Mountain Backpacking
Pecos Wilderness, NM

**Informational Meeting:**
Monday March 25
5:00 PM in Rec Classroom 220

**Mandatory Pre-Trip Meeting**
Monday April 22
2:00 PM at the Outdoor Adventure Center (OAC)

Make sure to bring all of your personal gear and trip clothes. We’ll discuss trip logistics and check personal readiness. Inadequately prepared participants may lose registration.

Registration Closes April 20th at 5pm.
Mountain Backpacking
Pecos Wilderness, NM

Itineraries may shift according to conditions.

**Wednesday May 1st**
Pack and Load Vehicles!

**Thursday May 2nd**
5:00AM – Meet at Outdoor Adventure Center
*Continental Breakfast Provided by ROPE*
5:15 AM – Depart Rice
*Lunch & Dinner on Road*
8:00PM – Camp at Santa Rosa State Park, NM (12-14 hour Van drive)

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

**Saturday May 4th – Tuesday May 7th**
On the trail, in the mountains, having a blast!

**Wednesday May 8th**
6:30 AM – Breakfast
9:00 AM – Exit Trailhead
*Lunch & Dinner on the Road*
3:00PM – Camp at Palo Duro Canyon State Park, TX

**Thursday May 9th**
6:30 AM – Breakfast
7:30 AM – Depart for Rice
*Lunch on the Road*
5:00 PM – Arrive at Rice
5:45PM – Clean up & Tear Down

*Participants cover meals while driving to locations.*
ROPE is thrilled to return to 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 destination 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 a 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 6-10 miles over rugged terrain, maintain composure during challenges.
- This trip will frequently be traveling above 7,000 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.*
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!
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 & Snacks

Optional/Recommended:

- Camera (H2O protection encouraged)
- Favorite Snack Foods (small amount)
- Lightweight Drinking Mug
- Campshoes (lightweight; e.g. sandals)
- Sun hat
- Camelback water bladder
- Sunglasses
- Bandana(s)
- Stuff sacks

Small Bag for travel:

- 1 pair pants/shorts
- 2 shirts
- 2 underwear
- 1-2 socks
- Toiletries for shower

Essential personal items:

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