

# 2011 LEP NATIONAL CONFERENCE

## Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic-Then and Now

*Discovering the Past, Creating Our Future*



McEvoy  
**LEOPOLD**  
EDUCATION PROJECT



**Albuquerque, New Mexico July 28-30, 2011**

## William deBuys

Writer and conservationist William deBuys is the author of six books, which range from memoir and biography to environmental history and studies of place. A native of Maryland, he attended the University of North Carolina, where he graduated with highest honors in 1972. Soon afterwards, the writer and social critic, Robert Coles brought him to New Mexico as a research assistant, initiating deBuys's deep relationship with the cultures and landscapes of the Southwest.



DeBuys earned an MA and PhD in American Civilization from the University of Texas at Austin, finishing in 1982. He was named a Lyndhurst Fellow for 1986-1988, a Carl and Florence King Fellow at SMU in 1999-2000, and a Guggenheim Fellow in 2008-2009. Today he lives on the farm he has tended since 1976 in the remote village of El Valle in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains between Santa Fe and Taos.

William deBuys's books include *Enchantment and Exploitation: The Life and Hard Times of a New Mexico Mountain Range*, which won a Southwest Book Award and is now in its ninth printing; *River of Traps*, which was recognized as a New York Times Notable Book of the year and was one of three finalists for the Pulitzer Prize in General Non-Fiction in 1991; *Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California*, which won the Western States Book Award and several other prizes; *Seeing Things Whole: the Essential John Wesley Powell*; *Valles Caldera: A Vision for New Mexico's National Preserve*, winner of a Southwest Book Award; and *The Walk*, an excerpt from which won a Pushcart Prize in 2008.

DeBuys has long been active in environmental affairs. From 1982 to 1986 he directed the North Carolina Chapter of the Nature Conservancy and from the late 1980s through the 1990s he represented The Conservation Fund in the Southwest. His efforts have led to the permanent protection of over 150,000 acres of wild lands in North Carolina and the Southwest.

From 1997 to 2004 he developed and directed the Valle Grande Grass Bank, a cooperative effort involving ranchers, conservationists and public agencies in the rehabilitation of rangelands in northern New Mexico. In 2000 the effort earned the National Range Management Award

## Thursday, July 28

7:00 am **Field Trip to Tres Piedras**  
(Meet at Marriott lobby)

8:00 am **Land Ethic Leaders Workshop Day 2** - Hosted by the Aldo Leopold Foundation (Bosque School)

9:00 am **LEP Training for Educators**  
(Rio Grande Nature Center)

7:30 pm **Poolside Reception & Welcome**  
by the US Forest Service (Marriott)

## Friday, July 29

(Auditorium)

8:00 am **Welcome:** Janine Kohn,  
National Education Specialist

8:30 am **Pheasants Forever – Leaving a Legacy:** Bob Hix, PF CO/WY  
Regional Representative

9:00 am **Keynote:** Famous Author &  
Conservationist, William deBuys

**Friday AM Concurrent Sessions 1**  
(1 HOUR SESSIONS) 10:15-11:15 am

### **A Sand County Almanac for the Sight Impaired** (Room 1)

Presented by Teri Rogoway, California LEP State Coordinator

Come learn how to adapt the LEP curriculum for people with sight impairment. Get familiar with the activities through hands-on participation and practice. Join us for a fun and engaging practical exercise that will help give you ideas while gaining a true understanding of your audience. Although designed to help you adapt your program for the sight impaired, these activities can be done with all visitors.

### **Journaling for Youth Field Days** (Room 2)

Presented by Luann Waters,  
Oklahoma LEP State Coordinator

Need an outside or inside activity? You have come to the right place! Discover how to decorate journal covers using items you have on-hand. The best part — you don't have to be an art teacher to introduce folks to recording fun memories in a unique way and the bonus: youth have a great resource to take home! Session will include a helpful demonstration and a variety of examples on ideas to take back to share with others. Handouts will include: list of suggested materials, "how-to" notes and resources to enhance your very own hands-on programs back home!

### **Bridging the Gap: How to Make Citizen Based Monitoring Projects Work for Educators and Students** (Room 3)

Presented by Jessica Miller-Naturalist,  
Mosquito Hill Nature Center

Citizen Based Monitoring (CBM) is a term used to describe ongoing scientific research performed by volunteers who may have little to no scientific background or training. Come join us as naturalist Jessica Miller will discuss various CBM projects available and how schools, nature centers, environmental organizations and even private land owners can benefit by taking part in this wonderful community opportunity!

### **Friday AM Concurrent Sessions 2**

11:30-12:30 pm

#### **Down the River with Aldo Leopold**

(Room 1) Presented by Curt Carter, Owner and CEO of Land for Learning Institute, Illinois LEP State Coordinator

Join us as we explore the roots of Aldo Leopold's inspirations. Learn how his camp, river and field experiences shaped his perception of the natural world. Learn activities and techniques to inspire the "Leopold" in all of us. Learn why some of Aldo Leopold's best work was stained with camp coffee and smelled of wood smoke. Our goal in education is not the filling of a pail.....but the lighting of a fire.....a campfire!

#### **T.U.N.E.-The Ultimate Nature Experience** (Room 2)

Presented by Bob Hix, Colorado/Wyoming PF Field Representative; Stan Barthloma, Colorado PF Youth Education Chair; Jerry Miller, Colorado Farm Bill Biologist and CO LEP State Coordinator

Remember the days of camp? Getting outdoors, getting dirty and learning how to fish? Those days and opportunities are becoming less and less. Join us and learn how Pheasants Forever has teamed up with several Colorado partners to bring those opportunities back to life! Listen to how a team of volunteers is living Leopold's land ethic by connecting youth with habitat and outdoor activities which occur in these beautiful habitats!

#### **Thinking like a Mountain? Youth Engagement in New Mexico Forest Restoration** (Room 3)

Presented by Tori Derr,  
University of Colorado-Boulder

Join us and learn how youth engagement has been a component of the Collaborative Forest Restoration Program since its inception in 2001. This session will share experiences in the early development of this unique curriculum and activities which engage rural youth in meaningful ways. Discover the opportunities and challenges in getting youth involved in the program and listen to how perspectives among the younger generations changed after the Ojo Peak fire of 2007.

**Friday PM Concurrent Sessions 3**  
2:00-3:00 pm

**Partnering Youth Leadership and Community Resources** (Room 1)  
*Presented by Celeste Prussia, University of Missouri, Missouri LEP State Coordinator*  
Now in its third year, the GLADE program provides training to rural students in habitat restoration, conservation biology, and leadership. GLADE participants envision local environmental projects and guide the implementation using community partners and resources. Come learn how you can create this concept in your community!

**Site Sustainability and Resource Management on a Large Government Campus: Approaches & Achievements** (Room 2) *Presented by Jack Mizner, Sandia National Laboratories*  
Join us as we share the highlights of Sandia National Laboratories. Learn about the goals, initiatives and accomplishments in this unique setting. Since 1949, Sandia National Laboratories has developed science-based technologies that support our national security. Today, 300+ million Americans depend on Sandia's technology, solutions to land use planning/conservation, resource management and environmental sustainability on this 18,000-acre facility.

**Making the Case for Environmental Education** (Room 3)  
*Presented by Melissa Arthur, Kansas Association for Conservation & Environmental Education; Kansas LEP State Coordinator*  
Join us as we provide an overview of current research outlining the physical, emotional, social and cognitive benefits of outdoor experiences & education programs. Participants will enhance their background knowledge of the field, and learn how to use this research to promote their programs at home!

**Friday PM Concurrent Sessions 4**  
3:15-4:15 pm

**School in the Woods: A Public School Where Young Naturalists Learn from the Land** (Room 1)  
*Presented by Carol Stansfield, Educator and Co-founder of School in the Woods*  
Imagine a school where elementary students spend an entire year learning in, about, and from the natural world. The curriculum grows from the Ponderosa Pine forest which surrounds the school. Join us as we journey through a year of outdoor fun and discovery at the "School in the Woods" and take home ideas on how to connect your students to the land.

**Developing a Land Ethic in an Urban National Park, Mississippi National River and Recreation Area** (Room 2)  
*Presented by Brian Goodspeed, U.S. National Park Service*  
Sharing the "Land Ethic" is critical. Yet, urban realities, education policies, and agency inertia provide ongoing challenges. What strategies may we employ to win the day? Learn how Minnesota's National Park, through a wide variety of opportunities, is making that connection to the outdoors through riverboats, canoes, trails and site visits! It is time to bring the "Park" to the city!

**Land Ethic Leaders "Mini Session"** (Room 3) *Presented by Jennifer Kobylecky & Anna Hawley, Aldo Leopold Foundation*  
Join us as we read a short piece of writing focused on the environment and then discuss it, exploring on our personal and communal connections to nature. Enjoy a preview of our full-length program!

**Saturday, July 30**  
(Auditorium)

9:00 am **Keynote: Wolf Ecology and Conservation—From "Green Fire" to Ecological Enlightenment**  
*Renowned USFWS Wildlife Biologist & Leader of the Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Program, David Parsons*

**Saturday AM Mini Seminars**  
(2 HOURS) 10:15-12:15 pm

**Linking the "Land Ethic" Through Diverse Types of Spirituality** (Room 1)  
*Presented by Dr. Richard Jurin, University of Northern Colorado*  
Leopold connected people to nature without saying spirituality, yet what does spirituality really mean and how can it be included in any EE program without alienating diverse beliefs and values? Come join us as we learn through interactive discussions ways to understand perspectives and techniques to relate to diverse groups.

**Exploring LEP's New Award-Winning Curriculum: Tips & Ways to Use Them!** (Room 2) *Presented by Suzanne Hirrel, AR LEP State Coordinator & Treva Breuch, WI LEP State Coordinator*  
Join us as we discover tips and tricks on using the new LEP activities in both Exploring the Outdoors with Aldo Leopold and Lessons in GPS Technology. Learn how easy these resources are to use in outdoor programming with parks, nature centers, zoos and various types of youth events!

**Community Ecosystem Monitoring: Citizen Science at its BEST!** (Room 3)  
*Presented by Kimi Scheerer,*

from the U. S. Forest Service. From 2001 to 2004, under appointment by President William Clinton, he served as founding chairman of the Valles Caldera Trust, which administers the 89,000-acre Valles Caldera National Preserve under an experimental approach to the management of public lands.

DeBuys is currently writing *A Great Aridness*, which examines the precariousness of life in the Southwest and the likely impact on the region of climate change, which promises to transform the Southwest as emphatically as it is already altering the Arctic.

**David Parsons**



David Parsons received his Bachelor of Science degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Biology from Iowa State University and his Master of Science degree in Wildlife Ecology from Oregon State University. Dave was a career

Wildlife Biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where from 1990 to 1999 he led the USFWS's Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Program. Dave's interests include the ecology and conservation of large carnivores, protection and conservation of biodiversity, and wildlands conservation at scales that fully support ecological and evolutionary processes. He is the Rewilding Institute's Carnivore Conservation Biologist.

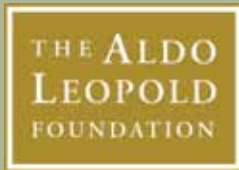
Dave was a graduate advisor in the Environmental Studies Master of Arts Program at Prescott College, Arizona, from 2002 to 2008. He advises organizations and coalitions advocating for wolf recovery and landscape-scale conservation in the Southwest. Dave is currently a member of the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Team.

In 2001, Dave received the New Mexico Chapter of The Wildlife Society's annual "Professional Award." In April 2007 at the North American Wolf Conference, Dave received the 2006 "Alpha Award" for his "outstanding professional achievement and leadership toward the recovery of Mexican wolves." In May 2008, Dave received the "Outstanding Conservation Leadership Award" from the Wilburforce Foundation and the "Mike Seidman Memorial Award" from the Sky Island Alliance for his conservation achievements. Dave, who enjoys wildlife viewing, floating pristine rivers, and wilderness backpacking, lives in Albuquerque, NM.

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*Education Coordinator for  
the Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring  
Program (BEMP), Bosque School*

Get your community involved in real, hands-on scientific research! Learn how BEMP (a 15-year ecosystem study that uses K-12 grade students & teachers) can model to help create a citizen science program for your agency, nature center or school.

### A Habitat Scavenger Hunt: Incorporating Technology into the Landscape (Room 4)

*Presented by Dougg Wright, Naturalist- the Outdoor Discovery Center, MI LEP State Coordinator & Phoebe Atkinson, Education Director- Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, OH LEP State Coordinator*

Technology is a large component of our society-so why fight it? Learn how to incorporate GPS with lessons on the landscape at your facility or at your youth programs! (Personal GPS units optional)

Saturday PM Concurrent Sessions 1  
2:00-3:00 pm

### Interpreting Nature with Enos Mills (Room 1)

*Presented by John Stansfield*  
Enos Mills is well known as a national park pioneer, a founding father of nature interpretation and more. Through a variety of learning techniques, this one hour session focuses on Mills as naturalist or "nature guide", as he called himself. Come learn as we explore some of Enos Mill's key ideas for interpreting the natural world, as well as other nature activities for young people derived from his *Trail School*. Handouts provided.

### "Plugging-In" the Outdoors: Using Augmented Reality Games to Connect People to Nature (Room 2)

*Presented by Beth Folta, SUNY-College of Environmental Science and Forestry*  
What are augmented reality games? It is the hot new ticket in technology! Come learn how augmented reality (AR) games can be used to connect youth and families to nature! Participants will be able to visualize a game in action and engage in a discussion session on potential uses and ways to use AR in their EE community programming.

## A Special Thanks to All Contributors

The following Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever chapters and other organizations sponsored scholarships and donations for this year's LEP National Conference.

- Columbia Co (WI)
- DeKalb Co (IL)
- Winnebago Co (IL)
- James Valley (ND)
- Johnson Co (KS)
- Oklahoma #89
- Albuquerque Wildlife Federation
- Minnesota Lady Slippers
- Phillips Co (CO)
- Cache Valley (UT)
- Treasure Valley (ID)
- Wood Lucas (OH)
- Illinois State Council

## Getting Teens Excited about Nature & Interested in Climate Change!

(Room 3) *Presented by Lisa Silva, Bilingual Environmental Educator & International Tour Guide*  
Listen to 6th-9th grade girls explain how and why they're involved in Girls Gone Green (GGG). Learn how GGG has grown from its initial "paradoxical twist" that has teens teaching adults about Climate Change.

Saturday PM Concurrent Sessions 2  
3:15-4:15 pm

## Aldo Leopold's "Land Ethic" Alive in Africa

(Room 1) *Presented by Jeannie R. Magill, filmmaker & International Tour Guide*  
Join us and learn about Aldo Leopold's philosophies and how they have connected African communities to the land through natural resource management. Discover how land stewardship in Africa is rejuvenating the land, wildlife, domestic stock and renewing ethnic pride and purposefulness. Enjoy excerpts from the famous PBS documentary, *Milking the Rhino*.

## Getting Published-Where do I Begin?

(Room 2) *Presented by Mark Herwig, Editor of Pheasants Forever, Quail Forever and Upland Tales magazines*  
Join us and learn how you can get your articles and photos published and your name out there! Discover where to look, what editors are looking for and how to get started. Share your stories with others!

## An LEP Model to Train Homeschoolers

(Room 3) *Presented by Celeste Prussia, University of Missouri, Missouri LEP State Coordinator*  
Through a grant from Aldo Leopold Foundation and LEP, a workshop model to train homeschooling parents was developed to remove the barrier of "what to do with the kids while I'm in training?" Find out how a pre-service education class, the homeschooling parents and their children were brought together for a successful series of trainings.