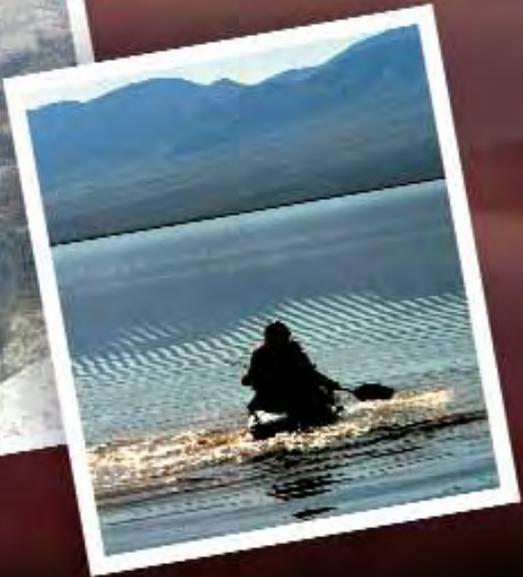




Wilderness!



Wilderness . . .

“A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements to human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

. . . wilderness areas shall be devoted to the public purposes of recreational, scenic, scientific, educational, conservation, and historical use.”

The Wilderness Act, 1964



The View From Washington: National Wilderness Stewardship Program 2004-2005

Rick Potts, National Wilderness Program Manager

The year 2004, the year of the 40th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act, began on a subdued note as the National Park Service (NPS) conducted memorial services for Wes Henry, NPS Wilderness Program Manager. Travel restrictions caused cancellation of a National Wilderness Steering Committee meeting in May, which further slowed the program's momentum. Despite these early setbacks, in the past two years an ever-growing cadre of spirited and devoted employees made significant progress caring for the wilderness resources of the National Park System. Associate Director Karen Taylor-Goodrich selected me to move to Washington, D.C., to manage the National Wilderness Program. This left the wilderness training program manager position at the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center vacant for most of the year, despite my efforts to accomplish both jobs simultaneously. I was able to backfill my old position at Carhart in December 2004 with the selection of Tim Devine, a career NPS employee who was formerly wilderness coordinator for Rocky Mountain National Park. As you read this report, you will learn more about the accomplishments of the Carhart Center, as well as accomplishments of the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute.

Some of the accomplishments of 2004-2005 are highlighted in the report you are now reading. Many others are not, although they are all important. The wilderness areas under the care and stewardship of the NPS have never had a stronger, more dedicated group of interdisciplinary professionals than they currently enjoy. While the national wilderness program office is very small, the decentralized NPS wilderness stewardship program, anchored by the National Wilderness Steering Committee (NWSC), and the regional and park wilderness coordinators, has been productive and successful. Recognizing that wilderness management has many dimensions, Karen Taylor-Goodrich, Associate Director for Visitor and Resource Protection, is joined by Associate Director for Natural Resources Stewardship & Science Mike Soukup to provide oversight to the interdisciplinary NWSC. The members of the National Leadership Council were also included in wilderness stewardship through a presentation to that group in 2005. Everyone has a role to play.

Four thousand copies of the 2002-2003 NPS Wilderness Report were distributed and proved to be very popular with a wide audience. The NWSC completed development of a NPS Wilderness Action Plan (see page 2), which was approved by the Director and announced on September 3, 2004, the anniversary date of the signing of the Wilderness Act. The 40th Anniversary was further celebrated with the production and distribution of new maps of the National Wilderness Preservation System, new NWPS brochures, and special anniversary pins. Educational outreach efforts were enhanced with the production of *Celebrate Wilderness! NPS Wilderness Education and Interpretation Resource Notebook* and *Wilderness Views*, featured elsewhere in this report.

A new wilderness area was designated at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore! Read the exciting story of how the Gaylord A. Nelson Wilderness Area was "born"

A Tribute to Wesley Henry, Jr.



Wes Henry, the spirited and deeply passionate leader of the National Park Service's Wilderness Program, died December 16, 2003, following a long battle with cancer. Wes began working for the Department of Interior in 1979 as an outdoor recreation planner in the Bureau of Land Management. In 1985, he took a position as a budget analyst for the National Park Service, then became a natural resource specialist in the Ranger Activities Division in 1990. Wes remained in that position for 13 years, working hard on wilderness management issues almost to the last.

Wes not only dedicated his life to the preservation of wild lands, he was committed to finding innovative ways to educate others about the value of these special places. His skillful ability to contend with complex resource management issues was furthered by an exceptional talent to help people experience, appreciate, and respect the meaning of the natural world around them.

In honor of Wes, the Director's Wilderness Stewardship Award has been named the Director's Wes Henry National Excellence in Wilderness Stewardship Award. Wes's legacy of national and international wilderness stewardship is an inspiration to future generations of wilderness stewards.



NPS Mission Statement

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and intrinsic values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.



NPS Wilderness Action Plan

National Park wilderness, as the least manipulated environments in our country, can serve as refuges for declining species in the changing American landscape. Wilderness areas are special places for the public to escape from the increasing urbanization of America to enjoy recreation and solitude amidst awe-inspiring scenery. Wilderness can also provide special areas of scientific value by which to assess the status of plant and animal species, and these ecosystems can be compared to more manipulated areas. Comprehensive wilderness management, planning, research, and designation are required to ensure the enduring quality of wilderness. This is the challenge addressed by the NPS Wilderness Action Plan.

in the following pages. Congress also chose to readjust the wilderness boundaries of Cumberland Island National Seashore, deleting a road corridor and converting some areas of potential wilderness to designated wilderness. Some 30 parks received technical assistance from the National Wilderness Program office during this reporting period, and hundreds of NPS employees received wilderness training. Several parks completed suitability assessments or studies, and others have initiated studies in conjunction with general management planning efforts. Many parks are making progress in the development of wilderness stewardship planning, developing meaningful guidance by incorporating and integrating wilderness stewardship considerations throughout all levels of park planning.

I could go on, but you need to continue exploring this report. I'll just say that having spent more than two decades working in the parks all across this country, I have witnessed a delightful evolution of how NPS employees think about wilderness and wilderness stewardship. Wilderness is everyone's to care for, and working together, we will preserve it for everyone to continue to enjoy!

The Significance of Wilderness in the National Park Service

Wilderness is a special portion of the National Park System that American citizens and the United States Congress have jointly declared will be kept as wild and natural as possible. Wilderness designation is a declaration of people's care and desire to protect special areas in the National Park System. As a result of the Wilderness Act and subsequent legislation, 47 national parks contain over 43 million acres of designated wilderness – over 50 percent of all National Park Service lands.

As expressed through the Wilderness Act, Congress intended that wilderness areas be places where natural processes are the primary influences and the imprint of human impacts is largely unnoticeable. Human activity and management are conducted with humility and restraint. As a result of the Wilderness Act, current and future generations of Americans have the opportunity to experience, study, and enjoy wild places.

Although national parks are protected areas already, Congress applied the Wilderness Act to the NPS to augment preservation of certain areas of parks as wilderness. The Wilderness Act supplements the NPS's basic statutory authority and requires it to evaluate many of its lands for wilderness designation and to manage those wilderness areas to preserve their wilderness character for present and future generations.

In addition to affirming the importance of keeping parts of parks in a wild and undeveloped condition, the Wilderness Act specifically has the following legal effects on administrative discretion available under the 1916 Organic Act:

- Permanent roads are not allowed in wilderness except those necessary to honor vested private rights.
- Commercial enterprises are not allowed; however, commercial services (e.g., outfitters and guides) are permitted where needed to realize the purposes of wilderness as defined in the Wilderness Act.



- Temporary roads are not allowed except those authorized for emergencies or to meet the minimum requirements for the administration of the area for the purposes of the Wilderness Act.
- With the same minimum requirements exceptions, no motor vehicles, motorized equipment, motorboats, landing of aircraft, mechanical transport, structures, or installations are allowed (tradition does allow trails, footbridges, and some campsite improvements). Treatment of historic properties is guided by a variety of NPS preservation statutes.

Congress often adds specific provisions to subsequent enabling legislation for wilderness areas. The most notable example is the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) that added eight large wilderness areas and over 20 modifications to the Wilderness Act for Alaska wilderness. Some of the modifications include allowing motorized access (motorboats, snowmachines, and airplanes) for recreation; subsistence activities, including hunting, fishing, trapping, and the gathering of firewood and logs for cabins by local, rural residents; sport hunting in preserve units; temporary structures for taking of fish and wildlife in preserve units; provision for reasonable access across wilderness to private and state land including mining claims; and provisions for air and water navigation aids, communications sites, and facilities for weather, climate, and fisheries research and monitoring. A variety of uses, management actions, and even facilities are permitted in wilderness areas under the Wilderness Act and NPS policies. The Wilderness

Act declares that wilderness areas will be devoted to the “public purposes of recreational, scenic, scientific, educational, conservation, and historical use.” These include such uses as:

- non-motorized recreation (e.g., hiking, backpacking, camping, picnicking, rafting, climbing, horse packing)
- hunting and trapping (where permitted in authorizing legislation) and fishing
- Native American religious activities and other actions recognized under treaty-reserved rights
- guided interpretive walks and onsite talks, presentations, and related activities
- use of wheelchairs, service animals, and reasonable accommodations for the disabled that are not in conflict with the Wilderness Act (e.g., barrier-free trails, accessible campsites)
- scientific activities, research, and monitoring programs
- fire management activities, including fire suppression
- protection and maintenance of historic properties eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- development and maintenance of trails and primitive campsites
- certain administrative facilities if necessary to carry out wilderness management objectives
- signs necessary for visitor safety or to protect wilderness resources
- uses and facilities permitted for landowners with valid property rights within a wilderness area.



Wilderness is complex as both a concept and a place. This is reflected in its breadth of significance and value to diverse people:

- Wilderness provides extraordinary and challenging recreational opportunities, allowing present and future generations the opportunity to experience risk, reward, and self-reliance.
- Wilderness contains exceptional qualities such as scenic beauty, natural sounds, and opportunities for reflection and solitude that are important for human inspiration and rejuvenation.
- Wilderness provides a unique learning laboratory for scientific activities and lessons that address natural systems and their preservation, ecosystem management, and stewardship.
- Wilderness provides critical habitat for rare and endangered species of plants and animals as well as protection of other vital components of healthy and diverse ecosystems such as air quality, watersheds, and natural soundscapes.
- Wilderness provides opportunities for the preservation, study, and further understanding of cultures and cultural resources, including those related to indigenous peoples and traditional and sacred places.
- Wilderness provides the opportunity to explore societal and personal values as they relate to the use and appreciation of wildlands where humans are temporary visitors, not permanent residents.
- The designation and management of wilderness affords opportunities to explore such concepts as preservation, development, history, freedom, interdependence, ingenuity, and land ethics.

- Wilderness provides a sense of wildness, which can be valuable to people whether or not they actually visit wilderness. Just knowing that wilderness exists can produce a sense of curiosity, inspiration, renewal, imagination, hope, and potential.

A New Wilderness Area: The Gaylord A. Nelson Wilderness in Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

Bob Krumenaker, Superintendent, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

On December 8, 2004, President Bush's signature on the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005 established the Gaylord A. Nelson National Wilderness, consisting of approximately 33,500 acres, approximately 80% of the land area, of Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. Honoring former Wisconsin Governor and Senator Gaylord Nelson is a fitting tribute to the person many view as the father of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

What makes this designation highly unusual is the speed with which it occurred and the overwhelming public support that wilderness received. This was also the first time in a generation that the NPS's own wilderness study and designation *process* was followed, more or less in sequence from start to finish. In addition, the park's embrace of its human history as a complement, rather than a competitor, to wilderness may be unique and hopefully heralds a new era in celebrating the integration of natural and cultural resource preservation in the National Park System.

Early Park Planning and Wilderness

The National Lakeshore was established by an act of Congress in 1970 without any wilderness designation. The legislative history made clear that development on most of the islands was intended to be limited to primitive trails and campsites, as well as docks for boats to access the islands.

The park's 1989 General Management Plan (GMP) identified that about 97% of the park's land was undeveloped and therefore potentially suitable for wilderness designation. (This document later served as the park's "Wilderness Suitability Assessment," the first step in the formal wilderness study process.) Though NPS policy requires that we protect wilderness values until such time as a formal study is completed, the park subsequently managed these undeveloped lands as wilderness more as a result of lack of development funding than as a deliberate strategy. There was little movement towards conducting the required formal study.

These things would have remained if not for the efforts of Wisconsin Senator Russ Feingold, who inserted language in the FY 2001 Interior appropriations bill directing the NPS to conduct the formal wilderness study for the Apostle Islands. This would be the first NPS wilderness study not associated with a GMP or other planning process in a generation's time.

Building Understanding While Developing Alternatives

Scoping for the wilderness study during the summer of 2001 sought public comment on the possibility of wilderness at the Apostle Islands. *Wilderness* meant different things to different people, and the comments reflected a lack of

understanding by many of what it would mean – or not mean – for the park. Several petitions circulated opposing park wilderness. As soon as the study began, park administrators attempted to educate the public as to what wilderness really meant – but, in hindsight, that public conversation should have begun years earlier.

In the midst of confusion we heard two clear messages. First, people liked the park the way it was and did not want to see it change. Interestingly, this came from both supporters and opponents of wilderness. Second, we were told that we'd best not even think about restricting boats on Lake Superior or removing existing public docks. This combination of sentiments helped us to see through the myriad of positions to the interests behind those positions. In fact, it helped us see the NPS's own interests, too.

It is necessary to understand the park's geography to understand those interests. Each of the park's 21 islands is surrounded by Lake Superior. NPS jurisdiction extends out just 1/4 mile into the lake. Distances are such that non-NPS waters lie between every island. Thirteen islands have public docks on them, and six have lighthouses on the National Register. We quickly realized that restricting motorized boats in the 1/4-mile zone, the result if Lake Superior was included in the wilderness (while it would continue outside our jurisdiction in the waters between the islands), would be impractical, if not impossible, to enforce. It would also subject future managers – and park visitors – to endless conflict.

Park and Denver Service Center (DSC) staff sat down in March 2002 to develop alternatives. Drawing upon 10 years



Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Wisconsin



of experience with wilderness at Isle Royale and Shenandoah, I established three conditions for every alternative: boundaries had to be defensible (and findable) on the ground; no developments that we intended to manage with modern technologies would be included in any wilderness alternative; and we had to be able to live with any of the alternatives we put forward.

There was no requirement to seek comment on the draft alternatives, but we did it anyway. We held five public meetings and made it known that we'd meet with any group that had concerns. Long conversations slowly but inexorably built trust and comfort with the options – and with us. Knowing the affection so many of our visitors and neighbors had for the park's existing mix of wildness and access, and having been careful with the way we drew the boundaries, we were able to portray wilderness designation as a plausible way to assure that the park remained the same.

The NPS Chooses a Preferred Alternative

Since the NPS had not done a stand-alone wilderness study in decades, we stumbled into the realization that there were no established criteria by which we should choose between the alternatives. It was important to me that we had clear decision criteria, based in law and policy, specific to wilderness and in the context of other NPS mandates. I sought input from contacts all around the service both to develop the factors and then to vet the ones we came up with:

- long-term preservation of natural and cultural resources
- ability to preserve and tell the stories of the people of the Apostle Islands

- consistency with the spirit and intent of the Wilderness Act, the Eastern Wilderness Areas Act, the intent of the Wisconsin legislature when donating lands to the NPS, and NPS Wilderness policy
- consistency with public comment.

Obviously, the “preserve and tell the stories” factor is unusual. But we had heard from many people that the human history of the islands was something that shouldn't be forgotten even while we contemplate celebrating their “rewilding.” William Cronon, nationally recognized wilderness scholar, eloquently articulated that the uniqueness of place associated with the Apostle Islands is largely the result of the interplay of the rich human history of the area with the challenges presented by the environment.¹ We wanted to consider how each alternative would affect the park's sense of place, as distinct from how it might affect the tangible cultural resources such as buildings and archeological sites.

Spirited debate using these criteria resulted in the identification of the preferred alternative as the one which would preserve 80% of the land area of the park as wilderness. Three islands were excluded in their entirety from wilderness, two because of the density of cultural sites and our commitment to actively managing and interpreting them.

Intense analysis and writing followed the selection of the preferred alternative. Prior to releasing the draft study, however, it was essential to secure the support of NPS Director Fran Mainella, so Regional Director Ernie Quintana and I traveled to Washington in April 2003 to make our case for the preferred alternative.

Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, California (photo courtesy Dave Graber)

¹<http://www.oriononline.org/pages/om/03-3om/Cronon.html>

Director Mainella asked tough questions, testing to make sure we had engaged with the full spectrum of park users and our political constituency. Not only had our civic engagement strategy worked with the public, but it was essential in securing the Director's support. Having satisfied her concerns, she was an advocate for us with Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior Paul Hoffman, whose briefing followed. We left Washington with the Department's support.

The final comment period coincided with the park's summer visitor season. In many ways it was a repeat of the 2002 campaign, with open houses this time in nine locations across the region, and smaller meetings with tribes, local governments, and other stakeholders. This time, however, we were advocates for wilderness while earlier we had steadfastly tried our best to be neutral.

Almost 99 percent of the written remarks in the final comment period were in support of wilderness in one configuration or another, a remarkable and gratifying outpouring. It certainly helped that we continued to get highly favorable editorial opinion in local and regional newspapers. Influential supporters also arranged an event where Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle joined Gaylord Nelson at the state capitol to call on the NPS and the Congress to establish federal wilderness at the Apostle Islands. Doyle was the first to publicly advocate naming the area after Nelson.

After the last comment period, we spent the long Wisconsin winter finalizing the study and EIS. Regional Director Ernie Quintana signed the Record of Decision (ROD) formally concluding the wilderness study on May 6, 2004.

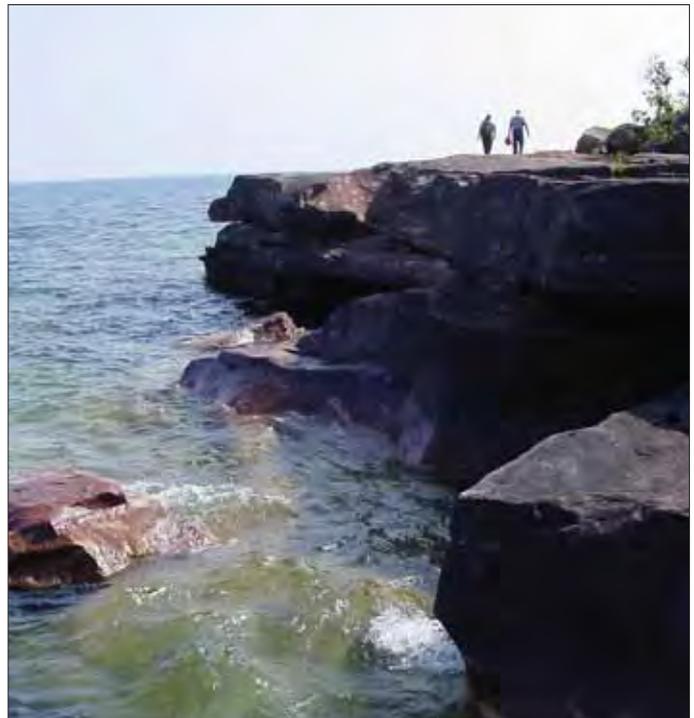
In Congress's Hands

How did the NPS go from completing a wilderness study to recommending that Congress act on that study? It hadn't been done in so long that the institutional memory was gone. Gradually a consensus developed that we needed a legislative proposal that would go from NPS to the Department to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and then to Congress. If we had OMB's concurrence, we would have the recommendation of the President, which is what the Wilderness Act says is supposed to happen before Congress acts on a wilderness proposal. September 3, 2004, was the 40th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, and as that date approached, I floated the suggestion that the Secretary might wish to use the anniversary to highlight support for the Apostle Islands proposal.

Indeed, Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks Craig Manson made the pronouncement on September 2 and challenged Congress to rapidly enact legislation making the Apostle Islands wilderness a reality.

Drafts of the bill went back and forth with the NPS and departmental legislative affairs staff. The process continued into October, though, and prospects for Congressional action prior to the presidential election seemed unlikely. Congressman David Obey, the park's representative and ranking member on the House Appropriations Committee, requested bill drafting services of the NPS, however, keeping hope alive.

The presidential election came and went, and, though we were disappointed that a bill hadn't made it to Congress, we had always regarded that as a long shot. Our primary interest at this point was getting the legislative package approved by OMB, so that *at least*, the Apostle Islands wilderness would become *recommended* wilderness, a step slightly further along than *proposed* wilderness. It's a distinction with no practical effect on the ground but potentially huge import should there be a long delay in Congressional action. I saw Congressman Obey on November 10th, and he said there was one more chance to get a bill in the dwindling days of the session. Congress had to reconvene in a lame duck session to pass the federal budget. Perhaps he could attach the park's legislation to the Appropriations Bill.



And that's the way it happened. No committee hearings, no debates, very little mark-up. But in the final moments of the legislative session, the House passed the fiscal 2005 appropriations bill, with a small, hardly noticed section which created the Gaylord Nelson Wilderness in the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. The Senate followed.

An Enduring Resource of Wilderness

The recent experience at the Apostle Islands proves that wilderness designation remains a viable land management strategy, and that neither the purists nor the naysayers necessarily have the last word. The strength of our approach was in the goodwill and trust built up slowly, one person and one group at a time. Communication, especially with those who were most worried, was essential, and allowed us to build a strong and wide coalition.

Defining the terms of the discussion about the certainty of the park's future – what we believed wilderness would assure – resonated with people who told us they didn't want the park to change. It helped us answer the question "why wilderness?" in a way that increased comfort level even amongst skeptics. And trying to gently refocus the concerns of those skeptics on the legal definition of wilderness, rather than the emotional or spiritual, also helped turn the discussion with those who didn't believe the park qualified because of previous land use history or motor boats and docks on its edges.

Listening to what worried people, and factoring those concerns into our planning, but equally importantly, our com-

munications, helped us make inroads with the business community and user groups. Whenever possible, we let them speak for wilderness while we stood in the background. This allowed public figures of both political parties to come out in support without fear of backlash. Validating, even embracing, the park's human history as a complement rather than as a competitor to wilderness also strongly resonated with people who knew the area.

As we anticipate future visitor seasons of the Gaylord Nelson Wilderness, we see opportunity. Our first obligation is to be true to the promises: we said there'd be no significant changes to the visitor experience, and we now need to prove that. We also plan to celebrate the value of wilderness through our interpretive efforts. We will begin to tell the story of Gaylord Nelson, to keep his legacy alive for future generations. But most importantly, we will be true to the law and spirit of the Wilderness Act by managing the area using the minimum requirement, and "secur[ing] for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness."

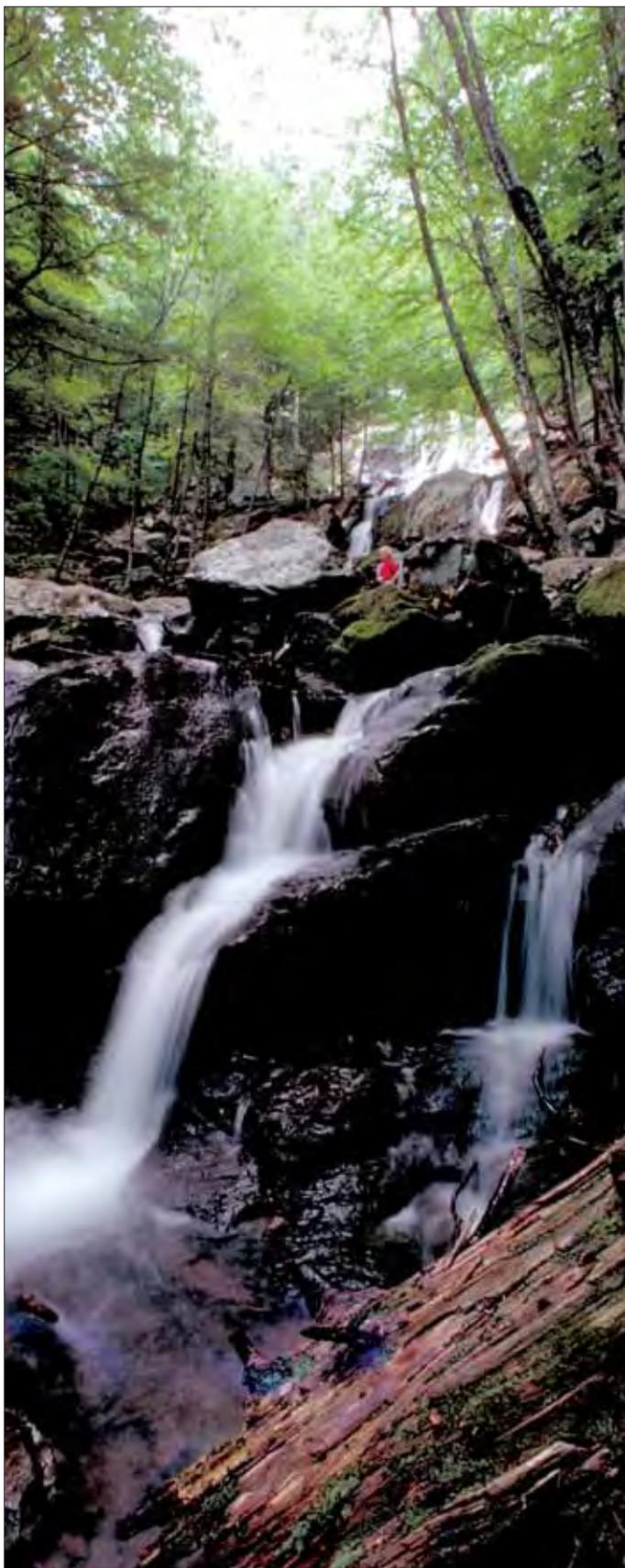
Interagency Wilderness News

Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute

The Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute, located in Missoula, Montana, continues to be a valuable partner of the NPS in providing the scientific knowledge and expertise necessary to protect the resources and values of national park wilderness. Established as an interagency program in 1993, the Leopold Institute works on the most important



Big Bend National Park, Texas (photo courtesy Suzy Stutzman)



wilderness research issues identified by the four federal agencies that manage federally designated wilderness.

In 2004-2005, scientists from the Leopold Institute have provided critical assistance to the NPS on a number of planning and management issues. For example:

Recreation Ecologist David Cole worked with the Denver Service Center to coordinate efforts to improve the utility of travel simulation models for wilderness recreation managers. Dr. Cole also participated in a NPS work group focusing on how to best address carrying capacities in General Management Plans; worked with Grand Canyon National Park staff to re-inventory recreation sites; and published the findings of a study of stock grazing in high-elevation meadows at Yosemite.

Social Scientist Alan Watson worked closely with parks in Alaska to address critical issues in backcountry planning as input to the ongoing revision of park management plans. This work included studies of the roles of commercial service providers at Denali National Park and improved understanding of recreation experiences of visitors at several Alaskan parks. Much of the work in Alaskan parks was published in recent issues of the *International Journal of Wilderness*.

Ecologist Peter Landres continued to provide leadership to an interagency group developing guidance for monitoring aspects of wilderness character. This resulted in a 2005 report, *Monitoring Selected Conditions Related to Wilderness Character: A National Framework*. Landres also worked with staff at Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve to develop a set of decision tools to help evaluate proposals for scientific activities in the park. These tools will help staff quickly evaluate potential impacts to Park and wilderness values, help staff communicate with scientists about these potential impacts, establish protocols for evaluating cumulative impacts from scientific activities, and provide a legacy for how decisions were made.

Fire Ecologist Carol Miller worked with park staff to apply the decision-support modeling tool, BurnPro, to Yosemite, Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park, and Great Smoky Mountains National Park to assess the feasibility of Wildland Fire Use as a strategy for restoring historical fire regimes. They identified specific places where restoration of natural fire frequency may be especially difficult because of the suppression of "immigration fires" on adjacent lands. Dr. Miller also began work on a project to develop methods to quantify and

track the cumulative consequences of past suppression decisions in Sequoia-Kings Canyon and Yosemite.

Zoologist *Steve Corn* of the U.S. Geological Service established a transect along the Continental Divide that includes Glacier, Yellowstone, Grand Teton, and Rocky Mountain national parks, to determine status and trends of amphibian populations. A study in Grand Teton has found the chytrid fungus to be common on the skins of boreal toads, but there was little evidence for chytridiomycosis - the disease that is typically fatal for most amphibians. Amphibian monitoring in Glacier has revealed a significant increase in breeding by boreal toads and lack of detrimental effects on other pond-breeding species following the large wildfires of 2001 and 2003.

Leopold Institute staff was instrumental in the organization of the science and technical sessions at the 2005 8th World Wilderness Congress as well as the 2005 George Wright Society Conference. Staff members also worked with the NPS and other agencies to organize an International Government Seminar for Wilderness Managers, held in conjunction with the World Wilderness Congress in Anchorage, Alaska.

Reports, publications and other summaries of Leopold Institute staff activities can be found at <http://leopold.wilderness.net>.



Craters of the Moon National Monument & Preserve, Idaho

Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center

The 2004-2005 period saw a change in the NPS staff at the interagency Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center. Rick Potts headed to Washington, D.C., as the National Wilderness Program Manager and Tim Devine, from Rocky Mountain National Park, was hired to become the new NPS Carhart Representative.

Carhart continues to provide training and produce materials in direct response to critical wilderness and wildland area management issues, training needs, and educational outreach needs identified by the four wilderness land management agencies. In 2004 and 2005 Carhart provided a variety of interagency wilderness training courses across the country including Education/Interpretation, Managing Visitor Use, Natural Resource Monitoring, Restoration, Planning, Regional Wilderness Stewardship, and the National Wilderness Stewardship training course for senior interagency wilderness managers and staff.

In addition, 12 park specific Wilderness Unit Courses were conducted. Superintendents were unanimous in their praise for the training, noting the huge advantage of holding the training locally. The superintendents mentioned that this approach enabled a large portion of their staff to attend the training and thereby gain a better understanding of the role of wilderness in their day-to-day management activities.

Carhart is in the beginning stages of converting portions of their courses to a Web-based platform. This method will provide cost-effective training opportunities to more employees by allowing participants to set their own pace and schedule by taking courses in those topics most relevant to them as time allows.

Progress continues to be made in providing information about America's wilderness areas, research, and critical stewardship issues electronically to managers, scientists, educators, and the public via the wilderness.net Web site. The Web site, a partnership between the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center, the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute, and the University of Montana's Wilderness Institute, is a valuable resource providing increased access to and uniformity of wilderness information.

In the educational arena, the Carhart-produced *American Values: American Wilderness*, a broadcast-quality film that presents the benefits of America's wilderness from the perspective of individuals representing the diversity that is

America. In celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Wilderness Act in 2004, Carhart was a partner with the NPS and others in developing *Wilderness Views*, an interactive wilderness education Web site for teachers, students, agency employees, and the public.

NPS Wilderness Unit Courses

Background

When Greg Kroll became the first NPS representative at the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center in 1996, his primary responsibility was to identify, develop, and present interagency wilderness training courses throughout the country. It became obvious, however, that there was an unmet need within the NPS: wilderness management short courses that could be provided at a park unit for a cross-divisional audience and tailored to the specific unit's needs. As his work load allowed, he developed and facilitated such courses. These courses, now known as Unit Courses or Wilderness Workshops, have expanded in frequency and popularity over the years. Following his retirement in 2000, Greg has been contracted by the NPS to help coordinate and teach additional workshops with the Carhart NPS representative.

Workshop Philosophy

Many units of the National Park System contain congressionally designated, recommended, or proposed wilderness areas. All too often, this wilderness overlay is invisible to managers, employees, and the public. Sending an employee to one of the wilderness training courses offered by the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center may equip that individual with important wilderness management knowledge and skills, but when they return to their park they may still face resistance from untrained fellow employees when they try to manage for wilderness. Unit Courses offer an opportunity for a significant number of park employees to be oriented together with representatives from all divisions, for park-specific issues to be addressed and wrestled with in a setting of mutual respect, and for the park superintendent to make it clear that wilderness is important within the unit. This allows progress to be made in managing wilderness.

Workshop Content

One of the advantages of providing park-specific Unit Courses is that they can be tailored to meet the needs of the park. These workshops are generally two days long with a mixture of formal presentations, breakout sessions, and discussion.

Toolboxes on *Wilderness.net*

To assist managers in becoming better stewards of wilderness, a series of "toolboxes" has been developed containing information and examples of wilderness management. These toolboxes are continually being updated and expanded.



Currently Available

- Air Quality Monitoring
- Commercial Services
- Education Plans
- Fire Management
- Fish & Wildlife Management
- Geocaching
- Motor Vehicle Trespass
- Non-native Invasive Plants
- Recreation Site Monitoring
- Search and Rescue
- Signs & Posters
- State/Tribal Wilderness
- Traditional Tools & Skills
- Wilderness Awareness
- Visitor Use Management
- Volunteers and Partners

Under Development

- Cultural Resource Monitoring
- Law Enforcement
- Minimum Requirements
- Natural Resource Monitoring
- Planning
- Visitor Use Monitoring



The agenda, developed in concert with park staff, usually begins with a welcome and workshop endorsement by the park superintendent. The course includes a look at the history of the national wilderness movement; a review of the key points of the 1964 Wilderness Act; an overview of NPS wilderness policy and supporting documents; a discussion of wilderness values; a look at the Minimum Requirements concept (with case study analysis in small groups); consideration of natural and cultural resource issues in wilderness; and whatever other issues may be pertinent to a specific park's management (e.g., climbing issues or paleontological resources in wilderness). Generally, the Superintendent closes the workshop with a discussion of unresolved issues, and lays out "Where Do We Go From Here?"

Nuts and Bolts

Once a park unit has requested a Unit Course, and once the funding source for workshop expenses (such as presenter travel) has been secured, Carhart staff works closely with a lead individual identified by the park superintendent. Key wilderness issues are identified at the unit, an agenda is developed, workshop dates and venue are set, and the intended audience is identified (including whether or not to invite outside cooperators).

As the agenda evolves, presenters are identified, audio-visual needs are determined, information packets are assembled and travel logistics are coordinated. The park unit is generally

responsible for securing the venue, providing audio-visual equipment and copying services, and advertising the workshop internally.

Are the Workshops Effective?

A cross-section of parks assessed the effectiveness of the Unit Courses. *In every case*, respondents said that the workshops made a significant difference in how the units approached wilderness management.

- *There is now more awareness by ALL park divisions of wilderness values. As Superintendent, I have seen a huge decrease in the arguments/discussions about proposed projects and heavy equipment use in wilderness since this training. There is more of a stewardship approach by all divisions in their maintenance/necessary activities/projects within wilderness.* (Lassen Volcanic National Park)
- *Our wilderness plan is still underway but we are making progress. The course provided the foundation for our efforts.* (Point Reyes National Seashore)
- *The big value of the workshop was that the whole park staff could attend, providing much greater economy of scale. What was really positive was the enthusiasm and pragmatism of the four instructors. Bringing the instructors to all of us minimized expenses while maximizing coverage of staff; it just isn't the same sending one or two employees to a training course.* (Pinnacles National Monument)

Wilderness Unit Courses

Since 1993, 44 unit courses have been conducted at national park units, reaching nearly 1800 employees. Six courses are already scheduled in 2006 with more on a waiting list. For more information about unit courses, contact Tim Devine (tim_devine@nps.gov).

Courses conducted in 2004-2005:

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Rocky Mountain National Park | January 2004 |
| Buffalo National River | April 2004 |
| Isle Royale National Park | September 2004 |
| Petrified Forest National Park | November 2004 |
| Joshua Tree National Park | January 2005 |
| Mojave National Park | February 2005 |
| Death Valley National Park | February 2005 |
| El Malpais National Monument | February 2005 |
| Dinosaur National Monument | April 2005 |
| Wrangell-St. Elias NP & P | May 2005 |
| Olympic National Park | May 2005 |
| Lassen Volcanic National Park | December 2005 |

NPS Director Fran Mainella at 8th World Wilderness Congress

National Park Service Director Fran Mainella represented the NPS Wilderness Program at the 8th World Wilderness Congress



NPS Director Fran Mainella and Ian Player, Founder, The WILD Foundation

(WWC), held in Anchorage, Alaska, in early October 2005. Director Mainella addressed the 1,200 delegates from 55 countries, and welcomed them to the "Great State" that is home to the bulk of designated wilderness in the NPS and the National Wilderness Preservation System. The Director's remarks were in concert with the theme of this WWC "Wilderness, Wild Lands, and People - a

Partnership for the Planet," as she lamented that too often in America people presume that wilderness is about exclusion, locking lands up, and keeping people out. But, she promised, wilderness is about people, conceived by people, and will be managed for the enjoyment of people.

Director Mainella told the audience that she had included the implementation of the NPS Wilderness Action Plan in the NPS Legacy Goals, to help address the ongoing responsibility of protecting these lands in perpetuity after they are designated wilderness, while providing for their use and enjoyment by the public. She reminded us, too, that the job of considering NPS lands for wilderness designation isn't finished. More than 25 million acres

of NPS land are still "in the pipeline" for eventual consideration for designation by Congress. Congress and the public expect that we will be good stewards of these lands, protecting their wilderness character, until a final determination is made. Collaborative planning with ample public involvement will enable us to meet that challenge. Director Mainella noted that 19 wilderness recommendations sent to Congress by past Presidents are still awaiting action, and she called on Congress to give serious consideration to those proposals.

The Director commended the NPS National Wilderness Steering Committee for its diligent work addressing and resolving difficult management issues of preserving wilderness ecosystem and character while providing outstanding opportunities for the public to use and enjoy them. She recognized the effective wilderness training program developed by the NPS and sister wilderness management agencies, the policy and technical guidance that continues to be developed to assist managers in the field, and the emphasis on scientific monitoring and research to better inform wilderness stewardship decision making.

The wilderness landscape provided the setting and forces that shaped and molded the American character, said Director Mainella, and helped define who we are today. But, she acknowledged, long-term preservation of wilderness depends on an informed and passionately engaged public. It is our responsibility to impart the value of the wild and the legacy of the land to younger generations. If the next generation is to share our appreciation of wilderness values, they must have the opportunity to experience them, and they must be taught the values. She concluded with marching orders for us all: We can do that! Let's work together to make it happen!

- *For the long-term future of preservation of this park, the workshop should have a huge positive impact on the resources.* (Lassen Volcanic National Park)

The National Wilderness Steering Committee

The NPS established a National Wilderness Steering Committee (NWSC) in 1996 comprising of four superintendents together with representatives from Alaska, natural resources, cultural resources, maintenance, interpretation/education, and rangers. The NWSC has become an effective organization for improving wilderness stewardship in the National Park System. Accomplishments in 2004-2005 include:

- Published NPS Wilderness Report

- Completed a *Wilderness Planning Handbook*
- Developed and distributed *Celebrate Wilderness! Wilderness Education and Interpretation Resource Notebook*
- Partnered in development of the *Wilderness Views* multimedia wilderness education module
- Initiated enhancement of Internet and intranet NPS Wilderness Web sites
- Worked on revisions to Directors Order #41, Reference Manual #41, and Management Policies Chapter 6: Wilderness Stewardship
- Completed two "white papers": *Embracing the Distinction between Wilderness and Backcountry in the National Park System* and *Minimum Requirement Analysis*
- Implemented Servicewide Performance Goals
- Partnered in producing a *National Framework for Monitoring Wilderness Character*.

The NWSC has continued to make field guidance and assistance a primary focus. Training, information, and education are the highest priorities, though the Committee remains influenced by newly surfacing field issues. The “white paper” series is one way to address critical stewardship issues. NWSC goals for the coming year include:

- publish NPS Wilderness Report
- launch enhanced Internet and Intranet NPS Wilderness Web sites
- continue implementing NPS Wilderness Education and Partnership Plan by developing priority products in plan
- distribute wilderness education resources to NPS sites
- continue developing NPS wilderness database
- continue development of “white papers” for inclusion in Reference Manual 41.

2004 Wilderness Awards

Management of NPS wilderness areas requires both a passion for the benefits of wild areas as well as a pragmatic approach to working within the NPS. Wilderness champions must know law and policy and be able to integrate key components such as the preservation of wilderness character into all aspects of the management of these areas. They must work tirelessly to incorporate wilderness ethics and understanding into all fields of park operations. Wilderness champions are committed to stewardship, management, and planning that promote and enhance the combination of ecological and experiential qualities that form wilderness values.

This level of excellence is recognized in the prestigious Director’s Wes Henry National Excellence in Wilderness

Stewardship Award, presented annually or bi-annually since 1993. The award was established to recognize and foster excellence in the agencies’ wilderness stewardship efforts by an individual NPS employee, group of employees, and/or park or central office organization. Recipients receive an engraved plaque, a financial award, and placement on a plaque of honor in the NPS office in Washington, D.C.. In 2004, two awards were presented: **Dan Burgette**, recently retired from Grand Tetons National Park, received the Wilderness Champion Award, and **Shenandoah National Park** received the Group Award.

Dan was honored for his 30 years of service in managing wilderness lands, serving as a steadfast, tireless proponent and educator for wilderness through many administrations of the park. In 1991, Dan wrote, “Wilderness managers don’t work in an ideal world. Their challenge is to balance wilderness idealism with pragmatic realities of differing values, human impacts, the desire by large numbers of the public to have recreational experiences, and the desire to leave opportunities for wildland experiences that our forbearers might have had for people needing escape from the artificial world a century from now.”

The staff at Shenandoah National Park was honored for an exemplary, significant, and long-term commitment to wilderness stewardship. Their accomplishments over the years involve a full complement of park operations. Employees developed and implemented a Wilderness Education Plan and a Minimum Requirement Decision Guide, participated on the National Steering Committee, and took a committed approach to wilderness stewardship cornerstones such as education, minimum requirement,



Shenandoah National Park, Virginia (photo courtesy John F. Mitchell)

monitoring, and integration of values. Retiring Superintendent Doug Morris was also honored for his many years of protecting wilderness areas across the country.

Inviting Americans to Explore Their Wilderness

Views of Wilderness

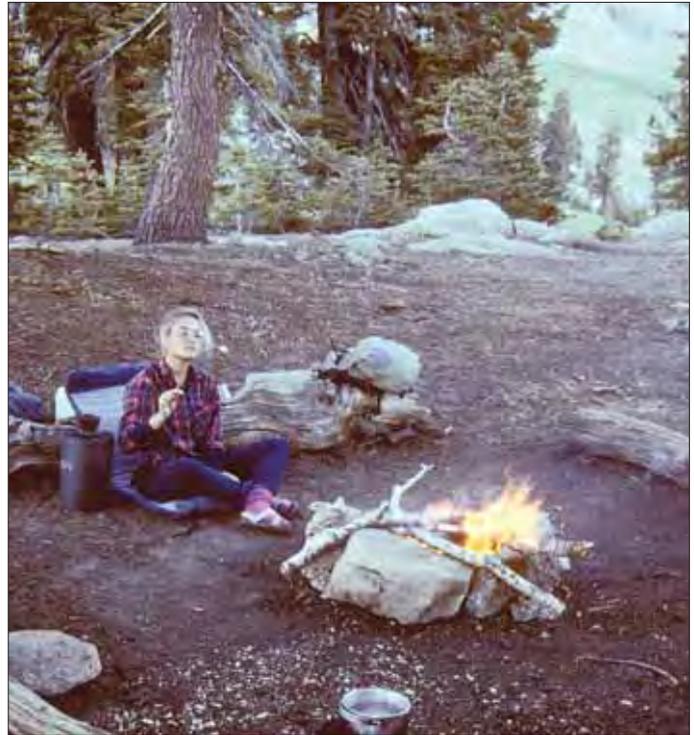
An interactive multimedia program, *Wilderness Views*, is based in the *Views of the National Parks* Web site developed by the NPS Natural Resource Program Center, Office of Education and Outreach. The Wilderness Module premiered in 2004 in honor of the 40th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. Similar to the history of the Wilderness Act, *Wilderness Views* evolved as an interdisciplinary, interagency effort to preserve public lands for present and future generations.

Wilderness Views reaches out to all Americans and facilitates discovery of the wilderness areas in their backyard. Students in an urban classroom, visitors in a national park visitor center, and individuals around the world can discover the wilderness areas preserved by Congress for the use and enjoyment of the American people. *Wilderness Views* provides opportunities for people to connect with their public lands.

There are many ways to reach *Wilderness Views*. Links from www.wilderness.net, www.wilderness.nps.gov and several other agency Web sites go directly to *Wilderness Views*. *Views of the National Parks* Web site, <http://www2.nature.nps.gov/views>, contains *Wilderness Views* as a Knowledge Center. *Wilderness Views* and the accompanying lesson plans are included on a DVD of the recently released film *American Values: American Wilderness*. The ease of access facilitates use of *Wilderness Views* in classrooms, visitor centers, training sessions, and workshops.

Exploring Views

After a multimedia introduction, the module invites viewers to delve into greater depth by offering seven topics, each investigating a different aspect of wilderness. From “What is wilderness?” to “How is wilderness managed?” *Wilderness Views* provides insight into the unique resource of wilderness in the United States. Through an interactive timeline individuals can learn the history of wilderness leading up to the enactment of the Wilderness Act in 1964. Historic and current perspectives on “Why wilderness?” are presented through biographical sketches and video interviews. Management scenarios place the viewer into a wilderness manager role by presenting real-life situations that guide individuals through a



decision-making process considering consequences and outcomes. The “Up Close” section highlights nine wilderness areas. Interactive panoramic images and video interviews with managers, employees, and volunteers provide insight into the meaning and value of wilderness areas.

Interactive multimedia elements engage viewers in their discovery of wilderness. The module contains 85 unique video interview clips from 33 individuals, 360-degree panoramas, soundscapes, and interactive screens to test the viewer’s knowledge. Images come from designated wilderness areas across the entire National Wilderness Preservation System. The images convey the diverse system of wilderness, enticing viewers to continue their exploration beyond the confines of the computer.

Resources

Teacher resources accompany *Wilderness Views*, complementing the educational purposes of the module. An original curriculum, based on national standards of learning, consists of five lesson plans. These lessons guide teachers and students through activities utilizing information found in *Wilderness Views*, encourage student inquiry, and provide meaningful connections to the nation’s wild heritage. This enhanced learning opportunity supports teachers as they utilize *Wilderness Views* programs in their classrooms and integrate wilderness lessons into their standard curriculum.



Partnerships

A truly cooperative effort, development of *Wilderness Views* involved multiple agencies and partners. The complete list of acknowledgements includes 132 names from five government agencies (National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Geological Service) and non-government partners.

The appearance of *Wilderness Views* reflects the diversity of contributors. Each screen displays the emblems of the four agencies that manage wilderness. Images of wilderness areas encompass the diversity of the National Wilderness Preservation System. The module is available for all agencies to utilize, develop, and showcase as a tool for preserving wilderness.

To explore *Wilderness Views*, go to http://www2.nature.nps.gov/synthesis/views/index_wilderness.htm

Preserving Wilderness through Education

Celebrate Wilderness!, Wilderness Education and Interpretation Resource Notebook

Celebrate Wilderness! is a comprehensive reference designed to assist parks in educating Americans about their resource of wilderness. While many successful wilderness education products and programs exist throughout the NPS, *Celebrate Wilderness!* pulls these resources together and provides a foundation for developing and expanding wilderness education programs at park sites. The notebook contains tools for interpreters, educators, managers, public information officers, resource specialists, and volunteers to tell the wilderness story.

Celebrate Wilderness! includes a wide array of resources readily available for program development:

- over 100 pages of wilderness education product examples, from interpretive program outlines and newspaper articles to multimedia exhibits
- a timeline describing the development of the wilderness concept and highlighting events leading to passage of the Wilderness Act
- articles about wilderness from multiple perspectives
- resources for training and further research
- Frequently Asked Questions and fact sheets
- an overview of wilderness legislation
- a CD containing PDF files of all notebook materials, plus extra training materials.

Celebrate Wilderness! provides guidance and tools to meet the NPS commitment to wilderness education. To be effective, the notebook must be used. It is a living document, a catalyst for new ideas. As wilderness education products are developed they can easily be inserted into the notebook. Since each wilderness area has its own unique story, there is space and direction for adding information specific to individual areas. Relevant wilderness information, national and local, can be consolidated into this one notebook so that park staff can more easily develop successful programs to connect visitors and local residents to their wilderness resource. As one part of the NPS wilderness education program, *Celebrate Wilderness!* lays a foundation for continued excellence. It is a tool which helps preserve wilderness for future generations.

To explore and utilize *Celebrate Wilderness!* visit www.wilderness.nps.gov. For a hard copy or a CD of the notebook, contact Rick_Potts@nps.gov.

NPS Designated Wilderness Areas

| National Park Unit (47) | Wilderness Name | Acreage |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Apostle Islands National Lakeshore | Gaylord A. Nelson | 33,500 |
| Badlands National Park | Badlands | 64,144 |
| Bandelier National Monument | Bandelier | 23,267 |
| Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park | Black Canyon of the Gunnison | 15,599 |
| Buffalo National River | Buffalo National River | 34,933 |
| Carlsbad Caverns National Park | Carlsbad Caverns | 33,125 |
| Chiricahua National Monument | Chiricahua | 10,290 |
| Congaree National Park | Congaree | 15,010 |
| Craters of the Moon National Monument & Preserve | Craters of the Moon | 43,243 |
| Cumberland Island National Seashore | Cumberland Island | 9,886 |
| Death Valley National Park | Death Valley | 3,253,028 |
| Denali National Park | Denali | 2,124,783 |
| Devils Postpile National Monument | Ansel Adams | 747 |
| Everglades National Park | Marjory Stoneman Douglas | 1,296,500 |
| Fire Island National Seashore | Otis Pike Fire Island High Dune | 1,380 |
| Gates of the Arctic National Park & Preserve | Gates of the Arctic | 7,167,192 |
| Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve | Glacier Bay | 2,664,876 |
| Great Sand Dunes National Park & Preserve | Great Sand Dunes | 75,225 |
| Guadalupe Mountains National Park | Guadalupe Mountains | 46,850 |
| Gulf Islands National Seashore | Gulf Island | 4,080 |
| Haleakala National Park | Haleakala | 24,719 |
| Hawaii Volcanoes National Park | Hawaii Volcanoes | 130,790 |
| Isle Royale National Park | Isle Royale | 132,018 |
| Joshua Tree National Park | Joshua Tree | 557,802 |
| Katmai National Park & Preserve | Katmai | 3,384,358 |
| Kobuk Valley National Park | Kobuk Valley | 174,545 |
| Lake Clark National Park & Preserve | Lake Clark | 2,619,550 |
| Lake Mead National Recreation Area ² | Lake Mead | 184,439 |
| Lassen Volcanic National Park | Lassen Volcanic | 78,982 |
| Lava Beds National Monument | Lava Beds | 28,460 |
| Mesa Verde National Park | Mesa Verde | 8,500 |
| Mojave National Preserve | Mojave | 695,200 |
| Mount Rainier National Park | Mount Rainier | 228,480 |
| Noatak National Preserve | Noatak | 5,765,427 |
| North Cascades National Park | Stephen Mather | 634,614 |
| Olympic National Park | Olympic | 876,669 |
| Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument | Organ Pipe Cactus | 312,600 |
| Petrified Forest National Park | Petrified Forest | 50,260 |
| Pinnacles National Monument | Pinnacles | 15,985 |
| Point Reyes National Seashore | Philip Burton | 25,952 |
| Rocky Mountain National Park | Indian Peaks | 2,917 |
| Saguaro National Park | Saguaro | 70,905 |
| Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks | Sequoia-Kings Canyon | 723,036 |
| Shenandoah National Park | Shenandoah | 79,579 |
| Theodore Roosevelt National Park | Theodore Roosevelt | 29,920 |
| Wrangell-Saint Elias National Park & Preserve | Wrangell-Saint Elias | 9,078,675 |
| Yosemite National Park | Yosemite | 704,624 |
| NPS Designated Wilderness | Total Acreage | 43,536,664 |

² Legislation designating wilderness in Lake Mead defined nine separate subunits of Lake Mead Wilderness within the Clark County portion of the park: Black Canyon (17,220 acres), Bridge Canyon (7,761 acres), Eldorado (26,250 acres), Ireteba (29,299 acres), Jimbilnan (18,879 acres), Muddy Mountains (3,521 acres), Nellis Wash (16,423 acres), Pinto Valley (39,173 acres), and Spirit Mountain (32,913 acres).

NPS Wilderness Recommendations Forwarded to Congress

| National Park Unit | Acreage | Potential Acreage | Date ³ |
|--|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Arches National Park | 61,547 | 8,461 | 6/11/78 |
| Assateague Island National Seashore | 440 | 4,760 | 12/4/74 |
| Big Bend National Park | 538,250 | 44,750 | 5/11/78 |
| Bryce Canyon National Park | 20,810 | -- | 5/11/78 |
| Canyonlands National Park | 260,150 | 18,270 | 5/23/77 |
| Capitol Reef National Park | 179,815 | 4,050 | 5/23/77 |
| Cedar Breaks National Monument | 4,830 | -- | 1/12/76 |
| Colorado National Monument | 13,842 | 937 | 5/11/78 |
| Crater Lake National Park | 127,058 | -- | 5/11/78 |
| Craters of the Moon National Monument & Preserve | 396,696 | -- | 11/9/00 |
| Cumberland Gap National Historical Park | 2,191 | 1,900 | 5/11/78 |
| Dinosaur National Monument | 205,672 | 5,055 | 5/11/78 |
| El Malpais National Monument | 86,267 | 11,161 | 4/18/02 |
| Glacier National Park | 27,550 | 3,360 | 6/13/74 |
| Grand Teton National Park | 122,604 | 20,850 | 5/11/78 |
| Great Smoky Mountains National Park | 390,500 | 400 | 12/4/74 |
| Rocky Mountain National Park | 240,030 | 479 | 5/11/78 |
| Yellowstone National Park | 2,032,721 | -- | 5/11/78 |
| Zion National Park | 120,620 | 10,364 | 5/11/78 |
| Total Acreage | 5,741,593 | 134,602 | |

³ Date of last presidential message to Congress for that park.



Yosemite National Park, California (photo courtesy Dave Graber)

NPS Wilderness Study Areas and Proposals for Wilderness

| National Park Unit | Acreage Eligible For Study ⁴ | Acreage Proposed For Designation |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Aniakchek National Monument & Preserve | 590,000 | -- |
| Bering Land Bridge National Preserve | 2,690,000 | -- |
| Big Cypress National Preserve | 225,000 | -- |
| Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area | -- | 8,108 |
| Cape Krusenstern National Monument | 633,000 | -- |
| Cape Lookout National Seashore | -- | 2,992 |
| Channel Islands National Park | 68,600 | -- |
| Denali National Park | 3,726,000 | -- |
| Gates of the Arctic National Park & Preserve | 1,052,000 | -- |
| Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve | 78,000 | -- |
| Glen Canyon National Recreation Area | -- | 637,250 |
| Grand Canyon National Park | -- | 1,111,902 |
| Guadalupe Mountains National Park | 10,000 | -- |
| Katmai National Park & Preserve | 643,000 | -- |
| Kenai Fjords National Park | 668,000 | -- |
| Kobuk Valley National Park | 1,494,000 | -- |
| Lake Clark National Park & Preserve | 1,240,000 | -- |
| Lake Mead National Recreation Area | -- | 561,300 |
| Noatak National Preserve | 757,000 | -- |
| Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore | 18,400 | -- |
| Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore | -- | 30,903 |
| Voyageurs National Park | -- | 127,436 |
| Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve | 3,174,000 | -- |
| Yosemite National Park (McCauly Ranch) | -- | -- |
| Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve | 2,220,000 | -- |
| Total Acreage | 19,277,000 | 2,479,891 |

⁴ Alaska acreage numbers represent the total eligible wilderness acres from the Environmental Impact Analyses since decisions on the preferred alternatives were not completed. Although the studies and environmental analyses were completed, records of decision were not signed by the Director and final wilderness designation proposals were not forwarded to the Department of Interior. The Grand Canyon Wilderness Designation Proposal was also not forwarded to the Department.



NPS National Wilderness Steering Committee 2004-2005

| Member | Position |
|---------------------------|---|
| Vaughn Baker (Vice-Chair) | Superintendent, Rocky Mountain National Park (CO) |
| Susan Boudreau | Chief of Resources and Research, Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve (AK) |
| Laurel Boyers | Wilderness Manager, Yosemite National Park (CA) |
| Laura Buchheit | Education Specialist, Shenandoah National Park (VA) |
| Dennis Davis | Strategic Planning Coordinator – Performance Management (CO) |
| Jed Davis | Superintendent, Wrangell-Saint Elias National Park & Preserve (AK) |
| Tim Devine | NPS Staff, Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center (MT) |
| David Graber | Senior Science Adviser, Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks (CA) |
| Steve Griswold | Landscape Architect & Trails Planner, Golden Gate Recreation Area (CA) |
| Rick Harris | Liaison, Performance Management (CO) |
| Vic Knox | Liaison, Associate Regional Director for Operations (AK) |
| Bob Krumenaker | Superintendent, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore (WI) |
| Luci Lawless | Liaison, National Center for Cultural Resources (Washington, DC) |
| Abby Miller | Deputy Associate Director, Natural Resources (Washington, DC) |
| Cicely Muldoon | Deputy Regional Director, Pacific West Region (CA) |
| Connie Myers | Liaison, Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center (MT) |
| Don Neubacher (Chair) | Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore (CA) |
| Tom Nichols | Liaison, Deputy Fire Planning Program Leader, NIFC (ID) |
| Jim Northup | Chief Ranger, Great Smoky Mountains National Park (NC & TN) |
| David Parsons | Liaison, Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute (MT) |
| Rick Potts | Chief, Wilderness Stewardship & Recreation Management Division (Washington, DC) |
| Dennis Schramm | Liaison, Park Planning and Special Studies Office (Washington, DC) |
| Bob Seibert | West District Ranger, Yellowstone National Park (WY) |
| Don Sharlow | Trails Maintenance Supervisor, Big Bend National Park (TX) |
| Gary Somers | Chief of Natural and Cultural Resources, Shenandoah National Park (VA) |
| Chris Stein | Chief of Interpretation, Yosemite National Park (CA) |
| Mike Soukup | Associate Director, Natural Resources (Washington, DC) |
| Jon Robbins | Assistant Director, Cultural Resources (Washington, DC) |
| Karen Taylor-Goodrich | Associate Director, Visitor and Resource Protection (Washington, DC) |
| Steve Ulvi | Management Assistant, Gates of the Arctic National Park & Preserve (AK) |
| Joe Van Horn | Wilderness Program Manager, Denali National Park & Preserve (AK) |
| Anne Worthington | Cultural Resource Program Manager, Capital Reef National Park (UT) |
| Bill Wright | Chief Ranger, Great Smoky Mountains National Park (NC & TN) |



Above: Big Bend National Park, Texas; Opposite page: Shenandoah National Park, Virginia;
Back cover: Mount Rainier National Park, Washington (photo credit Josh Whitmore)

The Wilderness Act, 1964

In order to assure that an increasing population, accompanied by expanding settlement and growing mechanization, does not occupy and modify all areas within the United States and its possessions, leaving no lands designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness.





Learn More About Wilderness

For more information on the entire National Wilderness Preservation System and each of its units, visit www.wilderness.net. This site, the Wilderness Information Network, serves as an “umbrella” site for several wilderness organizations: The Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute, the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center, and the University of Montana’s Wilderness Institute. Wilderness.net is also a forum for current news, original wilderness publications, information on wilderness distance education opportunities, and a searchable wilderness document library. National Park Service Wilderness Program information is available for park staff at the Wilderness Program site on InsideNPS and for the public at www.wilderness.nps.gov.



2005-2006 NPS Wilderness Report

Prepared by: National Park Service, National Wilderness Stewardship Program Office
and National Wilderness Steering Committee • *Designed by:* Neal Lewis, Shenandoah National Park