

Summer Livin'



BOB MARSHALL
WILDERNESS
FOUNDATION

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Support Our Efforts:
Become A Member Today!



Volunteer crews have been sawing logs and pickin weeds on over 100 miles of trails already this season! Are you signed up? Check out www.bmwf.org.

FEATURED PARTNER: DUSTY CRARY

Dusty is a 4th generation rancher on the Rocky Mountain Front. He grew up in The Bob and runs Crary Outfitting. He also sponsors a volunteer trip with the BMWF to fight weeds, what a guy!



► **Tell us about your partnership with the Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation and your weeds project at Winter Creek?** We operate an early season hunting operation out of a camp on Switch Back Cr on the Upper Middle Fork of the Flathead. I had noticed some time ago a patch of Knapweed that was spreading on a hillside above Winter Creek. I contacted the BMWF and proposed a work session. If they could round up some volunteers I would pack everything in and we could stay at our camp and work from there. I furnished the herbicides and borrowed some sprayers from the Rocky Mtn Ranger District in Choteau. The BMWF organized 4 volunteers, I brought in a cook and another fellow to help spray and we sprayed an area of about 3 acres.

► **Why is it important to get a handle on weeds in The Bob and why do you donate your time and energy towards this effort?** We ranch west of Choteau on the Teton so I have had a fair amount of experience dealing with weeds and understand that if they get past a certain point, it is pretty much impossible to get ahead of them. I think everyone should have a concern about weeds whether they are on public or private ground, but I really wanted to try and get ahead of those weeds on Winter Creek because that area is so important to me. It is personally a real special place, but it is also an area that we depend on for our hunting operation so I feel that I have a responsibility to look after "my area" and give back to the land that gives so much to me. I want my kids to be able to go there and enjoy themselves too. (more on page 6)

Partners, Pulaskis and Packers

For over 7 years, I had the pleasure to work with **Jon McBride** who coordinated and ran the National Smokejumpers Association (NSA) Trail Maintenance Program. Jon passed away earlier this summer while biking in Missoula with the "Boys of Wednesday" club that he and other retired smokejumpers had formed to stay active. He will surely be missed as he was a one-of-a-kind champion for volunteer trail work in our Wilderness areas. With Jon's exuberance and motivation for taking care of trails on our public land, he became a key player in helping to develop and coordinate the NSA Trails Maintenance Program from its inception in the late 90's. Around that time, a group of retired smokejumpers including Art Jukkala and Jon approached the Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation out of concern for the trails and the need for more trail maintenance. The first project was set up with the NSA to clear and work on the Shanley Ridge Trail #401 near the Blackfoot Divide on the Seeley Lake Ranger District. Art passed away on that first project and in his honor, the NSA Trail Program and Trail #401 were named after him.

Jon took up the torch and grew the program each year since to include volunteer service trail and facility maintenance projects from Utah to Alaska, with over 250 retired smokejumpers returning each July. The incredible amount of time and energy Jon dedicated to the program was commemorated last year with a Volunteer Service Award by the chief of the US Forest Service and a letter from President Barack Obama. Jon's vision, dedication, and good natured ability to lead his program has resulted in an incredible amount of work completed as well as a strong partnership with us and the Forest Service.

"Working directly for this organization in every capacity has been a real privilege and I owe a lot of that to our many partners and volunteers."

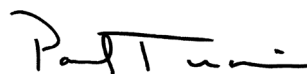
Partners like the NSA are the key ingredient for what gives the Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation the ability to accomplish so much in The Bob. We've highlighted the unique partnership with outfitter **Dusty Crary** in this issue and are very excited about our work with the **Boone and Crockett Club and Montana Wilderness Association** with projects on the Rocky Mountain Front this summer. Look for more of those projects in the future. Other partners that are crucial to our program include the **Backcountry Horsemen** of the Flathead and Charlie Russell Chapter in Great

Falls that volunteer their expertise, animals and time to pack our many backcountry trips. If you have volunteered with us and had your gear and food packed in, I think you know how great this is. Our partnership with national organizations like the **Continental Divide Trail Alliance and American Hiking Society** gets more boots on the ground from across the country, and exposes more individuals to the wonders of The Bob. Integral partnerships are also developed with each of our individual volunteers that give so much of their time and sweat towards The Bob's trails and noxious weed removal. Of course, I can't talk about partners without mentioning the **Forest Service**. Without the support of our program from the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex managers, district rangers, and seasonal workers each season, the BMWF would not be in the position it is to accomplish so much.

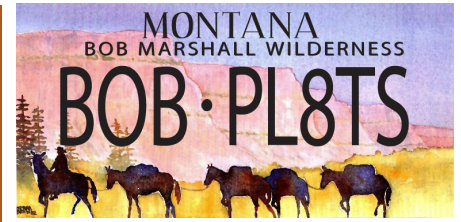
With my years as BMWF crew leader, program director and now executive director, I know first hand that we couldn't do this alone, that our reputation as a model for wilderness stewardship groups is due to the collaborative effort of our partners. I also know that partnerships boil down to people. This is what I will miss the most as **I will be leaving the BMWF** this fall to pursue new opportunities in Helena with my family. The amazing and dedicated individuals I've met, worked with and even become good friends with has been a highlight of the job for me. Working directly for this organization in every capacity has been a real privilege and I owe a lot of that to our many partners and volunteers. Sure I haven't had the chance to swing a Pulaski every day in my most recent role at the BMWF but I know first hand what this organization can do on so many levels which make's it so unique and a real asset to the Bob Marshall.

If you haven't already, I hope you take the opportunity to become involved with us....become a member, or donate your time as a volunteer. Folks like you are the reason why this all works. Then, maybe next summer, I'll see you on the trail down the South Fork of the Flathead as I'm finally working my way into Big Prairie, and I'll get the chance to say thanks for all your incredible work.

See you in The Bob!



Paul Travis
Executive Director, BMWF



Show your support for The Bob by purchasing your Bob Marshall Plate Today! By purchasing or renewing your Bob Marshall Wilderness license plate this year, you're helping to maintain and preserve trails and fight noxious weeds throughout the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex. Show how much you love The Bob and get 'em on your rig or trailer today. Contact us at exec@bmf.org or your local DMV for more info.

TRAIL CONDITIONS

Before you head into The Bob on your next trip... don't forget to check the current trail conditions on our website! Find out what trails are open and cleared before you go. We update trail conditions every 2 weeks for all the trails in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex, including road maintenance updates and fire closures.

CHECK 'EM OUT AT
WWW.BMWF.ORG
> TRAIL CONDITIONS

Save the Date!

The 4th Annual
Voices of the Wilderness

Friday, November 5th

Art Auction
Exhibition
Silent Auction
Local Artists

A Fundraiser for the
Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation

“I like to slow folks down and try and get them to soak up everything that is around them and really appreciate where they are”



► **How many years have you outfitted in The Bob? Tell us about your favorite Bob Marshall experience or moment.** I grew up here on this ranch west of Choteau and am the 4th generation. My great grandad was packing in to the Middle Fork country with friends in the 1920's. I went in when I was about 5 yrs old with my dad as I have taken my kids in. It is part of our souls. I probably got the bug a lot worse than anyone else in the family and always wanted to be an outfitter. I started operating the Switch Back hunting camp for Max Barker in 1993 and in 2005 I was able to buy it and form Crary Outfitting.

I have a great experience every time I go into the back country, but a couple of very special times come to mind. I enjoy guiding hunters as much, or more, than hunting by myself. I like to slow folks down and try and get them to soak up everything that is around them and really appreciate where they are. I like to be with the elk during the rut because it adds so many dimensions to the experience. I was fortunate enough to guide one fellow who was in his mid 50's and had never taken an elk. He had been diagnosed with cancer and was just holding his own. His friend who was with him on the hunt contacted me later when his friend had lost his fight with cancer and said that whole experience was one of the highlights of his life. Another time two brothers joined us and one brother was very ill with cancer and was in pretty tough shape but they both were able to take bulls. The surviving brother called me the day his brother passed away and emotionally relayed how special that trip was for the two of them. As hunters we tend to use the "circle of life" to sometimes justify what we do. These events remind us the circle surrounds us all and it is pretty powerful to play such an important role in someone's life. Things like that make outfitting very gratifying.

JOIN US IN THE FIGHT AGAINST NOXIOUS WEEDS IN THE BOB ON ONE OF OUR WEEDS PROJECTS THIS SEASON. OR CALL US EARLY AND SIGN UP FOR THE THIRD ANNUAL WINTER CREEK WEEDS PROJECT IN 2011 AND ENJOY A TASTE OF CRARY HOSPITALITY AT HIS BACKCOUNTRY CAMP. IF YOU SEE DUSTY ON THE TRAIL, BE SURE TO THANK HIM!!

From top: 5th generation Crary packing into camp, The Bob as seen from Winter Creek, Dusty fighting weeds at Winter Creek (previous page).

Tales from the Trails

THE HISTORIC SOUTH FORK PHONE LINE

One of the reasons we head out into the wilderness is to escape the hustle and bustle of town life. Often times inside The Bob the only sounds you hear are from the wildlife and rushing mountain streams until...“Ring ring!” Wait! What was that? While you certainly won't hear most of the sounds we associate with civilization, if you are near one of the historic Forest Service backcountry cabins along the South Fork of the Flathead River you may hear the sound of a phone ringing. But don't worry, cell phone service has not invaded The Bob.

The old No.9 telephones are stationed in cabins along the South Fork, spanning the 39 miles from Black Bear to Danaher Cabin. This June four volunteers and two BMWF staff armed with cross cut saws, cleared over 6 miles of the phone line between Black Bear Cabin and Salmon Forks by removing 148 trees that had fallen on top of the wire for the 3rd annual Historic Phone Line Project.

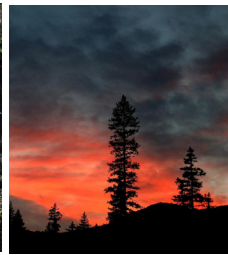
This trip allows volunteers to assist with historical conservation in the wilderness, and exercising those sawing muscles too. While long range high powered radios serve as the standard form of communication in the backcountry these days, the phone lines' historical significance makes it worth maintaining. This phone line is likely the longest operating backcountry Forest Service phone system in the United States today. Phones were first installed into the Flathead National Forest in the 1910's with this one seeing additions into the 1920s. During the early years of the Forest Service, many trails and lookouts were constructed as a way to control wildland fires. The phone line was a means to connect the backcountry stations with the many lookouts and you can find the old #9 wire at many of the old lookout sites today.

Because the phone line passes through sections burned in the 2003 Fire, sawing felled trees will continue to be an important job. Help us keep this working artifact in use and join the Phone line crew next season.

--By Carolyn Collier, BMWF Program Assistant and Intern



There's still time to sign up for a project this summer!



Go to www.bmwf.org to check out listings and availability for projects through September. There's something for everyone!

**Overnight projects require a \$50 refundable deposit to secure your space on the project. Please read our cancellation policy online.*

AUGUST PROJECTS

BMWF #8 - Chipmunk Peak #99

Thursday, August 12th to Thursday, August 19th

Trail: Bruce Mtn #82, Chipmunk Peak #99

Difficulty: Strenuous

Distance: 7 miles (to camp)

Elevation: +3000'

Availability: 6 spaces open

Sign Up Deadline: August 9th



Come see for yourself why this area is proposed wilderness! Rarely visited, rough country, this area exemplifies "wild". A major wildlife corridor between The Bob Country and the Swan Mountains, these expansive ridges are prime big game winter range and the trail needs your help! Spend a week working trails "logging out" fallen trees, re-establishing the trail, and removing brush growing into the trail corridor. Be prepared for 4-8 mile hikes from camp to the worksite and get ready to dig! The views are spectacular from the ridge with the towering Swan Peak and the Swan Range to the South and the Bob Marshall Wilderness to the West; don't forget to bring your camera!

CDTA #3 - Bowl Creek #324

Saturday, August 14th to Saturday, August 21st

Trail: Bowl Creek #324

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 12 miles (to camp)

Elevation: +3500'

Availability: 6 spaces open

Sign Up Deadline: August 9th



We've partnered with the Continental Divide Trail Alliance to do some much needed work on the CDT! The hike starts on the east side of the divide and passes through Aspen groves and steep rocky reefs before crossing over into the headwaters of the Middle Fork of the Flathead River. The crew will backpack in 12 miles from the West Fork of the Teton trailhead over Teton Pass and drop down into the scenic Grizzly Park to set up a primitive backcountry camp. This landscape was changed drastically by the Fool Creek Fires of 2007 and provides an intimate look at the dynamic fire mosaic. Working on turn-pike (raised trail to reduce mud and erosion in wet sections) is tough and technical, but rewarding work. Join us for a week deep in The Bob and lend a hand to a trail in need!

BC/MWA #2 - Seedling Creek #182

Saturday, August 21st to Sunday, August 29th

Trail: Seedling Ck #182

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 5 miles (to camp)

Elevation: +1500'

Availability: 4 spaces open

Sign Up Deadline: August 12th



We have partnered up with The Boone and Crockett Club and the Montana Wilderness Association to host two of our most exciting projects yet! Volunteers will spend 2 nights tent camping and a full day of educational programming at the Boone and Crockett Club's Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch. This 6,000 acre world class education and research facility lies in the foothills of the east slope of the Rocky Mountains near Dupuyer, MT adjacent to Forest Service Land and the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex. Volunteers will then head into the field for a 5 day backcountry trip to do some trailwork to reduce erosion and enhance the quality of the watershed by installing retaining walls along Seedling Creek. The crew will return to the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch for a closing program and overnight there Saturday night before traveling home Sunday.

Weeds #11 - North Fork Pull Day Saturday, August 21st

Weed Work: Pulling Knapweed

Difficulty: Moderate

Hike: 5 miles (10 miles roundtrip)

Elevation: +500'

Availability: 8 spaces open

Sign Up Deadline: August 16th



Want to hike AND help out wilderness? Get out for the day, meet some new people, see some great country and help get rid of some nasty weeds. Day trip volunteers will hike about 5 miles along the scenic North Fork of Blackfoot River and hand-pull a patch of Spotted Knapweed along the river's edge. No herbicides will be used. What a great way to spend the day! Be sure to bring your sandals to ford the river and be ready to do some damage to weeds!



BMWF #11 - Bartlett Mtn Trail Tuesday, August 24th to Thursday, Sept 2nd

Trails: Bartlett Mtn Trail #132

Difficulty: Strenuous

Hike: 26 miles (2 days; 11 mi, 15 mi)

Elevation: +3150' (day 1)

+2500' (day 2)

Availability: 3 spaces

Sign Up Deadline: August 9th



If you're lookin' for a challenge, this may be the toughest project of the season! With a 2 day hike to camp over two passes in the Swan Range, it is one of the most difficult and beautiful hikes into the heart of The Bob. Camp is on the designated Wild & Scenic South Fork of the Flathead River, one of the most pristine watersheds in the lower 48 and home to one of the best native fisheries in the state of Montana. The work will be sawing, sawing, sawing! The Bartlett Mountain trail burned over in 2003 and hasn't been opened since, so there will be plenty of work. Enjoy a day off to fish, swim, or hike over to the nearby Historic Big Prairie Ranger Station. Are you up for the challenge? Join us for a tough and rewarding trip!

Weeds #9 - Monture Creek Saturday, August 21st

Weed Work: Pulling Knapweed

Difficulty: Easy-Moderate

Hike: 2-8 miles/day

Elevation: +500'

Availability: 5 spaces open

Sign Up Deadline: August 16th



Help us help wilderness! This weekend project has it all!! We'll spend two days tackling weeds on the trails from the Monture Trailhead and spend the night at the Historic Monture Guard Station. Built in the 1920s and in use by Forest Service personnel since, Monture was recently renovated and added to the Forest Service cabin rental program for winter use. The BMWF crew leader will train each volunteer on plant identification and we'll employ a variety of methods to help us meet our goals. Volunteers can choose to hand pull weeds or work under the direct supervision of a certified herbicide applicator to spray these invaders.

SEPTEMBER PROJECTS

BMWFW #13 - Shaw Area Campsite Rehab Thursday, Sept 2nd to Thursday, Sept 9th

Trails: Gordon Creek #35
Difficulty: Strenuous
Hike: 14 miles (to cabin)
Elevation: +3200'-2200'
Availability: 6 spaces open
Sign Up Deadline: August 23rd



Volunteers on this late season project will do campsite rehab work including revegetation and GPS inventory weeds to two alpine lakes. The hike into the Shaw cabin area over Gordon Pass affords spectacular views of the peaks of the Swan Range as well as the Mission Mountains to the West. We'll tent under the stars, while enjoying the luxury of a Forest Service cabin for cooking, relaxing and drying out should the weather turn. So get your hiking boots greased and join us for one more project in The Bob before the summer is over!



BMWFW #12 - Halfmoon Park Friday, September 3rd to Sunday, Sept 12th

Trails: Halfmoon #216
Difficulty: Strenuous
Hike: 17 miles (2 days)
Elevation: +2300'
Availability: 7 spaces open
Sign Up Deadline: August 23rd



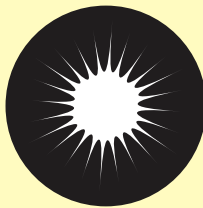
Get out one last time for a fantastic fall trip before the season ends! Join us for a week in one of the most scenic spots on the Rocky Mountain Front. Nestled at the base of the Scapegoat Massif, Halfmoon Park is a photographer's paradise! We will tackle this hike in 2 days, with an overnight at a Forest Service cabin on the way in and out. We'll set up camp at almost 7000' and enjoy terrific views as we work on the trail. We'll focus on drainage by installing small trenches and waterbars in the trail to channel runoff in this steep rocky country. Spend your day off exploring or just kick back and enjoy the view right from camp! Don't forget your camera!

Quick Guide to Projects

Easy: Light trail maintenance or restoration work. No other experience other than hiking required. May include hiking 1-5 miles with a daypack (3 liters of water, lunch, extra layers and a tool). Most day trips are an "Easy-Moderate" classification.

Moderate: Day to overnight trips where hiking distances are further and project work is moderately physical for consecutive days. Some experience with longer day hiking (5-10 miles) is required as well as backpacking on overnight trips.

Difficult - Strenuous: Longer backpacking trips with travel over rough terrain and possible significant elevation gain. Experience with backpacking and backcountry use necessary. Volunteers should be physically fit to perform more strenuous trail maintenance for an extended period and for consecutive days. Hiking to and from camp may be 8-18 miles in length with full packs (40-50 lbs).



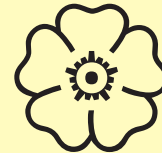
DAY TRIPS



CAR CAMPING



BACKPACKING



WEED Rx

**Overnight projects require a \$50 refundable deposit to secure your space on the project. Please read our cancellation policy online.*

Frequently Asked Questions

I've never done trail work before and I'm in average shape. Can I still help? • What should I bring? What is provided? • Can I bring my dog? Is there a group leader? • Can my kids come along? • Will I have time off to explore the backcountry? • Is it safe to handle herbicides? How do we store our food in bear country? • How do I get to the trailhead? • More questions? That's OK.

Check out our Frequently Asked Questions online at www.bmwfw.org > Volunteer or call us 406.387.3808.

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE BMWFW WITHOUT HAVING TO LIFT A PULASKI OR PULL WEEDS ALL DAY?

We are currently looking for a committed individual to help guide our growing organization into the future as a board member. If you have experience in The Bob, other nonprofits, or can bring financial, marketing or fundraising experience to the board, we would love to hear from you. Contact us at 406.387.3847 or exec@bmfw.org if you're interested.





BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS FOUNDATION
PO Box 190688 • HUNGRY HORSE, MT 59919
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| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Double Bit Axe | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Hard Hat |

BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS FOUNDATION MEMBER

► To say thank you, we publish an annual donor list in our Trails Newsletter. _____ I would like to remain anonymous.

► With my gift of \$100 or more please send me "The Bob" tee featuring Bob Marshall himself, olive green.
(Women's tees fit very snugly; we recommend ordering one size up from your normal size.)

Men's (circle one): Med Lrg XL XXL OR Women's (circle one): Sm Med Lrg XL

Name: _____

This is a Gift Membership for someone else or a Memorial Donation? Name: _____

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Please make checks to BMWF; do not mail cash. Upon receipt of donation, you will receive a letter for tax purposes. Consult your tax advisor.
You can also make a donation with your credit card or debit card online at www.bmwf.org > Support the BMWF.