NWSA Financials 2011-2014









Administrative and Fundraising

National Conference

Projects and Programs

Note: In 2010 NWSA was under the fiscal sponsorship of American Hiking Society.

EIN: 300656123 IRS 990s 2011-2013 available online

Free Resource Available Online www.WildernessAlliance.org

- **♦** View a comprehensive list of state, regional, and national volunteer wilderness stewardship groups.
- ▲ Access our wilderness stewardship toolkit containing a wealth of stewardship information and resources:
 - ▲ Fundraising tips and tools, including success stories from NWSA partners, the ins and outs of digital fundraising, and information on establishing agreements with agency partners.
 - ▲ Volunteer recruitment and retention resources, including "Frequently Asked Questions About Volunteer Recruitment" and "Recognizing Your Very Important Volunteers," with advice and real-life examples from organization gained through years of experience.
 - ▲ Shoulder to Shoulder: Partnership Case Studies to help you learn out about the challenges other stewardship groups face with their agency partners, tips on how to work through these challenges, and understand how the outcomes have benefited both sides.
 - From PDFs and PowerPoints to videos view valuable information presented at NWSA's three conferences and National Wilderness Conference pre-training.
- And many other great resources for nonprofit groups, land management agencies, and volunteer wilderness stewards!

Resources <u>Exclusively</u> Available to Partner Organizations

- Access to exclusive federal and private grant funding opportunities for boots on the ground wilderness stewardship projects:
 - ▲ With applications being accepted in early 2015, our new grant program funds volunteer stewardship projects for NWSA-member organizations partnering with one of the four federal land management agencies.
- Receive **one-on-one support from successful wilderness stewardship organizations** through NWSA's network to help you address your organization's challenges including guidance and coaching while navigating the 501(c)3 process for new groups.

Fifth Anniversary Edition:

Looking Back, Heading Forward

In March 2010, wilderness stewardship leaders, land management agency staff, and volunteer stewards came together in Colorado with a dream: The dream of an alliance of wilderness stewardship organizations. An alliance that could share ideas and experiences, that could pool resources and pinpoint areas in need of caring stewards.

Almost five years later, that dream is a reality. The National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance is committed to serving the National Wilderness Preservation System through resources and toolkits, mentoring and facilitating, and funding opportunities.

The mission of NWSA is to see each designated wilderness area and other protected public lands have a dedicated, caring stewardship group working in partnership with their local land management agency.

Together with our member organizations, agency partners, and supporters, NWSA has been able to provide so much to America's public lands.

STEWARDSHIP A L L I A N C E

NATIONAL WILDERNESS

Building a Wilderness Stewardship Community www.wildernessalliance.org



In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, NWSA member groups had the opportunity to build a trailhead kiosk in partnership with local youth corps and Forest Service partners. This program was made possible by funding from the U.S. Forest Service. Grants of up to \$5,000 were awarded to NWSA partner organizations to pay for construction materials, staff time and other event costs. This project realizes a key goal of NWSA, which is to provide funding for local boots on the ground projects.

To 2015 ... and Beyond!

NWSA is excited to announce a new grant program to assist our partner organizations. **Grants of up to \$1,500 will be available to assist organizations with getting volunteer boots on the ground in their wilderness area.** We will begin accepting applications in early 2015 and notify recipients by late spring. This program is available exclusively for NWSA-member organizations partnering with any of the four federal land management agencies. NWSA hopes to continue this program through 2016 and beyond as a sustainable, reliable resource for boots on the ground funding for our partner organizations, year after year.

To make a gift to the grant fund, please contact Darcy@Wilderness Alliance.org.



STEWARDSHIP ALLIANCE

P.O. Box 5293 Reno, Nevada 89513

www.wildernessalliance.org

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Message from the Chair



Dear Friends,

Over the past five years, I have had the opportunity to work with the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance and its member organizations, to watch this wonderful organization grow from just an idea to a national nonprofit organization with an annual conference, granting programs, and so many resources to offer fledgling and "old dog" wilderness stewardship organizations.

Without supporters and wilderness champions like you, this would not have been possible.

In this anniversary report, we summarize the service that the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance has been able to provide in support of our National Wilderness Preservation System and America's protected public lands for the past five years. From mentoring new stewardship organizations to partnering with the U.S. Forest Service for our Wilderness 50 Kiosk Project grant program, there has been so much accomplished in just less than five years.

Grateful as I am, there are hurdles ahead. As land management agency budgets continue to be slashed, the reliance on volunteer wilderness stewardship groups continues to grow to ensure our wilderness areas and protected public lands are maintained. We must strive to foster leadership amongst younger generations, and develop continuing generations of wilderness stewards to care for this spectacular American resource.

Together, we have made important progress and accomplished so much. But our work is not yet done, and I hope you will consider a year-end gift to support this vital effort.

From all of us, best wishes for happy holidays and a prosperous—and WILD—new year!

For the wild,

Shaaron Netherton, Board Chair

The NWSA: 2010....

March 2010: More than 30 wilderness stewards, including agency personnel, nonprofit staff, and volunteers, came together to share a vision for an organization that would connected all the individual groups stewarding wilderness and conservation areas, forming the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance.

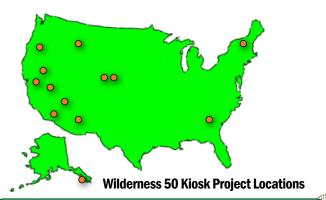
April 2012: NWSA facilitates a workshop in Buena Vista, Colorado, to lay structure for a new stewardship group, the Upper Arkansas Wilderness Volunteers.



October 2012:

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The second annual NWSA conference was held in Asheville, North Carolina, with a volunteer stewardship trip into the Linville Gorge Wilderness.



April 2014: NWSA begins its first granting program in partnership with the Forest Service. Recipients work with their Forest Service partners and local youth corps to build a trailhead kiosk and hold an event celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act.

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Summer 2014: The Friends of the Central Cascades is formed with mentoring from NWSA.





March 2011: The first NWSA conference was held in Las Vegas, Nevada, with more than 120 attendees.

June 2013: The Upper Arkansas Wilderness Volunteers hosts a gathering of more than 100 wilderness stewards with NWSA-led workshops.

Spring 2013: NWSA introduces a comprehensive list of wilderness stewardship groups across the nation, allowing volunteers to connect with groups and for the wilderness stewardship community to pinpoint areas in need of a dedicated group.

October 2013: Wilderness stewards from across the country met in Big Bear, California, for the third annual NWSA conference amidst a government shutdown.



October 2014: NWSA co-hosts a two-day pre-conference training in conjunction with National Wilderness Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with Society for Wilderness Stewardship and the Arthur Carhart Wilderness Training Center, attended by more than 100 wilderness professionals.