Conference Location

The National Wilderness Conference will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on October 15–19, 2014, at the Hyatt Regency hotel downtown. Albuquerque, a distinctive locale surrounded by beautiful Wilderness, is a place that offers a unique multi-cultural perspective of the wild experience and is located on historic Route 66.

Participants

Approximately 1,000–1,500 participants from all states in the country are expected to attend this momentous event, from individual Wilderness enthusiasts to federal agency and academic professionals, staffers and volunteers with Wilderness advocacy organizations and stewardship groups, scientists, youth, and representatives from diverse communities.

Sponsorship and Exhibiting

Sponsoring the National Wilderness Conference is an opportunity to shape the future of Wilderness preservation and stewardship. Your support will inspire and commit tomorrow’s Wilderness advocates, stewards, and policy leaders to preserve and protect Wilderness lands for the next 50 years and beyond.

Sponsorship packages honoring historic figures in the Wilderness movement provide conference passes for sponsor representatives; online, social media, email, print, and on-site sponsor recognition; and exhibit space during the conference as part of the Wilderness Celebration Exhibition.

Zahniser ($50,000) Marshall ($10,000)
Leopold ($25,000) Murie ($5,000)
Carhart ($15,000)

Exhibit space in the exhibit hall and at the ‘Get Wild’ Festival can be purchased independent of sponsorship. Check our website for rates and forms.

To learn more about sponsorship packages and exhibitor opportunities, please contact:

Lee Lambert, Executive Director
Society for Wilderness Stewardship
llambert@wildernessstewardship.org
303.670.1642
National Wilderness Conference

The 50th Anniversary National Wilderness Conference will be the culmination of year-long events and activities that highlight America’s Wilderness heritage and focus on future stewardship of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

This conference will be a multi-day event including presentations, panel discussions, exhibits, field trips, skill-development workshops, a public outdoor festival, film gala, and opportunities to network and share ideas, celebrate recent successes, share lessons learned, and discuss emerging challenges in Wilderness stewardship. Audience-specific pre-conference trainings will take place in the days leading up to the conference opening.

Conference Goals

• To provide a forum for discussing growing challenges to Wilderness values while deepening and enabling participants’ engagement in Wilderness stewardship in a time of unprecedented environmental and social change;

• To celebrate the achievement of a half-century of permanent protection for America’s wild places.

Conference Tracks and Sessions

Presentations and panels will follow six primary tracks:

• **History:** Sessions will encompass diverse interpretations of our Wilderness frontier cultural heritage and its continued role in shaping our national character and identity.

• **Stewardship:** Sessions will encompass the responsible oversight and protection of Wilderness.

• **Education:** Sessions will encompass interpretation of and learning about Wilderness.

• **Experience:** Sessions will encompass the recreational, experiential, and spiritual realms of Wilderness.

• **Civic Engagement:** Sessions will encompass traditions and innovations of activism.

• **Science:** Sessions will encompass ecological and social sciences.

Many sessions will focus on the future stewardship of Wilderness and emerging issues that could not have been foreseen when the Wilderness Act became law. On topics from climate change to shifting demographics and lifestyles, these sessions will stimulate discussion and inform action. Programs will explore opportunities to enhance the relevance of Wilderness to young people and future generations of an increasingly diverse America.

Registration

Registration for the National Wilderness Conference includes participation in all sessions, plenary programs, receptions, poster session, exhibitor hall displays, and events including the closing day ‘Get Wild’ Festival, which is hosted outdoors and is also open to the public. The registration fee is $350, with a 1/2 off discount offered for student, seniors, and seasonal employees. Pre-conference training, field trips, and tickets to the People’s Wilderness Film Gala are not included in the registration fee but can be purchased along with conference registration.

Visit our website to register online.

Wilderness50

The National Wilderness Conference is being planned by the 50th Anniversary National Wilderness Planning Team (Wilderness50), a diverse coalition of non-profit organizations, government agencies, and academic institutions—including the Pew Charitable Trusts, Wilderness Society, Sierra Club, Back Country Horsemen of America, Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, Conservation Lands Foundation, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, and National Park Service.

Albuquerque’s popular Sandia Mountain Wilderness, a scenic backdrop for the National Wilderness Conference, by New Mexico Wilderness Alliance