



Hello members and friends!

With the start of school, some of you have headed back to classrooms, while others are busy planning your fall programs. But, summer doesn't officially end for another month! Could you use some adventure inspiration?

We asked a few members to share their favorite summer day-trip with us. Read their stories below, along with an update on Environmental Literacy Planning and details for the next EE Book Club.

But first, a quick reminder that **applications for New Mexico's new EE Certification Program are due this Friday, August 15**. Find all the details and the online application at eeanm.org/ee-certification.

How About One More Summer Adventure?

Three stories to inspire all of us to take (at least) one more summer trip into the outdoors...



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Upcoming Events

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A Day Hike in the Pecos Wilderness

by Yancey Ranspot

"This summer on a planned day trip to the Pecos Wilderness we decided take a usual day hike to the second meadow from the Santa Barbara Campground located in the Carson National Forest and spend the night so we could get in more fishing. The hike normally takes two hours with a day pack. With overnight gear and extra items we added to the 45-50 pound pack, the hike took three hours.



I enjoyed the slow walk--you see more of the wildlife and the scenery. I love to hike into Wilderness areas during the summer because the forests just seem to be in the peak of their glory. We did see a total of six bighorn sheep near the trail along with many bird species. With all of the rain we have received since May the wildflowers were everywhere you looked and quite a beautiful sight. Best wishes in the outdoors!" -Yancey

Trip Tips...

- *Always have a good sense of where you are headed and familiarize yourself with a map before you head into any remote area.*
- *Look at the local forecast and be prepared for extreme weather anytime you are two to three hours away from your vehicle.*
- *I have also started using trekking poles due to the added balance. They help on uneven, wet and slippery trails.*

Yancey Ranspot works for the US Forest Service's Rocky Mountain Research Station in Albuquerque New Mexico as the Grasslands Shrublands & Desert Ecosystems Laboratory Manager.

Paddling Adventures in Bernalillo

by Tammy Maitland

"We did a group kayak and paddleboard trip on the Rio

Cottonwood Gulch
Thoreau, NM
August 22-23

[Big Money for Small Groups Webinar](#)
August 26, 1 pm

[PLT Places We Live Workshop](#)
Farmington, NM
August 29

[PLT Places We Live Workshop](#)
Truth or Consequences, NM
September 12

[PLT Places We Live Workshop](#) Grants, NM
September 26

[PLT Places We Live Workshop](#) Raton, NM
October 3

[44th NAAEE Conference](#)
San Diego, CA
October 15-18

[EE Book Club - Cooked](#)
Placitas, NM
October 28

[2015 Soar to Greater Heights](#) Conference w/
NMSTA & NMCTM
Hobbs, NM
November 13-15

Grande starting in south Algodones, stopping for lunch at the Coronado Historic Site picnic area, and pulling out at North Beach in Corrales.



We were a large group of mostly kayakers. The majority of us paid Quiet Waters to rent equipment (kayaks, paddleboards, paddles, and life jackets) and for the drop off and pick up service, but some used their own equipment and met up with us. I used a paddleboard and it was a little more effort than a kayak, but I got better views since I was standing up!

It was a nice, social outing. We got some sun, some exercise, and got to spend some time on the river." - Tammy

Trip Tips...

- *We left one vehicle near our lunch spot so we wouldn't have to carry it all with us. If you carry your own lunch, you could waterproof it in case it gets splashed.*
- *Watch out for sneaky people in your group trying to knock you off of your paddleboard!*

Tammy Maitland is a former 4th grade teacher turned photographer turned environmental educator. Her most recent EE work has been with Talking Talons Youth Leadership, Hawks Aloft, and the NM Museum of Natural History and Science's summer program.

Bike-Eat-Farm-River Hike in Albuquerque

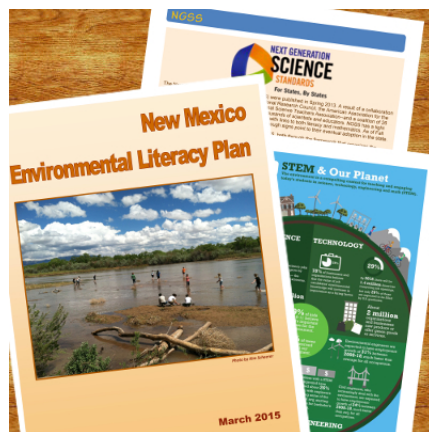
Visit our website to [read this third adventure](#). It's an unusual combination from Tammy Maitland that sounds fun and delicious. While you are there, be sure to tell us about your favorite summer adventures in the comments.

Update on Environmental Literacy Plan

A team of environmental educators (Barbara Garrity,

Selena Connealy, Dr. Stephanie Bestelmeyer, and Dr. Pedro Chavarria) took the NM Environmental Literacy Plan to the NM Public Education Department leadership in early August.

During the meeting, the presented the ELP to PED's Secretary Hanna Skandera, Deputy Secretary Leighann Lenti and Science and Math Dept. Director Lesley Galyas. The group discussed the importance of EE in schools, its connections to STEM and how it helps prepare students for college and careers.



While the plan and efforts to support teachers to incorporate environmental education in their teaching were appreciated by the PED leadership, Secretary Skandera was not ready to add anything to their purview right now. She did indicate that timing may be better when/if they adopt the Next Generation Science Standards in the near future. She also suggested that we talk to other state agencies about supporting the plan.

Would you like to get involved with the team working to move the ELP forward? Please let Barbara know!

Cooked is Next Book

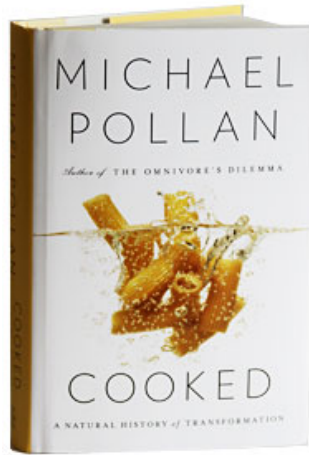
EE Book Club will discuss Michael Pollan's latest book, *Cooked*, on Wednesday, October 28. We'll gather over a "slow food" potluck at 6:30pm at Cirrelda Snider-Bryan's home in Placitas.

RSVP to info@eeanm.org for directions.

"In Cooked, Michael Pollan...discovers the enduring power of the four classical elements—fire, water, air, and earth—to transform the stuff of nature into delicious things to eat and drink.

In the course of his journey, he discovers that the cook occupies a special place in the world, standing squarely between nature and culture. Both realms are transformed by cooking, and so, in the process, is the cook." - from michaelpollan.com

[Buy the book through Amazon Smile](#) and a portion of your purchase benefits EEANM.



Do you have news or events for our next newsletter?
Please send them to info@eeanm.org.

Banner image of paddlers on Rio Grande by Tammy Maitland.

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