



BACKCOUNTRY CACHE

A Newsletter for Members of CMC Backpacking Section

July 2021

CHAIR'S CORNER - Uwe Sartori

A shout out to our awesome BPX Trip Leaders who are delivering great trips. Thank you!

We're halfway through our backpacking season with 26 trips delivered and 124 members served. We've had a few reschedules due to weather; a couple of cancellations, too. Normal. However, we are not fully filling our trips. We allow 6-8 persons per trip, but are averaging about 4, and several trips with only 3. I encourage you to search the CMC Calendar for Backpacking trips and find your adventure.

The fire season started early with a vengeance. If you've been on the trail, you've smelled the smoke and noticed orange sunrises amid hazy skies. Common sense backpacking rule: *no campfires, period*. Before you head out on your trip, check out the fire situation for fire bans, trail closures, and fire areas. Start here: [National Fire News | National Interagency Fire Center](#).

BPX TRIPS FOR NEXT 2 MONTHS

E=Easy M=Moderate D=Difficult

Aug - Sept Trips With Openings*

Jul 27-29	Tue-Thu	M	Ute Trail, Gunnison Gorge NCA
Jul 30- Aug 1	Fri-Sun	M	Abyss Lake, Mount Evans Wilderness
Jul 30- Aug 2	Fri-Mon	E	Mosquito Lake and Devils Causeway, Flat Tops Wilderness
Aug 3-5	Tue-Thu	D	Turquoise Lake, Holy Cross Wilderness
Aug 9-11	Mon-Wed	E	Zirkel Tour de Lakes, Mount Zirkel Wilderness - NEW DATE
Aug 12-13	Thu-Fri	M	Mt Sopris
Aug 13-15	Fri-Sun	M	Meadow Creek/Eccles Pass with 2 scramble climbs Deming and Buffalo Mtn
Aug 14-15	Sat-Sun	D	Upper Cataract Lake, Eagles Nest Wilderness
Aug 17-19	Tue-Thu	M	Upper Diamond Lake, Indian Peaks Wilderness
Aug 22-25	Sun-Wed	D	Avalanche Lake, Maroon Bells Wilderness
Aug 23-25	Mon-Wed	M	Sandbeach Lake, RMNP
Aug 24-25	Tue-Wed	M	Native Lake, Mount Massive Wilderness
Sep 3-4	Fri-Sat	D	Macey Lakes and Colony Baldy, Sangre de Cristo Wilderness
Sep 7-9	Tue-Thu	E	Crystal Lakes, White River NF
Sep 9-11	Thu-Sat	E	Rich, Rough and Tumbling Creeks, Buffalo Peaks Wilderness
Sep 23-26	Thu-Sun	M	Sandbeach Lake Fly Fish & Hike Trip, RMNP

Aug - Sept Trips With 0-1 on Standby List*

Aug 13-16	Fri-Mon	D	Chinese Wall/Devils Causeway Loop, Flattops Wilderness
Aug 14-15	Sat-Sun	M	Missouri Lakes, Holy Cross Wilderness
Aug 16-17	Mon-Tue	M	Lost Glacier Gap Lakes, Snowy Range WY
Aug 18-19	Wed-Thu	M	Lake Constantine, Holy Cross Wilderness
Aug 20-22	Fri-Sun	D	Bighorn Lake and Red Canyon, Mount Zirkel Wilderness
Aug 23-25	Mon-Wed	M	Flat Tops Deer Lake, Flat Tops Wilderness
Aug 27-29	Fri-Sun	D	Upper Slide Lake, Mount Zirkel Wilderness
Aug 28-30	Sat-Mon	D	Cathedral Lake, Maroon - Snowmass Wilderness
Aug 31- Sep 2	Tue-Thu	M	Charles and Mystic Lakes, Holy Cross Wilderness
Sep 2-6	Thu-Mon	D	Washakie Pass-Lizard Head-Cirque of the Towers, Wind River Range WY
Sep 4-6	Sat-Mon	M	Wheeler Geologic Area, La Garita Wilderness
Sep 15-17	Wed-Fri	E	Abyss Lake Trail, Mount Evans Wilderness
Sep 22-24	Wed-Fri	M	Rogers Pass Lake, James Peak Wilderness

*As Of July 19

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.

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

Note To Leaders: In the event you have an incident, you can get quick access to the CMC on-line incident form through the CMC Trip Scheduler Close Out Process.

YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM (YEP) FUNDRAISER BACKPACK

Join Executive Director Keegan Young and Pikes Peak Group member and State Council Chair Glenn Barr on a fundraising backpack on Segment 28 of the Colorado Trail August 5-7. Trip participants are asked to make a meaningful contribution to this project. More info [here](#).

SCHOOLS/EVENTS

DENVER DAY HIKER SCHOOL: Virtual Alternative to Wilderness Trekking School. More info [here](#)

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

STATE HYBRID WILDERNESS FIRST AID: Offered Every Week - Check CMC Calendar [here](#)

STATE 2-DAY WILDERNESS FIRST AID: [Aug 14-15](#) [Oct 2-3](#)

DENVER CPR/AED: [Jul 28](#)

PPG BACKPACKING SCHOOL: [Aug 23](#)

DENVER WILDERNESS TREKKING SCHOOL: [Starts Sept 7](#)

PPG WILDERNESS FUNDAMENTALS: [Sept 20](#)

PPG WILDERNESS FIRST AID WITH CPR/AED: [Starts Oct 7](#)

BPX CELEBRATION, STAUNTON STATE PARK: October 16

PPG TRIP LEADER SCHOOL: [October 18](#)

THE COMPASS - Pat McKinley

Why do you want to be a Leader?

"The most important aspect of leadership is having a reason for leading beyond investing in your own ego. It takes passion and genuine intention to be a good leader.

Always check your intentions. Ask yourself why you lead. If your intentions have to do with ego and power, your team will pick up on this and it probably won't work for you." From: Sharon Wood, Adventure Dynamics, first North American woman to summit on Everest.

"Knowing and accepting the reasons why you lead not only helps sustain your commitment, it also sets the activity of leading firmly in the context of how you see yourself and what matters to you. This perspective makes the experience of leading more personally meaningful: you're leading because it fits with the priorities you've set for your life."

So, ask yourself: why do I lead?

- Because I'm good at it and I like to do it.
- I lead because I love the challenge of dealing with the unexpected. It heightens every adventure.
- I lead because I like people, and I'm challenged by bringing out the best in the people I'm with.

Leading builds a skill set and confidence that is useful and necessary in every area of life: home, work or in community.

"One of the greatest benefits of a leadership is the opportunity that provides to be of service. It's extremely satisfying to be a coach and a role model out there, knowing that others are learning skills and traits that are changing their lives for the better – as your life has been changed by those who taught you. The opportunity to demonstrate, model, and reach the life skills that make up good leadership is a gift. It's a rare source of personal satisfaction and meaning."

The above is quoted or modified from: John Graham, *Outdoor Leadership: Technique, Common Sense & Self-Confidence*, The Mountaineers Books, Seattle, 1997, pgs. 16-18

LONG TRAILS BOOK

Long-time CMC member Karl "Speed" Ford recently published a Kindle Book titled *Triple Crown Hiking Adventures: 8,000 Miles on the Long Trails* that captures his story of long distance hiking and the things he has observed along the way. The "Triple Crown" of hiking consists of completion of the Appalachian Trail, the Pacific Crest Trail and the Continental Divide Trail (which shares 314 miles with the Colorado Trail). Speed is one of a very select group who has completed all 3, about 8,000 miles combined. These trails are the crown jewels of our National Scenic Trails system. Besides the adventures, Speed shares the social camaraderie with fellow hikers and trail angels and poignant notes on the natural history and conservation history of our public land treasures. Many CMC members may know Karl as an instructor in the Wilderness Trekking School, a CMC trip leader, and a presenter on long distance and lightweight hiking. Two of his recent talks are found on CMC's Online University: [How to Plan a Thru Hike](#) and [Lightweight and Thru Hiking](#). If you are interested about long distance hiking, the "big" 3 long trails, or just enjoy a good outdoor adventure story - check out [Karl's book](#).

BPX MEMBER INFO

BPX FACEBOOK: [BPX FB](#)

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.

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

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

COLORADO FIRE RESTRICTIONS: [Map](#)

LEAD THE PACK

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. There are a variety of paths to becoming a BPX Trip Leader, and the BPX Team will help you get there. Let's talk!

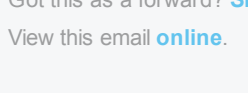
Want to contribute to "The Pack"? Send your backpacking photos and articles to cmcbpxnewsletter@gmail.com so we can feature it in our Backcountry Cache Newsletter. For photos please include your name, location, and date.

"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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