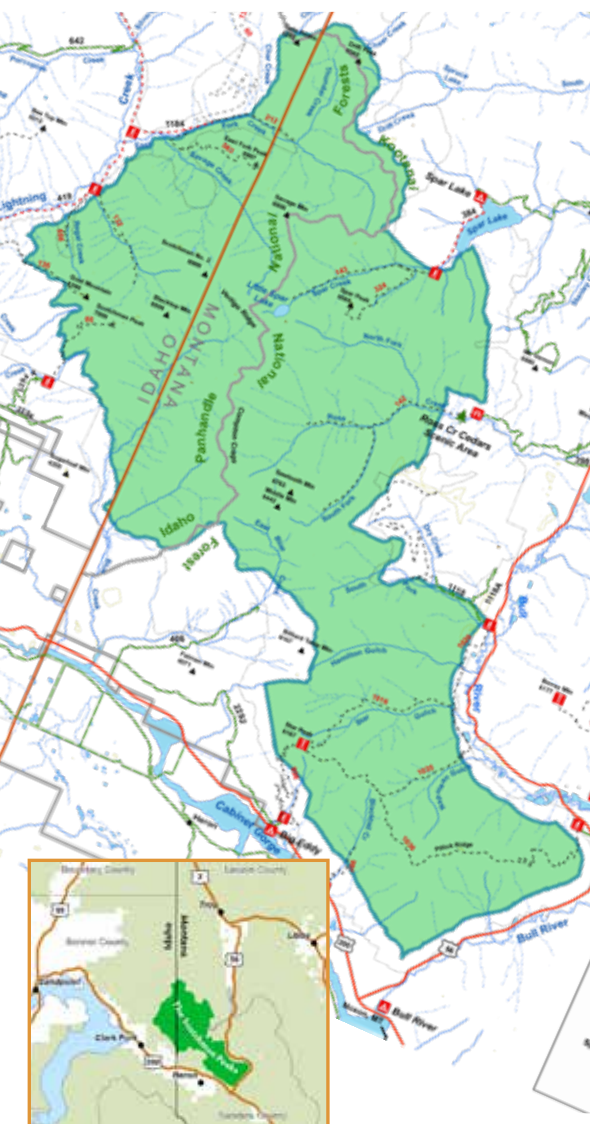




Uniting thousands of Montanans and Idahoans to save the wild Scotchmans for our children and grandchildren.



What's in your heart?

FSPW Board Member, Jen Kreiner, and her husband Ryan on a winter hike in the Scotchman Peaks.

In 2019, we are taking a deeper look at the Scotchman Peaks and ourselves. What is it about wild places and the Scotchman Peaks particularly that draws us in? When we think about saving them, what stirs inside us? ***What's in our heart?***

According to FSPW board member, Jen Kreiner, "I learn a lot about myself

"It's a connection to something that really is hard to define."

exploring wild places. It's an opportunity for self-reflection and it's a connection to something that really is hard to define. I like to share that connection with my kids. It's a really important part of our lives to get out together and explore... And it's that connection that makes us want to protect the Scotchmans."

What's in YOUR heart?

Winter Tracks sets off in the right direction

A student from Spokane's Pioneer School uses a compass to find her way around a course set up by volunteer Robin Chisholm. The 4th and 5th graders enjoyed a fun day at Round Lake State Park to kick off the Winter Tracks season for 2019.



Mission Statement

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

Page 2: The 2018 Photo Contest Winner

Page 5: 2018 FSPW Annual Report

Page 9: Trail season is opening soon. Come help!

"Likin' the Lichen" for the win in 2018

Look for the top entries throughout this issue.

The 2018 FSPW Photo Contest had some incredibly wild entries. There were beautiful pictures taken in and of the Scotchman Peaks, some with people, some with mountain goats, and some just letting the rugged Scotchmans speak for themselves.

Voting took place via "likes" on Facebook and the winner had a lot of them. Kim Holzer's "Likin' the Lichen" came out on top. For the grand prize, Holzer's photo was professionally framed by Ward Tolbom of Hen's Tooth Studios in Sandpoint so she can hang it on her wall to admire.



Grand Prize went to Kim Holzer for "Likin' the Lichen."

2019 Photo Contest

Start thinking about what you want to submit for 2019.

Pictures should be in or of the Scotchmans and taken from
Nov. 1, 2018 to Oct. 31, 2019.

Photo by Jared Bruns



Have a fun Scotchmans photo?

We would love to feature it in our communications!

Send your pictures, with photo credit, our way!

Check out our new look!

With this issue, you will see we have a new look! We just turned 14, so it's a good time to update our wardrobe. We hope that you will find these changes make reading this newsletter both easier and more fun.

With support from our friends at Patagonia, we worked with a talented graphic designer to take a fresh look at our logo. Keep an eye out for it as it starts to pop up in print and online.

Continued on page 9



FRIENDS OF
SCOTCHMAN PEAKS
WILDERNESS

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FSPW's upcoming events

Social Events

Incredible Food for the Friends

March 27

Eat lunch or dinner at Baxter's on Cedar and they will donate part of the proceeds to the Friends.

Tip incredibly well!

Extreme Plein Air Art Show

June 6

Come to Big Eddy's in Thompson Falls to meet some artists who do plein air art extreme-style. Montana Distillery will be there with drinks benefiting FSPW.

Scotchmans Summer Solstice

June 21

Celebrate the lightest day of the year at the 219 Lounge in Sandpoint. Enjoy live music and unique light beers while celebrating incredible volunteers and wild places.

Western Montana Celebration

June 23

Come to the Bull River Rod & Gun Club for a picnic and celebration of volunteers and wild places.

**Incredibly good food
for an incredibly
good cause.**

March 27

Lunch or Dinner

Join

Friends

at Baxter's



FRIENDS OF
SCOTCHMAN PEAKS
WILDERNESS



Outdoor Education

Spring Birding

May 18

Brian Baxter will lead a spring birding course beginning in Libby.

Old Growth Ecology

June 15

Join Brian Baxter at the Ross Creek Cedars to learn about ancient cedars and their habitat.

Volunteer Opportunities

National Trails Day

June 1

National Trails Day training will kick off the 2019 trail stewardship program.

Summer Trail Projects

June - September

Watch for upcoming trail days in the Scotchman Peaks. Help keep the trails you love in tip-top shape for the season!

Mountain Goat Ambassadors

June - early October

Looking for an excuse to count your weekend Scotchman Peak hike as volunteer time? Become a Trail Ambassador and visit with other hikers about safe hiking in goat country.

Classes

Wilderness & Remote First Aid

April 13-14

Carol Jenkins will teach a WRFA and CPR/AED certification course in Sandpoint. Space is limited.



Want more details?

www.ScotchmanPeaks.org



Ross Creek Falls by Jamilee Scheiwe took third place in the 2018 Photo Contest. See page 2 for the winning photo.

Winter Tracks takes Montana by storm

In January and February FSPW's Winter Tracks program took Montana by storm.

Over 40 seventh graders visited Northshore Campground in Trout Creek, Montana, for a

Continued on page 9



Above, Gene Reckin holds Libby fifth graders spellbound at Timbelane Campground.

Wild Night for Wilderness: Best ever!

November's party at Matchwood Brewing, Sandpoint's newest, was packed with folks who wanted to celebrate wilderness. "It was one of the best events FSPW has done," said über volunteer, Mary Franzel. This incredibly wild night and Art Auction was possible because of support from the hosts, sponsors, artists and raffle prize donors.



(l to r) Robin, Tyler and Carey Chisholm enjoyed a wild time at Matchwood.



Thank you to FSPW's volunteers for an incredible year!

8000th Friend from Sanders County

8,350
Friends and
counting!

Sanders County Outreach Coordinator Ray Brown (on the right) congratulates Cody Pallister of Thompson Falls for being lucky number 8,000 on our Friends list! We aren't stopping there.

Who will be number 9,000?



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FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMAN PEAKS WILDERNESS

2018 Annual Report

Message from the Director

In the last 14 years our group, Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, has changed a lot. We've grown from a newborn and become more like an adult or at least an older teen. Mostly, we've enjoyed getting older. We've had fun times, happy memories and proud moments. We have also had our occasional setback. We have learned a lot from both, especially in the last year.

Along the way we've made a lot of friends. We try to keep in touch

with them all. Our circle of friends makes us stronger. We now have over 8,300 friends from all walks of life and have many different interests. They all want to save the wild Scotchmans.

In 2018, current and former county officials, local business leaders from timber guys to mom and pop shop



owners, hikers, mountain bikers, hunters and anglers all spoke up in favor of the incredibly wild Scotchman Peaks.

We continue to train volunteers in traditional skills. They carry on putting in time and sweat to keep trails open and safe now and in the future.

We have learned a lot in the last year about what needs to be done to save these wild, free and unfenced lands.

Continued on page 8

Winter Tracks 2018



Students "ooo" and "aaa" over an avalanche beacon during the 2018 Winter Tracks season.

In 2018, Winter Tracks built on the success from the previous year. By the end of the season, over 350 students from 12 schools in three states learned about topics like

- Tree Identification
- Winter Birding
- Animal Tracking
- Leave No Trace
- Skulls & Pelts
- Avalanche Awareness
- Orienteering

Thank you to the army of volunteers who spent over 800 hours teaching, cooking hot dogs, serving hot cocoa, and keeping groups of students warm and safe.

Interested in being a part of the 2020 season as a volunteer or a participating school? Email winter-tracks@scotchmanpeaks.org

New fleece hats in 2018



Why is this emoji smiling? Because he's (she's?) wearing our new fleece hat, arrived in time for winter. Warm, soft and stylin', they're only \$20! Look for them at Outdoor Experience or write to info@scotchmanpeaks.org



Sandy and ICL Exec
Rick Johnson

Compton wins ICL's Axline Award

In 2018, Sandy Compton was awarded the Keith and Pat Axline Award for Environmental Activism for his work in the Scotchman Peaks. The award was presented during Idaho Conservation League's (ICL) Wild Idaho Conference in Stanley. It is ICL's highest award for environmental activism.

"I felt very honored," Compton said. "I'm sure there are others who deserve the award more than me, but I'm very grateful to have received it."

Compton has been working for Wilderness in the Scotchmans since before the Friends existed and has been on staff for 9 years. His writing about the Scotchmans and other wild places can be seen in multiple regional publications and in many of his own books.



Britta and
daughter Thea

Mireley promoted to Deputy ED

Britta Mireley was promoted to the newly created position of Deputy Executive Director in 2018. In her new role, Britta will help FSPW achieve our goals and objectives. This full-time position aligns with FSPW's organization needs and Britta's growth as a leader. FSPW is excited at the opportunities this promotion offers for both the organization and Britta.

Brown joins staff in Sanders County

Ray Brown started as FSPW's part-time Sanders County Outreach Coordinator in April. Ray hit the ground running organizing several successful outreach events in Western Montana throughout the year.

Ray is passionate about outdoor education and has led FSPW's involvement with Project ASCENT, an outdoor education program based in Thompson Falls. He also coordinates FSPW's Winter Tracks program for Sanders County.

Ray's other job is the Behavioral Intervention Specialist at Thompson Falls High School with Western Montana Mental Health Center.



Ray Brown and Noxon
scholarship winner
Phalyn Fickas

Gassmann shines in Lincoln County

Annie Gassmann took on some big tasks in Lincoln County in 2018, including helping organize a very successful Harvest Festival in Libby and coordinating Winter Tracks for Lincoln County. She plans outreach events in Libby and Troy and loves going on hikes in the Scotchmans.



Annie Gassmann is a
force for FSPW in Lincoln
County



The whole staff enjoys a
hike on Trail #999 in the
Scotchman Peaks.

Working together to get kids outside

In Summer 2018, FSPW deepened a partnership with Thompson Falls-based Project ASCENT.

"It's all about getting the kids outside," said Rob Christianson, founder and CEO of the non-profit. "It's important that our local youth get a chance to experience camping in Montana and understand that there

are opportunities to work in natural resources."

The program hosted two Bull River base camps for local teenagers over the summer. These are four-day, three-night trips aimed at growing the campers' knowledge of area recreation options, plants and animals, and to learn an appreciation for natural areas.

In 2018, FSPW became more involved and led day-long outings with the students. We're excited to partner with Project ASCENT into 2019 and beyond!

"I've never done anything like this before! I didn't know I could do anything like this."

Ethan, 12-year old from Troy

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How the Friends kept busy in 2018

Celebrations

13th Anniversary with Rich Landers - January 13: Friends came together at a packed Panida Theater to hear Rich Landers talk about 40 "Rich" years as Outdoor reporter and editor for the Spokesman-Review.

Extreme Plein Air Art Reception - April 20: Evans Brothers hosted FSPW as their non-profit of the month during April. They also showcased art by participants of the Extreme Plein Air, featuring beautiful paintings and pictures of the Scotchmans. The show included a party where people could talk with the artists about their work.

State of the Scotchmans - May 31: People at the yearly event learned about mountain goats from Gayle Joslin. During her career as a wild-life biologist, Joslin became an expert on mountain goats and studied the goats living in the West Cabinets.

Brews for Benefits @ Big Eddy's - June 13: Big Eddy's Deck Bar kicked off the Scotchmans summer with a brews for benefits event featuring Draught Works brewery.



plus a kid's zone with straw pit, sack races, tug-o-war, face painting, and other games. There was even a harvest dance put on by Karin Hancock Dance.

Wild Night for Wilderness - November 8: It was a wild good time. Sandpoint's newest brewery was packed with folks to celebrate wild places and enjoy some fine Matchwood Brewing beer.



Kootenai Harvest Festival - September 14: The 4th annual event was a huge hit with live music, Farm-to-Table community meal, beer from Cabinet Mountain Brewing, farmer's market and unique craft vendors,

benefits event at Cabinet Mountain Brewing. The following evening, Poz spoke at the Maki Theater.

John Gatchell on 60 years of working for Wilderness - December 11 & 12: Montana Wilderness Association's Senior Conservation Advisor, joined Friends in Thompson Falls and Libby for evenings discussing 60 Years of Fighting for Wilderness.



Outdoor Education

Libby Elementary Outdoor Ed

- June 12: As part of the Libby Elementary fifth grade outdoor education day, FSPW staff members had a cross-cut station. They taught students about the art of traditional tools.

Wilderness & Remote First Aid

- October 20 & 21: Carol Jenkins certified another group of volunteers in Wilderness & Remote First Aid and CPR/AED.

Adventures

Extreme Plein Air - August 16-

19: On the ninth Extreme Plein Air, the artists hiked into the Montana Scotchmans and to Vertigo Basin. Much of the art they created was displayed and sold at the November 8 Wild Night For Wilderness.

Presentations

Jack Nesbit on David Thompson

- March 31: FSPW hosted author and historian Jack Nisbet at the Beardmore in Priest River. Nisbet entertained the audience with tales about David Thompson and his journey across western North America.

Jim Posewitz - April 6: Author Jim "Poz" Posewitz presented his latest book, *My Best Shot - Discovering and Living the Montana Conservation Ethic*, at FSPW's brews for

Volunteers gave back big



Just how big? Volunteers donated over \$60,000 worth of time in 2018; 2,506 hours! The 195 folks accomplished a lot.

Winter Tracks

Outdoor education is important, but we often don't think about it in the winter. A hearty group of

volunteers helped over 350 kids have fun (and learn) while being outside in the winter.

Trail Work

Do you ever wonder who keeps the trails you use in good shape? In the Scotchman Peaks, it's because of hard work by volunteers. In 2018, volunteers did work on eight different trails,



including Scotchman Peak. If you see them out there this summer, say thank you. Or better yet, sign up to help.

Trail Ambassadors

Did you hear the one about the person that was bitten by a mountain goat? We did too. For the third year in a row, volunteer Trail Ambassadors hiked

Scotchman Peak during the summer and talked to literally hundreds of hikers about safety in mountain goat territory.

Hikes & Outdoor Ed

Spend some time in the Scotchman Peaks, and you will know why the area needs saved. FSPW's volunteer-led hike and outdoor edu-

cation programs get people of all ages outside to fall (deeper) in love with nature. This season there were 15 hikes and 8 adult outdoor education field days.

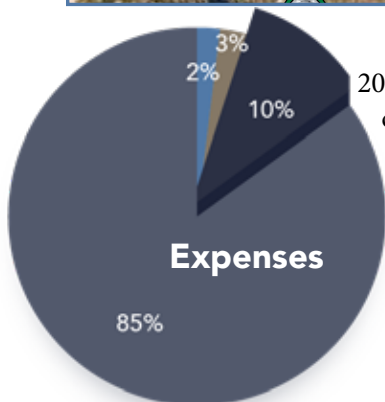


STOKR & Chafe150 Rest Stops

For the second year in a row, the #1 Break Stop for the Chafe150 bike race went to FSPW.

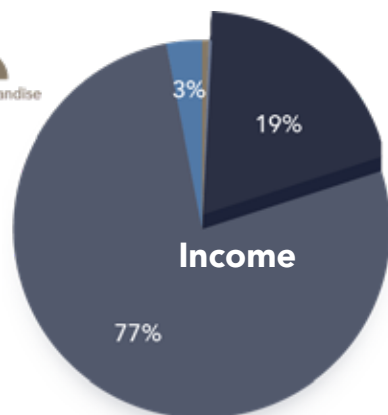
That's not the only bike ride we like to be a part of. We also sponsor a rest stop for the STOKR (Scenic Tour of the Kootenai River) bike tour.

Thank you to all the volunteers that make both days fun!



In FSPW's fiscal year 2018, over 200 individuals gave a financial contribution to save the wild Scotchmans. FSPW received grant funds from multiple foundations as well.

Thank you to everyone who donated their time, money or an item for a silent auction or raffle.



Together, we'll save the wild Scotchmans for our children and grandchildren.



Director's Report, from page 5

Support from all corners of the community grows for saving some wild country, in our backyard, in the Scotchman Peaks. Many people agree that we need places to roam. We need places where we can be alone in our thoughts. Our children and grandchildren deserve to be able to have these same chances to find wild places.

—Phil Hough

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Volunteers keep trails open

Recreation is a big part of life in the US, particularly in the West. But, the Forest service budget for trails and recreation continues to shrink. We all want trails to cleared and well kept. So, the Forest Service turn more and more to volunteers for help. FSPW steps up to help keep trails in the Scotchman Peaks open.

Volunteers, like Howard and Connie Shay, are vital to our efforts to keep trails open. "It's important to keep this incredible area wild." Howard says "so my grandchildren and children can come back here."

**Who loves
trails in the
Scotchmans**



FRIENDS OF
SCOTCHMAN PEAKS
WILDERNESS



Our trail crew says,
"So much fun!" "Such cool people!"
"Incredibly satisfying!" "Woof!"

"Beats the gym any day!"
Share the love!
scotchmanpeaks.org/trails
#savethewildscotchmans

Winter Tracks from page 4

fun day of outdoor learning. With blue skies and a fresh blanket of snow the site was perfect.

Volunteer instructors and FSPW staff took 90 students from Libby Elementary's fifth grade class on a fun filled day at Timberlane Campground near Libby. Students learned tree identification with Celesta Collacchi, animal adaptation with Gene Reckin, map and compass with Robin Chisholm and tracking with Brian Baxter. FSPW staff and volunteer Mary Freniere helped Libby teachers and parents



The day ended with snowshoe races at Northshore campground. At Troy, Karie Lee and Jake Riley taught winter survival basics.

keep kids warm with hot chocolate and a fire.

Collacchi, who works at the Libby Ranger District, had this to say: "I really enjoyed working with the kids. They asked awesome questions."

Brian Baxter also led 40-plus kids in the Libby After School Program on a tracking exercise in Skidale Park near the school. Baxter also led a tracking field day

**"Even my Kindergartners
sat through the
presentation . . ."**

Rose Wilson, Yaak School

for the Yaak School.

"What a wonderful presentation," wrote Rose Wilson, Yaak School head teacher. "Even my Kindergartners sat through the presentation!"

On the last Montana Winter Tracks day, over 30 Troy fifth graders visited Roosevelt Park. FSPW staff and volunteers Freniere, Baxter, Collacchi were helped out by Liz Figgins from the Forest Service. Liz taught avalanche safety. Karie Lee and Jake Riley taught winter survival.



FSPW thanks the USFS for use of their campgrounds; the City of Troy for use of Roosevelt Park; Green Mountain and Avista for site safety; Sanders and Lincoln County road departments for clearing roads; and Wild Coyote Saloon for providing fire pans.

New Look, from page 4

Check out the fresh-looking front page. It features our new logo and a new map. The bottom of each page and the holds our new tag line: Save the Wild Scotchmans!

You will see more and larger photos, with clean crisp text. These will



help you to feel like you are a part of the action, even if you not able to make it out on our trips or to our events.

We hope the new design and content will engage you and help us to engage others too. Let us know how you feel about these changes.

- The Peak Experience Team

scotchmanpeaks.org • #savethewildscotchmans



Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, Inc.
PO Box 2061, Sandpoint, ID 83864

HOW YOU CAN HELP SAVE THE WILD SCOTCHMANS

- **Donate to FSPW** to save the incredibly wild Scotchman Peaks for our children and grandchildren.
- Visit www.scotchmanpeaks.org/donate
- **Or fill out the form to the right.** Drop it and a check in an envelope and mail them to the above address. Thank you! FSPW is a 501c3 organization. Donations may be tax deductible
- **Volunteer** your time whether it's breaking a sweat on the trail, talking to folks at an outreach table, or helping with office work.
- **Save us a stamp** and printing costs by receiving Peak Experience by email.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$_____

☐ Please make this a monthly gift

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