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BACKCOUNTRY CACHE

A Newsletter for Members of CMC Backpacking Section

July 2022

CHAIR'S CORNER - Uwe Sartori

The Backpacking Section season is almost half over. Too fast for my tastes; but time flies when you are having a great summer. Thus far, weather and conditions have been our friend. No major fires to be concerned about. The alpine environment has been super. Clear skies, nice trails, and sweet alpine lakes. Car camping is rocking. Coincidentally, *Backpacker Magazine* "Summer 2022" edition listed several 'choice' destinations which are on our calendar, too. Sweet! Climbing, fishing, hiking, hanging 'round seem to be the popular activities of choice, at least on my trips thus far. By the numbers through July 15th: of the 24 BPX trips scheduled, 23 were completed; led by 15 BPX Trip Leaders. Trips on average are running at 75% capacity. That means there is still room for you, BPX members! Come on, check the schedule, and sign-up for a great trip before the season is over.

A shout-out to recognize and thank the trip leaders who led trips June 27-July 15th. *Randy Blosser, Sharon and Bob Dawson*, who now have led 3 BPX trips this season. *John Broadbooks* with the Western Slope group has led 2 trips. *Linda Lawson, Roger Leikas, Candice Winkle, and Brad Cotten* each have led 1 trip. Keep up the happy dance BPX members, it is working. We who serve on the BPX Committee are privileged and grateful to be working with such a great team of trip leaders and members. You make our collective success possible. Let's keep it going and growing!

UPCOMING BPX TRIPS

Trip registration is initially restricted to 3 BPX Backpacking and/or Car Camping trips, whether you are on 3 separate trip rosters, 3 standby lists, or a combination thereof. However, BPX members can now sign up for any July and August trips, regardless of how many BPX trips they have already registered for.

E=Easy M=Moderate D=Difficult

July-August Trips With Openings*

Jul 22-24 Fri-Sun D [Goose Creek McCurdy Park, Lost Creek Wilderness](#)
Jul 22-24 Fri-Sun D [Bighorn Lake and Red Canyon, Mount Zirkel Wilderness](#)
Jul 24-25 Sun-Mon E [Abyss Lake Trail, Mt. Evans Wilderness](#)
Jul 29-30 Fri-Sat D [Thunder Lake, Optional Mt Alice 13,310', RMNP](#)
Aug 4-5 Thu-Fri D [Lake of the Clouds, Sangre de Cristo Wilderness](#)
Aug 4-8 Thu-Mon M [South San Juan Wilderness, Elk Creek](#)
Aug 5-7 Fri-Sun M [Beartrack Lakes, Mount Evans Wilderness](#)
Aug 5-8 Fri-Mon D [Mt. Zirkel Backpack + Peak](#)
Aug 12-14 Fri-Sun M [American Lakes with Static Richthofen Traverse](#)
Aug 16-18 Tue-Thu M [Thunder Lake Backpack with optional Lion Lakes dayhike](#)
Aug 18-21 Thu-Sun D [Eureka & Hermit Peaks, Sangre de Cristo Wilderness](#)
Aug 22-23 Mon-Tue D [Lake of the Clouds, Sangre de Cristo Wilderness](#)
Aug 28-31 Sun-Wed M [Marvine Creek Loop, Flattops Wilderness](#)
Aug 30-Sep 1 D [Upper Cataract Lake, Eagles Nest Wilderness](#)
Aug 30-Sep 1 E [Camp Trip to Arapahoe Bay](#)

July-August Trips With 0-1 on Standby List*

Aug 9-11 Tue-Thu E [Camp Trip to The Crags Campground, State Forest State Park](#)
Aug 13-15 Sat-Mon M [Missouri Lakes, Holy Cross Wilderness](#)
Aug 19-21 Fri-Sun M [Camp Lake, Rawah Wilderness Area](#)
Aug 23-25 Tue-Thu D [Aspen Four Pass Loop, Maroon Bells Wilderness](#)
Aug 24-26 Wed-Fri D [Comanche Venable Loop, Sangre de Cristo Wilderness](#)

*As Of July 18

Continue to check CMC trip signup for additional trips. For just BPX trips, select Backpacking from the Section dropdown and then click the Search button.

REMINDER: If you are on a STANDBY LIST for a trip, continue to check your status on the "My Trips" page since members are no longer notified when they have moved from standby to the roster. If you decide to NOT go on a trip, please CANCEL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, regardless of whether you are on the trip roster or standby to give others a chance.

[Mountain Side Gear Rental](#) in Golden rents backpacking gear with a 25% discount for CMC Members.

BPX TRIP LEADERS

Don't forget to request this benefit! The BPX Section will reimburse BPX Trip Leaders for up to \$15/ month towards the data plan for your satellite communication device for the months in which you lead a trip. It would help us a lot if you submit your request for the full season before August 28. Read the full details [here](#).

SCHOOLS/EVENTS

DENVER

DAY HIKER SCHOOL Virtual Alternative to WTS. More info [here](#)

CPR/AED [Aug 16](#)

BACKCOUNTRY INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SCHOOL [Aug 20](#)

WILDERNESS TREKKING SCHOOL (WTS) Starts [Sept 6](#)

PIKES PEAK (PPG)

[BMS - INTRO TO BACKPACKING](#) Starts [Aug 15](#)

[BMS - WILDERNESS FUNDAMENTALS](#) Starts [Sept 12](#)

[BMS - LAND NAVIGATION B](#) Starts [Oct 5](#)

[GPS BASICS CLASS](#) Starts [Oct 24](#)

[TRIP LEADER SCHOOL](#) More info [here](#)

STATE

[HYBRID WILDERNESS FIRST AID](#) Multiple Offerings - Check CMC Calendar [here](#)

[NEW WEBSITE TRIP LEADER TRAINING](#) - Office Hours to Ask Questions [Jul 26](#)

[HYBRID WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER](#) Starts [Aug 5](#)

[2-DAY WILDERNESS FIRST AID](#) [Aug 27](#)

[TCS NAVIGATION Virtual Courses](#): [Nav1/Nav2 Info \(every month\)](#), [Nav1](#), [Nav2](#)

BPX TRIP REPORTS

June 7-9 Goose Creek, Lost Creek Wilderness

Trip Leader Daniel Schweissing - Denver Group

We had a great group of experienced backpackers, enjoying each other's company as well as the majestic beauty of the Lost Creek Wilderness. In spite of forecast showers, weather was warm and dry, making for a pleasant and memorable trip. TRIP STATS: 2 nights/3 days, 5 backpackers, 13.7 miles, 8203' starting elevation, 8877' campsite elevation, 9758' max elevation.



Please share your BPX Adventures, Trip Reports, and Photos with the rest of us, your backpacking

community. You can add them directly to FB and Instagram or send them to maggie.burns1@gmail.com, and she will post them for you on FB. Send them to cmcbpxnewsletter@gmail.com to publish in the BPX Newsletter.

PIKES PEAK GROUP AFRAME MAINTENANCE

The AFrame was built in 1964, modeled after shelters used in Adirondack St. Park in New York. The PPG has maintained it since 1999. It's long overdue for some work. We are asking for your help. Please look through these links and if it fits your fancy and schedule, please sign up. Let me know if you have any questions, [Dean Waits](#). Thanks in advance.

Aug 20 & 21 [Carry materials to Aframe](#)

Aug 27 & 28 [Construction work](#)



Q&A With Backpackers Bob & Bobbi

Dear Backpackers Bob & Bobbi,

So, my backpacking leader sez “Ok, everyone up and ready to go at 7:15 am”. But I am not an early riser at home, let alone out here on a backpacking trip. How do I get my act together and be ready to leave on time?

Dear Non-Morning Backpacker,

Here are some tips from our good friend and mucho experienced backpacker, Linda Lawson, to help you be ready for an early morning departure.

Setting up tent:

- *Place all storage bags for tent pegs, air mattress, tent bag, sleeping bag, etc. into one of the bags and put inside your tent. That way you don't have to fumble around in the morning to find them.*

Night before departure:

- Purify/sanitize water and fill bottle(s) for next day
- Place tooth brush, tooth paste, breakfast meal, and on-trail lunch in top of your food bag and then hang it, or put in top of your bear vault
- Place tomorrow's clothing in the bottom of your sleeping bag
- Use a plastic bag in to hold small stuff you use at night; e.g. flashlight, meds, eye glasses, comb/brush/sunscreen
- Boots go in the vestibule or if poor weather, put them in a bag at the bottom of the tent

Morning departure: With experience you will learn how long it takes for you to break camp, so start noting when you awaken and when you are packed up.

- Gather all small items into a plastic bag and place it outside tent or in vestibule. Same for boots.
- Change into the clothes you are going to wear for the day
- Stuff your sleeping bag into its sack and compress as small as possible--more comfortable to do this while sitting on your mattress instead of the cold, hard ground
- Brush any debris off your air mattress and then deflate it and put it in its stuff sack
- Take your tent down
- Perform personal tasks like brushing your teeth, and don't forget to allocate time for digging your cat hole...
- Pack your backpack, placing your food bag on top for easy access. (Seems like nothing fits in your pack like it did when packing it up at home...)

You are now ready to eat breakfast and break camp OR, you have a quick cup of coffee/cocoa/tea and eat breakfast on the trail.

Enjoy the smile on your pack leader's face when you show up early and ready to head out!

See ya' on the trails,
Bob & Bobbi Backpacker

BPX MEMBER INFO

BPX FACEBOOK: [BPX FB](#) Send Photos and Trips Reports to post on BPX Facebook Page to: maggie.burns1@gmail.com

BPX INSTAGRAM: [@co_backpacking_bpx](#)

BPX LINKS: Click [here](#) for BPX web page, [here](#) for BPX Member Benefits, [here](#) for CMC Member Benefits, and [here](#) for discounted Colorado State Parks Pass.

COVID PROTOCOLS: Check [here](#) for latest CMC update on Feb 23.

COTREX WEBINARS: [Module 1](#) [Module 2](#)

FIRE INFO: [National Interagency Fire Center News](#) [Colorado Fire Restrictions](#)

I-70 CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS: Click [here](#)

For foothill outings, remember to check the website for your trip to make sure there are no closures due to mud, hunting, wildlife calving, etc.

LEAD THE PACK

BPX is always looking for awesome CMC Trip Leaders from ALL CMC groups interested in expanding their trip repertoire by leading backpacking trips. Email your interest and experience to cmcbpxtlc@gmail.com. More info on becoming a Leader can be found [here](#).

BPX COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

The *BPX Committee Secretary* and *Events Coordinator* positions are waiting to be filled by you, the extraordinary CMC volunteer. We have monthly committee meetings every second Tuesday via Zoom, and sometimes in person. Expect 4-8 hours per month of volunteer work; sometimes more. Business/committee/non-profit organization volunteer experience is desirable, but not required. Reach out to find out more at cmcbpx@gmail.com.

CMC Backpacking Section Supports Leave No Trace

CMC connects Coloradans with more than 3,000 trips, hikes and activities annually. Members also receive huge deals on outdoor gear, lodging, events and more.

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