



# COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB

## WESTERN SLOPE GROUP

### Canyon to Crest Call Western Slope Group November 2024



CMC members enjoying a hike to Eardley Pool on the Green River WSG trip. Photo credit: Judy Mayne. [See below on how to submit your favorite photo for the newsletter!](#)

---



COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB  
WESTERN SLOPE GROUP

Annual Dinner,  
Potluck & Meeting

featuring author and traveler

DIANE WINGER

Love long treks but hate carrying a heavy pack? You're not alone. Join longtime CMC member, Diane Winger, as she reflects back on a variety of multi-day outings which were "supported" hikes. Whether the loads were carried by porters and guides, by mules, or by luggage transport services; or when the loads could be lightened because of the provisions provided at each night's destination, she and her travel companions found ways to travel light. From the Pacific Crest and John Muir Trails in California, to the Milford Track in New Zealand, to a trek in Patagonia, to the South West Coast Path of the United Kingdom, to a trek in the Everest region of Nepal, join Diane and friends for a range of beautiful experiences that didn't require carrying a heavy load.

Ute Indian Museum

17253 Chipeta Rd, Montrose

**Admission:** \$10 per person

*Guests welcome!*

Bring a dish to share (appetizer, main, side dish, dessert) and serving utensil. BYOBeverages.



Saturday  
November 2  
2024



EVENING SCHEDULE

- 4:30pm: Socializing
- 5pm: Dinner / potluck
- 6pm: Annual meeting
- 6:30pm: Diane's presentation
- 7:30pm: Evening conclusion

SIGNUP & CONTACT

[www.tinyurl.com/wsg2024dinner](http://www.tinyurl.com/wsg2024dinner)

WSGofCMC@gmail.com



[CMC members, please login first to register.](#)

As of October 25, we have 58 attendees!

If you're interested in volunteering at the annual dinner, please let us know at [WSGofCMC@gmail.com](mailto:WSGofCMC@gmail.com). We could still use some help with table & kitchen set-up (4-4:30pm) and tear-down & clean-up (7:30-8pm). Thanks!



## Welcome New Trip Leader Jay Johnson!

Jay joined the Western Slope Group of CMC in July 2023 to meet fellow hikers who enjoy getting outside and exploring Colorado. Since then, he has been on many great trips, hiking, cross country skiing and snowshoeing from Grand Junction to Durango. He looks forward to leading trips, discovering more of the awesome trails along the western slope and spending time with the wonderful people in the CMC. Jay lives in Montrose, CO. When he is not outside enjoying all CO has to offer, he works as a software engineer providing software and services to ski resorts around the world.

---

## WSG Social Gathering, Sunday, 11/10, 2-4pm, Base Camp Provisions in Fruita



Join us after [Anne's](#) & [Marsha's](#) November 10 Fruita hikes or if you're not hiking! Leashed dogs on patio are allowed. [Please RSVP so we know how many to expect.](#)

---



## Dolores River Canyon Country: A Presentation by Scott Braden, Monday, 11/4, 6-7pm, in GJ

The Western Slope Group of the Colorado Mountain Club and Gearhead Outfitters in Grand Junction are hosting a presentation by Scott Braden, Director of Colorado Wildlands Project, followed by a Q and A session. The presentation will address the proposed national monument for public lands surrounding the Dolores River in Mesa and Montrose counties. Please join us at Gearhead Outfitters, 461 Main St, Grand Junction on Monday, 11/4, 6-7pm.

---

## Conservation Corner

by Claire McCullough, WSG Conservation Chair

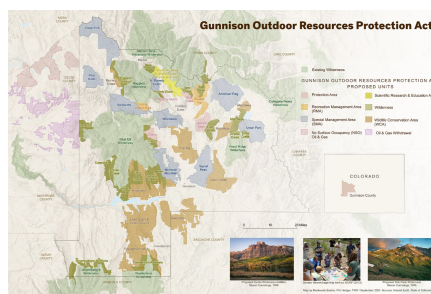
---

### RIP 399 - Queen of the Tetons



Grizzly bear 399 was struck and killed by a car on October 22 south of Jackson, Wyoming. Followed by biologists, wildlife photographers and tourists for decades, 399 was the most famous and beloved bear in the world - an ambassador for grizzly bears. At 28 years of age, she was the oldest known reproducing sow in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The documentary "399: Queen of the Tetons" follows the bear over one season as she raises four cubs. The film highlights the struggles she faced due to climate change, human encroachment and other survival issues. You can watch "399: Queen of the Tetons" on PBS Nature or Amazon Prime. Photo credit: Gaia GPS.

---



### The GORP Act

One of the conservation campaigns backed by the Colorado Mountain Club is the Gunnison Outdoor Resources Protection Act (GORP Act.) This fall, Colorado's U.S. Senators Michael Bennet and John Hickenlooper introduced a public lands bill that would increase protections for over 730,000 acres of land in the Gunnison

River Basin. The Act has been in the works for years with diverse groups supporting better protections of the area's rivers, valleys, mountains and lakes. While increasing protections, the Act also proposes the preservation of water rights, access for motorized users and mountain bikers, and the preservation of hunting and ranching rights. The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe is backing the Act, and there is overwhelming support from several municipalities and counties including the towns of Crested Butte, Gunnison, Ouray and Ridgway, and the counties of Gunnison, Delta, Saguache, Pitkin and Ouray. Although this is exciting news, Senator Bennet has acknowledged that acts such as these tend to stall in Washington D.C.

---

## About Bears Ears National Monument

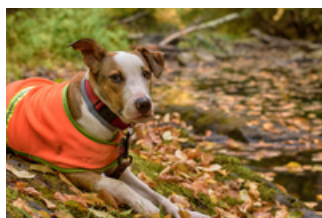


We are fortunate to live so close to treasures such as the Bears Ears National Monument. The Bears Ears proposal was led by several tribes including the Navajo Nation, the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, the Hopi Tribe, the Pueblo of the Zuni and the Ute Indian Tribe. The area includes over 100,000 cultural and archaeological sites. In 2016, President Obama established the Bears Ears National Monument by using his presidential powers under the Antiquities Act. A Collaborative Land Management Plan was developed which “synthesizes tribal perspectives for management.” In 2017, President Trump repealed the national monument and replaced it with two significantly smaller, non-contiguous units. This reduced the area by over 80%. In 2021, President Biden signed a proclamation restoring the national monument to its original boundaries as well as adding 12,000 acres. The BLM initiated the development of its land management plan. Meanwhile, lawsuits have been bought by the State of Utah and others challenging President Biden’s use of the Antiquities Act to restore boundaries of both Bears Ears National Monument and the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Oral arguments were held in federal court and a decision will most likely be issued within a few months. Photo credit: Jon G. Fuller.

---

## Heads-up on Hunting Season

Hunting season has started in Colorado. [Check out this CMC article which lists the dates for this year.](#) Be safe out there!







## Durango Area CMC Update

We're looking for Durango area volunteers to help plan activities (for which one does not have to be a leader) and we're also looking for trip leaders. Trip leader school is free and online!

Contact us our Durango Area Chair, Dan King, at [WSGofCMC@gmail.com](mailto:WSGofCMC@gmail.com) for more info or to get involved!

---

## WSG Facebook Group

We have a private Facebook group called "CMC Western Slope Group". This group is available to post photos, announce last minute trips, trip reminders or activities. If you're interested, send a request in Facebook to join the group.

---

## What Other Outdoor Activities are You Interested In?

We are fortunate to have some very experienced mountaineers and CMC instructors in our midst. Please let us know if you are interested in activities such as peaks, scrambling, rock climbing, ice climbing, via ferrata, more? Would you be interested in a little introduction to any of these activities if they are something new for you? Email us at [WSGofCMC@gmail.com](mailto:WSGofCMC@gmail.com)

---

## ALL CMC OUTINGS : [The CMC Trips List & Map](#)

Guests must create an account and sign a waiver before signing up for trips and may attend up to 2 trips. If a trip is full, please sign up on the waitlist as there are participants that cancel. [Click here to find out about new trips right after they're posted.](#)

**TRIPS:** All of our activities are in one place at [Western Slope Group Calendar](#)

Saturday, 10/26. [Seminar - More Fall Birds along the Animas River \(Farmington NM\)](#). Easy. Mike Foster via Sierra Club.

Sunday, 11/10. [Hiking - Kokopelli Loops Key Exchange](#). Moderate. Anne Keil.

Sunday, 11/10. [Hiking- Kokopelli Loops Key Exchange](#). Moderate. Marsha Pritchard.

Thursday, 11/14. [Hiking- Palisade Rim](#). Moderate. Jennifer Rhamy.

Thursday, 11/28. [Hiking - Colorado National Monument](#). Moderate. Judy Mayne.

Sunday, 12/15. [Hiking - McInnis Canyons NCA](#). Moderate. Anne Keil.

4/23-27 2025. SAVE THE DATE! Escalante UT multi-day hiking. Looking for leaders. If interested in leading or participating, email [WSGofCMC@gmail.com](mailto:WSGofCMC@gmail.com). Book your own lodging or camping: Escalante Outfitters, Escalante Petrified Forest SP, Circle D. Let us know if you want to share lodging or campsites and we'll connect you with others. More details upcoming.

TBD Sept/Oct 2025. [Palisade Plunge Hiker Shuttle](#). Difficult. Anne Keil.

## PRESENTATIONS / COURSES / EVENTS

Saturday, 11/2. [2024 WSG Annual Dinner in Montrose](#). See above for more info. Fee.

Monday, 11/4. WSG hosts [Dolores River Canyon Country Presentation](#) by Scott Braden. Gearhead Outfitters. GJ, 6-7pm. Please RSVP, space limited.

Sunday, 11/10, 2-4pm. [Social at Base Camp Provisions in Fruita](#). Join us for 1 of 2 hikes above or just the social. Please RSVP so we know how many to expect.

Saturday, 2/8/2025. SAVE THE DATE! Avalanche Terrain Avoidance field day at Grand Mesa Lodge. Online pre-work required.

**CMC Schools & Classes Webpage:** \*\*For some classes and schools that are offered on the full CMC calendar (typically on the front range or via ZOOM), we can arrange field days on this side of the state but need a minimum number of participants between the various CMC groups. Please let us know if something interests you.

**Trip Leader Training: We are seeking trip leaders!** The free training consists of self paced online modules and one training hike plus Wilderness First Aid and avalanche training. Leader training online is also available to current leaders as a refresher.

**ATA and AIARE:** ATA field day Grand Mesa February 8, 2025 registration coming soon. Schedule for avalanche training courses by CMC in other locations.

**Wilderness First Aid:** Schedule for [front range locations](#).

**WFA Instructors Wanted:** Are you WFA or higher (WFR, medical professional, etc.) certified and interested in helping recertify/teach WFA to our members and leaders locally? Teaching also renews your certification and the training is free.

---

## Seeking Monthly Newsletter Content

We'd like your help! If you have requests for newsletter content or would like to contribute, let us know! The

deadline to submit information, articles or photos is the **25th of each month** for the following month's newsletter. Email the WSG newsletter editor, Brenda Leach, at [WSGNewsEditor@gmail.com](mailto:WSGNewsEditor@gmail.com). Here are our [past newsletters](#).

---

# Western Slope Group Council

Chair & Outings Chair: Anne Keil (Montrose)

Vice Chair, Newsletter Editor, Annual Dinner Organizer: Brenda Leach (Ridgway)

Treasurer: John Broadbooks (Montrose)

Secretary: Jill Mattoon (Ouray)

Conservation Chair: Claire McCullough (Grand Junction)

Durango Area Chair: Dan King (Durango)

We're on the CMC website at [Western Slope Group, CMC Groups - Colorado Mountain Club](#). The next WSG Council meeting will be held 11/4. Zoom availability, time and location will be determined closer to the meeting dates. WSG members are welcome to attend.

---



Colorado Mountain Club  
710 10th Street, Suite 20  
Golden, CO 80401

[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt Out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

710 10th St None | Golden, CO 80401 US

This email was sent to .

*To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.*

emma®

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.