

As of July 11, 2021

National Wilderness Workshop

Washington DC Advocates Trip

Want to take your wilderness stewardship advocacy to the next level? Not sure of what constitutes lobbying? Ready to take the leap and contact your local agency? The National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance is offering a series of Wilderness Stewardship Advocacy webinars from July – November as a precursor to the Washington DC Advocacy Trip as part of this year's National Wilderness Workshop. This webinar series is open to everyone who has an interest in learning more about how to appropriately advocate for wilderness stewardship with Agencies, Congressional Staff and Members.

Offered over 5 months, these webinars will cover the basics of wilderness stewardship advocacy, explain how to interact effectively with agency and congressional staff, how to meet with a Member of Congress, and the rules separating advocacy from lobbying. Taught by wilderness advocates with year's of experience this is an easy way to expand your organization's portfolio and effectiveness.

The list of instructors includes:

Bill Hodge, Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation
Anders Reynolds, Southern Environmental Law Center
Andrew Downs, Appalachian Trail Conservancy
Tim Mahoney, retired, Pew Trusts
Sue Spear, retired, past Director of Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers, USDA Forest Service
Joe Reddan, retired, past Legislative Affairs Specialist, USDA Forest Service
Brendan Mysliwicz, Appalachian Trail Conservancy
Mark Larabee, Pacific Crest Trail Association
John Pomeranz, JD., Attorney at Law
Randy Welsh, National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance

Here are the details of each webinar.

1st Webinar –

10:00 am PT July 19th – Introduction to Wilderness Stewardship Advocacy (90 minutes)

Andrew Downs, Tim Mahoney, Anders Reynolds, Bill Hodge, Randy Welsh

- What is Wilderness Stewardship Advocacy - Tim
 - Why Advocacy is Important
 - Who can Do It
- What is Planned and How to Participate - Randy
 - Schedule of Webinar Trainings and Materials
- Examples of Stewardship Advocacy – Bill, Andrew
- Basic Rules and Reg's of Advocacy - Anders

- IRS Reg's
- Lobbying Definitions
- Why Stewardship Advocacy is not Lobbying

2nd Webinar –

10:00 am PT August 16th – Wilderness Stewardship Advocacy 101 – Agency Relations (2 hours)

Bill Hodge, Sue Spear, Joe Reddan, Andrew Downs, Anders Reynolds, Brendan Mysliwiec, Mark Larabee, John Pomeranz

- Who is Involved with Stewardship Advocacy? – Can we Advocate? – How do we Advocate?
 - Local Agency – Bill
 - DC Agency – Sue
 - DC Legislative Affairs – Joe
 - Congressional Advocacy
 - Field Offices – Andrew, Randy
 - DC Office – Anders, Brendan
 - Legislation – Anders
 - Appropriations – Brendan
 - Members – Anders, Andrew
 - Media Involvement – Mark
 - Seeking Buy-in from Participants - All
- Rules and Reg's of Advocacy – John
 - IRS Reg's
 - Lobbying Definitions
 - Recordkeeping
- Schedule in DC – Randy
- Preparing for the ASK – Randy

3rd Webinar –

10:00 am PT September 20th – Wilderness Stewardship Advocacy 201 – DC Relations

Bill Hodge, Anders Reynolds, Andrew Downs, Randy Welsh

- The How To Basics of Stewardship Advocacy – Bill, Andrew, Anders
 - Differences between Agency and Congress Advocacy
 - Who is involved in Congress – Contacts - Anders
 - How a Member Office is organized
 - Who to contact, what to expect
 - How to get a Member to a meeting
 - Who is involved in Agency Contacts – Andrew
 - Materials to be prepared - Randy
 - Talking Points
 - Position Papers
 - What is an ASK – Assignment to develop – Anders, Bill, Andrew
 - Legislation

- Policy Issues
- Program Issues

4th Webinar –

10:00 am PT October 18th – The ASK

Bill Hodge, Andrew Downs, Anders Reynolds, Randy Welsh

- Overview of the ASKS - Randy
- Making the ASK – Bill, Anders, Andrew
 - National vs Local
 - Positive Alternatives
 - Standing Firm vs Flexible
 - Platform and Assignments

5th Webinar –

10:00 am PT November 1st– PreTrip Preparation

Bill Hodge, Anders Reynolds, Andrew Downs, Randy Welsh

- How to Meet on the Hill
- Logistics for the Trip
- Final Review of ASKS
- Final Review of Materials to Share

At Workshop

- Protocols and Procedures for Meetings
- Review of all Materials
- Role-Play of different Scenarios

After the Workshop

- Review of whole process
- Feedback from sessions
- Potential Legislation
- Wilderness Week preparation for future

Wilderness Stewardship Advocacy Field Trip to Washington DC

Tentative Schedule – as of July 11, 2021

Thursday, November 18

| | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| 5:30 | Assemble at Train Station | |
| 6:00 – 11:30 | Train to DC | <i>Informal session on Advocacy tips</i> |
| 11:30 – 12:00 | Transition with Luggage | |
| 12:00 – 12:30 | Lunch | <i>Lunch at Sierra Club/Southern Environmental Law Center</i> |
| 1:00 – 2:00 | Meet with House Resources Committee Staff | <i>Brandon at Sierra Club/Southern Environmental Law Center</i> |
| 2:00 - 2:30 | Transition | |
| 2:30 – 3:30 | Personal Senate Visits | |
| 3:30 – 4:00 | Transition to House | |
| 4:00 – 5:00 | Personal House Visits | |
| 5:00 – 7:00 | Open House | |
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Friday, November 19

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| 8:00 | Assemble in Hotel Lobby | |
| 8:30 – 9:30 | Meet with FS Leadership | <i>Yates Building</i> |
| 9:30 – 10:00 | Transition | |
| 10:00 – 11:00 | Meet with Senate Natural Resources Committee Staff | <i>Bryan Petit</i> |
| 11:00 – 12:00 | Meet with Senate Agriculture Committee Staff | <i>Sean Babbington</i> |
| 12:00 -1:00 | Transition/Lunch | |
| 1:00 – 2:00 | House Appropriations Staff | |
| 2:00 – 3:00 | Additional House/Senate Visits | |
| 3:00 – 4:00 | Additional House/Senate Visits | |
| 4:00 – 5:00 | Additional House/Senate Visits | |
| 5:00 – 5:30 | Transition/Travel | |
| 5:30 – 7:00 ish | Debrief | <i>At DC Watering hole</i> |
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Key Contacts

- Wilderness Society Leadership
- American Hiking Society Leadership
- House Resources Staff
- Senate Resources Staff
- House Agriculture staff
- Senate Agriculture Staff
- House Appropriations Staff
- Senate Appropriations Staff
- Individual House and Senate Members and Staff
- Agency Leadership
 - FS – Chief and NFS, Director WWSR, Director RHVR
 - DOI – NPS and BLM Directors, Section Chiefs