A forthcoming (first quarter 2020) special issue of the Journal of Outdoor Recreation, Education, and Leadership will explore topics on girls’ and women’s experiences in outdoor recreation, education, and leadership. Authors are invited to submit regular papers; essays, practices, and commentaries; and research notes.

Starting in the mid-1980s, much discussion was conducted on women’s experiences in the outdoors and the value of supporting women’s programs. In 1985, the Journal of Experiential Education published a special issue on women’s experiences, edited by Rita Yerkes, and in 1996, the book Women’s Voices in Experiential Education, edited by Karen Warren, was published. These publications shed light on the varied experiences of women in the field of outdoor education.

From 2000 until now, research on the experiences of girls in the outdoors and outdoor programming has grown (Whittington, Nixon Mack, Budbill, McKenney, 2011). More recently, The Palgrave International Handbook of Women and Outdoor Learning (Gray & Mitten, 2018) was published and includes 62 chapters focused on experiences of women in outdoor learning environments. This book highlights elements of gender bias and inequalities in outdoor learning, suggesting a need for continued exploration on women’s and girls’ experiences.

The purpose of this special issue is to continue the conversation regarding girls’ and women’s experiences in the outdoors. This special issue offers an opportunity for further examination of challenges, barriers, opportunities, and outcomes related to girls’ and women’s participation in the field of outdoor recreation, education, and leadership. Ideally, this special issue will highlight strategies for supporting female involvement in the field. Submissions for this special issue may wish to address topics such as the following:

- Programming for girls and/or women
- Historical contributions of women to outdoor recreation, education, and leadership
Women and leadership in the outdoors
Intersections of motherhood and the outdoors
Constraints to girls’ and women’s participation in outdoor recreation activities and programs
Shifting demographics of the outdoor retail industry
Women’s and girls’ identities in outdoor landscapes
The workplace environment for women in parks and protected areas management
The implications of the Me Too movement for the outdoor industry

All manuscripts submitted will undergo the normal peer-review process and should adhere to the Author Guidelines outlined in the Journal of Outdoor Recreation, Education, and Leadership. Manuscripts can be submitted through the Sagamore-Venture journal management system. Instructions for both are provided at http://js.sagamorepub.com/jorel/about/submissions#authorGuidelines.

Interested authors should direct questions to the guest editors.
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Important Dates
Deadline for manuscript submission: May 1, 2019
Decision date for submitted manuscripts: July 1, 2019
Final resubmission for accepted manuscripts: September 1, 2019
Anticipated publication date: January 2020

References