

BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS FOUNDATION

20/6 VOLUNTEER GUIDE

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF LOVE FOR THE BOB

JOIN US FOR A WILDERNESS PACK TRIP

FIND A VOLUNTEER ADVENTURE

MEET THE PACKER APPRENTICES



BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS FOUNDATION

20 years of love for The Bob

I'm so excited for the summer 2016 outdoor play and work season to begin, I can hardly wait! Within these pages you will find descriptions of wilderness adventures waiting to happen. BMWF has been leading volunteer wilderness conservation trips for 20 years. Back then the terms "stewardship," and "friends group" didn't exist and our Forest Service partners weren't sure what volunteer service projects were all about. Now we know! Nature nurtures and every body needs a little outdoor medicine in their life.

BMWF continues to bring you opportunities for quality wilderness experiences, complete with well trained leadership, goood food, comradery, laughs, and a safe experience. Join us! Sleep under the stars, sit around the campfire, build some trails that people will use for years to come, help protect wildlife by stomping out weeds, relax and kick back, and repeat.

For 20 years the BMWF has stretched every donated dollar to help keep the wilderness wild. We continue to build upon this tradition by developing new and innovative programs. In 2015 the Wilderness Conservation Corps kicked off its first season by traveling 126 miles to fix trail, pull weeds, and remove user impacts. New in 2016 will be the Packer Apprentice Program. BMWF depends upon the support of pack strings to carry tools, food, and group gear into back country project sites. With the help of BCH and a few dedicated wilderness packers BMWF hopes to preserve this traditional skill.

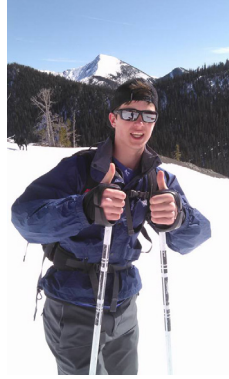


See you on the trail,

Carol Treadwell

TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF WILDERNESS PACKERS

Packing and stock use has a rich heritage in The Bob and has helped to shape the character of the Wilderness Complex and its users. Backcountry stewardship work would not be possible without pack support from horse and mule strings carrying gear, food, and tools up to 30 miles each way from trailheads to wilderness project locations. However, packing is a fading skill: as members of the packing community retire, there are fewer and fewer young packers coming up to take their place. Ensuring that packing knowledge and skills are passed on to future generations of wilderness packers is critical to preserving Montana heritage and enabling wilderness stewardship to continue for years to come. With this goal, Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation, with the support the Backcountry Horsemen, have established a packer apprentice program. This program will provide a unique opportunity for aspiring packers to train with some of the most respected packers in Montana in order to pursue future careers packing with outfitters or government agencies.



As one of the first programs of its kind, the BMWF Packer Apprentice Program is welcoming two apprentices for the 2016 field season: Herold Herring, a highschool student from Augusta; and Kristina Gillespie, a therapist from Helena. Herold and Kristina are both driven by a love of the outdoors and wilderness. "I love being in the outdoors, even more when on horseback and even more when in the wilderness" says Kristina, adding "I am excited to represent women in the wilderness who want to carry on traditions that have often been limited or not as strongly encouraged."

The apprentices will attend Smoke Elser's 9 Mile Packing Clinic, then complete a number of training trips with the mentor packers: Frank Vitale, Ralph Hopkins, and Keith Alltucker.

The ultimate goal of the Packer Apprentice Program is to have the apprentices go on to get jobs packing with an outfitter or the Forest Service, or to own their own stock and volunteer packing for stewardship projects.

Want to support the Packer Apprentice program?

donate to help fund the program on the inside back cover or at www.bmwf.org



WHY GETTING OUTSIDE CAN MAKE YOU HAPPIER & HEALTHIER

Chances are, if you're reading this you can already list off the ways that getting outside, especially in the wilderness has improved your life, happiness, and health. Researchers are continuously finding evidence to back this up, showing just how profound an impact the outdoors can have on our brains and our behavior:



IT REDUCES STRESS



IT MAKES YOU HAPPIER AND LESS BROODING



IT IMPROVES ATTENTION AND CREATIVITY



IT HELPS YOU TO BE MORE KIND AND GENEROUS



IT MAKES YOU FEEL MORE ALIVE

On our volunteer adventures you'll get all these benefits, along with amazing food, wonderful company, and the opportunity to see some of the most beautiful wilderness in Montana.

it's adventure with a purpose

You'll plan almost nothing, pay hardly anything and have a chance to give back to the wilderness!

We provide the food, tools, a skilled crew leader, the logistics and adventure!
You just bring your personal camping gear and yourself!



Glacier National Park

2016 VOLUNTEER ADVENTURE LOCATIONS



2016 VOLUNTEER ADVENTURES

BMWF #1A National Trails Day June 4th Scapegoat Wilderness Indian Meadows Trailhead Easy	Bring the entire family to the Scapegoat Wilderness for National Trails Day. There will be trail projects to dig into or you may choose to participate in a nature walk and/or other outdoor activities. After a fun day in the woods join us at Indian Meadows Cabin for Dutch Oven desert and BBQ.
BMWF #1B National Trails Day June 4th Great Bear Wilderness Stanton Lake Trailhead Easy	Bring the entire family to the Great Bear Wilderness for National Trails Day. Choose from trail projects or and nature walk with other outdoor activities. After a fun day in the woods join us at the Hungry Horse Ranger Station for a BBQ.
BMWF #2 & Weeds #1 North Fork Cabin June 14-18 Scapegoat Wilderness North Fork of the Blackfoot Trailhead Moderate Hike to camp: 8 miles	Fight the war on weeds or get dirty moving rock or do both! Half of the team will focus on attacking invasive weeds around the North Fork Cabin while the other half clears rocks, mud, and slide debris from trail #31. The North Fork Cabin provides cooking space, and a delightful camping compound equipped with a burbling brook to lull you to sleep at night.
BMWF #4 Mineral Creek June 23-28 Scapegoat Wilderness North Fork of the Blackfoot Trailhead Moderate Hike to camp: 11 miles	Join us in the heart of the beautiful Scapegoat Wilderness for a few days of clearin' trail! You will be tackling trail # 484 along Mineral Creek. The crew will work from the junction of trails #484 and #475 south towards Windy Pass, primarily clearing trail of blowdown and fallen trees. (That means a lot of sawing including everybody's favorite - the cross cut!).
Weeds #2 Danaher June 26-July 2 Bob Marshall Wilderness North Fork of the Blackfoot Trailhead Strenuous Hike to camp: 22 miles in two days	The Danaher valley is known for its expansive grassy meadows with sweeping vistas of awe inspiring peaks. The Flathead Indians passed through this valley on their way to hunt on the high plains. This pristine ecological area is threatened by noxious weeds and we need you to help fight the invasion. Volunteers will be spraying knapweed and leafy spurge.
BMWF #5 Headquarters Pass July 2-5 Rocky Mountain Front South Fork Teton Trailhead Moderate Hike to camp: 5 miles	In the shadow of the highest peak in The Bob, the trail that leads to Headquarters Pass needs some rock removal and drainage bar installation to keep it from disappearing! Volunteers will work side by side with BMWF's Wilderness Conservation Corp to install and maintain rock check dams (Rock Steps). The group will camp in the trees just below the pass along Headquarter Creek.

SIGN UP TODAY IT'S SIMPLE!

- 1** LOG ON TO WWW.BMWF.ORG/VOLUNTEER
- 2** FIND A TRIP THAT FITS YOUR SCHEDULE AND ABILITIES
- 3** FILL OUT THE ONLINE REGISTRATION
- 4** PAY A REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT TO HOLD YOUR SPOT
- 5** SHOW UP READY TO WORK, EXPLORE AND HAVE FUN!



win a 5 day wilderness pack trip for 2 people



SUPPORT WILDERNESS
STEWARDSHIP AND CONSERVATION
IN THE BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS COMPLEX

and win the trip of a lifetime

\$3,800 VALUE TICKETS \$10 EACH

WINNER WILL BE PICKED NOVEMBER 4, 2016

FIND MORE INFORMATION

OR RESERVE YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS AT

WWW.BMWF.ORG/PACKTRIP



BMWF #6 Snake Loop

July 3-5

Great Bear Wilderness
Geifer Creek Trailhead

Easy

Car camping

Want to get out and give back but don't have all week? This project is for you. The Snake Creek Trail is a 5.5 mile loop southwest of Marias Pass. The trail has not been fully cleared in several years and is in need of some volunteers to spend a few days sawing, sawing, sawing. The group will car camp near the trailhead in a shady Aspen grove bordering a small creek. A perfect summer recharge!

BMWF #7 Pyramid Pass

July 7-9

Bob Marshall Wilderness
Pyramid Pass Trailhead

Easy

Car camping

Another opportunity to get out and give back when you don't have a lot of time. Volunteers will be car camping at the Pyramid trailhead outside of Seeley Lake and working on trail #416 leading to Pyramid Pass. This popular trail is in need of general maintenance including drainage cleaning, brushing, and tread work. This maintenance will go a long way to helping prevent erosion and environmental degradation.

BMWF #8 Bugle Mountain

July 19-26

Scapegoat Wilderness
Indian Meadows Trailhead

Moderate

Hike to camp: 13 miles

Bugle Mountain lies in the heart of the Scapegoat Wilderness and this trail needs some sweat equity to keep it from disappearing off the map. According to Erik Molvar's book, 'Hiking Montana's Bob Marshall,' "Bugle Mountain Trail #476 is rarely maintained and is quite hard to find." If that sounds like the challenge you are looking for, join us! Food, group gear and tools will be packed in and out by Chris Eyer, AKA Instagram's Muledrager.

Weeds #3 South Fork River Float

July 20-26

Bob Marshall Wilderness
Meadow Creek Trailhead

Strenuous

Hike to camp: 12 & 4 miles

This project trip might just be the sweetest trip of the season! Not for the faint of heart however, this float requires a 2 day hike to reach the put-in. Starting at the Meadow Creek trailhead, you will hike 12 miles to Black Bear Cabin the first day and continue to the confluence of the South Fork and the White River on the second day. The group will launch a fleet of rafts and inflatable kayaks to conquer the weedy invaders on this class II-III Wild and Scenic River. A certified herbicide applicator (BMWF Crew Leader) will train each volunteer on plant identification and herbicide application.



BMWF #9 Pendant Creek
July 21-25

Bob Marshall Wilderness
 Owl Creek Packer Camp Trailhead

Strenuous
 Miles to camp: 9

Join Andy Breland and Chuck Allen of “Dead End Express” TV fame as they help haul some gravel to replace a worn out turnpike on the Pendant Creek Trail. You will build the structure but the mules will haul the gravel; what a deal! The hike to the project leaves from beautiful Holland Lake and drops over Pendant Pass for 2,605’ of elevation gain. Camp will be set at the Pendant Cabin compound where you’ll experience the luxury of wilderness cabin cooking.

Weeds #3 Webb Lake
August 3-6

Scapegoat Wilderness
 Indian Meadows Trailhead

Moderate
 Miles to camp: 8

Make a big impact by helping deadhead Oxeye Daisy near this beautiful lake only 8 miles from the trailhead. Sometimes planted as an ornamental in flower gardens, this pretty perennial is actually a noxious weed and has taken over the Web Lake Cabin meadow. This is the first year of combating this weed at Webb Lake. The impact you help make this year will be a great start for the future of the meadow!

AHS Middle Fork
August 7-13

Great Bear Wilderness
 Morrison Creek Trailhead

Moderate
 Miles to Camp: 11.5

Join the American Hiking Society in the Great Bear Wilderness this summer! Volunteers will focus on clearing and general maintenance of trails along the iconic Middle Fork of the Flathead River. Your work this season will have lasting impacts for the future. Tools of the trade are crosscut saws, Pulaskis, loppers, and hand saws. Join us for the trip of a lifetime!

Weeds #5 Pretty Prairie
August 12-17

Bob Marshall Wilderness
 Benchmark Trailhead

Moderate
 Miles to Camp: 7

Help keep Pretty Prairie pretty, wild, and natural while camping for a week in one of the prettiest spots in The Bob. Your good fight against ugly weeds will be rewarded with great fishing and a stay on the compound of the Pretty Prairie Cabin.

BMWF #10 Big Prairie
August 19-27

Bob Marshall Wilderness
 Benchmark Trailhead

Strenuous
 Miles to Camp: 26 in 2 days

Lying at the foot of the “Flathead Alps” in the heart of The Bob, historic Big Prairie Wilderness Ranger Station is an iconic backcountry destination. Spend 9 days immersed in Wilderness while clearing trails on Butcher Mountain, Bartlett Creek, and Bartlett Mountain. The 26 mile, two day journey to Big Prairie will begin at Benchmark trailhead and climb over Sadler Pass to Basin Cabin where you will spend the first night. Bob Marshall lodged and ate here in 1928 so look for his initials carved in the outhouse! On day two you will hike another 16 miles to Big Prairie. A day off will allow you to relax on the banks of the Wild and Scenic South Fork River, explore nearby peaks, or just chill with a book; be sure to bring your fishing gear!

BMWF #11 Palisade Lake
August 21-27

Bob Marshall Wilderness
Lion Creek Trailhead

Strenuous
Miles to Camp: 12

Palisade Lake is located high on the crest of the Swan Mountains. The crew will work for the week to clear the trail of downed trees and brush with 2 person crosscut saws and hand saws as well as drainage maintenance and campsite rehabilitation. You'll enjoy a day off in the middle of the trip to explore, fish, swim, relax and enjoy this amazing area.

Weeds #6 Castle Lake
August 24-27

Great Bear Wilderness
Granite Creek Trailhead

Moderate
Miles to camp: 9.5

Castle Lake is a popular backcountry destination for river runners, backpackers and stock users. And for good reason! The crew will be based out of the Granite Cabin for cooking and storage. One day will be spent hiking to Castle Lake to monitor the health of the weevils that were released last summer to eat yellow toadflax. For the other two days, volunteers will be working around the cabin tracking weeds with GPS and doing some spraying. The group will also have a day off to hike, fish, or just relax.

BMWF #12 Pretty Prairie-Yoga
August 27-September 2

Bob Marshall Wilderness
Benchmark Trailhead

Moderate
Miles to Camp: 7

Sun Salutations along the Sun River! Join a certified yoga instructor at morning and evening yoga practices in one of the most beautiful locations in The Bob! During the day volunteers will work to brush and clear Trail #202 along the Sun River. Yoga practice is completely voluntary, but it sure feels good after a long day of trail work. The group will be using the Pretty Prairie Cabin to cook healthy meals while camping under the stars.

BMWF #13 Spotted Bear River
September 3-9

Bob Marshall Wilderness
Beaver Creek Trailhead

Strenuous
Miles to Camp: 13

Help monitor wilderness character along the Spotted Bear River! This is a quasi roving project. The project will be based out of the Pentagon Cabin and will require a few long day-hikes and possibly an overnight backpack voyage to access popular campsites in the area. Volunteers will be using GPS to identify and mark the camps, recording data such as erosion and other impacts. This information will be given to the Ranger District for their Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) monitoring.



Image: Becca Skinner

Join us

FOR A 4 DAY WILDERNESS
PACK TRIP THROUGH THE BOB

AND SUPPORT WILDERNESS
STEWARDSHIP AND
CONSERVATION IN THE BOB
FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

June 24-27

THE LEGACY PACK TRIP IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR LOVER OF THE BOB TO SEE
THE GREAT BEAR WILDERNESS BY HORSEBACK IN A FULLY OUTFITTED TRIP
OF A LIFETIME

for more information call (406)387-3822 or email trails@bmf.org

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WITH THE BOB ALL YEAR LONG?**



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ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM!



TO SEE THIS WEEK'S



BOB

of the week

A MEMBER, VOLUNTEER, OR DONOR WHO'S COMMITMENT TO
WILDERNESS STEWARDSHIP AND CONSERVATION CARRIES ON THE
LEGACY OF BOB MARSHALL IN HIS NAMESAKE WILDERNESS

#LoveTheBob

#BobMarshallWilderness



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