

Mission Statement

"To protect the Scotchman Peaks for future generations through Wilderness designation, ongoing stewardship and education."

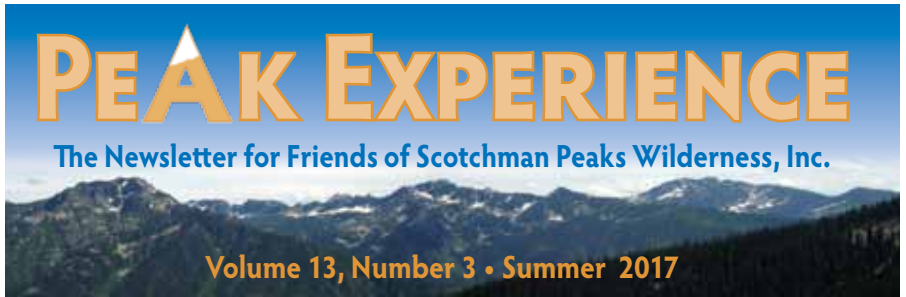
The Scotchmans are one of the last and largest wild areas in our region. The Friends believe the Scotchman Peaks deserve congressional designation as Wilderness for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations.



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



PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE



A group of hardy FSPW volunteers and USFS staff climbed Scotchman Peak the week of July 10 to sow a pound of whitebark pine seeds in the area burned in the 2015 fires. The seed sowers made fast work out of the seed supply and were done and headed down the mountain in just two-and-a-half days!

The whitebark pine tree is a keystone species that is an important food-source for many birds and mammals in their high elevation home. The population has been hurt by white pine blister rust, mountain pine beetles and increased competition from shade-loving trees.

FSPW volunteers Jim Mellen, John Harbuck, Fred Gaudet and Ed Robinson and USFS employees led by FS Botanist Jennifer Costich-Thompson planted 2300 seeds over 30 acres on the ridge to the southeast of Scotchman Peak.

Jim Mellen photo

THE RIGHT STUFF: TACKLING MISINFORMATION

People fear the unknown, and it takes the "Right Stuff" to overcome that fear. By the right stuff, we mean individual fortitude to seek out the truth, as well as correct and truthful information. As the Scotchman Peaks Wilderness becomes a more "real" possibility, misinformation, misunderstandings, incorrect information and misleading "facts" abound, causing undue fear. Let's try to clear some of that up.

Land Ownership: The Scotchman Peaks are owned by the American people and managed by the U.S. Forest Service. Wilderness designation will not transfer lands from one entity to another.

Boundaries: Through several extensive public processes including the Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE) of the 1970s, the 1987 Forest Plan, the 2009

Continued, Page 2

INSIDE:

PAGE 3: ROAD TO THE BUFFALO IN MONTANA

PAGE 4: SUMMER HIKE SCHEDULE

PAGE 7: BIG TRAIL SEASON IN THE SCOTCHMANS

The Right Stuff, from page 1

Idaho Roadless Rule, and the 2015 Forest Plan, boundaries were developed and gradually shaped and refined by public input. These processes included hundreds of meetings and field trips in locations accessible to all interested parties. Thousands of local residents submitted written comments.

The proposed wilderness is smaller than the Scotchman Peaks roadless area. At its closest point, the western boundary of the proposed wilderness is 300 feet away from the Lightning Creek Road. This distance provides space for the realignment of the road due to washouts or other resource concerns as well as cutting firewood.

Other boundaries follow natural features such as streams and ridgelines. All boundaries are located at least one quarter mile from private property. In many locations, the distance is greater than one quarter mile. Along the south side,

the wilderness boundary is far above and well back from any private lands on the valley floor.

Impact beyond the boundaries. The Scotchman Peaks Wilderness Act will not create any “buffer zones.” Nothing in designating the wilderness will affect management decisions in other areas of the Lightning Creek drainage or on adjacent Forest Service lands. In fact, Section 6 of the proposed bill states: “Nothing in this Act creates a protective perimeter or buffer zone around the wilderness area.”

Hunting and fishing: Management of hunting and fishing will not change. Idaho Fish and Game will retain jurisdiction over hunting and fishing rules and licensure. Many Idahoans hunt and fish in Idaho’s existing wilderness areas, such as the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. Section 4(C) Of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness Act states: “Nothing in this Act affects the jurisdiction of the

State of Idaho with respect to fish and wildlife on public lands in the state.”

Recreation and Access off Highway Vehicle Use – Access to the area will not change. Non-mechanical and non-motorized recreational activities, such as hiking, horseback riding, skiing, mountaineering, camping, shed hunting, and berry picking are just some of the activities people will continue to enjoy in wilderness areas.

Motorized and mechanized vehicles, including off-road vehicles, snowmobiles and mountain bikes, are currently prohibited in the proposed Scotchman Peaks Wilderness. Wilderness designation would not change this.

Search and Rescue Helicopters: Helicopters have rescued people several times in recent years in the Scotchmans. Their use would continue to be allowed. Section 4(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 allows search and rescue officials

Concluded on page 3



Above: Annie Gassmann, Lincoln County outreach coordinator, and Mollie Kieran, FSPW board member, in the Scotchman Peaks booth at the July 4th Celebration in Troy, MT. Far right: Sandpoint marchers always turn out in force. Near right: one of our newest Friends helps make ornaments for the Capitol Christmas tree at the Troy celebration.

JULY 4TH AROUND THE SCOTCHMANS

Below: The Friends’ version of the marching band is always popular at the Clark Fork parade



BILL MARTIN RECEIVES LIFETIME AWARD

Outgoing FSPW board member Bill Martin was feted for a lifetime of conservation work at the June 25 Sanders County Picnic. Bill was presented with a plaque by FSPW Chairman Doug Ferrell in recognition of his 12 years on the FSPW board as well as his unstinting dedication to conservation issues in Montana over the past four decades.



In addition to his multi-year commitment to FSPW, Bill is a founding member of the Cabinet Resource Group, and was instrumental in holding mining giant ASARCO accountable for their mining practices in western Montana. Bill continues to work for conservation causes in Sanders and Lincoln Counties.

MONTANA MATTERS: ROAD TO THE BUFFALO BISECTS SANDERS COUNTY

By Jen Kreiner, Sanders County Outreach Coordinator

The use of the Clark Fork River corridor for travel and trade would have begun some time after the last Glacial Lake Missoula episode drained this valley some 11,000 years ago. Aboriginal peoples used many travel routes through this land. Those routes represented the best terrain for movement because they traversed natural corridors like mountain passes, ridgelines or river channels.

It was 1809 when David Thompson, the first European of record, set foot in present day Sanders County. He was following a well-used trail that he recorded as the Saleesh Road to the Buffalo. He called the river it followed the Saleesh River. By the early 1900s, the road had been renamed the Kootenai Trail.

The Road to the Buffalo followed present-day Montana 200 with the exception of the loop it took north-east from Plains, turning through the Camas Prairie and returning to the Flathead River upstream from Perma.

A river of many names, Lewis and Clark first named the river Clark's Fork in 1805. Later, David Thompson called it the

Saleesh after the people he met along its channel and whom he wrote about in his journal. He also, as well as others, called it the Flathead. When Thompson mapped the river he used the Saleesh name. For a brief period the river was called the Pend Oreille. It is now known as the Clark Fork.

This historic native travel corridor has many points of interest along its route. Women for a Better Sanders County held a fundraiser in Noxon on Saturday, June 25th to raise money to establish interpretive signage at highway pull-outs in Sanders County along Montana 200 to complement the existing route signage that was installed in 2014.



Jen and Tillie Kreiner at the FSPW booth at the Road to the Buffalo Event in Noxon

Friends of Scotchman Peaks participated along with a number of vendors and organizations to help support their effort.

For more information about the Road to the Buffalo, visit www.SandersCounty.org/road-to-the-buffalo/ and keep your eyes peeled for the signs in Montana!

The Right Stuff, from page 2

to use motorized vehicles and aircraft in “emergencies involving the health and safety of persons within the area.”

Fire suppression: The Forest Service can use any of the tools they have to manage fire in Wilderness areas. Safety is their first concern. In the recent fire in the Salmo Priest Wilderness, the forest service is using both helicopters and chainsaws. Section 5 of the Scotchman Peaks Wilderness Act provides for the control of fire, insects, and disease within the proposed wilderness area.

How can I find more information about Wilderness?

There is much information about the Scotchman Peaks proposal to be found at www.scotchmanpeaks.org. For specific questions, write to info@scotchmanpeaks.org.

For specific information on the Wilderness Act and wilderness management, visit www.Wilderness.net.

Wilderness.net is a public wilderness information website formed in 1996 through a collaborative partnership between the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center and the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute — the government's wilderness training and research arms — and the College of Forestry and Conservation's Wilderness Institute at the University of Montana.

— Phil Hough

2017 OLD GOAT IS IFG'S BOB BOEH

At the 2017 State of The Scotchmans meeting on June 1, the Idaho Forest Group vice president for governmental affairs was honored with the Scotchman Peaks Old Goat award, a plaque presented annually to an important volunteer.

“Bob has been tireless and tenacious in getting our message to the folks in Washington D.C.,” said FSPW exec Phil Hough. “Without his help, we would not be as close to a bill in Idaho as we are now.” Bob was not able to be there in person, but his wife Sandi was there to accept the plaque.

Honored at the 2017 State of the Scotchmans for being outstanding volunteers were (l to r) Marla Groot Nibelink, Dr. Mark Cochran, Sandi Boeh (standing in for husband Bob) Carol Jenkins and Mary Franzel. Not pictured are Montana volunteers Jon Jeresek and Char Milling.



THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT

July 18: Senator Risch’s staff and USFS personnel will host an open house in Clark Fork from 4 pm to 7 pm at the high school.

July 21 – 23: Trail Work Weekend near Spar Lake with Three Rivers Ranger District.

July 29: Karen Robinson painting class at Elliot Bay.

August 4: Field Day Friday — A workday on Trail #65.

August 7 – 12: FSPW volunteers and staff will hand out information, answer questions and sign up new Friends at Bonner County Fair.

August 11 – 13: FSPW volunteers and staff hand out information, answer questions and sign up new Friends at the Trout Creek Huckleberry Festival.

August 25: Field Day Friday — A trail workday in Napoleon Gulch on the Cabinet District. This will address fire damage to the trail.

August 30: Kids Painting class with Karen Robinson

September 9: Field Day Friday — A workday in Hamilton Gulch on the Cabinet District. This will address fire damage to the trail.

ON THE HORIZON

September 10: Thompson Falls Picnic will be held at Power Park. Times TBA.

September 16: Kootenai Harvest Festival will be held at the Riverfront Park in Libby.

September 30: National Public Lands Day. We will be working on Morris and Regal Creek Trails in the Lightning Creek drainage.

October 3-5: Sandy Compton and Phil Hough will travel to Arkansas for the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance conference.

October 8: Last day of Goat Education Ambassadors; Annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic at the Compton Pavilion.

October 21-22: Carol Jenkins will teach Wilderness and Remote First Aid at the ICL offices in Sandpoint.



Hike date	Exertion Rating	Destination/ Hike Name	Leader	Description and contact info
7/21/17 8/11/17	E-M	Community Kid Hikes	Britta Mireley and Sandy Compton	Contact: Britta Mireley or Sandy Compton — britta@scotchmanpeaks.org, sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org Bring your youngster for a walk in the woods with kids from Bonner Homeless Transitions. Literally watch lives change as they get outside among more wonders than many of them have ever seen before. FSPW leaders welcome kids from 3 to 13 (and parents as well) on these low-impact adventures. These hikes are lots of fun for kids and adults alike. 7/21/17 — Kids love the Ross Creek Cedars, deep green woods, a creek to throw rocks in and lots of nooks and crannies to look into. 8/11/17 — Trail #999 rises from deep forest along a live stream up into open meadows with lots of big views. There are shady rest spots along the way, and a terrific place for a picnic lunch.
8/19/17	E-M	Morris Creek Kids Hike	Britta and Josh Mireley	Contact: Britta Mireley — britta@scotchmanpeaks.org, Join Idaho Conservation League & FSPW for an easy, family-friendly hike up Morris Creek Trail #132 in the Scotchman Peaks. Bring the kids, some snacks, water and a lunch and we'll hike in the dense forest at a kid-friendly pace and only as long as we feel like it. Maybe we'll even throw some rocks in the creek when we're done! All ages are welcome. Hike leaders Britta and Josh will be bringing their 8-month-old along! The hike is limited to 12 participants so register now!
8/20-24/17	S++	The Extreme Plain Air V 9.0	Sandy Compton	Contact: Sandy Compton — sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org This is for visual artists who want to take their passion a little farther — and carry it on their back. Five days and four nights in the Scotchman “outback” with ample time to paint, draw or sketch between some gnarly cross-country backpacking. This year is a foray to the vicinity of Scotchman II for a look at a little lake not many folks visit. This is a strenuous adventure with a limited number of spaces. Artists should be prepared to carry all necessary for four nights in the backcountry as well as supplies with which to capture the beauty of the wildest part of the Scotchman Peaks.
8/26/17	S	East Fork Peak	Phil Hough	Contact: Phil Hough — phil@scotchmanpeaks.org East Fork Peak provides stunning views of the northern part of the proposed Scotchman Peaks Wilderness. This hike starts off with minimal elevation gain the first couple miles, then becomes steep for about 3 miles. The total is about 11 miles round trip with about 3,000 foot vertical gain. Unless it's a very dry summer, expect a wet ford of East Fork Creek.
8/26 & 27	M-S	Overnight Backpack 101	Marla Groot Nibbelink & Sandy Compton	Contact Marla Groot Nibbelink — marjolein.gn@gmail.com Join two experienced backpackers for your first overnight camping trip in wild country. The leaders will coach you about what to (and not to) bring and lead you on a relatively easy hike into the main fork of Ross Creek in an old growth cedar grove. The hike is five miles, but only gains about 500 feet in elevation overall, though there are some steep pitches to negotiate. Kid friendly for children 10 and over. Details on the website.

To learn more about or sign up for any of our hikes, summer or winter, visit www.scotchmanpeaks.org/hiking
Do you want to lead a hike? Suggest yours at www.scotchmanpeaks.org/hiking/leading-hikes/

GOING DEEP: IMMERSION TRAINING AS AN FSPW VOLUNTEER

By Marjolein (Marla) Groot Nibbelink

Two issues ago I wrote about learning to build and maintain trails as part of the Scotchman Peaks volunteer trail crew, considering myself quite the expert. This spring, I took part in the two-day FSPW Wilderness and Remote First Aid course and three-day Idaho Trails Association (ITA) Crew Leader College, and quickly realized there was much to learn.

It takes commitment and considerable enthusiasm to show up at 8 am for eight-and-a-half hours of training on Saturday and Sunday, but the May 8th and 9th American Red Cross First Aid course sponsored by FSPW filled up in no time (eight persons) and a second weekend course was also booked in June.



Two staff and six volunteers got their Wilderness and Remote First Aid Certifications under the instruction of FSPW board member Carol Jenkins.

It's sunny outside — after two months of rain — and we sleepily introduce ourselves in the room that is usually the Idaho Conservation League (ICL) office. FSPW's own Phil Hough and Sandy Compton are getting recertified this weekend, since the diploma is good for just two years. After introductions and other legalities, we take a test to confirm that we all have read the theory book.

Carol Jenkins teaches the class with dedication, because we could be saving lives here. Scenarios we discuss are realistic for hikers, bikers, hunters, trail workers and more. Everyone takes the class very seriously, but there is room for laughter and exchanging stories. It was the first time I felt truly heard and supported as I shared my own CPR experience, after which someone asked whether the dummies feel anything like a real body. The answer is: not in the slightest.

I can recommend anyone to take this class, whether you work with FSPW or not. All they ask in exchange are two days of volunteer time — a real steal if you ask me. Plus, you get free coffee and when else will you get the chance to splint Phil Hough's legs together?

That course felt quite useful when, three weeks later on June 2, 3 and 4, I get a better grasp on the risks involved

Continued page 7



LEARNINGS AND LEANINGS OF A SUMMER INTERN

By Sam Olson

N. Scott Momaday, in *House Made of Dawn*, writes that humans, entering adulthood, “must learn the whole contour of the black mesa.” That's the work, trying to learn a landscape. As long as I know it, I could build a home for myself, here or anywhere.

My first task in this job was learning to drive a manual transmission. One learns hillsides when trying to release a clutch. Especially in a Chevy that came out of a factory before the driver was born. Ask my boss about it.

I learned how to (and how not to) pinch a saw in the middle of a downed cedar. I learned to love a Pulaski, but to

carry it with purpose. A good tool is a bridge between human and Earth.

I learned there's an outhouse on Star Peak.

Hiking down the bottom of Spar Canyon at the tail-end of a patrol, I heard two thrushes in the canopy. The first note sounded, then the second, a lower pitch, across the trees. Each February in Oregon, my mother anticipates this song. If you woke early enough, before dawn, she says, and open your window, you hear one thrush in a fir up the hill. Beneath the reedy call is a hollowness. It made a straight note that seemed to hum, like plucking a bowstring. This meant spring to my mother.



The Star Peak outhouse

Photo by Jim Mellen

Continued on page 9

May 4: FSPW participated in Idaho Gives with an event at the Idaho Pour Authority.

May 6-7: FSPW first aid training was held for volunteers and staff.

May 11: Phil Hough gave a presentation to the Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce, at their invitation.

May 13: FSPW volunteers, led by Annie Gassmann, operated refreshment booth at Yaak Falls for the annual STOKR bike ride.

May 16: Goat Education coordinator Mary Franzel started work.

May 17: Sandy Compton gave a presentation to the Leadership Sandpoint Class aboard the Shawnodese on Lake Pend Oreille

May 19-21: Phil Hough and Sandy Compton travelled to Wild Idaho for the annual Idaho Conservation League meeting. Phil Hough shared the podium with Risch staffer Darren Parker giving info about Scotchman Peaks Wilderness prospects.

May 20: Spring birding with Brian Baxter.

May 22: FSPW Backcountry Ranger Intern Sam Olson's first day.

May 25: Sandy Compton was at the outdoor Education Day at Noxon; Jen Kreiner & Annie Gassmann accompanied the Thompson Falls first grade on a field trip to Ross Creek Cedars.

May 26: Jen Kreiner and Sam Olson worked at Outdoor Education Day at Noxon School.

June 1: State of the Scotchmans at Forrest Bird Charter School featured Rick Johnson from Idaho Conservation League as the guest speaker; Goat Education Ambassador training was held at the School before the event. See story page 3.

June 2-4: Trail crew leader training college with Idaho Trails Association was attended by FSPW staff and volunteers.

June 3-4: Wilderness & Remote First Aid certification course for volunteers certified seven FSPW volunteers and staff.

June 5: Phil Hough gave a presentation to Sandpoint Kiwanis Club

June 6: An open house in Hope hosted by Senator Risch's staff drew over 300 people.

June 10: First day of Goat Education Ambassador program.

June 11: FSPW had a table at the Pend Oreille Trail Fun Run.

June 14: Jen Kreiner and Doug Ferrell participated in a Kootenai Forest Stakeholders presentation at Thompson Falls Chamber.

June 17: FSPW volunteers fed hungry bicyclists at the Clark Fork rest stop for the CHaFE 150 (FSPW was voted favorite rest stop!).

June 22 – 24: FSPW and MWA volunteers and staff handed out information and answered questions at Libby Logger Days.

June 23: A trail workday was held on Trail #999.

June 24: Jen Kreiner had an FSPW information table at the Sawtooth Café in Noxon in conjunction with a Road To The Buffalo event sponsored by Women for a Better Sanders County.

June 25: The Annual Sanders County Picnic was held at Bull River Campground with a good selection of Scotchmans "old timers" at the picnic, including CRG cofounder Mike Comola; FSPW had a table at 7B Sunday at Schweitzer Mountain Resort.

June 29: Field training day for St Johnswort Biocontrol project with USFS.

July 4: Parades in Sandpoint, Clark Fork, Heron, Noxon, Thompson Falls. FSPW and MWA were at the Troy Fourth celebration with information booths.

July 7: Seven volunteers attended a trail workday on Trail #65. First painting class by Artist in Residence Karen Robinson was held at the Clark Fork drift yard.

July 10-13: Whitebark pine direct sowing deployment on Scotchman Peak with USFS. 2300 seeds were planted over 30 acres.

NINE AREA SENIORS RECEIVE AWARDS IN FSPW ESSAY CONTEST.

Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness are pleased to announce the 2017 winners of their annual scholarship essay competition. This year, FSPW scholarships were awarded for the best essay by a graduating senior at each of the following schools: Clark Fork, Sandpoint, Lake Pend Oreille, and Priest River in Idaho; and Libby, Troy, Noxon, and Thompson Falls High Schools in Montana.

Reilley Wolfe, Sandpoint; Thomas Lucky, Priest River; Hailey Shropshire, Lake Pend Oreille High; Dustie Jackman, Clark Fork; Hilary VanVleet, Noxon; Margaret Riddell, Thompson Falls; Braydan Thomas, Libby; and Molly Walters, Troy, were awarded a

certificate and \$300 for their essays on "A Most Memorable Wilderness Experience." Carolyn Hawkins, Sandpoint High, received an honorable mention certificate and \$100. An additional \$300 was awarded for the best essay overall to Reilley Wolfe.

"It's always interesting and often inspiring to read the adventures these young folks write about," said FSPW program coordinator Sandy Compton. "The theme leads to some great stories, and the passion of the writers for the out-of-doors is ever apparent."

Winning essays are posted online at www.scotchmanpeaks.org/blog



Phil Hough presented essayists Reilley Wolfe and Carolyn Hawkins their awards.

FSPW ALL STARS HAVING AN ALL-STAR SEASON

The Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness trail crew — the FSPW All Stars — are halfway through the 2017 trail stewardship season. This year's schedule includes 14 days of trail work and trails and tools training, a step up from last year's ten-day season.

"Trail work is an important part of what the Friends do," said FSPW executive director Phil Hough. "It's very satisfying work, engaging some of our most dedicated volunteers. I can also say that the All Stars can be very proud of the work they accomplish in service to the hiking public and our partners in the Forest Service."

The FSPW trail season began early this year with an Earth Day tune up on Star Peak Trail #999 on the Cabinet Ranger District in Montana. On April 22, the All Stars took their crosscuts for a walk and cleared some big blow-down on lower parts of the trail. It was a good chance to polish up job

hazard analysis skills, for several of the logs were both big and lodged in precarious positions. With some cautious assessment and diligent sawyer work, they were taken off the trail safely, while educating the saw crew about what can go right if they take their time and look situations over closely.

On May 22, FSPW program coordinator and trail crew leader Sandy Compton assisted as an instructor at a crosscut training class on the St. Paul Lake trail with USFS personnel from the Cabinet, Three Rivers and Libby Districts of the Kootenai National Forest. This class was also attended by FSPW back country/outreach intern Sam Olson.

Next stop of the season was a joint crew leader college weekend June 2-4 with FSPW and Idaho Trails Association led by ITA executive director Jeff Halligan with assistance from ITA president Tom Dabrowski



The All-Stars (or at least a portion of them) on Trail #999 on June 23.

and Compton. The crew spent a day on Trout Peak Trail #57 in the West Cabinets, clearing many blowdowns with crosscuts and doing some serious

Continued, page 9

Immersion Training, from page 5

with trail clearing during the ITA Trail Crew Leader College. This course is spread over three days with roundtable education, tool introduction, a field day and extensive crosscut training.

I'm not entirely sure how I got to be in this course, other than being personally invited and having demonstrated particular fondness for FSPW trail work. From the start I am inseparable from my Silky Bigboy foldable saw I received for my birthday, my machete from Honduras and the only pick-mattock available. I get to meet men I've only heard about, like Jeff Halligan, the biggest crosscut geek in a 400-mile radius, and Tom Dabrowski, the mountain climber.

Here I sit, surrounded by real-life-hardened men and women. Beside Sam Olson, the 2017 FSPW intern Emily Cleveland from Idaho Conservation League and myself, everyone is over 50.



Marla Groot Nibbelink and Emily Cleveland divert a stream out of Trail #57 during Crew Leader College.

Working with a crosscut saw is like race cycling — age and experience makes a good worker, youth and strength has much less to do with it. Overconfidence can harm you and

others. And chopping a downed tree with an axe is a much different experience than splitting firewood.

Saturday was our field day, on which I learned to divert small and larger streams from roads and trails, and got to apply hazard analysis to fallen trees. Even with a group of vets like those present, tricky situations can quickly translate into hazards and I can see the benefit of both the First Aid and Crew Leader certifications to be a safe volunteer. We kept from harm, albeit barely at times, and I received my "B" bucker certification two weeks later.

With two weekends of training in the pocket, I've learned that good communication and patient concentration are key in being a good trail worker. Compared to the work I did in 2016, the work I'll do in the season ahead may not go faster, but it will surely be safer.

F\$PW Money Matters

The Friends' Quarterly Report

GRANTS, GRATITUDE AND FIVE GREAT IDEAS.

In this era of political (and financial) uncertainty, many charitable organizations are scaling back on funding. We are happy to report that many — most in fact — of our grantors are still helping out, albeit at somewhat lower amounts in some cases. That said, we are especially grateful to the Wilburforce Foundation for their continued and

steadfast support. The Cinnabar Foundation also stands fast, and actually increased their annual matching grant to \$5,000 this year. Once again, this is a chance for individual donors to double their money by making a donation during the grant period. You can track our progress by clicking on the *Continued on page 9*



FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMAN PEAKS
Working for WILDERNESS

Five things YOU can do to help achieve Wilderness designation in the Scotchman Peaks.

1. Invite a friend to be a Friend
www.scotchmanpeaks.org/subscribe
It's where it all begins.
2. Write to your elected officials
www.scotchmanpeaks.org/
You can help/contact your electeds! Thank Senator Rich for his interest, urge him to reintroduce the bill and tell the rest of your state's delegation and Governor and your County Commission that you support Wilderness for the Scotchman.
3. Hike with us
www.scotchmanpeaks.org/hiking/current-hiking-schedule/
Discover what it's all about.
4. Volunteer
info@scotchmanpeaks.org
We love our board members, trail workers, hike leaders, weed warriors, fire recovery monitors, wildlife fire workers, rare camcorder citizen scientists, Winter Tracks teachers, mountain goat education specialists, kid hike chaperones and outreach specialists.
5. Donate to the cause
A donation now will help us with the legislative push in Idaho. As we advocate for Wilderness, we also look far into the future. FSPW is a 501(c)3 organization with a small staff and a big reach. We work in communities surrounding the Scotchman in many ways, including on-the-ground stewardship and education. FSPW participates in collaborative projects and supports local organizations such as community radio, food banks, schools, local sports and the arts.

To make a donation, see the reverse side, or visit www.scotchmanpeaks.org/donate

If this comes in the mail, please give it a read. Or download it at scotchmanpeaks.org/pdfs/.

GOAT AMBASSADOR UPDATE

By Mary Fanzel, Goat Education Coordinator

With the hiking season well underway, our Goat Ambassador Program is in full swing. Working with the Forest Service and Idaho Fish & Game, FSPW organizes volunteers to hike Trail #65 every weekend and holiday from mid-June through mid-Oct. The goal is to educate the public on safe hiking practices in mountain goat country. Between five and nine goats have been sighted and reports have been overall positive regarding hiker knowledge and behavior. A few people still allow the goats to get within a few dangerous feet of them to get that “perfect” picture. Strongly discouraged! These wild animals have sharp horns. (Both males and females have horns). There are baby goats (kids) up there and the nannies can be very protective.



Mountain goat viewed at a safe distance.

A goat stomping its hoof is usually the first sign it's getting agitated. Our Ambassadors encourage hikers to yell, knock their hiking poles together and if all else fails, toss rocks at the goat's feet. We want people to enjoy the goats,

but at a safe distance of at least 100 feet and ideally 150 feet or more.

One rather bold nanny and a kid are arling to look at but mom can get feisty when politely asked to leave, but she will eventually and we don't want her to become any more habituated to humans.

We had Librarian's Weekend on Scotchman in June when our volunteers were librarians both days. There were reports from other hikers of a constant “shhhhh” over the mountain. They wrote the most detailed and humorous reports ever (but to be fair, ALL the reports this year have been excellent!)

We'd like to thank all of our Ambassadors that have hiked this year (in order of their hike): Kate Walker, Jason Smith, Susan Harbuck, Suzanne Davis, Diane Brockway, Francine Mejia & Erick Berntsten, Cate Huisman, Susan Conway-Kean, Ken Thacker and Bonnie Jakubos, Don Otis and Dr. Mark Cochran. There are many more in the coming months and most of the stellar volunteers listed here are hiking the trail again this summer as Goat Ambassadors. The goats and hikers thank you!

The All Stars, from page 7

stream rerouting to get the flow off the trail. Several FSPW volunteers were certified by Halligan for A or B buckner cross-cut status as well.

Since then, the All Stars worked on improving tread on Star Peak Trail #999 on June 23 (for which the next group of hikers thanked them profusely) and basic maintenance on Scotchman Peak Trail #65 on July 7. In addition, FSPW back country/outreach intern Sam Olson has done two solo patrols on Star Peak #999, one on Little Spar Trail #143, and volunteer assisted patrols on Trails

#65 and #999, all of which involved clearing brush and blowdowns, improving tread and cleaning waterbars.

The All Stars will be working on Three Rivers District July 21-23, helping USFS and Montana Conservation Corps crews reclaim an old trail that runs along the proposal boundary on the south side of Spar Lake, beginning near where Forest Road 308 tops the moraine that forms Big Spar and following about 3.25 miles around the lake to the Trail #143 trailhead.

“This is a really exciting project,” Compton said. “The new tread will pro-

vide the second half of a moderate — and beautiful — loop around the lake that can begin at the trailhead on the moraine or the Spar Lake Campground. Anybody who is fairly fit with a modicum of endurance will be able to use this trail, which makes it somewhat of a rarity in the Scotchmans.”



Cross-cut training took up much of the Earth Day trail work

Marla Groot Nibbelink photo

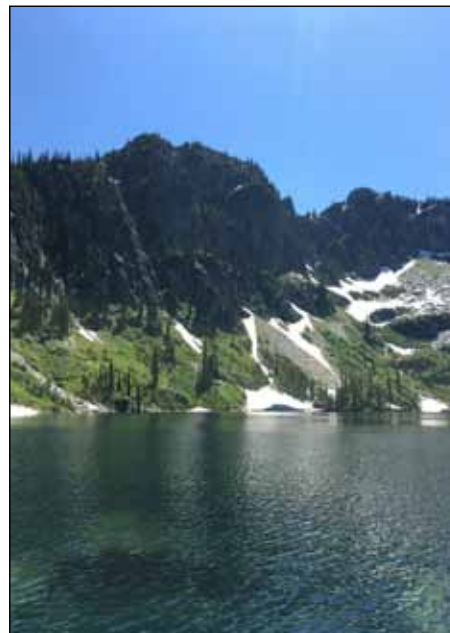
Learnings, from page 5

My shadow was tugged by a low sun towards the trailhead. I could smell fresh-cut tag-alder. Dragonflies chased white gnats towards the creek, and strands from a broken web rose into the light, appearing and disappearing like Morse code above the trail.

Wilderness is where we catch up with our imagination. Our dreams thrive in the landscape, where we our feet are planted firm, and the world reacts.

Sam Olson is the 2017 FSPW back country/outreach intern. He hales from Portland via Missoula, loves fish and words and hardly ever kills the motor on his USFS pickup anymore. (Sandpoint Ranger District provided a five-speed pickup, but not the one he learned on.) He will be with us through the third week in August. Watch for him

on the trails and at outreach booths in Lincoln, Sanders and Bonner Counties.



Little Spar Lake Photo by Sam Olson

Coming up after the three-day weekend is an August 4 work day on Trail #65, an August 25 work day on Napoleon Gulch Trail #1035, a September 8 work day on Hamilton Gulch Trail #1019 (both in the Pilik Ridge Complex in Montana), and a final trail day on National Public Lands Day on Morris Creek Trail #132 and Regal Creek Trail #556 on the Sandpoint District in the Lightning Creek drainage.

To learn more or to sign up for to work as part of the FSPW All Stars, go to www.scotchmanpeaks.org/stewardship/events-schedule/

Money, from page 8

“Donate” button at www.scotchmanpeaks.org and following the link found there to the Cinnabar thermometer.

A new grantor is the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance, which awarded FSPW funds to assist with our summer trail program (See the story on page 7 to learn what NWSA funding is helping us to do this summer on Scotchman trails).

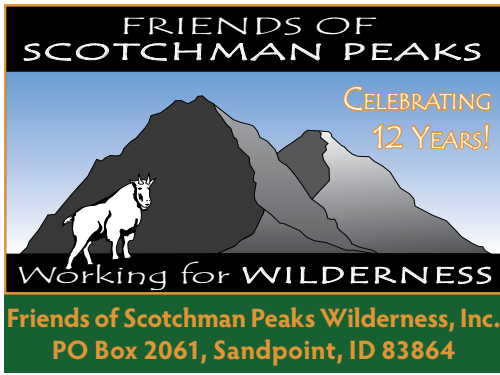
We are also doing a “first” this year by sending out a flyer to some of our Friends by “snail-mail.” If it hasn’t arrived in your mailbox yet, it may well soon. We encourage you to read it and take a moment to think about which of the five things you might do to help our effort to get Wilderness designation for the Scotchman Peaks.

In addition to being grateful for our funders, we are also thankful for each and every one of our Friends.

Thank you for your continued support, whether it be financial, as volunteers or simply cheering FSPW on.

A NEW MISSION STATEMENT

You may have noticed on the front page of this Peak Experience that we have streamlined our Mission Statement. The simplified statement does not change who we are, but more succinctly says what we are about.



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.

BOARD

Chairman

Doug Ferrell, Trout Creek, MT
(406) 827-4341
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

Will Valentine, Sagle, ID
will@scotchmanpeaks.org

Mollie Kieran, Troy, MT
molly@mollymontana.com.

Gene Reckin, Libby, MT
gnreckin@gmail.com

STAFF

Executive Director

Phil Hough, Sagle, ID
(208) 946-9127
phil@scotchmanpeaks.org

Program Coordinator

Sandy Compton, Heron, MT
(208) 290-1281
sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org

Asst Program Coordinator

Britta Mireley, Sagle, ID
britta@scotchmanpeaks.org

Sanders County Outreach Coordinator

Jen Stone Kreiner
jen@scotchmanpeaks.org

Lincoln County Outreach Coordinator

Annie Gassmann
annie@scotchmanpeaks.org

Mountain Goat Education Coordinator

Mary Franzel
mary@scotchmanpeaks.org