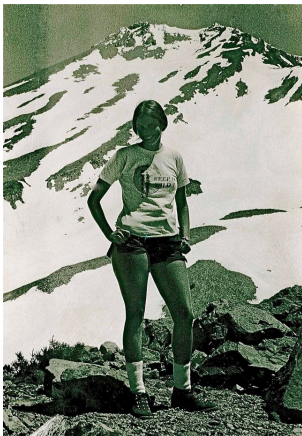




During my involvement with Latino Conservation Week and the organization of the Backcountry Cookoff, I learned about the historically complex relationship that different groups of people have with the land, as well as how sensitive of a topic it is for some. I learned to cook in the backcountry and design my first cookbook.
- Isa Nellos



New Mexico Wild's Nancy Morton Wilderness Internship is a paid internship program for young aspiring conservationists. Providing young people with the opportunity to have hands-on experience in public lands administration and maintenance will open doors for them to consider careers with land management agencies and foster future stewards of our public lands.

For students, paid internships are more than a learning opportunity: They are an important path to a career. In fact, college students who complete paid internships receive nearly twice as many job offers as students with no internship experience.

During their time with New Mexico Wild, the Nancy Morton Interns work on projects ranging from interning with our crew of seasonal Wilderness Rangers, to helping the Wilderness Defenders volunteer program updating our online hiking and GIS mapping.

Some of our past Interns have gone on to use their New Mexico Wild experience as they start their careers. One of the highlights of Isa Nellos's Wilderness Ranger internship in 2021 was designing a cookbook called "Wild Munchies: Backcountry Cooking" to be used as a guide and inspiration for backcountry cooking. Now Isa operates her own private health coaching practice dedicated to helping individuals lead healthier, more vibrant lives by emphasizing nutrition, exercise, and mental self-care. As an intern in 2022, Kineo Memmer worked closely with the Dave Foreman Wilderness Defenders Program, helping with mapping, volunteer management, and data collection. She now works as a Soil Conservation Technician with USDA.

To run smoothly and effectively, the Nancy Morton Internship program requires staff time as well as funding resources to pay the interns. Creating a paid internship opportunity removes one barrier to young people trying to begin their career in conservation and is one step towards a more equitable field. Your support allows young people to explore the field of conservation and take one step closer to their career goals.

Please help us continue to support young women working in conservation by donating today to the Nancy Morton Wilderness Internship. Donate at nmwild.org/internship/

Nancy Morton was a volunteer wilderness activist for more than 40 years, working to protect Wilderness in California and New Mexico. Nancy was a founding Board Member of New Mexico Wild and served as Board Secretary and Board Chair for over 20 years. After her death in 2021, New Mexico Wild established the Nancy Morton Internship to honor Nancy's inspiration, generosity and relentless commitment to Wilderness and wildlife and keep her fiery heart for Wilderness burning.