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MISSION STATEMENT

The Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation connects Americans with their wilderness heritage by providing access to and stewardship of one of the world's most spectacular places –Montana's Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex, the crown jewel of the Wilderness System. We help hundreds of hard-working volunteers, including youth, develop a land ethic and give back to the wilderness by opening trails, restoring heavily used areas, maintaining historic structures and fighting weeds. Active wilderness stewardship is our mission.

WANTED



WHO: Dale Duff
WHAT: Cold hard cash
WHERE: Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation tool cache
MORE DETAILS: Dale Duff, BMWF volunteer packer and owner of Rocky Mountain Transportation has donated funding for a set of bear proof panniers. These boxes hold all of the grub needed to feed our wonderful volunteers. Let's face it, BMWF's volunteer packers are hard workin' generous folk and they deserve the best! Dale is askin' yah kindly to match his donation so that the BMWF can purchase a fourth set of these bear proof food boxes.

Please help the BMWF raise another \$575 so that every volunteer mule can carry a lighter load. Use the membership ticket on the back of this newsletter to designate your donation to the bear proof pannier fund.

Thank You Kindly!

Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation Volunteer Projects

Explore Montana's famed Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex while helping to maintain its extensive trail system. Project vary in lenth from as little as one day to an entire week of backpacking in the wilderness. Volunteers ages twelve and up are welcome. Bring your entire family on a volunteer vacation this year! Trips consist of clearing and maintaining trails during the day and relaxing or exploring the nearby creeks and peaks in the evenings. With plenty of time to bond with campmates at night, during meals cooked together and stories around the campfire, lifelong friendships are often forged during these wilderness journeys.

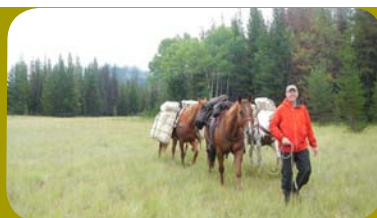


Project List

<p>BMWF #1 – National Trails Day Saturday, June 6th Area: Scapegoat Wilderness Trailhead: Indian Meadows Difficulty: Easy-Moderate Hike: 1-5 miles</p>	<p>Bring the entire family to celebrate National Trails Day in the Scapegoat Wilderness! Just north of Lincoln, MT, this NTD event will be based out of the Indian Meadows Cabin area. Bust out of Helena or Missoula for a day of fresh air and reinvigorating trail work. There will be two projects to choose from: straightforward brushing and drainage maintenace on Mainline trail #481 or for BMWF diehards some tree dropping and peeling in preparation for puncheons that will be installed later in the season. Stick around after the work for a complementry Dutch Oven meal, horse packing demos, and more!</p>
<p>BMWF #2– Northfork Cabin June 16th - 22nd Area: Scapegoat Wilderness Trailhead: Northfork Difficulty: Moderate Miles to camp: 9</p>	<p>Help open the Dry Fork Trail #31 by removing rocks and pesky mudflows that block the trail each spring. The group will be based out of the North Fork Cabin, a shady oasis on the Blackfoot River where you can cool your feet and cook your meals each evening. The area is surrounded by several nice day hiking oppportunities to waterfalls or peaks with stupendous views for your day off outing.</p>
<p>Weeds #1- Northfork Cabin June 29th - July 3rd Area: Scapegoat Wilderness Trailhead: Northfork Difficulty: Moderate Miles to camp: 9</p>	<p>Help keep the wilderness wild by removing Yellow Toadflax from critical habitat areas along the North Fork of the Blackfoot River. Your reward for this good work is a campsite at the North Fork Cabin, a shady oasis on the river. After a day of work, you will have plenty of time to hike to the beautiful North Fork Falls or cool your toes in the stream. The group will have access to the cabin for cooking. Be prepared to feast on delicious backcountry cuisine such as “Marchand Bites” and Pad Thai!</p>
<p>Sierra Club Trip June 30th - July 5th Area: Rocky Mountain Front Trailhead: Benchmark Difficulty: Moderate Miles to camp: 12 Elevation: +1,000'</p>	<p>The BMWF is once again partnering with the Sierra Club to offer a extraordinary project in one of the most beautiful locations in the Scapegoat Wilderness. Volunteers will be camping in the scenic Grizzly Basin and working on trail #225 to Hoadley Pass. Crosscuts and hand saws will be the traditional tools of choice as there will be many of downed trees blocking the trail. Be sure to bring your camera because the Glacier Lillies will be in full bloom! Register for this project through the Sierra Club website. Link on our website.</p>
<p>Weeds #2- Birch Creek July 10th-14th Area: Rocky Mountain Front Trailhead: Swift Dam Difficulty: Moderate Miles to camp: 4</p>	<p>Protect The Front from noxious weeds! By day you will be battling Knapweed infestations on the confluence of the South and Middle Fork of Birch Creek near Swift Reservoir. You will have plenty of time after work to explore nearby creeks and waterfalls. At night you will be lulled to sleep by the burble of the creek.</p>
<p>BMWF #3 Box Canyon July 24th-26th Area: Rocky Mountain Front Trailhead: West Fork of the Teton Difficulty: Easy- Moderate Miles to camp: Car camping!</p>	<p>As you drive to this project you will weave through a labyrinth of scenic canyons until you arrive at the West Fork Cabin. The cabin compound will be the groups' headquarters for two days as you work on maintaining the trail in beautiful Box Canyon. Wading shoes are a must as you will be crossing the stream multiple times through the work day. Ahhh! feel the relaxing cool waters trickle through your toes!</p>
<p>American Hiking Society June August 2nd - 8th Area: Bob Marshall Wilderness Trailhead: Morrison Difficulty: Moderate-Difficult Miles to camp: 11</p>	<p>Volunteers will be working to improve the beautiful ‘Big River Trail’ deep in the Great Bear Wilder-ness. Camp will be on the shores of the wild and scenic Middle Fork of the Flathead River. For the trail work, you will be using primitive tools such as crosscut saw, Pulaski, and pick mattock to clear downed trees and improve trail tread. Be sure to bring your fishing gear, the Middle Fork is known for is beautiful trout!</p>

PROJECTS Continued

<p>BMWF #4 Mineral Creek August 10th - 16th Area: Scapegoat Wilderness Trailhead: Northfork Difficulty: Strenuous Miles to camp: 12</p>	<p>Join the BMWF in the heart of the beautiful Scapegoat Wilderness for 3 days of clearin' trail! We will be tackling trail # 484 along Mineral Creek. Group will be working from the junction of Mineral Creek #484 and #475 south towards Windy Pass, primarily clearing trail of blow-down and fallen trees.</p>
<p>BMWF #5 Bob Footsteps- Southfork trail August 11th- 16th Area: Bob Marshall Trailhead: Meadow Creek Difficulty: Moderate Miles to camp: 5</p>	<p>In 1928 Bob Marshall, legendary hiker and advocate for protecting roadless areas, spent 8 days hiking 288 miles on trails in what is now the Wilderness that bears his name. Help maintain and retrace Bob's footsteps along East Side Trail #80 between Mid Creek and Black Bear Creek. You will help maintain drainage and turnpike structures critical for keeping sediment out of the South Fork fishery. Bring your fishing pole!</p>
<p>BMWF #6 Bennie Hill August 15th - 18th Area: Rocky Mountain Front Trailhead: Boone & Crockett Ranch Difficulty: Moderate Miles to camp: 9</p>	<p>Come spend a few days in this remote nook along the Rocky Mountain Front while helping to maintain trails and healthy watersheds. The hike into basecamp is 5 miles and travels beside the beautiful North Fork of Dupuyer Creek. Work will focus on clearing trails to Bennie Hill as well as on the back side of Wailing Reef. After a day of trail work relax and enjoy swimming in the creek or hike up Wailing Reef for some excellent views!</p>
<p>Weeds #4 Dry Fork Habitat Restoration August 15th-19th Area: Scapegoat Wilderness Trailhead: Northfork Difficulty: Moderate Miles to camp: 11</p>	<p>Help keep the wilderness wild by removing Spotted Knapweed from critical habitat areas along the confluence of Dryfork and Cabin Creek, both tributaries to the Blackfoot River. After a day of work, you will have plenty of time for hiking to beautiful North Fork Falls or cooling your paddys in the stream. Be prepared to feast on delicious backcountry cuisine such as "Marchand Bites" or Pad Thai.</p>
<p>BMWF #7 Wrong Ridge Trail August 24th - 30th Area: Rocky Mountain Front Trailhead: Cave Mountain Difficulty: Strenuous Miles to camp: 13</p>	<p>This project begins with a 13 mile hike to base camp up a steady climb to Route Creek Pass. As the trail climbs over the pass you will see glimpses of Old Baldy to the south. Before descending the pass you will continue through a loose grove of limber pine, twisted into fantastic shapes by the winds that roar through the pass on a regular basis. The group will use the Wrong Creek Cabin for cooking and food storage and camp out under the stars.</p>
<p>BMWF #8 Twin Lakes August 25th - 30th Area: Scapegoat Wilderness Trailhead: Indian Meadows Difficulty: Moderate Miles to camp: 11.5</p>	<p>This project is located in one of the best potential native fisheries in the upper Blackfoot watershed, with beautiful scenery and abundant lakes, what more could you ask for? The 11 mile hike into camp is full of wild scenery and the work is suited to all ability levels. Twin Lakes #425 is a sweet little loop trail that needs to be widened for stock to travel through.</p>
<p>BMWF #9 Bobs Footsteps- Big Prairie August 26th - Sept 3rd Area: Bob Marshall Wilderness Trailhead: Owl Creek Difficulty: Strenuous Miles to camp: 32</p>	<p>This project truly recreates the legend and intent of Bob's vision. You will be surrounded by vast open spaces while working deep in the heart of the Bob Marshall Wilderness. Historic Big Prairie Ranger Station will be your base camp and provide a taste of stepping back in time. The group will be using primitive tools like the crosscut saw and pulaski to clear down-fall and open the trails near Big Prairie.</p>
<p>BMWF #10 Lang Creek- New Wilderness! August 30th -Sept 4th Area: Rocky Mountain Front Trailhead: Mortimer Gulch Difficulty: Moderate Miles to camp: 8</p>	<p>Lying within the area newly added to the Bob Marshall Wilderness by the Rocky Mountain Heritage Act, Lange Creek Trail #243 needs some sprucing up! Lodgepole pine regrowth has choked the trail. Sign up to cut and lop this trail back into shape and celebrate the new Wilderness. The camp on Gibson Reservoir gives ample opportunity for swimming and fishing after the work day.</p>
<p>BMWF #11 HQ Pass- New Wilderness! September 4th - 7th Area: Rocky Mountain Front Trailhead: S.Fork Teton Difficulty: Moderate Miles to camp: 5</p>	<p>The Rocky Mountain Heritage Act added 67,000 acres to the Bob Marshall Wilderness. You can help inaugurate this new wilderness by lending a hand on this accessible 3 day trip. The gorgeous trail to Headquarters Pass is one of the most popular day hikes on The Front. A camp near a high alpine lake makes this project convenient for the busy wilderness lover who has only a few days to immerse in the wild.</p>
<p>BMWF #12 Cigarette Rock Trail September 6th-12th Area: Rocky Mountain Front Trailhead: Benchmark Difficulty: Difficult Miles to camp: 13</p>	<p>Spectacular views of iconic Halfmoon Peak and the Scapegoat Wall will greet you from the top of Cigarette Rock. The trail up to the top of the "Rock" needs basic brushing and water bar maintenance to keep sediment from spilling into the adjacent waterways. In addition to spectacular scenery, the group will have the luxury of camping at the Green Fork Cabin and use the cabin cooking facilities.</p>





The Legacy Pack Trip

Want to give back to 'The Bob' and experience wilderness, but don't want to swing a Pulaski? BMWF has been offered an opportunity to raise funds for our Whitefish Community Foundation Endowment Challenge through a fully supported pack trip donated by **Snowy Springs Outfitters**.

This year's trip will head into the Great Bear Wilderness from **July 6-10th**. With excellent fishing on the Middle Fork of the Flathead and surrounding lakes as well as many peaks to scamper up, the location of this camp is a perfect jumping off point to explore the Wilderness or just relax next to the river. For more information about this exciting backcountry opportunity, and to help secure permanent funding for wilderness stewardship please contact Jenny at trails@bmf.org or (406) 387-3822



MEET OUR CREW LEADERS



Chrissie Bodznick- WEST SIDE

Chrissie first came to Northern Montana as a youth crew leader with the Montana Conservation Corps. After graduating from Brown University in 2010, she worked as a playwright in NYC long enough to start dreaming of outdoor jobs. She has since lived in Montana, Colorado, California, and Wisconsin, working as a farm and wilderness educator with all ages from kindergartners to adults. She spent this past winter racing sled dogs. She loves film and photography and can't wait to document this summer's adventures in the Bob, from crosscutting to backcountry feasting.



Jimmy Durda- ROVING

Jimmy couldn't get enough Bob time the past couple summers and is excited about his 2nd year as a crew leader for the Foundation! Originally from the Minneapolis area, he spent his early twenties earning a Bachelor's in Economics from the University of Minnesota and working in cubicle environments. After the Montana Conservation Corps brought him out West and exposed him to backcountry culture and crosscut saws, Durda knew he had found a new home. He is eager to have more hands-on experience, share his Wilderness passion with volunteers, and cook up some quality grub in the Bob with you!



Evan Kulesa- EAST SIDE

Evan first fell in love with 'The Bob' in 2013 when he led volunteer groups for BMWF. The Bob drew him back the following summer as an employee of the US Forest Service out of Choteau, MT where he learned to pack mules and ride horses. It's his passion for engaging volunteers and his love of 'The Bob' that brings him back for his second season with BMWF. When Evan isn't helping volunteers cultivate a strong land ethic, you'll find him skiing, backpacking, throwing rocks at trees or getting into random adventures with his wife.



Marchand Logan- WEEDS

Marvelous Marchand has been on a personal crusade against noxious weeds in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex for the past 4 years. She has created a cult following of volunteers who can't wait to get in the backcountry with her and enjoy her culinary creations. Always in the mountains, she spends her winters on Ski Patrol at Whitfish Mountain Resort. Sign up for one of her trips and you can help in her fight weeds as well as enjoy her outstanding backcountry cuisine!



Courtney Wall - Wilderness Conservation Corps Supervisor

Courtney is back for a second season with the BMWF. This summer she is switching gears and heading up our Wilderness Conservation Corps program. As a former MCC crew leader and seasoned BMWF leader, Courtney is the perfect candidate for leading and teaching the incoming interns about the ins and outs of working in the Natural Resources field. Courtney has spent the past four summers working in Montana Wilderness areas. Her love for yoga, gardening and Wilderness keeps her happy and healthy.



Wilderness Conservation Corps Interns

Four youth interested in pursuing careers in natural resources will hit the trails of "the Bob" this summer to work as the first BMWF Wilderness Conservation Corps. Under the leadership of Courtney Wall, these young folks will learn recreation management skills and work on projects that deliver meaningful conservation outcomes that benefit wilderness. The crew will clear and restore trails, fight noxious weeds, and conduct wilderness campsite monitoring in the Spotted Bear Watershed.