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| NWSA ChairAndrew DownsAppalachian Trail Conservancy NWSA Vice ChairKatie CurrierSouthern Appalachian Wilderness StewardsNWSA SecretaryAnne SentzAppalachian Trail ConservancyNWSA TreasurerVacantNWSA DirectorsDave CantrellPoudre Wilderness VolunteersSandy ComptonFriends of Scotchman PeaksRandy RasmussenBack Country Horsemen of AmericaIan NelsonPacific Crest Trail AssociationZack BumgarnerNew Mexico Wilderness AllianceAnn Baker-EasleyVolunteers for Outdoor ColoradoDavid KallenbachAbsaroka Beartooth Wilderness FoundationChelsea PhillippeMichael SplainVentana Wilderness AllianceNWSA Executive DirectorRandy WelshNWSAPO Box 752Bend OR 97709 | 8.21.2020For Immediate Release:**The National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance in partnership with the Society of Wilderness Stewardship is pleased to announce the creation of the National Wilderness Stewardship Awards.**The wilderness stewardship community is filled with ordinary people doing extraordinary work in some of America’s most amazing and remote landscapes. Unfortunately, their work often goes unnoticed, leaving Wilderness to suffer as a result. By showing people their work is important now, we can build a more sustainable wilderness stewardship community for the future. This awards program will allow organizations and partners to nominate a steward, organization, or Federal land agency whom they feel has demonstrated outstanding ability in the following categories:* **Wilderness Rising Leader Award**
	+ To recognize young wilderness stewards who have demonstrated outstanding potential to lead the stewardship community into the future.
* **Wilderness Stewardship Champion of the Year Award**
	+ To recognize an individual wilderness steward that has demonstrated outstanding ability to steward their wilderness areas.
* **Wilderness Stewardship Organization of the Year Award**
	+ To recognize a wilderness stewardship organization that has demonstrated outstanding ability to steward their wilderness areas.
* **Wilderness Agency Partner of the Year Award**
	+ To recognize an agency employee or unit which has demonstrated outstanding ability to work with wilderness stewardship organizations to improve the stewardship of their wilderness areas.

Nominations will be accepted August 21st through September 30th, with the awards being presented at the National Wilderness Workshop this October.Additional information about these awards, including application materials, may be found on the NWSA website at <http://www.wildernessalliance.org/awards>.Questions about the awards program may be addressed to Randy Welsh, Executive Director, NWSA at randy@wildernessalliance.org or by calling 801-808-2167. |