



Impact of Donations on Your Wilderness

~Projected Annual Cost of Various Programs and Activities~

ESWA is increasing our strategic commitment to support the Forest Service with a 3-5-year plan. Even smaller donations accumulate to the amounts below - Please Donate Today!

\$1,000

Cross-cut Saw



\$2,500

First-Aid Training



\$2,500

Educational Supplies



\$3,500

Sawyer Program



\$5,000

Volunteer Ranger Program



\$6,000

Llama Trips



\$7,500

Social & Outreach Events



\$20,000 x 3-4

Wilderness Ranger



\$10,000 - \$20,000 x 2

Project Contribution**



**Bridge replacement and trail rehabilitation costs range from \$50k-\$90k, including labor, materials, etc. Costs are funded by a combination of grants and cash contributions. Figures here represent projected ESWA cash contributions.

Cross-Cut Saw

Essential for clearing big trees blocking trails, these 2-person saws are specialty items, costing \$1,000.

First-Aid Training

Required for Sawyer Certification and highly useful for Volunteer Wilderness Rangers, ESWA provides annual Wilderness-focused CPR and 1st-Aid training.

Educational Supplies

ESWA provides educational materials on Wilderness, Leave-No-Trace, dog regulations, safety, and ESWA's work.

Sawyer Program

ESWA Sawyers are USFS certified, and annually clear over 1,000 trees blocking the 18 Wilderness trails assigned to us. Program costs include training, personal protective equipment, and equipment maintenance.

Volunteer Wilderness Ranger Program

We train ESWA members to patrol Wilderness trails and host at trailheads. As official representatives of the USFS, we spend over 2,000 hours annually, educating the public to protect Wilderness, and gathering essential USFS data. Program costs include training, uniforms, and supplies.

Llama Trips

ESWA and the USFS conduct 4 multi-day llama-supported backcountry trips each summer. These allow teams of USFS Rangers and ESWA volunteers to travel deep into the Wilderness to maintain trails, re-naturalize campsites, remediate illegal fire rings, gather data, and educate the public. ESWA leases the llamas, which carry tools and supplies.

Social & Outreach Events

ESWA hosts monthly social events and an annual celebration for members, the public, and our USFS partners. In 2025, we showed appreciation for our hard-working USFS colleagues by providing lunch and a brief presentation on ESWA.

USFS Wilderness Ranger

In 2025, ESWA funded a seasonal Wilderness Ranger position in the Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District, for patrolling the Wilderness, educating the public, maintaining trails, etc. With the latest staffing cuts, USFS has asked ESWA to sponsor 3 additional seasonal Wilderness Rangers in 2026.

Project Contribution

ESWA supports trail projects, ranging from 1-day projects (sign installation, basic trail maintenance) to major multi-week projects (trail rebuilding and relocations and bridge installations). We seek grants, but many require ESWA to match funds. With recent federal funding cuts, funding needs have increased. Some of ESWA's major projects:

- 2024 Willow Creek Bridge: ESWA raised funds and provided nearly 200 hours of volunteer hours for this substantial bridge.
- 2024-25 Meadow Creek Trail Repairs: This 2-year project includes a bridge, boardwalk, 23 check steps, and 12 water diversions. Total project costs of \$85,000 were funded with a combination of grants and ESWA cash contributions.
- Fall 2025 Missouri Lake Trail: This reconstruction of a heavily used bridge will require significant volunteer efforts and grant funds.
- 2026: Rock Creek Bridge: This upcoming work includes replacement of a large bridge and major trail restoration. Total projected project costs of \$85,000 will be funded with a combination of grants and a projected ESWA \$20,000 contribution.