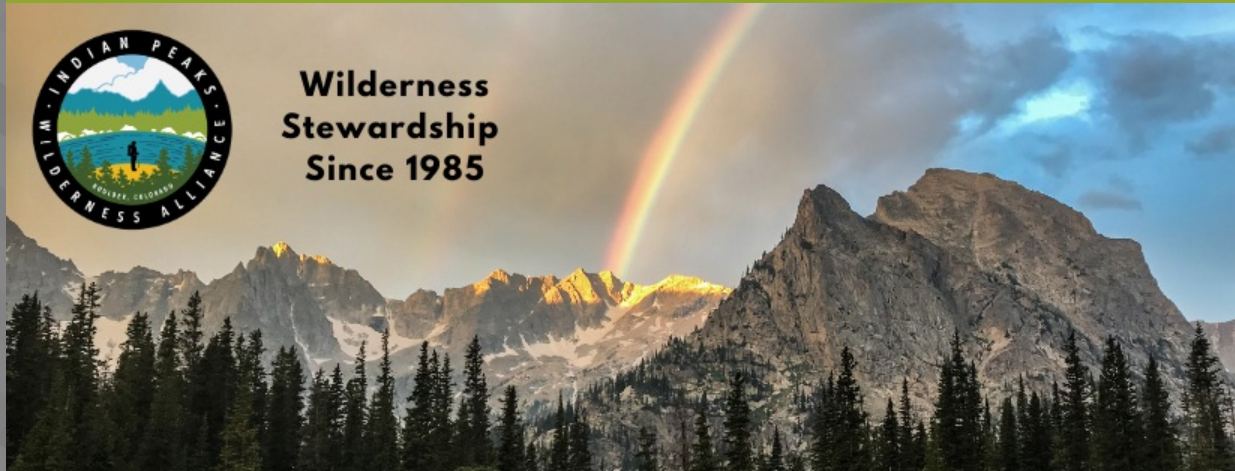




**Wilderness  
Stewardship  
Since 1985**



## January 2025 Newsletter

# *IPWA News*

### **Join Us in Welcoming Our 2025 Board Members!**

As you know, the IPWA Board is the glue that binds the organization together. They are a hardworking and busy bunch organizing volunteer registration, spring training, our online presence, interacting with our forest service partners, recruiting new volunteers and much, much more.

Before we introduce our newest Board Members, IPWA would like to say a *BIG thank you* to our outgoing board members:

- Emily Herrington (Outgoing Secretary)
- Reghan Gillman (Outgoing Newsletter and Communications Coordinator)

We will miss you greatly and truly appreciate your many contributions to IPWA! And more big thanks to:

- Faith Overall for her many years as IPWA's Training Coordinator
- Aaron Swain as he transitions to be IPWA's new Training Coordinator
- Ainsley Ware for joining the Summer Patrol Coordinator team

We are very excited to welcome 4 new folks to the IPWA Board: Sara Raley, Conrad Lattes, Cynthia Cirand, and Kenzie Tierney. Read a little about them below and please say hello when you meet them.

#### **Meet Sara Raley:**

I'm excited to join the Board as the IPWA Summer Patrol Coordinator. I've been learning the ropes as the Assistant Summer Patrol Coordinator under Aaron Swain's excellent



leadership for the past couple years, and recently joined the Winter Patrol Coordinator Team. I've loved getting to know many of you from your patrol reports and other IPWA activities. On a personal note, I have my dad to thank for taking me backpacking in the Indian Peaks Wilderness area years ago, and I am honored to have the opportunity to serve this incredible place. I live in Denver with my wonderful husband and crazy dog, spend time in the mountains and have been known to read a book, make sourdough and play guitar and craft.

### Meet Conrad Lattes:



Since graduation, I have spent 30 years in the public sector and recently retired as the Boulder County Parks & Open Space Assistant Attorney. I feel very fortunate to have been able to assist in acquiring over 50,000 acres of land in Boulder County for public uses to meet our community's commitment to conserving open space. I have been interested in public lands as a place to find solace, conserve natural resources, protect biodiversity, and for public recreation use. Joining IPWA as a volunteer ranger interested me because it allows me to continue to pursue a passion for protecting public lands in Colorado.

In a former volunteer capacity, I've also helped to create and advise various nonprofit entities, including the Boulder County Parks & Open Space Foundation, an endowment based organization that supports the Parks & Open Space Department. I am looking forward to serving as IPWA's Secretary because it will allow me to use some of the skills as an attorney while learning more about the organization.

### Meet Cynthia Girand:



Growing up, I backpacked with my family in the Grand Canyon over Thanksgiving and Spring breaks. Wilderness has been a part of my life ever since. It's where I go to find adventure, mystery, and beauty.

One of my favorite trails in the Indian Peak Wilderness is Chittenden in late summer. The warmth of the sunshine and the fragrance of the alpine flora is unforgettable.

### Meet Kenzie Tierney:



I am thrilled to be joining the IPWA board. Growing up in Boulder, the Indian Peaks have always felt like home. I owe that connection to my Pops, who insisted every summer that I join him on his annual backpacking trip from Red Deer Lake, up and over Buchanan and Pawnee Pass, and down to Lake Isabelle. As a child, it was the joyful reset I eagerly anticipated each year, and as an adult, the wilderness remains my sanctuary. During college, I worked as a whitewater canoe guide in the Boundary Waters, and after graduating, became a naturalist educator and river guide for a nonprofit in Moab. Outdoor education and preservation are deeply important to me. When I'm not exploring the Rocky Mountains, you can find me tending to my four-hive apiary, spotting clouds, swing dancing to live music, or sipping on whiskey in the desert.

To see the complete list of 2025 IPWA Board members click [here](#).

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### **REMINDER to all Volunteers:**

During the winter season, wear your IPWA uniform shirt and/or jacket **ONLY** if you are a registered winter patroller performing a scheduled patrol.

If you are an inactive volunteer who is not planning to return to patrol in the summer of 2025 and still have your IPWA shirt and jacket, please contact IPWA at [hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org](mailto:hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org) to make arrangements to return your uniform.

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### **An Avalanche Course Success**

Bryan Mountain National Ski Patrol hosted a Level 1 Avalanche course over the last month that included IPWA Winter Volunteers. Field days were held the weekend of Jan 4-5 in the Berthoud Pass area. Conditions were cold, breezy, and snowy, an avalanche advisory was in place with risks listed as "considerable", and the snowpack was very reactive to the tests. Perfect conditions for learning about avalanche dangers and to learn safe travel and rescue techniques. At the end of the weekend six IPWA Winter Volunteers, Ainsley, Dan, Iona, Peter, Rich, and Sara completed the course, increasing the level of service we can offer the public and our USFS partners.

A special thanks to BMNSP, Cindy, and the team of volunteers who managed the program.



## Reading Group

Thursday, March 20th  
3:30 - 5 pm, Rayback Collective, Boulder

**The Golden Spruce: A True Story of Myth, Madness, and Greed**  
by John Vaillant

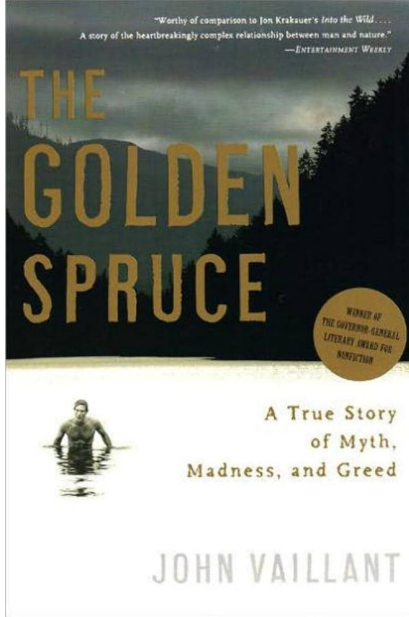
Please join us to discuss the March book selection!

We'll share our reflections about the book and our own experience.  
All are welcome (IPWA members and general public).

Beverages and food available at Rayback and the food trucks.

[RSVP Here!](#)

"A deep-reaching account of the clash between wilderness values, the voracious logging industry, white settlers, and first nations people." The book "explores the relationship between man and nature with lush language and page-turning suspense."



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## Join the Colorado Mountain Club, Rocky Mountain Indigenous Dancers, IPWA, and other organizations

Wednesday, February 26th  
6:30-8 pm, the Dairy Center for the Arts, Boulder

Join us for Nurture the Land, Yourself, and Others—an evening of discussion about the preservation, conservation, and regeneration of the land we tread upon in Boulder County. Discover how you can contribute to its enrichment while fostering your own connection to nature. Follow the link below for event details and to purchase your tickets.

[Learn More!](#)

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# Program Updates

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## Winter Patrol Continues!

In December, we welcomed 5 new winter patrollers at our annual Field Day! The weather was stellar and we managed to have some fun too! Thank you to all returning volunteers who helped out!

We currently have 25 active winter patrollers out on patrol. If you see us please stop to say hello!

Winter Patrols are active from late November to early June and help to provide year-round support to the Forest Service and to all the Wilderness and BLRA visitors. Looking to get out in the backcountry? View our trail condition reports below.



[Check Winter Trail Conditions Here](#)

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## Wondering How You Can Support the IPWA?

Click the links below to learn more!

[Donate!](#)

[Volunteer!](#)

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

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Be sure to like and follow us on social media!



Indian Peaks Wilderness Alliance | PO Box 17382 | Boulder, CO 80308 US

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