Mountain Backpacking
Pecos Wilderness, NM

Mandatory Trip Meeting:
Wednesday April 26th, 2017
5:30pm Classroom 160A Rec Center

Wednesday May 3rd
Pack and Load Vehicles!

Thursday May 4th
5:00AM – Meet at Outdoor Adventure Center
5:15 AM – Depart in van
*Lunch & Dinner on Road
11:00PM – Camp at Santa Rosa State Park, NM (12-14 hour Van drive)

Friday May 5th
7:00AM – Breakfast
8:00AM – Depart in van for Trailhead (2-3 hour Van drive)
12PM – Hit the Trail!

Saturday May 6th - Tuesday May 9th
On the trail, in the mountains, having a blast!

Wednesday May 10th
6:30AM – Breakfast
12:00PM – Exit Trailhead
7:00PM – Camp near in West Texas
*Lunch & Dinner on road

Thursday March 11th
7:00AM – Breakfast
8:00AM – Hit the road
*Lunch & Dinner on the Road
5:00PM – Arrive at Rice
5:45PM – Clean up & Tear Down

*Participants cover meals while driving to locations.
ROPE is thrilled to return the Pecos Wilderness of Northeast New Mexico! This region holds special meaning to our director for its stunning views and fabulous weather. The mountains offer a cool escape from the growing spring heat alongside rewarding challenges and picturesque vistas.

Trail itineraries will not be available until late April as the program follows weather and snow reports. With much of the trail options above 7,000 feet and the peak destinations at 10,000 feet, high elevation and snow are two features that the trip and participants should prepare for. Mountain trekking requires good fitness alongside strong mental fortitude to work past the physical exertion.

Take a peek at map of New Mexico following the Skyline Trail, Truchas Peak, Pecos Baldy and the surrounding area. This is green mountain paradise rising away from the New Mexican desert.

Mountain weather can change unpredictably, but in general we can expect days in the mid 60’s and nights in the mid 30’s. Packing for cool weather will increase participant comfort and enjoyment out on trail even if temperatures are above average.

**Participants are expected to:**

- Be in good physical and mental health and possess the physical strength to manage challenges including: carrying a 35lb backpack, hike for 9-11 miles over rugged terrain, maintain composure during challenges.

- This trip will frequently be traveling above 10,000 feet in elevation which can be challenging for even athletic individuals.

- Learn and practice exemplary Leave No Trace philosophy and methods. 
  
  *Hikers must carry out all trash – ROPE will help educate!* 😊

- Follow directions where the group takes precautionary action to minimize risk.

- Provide essential footwear and clothing that meets the demands of this trip. 
  
  *Hiking boots/shoes are required. Sneakers and running shoes will not be permitted as hiking footwear.*
Gear List for Backpacking Trips

Please dress & pack appropriately for this trip. Make sure to bring everything listed below to ensure a comfortable and successful backpacking trip!

All gear that is listed as provided must still be rented out by each participant at the pre-trip meeting or some other time arranged with the trip leaders. There is no fee for this rental.

Essential items ROPE provides:
- Backpack
- Sleeping Bag
- Sleeping Pad
- Bowl & Personal Utensils
- Headlamp
- Whistle
- Tents
- Water Filters
- Cooking Equipment
- Trail Meals

Necessary Personal Items
- 1 Pair of Hiking Boots or Hiking Shoes
- 3-4 of hiking socks (synthetic or wool)
- 1-2 synthetic T-shirts
- 1-2 Long sleeve synthetic shirts
- 1-2 synthetic pants (zip-off preferable; NO jeans)
- 0-1 pair of synthetic shorts
- 1 Hooded Rain Jacket (No Ponchos)
- 1 pair of waterproof pants
- 1 heavy fleece or down jacket
- 1-2 insulating long-sleeve shirt
- 1 insulating legs layer
- 3-4 of underwear
- 1 warm hat
- Warm gloves
- Personal toiletries (Toothbrush, etc.)
- 2 Bottles for water (storage for 2 liters)
- Small and lightweight face towel (4x4in)
- Medications (for allergies, etc.)
  You Must inform us if you take any medications.

Optional yet recommended
- Sunglasses (strongly recommended)
- Camera (H2O protection encouraged)
- Journal & Pen
- Cards/Game
- Favorite Snack Foods
- Lightweight Drinking Mug
- Campshoes (lightweight; e.g. sandals)
- Sun hat
- Camelback water bladder
- Bandana(s)
- Stuff sacks

Small Bag for Travel
- 1 pair pants/shorts
- 2 shirts
- 2 underwear
- 1-2 socks
- Toiletries for shower
- Money for meals on the road
It is not necessary for you to purchase a lot of expensive equipment; many items listed above you may already own. Items that you choose to purchase may be available at low cost from mail order suppliers or your local outdoor specialty shop. Our major concern is that all participants have appropriate equipment for a safe and comfortable experience.

If you are unsure whether an item or clothing you own is appropriate for this trip, please contact us prior to the trip or bring the item/clothing to the pre-trip meeting.

Please leave jewelry and other non-essentials at home.

**These requirements are for the safety and comfort of participants. ROPE reserves the right to refuse involvement in the program to anyone not properly equipped.**

Alcohol, tobacco, and recreational drugs will *not* be tolerated on any trips led by ROPE. If you have such items, do *not* bring them!