From the BOARD CHAIR

Trails End. Remember that bone tired, “Whew, at times I wondered how I was going to make it,” feeling you experience as you arrive at camp after hiking a long and arduous trail? And then as you lighten your load, catch your breath, and survey the surroundings, you slowly feel a genuine elation in reflecting on what you’ve accomplished. Well, that’s what your Foundation staff, crew, and directors are feeling this year.

Now is the time to reflect on how far we’ve come and what we’ve accomplished. Our membership has steadily grown, Idaho Wilderness (SBFC) license plate orders are taking off and the plates can be spotted in communities all across the state, attendance at our Telluride Mountainfilm festivals in Boise and McCall continue to grow, more folks have discovered and contributed on our “Donate” webpage, community meet and greet events have been held in Idaho and Montana, grand raffle ticket sales were strong, attendance at our Clarkston fundraiser was huge, and we’ve received ongoing support for our Wilderness Ranger Internship program.

We are proud of the youth groups we worked with this summer - two IDAWA groups and a group of six students from the Bronx. Our hard-working crews and volunteers provided public access to the Selway Bitterroot and Frank Church Wildernesses by cutting over 14,000 trees and clearing and repairing just over 500 miles of trail.

Finally, our crews were not displaced by wildfires, they returned healthy and happy, and many volunteers asked about doing it again next year! So, like any good Wilderness user, what do we do at trails end? Why, we start thinking about our next adventure! With your ongoing help and support I’m confident 2019 will be an even greater year.

Ed Krumpe  
Board Chairman  

From the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

How do I sum up another SBFC “filled to the brim” season of stewardship accomplishments in the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church Wilderness areas? With a shout-out to the people who made it happen!

To our 156 spirited volunteers, returning and new, many who traveled from all over the country; to our eight spunky, college-age Wilderness Ranger Interns who served for 14 weeks and gave 4,400 hours to wilderness stewardship; to the dozens of adventurous high school students from Iowa and the Bronx who experienced wilderness for the first time ever; and to our skilled stock packers—including a genuine cowboy poet! Together, they contributed over 14,000 volunteer hours! Their energy sparked new friendships and heartfelt connections to wilderness. Thanks also to our valued Forest Service partners, for their leadership and commitment. And thanks, of course, to our SBFC staff who worked tirelessly and cheerfully through the season leading volunteers, mentoring youth, and were darn good sawyers too.

It is with profound sadness that I must relay the news that in October our wilderness community lost a dear friend and wilderness champion, Connie Saylor-Johnson. Connie was a founding board member of the Selway Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation and led some of our first volunteer projects. Her commitment to wilderness, education, and volunteerism enriched the lives of generations of students, particularly the groups she helped recruit from her home state of Iowa. Many of these students have returned to become SBFC interns and volunteers. Connie’s vision for SBFC and her dedication to the organization led to the accomplishments SBFC counts today. She has been an inspiration for me, our staff, and our board members. We are committed to making sure Connie’s beautiful legacy will live on through our wilderness education and volunteer programs. Early in the new year we plan to fully honor Connie and her contributions.

Sally Ferguson  
Executive Director
2018 SEASON ACCOMPLISHMENTS

510 miles of trail maintained
138 campsites inventoried
14,483 trees cut from trails
14,296 hours logged by volunteers
159 feet of rockwork constructed
871 drains cleaned
17 reconstructed
149 pounds of trash removed
1.25 miles of tread repaired

“I liked the fact that we got to learn more about trails and what goes into creating and maintaining them. Learning how to crosscut was super fun.”

“The friendly staff and interns made for enjoyable work and a relaxing time.”

“Big Creek Lake was spectacular, but honestly, I enjoyed the entire experience. Our leaders were fantastic – so positive and energetic!”

“The crew leaders were great, back country wonderful, and the food good!”
THANK YOU to our 2018 back country volunteers. You were an enthusiastic and energetic bunch. We appreciate all that you accomplished and learned; from using a crosscut, restoring trail tread and cleaning drains, hosting historic cabins, to prepping mouthwatering meals. You were and are essential to maintaining the integrity of these wild and precious places. Thank you for all that you do.

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This summer has changed the course of my future…. I loved the work, the people, under their belts.

Students from Iowa leave Montana with an incredible experience in Wilderness. Morrow led a group to work on clearing downfall up Colt Killed Creek. These group to Wind Lakes where they cleared trees and cleaned up campsites. Kristen students from Dallas and Johnson counties in Iowa join us again. Chris Adkins led his building.

of tasks including staining the outside and replacing the old chinking on the historic residence cabin at Lolo Pass. They performed a variety of tasks including brushing, cleaning drains, and fixing tread on the first 2 miles of the East Moose Creek Trail #421, and the first 2 miles of Bear Creek Pass trail #613. The group had a lovely time car-camping at Schumaker campground while enjoying the peace and solitude that Wilderness provides.

NEZ PERCE/CLEARWATER NF PARTNER PROJECTS
June 12-18: Bad Luck Creek; general maintenance and campsite monitoring
June 27-July 2: Nelson Lake, Chaffin Creek, Boulder Point & Baker Lake; general maintenance and campsite monitoring
July 6-8: St Mary Peak Volunteer Project; general maintenance
July 25-30: South Fork Big Creek Volunteer Project; general maintenance
August 7-10: Roaring Lion; general maintenance and campsite monitoring
September 3-10: Harrington Ridge Volunteer Project; general maintenance

BITEERROOT NATIONAL FOREST
June 2: Bass Creek Volunteer Project, National Trails Day
June 12-18: Bad Luck Creek; general maintenance and campsite monitoring
June 27-July 2: Nelson Lake, Chaffin Creek, Boulder Point & Baker Lake; general maintenance and campsite monitoring
July 6-8: St Mary Peak Volunteer Project; general maintenance
July 25-30: South Fork Big Creek Volunteer Project; general maintenance
August 7-10: Roaring Lion; general maintenance and campsite monitoring
September 3-10: Harrington Ridge Volunteer Project; general maintenance

BITEERROOT NF PARTNER PROJECTS
July 17-22: American Hiking Society: SBFC staff and interns led 9 volunteers with the American Hiking Society up Big Creek. Backcountry Horseman graciously provided pack support both in and out of camp. Base-camp was located about ¼ mile up the So. Fork of Big Creek trail. The crew worked to clear trees from the base of the lake to Packbox Pass.
July 25-30: Private Volunteer Club: SBFC staff and interns led a private group of 8 volunteers up the South Fork of Big Creek. The crew worked to clear trees and re-establish a trail with extensive brushing to open the trail corridor. This trail hasn’t been cleared in many years and we are looking forward to continuing to revive it in 2019.

SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST
June 13-21: Upper Middle Fork & Fall Creek Trail; general maintenance
June 26-July 2: Upper Middle Fork Volunteer Project; general maintenance
July 10-17: Josephus Lake Trail; general maintenance
July 25-August 2: Waterfall Trail & South Fork of Waterfall Creek; general maintenance
July 24-August 1: Marble Creek Volunteer Project; general maintenance
August 8-16: Trapper Creek Trail; general maintenance
August 8-12: Warm Springs Trail & Upper Yellowjacket Trail; general maintenance
August 23-30: Crags Campground to Panther Creek Trail; general maintenance
September 5-11: Middle Fork Trail; general maintenance
September 18-26: West Horse Point; general maintenance
October 3-10: Camas Creek Trail & Dry Gulch Trail; general maintenance

NEZ PERCE/CLEARWATER NF PARTNER PROJECTS
June 18-25: National Smoke-Jumpers Association: 6 volunteers with the NSA worked on the historic residence cabin at Lolo Pass. They performed a variety of tasks including staining the outside and replacing the old chinking on the building.

July 13-18 and 25-31: IDAWA: This year we had two groups of high school students from Dallas and Johnson counties in Iowa join us again. Chris Adkins led his group to Wind Lakes where they cleared trees and cleaned up campsites. Kristen Morrow led a group to work on clearing downfall up Colt Killed Creek. These students from Iowa leave Montana with an incredible experience in Wilderness under their belts.

Being in the Wilderness has taught me so much and I will be forever grateful that I had the opportunity to immerse myself in the backcountry and protect our natural resources.

– James Myers
The Hills ARE Alive.....................

Under the category of “yes this really happened this summer”, St. Mary Lookout volunteer Sheryl Olson (in photo bottom left) was beyond surprised when she spotted seven nuns in full habits (which BTW, they wear all the time) about to summit the St. Mary Peak. While on a ministry tour through Montana, the nuns took a vacation day to hike to the lookout. We’re talking 2,500 feet of elevation gain in 3.5 miles - with wind – think about it.

But do they sing you ask? Ah yes! They go by the group name, “The Singing Nuns” and perform for various community events throughout the year, but their favorite time to sing, according to Sister Mary Angela, is “for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass because we know that it is all for God’s glory”.

The Singing Nuns are from St. Michael’s Convent, located on Mount St. Michael, just north of Spokane, WA. For more information on this rugged and talented group of women you can visit their website which is appropriately named www.singingnuns.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

JANUARY
Early January – Projects & Dates Announced

FEBRUARY
Saturday, February 2 – Clarkston Fundraiser

MARCH
March 3 & 4 - Telluride Mountainfilm on Tour - Valley County Festival
Two days - different films each day
Sunday, March 3 – Roxy Theater, Cascade 3pm matinee
Monday, March 4 – Alpine Playhouse, McCall 7pm

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER – John Lloyd

John lives in Ketchum, ID and after 55 years of construction work and 40 years as owner of Lloyd Construction, Inc. he now claims “retired” status from the custom home construction business. He has spent many a winter enjoying Bald Mountain and serving on the mountain’s ski patrol team and as the Forest Service Assistant Snow Ranger. John summarizes his relevant experience as having hiked the Centennial Trail through the Frank and Selway. John knows the Main and Middle Fork of the Salmon River from the paddler’s perspective and has explored the vast Wilderness of the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank by way of the Magruder Road.
Led by Will Merritt, SBFC, six youth volunteers with the Catrock Youth Academy in the Bronx, accompanied by adult leaders Colin Pfund and Peter Healy, went to work brushing, cleaning drains, and fixing tread on the East Moose Creek Trail #421 and Bear Creek Pass trail #613. New Wilderness advocates for life!

Each year we are so fortunate to have high school students from Iowa join us for a week-long project. This year we had two groups - lucky us! We affectionately call them the IDAWA group. Some of the students have been so inspired they've returned a few years later as Wilderness Ranger Interns or adult volunteers. It’s a memorable experience for everyone involved. Thank you Chris Adkins and Kristin Morrow for recruiting and organizing!

Chris Adkins – IDAWA Group

Merry Christmas to Mark and Lisa Szentes

Jill Nebeker, SBFC supporter, was searching for that perfect Christmas gift for her employer. Jill hit the jackpot when she purchased raffle tickets for our ROW ADVENTURES River Raft fundraiser – and won! Jill gifted the winning tickets to her employer and his wife, Mark and Lisa Szentes, Boise, ID. Mark and Lisa booked their trip for the Lower Salmon with donor ROW Adventures, and had a marvelously good time. Thank you ROW ADVENTURES for the donation. And congratulations to Mark and Lisa on their uniquely Idaho trip!
PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE LEGACY OF WILDERNESS

YOUR DONATION SUPPORTS:
Wilderness stewardship for the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness areas and the SBFC Wilderness Ranger Intern Program.

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

☐ $30  ☐ $60  ☐ $120  ☐ $240  ☐ $600  ☐ $________

Send gift with this form to:
SBFC Foundation – PO BOX 1886 Boise, ID 83701

Monthly and one-time payment options are available on our secure website: selwaybitterroot.org/donate

Name:________________________________________________________
Address:______________________________________________________
City:__________________________   State:__________  Zip:___________
Email:_________________________________________________________
Gift Amount:__________________________________________________

Please charge my credit card one-time.

Card Number ________________________________________________
Expiration Date _____ /_____ Three digit code ______________
Signature_____________________________________________________

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT

REMEMBER THE SELWAY BITTERROOT FRANK CHURCH FOUNDATION IN YOUR ESTATE PLANS

We hope you will consider the Selway Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation in your estate planning. Memorial gifts and bequests are placed in a special fund so that these gifts can permanently support wilderness protection in the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness areas.

We welcome your inquiries about bequests and other kinds of giving. Please call or email Sally Ferguson, 208-871-1906, sferguson@selwaybitterroot.org.

If you wish to make a provision in your will, we suggest the following general language:

“i give, devise and bequeath to the Selway Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation, a Montana non-profit corporation (Federal tax ID# 27-2868220) located at 322 E. Front Street, RMRS Ste. 401, PO Box 1886, Boise Idaho, 83701, the sum of $________ or ______% of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate [or $____ if specific amount].”