



*Saving Wilderness.  
Changing Lives.*



**Welcome to our September 2020 Newsletter!**

**Keep It Wild!**

## *IPWA News*

### **A Note From Our Chair**

Dear Returning Volunteers,

I know I speak for both the Boulder Ranger District and IPWA when I say you are amazing! Stepping up in the midst of COVID-19 was not an easy decision, but we are so grateful that you did. With record visitation throughout the summer, your thoughtful interactions with visitors and even just your uniformed presence made a huge impact. Know that because of your efforts, more visitors had a positive experience. More wildlife were protected with more dogs on leash. Tree removal made trails more accessible. And we truly appreciate all the fire rings, dog waste and trash removed to preserve the Wilderness experience and character.

Because of COVID guidelines, we can't host our normal volunteer appreciation event. However, we have another "Thank You" in the works, so be sure to check our October newsletter for more information.

We also greatly missed all our volunteers who could not patrol this summer, and we are looking forward to having them back when the time is right!

A special thanks also to our 2020 Intern Coordinators Barba and Rex Hickman for their hard work and leadership this summer.

Sincerely,  
Kelly Prendergast  
IPWA Chair

# End of Season Reminder

As fall and hunting season start up, our summer patrolling season will end on **September 30th.**

Until then, please patrol with caution as certain hunting seasons have already started. For more information, please visit the [Colorado Parks & Wildlife website](#).



---

## 2020 Photo Contest - Now Accepting Submissions!

We are now accepting submissions for the 2020 Photo Contest!

The purpose of this event is to engage IPWA volunteers & members in a fun activity to promote the protection of the IPW & JPW areas - all while increasing financial support for the IPWA (a 100% volunteer based organization).

The IPWA Board will review submissions and the winners will be announced in early October. The IPWA will use the selected photos to create notecards to sell for fundraising purposes, as well as for gifts and marketing.

Please read below for contest rules and submission instructions:

### Rules

- The photo contest is open to IPWA members, volunteers, and interns **only**.
- Each individual may submit no more than 2 photos.
- Photos may not include individuals or dogs (landscape & flora/fauna only).
- The IPWA Board shall be the sole arbitrators of the winning photos and number of winners.
- There shall be no payments made to volunteers/members submitting photos. All proceeds from the sale of notecards shall be used by the IPWA for educational purposes, trail projects, patrolling activities and other wilderness advocacy programs and operational expenses.
- By submitting your photos, you allow the IPWA to use them as the Board deems appropriate.
- Submissions do not have any copyright protection.
- Winners will receive a free box of notecards, and their name will be included on the back of each notecard that has their photograph on it.

### Submission Instructions

- Please email photo submissions to [hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org](mailto:hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org).
- Photos must be in a .jpeg format.
- The photograph **must** include the following information with each photograph submitted:

- Photographer's name
- Location of the photo
- Date taken (optional)
- Why the photo showcases the Wilderness characteristics of the IP/JP Wilderness areas.

**Please have all submissions completed by  
Thursday, October 1st.**

Thank you for participating in this fun event! We look forward to viewing your photographs!



*Jonathan Brooks is the Wilderness and Trails Manager for the Boulder Ranger District. Each month he'll be discussing a topic that pertains to Wilderness!*

### Managing Wildfire in Wilderness

Recently across the west we have seen numerous wildfires burning from California to Colorado and beyond. Many of these can and do occur in congressionally designated Wilderness. As mandated by the Wilderness Act of 1964, federal land managers must look at law, policy, and a specific Wilderness character when trying to manage fires in Wilderness.

According to the Wilderness Act of 1964, "Wilderness is to retain its primeval character and influence and generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature." In certain environments, such as fire-dependent ecosystems, fire can be a powerful natural force. Allowing fires to burn in these wilderness areas preserves wilderness character, while allowing fire to burn in other areas negatively impacts wilderness character. Conversely, suppressing natural fires in fire-dependent wilderness ecosystems is a form of trammeling. The effects of wildfire on wilderness character will vary depending on whether the fire is in an unaltered fire-dependent ecosystem, a human-altered system (e.g. where past fire suppression has significantly changed the natural character), or a fire-independent ecosystem.

So the challenge of managing fire in wilderness is two-fold:

1. What is the natural role of fire in your wilderness?
2. How, if at all, should a particular fire be controlled?

In conclusion, within Wilderness, the Forest Service aims to permit lightning-caused fires to play a natural ecological role, and reduce the risks and consequences of wildfire both within and outside the wilderness. (FSM 2324.21). The Forest Service seeks to prevent fires from escaping and causing damage to nearby communities. In pursuit of that goal, the Forest Service gives preference to methods, called Minimum Impact Suppression Techniques, that cause the least alteration of the wilderness resource and the least disturbance to the land surface, air quality, and visitor solitude. (FSM 2324.23).

In short, the agency protects the wilderness resource wherever possible, while providing for firefighter and public safety. As always, for more information visit [Wilderness.net](http://Wilderness.net) and

click "Fire Management Toolbox Link".



---

## Wondering How You Can Support the IPWA?

Click the links below to learn more!

**Become a member today for just  
\$10!**

**Donate!**

**Volunteer!**

---

**Be sure to like and follow us on social media!**

