

If you done it,
it ain't bragging.

Walt Whitman



We agree with this wise man.
And we want to tell everyone about the
amazing work our volunteers accomplished
in 2011. Well done and thank you!

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Support Our Efforts:
Become A Member Today!

2011 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Total Projects.....	46	Yards of Treadwork	5,165
Total Volunteers.....	327	Total Trees Cleared	2,509
Youth Volunteers	93	Total Miles Worked	180
Volunteer Packers	45	Acres of Weeds Treated.....	108
Total Service Days	1,640		
Water Bars Maintained.....	179		
Miles of Trail Brushed	62		

2011 GRAND TOTAL of DONATED LABOR
in the BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS COMPLEX

\$343,867

FEATURED VOLUNTEER: CARL KOHNSTAMM

How many projects have you done with The Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation over the years? Well, please meet Carl. He's a die-hard Bob fan and we're pleased that he joined us for four projects in 2011!



► **What got you started coming out and doing BMWF trips?**

The idea of BMWF came from a simple Google search. I wanted to stay outside this summer and I thought a productive way to do this was to volunteer with the Foundation for several trips. I was on four trips this summer, two of which were back to back. Looking back on it, the decision to volunteer for the BMWF was completely unexpected, but it turned out great.

► **What is your favorite BMWF trip memory or moment?**

If you have spent any time with the Foundation, you understand that there are too many great memories to tell to friends and family who have not had this experience for themselves. There are so many great moments that I wish I could share. If I could just choose one, it would have to be an afternoon on the Bighorn Creek Trip with Katie. After we finished work for the day (which included crosscutting several logs still on snow, and over 50 stream crossings) I left camp to go for a hike. I happened to meet up with Todd, a fellow crew member in the next valley over from camp. From that valley we then summited two mountains, Monitor and Bearden. We dropped down on the

(more about Carl on page 6)

From the Program Director

Hittin' the Ground Running, Scrambling - Whatever It Takes!

What a season it has been (already)! Within five minutes of officially accepting the Program Director position, my email in-box was full of personal welcome and congratulation messages from various board members. Since then I have been overwhelmed by the support and dedication of the Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation staff, board members, partners, volunteers and Forest Service staff. Like the Bob Marshall Wilderness, this organization is an amazing place, filled with hard working dedicated folks. I am very fortunate to have found my way here.

The term 'hit the ground running' now has a personal meaning to me. Our 15th Anniversary Celebration and Voices of the Wilderness art auction took place in the first two weeks of my joining the BMWF. I have traveled to Choteau and attended the Wilderness managers meeting, then represented the Foundation at the Professional Wilderness Outfitters Association. We have also joined with Montana Coffee Traders to offer our very own coffee blend (I assume all reading this have, in fact, bought a bag of this delicious brew. If not, I implore you to). After that, it was down to Lubrecht Experimental Forest to attend the Wilderness and Trails meeting and again to represent the BMWF on the 'Partners of the Forest' panel.

The in-between time has been spent poring over maps and trails, meeting with various ranger districts, trail supervisors and partner groups while putting together the matrix of our summer work project schedule.

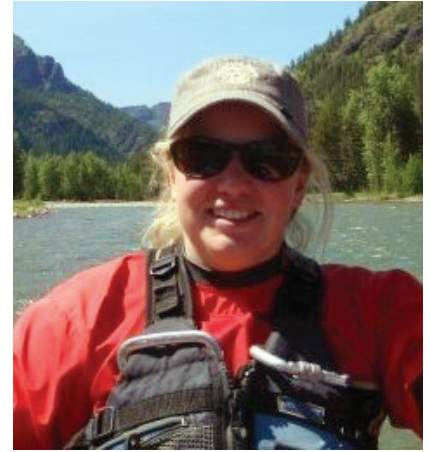
Fifteen years ago, first official employee, Carla Belski received a small file folder and a desk in a windowless room. Her vision and hard work has created a network of amazing affiliates and employees. This work has continued with the generous support and commitment of prior staff, donors, members and volunteers. Each of these folks has played a part in what the BMWF is today.

The BMWF is an impressive and sustainable organization that I am very happy to be part of. I look forward to this upcoming field season, meeting our seasoned volunteers and introducing new ones to the rugged beauty that is the Bob Marshall Wilderness. I hope that you will join in the efforts of the Foundation. Whether you are blistering your hands on a cross cut saw, pulling weeds or donating what you can monetarily, every bit helps to preserve our relationship with this Wilderness. Thank you for your past support and future efforts, too.

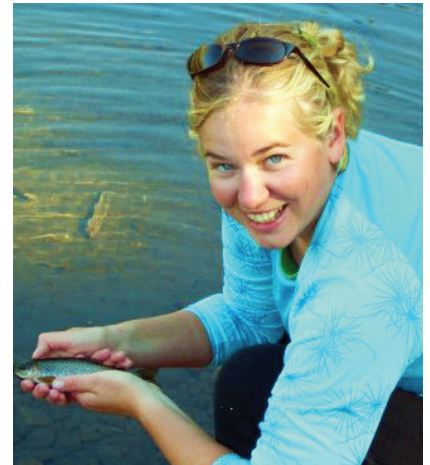
See you on the trail this summer!



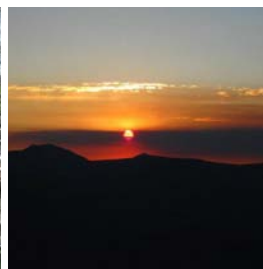
Rebecca Powell



Meet our new, energetic
BMWF Program Director.
Welcome, Rebecca!



Rebecca Powell, BMWF Program Director



2012 PROJECTS?

Are you anxiously waiting by the mailbox for our spring newsletter with project listings? You're not the only one. We are starting to receive calls daily about when 2012 projects will be posted.

SOON, VERY SOON!

Of course, BMWF members will be the first to know. So if you're not a member of The Bob Squad yet, sign up now so you get the VIP info and best choices of projects before anyone else.

Become a Bob Squad Member
www.bmwf.org > Support BMWF

MOUNTAIN FILM

IN TELLURIDE

An independent
documentary film
festival on tour.
A place to learn, be
inspired and celebrate
indomitable spirit.




2012 TOUR DATES

MONDAY 3/19 > GREAT FALLS
MSU GF CAMPUS, HERITAGE HALL

Doors Open 6PM, Films at 7PM
Advance Tickets \$12 at Bighorn
Outdoor & Mountain Front Market

TUESDAY 3/20 > BOZEMAN

MSU CAMPUS, SUB BALLROOM
Sponsored by Network for Environmentally
Conscience Organizations (NECO) Club 

Doors Open 6:30PM, Films at 7PM
Advance Tickets \$12 at Northern Lights
Trading Co, REI & NECO Campus Club

WEDNESDAY 3/21 > HELENA
CAPITAL HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Doors Open 6:30PM, Films at 7PM
Advance Tickets \$12 at The Base Camp,
Blackfoot River Brewing & Real Food Market

THURSDAY 3/22 > WHITEFISH
O'SHAUGHNESSY CENTER

Doors Open 6PM, Films at 7PM
Advance Tickets \$12 at The White Room,
Rocky Mountain Outfitter & Trailhead Supply



**BOB MARSHALL
WILDERNESS
FOUNDATION**

Raffle Prizes Each Night - \$5/1 ticket or \$10/3 tickets.
(Do not need to be present to win - mail in your raffle tickets!)
Advance Tickets On Sale Monday, 3/5 at all locations.
Tickets \$15 At Door Each Night (if not sold out).

More Info at www.bmwf.org > Events

A fundraiser for the Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation. Questions? Contact Shannon at events@bmwf.org or 406.781.0627.



Mike Goguen
Family





Paul showing his love of The Bob.



Almost always seen with a reel & rod in hand. And sometimes fish, too.



Paul & Erin: Adventures and smiles!

On August 27th 2011, Wilderness lost a great advocate, traveler and friend, Paul Busch. A memorial fund has been set up with the Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation in honor of our friend. Below is a letter written by his longtime friend Erin Burke Webster. We thank Paul's family for their continued generosity and Erin for sharing with us the memories of this very special person.

Paul Busch was a steward of the wilderness. He was a philosopher, fine athlete, naturally gifted fly fisherman, passionate mountaineer, and a great man. Paul is still an inspiration and role model to many. He will be missed everyday by those who love him, for the rest of our lives.

Paul came to Montana from Pleasant Hill, Missouri to join the Montana Conservation Corps. He left his friends, family, and home to find his place in the West. He continued to work and live outdoors, eventually becoming a Wilderness Ranger in the Mission Mountains.

In his free time, Paul backpacked the wildest areas Montana had to offer. Among these were the Bob Marshall, the Crazy and Beartooth Mountains, Glacier Park, and many more. He found these places to be serene, majestic, and spiritual. Too

long without a quality adventure would make Paul restless. Paul worked and played hard in the most beautiful of country.

He was kind to both people and the land. Please honor his memory by appreciating, respecting, and utilizing the resources that we are so fortunate to have in abundance. If everyone followed his way, even in part, the world would be a better place.

Finally, thank you to Paul's amazing family for establishing this memorial fund. Their strength gives the rest of us hope. The contributions they have made will help immensely in improving our wilderness. They are in our thoughts, always.

-Erin Burke Webster
Former BMWF Crew Leader and Bob-Lover

Grant Funders & Recreational Trails Program Update

Competition is fierce for available grant dollars and we work very hard to stay on the radar with our funding partners and foundations. If you have a chance to thank the leadership and decision-makers involved with these groups, please tell them about all the good work we do with their funds. We feel fortunate to have strong community support from our individual donors and these giving organizations.

The Recreational Trails Program is a large source of funding for BMWF's field work. The RTP program is in serious jeopardy on a national scope and if it is de-funded the BMWF will certainly feel the squeeze. For more info on RTP and what you can do to keep these funds flowing, check out this site: www.AmericanTrails.org (search for Recreational Trails Program).

QUICK FACTS ABOUT RTP AND HOW THAT EFFECTS BMWF:

BMWf has received RTP funding since 1998, bringing in \$285,000 for on-the-ground project work • RTP dollars fund approximately 2/3^{ds} of BMWf trails program (across the entire complex) • RTP funds pay for direct project expenses such as volunteer food, Crew Leader wages and volunteer pack support • At the moment, BMWf will only receive 44% (of entire granted funds) for 2012 unless RTP funding is restored • 2013 RTP funding is uncertain.

- MT Recreational Trails Program (RTP)
- Flathead County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)
- Franchini Family Foundation
- Montana Wilderness Association, Island Range Chapter
- Montana Wilderness Association, State Office
- Continental Divide Trail Alliance
- Cadeau Foundation
- National Forest Foundation
- Whitefish Community Foundation
- Blackfoot Challenge
- Bayne Family Foundation
- Kramer Family Fund of the Whitefish Community Foundation

Thank you for taking care of us so we can take care of this.

**GOLDEN PULASKI LEVEL
\$1000+ DONORS**

Bayne Family Foundation
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Nancy Cunningham
Whitefish Community Foundation
James H. Woods Foundation

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Rocky Mountain Outfitter
Whitefish Credit Union

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**SWINGING PICK LEVEL
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Pleasant Hill School Staff
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Robert Mullin
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Smoke Elser
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Steve & Teri Johnson
Stuart and Helen White
Sue Lefebvre
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Thea Koehler
Todd Harwell
Tracy Parker & Division of Energy
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In Memory of Paul Busch
Western Outdoor

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\$25 - \$49 DONORS**

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Tim & Becky Gallagher
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Tom Oswald
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Allen Rowley
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Spotted Bear Ranch
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Susan Fries
Suunto
Sweet Loretas
The Boone and Crockett Club
Todd Zack Pottery
Tyrel Johnson
Whitefish Mountain Resort
Whitefish Pottery
Windbag Saloon
Yoga @ The Square

PACKERS & OUTFITTERS

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Chuck Allen, Flathead BCH
Dale Duff
Frank Vitale
Fred Flint
Gary Dalen, Flathead BCH
Glacier Raft Company
Greg Nelson, Great Bear Outfitters
Greg Schatz, Flathead BCH
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Jim Thrasher, Flathead BCH
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Ladies of the Flathead BCH
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Pat Clanton, South Fork Outfitters
Paul Pasley, Flathead BCH
Ralph Hopkins
Rick Mathies, Flathead BCH
Shawn & Capri Little,
Snowy Springs Outfitters
Tucker Mills,
Mills Wilderness Adventures
Tug Liberman, Flathead BCH

other side and traversed the trail we had just spent the day working on, and when we arrived back at camp, we were handed plates with two steaks each and baked potatoes. These volunteer trips are truly what you make of them, and I encourage volunteers to delve into the area you are surrounded by during your week. Whether it's your day off in the middle of the week, or a two hour break like this one, take the opportunity to explore The Bob!

► What's your inspiration in coming out and giving back to The Bob?

My inspiration for volunteering in The Bob really came from my surroundings. Growing up in Kalispell showed me the extensive trail system in Glacier Park and I was always impressed as a child to see the work that was put into the trails. As I grew older, I understood the importance of giving back to the great public service that we are privileged to have as a community. I believe that all hikers should be involved in trail maintenance. It has created a deeper respect for the gift of the wilderness and the great hiking opportunities that surround us in Northwest Montana.

► What is your favorite type of trail work and why?

Sawing. Definitely Sawing. The other jobs are fine, but digging gets repetitive very quickly. When you are sawing, you are always problem solving, trying to understand the tensions and binding on the log. This keeps you very mentally active, and when you have finished clearing a tree, the feeling of accomplishment is very rewarding.

► After all of the volunteer trips you've done with the BMWF in many different parts of The Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex, what is your favorite area in The Bob?

This is a tough question! Every trip I went on was a different environment; The Bob is so interesting in terms of its diversity. Along the South Fork at Black Bear Creek I spent a week clearing trees, and this area was heavily forested. I spent two weeks on the East side of the divide, at Bighorn Creek and at Grizzly Park. The east side is so different, open, with less trees and expansive views. If you only have a limited time in The Bob, definitely take some time to explore the East side, it's gorgeous.

► What sort of 'Bob' wisdom have you picked up with all of your time on the trail?

I would not say I have spent a long time in The Bob. The people I have met through BMWF have spent years exploring the wilderness. The Bob wisdom I

have learned has come in large part from the packers. The horsemen have so much experience and are hilarious. They taught me about horses, grilling on the open fire, politics, religion, philosophy etc. The packers are a rowdy bunch, and definitely a highlight of the BMWF experience.

► Do you have any advice for people considering doing a BMWF trip for the first time?

Getting involved with the BMWF is great! The most important thing is to know your ability level. BMWF has trips for everyone, so just sign up and have fun! Don't worry about needing someone else to come with you, everyone is really friendly and everyone is new to the group. It's an experience that combines great work and an amazing setting!

► What do you do when you're not busy volunteering with the BMWF?

I stay very active when I am not able to be out in the mountains with the Foundation. I am a senior at Flathead High School, where I am involved in the International Baccalaureate Program, a curriculum of two year advanced courses. I am also the President of the Alpine Club, where I organize outdoor activities and ski trips for students. I participate in the Concert Choir and Choral-Aires (an Acapella group) at the school as well. I am an avid backcountry skier and hiker. The college process is in full swing for me, as I am writing this interview from Colorado College, a small liberal arts institution in Colorado Springs. It is currently my first choice. The appeal of the wilderness for its simplicity and peace is universal, and I am not excluded. BMWF was a great way for me to remove some of the stress that I felt from these activities.

► Any advice for fellow young people out there? Or advice for adults who hope to inspire young people to develop a love for Wilderness?

My parents brought me into the woods before I could walk, either in a backpack or in a sled behind their skis. I owe my interest in the outdoors to their passion. However, my parents never pressured me to go on a hike or go skiing. Their excitement for the outdoors really motivated me as a child. Adults, always recommend and assist your children and other youth to venture into our backyard. The opportunities in The Bob and around Northwest Montana are truly amazing. The Foundation is a great way to get involved in the upkeep of our trails and the continuation of public access to the wilderness. I encourage anyone to participate and support The Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation.

Carl was selected as the BMWF Volunteer of the Year in 2011. It's a well-deserved title and the honor was all ours to have you on the trail working beside us. Thanks for your commitment to The Bob!



Carl taking a well-deserved break on a trail project. Wouldn't you be tired after four hard (but fun) trips into The Bob? Good work, Carl!

**2011
FINANCIAL
OVERVIEW**

BOB MARSHALL
WILDERNESS
FOUNDATION

REVENUE & INCOME

Grants 38%
Donations & Memberships 13%
Bob License Plates 26%
Fundraising Income 20%
Merchandise 3%

Backcountry Adventures • Peak
Bagging • Grizzly Sighting • Hunting/
Fishing • Clean Water • Solitude
Healthy Lifestyle • Tourism Dollars

Trail Work • Quality Leadership & Staff
Volunteer Food • Weed Treatment
Outdoor Education • Office Supplies
Conservation & Protection • Tools/Gear

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Administration 27%
Volunteer Leadership 25%
Program Development 19%
Volunteer Costs 12%
Miscellaneous 17%

BEING RESPONSIBLE WITH YOUR DONATIONS

You work hard to earn your money and we are honored that you choose to support our work in The Bob with your gifts and donations. We are constantly evaluating opportunities for growth while staying cautious in our approach to expansion.

As Treasurer of the Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation I would like to report on the financial condition of the Foundation in general terms. I would like say at the outset that the financial health of our organization is very good. In fact, we have been able to grow our program over the past three years.

The Board of Directors was concerned in 2008 that the local and national economies would present significant financial challenges to our organization. Since the BMWF is classified as nonprofit under title 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue code, we are dependent on donations from fund raising, grants, and membership dues. Gift giving during periods of recession is, understandably, reduced. Consequently, the board and staff took a very conservative approach to spending and financial planning, but looked for new sources of revenue to maintain the viability of our Foundation.

In light of these economic realities, we have taken advantage of opportunities to cautiously grow. Our operational program grew by adding weed management to the trail maintenance work that had been the basis of the organization. Weed management is consistent with the mission of the BMWF and allowed us to diversify while utilizing additional funds.

We are more aggressive with our fund raising efforts. For example, we added Bozeman to the venues where the Mountain Film Festival is shown. We have also recently partnered with Montana Coffee Traders where they have created a unique blend of coffee for the BMWF (that we will market for an attractive sum). Our Board is continually looking for opportunities to generate revenue.

An analysis of the finances for the past five years indicates the total budget for the organization has been increasing at a rate of approximately 5% per year. In the interest of maintaining a healthy and viable entity, we would like to see that rate of increase grow closer to 10%. In addition, cash reserves have increased at a similar rate. Your donations help make

that happen so please keep giving.

We are also working toward becoming a more sustainable economically self-sufficient organization. To achieve this goal we have established a liquid Investment Fund from cash reserves. Our plan is to grow this account on a regular basis and then create an endowment at the appropriate time. The endowment would generate interest bearing revenue that could be used in lieu of grants that may or not be available in the future.

The Board of Directors is pleased with the financial position of the BMWF considering the economic challenges of our society. To avoid becoming stagnant or declining, we are constantly evaluating opportunities for growth while staying cautious in our approach to expansion.

We are continually amazed at the generosity of our membership and donors. Together, we can achieve the mission of the BMWF, to provide stewardship to one of the greatest natural resources in our country. Thank you for your on-going and generous support.

Ed Lieser, Treasurer



"I was close to a breakthrough when the grant money ran out."

"At BMWF, we are in a good financial situation given the stressed economy and the overall reduction in charity-giving. Our approach is to plan for hard times before they arrive." - Ed Lieser, BMWF Treasurer



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THE BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS FOUNDATION ASSISTS IN MAINTAINING AND RESTORING THE TRAIL SYSTEM OF THE BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS COMPLEX WITH NATIONAL GROUPS, YOUTH GROUPS AND INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERS. WE FOSTER WILDERNESS STEWARDSHIP SKILLS AND EDUCATION THROUGH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN MONTANA'S PREMIER WILDERNESS AREA AND SURROUNDING WILD LANDS.



GET INVOLVED

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN DOING MORE? JOIN A BOARD COMMITTEE, HELP WITH FUNDRAISING EVENTS, STUFF ENVELOPES, CAMP COOK? THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.

CALL US: 406.387.3808



BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS FOUNDATION
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Become a Member of The Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation and Become a Member of the



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- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 Golden Pulaski | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Swinging Pick |
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► 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

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