

Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness 2016 Annual Report

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH A NEW WILDERNESS BILL!

In December, Senator Jim Risch introduced the Scotchman Peaks Wilderness Act (S.3531)! This legislation would designate the portion of the Scotchman Peaks in Bonner County, Idaho, as a Wilderness and would establish the first protected wilderness area within the Panhandle region of Idaho!

The bill introduction was built upon the years of work by many people to develop community consensus. Support for the proposed wilderness is almost as stunning as the area's beauty. The proposal enjoys the support of the Bonner County Board of Commissioners, Idaho Forest Group, and the Greater Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce. And most importantly, there are now more than 6,900 people from diverse backgrounds and interests who have become "Friends". Every one of our voices counts and we thank you all!

The strength of community support was demonstrated in June 2016, when Bonner County Commissioner Cary Kelly, Idaho Forest Group VP Bob Boeh and FSPW Executive Director Phil Hough travelled to Washington DC together to talk to the congressional delegation about wilderness legislation.

In September, Bruce Gordon of Ecoflight provided a bird's eye view of the Scotchman Peaks for local media and elected officials and in October we held our third annual Bonner County Wellness hike. Both events provided a

first-hand look at the area's wilderness character.

The introduction of a bill is a huge step forward, but much work remains to be done. Sen Risch stated in a media release that he intends to reintroduce the bill in 2017 to gather further input and hold public meetings. It is important that he hear from all of our many supporters.

We look forward to the coming year and continuing our work to permanently protect the Scotchman Peaks through wilderness legislation and good stewardship. We will continue on with our many outreach and stewardship programs. We'll be busy with winter ecology field days and summer hikes for youth, wolverine monitoring, weed mitigation, whitebark pine restoration, trail maintenance and education about mountain goats.

We will repeat our successful Trail Ambassador program and our Wilderness Ranger Intern program. This year we will be adding an Artist in Residence program too!

We'll also gather together people for some fun and educational events, provide opportunities for robust dialogue about wilderness and meet with community leaders and civic groups. We know you will be right there with us as we pass the 7,000 friend mark on our way to permanent preservation of the Scotchman Peaks!

— Phil Hough

2016 BROUGHT ORGANIZATIONAL AND STAFF CHANGES

By Phil Hough

As FSPW grows and evolves so do our programs and staffing needs. 2016 brought about some noteworthy staffing changes and additions.

In February we added a new outreach position in Thompson Falls and brought Jen Kreiner on board.



Jen Kreiner

In March we hired an intern in Lincoln County. Kara Adams dived

head first into outreach and stewardship doing everything from setting



Kara Adam

up survey tables in front of Rossauers to running a combi-tool on Spar Peak. Kara left us with plans to return and work for the Three Rivers District next summer.

We unfortunately lost Ashley South's services in Lincoln County last fall, but we are just beginning to look at applications for a part-time outreach coordinator in Lincoln County.

Nathan Mynatt left to go explore the South America. As his replacement, we hired Britta Mireley in April. She stepped right into our projects and programs working on everything from advocacy to weeds and wolverines.



Britta Mireley

During the fifth year of our highly successful partnership with the Forest

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BY THE NUMBERS: THE 2015-16 STEWARDSHIP SEASON

Outreach and fundraisers

Total outreach events – 17
 (7B Sunday, Huckleberry Festival, Bonner County Fair, 4 Independence Day Parades, Jack Nisbet presentation, IPA Fundraiser, MickDuff’s Fundraiser, State of The Scotchmans, 11th Anniversary, StoryTelling events in Libby and Thompson Falls, Harevest Festivals in Libby and Thompson Falls, Sip and Shop at Pend Oreille Winery)
 Unique volunteers – 50
 Volunteer hours – 129
Maps distributed and questions answered– countless

Outdoor Education

Number of events – 9 (7 Winter Tracks, 2 Brian Baxter classes)
 Number of unique volunteers – 25
 Number of volunteers days total – 39
 Number of volunteer hours – 221
Seven schools and 250 students

Mountain Goat Education Program Trail # 65 Ambassadors

Unique volunteers – 21
 Dasy with ambassadors present – 33
 Volunteer hours – 274

Trail Work & Related Work Days

Trails Training Days – 3, including crosscut class
 Saw certification class – 1, certifying 6 FSPW staff and volunteers
 Unique Trail Projects – 5
 Trail work days (non-training) – 15
 Unique volunteers – 128
 Volunteer hours – 952
 Volunteer miles 3,367
 Volunteer vehicles — 53
Miles constructed or maintained – 4.3

Weed Assessment and Mitigation

Unique volunteers – 16
 Volunteer hours – 240

Volunteer miles – 1,792
 Volunteer vehicles – 19
 Trails surveyed for weeds - 9
Miles of trail surveyed – 47.7

Whitebark Pine Verbenone Treatment

Unique volunteers trained – 8
 Volunteers deployed – 4
 Volunteer hours 69
Trees treated – 18

Hikes Program

27 volunteer hike and event leaders
 179 participants
 330 volunteer hours

Miscellaneous Stewardship Events

Wilderness & Remote First Aid sessions – 3, training 16 volunteers
 Highway clean-up – 1, cleaning 2 miles of Highway 200



Just a few of our many volunteers with their Wildwood Grilling planks, a small thank you for all they do for the Scotchman Peaks

Overall numbers 2015-16

Unique volunteers – 151
 Volunteer days total – 367
 Number of volunteer hours – 2,596
 Volunteer miles driven – 10,057
 Volunteer vehicle days – 114

Value of volunteer hours - \$61,167.65

FINANCIALS

These financial statements are based on our most recently completed fiscal year, Fiscal 2016 which began Oct 1, 2015 and ended Sept 30th, 2016. Because our accounting is handled on a cash basis, we report expenditures and receipts as they are actually transacted.

In Fiscal 2016 we received \$234,788 in support from individual donors, merchandise sales, fundraisers, and foundation grants. The following foundations provided support: Brainard Foundation, Cadeau Foundation, Champion Foundation, Cinnabar Foundation, Confidence Foundation, Inland Northwest Community Foundation / Equinox, Forest Service, High Stakes Foundation, PEW Charitable Trusts, Kendeda, Maki Foundation, National Forest Foundation, The New-Land Foundation, Inc., Norcross Wildlife Foundation, Patagonia, Wilburforce Foundation, and the Yellowstone to Yukon Initiative

Our expenses totaled \$216,209. We started the year with a cash balance of \$121,153. We ended the fiscal year on Sept 30 with \$142,732.

2016 Revenue	\$234,788		2016 Expenses	\$216,209	
Grants	211,600	90.1%	Programs	183,004	84.6%
Donors	21,675	9.2%	Admin	22,759	10.5%
Events/Other	1,044	0.4%	Fundraising	10,466	4.9%
Interest	469	< 0.1%			

January 14 and 15, 2016: Nathan Mynatt led two 2016 Winter Tracks programs at Round Lake State Park.

January 16: Brian Baxter led eight students on a tracking class.

February 26: Idaho Conservation League and FSPW hosted films at the Eagles Club in Coeur d' Alene. Clark Fork High School participated in Winter Tracks at Trout Creek WMA.

March 18 & 19 : FSPW presented The StoryTelling Company at Maki Theater in Libby and Rex Theater in Thompson Falls.

March 23: Phil Hough presented to the Environmental Policy Class at Gonzaga.

April 5: FSPW staff and volunteers put on a Winter Tracks Program for the 11th grade at Troy High School.

April 7: Board Chair Doug Ferrell and Jen Kreiner met with the Sanders County Commissioners.

April 13: Assistant Program Coordinator Britta Mireley's first day.

April 22: Earth Day trail cleanup on Regal Creek Trail in the Lightning Creek Treasured Landscape.

May 14-15 and May 21-22: Wilderness First Aid Classes were taught by FSPW Secretary Carol Jenkins.

May 14: FSPW and MWA staff and volunteers had a refreshment station during the STOKR bike race in Lincoln County

May 23: Backcountry ranger/outreach intern Lindsay Ashton began work.

May 25: FSPW participated in an outdoor education day at Trout Creek Elementary School.

June 2: 75 people attended the State of the Scotchmans at Forrest Bird Charter School.

June 4, National Trails Day: Twelve volunteers attended the Annual FSPW Trails

and Hike Leader Training Day at Eddy Creek Campground and Trail #999.

June 14-17: FSPW exec Phil Hough, Idaho Forest Group VP Bob Boeh and Bonner County Commissioner Cary Kelly visited Idaho Congressional delegation in Washington, D.C.

June 18: First day of the Goat Ambassador Program on Trail #65.

June 20: Eleven volunteers and staff worked on realignment of Scotchman Peak Trail #65. A National Trails Day event.

June 23 - 25: FSPW had a booth at Libby Logger Days.

July 9: Fire ecology expert Art Zack led an outdoor education hike along Dry Creek Trail #1020.

July 15, August 5, and August 26: FSPW volunteers led hikes for kids to Ross Creek Cedars, the East Fork of Blue creek and Trail #999.

July 16: James Flocchini led twelve folks on a Morris Creek Medicinal Plant ID Walk.

July 29 – 31: FSPW volunteers and Sandy Compton worked on Spar Peak Trail. They improved several thousand feet of trail

over the three days and picked a bunch of hucks.

August 8-13: FSPW volunteers and staff worked at the FSPW Booth at Bonner County Fair. The Mountain Goat Education Program earned FSPW a special award.

August 12-14: FSPW volunteers and staff worked at the FSPW booth at the Trout Creek Huckleberry Festival.

August 19: National Forest Foundation sponsored a Morris Creek



Trail #132 workday, led by Phil Hough and Sandy Compton, with 7 volunteer trail crew members.

August 27: A Goat Mountain trail clearing workday was led by FSPW volunteer Brad Smith.

September 11: 45-plus folks attended the Inaugural Thompson

Falls Picnic held at Power Park. FSPW program coordinator Sandy Compton was presented with a Montana Wilderness Association Brass Lantern Award at the picnic by FSPW board chair Doug Ferrell.

September 21: EcoFlight took three flights over the Scotchmans with press members, political leaders and FSPW staff and volunteers.

September 23 and 24: Twenty-nine FSPW volunteers celebrated National Public Lands Day by completing the re-route of the lower three-quarters of a mile of Scotchman Peak Trail #65. The new section of trail was dedicated on Sept. 24.

October 1: FSPW cosponsored with Bonner County Historical Society a presentation by Jack Nisbet. 100-plus folks came to Oden Hall to listen.

October 8: The annual Scotchman Peaks Plein Air Paintout was held.

October 9: The 2016 Scotchman Peaks Goat Ambassador program ended for the season.

October 29: FSPW was a sponsor of and had an outreach booth at the Thompson Falls Harvest Festival.

December 5: Tyler Chisholm began work as the Winter Program Coordinator.

December 8: Senator Jim Risch introduced The Scotchman Peaks Wilderness Act.

December 22: Winter Tracks 2016-17 kicked off when Thompson Falls Junior High students, four FSPW staff and 8 volunteers met at the Naegli Ranch West of Thompson Falls near Beaver Creek. This was our first Sanders County Winter Tracks.



FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMAN PEAKS: THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE IT WORK

The Board of Directors

CHAIRMAN & MONTANA DIRECTOR

Doug Ferrell, Trout Creek, MT
doug@scotchmanpeaks.org

SECRETARY

Carol Jenkins, Sagle, ID
carol@scotchmanpeaks.org

TREASURER

Jacob Styer, Sandpoint, ID
jacob@scotchmanpeaks.org

EAST BONNER COUNTY DIRECTOR:

Neil Wimberley, Hope, ID
neil@scotchmanpeaks.org

Bill Martin, Troy, MT
(406) 295-5258

Will Valentine, Sagle, ID
will@scotchmanpeaks.org

Mollie Kieran, Troy, MT
molly@mollymontana.com



Some jobs are less glamorous than others. These U of Montana students pulled 70 pounds of junk out of the East Fork of Blue Creek



Staff and volunteers alike love trail work days

The Staff

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Phil Hough, Sagle, ID
phil@scotchmanpeaks.org

PROGRAM COORDINATOR:

Sandy Compton, Heron, MT
(sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org)

ASSISTANT PROGRAM COORDINATOR:

Britta Mireley, Sagle, ID
britta@scotchmanpeaks.org

WINTER PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Tyler Chisholm, Bayview, ID
tyler@scotchmanpeaks.org

2016 LINCOLN COUNTY INTERN

Kara Adam, World Traveler

2016 SUMMER INTERN/RANGER

Lindsay Ashton, Missoula, MT

MOUNTAIN GOAT EDUCATION

PROGRAM COORDINATOR,
Mary Franzel, Clark Fork, ID
mary@scotchmanpeaks.org

Some of Our Key Volunteers

ACQUISITIONS EDITOR

Ann Wimberley, Hope, ID

NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

Celeste Grace, Sandpoint, ID

MERCHANDISE MANAGER

Jim Mellen, Sandpoint, ID

WEBMISTRESS

Trisha Miller, Sandpoint, ID

INVASIVE WEED SPECIALIST

Ken Thacker, Sagle, Idaho

CAMPAIGN INFORMATION SPECIALIST:

Brad Smith, Sandpoint, Idaho

US FOREST SERVICE LIASON:

Joel Sather, Cabinet RD

OUTDOOR EDUCATION SPECIALIST:

Brian Baxter, Libby, Mt

VIDEOGRAPHER

Joe Foster, Jackson Hole, WY

2017 ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Karen Robinson, SANDPOINT, ID

Changes , from page5

Service, Lindsay Ashton came on as our Backcountry Ranger intern. We are accepting applications now for this unique position.

We began our Trail Ambassador Program in June 2016, with Jay Sicilia as the coordinator and finished the summer with Mary Franzel as our Mountain Goat Education Coordinator. We look forward to Mary's return next summer.

In September, Program Coordinator Sandy Compton was feted by the Montana Wilderness Association with one of the 2016 Brass Lantern Awards. FSPW Chair Doug Ferrell gave Sandy his award at the September Sanders County Picnic.

As we turn the year into a new one, Britta is on maternity leave, bringing

a new "friend" into the world, Thea Caroline Mireley. Join us in congratulating her family! Britta will be back in the spring.

This winter, Tyler Chisholm steps in for 4 months as our Winter Projects Coordinator, working with our Winter Tracks program, Wolverine Monitoring, writing the Insider and helping our with many administrative tasks.

In addition, Brian Baxter continues as our very part-time outdoor education expert, assisting us with Winter Tracks as well as teaching several other environmental classes.

Sandy and I continue to plug along, thankful for all the help from our dedicated and talented board, staff and many volunteers!



The Brass Lantern