

We do not inherit the Wilderness from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.



Volunteers, Members, and Friends of the Indian Peaks and James Peak Wilderness Areas

Welcome to our February 2018 newsletter!

We are now almost 2 months into the year and a lot is going on! In this month's newsletter we will provide a quick update on planning activities, along with updates on our program work. We have a lot planned for 2018 and want to thank all of you for your wonderful support of our organization.

As always, reach out to us with any questions, comments, or ideas regarding how we can best help achieve our mission of helping to "preserve and protect the Indian Peaks and James Peak Wilderness Areas."

Keep it wild!

I. IPWA News

IPWA Provides 100+ Sleeping Bags to UNC Urban Education Teachers. THANK YOU KELTY!

Due to a very generous contribution from Kelty, the IPWA was able to provide 100+ Kelty sleeping bags to students at the University of Northern Colorado Center for Urban Education! This was a 'win-win-win-win' for all parties involved. Kelty was able to donate equipment to our non-profit, the IPWA was able to distribute the bags to students who could use them, the UNC received equipment to add their students in their studies, and the student's themselves now have brand new sleeping bags. Thank you Kelty and thank you UNC! *(photo at right of UNC student Abbey Howard with her new Kelty sleeping bag)*



Wilderness Trail & Tree Director: Interested in Volunteering?

As we are planning our 2018 Spring and Summer

activities, we are looking for a volunteer to be the Director of our Trail/Tree Management Program. The individual in this volunteer position will be responsible for helping coordinate our summer trail projects, along with coordinating the removal of downed trees in the IP/JP wilderness (with a particular emphasis on early Spring tree removal and late Fall tree removal). This is a great position for someone who loves to help coordinate projects, is passionate about getting the trees off of our wilderness trails to help prevent new social trails from developing, and loves working outside. If you would like to learn more, simply send an email to us by clicking the link below!



[I would like to learn more about the volunteer Wilderness Trail Director position !](#)

Wilderness First Aid Interested in Participating?

Thanks to the USFS, we are again planning on holding a two day Wilderness First Aid training class at the USFS office in Boulder CO the weekend of May 19/20. This two day class is required for our IPWA winter patrol program, and strongly recommended for our IPWA sawyer program. We are in the early planning stages for this event (e.g. exact days/times, fees, course content, etc.). If you are interested in potentially attending, please click on the link below to send us a quick email! As we get closer to the date, we will finalize registration and let everyone know the cost as well.



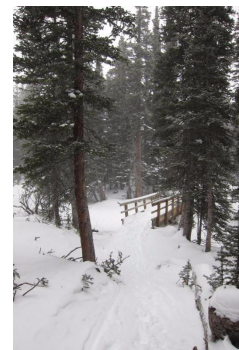
[I'm interested in attending the IPWA two day Wilderness First Aid Training!](#)

II. IPWA Wilderness Program Updates

IPWA Winter Patrols: Season going strong!

We have completed over 20 winter wilderness patrols and it appears it is finally winter in the mountains (as noted by these comments from winter patrol volunteer Steve Poulsen)!

"Winter is finally here. The snow is fantastic on the trails in the James Peak Wilderness...There was between one and two feet of fresh powder. If you have good backcountry ski gear and know how to use it you will be rewarded with some of the best snow that I have seen in years. ..."



For those who may not be aware, we also provide a public

facing web site with information from our trail reports that describes general trail conditions and snow pack. Check out the web site below for information on trail conditions prior to your next hike!

[What are the current trail conditions in the IP/JP Wilderness Areas?](#)

III. USFS News

Brainard Lake Road CLOSING Thursday March 1 through Thursday June 28

The Brainard Lake Road will CLOSE starting on Thursday, March 1. The road will be closed to all travelers (bikes, pedestrians, vehicles) 24-hours a day, seven days a week in order to safely excavate the area, haul material, and rebuild the road. The road is to be fully reopened at the end of the workday on Thursday, June 28.



[Brainard Lake Road Construction Status](#)

IV. NATIONAL WILDERNESS NEWS

IPWA working with the National Wilderness Steward Alliance to Saying "NO" to Mountain Bikes in the Wilderness:

As you know, the IPWA is opposed to HR 1349 bill which is currently in the House. We are also working with the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance (NWSA) to make sure our views are heard and coordinated at a national level. To read more about this issue, please visit the NWSA web site below:



[Read more about this issue at the NWSA web site](#)

V. IPWA Upcoming Events

Thursday March 1

IPWA Wilderness Graduate Research Grant Applications Are Open

The IPWA will again be funding three Paddon/Gellhorn research grants to graduate students who are pursuing studies related to wilderness and alpine issues. A big thank you to Daryl Ogden who will again be coordinating this program for us. More details to follow.

Thursday/Friday March 8th and 9th

USFS Region 2 Wilderness Workshop

The USFS will be hosting a meeting with 'Friends' organization in Region 2 (Rocky Mtn. Region). IPWA Board Members will be in attendance and presenting on issues facing the Indian Peaks and James Peak Wilderness Areas.

Thursday March 15

IPWA Wilderness Ranger Internship Applications - Final Due Date

The IPWA will again be funding two Wilderness Ranger Internship positions for the summer 2018 hiking season. A huge thanks to Jim Merryman who will again be coordinating this program for us. Applications are now open. Please email us at the link below for more information

[Yes, I'm interested in getting more information on your Wilderness Ranger Internship Program](#)

Sunday April 1

2018 Summer Patrol Volunteer Registration/Re-Registration Opens

Be on the lookout for information regarding volunteering with the IPWA in 2018. This is the date when our volunteer registration and re-registration will open for our 2018 summer patrol season. More details to come.

Saturday/Sunday May 19th and 20th

Advanced First Aid Training

Boulder USFS Office (36th/Yarmouth)

Pencil in this date for a two day advanced First Aid training. This two day course (or other advanced first aid certification) is recommended for volunteers who take part in our sawyer training, and is required for our winter patrol volunteers. More details to come.

Early June (date TBD)

Wilderness Lecture Series with George Wuerthner

Location TBD

We're in the very early stages of planning for a potential wilderness presentation from George Wuerth - a professional photographer, writer and ecologist. A big thank you to David Hatcher who is taking the lead in seeing what we can pull together! More details to come.

Saturday June 9th

IPWA Summer Patrol Volunteer Training Day

Boulder USFS Office (36th/Yarmouth)

Pencil this date in your calendars for our annual training day. 2018 new volunteers are required to attend this event, and prior volunteers are strongly encouraged to stop by. More details to come!

Saturday/Sunday June 30/July 1

USFS Cross Cut Sawyer Certification Class

Boulder USFS Office (36th/Yarmouth)

We will be holding our second annual Sawyer Certification Class for IPWA volunteers. This class is required for those individuals who would like to help our organization clear the IP/JP Wilderness trails of downed trees. A big thanks to the USFS for agreeing to hold this training for the 2nd year in a row!

Thursday July 26

IPWA Mid-Season Potluck

Pencil in our annual mid-season potluck party of IPWA Volunteers and Members. This is always a fun event!

VI. IPWA Membership Corner: "Why I am a member of the IPWA"

In 2016, the IPWA introduced a "Friends" of the Indian Peaks membership category. For just a \$10 tax deductible donation, individuals (separate from our patrol volunteers) can become a member of our organization and help us achieve our mission! "Friends" receive an IPWA sticker, a copy of our annual report, and most importantly the knowledge that their contributions are helping to promote wilderness preservation!

With each newsletter, we will focus on one individual who decided that they wanted to be a member of the IPWA and why - so that all of our readers can hear of the importance of wilderness preservation and protection.

Why I am a member: Reghan G.

"As an outdoor enthusiast, Indian Peaks Wilderness is one of my favorite places to get out and enjoy the natural world! However, I also recognize my responsibility to give back and be a steward to the mountains that have given me so much. I became a member of IPWA so that I could help ensure this wonderful Wilderness area can be enjoyed by others for years to come." (Photo of Reghan G. in the IPW.)



[Become a member today for just \\$10.00!](#)

Thank you!

As always, reach out to us with any questions, comments, or thoughts on how we can make our organization an even better one! As a 501(c)(3) non-profit volunteer organization (we have NO paid staff positions!), we rely on volunteers, members of the public, local businesses, and grants for 100% of our funding needs. Any financial assistance is greatly appreciated!

Donate Today via PayPal or with personal credit card

