



## Mountain West Outdoor Club Newsletter

### March, 2021

Future Home of: Idaho Fish & Game Headquarters

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Construction on the new Fish and Game Headquarters is progressing. The original building was the site of monthly club potlucks for many years.

Our first outdoor picnic is scheduled and space reserved at KA Municipal Park for **May 3**. Mark your calendars! We look forward to gathering again.



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Thank you to MWOC member, Steve Schaps, a retired Geophysicist, for writing and sharing this second article about the geologic features of another favorite club hiking area.

### **Formation of the Chukar Butte Frog Ponds**

Have you ever hiked or biked to the Frog Ponds located below Chukar Butte and wondered why the ponds formed in such an unlikely spot? These ponds are a result of rockslide deposits which created natural dams of boulders and debris where the front of the rockslide came to rest. These natural dams are hummocky and transverse to the overall creek drainage direction and create an ideal situation for the formation of shallow warm ponds perfect for frogs. The Upper Pond is filled by a perennial spring then the water flows underground into the Lower Pond. The Lower Pond is right next to the Chukar Butte Trail and appears to be older with a less pronounced natural dam. The Upper Pond can be reached with a little cross country hiking or by following the cow trails which branch off from the main trail about 400 yards before it gets to the Lower Pond. Chukar Butte itself is a basaltic volcano approximately 2 million years old. The basaltic lava flowed out across pre-existing Lake Idaho deposits in almost flat sheets but is now tilted as much as 10 degrees due to faulting which occurred along the trend of Stack Rock Ridge since the volcano erupted. You can find out more information on the Chukar Butte hike/bike trail by going to [www.boisetrails.com](http://www.boisetrails.com) or using the Ridge To Rivers Trail Map.

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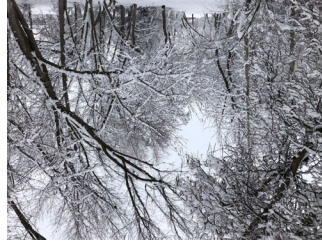
### **MID-WEEK ACTIVITIES**

**TUESDAY HIKES** Email announcements are sent each week with location and time. Hikes are of moderate difficulty, 4 to 6 miles, lasting approximately 2 to 2.5 hours. Starting time varies with time of year and weather conditions. If you have questions contact Pat Dailey, 208-272-0639.

**WEDNESDAY HIKES** begin at 10 AM winter, earlier in the summer. Hikes are fast-paced, of challenging difficulty, 5 or more miles and lasting 3 or more hours, depending on trail and weather conditions. Challenging difficulty means that you'll need to be in good hiking condition because of significant elevation gain and/or increased mileage. Watch for an email announcement of meeting place and hike description. If you have questions, contact Scott Stolhand, 208-891-2214.

**THURSDAY HIKES** and other miscellaneous activities will be posted via email. If you have questions contact Liz McWhorter, 208-891-0426.

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Mountain West members know how to have fun in the snow!

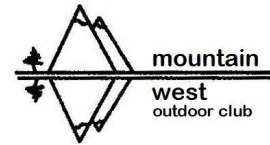


## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**EMAILS** Local mid-week activities (hikes, paddles, bike-rides, etc.) are announced through Wild Apricot emails. If you have questions about sending or receiving e-mails, please contact Kay Stoll at [teksas2steppe@gmail.com](mailto:teksas2steppe@gmail.com) Group emailing is not to be used to advocate for any political issue, whether national or local. Messages that provide only factual information, such as the time and place of a meeting, or an issue of likely interest to members are welcome.

**MWOC ACTIVITIES** Planning a MWOC excursion? Or thinking of an excursion where you would like to invite like-minded souls? For publication in the newsletter send details to [clg83706@yahoo.com](mailto:clg83706@yahoo.com).

**MWOC WEBSITE** You don't have to login to visit most of the MWOC pages, including the calendar of events, news, and resources. The pages that require login are your own profile, membership directory, and Gallery. If you haven't already created a password for the website, click on Login at the top of the page, enter your email address, and click "Forgot password." You will receive an email message with instructions. Please address questions to [laura.jenski@gmail.com](mailto:laura.jenski@gmail.com).



### MWOC officers

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