

Rick Kempa

RMOWP 2025 Workshop and Bio

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

Words from Wild Places

We go to wild places to hone our city-dulled senses and to reconnect with the animal in ourselves. At the same time, our thoughts, feelings, and insights—our humanness—come into clearer focus in the wild. Through a close consideration of some well-made nature-inspired poems and through an open-air writing activity of our own, we will gain an appreciation for how our animal and human selves come together to create memorable poems.

BIO NOTE

Rick Kempa is the founding editor of the literary journal [*Deep Wild: Writing from the Backcountry*](#). A poet and essayist, his latest books are *Too Vast for Sleep*, a volume of poetry, and [*Truths of the Trail*](#), a collection of short prose pieces about the backpacking life. Rick edited two collections of writing about the Grand Canyon, [*ON FOOT: Grand Canyon Backpacking Stories*](#) and, with Peter Anderson, [*Going Down Grand: Poems from the Canyon*](#). He has served as artist-in-residence at Grand Canyon National Park, North and South Rims, Mesa Verde National Park, and Hubbell Trading Post. He lives in Grand Junction.