



PEAK EXPERIENCE

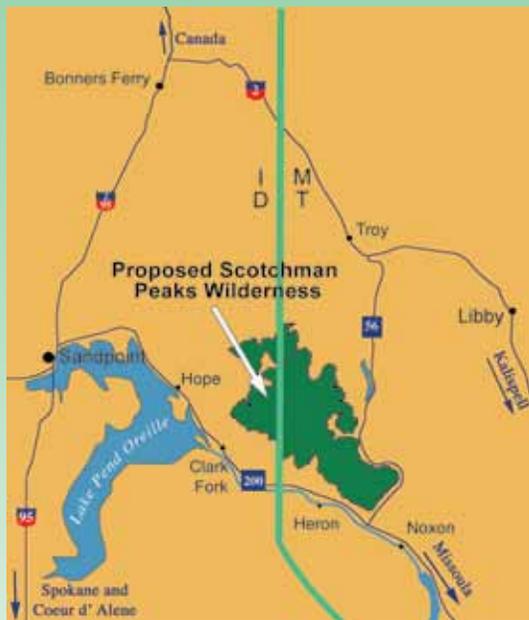
The Newsletter for Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, Inc.

Volume 10, Number 3 • May/June 2014



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 are receiving this newsletter by mail and have an email address please help us save postage by sending us your email address.

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Zags in the Scotchman Classroom



Photo by Todd Dunfield

By Todd Dunfield

Editor's note: Todd Dunfield is the Director for Community Action and Service Learning at Gonzaga University.

In mid-February I had the opportunity to lead a group of ten Gonzaga University students on a three-day field experience as part of their elective outdoor leadership course. These students had read about *finding flow*, *peak adventure*, and had most recently digested a Willi Unsoeld graduation speech to USFS field staff as a primer to actually entering the wilderness themselves. Last year, on the same trip, we were able to meander our way through mild weather up to touch the sunny summit of Scotchman Peak and return to sleep a second night in our basecamp approximately one-third of the way up the mountain. Unfortunately for this year's students they weren't quite as lucky. As Idaho Panhandle Avalanche Center's Kevin Davis keenly surmised on the Friday morning before our departure, the anomaly of winter weather over the past two months had left us contending with a dangerous snowpack. The instructors were diligent in describing the less than ideal conditions that awaited back-country travelers up high, but students still seemed to have a healthy amount of summit fever to stoke their legs on the 3 mile approach hike.

Because this was a leadership class everything involves teachable moments and must accommodate even the most inexperienced student with a quick tutorial. During the two hours spent at the winter trailhead going over maps, foot care, packing our packs and proper snowshoe technique, one of the group members remarked that they would love to see the cougar, which had been reported to be in the area, as long as the eleven of us were right there with him.

As part of the course students write their own personal definitions of adventure. It is not uncommon to see variations of the idea "Adventure begins when the trip you planned for ends and you must really improvise to survive." By that hearty definition I am not sure we quite measured up. We took the

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The Future Looks Bright

Tuesdays and Wednesdays: The Libby office at the corner of 4th and Mineral, Suite 205, will be open. Tuesdays, noon to 5; Wednesdays, 9 to 4.

May 1: FSPW and other nonprofits statewide will participate in the 2014 Idaho Gives campaign

May 3: FSPW will have a table at the Sandpoint Health Fair.

May 10 and 11: FSPW will be a sponsor for the STOKR race in Lincoln County to benefit Kootenai Valley Partners Habitat for Humanity

May 14: State of the Scotchmans will be held at the Forrest M. Bird Charter School (in the Middle School Auditorium) No host bar from Eichardt's, light snacks catered by the Charter School. The program will include Heather Anderson, holder of the fastest unsupported time on the Pacific Crest Trail; as well as the old goat award.

May 16 – 18: Staff members Sandy Compton and Phil Hough will travel to Stanley Basin for the annual Wild Idaho Conference.

May 16 – 21: Two sessions of Wilderness First Aid training will be given to FSPW volunteers. Board member Carol Jenkins will be instructing.

May 20: Fourth Community Prosperity Forum will be held in Libby, featuring Greg Gianforte; founder of RightNow Technologies and bettermontanajobs.com

May 31 and June 1: Annual Trails Skills and Hike Leader Training; Eddy Creek Campground and Star Peak Trail. Contact trails@scotchmanpeaks.org for more information.

Along the Trail

March 19: The Little Olive Restaurant hosted a successful evening dinner fundraiser for FSPW.

March 20: The second Community Prosperity Forum, sponsored by FSPW, Montana Wilderness Association, Idaho Forest Group, Revett Minerals, and other Lincoln County businesses was held in Troy.

April 5: FSPW volunteer Justin Randall signed up 30 new Friends at the Health Fair in Libby.

April 8: Thirty Wolverine Watch volunteers gathered at Eichardt's Pub in Sandpoint for an end of season awards party.

April 10: FSPW volunteer Joa Harrison and kids tabled at the Telluride Mountain Film Festival at North Idaho College

April 17: The third Community Prosperity Forum, featuring Krista Gebert, Regional Economist for Region One of the Forest Service, was held in Libby.

April 26: FSPW tabled at the Bonners Ferry Earth Day celebration at the Boundary County Fairgrounds as well as the Spokane Earth Day Fair.

June 7: National Trails Day work day on Star Peak trail.

June 13: FSPW staff and volunteers will lead the first of a series of six kid's hikes cosponsored by Transitions In Progress (TIPS)

June 14: Brian Baxter will lead class focused on botany and wildflowers beginning at Heron Community Center.

June 22: Sanders County Picnic will be held at Bull River Campground. All Friends are welcome.

On The Horizon

July 11, 12, 13: Celebrating 50 Years of Wilderness! FSPW, Cabinet Resource Group, the Forest Service, Montana Wilderness Association, the Yaak Valley Forest Council and the Back Country Horsemen will host a three day celebration of wilderness and the Wilderness Act at the Bull Lake Rod and Gun Club.

August 23: FSPW and Montana Wilderness Association present Wylie and the Wild West Show in Libby in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act.

September 6: FSPW and Idaho Conservation League will celebrate the 50th in Sandpoint. Somewhere. Stay tuned.

September 20: FSPW fun fundraiser! Join us on the Shawnodeese for a gourmet hors d'oeuvres buffet, beverages and a three-hour cruise (not to Gilligan's Island) on Lake Pend Oreille. \$50 per person.

FSPW Welcomes Joe Zimmerman

FSPW will have a new set of eyes, ears and hands to help this year in the form of intern/staffer Joe Zimmerman. Joe will join us May 27 for a 10 week stint as an intern volunteer and then as paid staff for another 10 weeks. He will work as a wilderness ranger in the Scotchman Peaks proposal, as well as helping with outreach at events like the Huckleberry Festival.



Joe will fit right in with FSPW

"I'm pretty excited about this," says Sandy Compton, FSPW program coordinator. "We were lucky to get Joe, I think, and I know he will do a great job for us."

Zimmerman will be lead on some trail projects as well as work on weeds and campsite rehab. He is a wilderness first responder and is graduating from the University of Montana this spring.



Message from the Executive Director's Desk

A Tribute to Howard Zahniser

Across our nation, in 2014, we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Wilderness Act. Amid these celebrations we should take a moment to remember the one man whose vision, dedication, passion and tireless efforts led to the passage of this landmark bill. Without Howard Zahniser, we would not have had a Wilderness Act to celebrate.

As executive director of The Wilderness Society, Zahniser and his closest colleagues knew from bitter experience that administratively-set wilderness boundaries had a way of moving whenever someone sought to exploit big trees or build roads: they had to campaign for five years in the early 1950s to stop a dam proposed within a national park area.

With that victory fresh, Zahniser wrote the first draft of the Wilderness Act in 1956. His language was poetic and pragmatic. Over the next eight years he would rewrite those words again and again, and visit Congress day after day, carrying new drafts and supporting information in coats with extra-large pockets sewn inside.

Zahniser also directed and coordinated one of the first large scale collaborations of the newly emerging conservation and environmental movements to galvanize popular support for the wilderness law. Reaching out and forming coalitions with other conservation organizations and increasing dramatically the membership of the Wilderness Society, Zahniser directed an impressive grassroots campaign to assure passage of the Wilderness act. A tireless organizer, many of the processes and techniques we take for granted today were developed, refined and implemented for the first time by Howard Zahniser.

In August 1964, after the Senate had passed the Wilderness Act for the second time, the House of Representatives, with only one dissenting voted, overwhelmingly approved the Wilderness act, sending it to President Johnson's desk, where on Sept 3rd he signed it into law!

From the Top

By the time the May/June *Peak Experience* is out, mud season should be a thing of the past and spring a welcome relief. This issue is packed with summer events, hikes, work projects and celebrations. Just editing the newsletter filled my calendar for the summer. Good thing the summer days are so long – may be able to squeeze in some time for the garden and other necessities of life.

Happy Fifty.

—Ann Wimberley

Sadly, just a few days after testifying at what would be the final congressional hearing on the Wilderness Act, Howard Zahniser passed away. He died of heart failure on May 5th, 1964, never himself being able to celebrate his seminal accomplishment which was complete a few months later when President Johnson signed the Wilderness Act into Law. So, let's take a moment on May 5th to remember the person to whom we owe so much. Thank you Howard Zahniser!

—Phil Hough

State of Scotchmans is May 14

Annual State of the Scotchmans to feature holder of the self-supported speed record on the Pacific Crest Trail.

Our guest speaker for this year's State of the Scotchmans is Heather 'Anish' Anderson, who not only is a "Triple Crowner," but holds the overall self-supported speed record on the 2,600 mile Pacific Crest Trail in 2013 (60 days, 17



Heather "Anish" Anderson

hours, 12 min!). She broke the previous record by four days. *Women's Adventure Magazine* named her one of their Top 10 Women Adventurers of 2013. How did she do it? Join us and hear this amazing young woman's story!

The 2014 State of the Scotchman's will held at the Forrest M. Bird Charter Middle School auditorium, Wednesday evening, May 14th, from 6-8pm. Enjoy appetizers and no-host beer and wine as you learn of the progress of our mission, discover who "The Old Goat" is for 2013, and of course, hear the tale of Heather's incredible journey.

The Forrest M. Bird Charter Middle School is at 614 S. Madison Avenue in Sandpoint. From US Highway 2, turn south on Division to Lily Avenue. Turn right on Lily and then right on Madison. The Middle School is on the left.

"Without wilderness, the world is a cage." ~David Brower



Scotchman Natives

Labrador Tea stands in for Rhodies in North Idaho

By Valle Novak

Those of us who have taken the scenic drive to the Washington coast – generally Steven’s Pass – have often been regaled by the beauty of the gorgeous native Rhododendrons that dot the hillsides along the way.

Alas, they are native only to the western side of the Cascades and dote on the more benign, seaside climate offered there. Our much colder Selkirks and rough and tumble Rockies do not welcome them, but we do lay claim to a native Rhododendron (*neoglandulosum*) commonly known as Labrador Tea.

While not as showy as their coastal cousins, our *Ledum groenlandicum* has a history behind it, which gave rise to its nickname turned official – Labrador Tea, and often, Trapper’s Tea. Other monikers include Marsh tea, Hudson’s Bay tea, Muskeg tea, Bog tea, and Moth herb. Marshy, boggy conditions are where this shrub will be found, thriving in moist forests and thickets throughout the Pacific and Inland Northwest.

Our native is the original Labrador Tea, which began in Greenland and now ranges across “subarctic” N. America and south to North Idaho and to the Oregon coast. Growing



Labrador Tea

Photo by Marilyn George

somewhat like the coastal beauty, with copious white blossom clusters atop the long narrow oval or oblong leaves inrolled along the margins. The underside of the leaf is covered with a dense coat of rusty hairs. They are sprawling, branching shrubs that grow two to six feet tall, and present a pretty picture when in bloom.

Highly aromatic when crushed, the leaves do, indeed make a fragrant tea. However, before you plan a tea party, harken to the warnings of all three of my sources: “the precaution of one or two changes of boiling water should be noted ... (since) it is said to have narcotic properties”; “... contains ledol, a narcotic toxin that sparks drowsiness, delirium, cramps, paralysis, heart palpitation and even death”; “green leaves are somewhat poisonous if eaten.”

Janice Schofield, author of *Discovering Wild Plants – Alaska, Western Canada, The Northwest*, is one of the three urging caution, but of them all, makes use of the plant in myriad ways that doubtless reflect those incorporated during the American Revolution when British tea was not allowed. She points out that it was a popular beverage then, and also a favorite of “traders, trappers, pioneers and Civil War soldiers.”

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Brian Schweitzer, Jack Gladstone and Wylie and the Wild West

All are coming to northwestern Montana for the Wilderness Act 50th Anniversary Celebrations.

By Sandy Compton

Three Montana luminaries will join the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act celebrations planned for Bull Lake and Libby. At the Bull Lake Rod and Gun Club, singer/songwriter Jack Gladstone will entertain on Friday night, July 11; and former Montana governor Brian Schweitzer will speak on Saturday evening, July 12. Wylie Gustafson and his band will be at Riverfront Park in Libby on Saturday, August 23.

Both venues are near the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness, one of the original areas designated as Wilderness when Lyndon Johnson signed the Wilderness Bill in 1964. Bull Lake is also at the east edge of the proposed Scotchman Peaks wilderness, making it a perfect place to celebrate the history and future of the Act.

Both of these events are being planned and cosponsored by the Forest Service, Montana Wilderness Association and Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness. Additional partners are Cabinet Resource Group, Yaak Valley Forest Council and Cabinet Back Country Horsemen.

In addition to the evening programs at Bull Lake, there will be two days of activities centered around the Rod and Gun Club that will include Leave No Trace demonstrations by the Back Country Horsemen, displays of Cabinet Mountains Wilderness history, opportunity to talk with former Wilderness Rangers, food, music and a full schedule of outdoor education for young and old alike put together by outdoor education specialist Mindy Ferrell of Trout Creek.

August 23, Wylie and the Wild West will put on a concert at Libby’s Waterfront Park. This event, sponsored by Montana Wilderness Association and Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, is free and open to the public.

Both the July and August events will feature wilderness history, educational displays, films about wilderness, including a video produced locally by Sanders County resident Andrew Klaus. Klaus, who is an excellent photographer and videographer, and his family have spent hundreds of hours hiking in the CMW.

The event at Bull Lake will begin at noon on Friday the 11th and close at 3 on Sunday the 13th with free camping onsite (first come first serve) food, music, led hikes and lots of fun for the whole family. For more information on this and other nearby celebrations of the 50th Anniversary, visit <http://bit.ly/FiftyWildYears>



Wild Creatures of the Scotchmans

Muskrat: *Ondatra zibethica*

By Mindy Ferrell

Okay, let's break this down: "Musk" – this semi-aquatic critter has 2 prominent musk glands at the base of its abdomen that are used mainly during the breeding season to stake out its territorial boundaries and (naturally) to attract the opposite sex. "Rat" – clearly this comes from its rodent-like rattail. Although the muskrat can sometimes be mistaken for a beaver as it's swimming, as soon as we can discern that scaled, nearly hairless tail (ranging in length from eight to eleven inches), it's clear what we're looking at. The body of a muskrat is the size of a very large rabbit with partially webbed hind feet and small, able, hand-like front feet. They live along water, and use their tails for propulsion.

Along rivers and streams, muskrats live in holes along the bank, excavating them with their sharp front claws. Their entrances are underwater, but the nest chamber is kept well above water's highest mark. The dens are complete with dry chambers and underwater tunnels. There are ventilation holes, too, which are hidden at the surface by shrubs, branches, and thick vegetation. Along lakes or wetlands, lodges are constructed instead of bank-burrows, using aquatic plants, brush, and mud. They are usually situated on a foundation of brush or a stump or are occasionally built up from the bottom of the wetland.



Muskrat Photo by Randy Beacham, randybeacham.photoshelter.com/

Muskrats feed primarily on aquatic plants, including cattails, sedges, water lilies, arrowheads, and duckweeds. Occasionally, they will eat crayfish, snails, mussels, frogs, insects, and slow-moving fish. Although they don't hibernate, they slow down a bit during the winter months because they are susceptible to cold and wind, and spend more time in their dens during winter. A unique ability to close their lips behind the four incisor teeth allows it to even graze on aquatic vegetation under the ice. Muskrats can remain underwater for as long as 20 minutes. With their webbed hind feet acting as paddles and their tail as a rudder, they swim at a speed of up to 3 miles per hour and can even swim backwards.

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FSPW Wolverine Watch 2014 Summary

By Kristin Nowicki

The 2013-2014 FSPW Wolverine Watch has undergone another successful year setting up wildlife camera stations in Bonner and Boundary counties, in partnership with Idaho Fish and Game's Multi-Species Baseline Initiative study. This is the fourth year of this intensive research project, designed to catalogue and count species of concern across the state of Idaho.

This winter, FSPW volunteer stewards were endowed with eight highly remote bait stations, and added on twelve non-baited camera stations for a well-rounded view of winter wildlife activity. A pool of over 50 unique volunteers stepped forward to donate their time and energy to making this research endeavor a success, including an enthusiastic group of 7th graders from a local public school. FSPW Wolverine Watch Crews have surely gone the extra mile this season with these



FSPW Volunteer Citizen Scientists Diane Brockway and Pam Duquette secure a motion camera at a corridor camera research site
Photo by Kristen Nowicki

challenging plot locations and weather conditions.

Camera stations were primarily spread out across the landscape within the Scotchman Peaks Roadless Area as well as north of the proposal, and several plots required 7-15 miles of cross-country traversing to access. This scenario was further complicated by icy weather conditions during the onset of the winter season. Stations were deployed from late December to early February. Station take-down occurred 6-10 weeks following deployment, the task as harrowing as in the months previous.

Thanks to our incredibly capable volunteer base, the station data is being returned to the FSPW office, and the data collected has undergone preliminary analysis by our Photo

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Over the Top Volunteer: Gulos Rule

By **Sandy Compton**

In 1997, Melissa Demotte, her sister and her sister's boyfriend were hiking up Siyeh Pass in Glacier National Park when they saw a bunch of ravens scavenging something dead at a considerable distance. While they were looking, a wolverine appeared and headed directly for the collection of birds. Upon arrival, it chased them off the carcass. A few minutes later, it noted that it was being watched from afar, and took off at a lope.

"We watched it for about twenty minutes," Melissa says, "and when we started talking to the rangers about it later, we began to realize how lucky we were to have gotten to see the wolverine."

Fourteen years later, when Melissa read about the upcoming Friends of Scotchman Peaks rare carnivore study in *Peak Experience*, she knew it was something she had to do. "I heard about the study from the newsletter and I had always wanted to do a 'citizen scientist' project. I was going to be a Biology Major before I went for a business degree and I have always loved science."

There lie the roots of Team Gulo Gulo, the winner of the Rah Rah Award for team spirit given for the 2014 Wolverine Watch season. The team has participated in the three seasonal searches for mustelids since 2011, logging some serious snowshoe time and having a great time in the process.

Team Gulo Gulo consists of Melissa and co-conspirators Mark Cochran, Lora Adams, Chuck Gross and Steve and Sandy Wall. The original team was put together at the 2011-12 Rare Carnivore Study at the training session held that year. Steve and Sandy were added at the kickoff party held at Ivano's.

Melissa didn't do much snowshoeing as a kid. She grew up in San Diego, moved to Los Angeles for college and then worked in Orange County for 20-plus years as a CPA and then CFO for a community development lender. After moving to Coeur d' Alene in 2005, Melissa read about the FSPW hikes, then got acquainted with the Friends website, became a Friend and began taking hikes with the group.

Since then, she has not only been a wolverine uber-volunteer, but also a faithful hike participant. On an extra hot day in July, she helped out with the Star Peak-Nine Mile Mule Team event two summers ago, packing materials to Star Peak Lookout for eventual restoration (and picking hucks on the way back).

Melissa is beginning a new endeavor this spring, opening a bookstore in Coeur d' Alene at Riverstone called the Well-Read Moose. A few details have held things up, but she is getting closer, planning for a soft opening around Mothers Day and a grand opening around June 1.



Melissa DeMotte tests the camera with Team Gulo Gulo mates. Mark Cochran (right) and Chuck Gross finish setting up the wolverine station

When the Coeur d' Alene Borders closed, she drove by the empty store for a year thinking "This is wrong, we need a great bookstore here!" Barnes & Noble had also backed out of opening a store at Riverstone, so she joined the American Booksellers Association and took training classes. Now, she says, "I am working with some wonderful bookstore consultants that have helped folks open stores for over 20 years."

"I have loved bookstores since I can remember," she says. "When I had my consulting business I always visited the local bookstores when I traveled. I think reading and the personal growth and learning that comes from it is truly one of life's greatest gifts. I especially love seeing children learn to love reading and think that is so critical to being more aware of the world around us."

The Well-Read Moose will have a large children's books area, a good selection of middle grade books, general fiction and non-fiction as well as a big selection of greeting cards, "all made in the USA," she says. In addition, the store will have a café and wine bar, perfect compliments to a good book.

Will this cut down her time with Friends of Scotchman Peaks? "I'm pretty busy with the store, but I'll still be involved. I just think so much of the organization and I've met a whole bunch of great people by being part of the group."

The Friends of Scotchman Peaks are grateful to Melissa and the rest of Team Gulo Gulo for their commitment to the rare carnivore study and we wish The Well-Read Moose great success.

Planning a Trip to Washington DC?

If you are planning a visit to our nation's capital, think about visiting your congressman or senator. They enjoy visits from their constituents. You will get to see how the public's work is done and you can mention that preserving the Scotchman Peaks as Wilderness is important to you! Feel free to contact us for more information or assistance: Email Phil Hough phil@scotchmanpeaks.org or Doug Ferrell ferrelldoug@gmail.com



Scotchman Rocks: Foreign Rocks in the Outcrop

By Mark McFadden, PhD

Even a casual glance at any outcrop will tell you that most rocks are a bit on the shy side at first; they hide their stories well under a veneer of lichen, rust, and grime. It generally takes a keen eye and some patience to see through their disguises and to coax the stories of their past out into the open. Whenever the details are really important, the ring of the geologist's hammer is a not-so-subtle reminder that there is nothing like a fresh surface to expose the intricacies of rock history. Sometimes, a nice, recent road cut cliff from highway construction solves the problem easily. But what does a clean surface reveal?

Each of the major families of rock displays some clues to their origins, ranging from the layering typical of sedimentary rocks to the sparkle of micas common in metamorphic rocks and the crystallinity of the igneous category. The outcrop shown in the photograph displays a coarse texture of prominent feldspars, quartz, and small, dark biotite mica grains. The sizes, shapes, and arrangement of the component minerals tell a story of slow crystallization of magma deep within the crust of northern Idaho. Laboratory tests indicate that the molten rock was cooling and solidifying nearly 100 million years ago - a common theme related to the uplift of Idaho mountains late in the Age of Dinosaurs. Erosion over millions of years now exposes the formerly molten mass at the surface.



The dark gray xenoliths of Precambrian Prichard Formation metasediments stand in contrast with the lighter, crystalline Cretaceous granite that encloses them. Prominent layering in the upper xenolith tells us of its sedimentary origin. Photo by Mark McFadden

The two dark gray features visible within the granitoid rock in the photo provide us more clues to local geologic history. These are xenoliths, literally "foreign rocks". As the magma rose through the crust as a molten body, it had to displace and melt the older rocks above it. The significance of inclu-

sions of one rock type within another was recognized as early as the 18th century by Scottish geologist James Hutton, and tells us of the country rocks invaded by the hot, buoyant magma. The xenoliths must be older than the enclosing granitoid rock; inclusions logically had to exist prior to the rock that now encloses them.

Although the lower, smaller xenolith is rounded and was apparently nearly digested by the granitoid magma, the upper, elongate inclusion still retains visible features that we can interpret. Horizontal laminations show the layering of the silt-sized sediment deposited nearly a billion and a

half years ago, and slightly coarser sand forms a lighter band near the upper edge of this xenolith. The inclusions are part of the Prichard Formation of the Precambrian Belt-Purcell Supergroup, a miles-thick pile of sedimentary layers hardened by the slight metamorphism of deep burial and the associated high heat and pressure. Low in the sequence of Prichard Formation sedimentary beds, thin layers of sand and silt like these are common throughout the Idaho Cabinet Range. Indeed, a reconnaissance of nearby outcrops reveals that our

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Trail Talk

By Sandy Compton

Fifty years ago on September 3, 1964, Lyndon Johnson signed the Wilderness Bill into law. Fifty years from now, what will the status of that law be? We can't know the answer. We can only know that we are working now to ensure its survival and implementation; and we can also celebrate its effect on our country, and, indeed, the world.

Though the US was a pioneer in the arena of Wilderness protection, we are not alone in protecting wild places. In 1972, the United Nations General Assembly adopted "the Recommendation concerning the Protection, at National Level, of the Cultural and Natural Heritage." Since that time, 981 World Heritage Sites have been established in 160 countries worldwide. Of these, 193 are designated as Natural, 12 in the US. All are National or State Parks; and two are shared with Canada. By

contrast, the United States has over 750 Wilderness Areas comprising over 109,400,000 acres. I could quote exact numbers, but hopefully, they will keep rising.

And rise they have. When President Johnson signed the bill, he created 54 Wilderness Areas consisting of about 9 million acres. Wilderness has been a very successful idea.

In this Jubilee Year of Wilderness, we have opportunity to celebrate and educate new generations about the value of wild country and the things that live there.

I promised you a "Trail of Opportunities" last issue, and we have one for you. This will be a busy summer on and off the trails. We have lots to do, and we will be depending on our great volunteers to help us do it. In fact, we have more varied volunteer opportunities this year than we have ever had before.

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Wolverine, from page 5

Warrior volunteers. To date, FSPW crews have captured whitetail deer, moose, coyote, snowshoe hare, marten, fisher, cougar, jay birds, and ermine. In the southern reaches of the Idaho Panhandle National Forest, reports have surfaced that some MBI Crews did succeed in capturing a Wolverine on camera!

In appreciation of this extraordinary volunteer effort, FSPW recognized several volunteers who had enormous positive impacts on this study in our Wolverine Watch Volunteer Appreciation Event. Awards for this year's study are as follows:

- 1) **'Badass' Award**: Kristin Litz and Robin Carleton, for setting up and taking down (in a day-long rain!) one of our most remote bait plots via 100% human power, on skis!
- 2) **'Gnarliest Volunteer Ever'**: Jim Mellen, for his incredible audacity and trekking the most miles in this year's study. Jim Mellen is responsible for the completion of 1/3 of all our bait plots!
- 3) **'Best Team Spirit'**: Team Gulo Gulo, for their inspiring team spirit, team-building, fun and positive



FSPW Volunteer Citizen Scientist Rod Barcklay sets up a bait station research site

Photo by Kristen Nowicki

attitude, and outstanding support for this study 3 seasons strong!

- 4) **'Most Creative Machinist'**: Ron Mamajek, for thinking out of the box to help tow out a crew's stuck Chevy Tahoe with his (wife's) Subaru. A big thank you to all these outstanding volunteers.

And thank you to all FSPW volunteers who collectively made this season a success!

The data that has been collected will be submitted to ID Fish and Game biologists for review, analysis, and likely incorporation into wildlife population



Kristin Litz and her partner Robin Carleton won the 2014 Wolverine Watch Badass award for attending to their station on Star Peak in less than stellar weather.

Photo by Phil Hough

models that will be used in determining appropriate wildlife management strategies across Idaho State. FSPW volunteers have helped make a study of this magnitude possible, and continue to better the Scotchman Peaks proposed wilderness through their care, concern, and giving. For more information, please contact Kristen@scotchmanpeaks.org

Creatures, from page 5

Muskrats have a high reproductive rate, producing up to 3 litters per year, each with 6 to 7 young. They are polygamous and breeding takes place from late March through July. After a gestation period of 28 to 30 days, the young are born blind, helpless, and almost naked. The young are dependent on the female for about 30 days. They leave the den at about 6 weeks of age.

Muskrats are highly territorial and aggressive toward each other, although several may share a lodge during the winter. The muskrat's normal home range is usually within 200 yards of its den, although it may travel several miles over land in search of suitable habitat. This range is important if anyone is trying to deal with the nuisance of having a muskrat nearby which is burrowing into banks or chewing where it oughtn't. Simply moving your operation 200 yards or fencing or riprap will allow for a more congenial cohabitation.

Muskrats generally live about 1 year in the wild, occasionally up to 4 years. In good habitat and with little competition, muskrats are prolific. However, populations appear to be cyclical in nature and influenced by the availability of food. They are an important food source for many animals from great horned owls to coyotes, with mink and even otters taking their toll. Muskrats make a valuable contribution to aquatic communities. By harvesting plants for food and den sites, they create open water for ducks, geese, shorebirds, and other wildlife. In addition, a variety of animals—including snakes, turtles, frogs, ducks, and geese—use muskrat lodges and platforms to rest and nest in.

Rocks, from page 7

xenoliths are near the top of the former magma chamber, and that pristine strata with all their sedimentary depositional clues are nearby.

Be on the lookout for dark blobs and patches in any coarse-grained igneous rock. From rock countertops, tiles, and walls in the city to wilderness outcrops, the "foreign rocks" that didn't quite melt are telling their story everywhere.



Zags from page 1

obligatory satellite phone and enough food and fuel to survive more than one extra day, and the trip never really went off-script. As luck would have it the weather gods did try to upset us a bit by raining on us, then blowing our hair dry with high winds, only to be followed by a foot of new snow on our last night in the woods. As the team worked together through struggles and adversity, the 'real' adventure and supporting theory we read about in class became somewhat closer together. We were looking for transcendent moments in wilderness among other gems. To state that our goal was the summit and we didn't reach it would be an oversimplification.

On our second day out we snowshoed up to just before tree line and halted our upward movement due to the 'whumphing' sounds in the snow. We dug our snow pit, ate lunch, conducted a few independent column tests and most importantly taught our students about human decision making in avalanche terrain. The heuristic traps and human factors leading up to avalanche fatalities seemed to get slightly more attention from the students than if taught in a 70 degree Spokane classroom.

If the culminating papers written for the course are an indication of trip success, then I believe we have data points charted all over the graph. Every student found their own way to wrestle with the nexus of adventure, leadership, and expeditionary behavior. Some students made sense of the fact that not summiting Scotchman Peak was not a failure but a success. Some students made jokes about just trying to survive the whole weekend while not showing how intensely worried they were to be 6 miles away from the cars. The instructors may be somewhat at fault for having stated during gear night that unlike in a three-season backpacking trip your gear in winter outings is usually not for comfort as much as for survival. One of my favorite student papers made light of the fact that he was confident that as a descendent of Irishmen there was no way he was going to meet his maker on the flanks of a mountain named for a Scotsman. But quite possibly the *piece*

Natives, from page 4

Schofield uses the leaves as moth repellent (utilizing one of its former name/uses), in saunas and facial steams, and in a recipe from the Athabaskan Indians as a liniment: Simply soak the leaves in alcohol with Devil's Club root and nettle leaves. Strangely, I never found mention of Trapper's Tea in "Plants of the Lewis and Clark Expedition", though I checked every possible Latin and nickname mentioned in this article. I can't help but think they must have drunk some of it during their wanderings and visits to Indian villages.

I rarely make use of medicinal plants in the wild, though I do occasionally enjoy the edibles – mushrooms, cattail root, camas bulbs – and of course, huckleberries! It's generally enough for me to be able to identify flora and simply appreciate it for its beauty and/or niche in the ecosystem. Knowing that Trapper's Tea was once put to good use by long-gone ancestors is a meaningful tie to the past.



On the trail

Photo by Todd Dunfield

de resistance could be found in the one paper where a student made great connections to the course readings and was able to vividly describe the inner journey that happens to leaders and followers engaged in expeditionary behavior.

Regardless of the content of the reflection, this important and deep inner journey while part of a team is about exploring self-discovery and making sense of who you really are. Answering questions like "where did I lean on the group for help today, and where did I contribute in my own way?" This sort of reflective and spiritual awakening while immersed in nature and experiencing the struggles found in wilderness gives the adventurer a new clarity about themselves. As the outward bound philosophy extols, those who have new self discoveries must return to their daily lives in what we call civilization with this hard fought knowledge to better serve society and our fellow man. Through that transfer of knowledge, from the wilderness to civilization, this experience has created something new and grand, and should be recognized as such.

Fall Fundraiser on the Shawnodese September 20!

Sign up now for this great event

Thanks to the generosity of Linda Mitchell, first mate on the Shawnodese lake cruiser, FSPW will host its first ever Fall Fundraiser floating on the surface of Lake Pend Oreille with Scotchman in view. The boat will leave for a three-hour cruise — but not like Gilligan's — from Shawnodese's mooring in Hope. Passengers will enjoy hors d'oeuvres prepared by FSPW staff chefs Sandy and Kristen as well as wine from the cellars of *sommelier* Phil Hough.

The price is \$50, plus \$1 per pound of extra luggage. (Not really, but you *can* give more if you so wish.) The Professor and Mary Ann may be in attendance. You never know. To sign up go to our events page. There is a limit of about 30 folks on this cruise.





Peak Views

Hike date	Exertion Rating	Destination/ Hike Name	Leader(s)	Description and contact info
6/7/14	M/S	Star Peak Historic Trail Work Day	Sandy Compton	Contact info: sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org 208-290-1281 This is National Trails Day! Join us for a work day on the Historic Star (nee Squaw) Peak trail on the southern edge of the proposed Scotchman Peaks Wilderness. We will hike two-and-a-half miles to the work area. Tools, lunches and water will be transported by 4-wheeler to a spot 1/4 mile from work area. We will cut tread using Pulaskis, McCleods and other tools. Safety equipment and gloves will be provided. This is a great chance to enjoy the satisfaction of building a trail and help out the wilderness cause in Montana. Many camping options nearby. Adult beverages and other refreshments served at the end of the day.
6/14/14	E/M	Basic Field Botany and Wildflowers	Brian Baxter	Contact info: b_baxter53@yahoo.com Come out with us as we boil down the principles of dendrology, plant taxonomy and identification to a science based basic course for the naturalist and citizen scientist. We will take a practical approach to methods of identifying trees, shrubs, forbs, lichens, fungus, ferns, grasses, wetland plants and local wildflowers. We'll also focus on basic habitat types and wildlife utilization. Included also will be several "spotlights of attention" on native utilizations, edible and medicinal plants. A brief classroom session will be followed by a "Hands On, Boots on the Ground" field study where participants will actively learn to identify ecological niches and individual species of vegetation. Please come prepared for the day with lunch, water, appropriate footwear, hand lens, binoculars, camera's and personal gear. Good attitude, sense of humor and curiosity welcome.
6/21/14	M/S	Spar Peak Elevation and Evolution	Kristen Nowicki	Contact info: kristen@scotchmanpeaks.org Trail will climb steadily through various forest types. Learn about these vegetative communities as we progress toward the "thumb" of Spar Peak to take in expansive vistas of the Scotchman Peaks interior valleys and peaks. Distance, about 4.5 miles. Elevation gain approximately 3200'.
6/22/14	S	Star Peak Long Light Hike	Erick Walker	Contact info: walker_erick@hotmail.com Climb the iconic lookout mountain of the Southern Cabinets, Star Peak, and visit a 1950's vintage lookout cabin as well as the first lookout shelter on the Forest, built ca 1910 by Gordon Granville, first Ranger on the brand new Cabinet National Forest. An early start on one of the longest days of the year means we are back in time for the annual Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness Sanders County Picnic, just up the road at Bull River Campground. As an extra added bonus, enjoy the new tread of the reclaimed historic Big Eddy Pack Trail and the great views it provides. This hike is strenuous, with a 4,000 foot gain in 5 miles, and well worth the work.
7/12/14	S	FSPW / MWA Cabinet Wilderness Hike	Brian Baxter	Contact info: b_baxter53@yahoo.com Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act appropriately with a Cabinet Mountain Wilderness Hike! The most likely candidate for destination at this time is St. Paul Lake. Enjoy the scenic views of Bald Eagle, St. Paul and Elephant Peaks, encircling a really pretty alpine lake. Although basically a recreational hike, be sure to bring your binoculars and camera's as we will surely be glassing for mountain wildlife including grizzly, mountain goat, wolverine and raptors. The first 3 miles are relatively moderate, with the last mile to the lake at about 30% slope. Please come prepared for a full day hike. Hoping for good weather, fishing, freedom and friends! No dogs please!
7/22/14	S	Bee Top Mountain	John Harbuck	Contact info: harbuck@norlight.org This hike will provide wonderful views of Goat Mtn, Scotchman Pk and Scotchman Pk #2. It ascends (steeply) until branching off toward the remains of the old lookout on Bee Top, perched precipitously above Lightning Cr. Great views of Lake Pend Oreille too. About 7 mi. and 4000' each way. Bring at least 2 liters of water. The trail faces south most of the way and could be quite warm.
8/10/14	S	Scotchman Peak., via Southeast ridge	John Harbuck	Contact info: harbuck@norlight.org This beauty starts with about 1/2 mile of really nasty bushwhacking, but that gets us to the SE ridge. Thence it is mostly nice elk trails up the ridge. Outstanding views of the W. Fk Blue Cr. and the Compton Crags. About 3 1/2 mi. and 3600' each way.
7/12/14	S	Star Peak Full Moon Travers	Chuck Gross	Contact info: liv2trek@live.com.org Join the wild critters in the Scotchman's for a howl at the moon! Timed during a full moon, join us on a traverse of the Southern Scotchman's as we travel from the Bull River Valley up Star Gulch for a moonlit evening somewhere on or around Star Peak. After dancing in the moonlight until the wee hours, conclude the journey the next morning down the Big Eddy trail off Star Peak to conclude the traverse. Mileage/Elevation Day 1: Dry Gulch/Star Gulch up to Star Peak approximately 9 miles/3300' elevation gain. . Mileage/Elevation Day 2: Star Peak to Big Eddy Trailhead (Hwy 200) approx. 5 miles/ 4000' elevation loss. Approximate two-day mileage: 14. Hikers with previous overnight backpacking experience required. The ten essentials, sturdy footwear and pack with tent, and fitness ability to carry a pack these miles with elevation gain/loss required. Water limited along sections of hike so critical to carry additional water. Group leader will provide logistical update on water situation via email prior to hike departure once signed up.
8/20/14	S+	Scotchman Peaks Double Dip	Sandy Compton	Contact info: sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org Take a walk up the Blue Creek Canyon, a tradition begun 98 years ago on August 20, 1916 by the hike leader's maternal grandfather. One big day, two big mountains; the two southernmost in the Compton Crags, Mike's Peak and Clayton Peak. Elevation gain (and loss) approximately 6,000 feet; round trip approximately 10 miles. Meet at 124 MT Highway 200 (Hike leader's front yard) at first light or shortly after. Some room for negotiation on this, but not much. It will be a great day to not go fast. Turn right into the first driveway past MP 1 on Montana 200. Coming from the east, turn left into the first driveway past Blue Creek Road.

Strenuous rating: E = Easy; M = Moderate; S = Strenuous

Continued page 11



Peak, from page 10

8/23/14	M	Mystery Mud Creek Hike	Mary Franzel	<p>Contact info: zipperlee@gmail.com</p> <p>The newly "reclaimed" Mud Creek (totally inappropriate name) trail heads up to a lovely ridge to the east of Lightning Creek. There are several creeks & springs along the trail with at least one beautiful little waterfall. Many huckleberry bushes near top. Spectacular views up Wellington Creek & down Lightning Creek for part of the way. Most of the trail is an old logging road. There will be something special at or near the top – this is the "mystery" portion of this hike. It definitely will involve nutrition and libation. It is not a difficult hike elevation-wise but the distance is over 5 miles one way with a steady incline the entire way. The last mile+ is cross-hilling a more open forest filled with beargrass and lots of huckleberry bushes. Updates with specifics to those hardy souls who sign up.</p>
9/13/14	M	South Fork Ross Creek Falls	Ann and Neil Wimberley	<p>Contact info: afwim@yahoo.com or neilwim@yahoo.com</p> <p>Hike through the Ross Creek Cedar Grove and past to the Ross Creek Falls in the upper reaches of the South Fork of Ross Creek. A lovely hike through old growth and a cool way to spend a summer day. Round Trip 6 + miles. Elevation gain: 3500+ feet</p>
10/04/14	S	Scotchman Peak	Phil Hough and Deb Hunsicker	<p>Contact info: 208-946-9127 or phil@scotchmanpeaks.org</p> <p>This is the classic hike up the namesake peak for our proposed wilderness. It's short but steep. We will go at a slow pace so that steady effort is all that is needed to summit. Wide panoramas and stunning views of lake Pend Oreille, along with fall colors and possibly late season huckleberries will be highlights. 4 miles one way, 8 round trip with an elevation gain of 3,800 feet.</p>
10/11/14	M	Reading Maps, Compass, Tracks and Sign	Brian Baxter	<p>Contact info: b_baxter53@yahoo.com</p> <p>Join us for a basic orienteering class with emphasis on traditional methods of utilizing a Silva Ranger Compass and topographical maps to layout your adventures and return home safely. Morning classroom session will cover map keys and symbols; reading contour lines and intervals; figuring scales and measuring horizontal distances; laying out and laying off bearings and azimuths; adjusting your declination; triangulation off mountain peaks or known landmarks, and hands on practical use of compass and maps as well as other orienteering tips. There will be an eight-dollar fee for class materials, as each student will work with their own topo map which will be provided. Please bring a ruler or scale, Silva Ranger compass with rotating dial and declination adjustment, pencils, calculator. Instructor will have a few extra compass also. We will wrap up morning classroom time with an overview of animal tracking and sign interpretation. Our field study will include an afternoon of hands on track and sign recognition, scatology, and practicing use of compass and maps in the field. Come prepared for a full day with lunch, water, gear, and smiles.</p>

Strenuous rating: E = Easy; M = Moderate; S = Strenuous

Trail, from page 7

At the end of May, we will hold our second annual Trails Skill Class and first ever Hike Leader Training. May 31 and June 1, we will gather at Eddy Creek campground or Bull River campground and hone up on our saw and hand tool skills and safety as well as learn the basics of being a good and responsible hike leader. Training will take place on or near the Historic Star Peak trail.

We go to work on Star Peak this summer with the intention of finishing the old-new section by the September 3 anniversary. Our first non-training workday is June 7, National Trails Day. Other workdays are scheduled for June 27, July 18, and August 1, 2 and 3, a work camp weekend. August 15 is set aside in case we need it. God willing and the creeks don't rise, a dedication of the trail will be held August 24.

FSPW has also committed to do weed remediation on the Little Spar Lake Trail. The tentative date for that is July 26.

For the first time this summer we are taking kids hiking under an arrangement with TIPs, the Sandpoint non-profit Transitions in Progress. We will introduce a variety of ages to the woods in a series of six hikes spread across the summer. Our goal is to take each of the kids in this program on two expeditions. The hikes will be held on Fridays.

We have primary responsibility for two 50th Anniversary celebrations; one at Bull Lake Rod and Gun Club July 11, 12 and 13; and the other at Libby's Riverfront Park, August 23. These will be opportunities for fellowship, recruitment, education

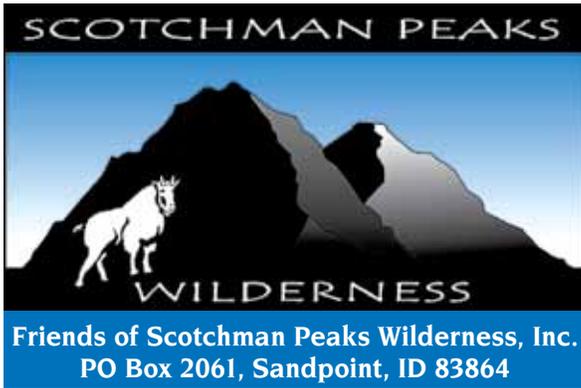
and volunteerism. For the Bull Lake gathering, Mindy Ferrell has invented a full schedule of outdoor education and other activities for young and old alike. FSPW — and other groups — will have table displays. We are seeking volunteers to lead hikes during the weekend, as well as be present to help with logistics like parking, food and general supervision. Free camping will be available at the Gun Club on a first come first serve basis.

The Libby event in August will be a free community concert with Wylie and the Wild West, always rousing family entertainment.

As usual we will have a presence at the Troy Fourth of July celebration and Fourth of July parades in Sandpoint, Clark Fork, Heron and Noxon. We will have a booth at the Huckleberry Festival in Trout Creek on August 9 and 10 and a presence at the Bonner County Fair August 26 through 30.

Also in the works are days in the Lightning Creek Treasured Landscape; a white bark pine study weekend backpack around the end of July and willow gathering and planting. Dates for these will be confirmed and posted in our events calendar with all these events soon. Wrapping up the season, we have a work day planned on Morris Creek Trail for National Public Lands Day on September 27.

Keep up to date with all this and more, as well as sign up to volunteer at www.scotchmanpeaks.org/events-schedule and www.scotchmanpeaks.org/you-can-help/volunteer



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 Road 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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