

The National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance

The National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance (NWSA) was formed in 2010 as a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization with the mission of developing a network of volunteer-based organizations working together to provide stewardship for America's enduring resource of wilderness. The NWSA works in cooperation with the four National Wilderness Preservation System agencies to connect volunteer-based wilderness stewardship organizations with one another, direct groups to resources, and foster new wilderness stewardship organizations. A Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2011 governs cooperation between the NWSA and the National Park Service.

The NWSA can assist wilderness managers in three primary areas:

- Site-specific volunteerism. Member organizations can educate visitors, staff visitor centers, organize and host community activities, and generally promote volunteer opportunities.

- Monitoring of wilderness character conditions. Members can engage in wilderness character monitoring, including field reconnaissance and data entry.
- Site-specific management issues. Members can engage in a variety of field projects, such as trail rehabilitation, treatment of invasive species, and posting trail signage.

How can the NWSA help you meet your wilderness stewardship responsibilities? Visit our Web site at <http://wildernessalliance.org> or e-mail the author, Dave Cantrell, chair of the board, NWSA, at cantrell@verinet.com.

—**Dave Cantrell**

Chair, National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance, P.O. Box 5293, Reno, Nevada 89513