



Friends of Allegheny Wilderness seeks to foster an appreciation of wilderness values and benefits, and to work with local communities to ensure that increased wilderness protection is a priority of the stewardship of the Allegheny National Forest.

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Contact: Kirk Johnson, Friends of Allegheny Wilderness, 814-723-0620

Article on Proposed Morrison Run Wilderness Area Wins Prestigious Award

Warren – Pennsylvania author Ben Moyer has been awarded the prestigious Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership Award for 2005 for his article on the proposed Morrison Run Wilderness Area in the Allegheny National Forest (ANF).

Moyer, of Farmington, Fayette County, was presented the award at the recent spring conference of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association, held in State College. The award is presented annually by the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association and the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership for the best article, column, or essay dealing with natural resource issues affecting the ANF.

The Morrison Run Wilderness Area was proposed to the U.S. Forest Service in 2003 by the non-profit Warren-based Friends of Allegheny Wilderness (FAW). The proposed area straddles Warren and McKean Counties, with State Route 59 forming its northern boundary, and the Kinzua Bay arm of the Allegheny Reservoir forming its southern boundary. The area contains a popular 12-mile hiking trail loop, as well as a six-mile segment of the North Country National Scenic Trail.

Moyer's award-winning article described a February, 2005 winter backpacking trip led by the Butler Outdoor Club and FAW in the proposed Morrison Run Wilderness Area, and discussed the FAW proposal to designate 54,460 acres of the ANF in eight separate parcels as part of America's National Wilderness Preservation System. Morrison Run is one of the tracts recommended for wilderness designation by FAW.

The winning article appeared in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* on February 27, 2005, and in the *Warren Times Observer* on March 4, 2005.

"This notable award is well-deserved by Mr. Moyer, who is a renowned and accomplished writer, said Kirk Johnson, executive director of FAW. "This also reaffirms the appeal that the proposed Morrison Run Wilderness Area has for outdoor enthusiasts, and its good potential to be permanently protected for future generations."

Moyer is a book author, columnist and essayist whose writing on nature, conservation and outdoor recreation appears regularly in regional and national publications. Presenting the award was Doyle Dietz, chairman of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association excellence in craft awards program.

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