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**LET'S CELEBRATE A SUCCESSFUL SEASON!**

RSVP to [rsvp@eaglesummitwilderness.org](mailto:rsvp@eaglesummitwilderness.org) by September 12

All ESWA members, partners, and volunteers are invited to attend ESWA's Annual Celebration of our work on behalf of Wilderness!

**When and Where:**

September 24, 4-7 p.m.

John Taylor Pavilion, Eagles Nest Community Center

**What We'll Provide:**

- Good Food and Fellowship
- A lively short program
- Volunteer awards
- ESWA Swag for sale
- Door prizes! Attendees have a chance to win two lift tickets to A-Basin or your choice of other prizes.

Event is free, but a \$10 donation by cash or check (maybe credit cards) is suggested.



# ANNOUNCING

the **Currie Craven Award** nominations  
and **Photo Contest**  
entries

Two hallmarks of ESWA's Annual Celebration are to celebrate people who work so tirelessly on behalf of protected Wilderness. We invite and encourage your nominations and entries:

The **Currie Craven Award** is our premiere recognition of advocates of the promotion and protection of Wilderness. ***The nomination period is now open through September 12.*** Send your nomination to [award@eaglesummitwilderness.org](mailto:award@eaglesummitwilderness.org). Details of the award, nomination process, and past winners are [here](#).

Our **Annual ESWA Photo Contest** solicits entries of photographs that best evoke the splendor of the Wilderness Areas ESWA helps protect: Eagles Nest, Holy Cross, and Ptarmigan. ***Entries are invited now through September 12.*** Submit photos to [photocontest@eaglesummitwilderness.org](mailto:photocontest@eaglesummitwilderness.org). Details of the award, nomination process, and past winners are [here](#).

## SEASON UPDATES

ESWA's volunteers have been busy this summer! ESWA VWRs organized four weekend-long work trips, assisted by our friendly llamas Dom and Monty and our USFS Ranger colleagues. At Nolan Lake, Lake Charles, Upper Cataract, and Slate Lakes, we removed over 100 illegal fire pits, erected no-campfire signs, and collected and carried out untold amounts of trash.



And here are some impressive patrol and trailhead hosting numbers, as of August 28 (stay tuned for our amazing Sawyer stats in next month's newsletter):

#### PATROLS:

- 103 VWRs conducted 337 patrols over 1,618 hours
- 8,145 users contacted, including 696 overnight users
- 160 fire-safety conversation held
- 76% of dogs encountered were on leash
- Ellie Finlay did the most patrols (17) and logged the most hours (91.5)

#### TRAILHEAD HOSTS

- 28 VWRs hosted at 16 trailheads over 97 hours
- 1,112 users were contacted, including 27 overnight users
- 18 fire-safety conversations held
- 94% of dogs encountered were on leash
- Joan Betz did the most trailhead hosting shifts (5) over the most hours (19)

A big thanks to our VWRs for their hard work. If you've not yet completed your minimum four required patrols or trailhead host shifts, please try to do so by September's end. In need of additional coaching or would like a partner for your next patrol? Contact Mike Browning at (303)408-0995.

## ESWA AND USFS ERECT EDUCATIONAL SIGNS AT HOLY CROSS AND EAGLES NEST TRAILHEADS

ESWA funded and helped the USFS design a series of three educational signs to be erected prior to the Wilderness boundary on several of our most popular trails. These include a Leave No Trace sign, a sign with rules and guidance on taking your dog into Wilderness, and one on general Wilderness values and regulations. For the trails that received signs last year, our VWRs report increased compliance with the Wilderness regulations, including keeping pups on leash!



VWR Mike Browning with the new Leave No Trace sign at the Missouri Creek Trailhead

## ADVOCACY UPDATES



ESWA continues to advocate for a number of campaigns to protect our three local Wilderness Areas. These include:

**Protecting winter habitat for bighorn sheep.** ESWA supports the Town of Vail's efforts to protect the last-remaining bighorn winter habitat in the valley. Check out ESWA's latest [Get Wild article](#) in the Summit Daily on our amazing state animal.

**Passing the CORE Act.** The Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act, CORE, has passed the House four times, but has yet to make it through the Senate due to Republican opposition. ESWA and many conservation groups have worked for years to obtain CORE passage, which would provide Wilderness Act protection to 73,000 acres, including additions to the Holy Cross, Eagles Nest, and Ptarmigan Wilderness Areas. Senators Bennet and Hickenlooper, Congressman Neguse, and Governor Polis recently announced a new plan to urge President Biden to give these areas protection as a new national monument, called the Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument – this [Colorado Sun article](#) has more info. The new national monument would encompass not only Camp Hale, but also nearby areas where the 10th Mountain Division trained, which could include areas that CORE would make Wilderness. ESWA is closely monitoring this important new proposal, and we are pushing hard to include the most protection possible for the proposed Wilderness Areas (and for future passage of CORE). We will keep you posted about developments and getting involved!

#### IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- **September 12:** Deadline for Currie Craven Award nominations, photo contest

submissions, and RSVP for ESWA Annual Celebration.

- **September 14:** Spraddle Creek CORE Act hike with Susie Kincade, Eagle County Naturalist and ESWA member. RSVP at [susie@ebcmarketing.com](mailto:susie@ebcmarketing.com) or 970-328-5472.
- **September 24:** ESWA Annual Celebration - [John Taylor Pavilion, Eagles Nest Community Center](#)

#### HELP WANTED: WEBSITE MANAGER



ESWA is seeking a **website manager**. We use Wix, the friendliest program imaginable. It's all copy-and-paste with no coding, ever. If you can use Word, you can learn Wix. We'll teach you. Bonus: With Wix, you can easily and for free make your own website for weddings, family reunions, and so forth.

Please email [info@eaglesummitwilderness.org](mailto:info@eaglesummitwilderness.org) with your interest.

#### TWO FREE WAYS TO PROVIDE ESWA MUCH-NEEDED FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- **Sign up for City Market & King Soopers Community Rewards – it's so easy!** If you don't yet have the card, please [sign up for one here](#). Then go to your [Community Rewards](#), choose your local store as your preferred store, and set ESWA as the charity to which you want to donate (search for Eagle Summit Wilderness Alliance or use ESWA's code VX077).
- **Sign up for Amazon Smile.** Amazon Smile offers the same products and same prices as the Amazon site. Amazon will donate to ESWA 0.5% of every purchase you make – and it costs you nothing. [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up. All you do is log in to Amazon using [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) instead of [amazon.com](https://amazon.com). Sign in through [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) each time you shop, so you might want to bookmark that page.

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Soul of the Summit



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