



2019 Wilderness Report

National Park Service Wilderness Stewardship Program



**National Park Service Management
Policies 2006, Chapter 6: Wilderness
Preservation and Management**

The National Park Service will manage wilderness areas for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such a manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness. Management will include the protection of these areas, the preservation of their wilderness character, and the gather and dissemination of information regarding their use and enjoyment as wilderness. The purpose of wilderness in the national parks includes the preservation of wilderness character and wilderness resources in an unimpaired condition and, in accordance with the Wilderness Act, wilderness areas shall be devoted to the public purposes of recreational, scenic, scientific, educational, conservation, and historical use.

Cover Image: "North Passage Aurora" by Tom Rudd and Margo McCafferty (woodcut print)
Past Artists-in-Residence at Isle Royale National Park

Image is also displayed on pages 8, 12, and 14.

Table of Contents

Message from Division Chief 4

2019 NPS Wilderness Champions 5

STEWARDSHIP & SCIENCE 8

Wilderness Character Integration Efforts Grow

Wilderness Fellows Assist Parks

National Wilderness Leadership Council Annual Meeting

Work Group Advancements on:

Wilderness Character Monitoring

Ecological Interventions in Wilderness

Fixed Anchor Authorizations

Online Wilderness Permits at Olympic National Park

Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute Updates

Upcoming Leadership Changes

Science Highlights

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT ... 12

Preservation of Wilderness Character Training

Park-Specific Wilderness Workshops

US Border Patrol Wilderness Training

Collaboration with the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center

Interagency Trainings

Wilderness Blended Learning Opportunities

Preserving Cultural and Wilderness Resources Training

2019 Training Summary Table

COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION 14

Wilderness Stewardship Resource Briefs

Digital Wilderness Communications

Draft NPS Wilderness Interpretation and Education Strategy

Interagency Wilderness Explorers Activity Booklet

Interagency Wilderness Messages

Wilderness Connect Redesign

Regional Wilderness Highlights

Wilderness Leadership and Advisory Groups

NPS National Wilderness Leadership Council

Interagency Wilderness Steering Committee

Interagency Wilderness Policy Council

APPENDICES

A. Wilderness Stewardship Division Organizational Chart & Staff Information 20

B. Designated Wilderness Summary Table 21

MESSAGE FROM CHIEF OF WILDERNESS STEWARDSHIP

The year 2019 marked my fifth year of service as Chief of the Wilderness Stewardship Division (WSD), and it has been an honor to serve in that capacity and to foster stewardship of the remarkable wilderness resources administered by the National Park Service (NPS). A key responsibility of the WSD is to produce an annual Wilderness Stewardship Program report, and I am pleased to introduce this 2019 Edition, which summarizes accomplishments and achievements to meet the legal and NPS policy mandate to preserve wilderness character.

One of my most coveted activities is to acknowledge the work and dedication of NPS wilderness stewards and practitioners. I'd like to begin by thanking the members and liaisons serving on the NPS National Wilderness Leadership Council (NWLC), with a special "tip of the flat hat" to Adrienne Lindholm, who completed her term as Chair of the NWLC in 2019 (see page 19).

Special recognition is also warranted for our cadre of Regional Wilderness Coordinators (see page 16) and park-based wilderness coordinators. My acknowledgments would not be complete without highlighting the dedication and commitment of WSD staff members Erin Drake and Tim Devine, who make one of the smallest divisions in the NPS one of the most productive. The WSD also greatly appreciated the encouragement and support from Louis Rowe, acting Associate Director for the Visitor and Resource Protection Directorate in 2019.

Each year the NPS recognizes staff and partners who represent the "best of the best" in wilderness stewardship achievements through the Wes Henry Excellence in Wilderness Stewardship Awards. The 2019 recipients, including Patrick Gregerson (individual award), Regions 6/7/8 Wilderness Executive Committee (team award) and the Sierra Institute's Wilderness Fuels Module (external partner award), will be honored at a virtual ceremony hosted by the National Park Foundation in August 2020 (see page 5).

The most significant wilderness legislation to affect the NPS in 2019 occurred with the passage of the John D. Dingell, Jr., Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act. The legislation increased the Death Valley Wilderness (our nation's sixth largest wilderness area outside of Alaska) by 87,999 acres. The NPS now administers 44.3 million acres of designated wilderness in 50 NPS units within the 111-million-acre National Wilderness Preservation System (see page 21 for a complete list of all NPS designated wilderness areas).

At a time when the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting our nation, it is only fitting that I close by acknowledging the heroic work of our health care professionals, first responders, and essential workers.

It is my hope that access to and enjoyment of NPS wilderness will enrich the body, mind, and spirit of our park visitors during this challenging time and beyond.

Sincerely,

Roger L. Semler



A person with a clear heart and open mind can experience the wilderness anywhere on earth. It is a quality of one's own consciousness. The planet is a wild place and always will be.

Gary Snyder,
Poet and Essayist

2019 NPS WILDERNESS CHAMPIONS

NPS Director's Wes Henry Excellence in Wilderness Stewardship Award Recipients

The Director's Wes Henry "Excellence in Wilderness Stewardship" Awards are the agency's annual recognition of outstanding contributions to wilderness stewardship by an individual, team/group, and non-governmental partner, including any program or discipline that influences the preservation of wilderness character in the NPS. Award recipients are nominated by fellow NPS staff and selected by an interdisciplinary panel established through the NWLC. The following award recipients will be recognized during a virtual awards ceremony in August 2020.

Individual Award: Patrick Gregerson

For more than a decade, Patrick Gregerson, Chief of Planning for the WASO Park Planning and Special Studies Division, has supported wilderness in planning as an integral part of the NPS Park Planning program. In cooperation with the Wilderness Stewardship Division, Patrick Gregerson established the interdisciplinary NPS Wilderness Character Integration Team (WCIT) in 2010. The WCIT provided leadership and a new approach within the NPS for integrating and using wilderness character in park planning, management, and monitoring. Almost 10 years later, WCIT's work continues to play a critical role in achieving a greater understanding of, and a deeper commitment to, preserving wilderness character throughout the NPS. This was accomplished by the team's development of

two key products published in 2014: *Keeping It Wild in the NPS: A User Guide to Integrating Wilderness Character into Park Planning, Management and Monitoring* and a revised *NPS Wilderness Stewardship Plan Handbook*. Both products are still being used throughout the national park system and the processes referenced helped inform similar approaches taken by the Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and US Forest Service.

Patrick has provided NPS Park Planning funding for Wilderness Stewardship Plans, implementation of the WCIT guidelines in planning documents, and securing subject matter experts to conduct/sponsor wilderness character workshops in preparation for Foundation Document workshops for those parks with designated wilderness. The wilderness character workshops resulted in the inclusion of a Wilderness Character Assessment appendix in all Foundation Documents for parks with wilderness. Patrick has also provided funding support over the past ten years for several wilderness stewardship initiatives, including Wilderness Fellow internships and interagency agreements for wilderness land use, climate change, visitor use, and values research.

Since 2008, Patrick has actively served as a member of the NWLC, first as the program liaison for Park Planning and Special Studies and now as the Park Planning, Facilities and Lands Directorate representative. Patrick's longterm perspective on how issues have changed and insight into past solutions have been invaluable to NPS wilderness stewardship and interdisciplinary collaboration.



Patrick Gregerson.
Photo credit: Wendy Berhman

Team Award: Regions 6/7/8 Wilderness Executive Committee

The Wilderness Executive Committee (WEC) for Regions 6/7/8 was founded in 2000 (approximately) by Regional Director Karen Wade with a mission to:

- Increase awareness and understanding among all employees in the region about why wilderness matters, and why everyone in the region has a part in its care and appreciation.
- Work now for wilderness by emphasizing how it connects to all NPS programs and endeavors, and by pursuing cooperative agreements with other land management agencies for joint projects in the cause of wilderness.
- Embrace and work for the future wilderness character of all our parks with bold, imaginative ideas and initiatives that reach well into the 21st century.
- Inspire all in the region, whether they work at a desk or in the field, to be stewards of wilderness.
- Promote better communication among and by staff about our region's wilderness resources so that the American public will better understand, appreciate and cherish national park wilderness and the values within it.

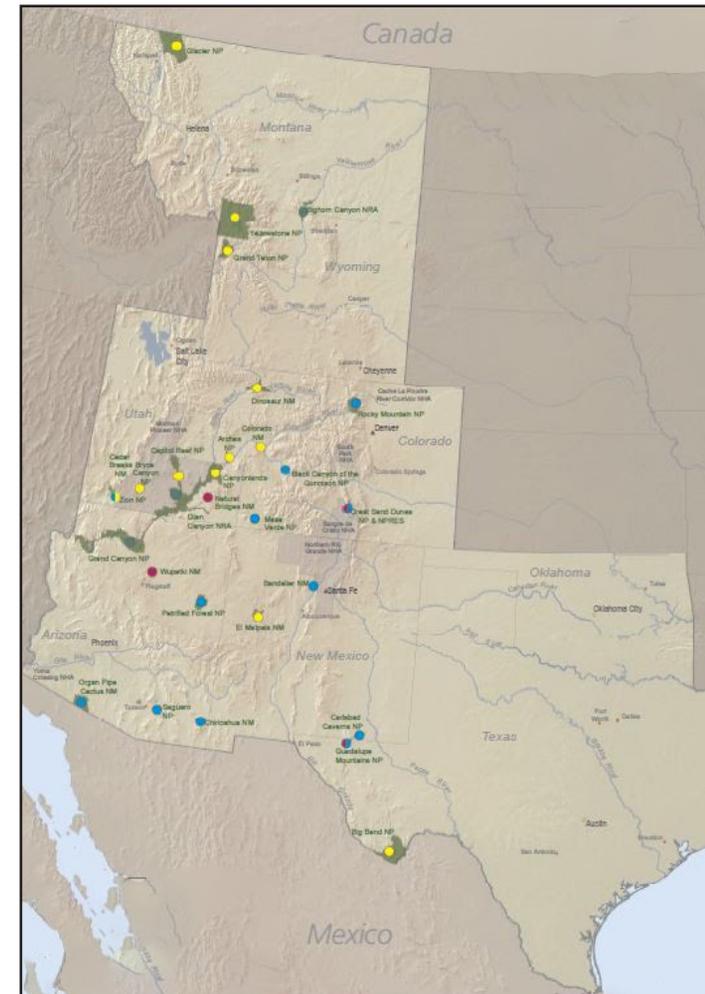
The WEC serves as a link and catalyst for cooperative insight and wilderness advocacy among the regional directorate, all the region's park employees and park partners, our fellow

federal land agencies (including US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Land Management) and the national NPS Wilderness Stewardship Program, including the National Wilderness Leadership Council. This interdisciplinary collaboration has a significant and positive stewardship effect on the more than 7.5 million acres managed as wilderness in the region's 29 park units.

Regions 6/7/8 are a leader in wilderness character preservation, through the WEC's proactive implementation of the **Wilderness Character Building Blocks** in nearly all wilderness park units. This work was completed by a group of Wilderness Fellows (interns) that were fully funded and supported by regional leadership, with logistics coordination and support provided by the WEC. The Wilderness Fellows were highly successful and served as a model for other NPS wilderness parks to pursue.

All active members of the WEC are worthy of recognition for their service in 2019. Special recognition should be given to Southeast Utah Group Park Ranger Keri Nelson, 2019 WEC Chair, who led with a high degree of competence and commitment. Keri deserves much credit for keeping the WEC engaged and focused on wilderness stewardship in the region and in maintaining a collaborative working relationship with the broader NPS Wilderness Stewardship Program.

The WEC is highly worthy of this award based on their long-term success and continued commitment to wilderness stewardship throughout the regions.



The Wilderness Executive Committee is comprised of regional office staff and representatives from the wilderness parks of Regions 6/7/8.

Non-Government Partner Award: Sierra Institute's Wilderness Fuels Module at Lassen Volcanic National Park

Over the course of the 2019 field season, the **Sierra Institute**, a California-based non-profit organization that “promot[es] healthy and sustainable forests and watersheds by investing in the well-being of rural communities and strengthening their participation in natural resource decision-making and programs,” collaborated with Lassen Volcanic National Park on fire-related fuels management projects.

The Institute staffed a Wilderness Fuels Module as part of park's efforts to restore a low-to-moderate severity fire regime to the wilderness headwaters of the North Fork of the Feather River. This project addresses the accumulation of forest fuels due to long-term historic fire suppression which, when combined with climate change and drought, has the potential for high severity fire. High severity fire causes significant tree mortality and damage to park resources and wilderness character. Reduction of hazardous forest fuels will increase ecological resiliency and provide a safer space for less suppressive fire management responses.

The eight-person Wilderness Fuels Module underwent training to develop their crosscut saw skills and understanding of how stewardship efforts can contribute to wilderness management and the preservation of wilderness character. Over the 2019 season, the crew prepared the 6.7 miles of the Flatiron Unit perimeter using only traditional non-motorized tools – determined as the minimum tool through the park's Minimum Requirements Analysis.

Within the Lassen Volcanic Wilderness, the crew rearranged fuels and executed a combination of radial thinning around legacy trees, thinning from below to reduce small-diameter stem density, and brush removal along park trails for fireline holding. Following the crew's prep work, fire managers are planning for prescribed fire operations beginning in 2020. The work of the Wilderness Fuels Module will allow fire's natural role in the ecological process for the first time in over 100 years.



Sierra Institute's Wilderness Fuels Module.
Photo credit: Sierra Institute

Stewardship & Science

Wilderness Character Integration Efforts in Parks Grow

The Wilderness Character Building Blocks, as outlined in the 2014 *NPS Wilderness Character Integration User Guide*, provide the foundation for effectively integrating wilderness character into planning, management, and monitoring. The Building Blocks establish a shared understanding of what is most important about each wilderness area and articulate those values for inclusion in a wilderness character preservation framework. There are three Building Blocks:

1. Wilderness Basics
2. Wilderness Character Baseline Assessment
3. Integrate Wilderness Character into Management and Operations

The Wilderness Basics is a concise document summarizing fundamental information about a wilderness. The central component of the Wilderness Basics is the Wilderness Character Narrative, a qualitative description of what is unique and essential about a wilderness area, organized by qualities of wilderness character. In 2019, Badlands National Park, Kenai Fjords National Park, and Pinnacles National Monument developed this Building Block, contributing to a total of 56 national park units that have completed or drafted the Wilderness Basics.

The Wilderness Character Baseline Assessment identifies relevant measures for monitoring the status (and subsequent changes) to the tangible qualities of wilderness character in a wilderness area. In 2019, Badlands National Park and Kenai

Fjords National Park developed this Building Block, contributing to a total of 44 national park units that have completed or drafted the Baseline Assessment.

Integrating wilderness character into management and operations includes implementing best practices like the proactive use of Minimum Requirements Analyses and establishing a park interdisciplinary wilderness committee.

Each wilderness park is at a different stage in developing wilderness-related plans, monitoring programs, and operational guidelines. The Building Blocks approach provides maximum flexibility for staff to begin this work in the order that best suits park needs, resulting in greater efficiency and effectiveness of wilderness stewardship.

Wilderness Fellows Assist Parks with Wilderness Character Integration

The WSD partnered with the NPS Geoscientists-in-Parks Program (GIP) in 2019, hiring two interns to assist wilderness parks. The 20-week GIP Program provides NPS conservation experience and developmental opportunities for college students and recent graduates. Kenai Fjords National Park received the help of Robin McKnight and Jessica Millman worked with Pinnacles National Park. The interns worked closely with park staff to receive interdisciplinary input and data to inform the development of the park's Wilderness Character Building Blocks Report. Both parks will continue this work in 2020.



The NPS Wilderness Stewardship Program is responsible for the stewardship of over 44 million acres of designated wilderness.

Using the best available science to inform sound decision-making, the NPS Wilderness Stewardship Program strives to preserve wilderness character and ensure the protection of the wilderness resource for current and future generations.



National Wilderness Leadership Council Holds 2019 Annual Meeting

The NWLC convened their annual meeting in August at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore to discuss current and emerging topics in wilderness stewardship, review work completed in 2019, and identify focus areas for 2020. The NWLC - an interdisciplinary council of NPS staff from parks, regions, and national offices - serves as an advisory body to NPS leadership on all matters pertaining to wilderness stewardship (see page 19 for the 2019 NWLC roster).

The NWLC said goodbye to outgoing Chair Adrienne Lindholm (Region 11) and outgoing members Blair Davenport (Regions 8/9/10/12), Fred Herling (Everglades National Park), Ruth Scott (Olympic National Park), and Kevin Sweeney (Lassen Volcanic National Park), and welcomed incoming Chair Woody Smeck (Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks) and Vice-Chair Jennifer Flynn (Shenandoah National Park).

Work Group Progresses on Wilderness Character Monitoring Technical Guide

The NWLC's Wilderness Character Monitoring Work Group continued making progress in drafting a technical guide for monitoring in 2019. This guide expands on existing guidance, incorporating best practices to address the more complex aspects of wilderness character monitoring. A set of recommended measures that apply to many parks and are vetted by subject matter experts will also be listed. Efforts

by the work group to describe and define the measures, rooted in relevant national datasets and nationally agreed upon parameters, means time saved for parks and more consistency in wilderness character monitoring across the NPS. A draft of the technical guide will be made available for review in 2020.

Work Group Incorporates Feedback on Draft Framework for Evaluating Ecological Interventions in Wilderness

In 2019, the NWLC's Ecological Interventions Work Group revised the draft framework to evaluate proposals for ecological intervention in wilderness, following the 2018 servicewide review of the draft. While ecological interventions are actions that degrade the

Untrammeled Quality of wilderness character, they are usually proposed to restore or improve the Natural Quality of wilderness character. This framework will help staff review and evaluate related proposals, prompting explicit consideration of potential impacts to the Untrammeled and Natural Qualities and wilderness character as a whole. In 2020, the work group hopes to finalize the draft with leadership support and release the framework for servicewide use.

Work Group Makes Progress on Fixed Anchor Authorization Guidance

The NWLC established the Climber Manager's Network in 2016, comprised of both NWLC members and other experienced NPS climbing managers. In 2019, the Network developed draft



The NWLC at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore.
Photo credit: Patrick Gregerson

“Fixed Anchor Authorization Process” guidelines to help managers make decisions regarding public requests to install or replace fixed anchors in NPS wilderness. Public and internal review of these guidelines are pending further review by the NPS Director’s Office.

Olympic National Park Begins Issuing Online Wilderness Permits

Like many high-demand parks and facilities offering permits to visitors, Olympic National Park Wilderness Permits were administered via a manual reservation system. Visitors submitted permit requests by phone or via fax machine. For park staff, that meant a labor-intensive process, spending months sorting through the preferred and alternative dates requested, filing the requests in the order in which they were received, and addressing each one accordingly. This process also presented challenges for the public. Potential visitors were sometimes waiting for months to learn whether they would receive a permit. In 2018, the park implemented an online application form that visitors could submit by email, but park staff still spent months manually collecting, filing, and responding to the thousands of requests by hand.

Brooke Linford, Olympic National Park Wilderness Information Center Supervisor, joined the park in 2018, and knew that a digital solution could streamline the laborious manual Olympic Wilderness Permit process. Familiar with Recreation.gov and the digital pass solution from prior work with the Interagency pass program, Brooke and his team worked closely with the Recreation.gov team to identify the scope of

work and develop an intuitive reservation system for the public.

In March 2019, Olympic National Park Wilderness Permits were released **online** for the first time. During the release, Recreation.gov hosted a “Launch Event”. The event allowed stakeholders – including park representatives and the development team - to monitor the site activity together and access real-time site analytics and transactions processed. It gave the park the opportunity to watch the successful transformation to a digital platform in real time, and to report activity and transactions to management. Recreation.gov processed 931 permits the first hour they went on-sale which was 71% of the volume for the entire day.

The Olympic Wilderness team has saved months of manual work entering, reviewing, and responding to permit requests. The public now knows immediately whether their reservations were secured, and they can complete travel plans. During summer months, long lines frequently form at the Wilderness Information Center. For the 2019 summer, visitors were able to purchase their permits digitally to eliminate the wait, saving time for both staff and visitors. The park estimates that it took 15 minutes to manually process a permit. With an average of 20,000 permit requests, Recreation.gov will save Olympic National Park employees approximately 5,000 staff hours and \$100,000–\$150,000 annually.



Hiker in the Daniel J. Evans Wilderness at Olympic National Park.
Photo credit: NPS

Science Updates from the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute

The interagency **Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute** (ALWRI) conducts diverse scientific projects related to biophysical, social and cultural sciences. These efforts include research projects, syntheses, expert panels, inventory and monitoring programs, consultation, and management tools. ALWRI is an interagency center located in Missoula, MT and is administered through the US Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station. ALWRI welcomes collaboration with managers from all levels of the National Wilderness Preservation System agencies.

ALWRI Prepares for Leadership Changes

In 2019, ALWRI Director Susan Fox wrapped up her career, and celebrated her transition into retirement. Susan's career with the federal government spanned 32 years, seven as the ALWRI Director. Among her many accomplishments, Susan led a team of scientists conducting research on the highest priority issues of wilderness managers, initiated several projects with university and agency partners, oversaw the production of numerous thematic science plans intend to guide future research endeavors, and increased the budget of ALWRI. Susan is a steadfast proponent for wilderness science, and we wish her all the best in retirement!

And Beth Hahn, ALWRI's Deputy Director, moved to a new job in late 2019, now working for the US Forest Service's International Programs Office

as the Southern Africa Program Manager. While at ALWRI, Beth focused on ecological issues related to wilderness stewardship at multiple spatial scales, with an emphasis on ecological restoration, wildlife, climate change, and disturbance ecology. Beth is a skilled scientist and wilderness steward and we know she'll do great things in this new career adventure!

2019 ALWRI Research Highlights

Climate change: ALWRI scientists evaluated how climate change may affect vegetation in 22 large protected areas across North America, including 11 national parks. They found that dramatic vegetation shifts can be expected and highlight the challenges managers will face to sustain biodiversity in key protected areas across North America.

River management: ALWRI completed a project in support of comprehensive river management planning efforts on the Flathead Wild and Scenic river system in northwest Montana. Much of this river system borders Glacier National Park and its recommended wilderness. One outcome of this 'social vulnerability' research, which focused on understanding different perspectives of the interested public and their connections to the river system, was a technical manual for engaging the public.

Wildfire: To improve satellite measurements of fire severity, ALWRI scientists collaborated with several NPS personnel to compile fire effects data from over 200 fires across North America, much of it on NPS wilderness lands. The result is a procedure to automate fire severity mapping

on any forest fire that has burned in North America since 1984.

Monitoring: ALWRI initiated research to support wilderness trail encounter monitoring in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and the parks' Sequoia-Kings Canyon and John Krebs Wilderness Areas. The research focuses on a large data set of encounter data reaching back to 2012 and directly supports management needs related to both visitor capacity and wilderness character monitoring.



Beth Hahn (left) and Susan Fox (right).
Photo credit: Tim Devine

Training & Development

Preservation of Wilderness Character Training

Preservation of **wilderness character** is the central mandate of the Wilderness Act. Accordingly, the NPS Preservation of Wilderness Character Training helps wilderness managers and practitioners interpret and successfully implement this mandate. 23 staff from across the country, ranging from biotechs and park partners to chief rangers and superintendents, attended the 2019 session held in Colorado.

The training, hosted by the WSD and supported by a grant from the NPS Mather Training Center's Learning and Development Program, focused on wilderness-related law and policy, wilderness character integration into planning and monitoring, minimum requirements analysis, public outreach, and more. Upon returning home, participants were charged with facilitating further discussion around wilderness character preservation and integration with fellow NPS staff - of all disciplines - as well as partners and the public. As one participant commented, this training "will allow me to be a better champion of wilderness at my park and more actively assist in wilderness decisions and planning/support."

Park-Specific Workshops Grow Wilderness Stewardship Awareness

Six park/office-specific wilderness workshops were conducted in 2019 at Arches-Canyonlands National Parks, Gulf Islands National Seashore, Katmai National Park, Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks, Sleeping Bear Dunes National

Lakeshore, and the Alaska Inventory and Monitoring Program. A total of 223 NPS staff attended.

Workshop topics include a comprehensive review of the Wilderness Act and NPS wilderness policy, discussion about wilderness character and the Minimum Requirements Analysis concept, and park-specific topics of interest. Attendees appreciated the place-based focus of the training and the opportunity for interdisciplinary dialogue and networking.

Wilderness Training for US Border Patrol

Cooperation between the US Border Patrol and NPS has been ongoing for many years. This partnership includes providing wilderness training at the Public Lands Liaisons Agent annual meeting which was held in Washington DC in August. US Border Patrol participants in the 2019 training included agents from all 20 sectors and national offices. Agents use this information to do place-based training at their offices.

In addition, US Border Patrol agents attended Regional and National wilderness training courses put on by the Interagency Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center. This training assists in more effective Border Patrol and NPS collaboration and a shared understanding of each other's mission and responsibilities.



Wilderness stewardship and management is highly dynamic and always evolving. In order to ensure that wilderness practitioners and interdisciplinary partners are managing most effectively, the NPS Wilderness Stewardship Program offers opportunities for wilderness training and professional development.



Collaboration with the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center

The interagency **Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center** (Carhart) provides a variety of interagency wilderness trainings, including face-to-face classroom instruction, online courses, blended learning opportunities, and webinars. Tim Devine, NPS Wilderness Stewardship Division - Branch Chief for Training and Development, is stationed at Carhart in Missoula, MT and serves as the NPS representative at Carhart.

Interagency Trainings

Each year, Carhart offers a tailored suite of online and classroom trainings to help address wilderness stewardship throughout the interagency National Wilderness Preservation System. In 2019, Carhart provided:

- Four Regional Wilderness Stewardship Trainings in Alaska, Idaho, North Carolina, and Wisconsin
- One National Wilderness Interpretation and Education Workshop in Colorado
- One National Wilderness Leadership Training in Montana

Wilderness Blended Learning Opportunities

Carhart offers **36 online courses** from individual courses such as the Wilderness Act of 1964 and Wilderness Planning, to suites of courses in Natural Resources and Visitor Use Management.

The **Wilderness Stewardship Certificate Program** (WSCP) is a collaborative project between Carhart, Eppley Institute for Parks

and Public Lands at Indiana University, and the Society for Wilderness Stewardship. WSCP is a professional development program that builds credentials and increases capacity in individuals, agencies, and organizations working with the National Wilderness Preservation System. Certificates combine self-paced online learning with professional mentorship and field-based assignments.

The **Wilderness Management Distance Education Program** (WMDEP) is offered by the University of Montana in partnership with the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center. WMDEP offers the only undergraduate and graduate Certificates in Wilderness Management in the country.

Preserving Cultural and Wilderness Resources Training

There is a longstanding perceived conflict between cultural and wilderness laws and stewardship. To help alleviate this perception the NPS Vanishing Treasures Program partnered with Carhart and the WSD to develop and host “Preserving Cultural and Wilderness Resources: Achieving Common Ground.” Taught workshop-style, the course presents an overview of law and policy, illuminates the historical context for the pertinent court cases, showcases traditional skills often required to execute historic preservation projects in wilderness, and provides an opportunity for robust discussions. The 2019 workshop was held at Yosemite National Park.

2019 Training Summary	
Training Type	NPS Staff Trained
NPS Preservation of Wilderness Character Trainings	23
NPS Park-Specific Wilderness Workshops	228
Interagency Preserving Cultural and Wilderness Resources Training	26
Carhart Interagency National Wilderness Leadership Training	10
Carhart Interagency Regional Wilderness Stewardship Trainings	34
Carhart Interagency Wilderness Interpretation and Education Workshop	11
Carhart Online Courses <i>(users with NPS email addresses)</i>	285
Wilderness Management Distance Education Program	32
Carhart Webinars	<i>Data not available</i>
Total NPS Staff Trained: 649	
Total US Border Patrol Staff Trained: 23	

Communication & Collaboration

Wilderness Stewardship Resource Brief Library Available for Servicewide Use

The WSD developed a series of topic-specific resource briefs to serve as a succinct reference for meetings, briefings, and outreach. Available servicewide, these briefs address topics in wilderness stewardship through accessible language that emphasizes key points for consideration, citing relevant law and NPS policy where applicable. Each brief also includes links to supplemental digital resources and contact information to learn more.

The resource brief library continues to grow as new topics are identified, with eleven briefs at present. Briefs developed in 2019 include:

- [Wilderness Stewardship Planning](#)
- [Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center](#)
- [Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute](#)

Digital Communication for NPS Wilderness Expands

The WSD continued digital content creation and maintenance of four websites in 2019: [Subject](#) and [Organizational](#) sites on NPS.gov, the Wilderness Stewardship intranet site, and Wilderness Stewardship on the NPS Common Learning Portal. Each serving a distinct need, ranging from the general interest in wilderness to management-related inquiries and online training, this website portfolio offers content

tailored to different audiences. Additionally, wilderness content was added to the NPS.gov websites for [‘Trails and Hiking’](#) and [‘Camping’](#) and the National Park Foundation.

WSD also partnered with the NPS Office of Communications and NPS Natural Resource Stewardship and Science Directorate to promote wilderness during specific communication initiatives throughout 2019, including National Park Week, National Public Lands Day, and Explore Nature’s recurring weekly social media themes. Most notably, 2019 marked the 55th anniversary of the Wilderness Act on September 3rd -- this anniversary was commemorated through the development of key messages paired with specific videos from the [America’s Wilderness video series](#) for use on national, regional, and park social media accounts (Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook) throughout the month of September.

The WSD continued to offer the [NPS Wilderness Update](#) in 2019. This national newsletter conveys timely updates, upcoming initiatives, availability of new support resources, and training opportunities to internal and external stakeholders. The Wilderness Update is published twice a year and shared with over 300 NPS staff and partners.

Work Group Drafts NPS Wilderness Interpretation and Education Strategy

In 2019, the NWLC’s Interpretation and Education Work Group continued development



The NPS Wilderness Stewardship Program is comprised of the Wilderness Stewardship Division, Regional Wilderness Coordinators, Park Wilderness Managers, the National Wilderness Leadership Council, and key partners.

The interdisciplinary nature of wilderness stewardship requires ongoing collaboration and dialogue with these different stakeholders. Additionally, meaningful outreach to diverse public audiences ensures that wilderness remains relevant in the 21st Century.



of a national strategy for interpretation and education in wilderness. This strategy will give wilderness parks a consistent starting point to communicate about NPS wilderness and develop interpretive and educational content for programs, websites, social media, and other non-personal services. Work group members presented drafts of the strategy at the Interagency Wilderness Interpretation and Education Workshop in May and the annual conference for the National Association of Interpretation in November. Both presentations allowed attendees (many that are subject matter experts) to provide real-time feedback and input about the strategy's content.

The WSD is also a member of the NPS National Council for Interpretation, Volunteers, and Education to help ensure this strategy complements current and anticipated future interpretation and education best practices.

A revised draft of the strategy will be made available for servicewide review in 2020 and finalized accordingly. This strategy will replace the 2002 *NPS Wilderness Education and Partnership Plan*.

Wilderness Explorers Activity Booklet Brings Wilderness to You

The interagency **Wilderness Explorers Activity Booklet**, similar to the NPS Junior Ranger series, invites participants ages eight and up to complete a series of printed activities to learn more about wilderness in the National Wilderness Preservation System. With its intentional design that does not require an in-

person visit to a wilderness park, participants can learn about wilderness through the activities and submit the completed book to either a park or the WSD, receiving a certificate of completion and patch in return. More than 200 people completed the booklet at home in 2019, with more having completed them in parks with or adjacent to wilderness throughout the country.

Interagency Wilderness Messages Identify Shared Values Across the National Wilderness Preservation System

The National Wilderness Preservation System protects over 111 million acres of designated wilderness managed by the NPS, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and US Forest Service. To better speak to the values that connect all of these wilderness areas together, an interdisciplinary and interagency work group drafted a **suite of messages** that apply to all designated wilderness areas. These messages were endorsed by the Interagency Wilderness Steering Committee for "in-reach" (communication to agency employees) and outreach by agency staff and partners.

Messages are organized into three themes:

1. Wilderness Basics
2. Wilderness Character Baseline Assessment
3. Integrate Wilderness Character into Management and Operations

Tailored use of the messages contained within these themes can help to grow awareness

and understanding of wilderness. Messages can be integrated into many communication applications including websites, social media, news releases, bulletin boards, and staff-led activities. The goal is to provide consistent, sustainable, and lasting messages for wilderness throughout the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Wilderness Connect is Redesigned for Specific Audiences

Wilderness.net, formed in 1996 through a collaborative partnership between the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation's Wilderness Institute at The University of Montana, the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center, and the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute, is dedicated to the designated wilderness areas of the interagency National Wilderness Preservation System. In 2017 wilderness.net became **Wilderness Connect** to bring all of the site's communications tools - website, community of practice, e-newsletter, social media - under a singular brand.

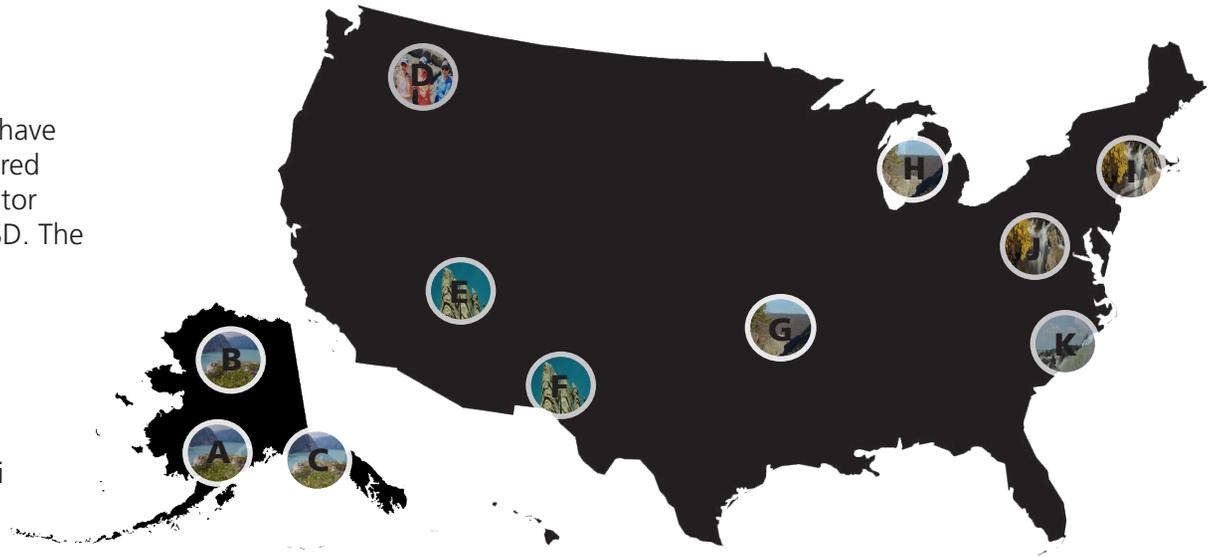
2019 launched the site's redesign and improved structure of online resources for two distinct audiences - practitioners and the public. The website educates hundreds of thousands of visitors annually about wilderness and the value of public lands preservation. In addition, NPS, along with other land management agency staff, reference the site for information, resources, and tools to help inform their wilderness stewardship responsibilities.

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

All 12 of the [Department of Interior unified regions](#) have designated and/or other categories of wilderness. Clustered regions have an identified Regional Wilderness Coordinator that works closely with wilderness park staff and the WSD. The following are 2019 highlights from each regional cluster.

The 2019 Regional Wilderness Coordinators are:

- Region 11 (A-C): Adrienne Lindholm
- Regions 8/9/10/12 (D): Alan Schmierer
- Regions 6/7/8 (E-F): Melissa Trenchik and Dan Niosi
- Regions 3/4/5 (G-H): Chris Holbeck
- Region 1 (I-J): Jon Meade
- Region 2 (K): Mark Kinzer



In 2019, **Lake Clark National Park and Preserve** hosted a wilderness character workshop to discuss strategies for preserving wilderness character and highlighting the connection between wilderness and the homelands of indigenous people. As a result, the park finalized a Wilderness Character Narrative that places indigenous peoples' history as a central theme of the narrative.



Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve utilized a new wilderness coordinator position to develop a Wilderness Character Monitoring Framework and Baseline Assessment. Monitoring has been a true interdisciplinary effort with data drawn from visitor and resource protection, natural resources, cultural resources, compliance, and commercial services staff. Interpretive rangers and interns, integral members of this monitoring effort, map and record impacts to wilderness character in the field.



Stewardship planning for 2.6 million acres of designated wilderness in **Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve** was initiated in 2019. This planning focuses on updating an existing 1989 Visitor Use Management Plan to address changing visitor interests and preserve the exceptional Glacier Bay wilderness and backcountry experience.



In 2019, staff from the US Forest Service and NPS collaborated to expand the Idaho Conservation League's Wilderness Stewardship Program into **Craters of the Moon National Park and Preserve**. The Craters of the Moon National Wilderness Area was one of two NPS wilderness areas designated in 1970 – making it the first wilderness area ever designated in the NPS (along with the Petrified Forest National Wilderness Area). Following a collaborative training session, volunteers conducted patrols through several federal wilderness areas, including the wilderness of the park and preserve. After a successful summer, staff and volunteers from all three organizations are looking forward to continuing to build the program to foster a deeper appreciation for the wild places we love.

Alaska Backcountry and Wilderness Advisory Group (BWAG)

The Alaska Backcountry and Wilderness Advisory Group (BWAG) is a regional interdisciplinary group that advises on key wilderness stewardship issues across Alaska. Membership includes representatives from all Alaska wilderness parks and regional office staff. In 2019, the BWAG affirmed several park wilderness stewardship priorities including the completion of parks' Wilderness Character Narratives, development of a Wilderness Character Monitoring Framework and Baseline Assessment, and wilderness training for park and regional staff. The BWAG also promoted the idea of increasing opportunities for students and residents of local communities to engage in wilderness stewardship. It provided consistency in the implementation of Alaska's Minimum Requirement Analysis Short Form, and it identified a working group to consider ways the region might improve diversity and inclusivity in the wilderness program.

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)



Several wilderness parks in Regions 6/7/8 initiated efforts to boost wilderness stewardship capacity in staff and grow awareness of wilderness in park visitors in 2019. **Canyonlands National Park** completed a [series of backcountry and wilderness orientation videos](#) with funding through the Canyonlands Natural History Association. The videos are one of many essential tools backcountry park rangers use to connect visitors to the park's wilderness qualities and promote Leave No Trace principles. Staff at **Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park** partnered with Denver Service Center to re-start their Wilderness and Backcountry Management Plan and completed a their first five-year monitoring cycle to assess the status of wilderness character in the park. After a long-term vacancy, **Chiricahua National Monument** appointed two new staff to serve as co-wilderness coordinators in 2019. Helen Fitting (Biologist) and JoAnn Blalack (Integrated Resources Manager) will be co-filling the position and have been attending webinar trainings on preservation of wilderness character. Elizabeth Jackson, Chief Of Interpretation at **Guadalupe Mountains National Park** (which is home to over 46,000 acres of designated wilderness), worked with NPS graphic/sign staff to produce a large wayside panel for the Visitor Center breezeway. The panel showcases a map of the US showing all of the wilderness areas and also includes a description and additional information on wilderness and will be installed in 2020.



In 2019, **Carlsbad Caverns National Park** began discussions about potentially purchasing the last private in-holding within the boundaries of the Carlsbad Caverns Wilderness. The approximately 320-acre undeveloped tract contains potential threatened and endangered species. If the park is able to obtain this tract, it will be added to the wilderness area under the Public Law 95-625, Section 403.



In partnership with the [Leave No Trace \(LNT\) Center for Outdoor Ethics](#), the interpretation team at **Buffalo National River** trained and certified 50 LNT Master Educators and Trainers in 2018 and 2019. Of these newly certified LNT instructors, most have ties to partner organizations or park concessionaires that routinely use and promote the Buffalo National River Wilderness. Representatives from the Backcountry Horsemen of America, Buffalo National River Partners, Ozark Highlands Trail Association, Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the USA, Arkansas Canoe Club, NPS Volunteer-in-Parks Program, Geoscientists-in-the-Parks program, and three park concessionaires have become certified at Buffalo National River so far. The two- to five-day courses are offered at least twice per year at the park's Research Learning Centers, training outdoor leaders in experiential teaching techniques that invite others to explore the outdoors responsibly, using minimum-impact recreational practices. In 2019, two courses were offered, training 17 staff and partners. As part of their volunteering program, each of the trainers is asked to perform at least 30 hours of LNT education per year in their respective organizations and communities -- this investment in volunteers helps to cultivate stewardship beyond the boundaries of the Buffalo National River Wilderness.



In 2019, **Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore** initiated a wilderness stewardship planning process. The lakeshore completed their Wilderness Character Building Blocks Report in 2017. In late 2019, staff from the WSD and Midwest Regional Office conducted a unit training course at the lakeshore. Following the course, staff were highly motivated to form a Wilderness Steering Committee and to begin the process of developing a Wilderness Stewardship Plan.

Regions 6/7/8 Wilderness Executive Committee

The Wilderness Executive Committee for this Regions 6/7/8 welcomed seven new members in 2019, including Dan Niosi as the Regional Environmental Coordinator/Wilderness Coordinator. Superintendent, Visitor and Resource Protection, Natural Resource Stewardship, and at-large positions were also filled. The committee gathered in the fall for a NPS Wilderness review and report and to prepare goals and objectives for 2020. The committee works to promote and support wilderness stewardship throughout the region including sharing wilderness training opportunities, communicating with the WSD, and recognizing outstanding wilderness stewardship through yearly awards. This year, the committee recognized two outstanding wilderness stewards for the 2018 accomplishments:

Region Wilderness Champion = Raymond Skiles
former Wildlife Biologist and Wilderness Coordinator at Big Bend National Park

Region Leader in Wilderness Stewardship and Management = Danguole Bockus
Ecologist and Wilderness Coordinator at Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park

For more information about the WEC, see page 6.

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)



Fire Island National Seashore supported more piping plover pairs in 2019 than ever before. Twenty-eight pairs of piping plovers nested on Fire Island throughout the season, and fledged a total of 54 chicks. Twenty-three of the 28 pairs of plovers nested on the beach adjacent (and in) the Otis Pike Fire Island High Dune Wilderness. In 2019, the seashore saw the greatest increase in suitable habitat and nesting plovers west of the Old Inlet breach, within wilderness. An increase in overwashes between Bellport Beach and the Old Inlet breach created new sandy, sparsely vegetated habitat which extended into the marsh, making an extraordinary opportunity for plovers to forage between the ocean and bayside. Seven piping plover pairs nested within this mile stretch and fledged 20 chicks.



Shenandoah National Park continued efforts to restore the ecological health of a portion of the Meadow Run watershed, which falls largely within the Shenandoah Wilderness, in the southwest portion of the park. The park proposes to apply several thousand tons of limestone sand via helicopter in a project area of approximately 2,150 acres within the watershed. This restoration approach, referred to as “liming”, would deliver base cations to watershed soils. Liming has been proven to be an effective method for improving soil and water chemistry in forested watersheds. 2019 marks year two of this project - to date, the project team, including NPS experts and external consultants, have considered liming case studies throughout the world, held civic engagement meetings, collected additional soil data within the project area, launched a public information site on the park’s website, and conducted extensive meetings and incorporated comments from a project-specific science team of experts familiar with Meadow Run and watershed liming. The park anticipates starting the environmental assessment process in 2020.



Cape Lookout National Seashore has long been subject to severe storms. Hurricanes Florence (2018) and Dorian (2019) are only the most recent examples. Wind, overwash, and storm surge from these storms caused all manner of debris to be washed into proposed wilderness at the Shackleford Banks portion of the park. Items deposited included plywood, pressure treated wood from docks and piers, structures, glass, styrofoam, signs, and metal containers and other debris of all descriptions. During Hurricane Dorian, a derelict shrimp boat even washed up on the island. The park has prepared a plan for cleaning up the island that will allow it to remove even the largest and heaviest items while still safeguarding wilderness character. The result will be an improved wilderness experience for park visitors and enhanced safety for the island’s iconic herd of wild horses.

WILDERNESS LEADERSHIP AND ADVISORY GROUPS

NPS National Wilderness Leadership Council

The NWLC serves an advisory council to the Director on all matters pertaining to wilderness and strives to enhance the agency's ability to address critical wilderness stewardship issues. Comprised of park, regional, and national staff, this interdisciplinary council represents perspectives from a variety of positions and management levels. Each council member serves a three-year term, with staggered rotation occurring each year. 2019 NWLC members* include:

Superintendent

Jennifer Flynn, Shenandoah National Park
(Co-Chair)

Philip Hooge, Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve

Woody Smeck, Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks (Chair)

Park Wilderness Manager

Ruth Scott, Olympic National Park
Daniel Van der Elst, Mount Rainier National Park
PJ Walker, Everglades National Park

Visitor & Resource Protection

Scott Brown, SE Utah Parks Group

Cultural Resources

Blair Davenport, Pacific West Region
Jay Theuer, Joshua Tree National Park

Natural Resources

Linda Mazzu, Bryce Canyon National Park

Interpretation & Education

Shauna Potocky, Kenai Fjords National Park
Kevin Sweeney, Lassen Volcanic National Park

Facilities Management

Larry Lack, Olympic National Park

At Large

Fred Herling, Everglades National Park
Mark Kinzer, Region 2 Regional Office

Alaska Region/Park Representative

Joan Kluwe, Regional Office
Adrienne Lindholm, Regional Office

Wilderness Stewardship Division

Roger Semler, Chief
Tim Devine, Branch Chief

Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center

Andrea Gehrke, Director

Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute

Susan Fox, Director

Commercial Services Liaison

Kelly Chang, Alaska Region

Environmental Quality Division Liaison

Lindsay Gillham, Project Manager

Fire & Aviation Liaison

Jay Lusher, Regions 6/7/8

Natural Resources Stewardship & Science Liaisons

Kirsten Gallo, Inventory & Monitoring Division

Park Planning and Special Studies

Wendy Berhman, Planner
Patrick Gregerson, Chief

Associate Directors For:

Visitor and Resource Protection; Natural Resource Stewardship and Science; Cultural Resources; Park Planning, Facilities, and Lands

Department of Interior Solicitor's Office Liaison

Dan Pulver, Attorney-Advisor

Interagency Wilderness Steering Committee

The Interagency Wilderness Steering Committee (IWSC) - represented by the NPS, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and US Forest Service, with science and research support from the US Geological Survey - work collaboratively to improve stewardship across the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The IWSC, comprised of wilderness program leads, meets monthly to discuss high priority issues and initiatives for interagency wilderness stewardship. 2019 IWSC members include:

National Park Service
Roger Semler

US Forest Service
Sandy Skrien (Chair)

Bureau of Land Management
Peter Mali (Vice Chair)

Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center
Andrea Gehrke

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Nancy Roeper

US Geological Survey
Rudy Schuster

Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute
Susan Fox

Interagency Wilderness Policy Council

The Interagency Wilderness Policy Council (IWPC) provides national-level wilderness guidance for federal agencies and is comprised of agency Associate/Assistant Directors. The IWPC meets periodically to identify common policy and guidance to be implemented across the National Wilderness Preservation System. 2019 IWPC members include:

National Park Service
Louis Rowe and Guy Adema

US Forest Service
Sue Spear

Bureau of Land Management
Nikki Haskett

US Geological Survey
Vacant

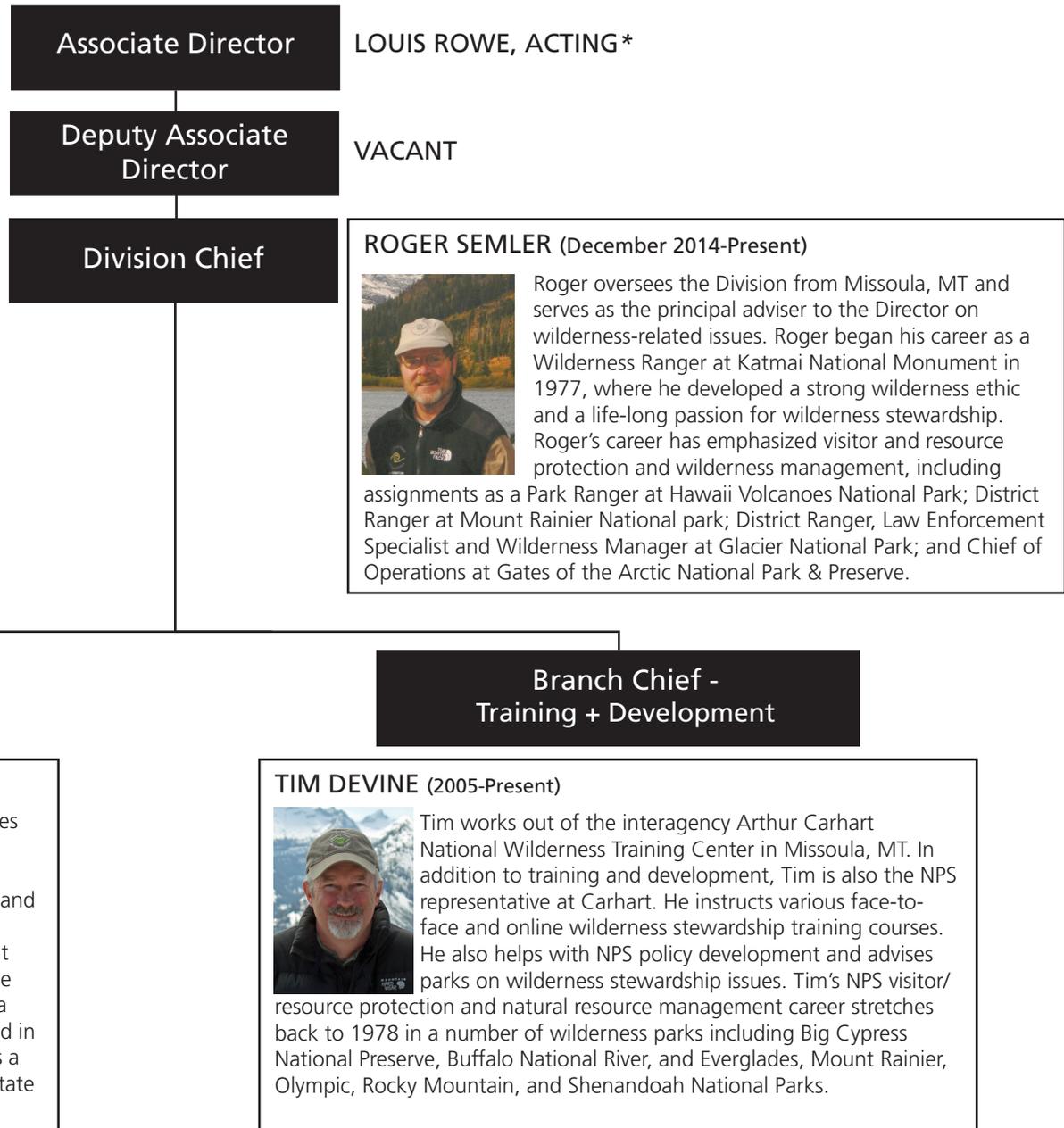
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Cynthia Martinez

*Due to the NWLC's staggered membership rotation, the Chair, Co-Chair, and four other positions will change in 2020.

APPENDIX A: ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Wilderness Stewardship Division, Visitor & Resource Protection Directorate

The Wilderness Stewardship Division (WSD) is one of seven divisions in the WASO Visitor and Resource Protection Directorate. The WSD assists the Director in implementing national wilderness policy and provides servicewide leadership and subject matter expertise in all aspects of wilderness stewardship and management, including wilderness law, policy, training and communications.



**In April 2020, Jennifer Flynn was hired as the new Associate Director.*

APPENDIX B: NATIONAL PARK SERVICE DESIGNATED WILDERNESS SUMMARY TABLE

Park	Wilderness Area	Acres
Apostle Islands National Lakeshore	Gaylord Nelson Wilderness	33,500
Badlands National Park	Badlands Wilderness	64,144
Bandelier National Monument	Bandelier Wilderness	23,267
Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park	Black Canyon of the Gunnison Wilderness	15,599
Buffalo National River	Buffalo National River Wilderness	34,933
Carlsbad Caverns National Park	Carlsbad Caverns Wilderness	33,125
Chiricahua National Monument	Chiricahua Wilderness	10,290
Congaree National Park	Congaree National Park Wilderness	21,700
Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve	Craters of the Moon National Wilderness Area	43,243
Cumberland Island National Seashore	Cumberland Island Wilderness	9,886
Death Valley National Park	Death Valley Wilderness	3,190,455
Denali National Park and Preserve	Denali Wilderness	2,146,000
Devils Postpile National Monument	Ansel Adams Wilderness	747
Everglades National Park	Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness	1,296,500
Fire Island National Seashore	Otis Pike Fire Island High Dune Wilderness	1,380
Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve	Gates of the Arctic Wilderness	7,154,000
Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve	Glacier Bay Wilderness	2,664,876
Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve	Great Sand Dunes Wilderness	32,643
	Sangre de Cristo Wilderness	40,595
Guadalupe Mountains National Park	Guadalupe Mountains Wilderness	46,850
Gulf Islands National Seashore	Gulf Islands Wilderness	4,630
Haleakala National Park	Haleakala Wilderness	24,710
Hawaii Volcanoes National Park	Hawaii Volcanoes Wilderness	123,100
Isle Royale National Park	Isle Royale Wilderness	132,018
Joshua Tree National Park	Joshua Tree Wilderness	595,364
Katmai National Park and Preserve	Katmai Wilderness	3,323,000
Kobuk Valley National Park	Kobuk Valley Wilderness	176,000
Lake Clark National Park and Preserve	Lake Clark Wilderness	2,592,000

Park	Wilderness Area	Acres
Lake Mead National Recreation Area	Black Canyon Wilderness	17,220
	Bridge Canyon Wilderness	7,761
	Eldorado Wilderness	26,250
	Ireteba Peaks Wilderness	29,299
	Jimbilinan Wilderness	18,879
	Muddy Mountains Wilderness	3,521
	Nellis Wash Wilderness	16,423
	Pinto Valley Wilderness	39,173
Lassen Volcanic National Park	Spirit Mountain Wilderness	32,913
	Lassen Volcanic Wilderness	79,061
Lava Beds National Monument	Lava Beds Wilderness	28,460
Mesa Verde National Park	Mesa Verde Wilderness	8,500
Mojave National Preserve	Mojave Wilderness	695,200
Mount Rainier National Park	Mount Rainier Wilderness	228,480
Noatak National Preserve	Noatak Wilderness	5,814,000
North Cascades National Park	Stephen Mather Wilderness	638,173
Olympic National Park	Daniel J. Evans Wilderness	876,447
Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument	Organ Pipe Cactus Wilderness	312,600
Petrified Forest National Park	Petrified Forest National Wilderness Area	50,260
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore	Beaver Basin Wilderness	11,740
Pinnacles National Park	Hain Wilderness	15,985
Point Reyes National Seashore	Phillip Burton Wilderness	27,315
Rocky Mountain National Park	Indian Peaks Wilderness	2,959
	Rocky Mountain National Park Wilderness	249,126
Saguaro National Park	Saguaro Wilderness	70,905
Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks	John Krebs Wilderness	39,740
	Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness	768,222
Shenandoah National Park	Shenandoah Wilderness	79,579
Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore	Sleeping Bear Dunes Wilderness	32,557
Theodore Roosevelt National Park	Theodore Roosevelt Wilderness	29,920
Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve	Wrangell-St. Elias Wilderness	9,432,000
Yosemite National Park	Yosemite Wilderness	704,624
Zion National Park	Zion Wilderness	124,406

All acreages reference designated wilderness only, not designated potential wilderness.

For some parks, acreages listed reflect updated boundary mapping through GIS. This may result in a change from the legislated to "current designated" acreage numbers listed.

