

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OUTLOOK**

Looking back on our first 15 years, the Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness is proud of the community that you have helped build. Thousands of people from across Idaho, Montana and our nation have come together to save the wild Scotchmans! This community of supporters, from all walks of life, have one common passion: our wild backyard. We want a place for the kids in our lives to be free. To discover nature. To grow up wild.

In 2015, the forest service revised their forest plans. The plans included recommending the Scotchman Peaks area as wilderness. Because of support for saving the wild Scotchmans, there are strong boundary recommendations and management options for the Scotchmans. Because of you, trails are open and hike-able and mountain goats wild. Because of you, kids are outside seeing the wonders of winter and wild nature. Because of you, these kids have a guide to take them to wild places.

Because of you, so much has been accomplished in 15 years. But we are not there yet. Congress has not yet secured permanent protection for the Scotchman Peaks Wilderness area. Until that happens, our wild backyard is vulnerable to management changes. It takes all of us to make sure the forest service manages the Scotchmans for its wilderness character. It will take all of us to get congress to act. To create the Scotchman Peaks Wilderness.

Saving the wild Scotchmans is a long journey. Grassroots support takes time to build. And congress acts slowly. Saving wild places takes patience and persistence.

Millions of years of wind, water and wildlife have sculpted the wild lands we have today. It took nature a long time to create this wilderness. But it may not always be wild, unless people who value wilderness stand up. Our voices matter. Your voice will guarantee the Scotchmans are wild for tomorrow. It is up to us to save some public lands as wild places, for our grandchildren to enjoy.

Thank you for your commitment to this effort. Your grandchildren (maybe even their grandchildren!) will be proud.

Phil Hough **Executive Director** 

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# THANK YOU **FOR AN INCREDIBLE 2019!**



### **HOWARD & CONNIE SHAY, SANDPOINT**

"We love volunteering for Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness. It's an incredible opportunity. We help with their Winter Tracks program, hike the awesome Scotchman Peak trail as goat ambassadors and work to keep Scotchman trails free to roam. It's important to save this incredibly wild place so our children and grandchildren can enjoy this rugged area as we do."



### REBECCA SANCHEZ, HOPE

"I love exploring the Scotchmans with my three kids. The more we venture out into the Scotchmans the more I have an appreciation for it and the more the Scotchmans draw us in. I just love how my kids are free; they're free to roam and explore and just enjoy the nature out there. To me it's really important that my children grow an appreciation of the Scotchmans and that we can preserve it for future generations to enjoy."



### MEL DICK, SANDPOINT

"As a business owner, Scotchmans I think is an area that draws people to northern Idaho. As a result, there's more business for people, there's shops, restaurants, establishments like the 219 Lounge. I really want [my grandchildren] to have the opportunity to be within...20 minutes of a wilderness area where they can get out and they can hike, they can do things like fish, they can observe wilderness and wildlife in action. Personally, I like to do that myself. It's just wonderful to be able to get out, relax and get away from the day-to-day stress."

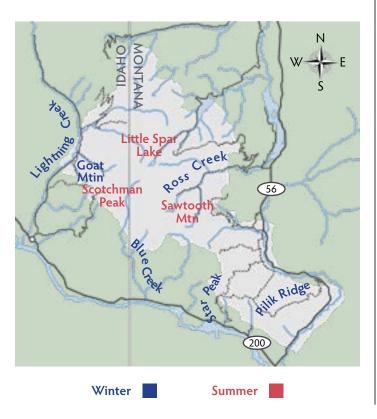
# OUTREACH

FSPW has a large focus on public outreach. This comes in many forms: sending out press releases and articles, advertising on print and digital platforms, having a robust social media presence, sponsoring events, doing presentations, engaging with business and civic organizations, organizing free group hikes and field trips, hosting events, and having outreach tables at community events. Our goal is to find common ground among diverse viewpoints.



#### HIKES

FSPW offers free group hikes in and around the Scotchmans. The volunteers that lead these hikes have a deep love for the Scotchman Peaks. They want to help others feel that love too.



### **EVENTS AND SPONSORSHIPS**

Social and outreach events in 2019 ran the gamut. They also took place in three states, five counties, and two time zones. But who's counting? We also sponsored some really amazing events. Donkey Basketball anyone?



### HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Each year, Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness asks seniors at high schools in Lincoln and Sanders Counties, Montana, and Bonner County, Idaho, to submit entries to the FSPW's scholarship program. In 2019, scholarships were given to students from Clark Fork, Libby, Noxon, Sandpoint, and Thompson Falls. Check out the winners in the Voices in the Wilderness series.

## **EDUCATION**

FSPW offers outdoor education opportunities for youth and adults. For adults, this looks like getting out in the woods and learning something about nature or taking a deeply discounted Wilderness and Remote First Aid certification course. For kids, this might look like taking educational materials to a school event, or inviting the schools to come to us.





FSPW staff and volunteers had the opportunity to teach children in 3 states about their natural environment. And for some of them, how to run in snowshoes!

Carol Jenkins, FSPW's volunteer Wilderness & Remote First Aid instructor taught three certification courses. Participants donate two days of volunteer time back to FSPW in exchange for the deeply discounted course fee.



# **STEWARDSHIP**

Part of our commitment to saving the wild Scotchmans is stewardship of the area. Volunteer Trail Ambassadors educated Scotchman Peak hikers about how to keep mountain goats at a safe distance. Other volunteers broke a sweat doing trail work on popular trails in the area, and some that need a serious rehab. Looking at you, Goat Mountain!





**Total Volunteers** 

6

**Volunteer Hours** 



Miles of Trail

11



673



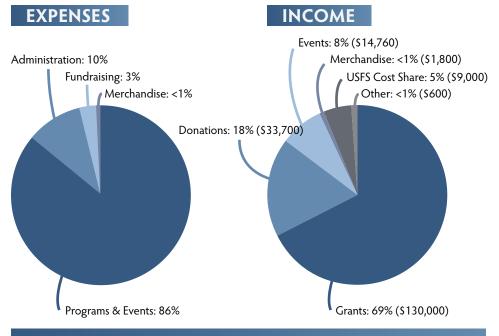


## **ADVOCACY**

Nothing worth doing is easy, and the creation of the Scotchman Peaks Wilderness area is no different. We're in this for the long haul. FSPW is committed to collaboration through the Panhandle Forest Collaborative and Kootenai Forest Stakeholders Coalition. We are also engaged in the Yellowstone to Yukon's Cabinet Purcell Mountain Corridor partnership. The Scotchman Peaks play a vital role in connecting wildlife habitat in the area.



## **FISCAL YEAR 2019 FINANCIALS**



Donations were received from nearly 200 individuals over the course of the year. *Thank you!* As FSPW continues to diversify funding sources, your commitment to saving the wild Scotchmans is as important as ever.

#### THANK YOU, CAROL!

An hour or more from definite care. That's how wilderness first aid is defined. When the doctor or nurse is that far away, it's important to know how to handle an emergency.

Since 2014, former FSPW board member Carol Jenkins has taught Red Cross certified Wilderness First Aid to our volunteers.

We are able to offer the course at a deeply discounted rate because Carol volunteers her time. Her care for safety comes from a lifetime of nurturing. She has a BS and MS in nursing. Her 24-year career in nursing education and administration brought her knowledge and experience. Carol's concern and passion have helped to create a community of caregivers. Thank you Carol!

## FSPW BOARD CHAIRMAN HONORED

Since 1975 Montana Wilderness Association (MWA) annually gives a "Founder's Award" to an individual who best exemplifies outstanding and enduring dedication to the cause of wilderness and the mission of MWA. In 2019, Doug Ferrell joined the ranks of the giants of Montana's rich conservation history who have received this award.

Doug is a tireless advocate for wild country. He is a remarkable leader who is always there to greet you with a smile. Doug works alongside the staff and volunteers of many organizations to protect wilderness across the region. From his backyard Cabinet Mountains to areas statewide Doug has provided plans and actions to save wild places.

From grassroots work to guiding organizations and campaigns, Doug's vision and contributions have earned him the MWA Founders Award!

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2019)**

#### Chairman

Doug Ferrell — Trout Creek, MT

Secretary Carol Jenkins — Sagle, ID

Treasurer Brad Williams — Sandpoint, ID

Mark Cochran — Sandpoint, ID

Mollie Kieran — Troy, MT

Jen Kreiner — Thompson Falls, MT

Will Valentine — Sagle, ID

Neil Wimberley — Hope, ID

#### **BOARD TRANSITIONS**

We would like to thank several board members who finished their terms of service. Their passion and dedication have been vital to building our strong community:

Molly Kieran, Jen Kreiner, Will Valentine and Carol Jenkins will be missed.

We are pleased and excited to welcome new board members: Dr. Mark Cochran, Jessie Grossman, Robin Chisholm, and Paul Clark. They bring passion and diverse backgrounds which will help us to continue all that it takes to save the wild Scotchmans.

### **STAFF (2019)**

Phil Hough — Executive Director

Britta Mireley — Deputy Executive Director

Sandy Compton — Program Coordinator

Ray Brown — Sanders County Outreach Coordinator

Cameron Rasmusson Communications Specialist

Henry Jorden — Lincoln County Outreach Coordinator

### **CONTACT**

Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, Inc.

PO Box 2061, Sandpoint, ID 83864



www.scotchmanpeaks.org



@ScotchmanPeaks



@MrScotchman



@friendsofscotchmanpeaks



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