

ALDO LEOPOLD WILDERNESS RESEARCH INSTITUTE

PROVIDING SCIENTIFIC LEADERSHIP TO SUSTAIN WILDERNESS

Art & Science in WILDERNESS

March 2013

Are you an ...

- Artist?
- Scientist?
- Wilderness Manager?
- Patron of Wilderness, Arts or Science?

We Invite You...

to participate in an exciting new endeavor merging art with science for the benefit of wilderness areas and all who appreciate wild places.

Join Us! ...

in our preparations to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act by participating in our flagship art meets science project.

Aldo & Leonardo
A WILDERNESS SCIENCE AND ART COLLABORATION

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Passed into law on September 3, 1964, the Wilderness Act will mark its 50th anniversary in 2014. Our endeavor, described in the following pages, is an interdisciplinary collaboration of art and science designed to celebrate the lands, resources and opportunities protected by the Wilderness Act.

Our project, entitled Aldo & Leonardo, is inspired by the scientific wisdom of Aldo Leopold and the artistic genius of Leonardo da Vinci.

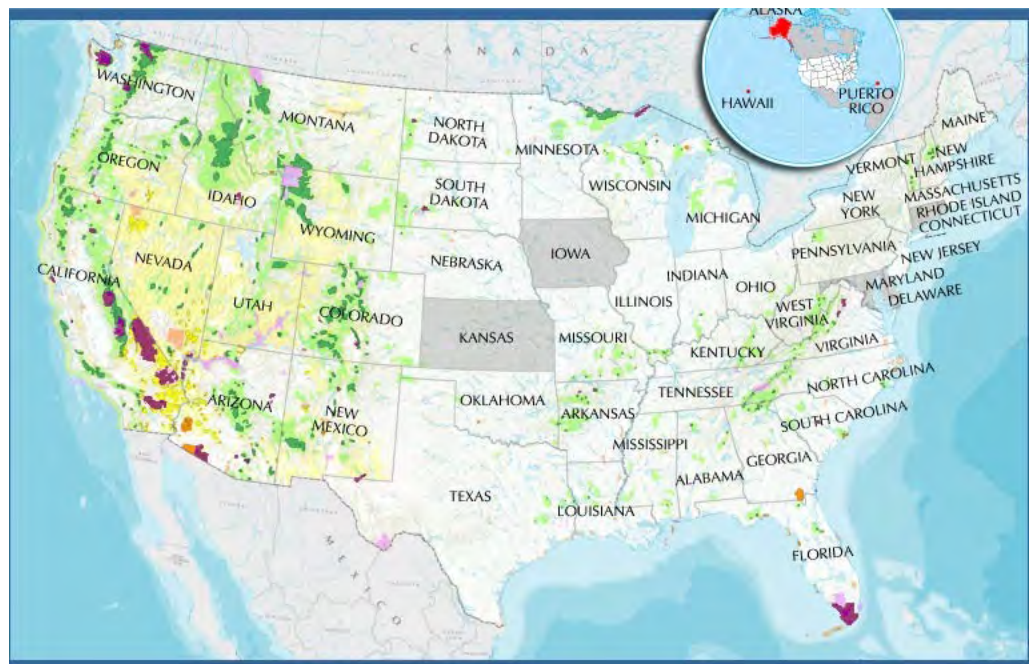
During 2013, the U.S. Forest Service's Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute (ALWRI) and Colorado Art Ranch will sponsor small groups of

USDA Forest Service
Colorado Art Ranch

visiting artists and resident scientists for one-month shared residencies in or near six wilderness sites. The scientists and artists - visual, literary, and performing - will collaborate to produce a body of work that creatively illustrates the value of wild areas and honors the scientific efforts to preserve wilderness.

"To those devoid of imagination a blank place on the map is a useless waste; to others, the most valuable part."

- Aldo Leopold



The Work of an Artist or Scientist Begins with Questions

Today's issues facing wilderness biomes and human beings require complex thinking. Complex thinking requires both broad and focused perspectives. The problem solving approach used by artists gives rise to a range of possibilities previously unimagined and the possibilities can enrich the framework for scientific inquiry.



For example, Leonardo da Vinci, both an artist and a scientist, imagined the helicopter centuries before a working version could be realized. His vision gave scientists and engineers the basis for the ultimate invention.

Artists and scientists are similar in that their work starts with questions about the what, why, and how of the world's phenomena, yet the methods they use to explore and find answers are poles apart. When artists and scientists work together, their different perspectives and ways of thinking can lead to conclusions that combine the best of right-brain and left-brain thinking. The scientists begin to think like artists and the artists begin to think like scientists. The disruption of their typical ways of seeing and the cross-fertilization of ideas facilitate creative problem solving.

Forest Service Scientist Dave Cole and assistants working on Wilderness based research plots.

Selection of Wilderness Sites

The Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute will select the locations and scientists in conjunction with wilderness managers.

Selection criteria include:

- 1) Representation of a variety of biomes,
- 2) Representation of all ALWRI partner agencies: BLM, NPS, FWS and FS,
- 3) Significance of work, *and* openness and willingness to collaborate with artists,
- 4) Availability of housing, appropriate to the location, for three artists for one month, and
- 5) A negotiable level of video documentation.

The artist sees what others only catch a glimpse of.

~ Leonardo da Vinci

Desired settings for this project:

- Tropical Rainforest
- Tundra & Ice
- Desert
- Marine
- Coniferous Forest
- Freshwater and Deciduous Forest

If you are interested in including the Wilderness Area with which you are affiliated in this project, or if you have a new biome for us to consider, please contact Dr. Cindy Swanson at the Forest Service in Missoula. Her contact information is on the back page of this flyer. We are open to other suggested landscapes and Areas, and are most interested in enthusiastic managing partners.

Tasks and Timing

2012:

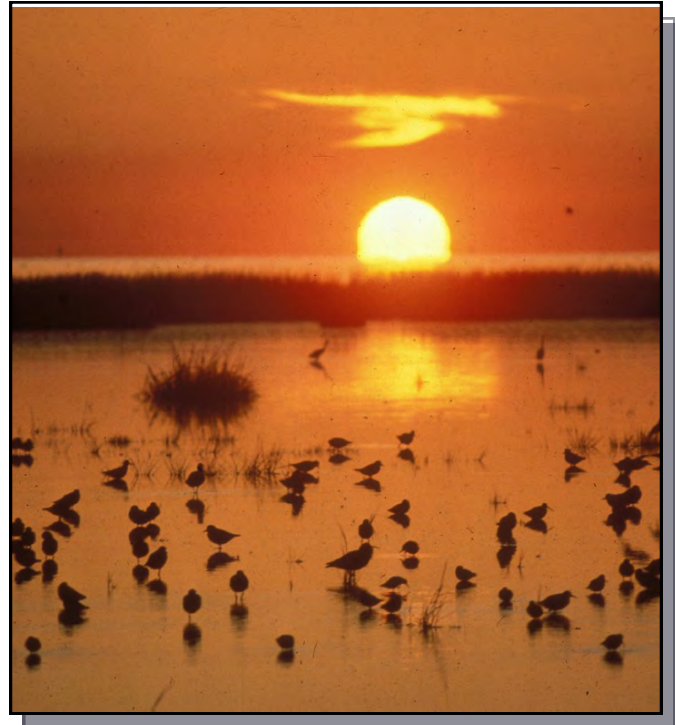
- Design and develop project plan.
- Select wilderness sites.
- Recruit and select artists. Design facilitation plan.

2013:

- Develop a Communication and Marketing Plan
- Host six art-science wilderness residencies.
- Begin documentation of the projects.

2014:

- Complete documentation and presentation materials.
- Promote the book, e-book, video, and project online, to the press, in public displays, and at presentations.



Monomoy Wilderness Area, managed by the National Fish and Wildlife Service, is a welcomed haven for migratory birds

“The preservation of a few samples of undeveloped territory is one of the most clamant issues before us today.”

~ Bob Marshall

Artist Selection and Residency Facilitation

The Colorado Art Ranch will facilitate the selection of artists, in conjunction with ALWRI.

We will advertise internationally for applicants in our search for artists who are using their skills, talents, knowledge and passion to react to the world in which we live.

A modest stipend for the artists will be covered by the project, and will be coordinated through Colorado Art Ranch. Grant Pound, Executive Director of Colorado Art Ranch, will facilitate the residencies.



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ColoradoArtRanch
ARTS + PEOPLE + PLACE

Colorado Art Ranch

Colorado Art Ranch is a 501(c)(3) organization with headquarters in Livermore, Colorado (www.coloradoartranch.org). Founded in 2005, the Ranch hosts interdisciplinary artist residencies in small towns throughout Colorado. In 2012, Colorado Art Ranch completed a ground-breaking transdisciplinary collaboration to envision uses for an inactive silver mine site in Lake City, CO.

The missions of Colorado Art Ranch and the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute are in close alignment. Colorado Art Ranch believes that the arts, in concert with the sciences, can help solve contemporary land and social issues.



Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute

While many scientists conduct research relevant to wilderness, the Leopold Institute (ALWRI) is the only Federal research group entirely focused on wilderness. We are dedicated to the following goals:

- To develop the scientific knowledge and tools needed to protect and preserve wilderness and the ecological and social values derived from wilderness and similarly managed lands, and
- To communicate and facilitate the application of this knowledge to the wilderness management agencies and other user groups.

ALWRI is administered by the U.S. Forest Service and operates under an agreement with the Forest Service, Geological Survey, Bureau of Land Management, Fish & Wildlife Service and the National Park Service.

For additional information about how you can become engaged contact:

Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute

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Colorado Art Ranch

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"Art is the queen of all sciences communicating knowledge to all the generations of the world."
-Leonardo da Vinci