

Mission Statement

"Spanning the Idaho/Montana border, the Scotchmans are one of the last, and largest, wild areas in our region. We conduct education, outreach and stewardship activities to preserve the rugged, scenic and biologically diverse 88,000 acre Scotchman Peaks Roadless Area. We believe the Scotchman Peaks deserve congressional designation as Wilderness for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations."



Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, Inc. (FSPW) is a non-profit organization. The proceeds from all events and sales benefit our wilderness preservation efforts. Donations are tax deductible.

If you receive this newsletter by mail and have an email address you can help us save postage by sending us your email address.

Acquisitions Editor: Ann Wimberley
Layout and design: Celeste Boatwright Grace



Outdoor education specialist Brian Baxter gives Spokane Montesorri kids some insights into the fine art of tracking at Round Lake State Park

Amen Photography

This year's Winter Tracks Program turned out to be a huge success – one that FSPW can build upon in the future. Much of that success can be attributed to efforts of the volunteers and school teachers that made this program happen. We engaged 184 students from 6 different schools, across 3 counties. We would like to invite everyone involved in the program — and the rest of our Friends as well — to come to MickDuff's Beer Hall on April 28 for another keg of Goat Hope Ale, so that we can celebrate this success!

For the first event of the program, Sandpoint High School teacher John Hastings brought 16 students from his ecology and forestry classes out to Round Lake State Park, where they were the guinea pigs for the new curriculum put together for this year. The next day, teacher Chris Bachman brought 26 students from the Spokane Montessori School to participate in the program. This event was also held at Round Lake State Park, where Park Manager Chuck Gross and his volunteers welcomed us into their superlative facilities, and gave us access to pelts and skulls in their visitor's center to use as teaching materials. Almost a month later, two classes from Forrest M. Bird Charter School came out to Round Lake, led by teacher Becky Bigley.

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PAGES 4 & 5: LOTS OF NEW FACES AT FSPW
PAGE 6: THE 2015 PHOTO CONTEST
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THE CALENDAR

Along the trail

January 25 & 26: Program Coordinator Sandy Compton attended USFS partners meeting at Lubrecht Forestry Campus in Montana

February 3: Pend Oreille Winery hosted 40-plus Friends for our annual sip and shop.

February 11: Winter Tracks Program with Forrest M. Bird Charter School at Round Lake.

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 10: Sagle Elementary School participated in Winter Tracks at Round Lake State Park

March 16: FSPW had a table at Bonner County Employees Health Fair

March 18: FSPW presented The StoryTelling Company at the Maki Theater in Libby.

March 19: FSPW presented The StoryTelling Company at the Rex Theater in Thompson Falls.

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

March 30: FSPW hosted a fundraiser at the Idaho Pour Authority in Sandpoint

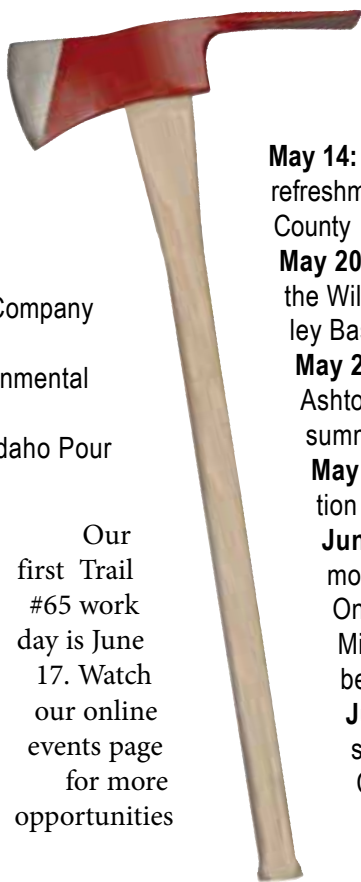
April 5: FSPW staff and volunteers put on a Winter Tracks Program for the 11th grade at Troy High School.

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

April 9: Sanders County outreach coordinator Jen Kreiner and FSPW volunteers participated in the Thompson Falls Beautification Days; Lincoln County intern Kara Adam and MWA outreach specialist Ashley South took part in the Cabinet Peaks Health Center Health Fair; Outdoor Ed. Instructor Brian Baxter lead a search for the big birds around the Clark Fork and Bull River Valleys

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

April 14: FSPW and FS personnel and volunteers trained Weed Warriors for the coming summer in the Lightning Creek Treasured Landscape at the U of I Field Campus



Our first Trail #65 work day is June 17. Watch our online events page for more opportunities

up/ FSPW will participate in the showing of the movie "Love Thy Nature" at the Panida in Sandpoint. 7:00 show.

April 28: Goat Hope Ale returns to MickDuff's Beer Hall on Cedar. 6:00. Also our Winter Tracks Volunteer Appreciation Party. Bring a snack to share!

May 5: Idaho Gives will be hosted by the Idaho Pour Authority. This is a chance to make a donation to your favorite Idaho nonprofit.

May 6: FSPW will participate in the KRFY benefit concert at the Panida, featuring "The Little Smokies;" Nathan Mynatt's last day.

May 14-15 and May 21-22: Wilderness First Aid Classes will be taught by FSPW Secretary Carol Jenkins at the Waterlife Discovery Center. For more information, contact info@scotchmanpeaks.org

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

May 20 - 22: Phil Hough and Sandy Compton will attend the Wild Idaho Conferences at Redfish Lake in the Stanley Basin.

May 23: Backcountry ranger/outreach intern Lindsay Ashton reports to Cabinet Ranger District to begin her summer working for FSPW

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

June 2: The Annual State of the Scotchmans with mountain goat expert Bruce Smith, author of "Life On The Rocks." 6:00 pm. Forrest Bird Charter Middle School. Appetizers and a no-host bar with beer and wine.

June 3: Jeff Halligan will teach a cross-cut sharpening class at the Compton Pavilion at Blue Creek, Montana. For more information, write to sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org

June 4, National Trails Day: The Annual FSPW Trails and Hike Leader Training Day. Eddy Creek Campground and Trail #999. All Day. Sign up online at bit.ly/2016FSPWTrailsTraining

June 17: National Trails Day event on Scotchman Peak Trail #65. The realign continues. Sign up here: www.scotchmanpeaks.org/event/scotchman-peaks-trail-65-realign-continues/

June 24 - 25: FSPW and MWA will share a booth at the Libby Logger Days.

June 26: The Annual Sanders County Picnic will be held at the Bull River Campground Pavilion. Bring a dish to share. Burgers and beverages provided. 3:00 pm.

July 4: Parades to march in at Sandpoint, Clark Fork, Noxon and Heron. FSPW will have a booth at the Troy Fourth of July Celebration.

See page 11 for "On the Horizon"

The Future Looks Bright

April 22: Earthday trail cleanup on Regal Creek Trail in the Lightning Creek Treasured Landscape. Sign up at www.scotchmanpeaks.org/event/regal-creek-trail-earthday-clean-

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Earth Day – the Perfect Time to Protect the Scotchman Peaks

Spring is a time of awakening, of rebirth and renewal. As buds burst and seeds stir to life, hope (along with pollen) hangs heavy in the air.

In 1970, 20 million people with little else in common but a shared desire to improve the planet's environment came together to celebrate the original Earth Day. Congress even adjourned for the day so that they could engage in activities and visit with constituents. This was bipartisan and community centered.

The Wilderness act itself assures that there will be a similar public process, reserving to congress the sole authority to add areas to the Wilderness preservation system. Congress rarely acts without gauging public support. And on lands issues local support has an important role in whether, and when, congress acts. Building strong, diverse public support is the pathway to Wilderness designation.

So, the Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness set out 11 years ago to engage the community and the many different people with interests in Wilderness. We have participated in formal collaborations including the Panhandle Forest Collaborative and the Kootenai Forest Stakeholders groups. We have also had one-on-one conversation with many individuals, addressed meetings of civic organizations, stakeholders, and various other groups. We've met with businesses, representatives of the timber and mining industry and various recreation groups. We've met with anyone who is interested in what Wilderness for the Scotchman Peaks would mean, including people and groups who might not have seemed like the most natural wilderness allies. We have wanted to

talk with everyone, answer questions, address concerns and interests. To learn from them what their perspective had to teach us.

Through this process of public engagement, a broad consensus of our community has come to agree that the Scotchman Peaks should be designated as Wilderness and that in Idaho, at least, we are now ready for our Congressional delegation to take action. Key endorsements from the last year or so include the Governor of Montana, the Sanders County Ledger, the Missoulian, the Bonner County Daily Bee, the Spokesman Review and the Sandpoint Reader. The Greater Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce, the Bonner County Commissioners and Idaho Forest Group have all called upon our Senators and congressman to introduce a bill to designate the Scotchman Peaks (in Idaho) as Wilderness!

This support has been noticed by the Idaho Congressional delegation and we are hopeful that 2016 may be the breakout year in which we see action. We can think of no better way to celebrate Earth Day 2016 than for our congressman to honor our communities' desire and introduce legislation to protect the Scotchman Peaks as Wilderness.

If you want to celebrate earth day, take a moment to add your voice to this chorus. Go to: <http://www.scotchmanpeaks.org/you-can-help/contactelecteds/>

Consider joining us for our Earth Day trail project on Regal Creek (see url below). Or, if you can't make that, join us later this summer for one out many other stewardship projects.

<http://www.scotchmanpeaks.org/event/regal-creek-trail-earthday-cleanup/>

MOLLIE KIERAN IS OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBER!

After a short hiatus, former Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness staffer Mollie Kieran has returned to FSPW as a member of the Board of Directors. She joins Troy resident Bill Martin as Lincoln County representatives on the

board. Mollie is a long time resident of the Libby and Troy area, and enjoys the beauty of Northwest Montana.

As a former member of the Montana Wilderness Association's State Council and as a former Lincoln County Outreach Coordinator for FSPW, Mollie's wilderness roots run deep. Doug Ferrell, FSPW's Board Chair, notes: "Mollie's passion and experience will be of great value to our organization and our community!"

As a broker with Clearwater Montana Properties, doing transactions throughout all of Montana, Mollie is a successful business woman and active in the community. Mollie, also known as Molly Montana in the real estate world, is a member of both the Troy and Libby Chambers of Commerce, the Lincoln County Tourism Bureau, the Montana Association of Realtors as well as the Northwest Montana Association of Realtors and the Lincoln County Board of Realtors.



FSPW board chair Doug Ferrell presents the 2012 Montana Wilderness Association Brass Lantern Award to Molly Kieran at a Scotchman Peaks Event.

Photo by Phil Hough

New Friends and Fresh FSPW Faces

Editor's note: FSPW is growing! We have not only welcomed our 6000th Friend and a new assistant program coordinator, we are lucky enough to be expanding our staff presence in Bonners, Sanders and Lincoln Counties. Read all about it.

BRITTA MIRELY JOINS FSPW AS THE NEW ASSISTANT PROGRAM COORDINATOR

As Nathan Mynatt moves on (to South America), Britta Mirely moves in to replace him. Britta began work on April 13 and will be a permanent full-time employee.

Britta grew up in the Black Hills of South Dakota and Wyoming and has been on the slopes since she was 3 years old. She's skied all over the Western United States and Austria. She graduated from the University of Wyoming

in 2008 with a B.S. in Marketing and in 2013 from The George Washington University with her Masters in Tourism Administration with a concentration in Sustainable Destination Management. The coursework was

Continued on page 10



Britta Mireley enjoys skiing and travel.

JEN KREINER BECOMES FSPW SANDERS COUNTY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

FSPW welcomes new permanent part-time staffer Jen Kreiner on board. Kreiner started work on March 4 as the Sanders County Outreach Coordinator, a new position that will concentrate on events, presentations and volunteer activities in western Sanders County. Kreiner, who is also executive director of the Sanders County Community Development Corporation, is a great fit for FSPW. The job is budgeted at 8 hours per week.



Jen Kreiner loves the back country and hiking.

"Jen has already proven to be a great asset," Program Coordinator Sandy Compton says. "She's a self starter, organized, and knows Thompson Falls and western Sanders County very well already. She's off to a great start."

Kreiner relocated to Montana in 1999 after a summer working in Yellowstone National Park, realizing that she had to be in the mountains. She finished school at the University of Montana with a bachelor degree in Fine Arts in 2001. A majority of her professional experience is with non-profit management, marketing and communications.

She resides in Thompson Falls, with

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KARA ADAM IS OUR LINCOLN COUNTY SUMMER INTERN



Kara Adams spends some outdoor time at Yaak Falls.

Kara Adam, from "up the Yaak," has joined Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness as an intern. Her tenure will run for 20 weeks, roughly through the end of July. She will be learning about and completing outreach programs in Libby and Troy, surveying these communities about interest and attitudes regarding wilderness — the Scotchman Peaks in particular — and helping with trail work in the area as well.

"We may bank some of her hours so she can help with the Harvest Festival in September," says FSPW program coordinator Sandy Compton. "I think Kara is going to be a great asset for us in Lincoln County."

Adam brings to FSPW a deep love for the outdoors; hiking, fishing, camping, photographing landscapes, flora and fauna, and gathering medicinal and edible plants. She is likely to raise her head in curiosity if someone is talking about any one of those topics in her vicinity, and she may even want to go along on a hike with them! Adam has a two-year degree specializing in art and enjoys intermixing her two passions. "Nature and art go hand in hand in my eyes," she says. "There is so much beauty in the world, sometimes it is hard to take it all in."

Continued on page 10

LINDSAY ASHTON: 2016 BACKCOUNTRY RANGER INTERN

For the fifth year in a row, FSPW and the three ranger districts our proposal lies within will share a backcountry ranger. Lindsay Ashton of Helena, who is a student at University of Montana, will report to the Cabinet District for training on May 23.

In addition to working on trails in the Scotchman Peaks and the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness, Lindsay will be an active part of the FSPW outreach team, helping with events like the Trout Creek Huckleberry Festival, the Bonner County Fair and the Troy Fourth of July.

Lindsay grew up in western Montana, and developed a love for the region's wildlands. "I've become passionate about wilderness issues," she says, "and have learned about the importance of community involvement in wilderness advocacy and



Lindsay enjoying the redrock country in Zion National Park.

stewardship. I hope to be able to spend more time in Montana's beautiful landscapes and share my love of wildlands with others."

MOUNTAIN GOAT ED COORDINATOR BEGINS WORK IN MAY

Trail ambassadors will teach visitors mountain goat etiquette.



Jay Sicilia begins work on May 10.

The latest, but by no means the least, of the new faces at FSPW is our newly-hired Mountain Goat Education Coordinator, Jay Sicilia. (See a related story on page 9)

Jay, who grew up in Spokane will begin work on May 10. He and his family moved to Sandpoint this past year "to live in this great town and maintain our outdoor lifestyles."

Jay is an avid hiker and snowboarder, as well as a wildlife enthusiast. His desire to backpack and travel has led him through the Smoky mountains of northern Tennessee, and through California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Alaska.

For the past few years, Jay has been living at Priest Lake and working in resorts there.

This job will be very helpful to his future, as his aim is to be a wildlife biologist and continue his passion for both the forest and the animals that inhabit them.

If you are interested helping Jay in his new job by becoming a trail ambassador for this program, contact sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org

FSPW WELCOMES OUR 6000TH AND 6001ST FRIENDS

By Nathan Mynatt

The Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness have been hard at work drumming up support for the rugged area sitting on the Idaho – Montana border. All the work has produced serious gains in the political arena, where the Friends are advocating for permanent designation of the Scotchman Peaks as a Wilderness area. These gains are driven by the organization's ability to make a few new friends – every day, that is. The Friends of Scotchman Peaks now number over 6,000 individuals.

**RYAN AND KATE SULLIVAN,
OUR 6000TH AND 6001ST
FRIENDS, MOVED TO HOPE
LAST AUGUST**

Ryan and Kate Sullivan moved to Hope, Idaho after Ryan was offered a job at Northwest Academy, where Kate now works as well. Kate (24) and Ryan (28) met in Colorado, where they got married before embarking on adventures of epic proportions in the vast Himalayan Mountains of Nepal. When the Sullivans came back to the United States, it was to the Olympic Peninsula of Washington, where they lived before moving to Idaho, nearly sight unseen.

Through their work at Northwest Academy, Ryan and Kate met some "friends" of the Scotchman Peaks, who introduced them to the organization. In December of 2015, the couple decided to attend the FSPW Holiday Party, where they met board members, staff, long time volunteers, and other newly interested attendees. It was here that Ryan and Kate signed up to be the 6,000th and 6,001st friends of the Scotchman Peaks, and helped FSPW pass yet another milestone.



2015 PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS.

We want to thank all of our 2015 Photo Contest entrants for their great pictures. They can be viewed online at our Facebook page under "Albums." First place, by Facebook "likes" was awarded to Douglas Shulze (pronounced shul-zee) of Boise.

He was awarded a copy of his picture framed by one of our best volunteers, Ward Tolbom. (See the accompanying picture). Second was Paul McNeels photo of a mountain goat (taken from a respectable distance.) Third place went to FSPW volunteer hike leader and Round Lake State Park manager Chuck Gross. Fourth was Darla Gregg's stormy picture of Antelope from the Scotchman Peak trail.



Clockwise from the upper left; Chuck Gross's shot of Scotchman from Trail 120; First Place Winner Douglas Shulze showing off his prize and another shot he took the same day; Douglas' winning photo of Lake Pend Oreille from Scotchman with incredible clouds; Darla Gregg's storm above Antelope Mountain; and Paul McNeel's ragged goat.



The 2016 Scotchman Peaks Photo Contest is now open for entries. Find the rules and how to submit your pictures at www.scotchmanpeaks.org/hiking/annual-photo-contest/

NEW STUFF!

Everyone who has tried to buy one of our little stuffed mountain goats from our outreach tables — and there have been many who have tried — have been repulsed for the simple reason that we couldn't find replacements. We have solved the problem!

Douglas Toys makes the little beasts, and we have acquired an adequate herd now, so we can sell them. They are really cute and only \$10.00!



They also come with an agenda. These lovely little critters want you to leave their wild cousins alone. To that end, they come with a tag that says so.

We also designed and ordered some of those really cool "buffs" that can be just about any kind of head and neck wrap

The buffs feature one of

the designer's favorite features in the Scotchman Peaks, Vertigo Ridge. After they arrive, they can be purchased for a mere pittance, \$15.00.

Watch for the goats and the buffs at outreach tables in the near future. Proceeds from goat sales benefit goat education efforts.



FSPW AND THE STORYTELLING COMPANY GET WILD IN THOMPSON FALLS (AND LIBBY)

By Jen Kreiner, FSPW Sanders County Outreach Coordinator

Do you remember being asked (told), "Why don't you kids go outside and play?" For many this may be the founding memory of how you came to grow up wild. Freedom to explore beyond the backyard boundaries generates independence and a natural curiosity in children. For others, a specific person or experience has inspired you to embrace the outside world, whether as an adult or a child that sense of place in the outdoors resonates. The Storytelling Company and the Cross-Border Band presented a show in Libby and Thompson Falls that shared a message of what it means to grow up wild and why stewardship is vital component to the Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness' mission.

One Thompson Falls attendee noted, "A nice evening was spent listening to the acoustic music of the Cross-Border Band. We heard folk songs and were entertained by a wonderful essay about growing up in the

remote areas of Montana and Idaho. Later in the evening we had the pleasure of watching a beautiful slide show and listening to Friends of Scotchman Peaks Executive Director, Phil Hough tell his fascinating adventure of hiking the Appalachian Trail, the Pacific Crest Trail, the Continental Divide Trail AND paddling the length of the Yukon river! The evening reaffirmed my belief that we need more wild places in our world."

Led by FSPW Program Coordinator, Sandy Compton (who lives in MT and works in ID) on harmonica and vocals, the Cross-Border Band featured the virtuous voice and guitar stylings of FSPW volunteer, Brita Olson (who lives in ID and works in MT) and fiddlin' by Ruby O'Connor. Their acoustic set highlighted music from Kate Wolf to the Eagles to Woody Guthrie and effortlessly engaged the audience. "This land is your land, this land is my land" is a powerful lyric in recognition of America, its people and its diverse lands.

Sandwiched in between Cross-Border band's set was an essay written

and read by Sandy about growing up wild in Heron, Montana. His thoughtfully woven words put you right with him as the back door to his childhood home swings shut on his way outside to explore his backyard and beyond. One of the best things a parent can do for their children is say, "Why don't you kids go outside and play?" This one question (statement) can be so memorable and powerful in shaping the next "wild" generation.

The show which took place at the KW Maki Theater in Libby and the Rex Theatre in Thompson Falls, ended on high note as the audience was taken on an adventure through Phil Hough's incredible long-distance backpacking experiences with his wife, Deb. Together they have achieved the Triple Crown, completing the Appalachian, Pacific Crest, and Continental Divide Trails! It was a visual whirlwind of everything that is wonderful and made audience goers wish they were up in those mountains, hiking those ridges, and soaking in the breathtaking views for which are the greatest reward.

2016 SUMMER HIKE SCHEDULE • E = EASY • M = MODERATE • S = STRENOUS • S+ = S+UPID :-)

Hike date	Exertion Rating	Destination/ Hike Name	Leader(s)	Description and contact info
4/30/16	E	Trees (and maybe shrubs) with John Harbuck	John Harbuck	Contact John Harbuck — harbuck@norlight.org Take a walk around the Harbuck place in the Selle Valley with the knowledgeable land owner and learn what grows wild around Bonner County. 4964 Colburn Culver Road. 2 pm to 6 pm.
6/6/16	M - S	Blacktail Pillick Sortee	Sandy Compton	Contact: Sandy Compton — sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org Beginning at 9 am Mountain, 8 am Pacific time, we will explore Blacktail Creek and environs in the Scotchman Peaks Proposed Wilderness via Trail #997. This is most likely an out and back, but could turn into an open loop with a return via Star Peak and Trail #999. This hike will be between 6 and 11 miles, depending on the will of the group. Bring plenty of water, as well as the other essentials for hiking.
6/29.16	M	Scotchman Peak For Non-believers	Celeste Grace and Mary Franzel	Contact: Celeste Grace — celestegrace@gmail.com This hike is for anyone who has always dreamed of summiting this iconic peak but has been intimidated by either confidence in their ability or intimidation by other "more fit" hikers. We will use the entire day to accomplish this feat, and the pace will be slow and relaxed. You should plan on getting some hiking in prior to joining us but this is not a race, and not for the uber-fit. Bring plenty of food and water. And your camera! This hike begins at 8:00 am Pacific Time.
7/9/16	E - M	Dry Creek Fire Ecology Hike	Phil Hough	Contact Phil Hough – phil@scotchmanpeaks.org Art Zack, retired USFS Fire Ecologist will lead us on a field trip to look at areas in the Scotchman Peaks that burned in 2015. We'll hike along Dry Creek Trail #1020 and take a look at the pattern(s) of fire as it burned across the landscape, what it left behind, how it impacted the landscape and habitats and how they are responded. Exact locations will depend on spring assessments. This walk will emphasize education rather than exercise, with some walking but lots of stops to look at and talk about fire, its behavior and its impacts. The hike begins at 10 am Pacific time, 11 Mountain, and will last about 6 hours.
7/20/16	S+	Goat Peak/ Scotchman Biathlon	Celeste Grace	Contact Celeste Grace — celestegrace@gmail.com Ever hiked UP Goat and wished you could hike DOWN Scotchman? Here is your chance. We will shuttle bicycles for hikers to the Scotchman Peak trail head early in the morning, then meet to hike UP Goat, then UP Scotchman, then DOWN to our bikes! From there, we will bike DOWN the forest service roads to Clark Fork. Hiker / bikers can then gather at The Squeeze Inn for end of day refreshments. This hike begins at 8 am
8/27/16	S	East Fork Peak	Mary Fanzel	Contact Mary Franzel — zipperlee@gmail.com Take the trail less traveled. Seems not many venture up this great trail. It's about 4 miles one way – somewhat comparable to Scotchman, although 3200' elevation is spread out a bit more evenly. There's the base of an old fire lookout & beautiful views up Char Creek, Savage, the Scotchmans & Lake Pend Oreille. We do have to cross the East Fork of Lightning Creek – maybe rock hopping, maybe not. We can continue on the ridge over to the "true" East Fork Peak depending on the group's desire. This hike begins at 9 a.m. Pacific Time, and is expected to take 6 to 8 hours.
9/24/16	M	Mary's Mystery Hike	Mary Fanzel	Contact Mary Franzel — zipperlee@gmail.com This is the 3rd (annual??) Mystery Hike. This year the exact location is part of the mystery. It will be no more than 6 miles round trip with less than 1500' of elevation – not a strenuous hike but fun. Not planning it as a kid's hike but if you have adventurous children I'm sure they would have fun & I'd plan the "prizes" accordingly. It will be somewhere up Lightning Creek on one of the many trails. It will include some form of refreshment & rewards. I only rate this as moderate due to potential 6 miles. The hike begins at 10 a.m. and will last until about 4 pm



WANT TO BE AN FSPW INSIDER?

GET THE WEEKLY INSIDER
NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL
BY WRITING TO INSIDER@SCOTCHMANPEAKS.ORG

HIKE LEADERS WANTED!

Lead a summer hike for us! list your proposal at www.scotchmanpeaks.org/hiking/leading-hikes

MORE HIKES TO COME!

Our hike leaders will be posting more soon at scotchmanpeaks.org/hiking/current-hiking-schedule

F\$PW Money Matters

The Friends' Quarterly Report

RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE GRANT WILL FUND GOAT EDUCATION COORDINATOR

By Phil Hough

The most effective outreach and education efforts are personal, one on one, conversations. Mountain Goats, or more accurately, the people who feed Mountain goats have become a problem on our namesake trail, the Scotchman Peak trail (#65). To keep the goats wild and the people who venture there safe from injuries and incident will require an integrated wildlife management plan that includes an intensive (and effective) effort at outreach and education.

A centerpiece of the personal outreach will be our volunteer "Trail Ambassadors". We will recruit folks who will wear forest service volunteer uniform shirts and FSPW hats, hike the Scotchman Peak trail and encourage other hikers to "leave the goats alone". They will also collect information from hikers about their encounters with goats. And, these ambassadors will be able to observe mountain goat behaviors and help identify any problem goats. We hope to have Trail Ambassadors on the trail on weekends and holidays from early June to Early October.



This is a unique extension of our partnership with the Forest Service. We've been building and maintaining trails and doing botany work with them for the past five years. Now we are moving into wildlife biology, it seems.

We have hired Jay Sicilia (See page 5) as a part time, seasonal, "Mountain Goat Education Coordinator" to schedule, train and work with our volunteer Trail Ambassadors. The MGEC will also help spread the word (about how to hike safely around mountain goats) at community events and through traditional as well as social media.

We are excited to undertake this effort. This will give us opportunity to teach people about goats, ensuring their safety on the trail, as well as the future of the goats themselves.

All this is possible because FSPW partnered with the Idaho Panhandle National Forest to secure funding from the local RAC (Resource Advisory Committee). These efforts are part of a larger comprehensive wildlife management strategy developed in cooperation with IPNF and Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

One goal is to prevent future closures with this program. The other is to 'wean' goats off of human 'help,' which is really no help at all.

If you are interested in becoming a trail ambassador for this program, contact sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org

SCHEDULED GIVING MAKES DOLLARS AND SENSE FOR DONORS AND FSPW

Our Salsa content management system has made it easy for regular FSPW donors to become — well — even more regular. Contributors can make a one-time donation, but it's just as easy to schedule an annual, quarterly, monthly, or even weekly donation.

They can be set for any amount, \$5 or over, and can be directly deducted from your checking account or charged to a debit or credit card. The donor can set an expiration date, if they wish.

This is an efficient way to support our mission as well as keep your memory from being overloaded. Visit bit.ly/FSPWScheduledDonations to learn more.

SUMMER PLANS: WEEDS, TRAILS AND PINE

By Sandy Compton

Besides undertaking goat education on Scotchman Peak, we will be up to our usual stewardship tricks, working on trails on all three of our Ranger Districts as well as looking for weeds in the Lightning Creek National Forest Foundation Treasured Landscape and continuing to work on the white-bark pine project we have helped with for the past two years.

Weed warriors underwent training on April 14, and our Trails and Hike Leader training will take place on National Trails Day, June 4 on the Cabinet District at Big Eddy Historic Trail #999. Our first trail work day is actually April 22 — Earth Day — this year, with a cleanup of Regal Creek trail led by FSPW exec Phil Hough.



Uber volunteer Brad Smith and FSPW staffer Nathan Mynatt rock the crosscut on the Scotchman Peak Trail #65 rebuild last summer

Sandy Compton Photo

We have six days scheduled to complete the reroute of the Scotchman Peak Trail #65 approach. The first one is scheduled for June 17.

On Three Rivers District, we are planning a work campout on the last weekend of July on the upper Spar Peak Trail, a project left over from last year due to fire closures.

We also hope to continue taking kids hiking, as we have for the past two years in cooperation with Transitions in Progress in Sandpoint.

To keep up with all of our stewardship activities and outreach events, stay tuned to our website at www.scotchmanpeaks.org/stewardship/events-calendar or sign up for the Insider by sending and e-mail to insider@scotchmanpeaks.org

Britta Mireley, from page 4

geared toward sustainability from both an environmental and financial perspective. Britta has worked in tourism at the state level, spent 5 years working in historic downtown revitalization and community development in Wyoming and has dabbled in databases and blogging. She's eager to take her previous experiences and put them to use with Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness.

Britta, her husband and their two shelter cats moved to North Idaho from Colorado in 2015 in search of fewer crowds on the ski slopes and more trees in general and haven't regretted the decision for a second. One clear day

at the top of the Great Escape Quad, and the Mireleys were hooked. Britta can't get enough fresh air whether she's skiing, camping, running, gardening or relaxing on a patio. The cats can't get enough North Idaho bird watching. When she's not enjoying the great outdoors, Britta can be found DIYing a major remodel on their home in Sagle.

Britta's looking forward to putting down roots in Bonner County and the ability to bicycle to work during the summer. She enjoyed helping to preserve communities' history through their built environments and is thrilled to switch gears and help preserve the natural environment for future generations.

Jen Kreiner, from page 4

her family and feels very lucky to explore her backyard -- northwest Montana. She is an avid hiker, backpacker and

x-country skier.

With all of the demands of daily life, it is comforting to know that balance is always found at the top of the mountain."

Kara Adam, from page 4

Being outdoors has a grounding affect that goes a long way with her personality, which makes the FSPW intern position "right down her trail." Local history also intrigues her, which for her, means never actually leaving the "school environment" Even how the land was formed raises questions with Adam.

For the past few years, Adam has been learning about the vast number of plant species and wildlife in this area. Skills in finding food, medicine, and forest treasures are something that she has not only learned to appreciate, but wants to help preserve. She believes that hunting and gathering is a part of our heritage that should be unspoiled and managed properly so that there are abundant resources for the generations to come.

Winter Tracks, from page 1

Later in February, the volunteers of FSPW took to the road to bring the Winter Tracks program to Clark Fork High School. We brought the students out to Trout Creek Wildlife Management Area, which Idaho Fish and Game was kind enough to let us use. In March, we returned to Round Lake State Park, where we hosted another event for Sagle Elementary.

This group, led by teacher Liz Gollen, missed the snow, but managed to have a great day in less than ideal weather conditions! Finally, students from Troy High School, led by teacher Cory Andersen, got out to an event in early April at Alvord Lake, a beautiful spot on National Forest land near Troy. The day at Alvord lake was

one of the most beautiful of the entire program, and we hope to have many more future programs in the area.

The students went through a curriculum that consisted of four stations, or “modules.” The first, from which the program gets its name, focuses on animal tracking. In this module, students learned how to identify animal sign and set up a lure station

for capturing wildlife photos. At the second station, which focused on tree identification, students learned about the predominant varieties of timber in the Inland Northwest.

The third station, one of the most widely enjoyed by students of all grade levels, used animal pelts, skulls, and



FSPW Winter Tracks takes kids into the wonderful world of the out of doors.
Amen Photo

sheds to teach the students about the variety of mammals that live in our local forests, and that they might find in the Scotchmans. Finally, the last station focused on Leave No Trace principles and the importance of wildlands habitat preservation. We would like to extend a huge thanks to the many volunteers that contributed their time and expertise to help teach these stations, as well as

those who helped administrate during the day and move students safely from one station to the next.

Again, we will be honoring our Winter Tracks volunteers at Mick Duff's Beer Hall on April 28th, as well as getting another taste of the Goat Hop Ale.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR WINTER TRACKS VOLUNTEERS.

Jeff Pennick, Tree identification — Sandpoint High, Spokane Montessori School and Clark Fork High.

Mary Franzel, Hides, horns and skulls — Sandpoint High, Forrest M. Bird Charter School, Clark Fork High and Sagle Elementary

Celeste Grace, Hides, horns and skulls — Sandpoint High, Spokane Montessori, Clark Fork High and Sagle Elementary.

Shane Sater, Tree identification — Forrest M. Bird Charter School.

Carol Jenkins, group leader — Spokane Montessori.

John Harbuck and Susan Bates-Harbuck, Tracking — Clark Fork High.

Tom Dabrowski, group leader — Clark Fork High.

Brian Baxter, Tracking — Spokane Montessori, Sagle Elementary, Troy High.

Jenn VanVolkinburn, group leader — Clark Fork High.

Jodi Kramer, group leader — Clark Fork High.

David Kretzchmar and Suzie Kretzchmar, Tracking — Sagle Elementary.

Don Clark, Hides, horns and skulls — Troy High.

Kara Adam, group leader — Troy High

Ashley South, group leader — Troy High.

Russ Gautreaux, Tree identification — Troy High.

On the horizon:

July 8: Scotchman Peak Trail Work Day

July 29 – 31: Spar Peak Trail work weekend.

August 5-6: FSPW will have a booth at the Noxon Blues Festival.

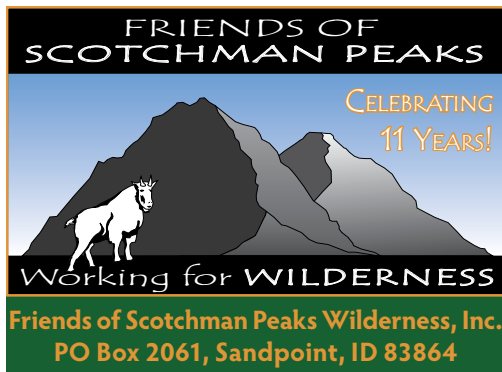
August 8-13: FSPW will have a booth at the Bonner County Fair.

August 12-15: FSPW will participate in the Trout Creek Huckleberry Festival

September 17: MWA and FSPW will host the second annual Harvest Festival at Riverfront Park in Libby.

September 23 and 24: National Public Lands Day event at Scotchman Trail #65

October 8: Annual Plein Air Paintout



How You Can Help

SUPPORT FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMAN PEAKS WILDERNESS

As concerned citizens, we support protecting and preserving the Scotchman Peaks area for ourselves and future generations. Highway 56, Highway 200, Lightning Creek Road, and Rattle Creek/Keeler Creek divide surround this 88,000 acre scenic area which straddles the Idaho and Montana border. Wilderness Designation for the Scotchmans will protect plants and wildlife, including the endangered grizzly bears, mountain goat, and bull trout; it will protect water quality; and it will preserve a special place for future generations. In addition, local communities will benefit from the unparalleled recreational and economic opportunities such wilderness provides.

Name: _____

Address: _____

e-mail: _____

Phone: _____

Donation enclosed (optional). Donations are tax deductible.

☐ Please make checks payable to the Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, Inc. Detach & Mail to the address above.

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