

WHAT: WALKING WITH FIRE: Family Backpacking Trip Impact Dashboard

WHO: 4 adults and 4 kids WHERE: Lake Eleanor

WHEN: May 30 – June 1, 2025

AT A GLANCE: Reported by 4 adult respondents representing 8 participants (4 adults and 4 youth) who gained 6 new skills and overcame 6 key barriers, with 100% reporting cultural safety, connection to land, and willingness to recommend.

Program Reach & Safety Impact

Total Respondents

%

% Felt Culturally Safe

% Reporting Strong Connection To

% Recommend Trip

% Permission to Share

Adults

4

100%

Land/Water/Teachings

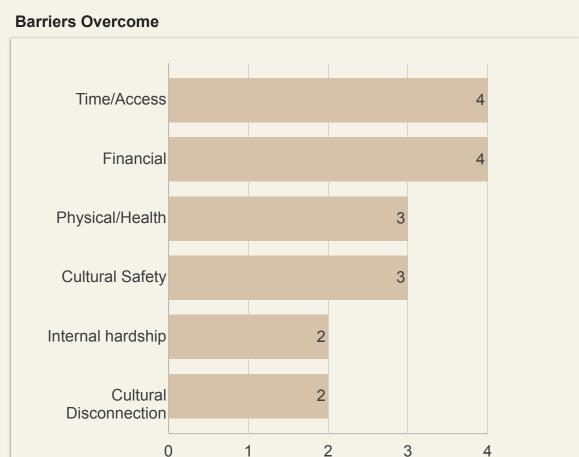
100%

100%

100%

Skills Gained + Barriers Reduced





Participant Reflections

1. You cannot fully understand, connect to or experience indigenous culture/ways without time in raw nature.

2. This wilderness experience helped me realize our younger generations are not too young to experience backpacking and reconnecting with the land wanted and ancestral teachings. I was able to watch young boys listen attentively to Eric's teachings on fire and land management and being able to absorb it. I admire the way SGR is able to incorporate ancestral teaching into everyday talks.

- 3. Making tacos in the wilderness was a great experience. Seeing how happy the kids were eating tortillas hechas a mano was very heart warming. That was the most they ate the whole trip. It was great to connect to our roots and decolonize our diet while backpacking.
- 4. Looking more closely at different native plants and learning their names felt meaningful to my healing, reconnection/cultural journey.
- I'm lucky to be on the land with people often, but sharing that weekend with others was special. There was play, story, fire, and water to nurture me all weekend. I would say that I belong, that I felt connected to that place because of people, plants, and animals.
- 6. I think when I first jumped in the lake. From the water I saw the landscape, I saw the kids playing and I felt this huge body of water hold me. I hadn't slept well the night before but the water made me really present, grateful for that moment.
- 7. I reconnected with my inner yearning for ancestral teachings. I felt like I hit a block when I realized I count trace back my ancestry but when I connected with Caro and Eric I felt like a fog lifted from me. I am deeply grateful for our connection and conversations. Aho.
- 8. I experienced a renewed connection to creation, its purity, resilience and miraculousness. I felt the serenity from these elements and their undeniable connection to the my being. I felt a reverence that I am sure is the foundation to ancestral teachings.
- 9. Feeling the simple joy of existing among and with creation. Resting. Not feeling that I need to do something or be somewhere or even be someone felt meaningful to my healing, reconnection/cultural journey.