalition

The mission of the Wild & Scenic Rivers Coalition is to protect and defend existing and potential Wild & Scenic Rivers and broaden the movement for their conservation by raising awareness about their value in terms of building greater capacity for river organizations to be more effective in advocating for Wild & Scenic protections; protecting and defending designated and potential Wild & Scenic Rivers and support the non-profit and agency river professionals who steward them, and improving communications amongst river organizations and with the public about the value of Wild & Scenic Rivers.

Wilderness Character Monitoring

Introduction to wilderness character, the 5 wilderness character qualities, and an overview of the monitoring framework.
FRIDAY, MAY 28TH
2:00-2:50 pm
Wilderness Stewardship Performance -Round Robin

Eric Sandeno
Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers Information Manager, USDA Forest Service

Nancy Taylor
Pacific Northwest Wilderness, Wild & Scenic Rivers, Cong. Designated Areas, USDA Forest Service

Kelly Pearson
Wilderness Tech. Hidden Springs & Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District, Shawnee National Forest, USDA FS

Christina Boston
Pacific Southwest Region Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers USDA Forest Service

Lee Johnson
Archaeologist Superior National Forest, USDA Forest Service

Breakout rooms not recorded - please view the following recordings from previous webinars:

Education   Invasive Species   Motorized Equipment/Mechanical Transport Use Authorizations   Cultural Resources

Provide participants a quick 15-minute overview of elements as well as example deliverables associated with each. Participants will gain a better understanding of element presented and deliverables needed to improve scores.

3:00-3:50 pm
What We Learned

Bill Hodge
Executive Director
Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation

View Recording

This session will take participants through a review of what was the 2021 National Wilderness Skills Institute. With a focus on having fun and making sure this community of practice stays connected we will provide some highlights from the week.

4:00-4:50 pm
Happy Hour – Take-Aways & Next Steps

NWSI Core Team

View Recording    View “End Credits”

This week wasn’t what we wanted to do...or was it? We all came into this knowing that this training session was a needed replacement for what we would have rather done in person and within our local landscape. But what did work about the week and is there a need for some bigger connection in future years? Let’s spend one last zoom session together and toast to the wilderness and wild & scenic river adventures ahead!!
Thank You!

What a wild week!

Thank you all for participating in the first ever Virtual National Wilderness Skills Institute. During the week, we are celebrating Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers, connecting with each other, and learning together – exploring our heritage, understanding the beginnings of public lands, moving toward a more inclusive landscape, and expanding our knowledge in Traditional Skills, Visitor Use Management, Wild & Scenic Rivers, Wilderness fundamentals and advanced Wilderness courses.

We hope the week is meaningful to you, that there will be lasting professional network connections carried forward into the future, and that you build new skills that will guide your stewardship of these special and uniquely designated lands and waters.

As we look ahead to many new challenges on our ever more popular public lands, we wish you all the best in your next wilderness and river adventures – our time together is being well spent this week.

Thank you for investing your time and energy to join us in this community of practice - keep in touch, wild friends!

NATIONAL WILDERNESS SKILLS INSTITUTE
CORE TEAM