



Wilderness  
Stewardship  
Since 1985



## March 2021 Newsletter

**Keep It Wild!**

# IPWA News

## IMPORTANT: 2021 Season Update

The IPWA is excited to kick off the 2021 season! June is just around the corner and the mountains are calling!

**Please read through the entirety of this announcement for important information regarding the upcoming summer patrol season.**

Last year we were unable to bring on new members due to the onset of the pandemic. Fortunately, safety guidance, mask and vaccine availability, and the rate of infection have improved considerably from this same time last year. However, we are not back to 100% operations yet so here is what to expect:

### New Volunteers:

Since the fall of 2019, the IPWA's waitlist of interested applicants has grown to over 60 people. However, in order to stay within the county's and CDC's guidelines, the number of new volunteers that we can accept and train this year is **extremely limited**. Therefore, the IPWA will only be accepting new volunteer applications from the 60 people who are currently on the waitlist. Unfortunately, we cannot accept applications from those who are not already on the waitlist. We do plan to return to our normal application process in 2022.

- **April 1:** *Waitlisted applicants* will receive an email that includes a link to the application and additional information on the interviewing process, training and associated dates.

### Returning Volunteers:

We understand that the virus is still active. Our volunteers are important to us, so please make the volunteering choice that works best for your situation. For those who choose to volunteer this year, here are important dates to know:

- **April 1:** Returning volunteers (who either patrolled last year or opted to skip 2020) will receive an email with a link to complete their registration and associated paperwork.
- **April 1 – April 30:** Returning volunteers must complete their registration by April 30 in order to participate in the 2021 summer season.
- **May 24 – June 4:** Returning volunteers must complete Online Training by June 4.
- **June 5:** Mentors and interested returning volunteers will assist with an outdoor training day for accepted new volunteers.
- **June 6:** Summer season begins!

We will send out more information and instructions in the upcoming weeks. If you have any questions, please email [hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org](mailto:hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org).

Thanks for helping us keep the IPW and JPW wild!

*Kelly Prendergast  
IPWA Board Chair*

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## A Call for Mentors

Remember your first day as an IPWA volunteer? How you felt nervous and excited at the same time? And you weren't quite sure what to do or whether you'd be doing it right?

Here's your chance to show a new volunteer the ropes!

We're looking for ten (10) mentors to help our new volunteers this season. The only requirements are a passion for being an IPWA volunteer, availability to do two training hikes, and being available to answer their questions throughout the season. The two training hikes can be done as part of our group field days or one-on-one with your new volunteer. Due to COVID restrictions, each mentor will only be assigned one new volunteer. Any returning volunteer is eligible.

This is your chance to share your experience and knowledge and create a positive experience for someone new!

Interested in becoming a mentor? Email Leslie Brodhead, IPWA Mentoring Coordinator, at [lgbrodhead@gmail.com](mailto:lgbrodhead@gmail.com).



# IPW Backcountry Permits Now Online

Starting March 16, 2021, Indian Peaks Wilderness backcountry permits will be available for purchase at [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov). Through the new system, customers will be able to view permit availability, book a reservation, pay online, print permits, and manage reservations from one account. Permits will no longer be issued in person or via mail.

As a reminder, permits are required for all overnight camping in Indian Peaks Wilderness Area from June 1 to Sept. 15 and are always required for groups of 8-12 people.

[Learn more here!](#)

## Program Updates

### Winter Trail Conditions

The Front Range recently received 20+ inches of snow this past weekend. Please proceed with caution and stay safe!

[Check Winter Trail Conditions Here](#)

### Wondering How You Can Support the IPWA?

Click the links below to learn more!

[Become a member today for just  
\\$10!](#)

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Be sure to like and follow us on social media!



