



**National Wilderness Workshop
November 15 - 18
The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center
Roanoke Virginia**

Request for Proposals

Proposals Due: March 1, 2021

Return to: randy@wildernessalliance.org

The National Wilderness Workshop is the premier gathering of volunteer wilderness stewards, agency staff, academics and advocates to learn and share about wilderness issues, practices, and policies. The Workshop is Co-hosted by the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance and the Society of Wilderness Stewardship.

The next National Wilderness Workshop is scheduled for November 15-18, 2021 in Roanoke Virginia. The tentative schedule has an Opening Reception and Poster Session the evening of Monday the 15th, plenary and concurrent sessions on Tuesday/Wednesday, 16th and 17th, and Thursday Field Trips on the 18th. An optional trip to Washington DC is also planned for November 18th through the 20th.

NWSA and SWS are requesting proposals for Workshop plenary and concurrent sessions that would be pertinent for our audience and this year's theme. A separate Poster Session RFP will be circulated in August/September for the Workshop.

The primary theme for 2021 NWW is:

**Advocating for Wilderness Stewardship: Tips, Tools, and Best Practices for
Wilderness Stewards to Advocate for the Wilderness Areas They Love**

The main focus of the Workshop will be the role of wilderness stewardship organizations advocating for stronger wilderness stewardship of existing areas of the National Wilderness Preservation System. We are seeking session proposals that explore:

Theme focus:

- The role of wilderness stewardship organizations in advocating for stronger wilderness stewardship: case studies and research
- Practical and replicable examples of wilderness advocacy by wilderness stewardship organizations



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- The practice and methods of Advocacy towards Congressional and Agency policy makers
- Stories about becoming wilderness steward advocates

The Workshop is also seeking a full complement of other wilderness pertinent topics including:

Justice – Equity – Diversity - Inclusiveness Issues

- Barriers to becoming steward advocates, especially for underserved populations.
- Stories about eliminating barriers to wilderness participation, especially by underserved populations
- How stewardship groups are reaching out to others to be more inclusive and add diversity to their memberships

General Wilderness Management and Science Topics

- The recreation economy and what it tells us about future trends in wilderness stewardship; how wilderness and trail resources add to community value and benefits
- The science of recreation use and how it ties to wilderness stewardship
- Recreation use in wilderness, especially along national scenic and historic trails
- Managing recreation use in wilderness, including stories about applying encounter monitoring, solitude monitoring and campsite inventory to address wilderness use issues. Case studies using stewardship organizations/partners is a plus.
- Citizen Science studies producing results that enable stronger advocacy for wilderness.

Wilderness Stewardship Partners (Organizations and Volunteers)

- Stories about managing successful volunteer operations
- Case studies on strengthening stewardship organizations and expanding advocacy efforts
- Tips and practices for fundraising for stewardship advocacy
- Non-Profit organization skill building

Proposals will be grouped into one of up to five Concurrent tracks:

- Wilderness Science – addressing research and science issues
- Wilderness Management Issues – addressing management policies and implementation of the 2020 Wilderness Visions
- Wilderness Partner/Volunteers – addressing volunteer wilderness stewardship partnership issues
- Wilderness Culture – addressing issues around diversity, inclusiveness and equity among wilderness stewardship groups and wilderness recreation users
- Wilderness Campfire Talks – addressing practical solutions to common wilderness issues in an interactive format (this is a new category to cover topics like: cooking for large volunteer groups,



dutch oven tips, managing campfire talks, incorporating llamas or stock into your volunteer program, etc....)

The audience for the National Wilderness Workshop is diverse and includes: Wilderness Stewardship Volunteers, Wilderness Stewardship NGO Staff, Federal Agency Staff, Academics, and Students. Sessions that may appeal to a wide audience are desirable.

Based on past attendance we would expect plenary sessions to be 150-200 people in size, with concurrent sessions ranging from 30 - 60 people.

Plenary sessions include all participants and will typically run for 90 minutes. Plenary sessions may include keynote speakers, panels, and multiple participants. They may include time for small group discussion and questions and answers. Concurrent sessions are scheduled in 90 minute blocks with the potential for 1 - 90 minute session, 2 - 45 minute session, or 3 – 30 minute sessions. Each session includes time for presentations and question and answers. Interactive workshop formats are encouraged with more dialogue and small group discussion. Sessions that engage audience participants around a topic or case examples with opportunity for group sharing are encouraged.

It is also highly likely that many, if not all, sessions will be offered virtually to external remote audiences. Proposals that can be streamed to a virtual audience have a higher chance of success.

Interested speakers/panelists should fill out and return the speaker proposal by March 1, 2021.

Caveat: Given the current uncertainty about Covid-19 vaccines and travel restrictions, final decisions on whether to host the workshop in person will be deferred until June 2021. Should Covid-19 issues prevent an in-person workshop, a virtual workshop format will be pursued. Please note in your proposal whether you would consider giving your presentation in a virtual format.

A NWW Planning Committee member may contact you for additional information about your proposal during the review process. Final decisions on selected proposals should be made by May 1, 2021.

Note: Speakers are generally expected to cover their own cost of attendance at the National Wilderness Workshop. Speakers participating only in their own session will be registered for free and will receive a lunch ticket for that day of the Workshop. A discount on registration will be offered to presenters and panelists who are participating in the entire Workshop and/or meal functions.

Questions about the RFP or the Workshop can be addressed to Randy Welsh, Executive Director, NWSA at randy@wildernessalliance.org or 801-8080-2167.

Thank you for your proposals.



**NATIONAL WILDERNESS
STEWARDSHIP
ALLIANCE**

Building a Wilderness Stewardship Community

2021 National Wilderness Workshop

Speaker Proposal

Return by March 1, 2021 to: randy@wildernessalliance.org

Contact Name	
Contact Phone	
Contact email	
Contact Affiliation or Membership	<i>(name of University or group, if representing an organization)</i>
Presentation Title	
Abstract	<i>(no more than 500 words describing the topic, session objectives and outcomes)</i>
Speaker(s)	<i>(include all Speakers or Panelists, including affiliation)</i>
Session Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Plenary Session <input type="checkbox"/> Concurrent Session
Approximate Length <i>(includes Q and A)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> 90 minutes <input type="checkbox"/> 60 minutes <input type="checkbox"/> 45 minutes <input type="checkbox"/> 30 minutes
If Concurrent Session, which track?	<input type="checkbox"/> Wilderness Science <input type="checkbox"/> Wilderness Mgt Issues <input type="checkbox"/> Wilderness Culture <input type="checkbox"/> Wilderness Stewards <input type="checkbox"/> Campfire Talks
Session Needs?	<input type="checkbox"/> Computer Projector <input type="checkbox"/> Screen <input type="checkbox"/> Microphone <input type="checkbox"/> Flip Charts <input type="checkbox"/> Computer <input type="checkbox"/> Other Visual Aids (specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____
Preferred Seating Arrangement?	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater <input type="checkbox"/> Round Tables (small groups) <input type="checkbox"/> Open Space <input type="checkbox"/> Square Other (specify) _____
Describe how the session would engage both live and virtual audiences?	