

From: Mountain West Outdoor Club <MountainWestOutdoorClub@wildapricot.org>
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2024 4:27 PM
To: Laura Jenski
Subject: MWOC NEWSLETTER, April 2024

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MOUNTAIN WEST OUTDOOR CLUB NEWSLETTER

April, 2024



MWOC MONTHLY MEETING

Date & time: Monday, April 1

Officers & interested parties, 6:00 PM

Agenda & program, 7:00 PM

Place: Idaho Fish & Game Headquarters, 600 S Walnut St, Boise. Enter by the southeast doorway, not the main entrance. There will be a club member at the door.

Winter meetings happen indoors at Idaho F&G and do not include dinner. In place of a potluck dinner, we have interesting speakers.

GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

Idaho Fish and Game
March 4, 2024 7:00 PM

1. Welcome to new members
2. Treasurer's report - Laura
3. Membership report - Patti
4. Annual picnic update - Laura
5. Monthly Presentation - Jeannette

Re-Wild Your Backyard

by

Diane Jones

Owner of Draggin' Wing High Desert Nursery, and author of the e-newsletter "Gardener's Notebook."

We all love the outdoors. We are an outdoor club. We are also seeing the threats to our forests, deserts, and nearby foothills. Drought, fire, flooding, and pesticides are all affecting climate and wildlife—including insects that are essential to food production and entire ecosystems.

This winter Jeanette attended a talk at BSU by Douglas Tallamy, who promoted what he calls a "Homegrown National Park" to restore the plants and animals we are losing. "If every homeowner in the US would convert half their lawns to native plant communities," he writes, "we could collectively restore some semblance of ecosystem function to more than 20 million acres of what is now ecological wasteland."

Diane Jones will share photos and descriptions of plants that will support birds, pollinators, and a healthy ecosystem in our own backyards. Many Mountain West members have already started adding native plants to their landscapes. Diane will share suggestions for what more we can do to make a difference!

Note that sections of Warm Springs Ave *will be closed* through next Spring. At present, it is open from the west, including Walnut St.

Please note: Doors in the Idaho Fish & Game Building are locked after regular business hours. A MWOC member will be stationed at the door to allow persons to enter for the MWOC meeting. As a courtesy to your fellow members, please arrive on time for the program. The door monitor will leave the door locked and unattended after the 7 PM program begins.

CLUB EVENTS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

Thanks to everyone for sending current photos. There's a LOT that goes on between newsletters.

PLEASE KEEP THOSE PHOTOS COMING! Please submit photos and corresponding captions to Tom Weingartner at t.weingartner@yahoo.com or cell 907-388-0414.

Please include a brief description of where and when the event occurred and names (if possible) of people involved and in the photos!



35 hikers took part on a gorgeous day for hiking near the Barber Dam on Tuesday, March 19. Look closely at the rightmost picture and you'll see Barber Dam in the background in the gap.



Sue Edwards
and Grant
Huglin **getting
the job done!**

Scenes from the Trail Maintenance Crew on 3/21. MWOC volunteers included:

Dennis Lazzar, Marlene Austin, Judy Farnsworth, Bob Kenworthy,
Grant Huglin, Dorothy Sammartino, David Shropshire, Sue Edwards,
Kathy Pidjeon, Tom Weingartner, Greg Farmer



The Wednesday, March 20, Eagle Foothills hike had glorious weather
and attracted 25 hikers!

The Thursday,
March 21 hike took
place at the Eagle
Sports Complex.





March 26 Urban Hike through the Fort Street Historic District

The hike started at the north end of 9th St near Camel's Back and proceeded along 8th St to the State Capitol Building. The hike included brief stops at 3-4 buildings listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. The return hike to Camel's Back went past the Carnegie Library and other buildings on the Registry of Historic places on West Hays St and Fort St.

UPCOMING PLANNED EVENTS

Kirkwood Ranch Backpack

Sunday May 5th – Tuesday May 7th

Barb Forderhase is looking for two adventuresome backpackers to join a three-day adventure into Kirkwood Ranch in Hell's Canyon.

We will leave early Sunday morning and drive to the trailhead, arrive between noon and 1 pm. We'll eat lunch at the trailhead and then backpack 5-6 miles into Kirkwood Ranch. After setting up camp, we'll explore the historic ranch. The ranch house was built in the 1930s and the bunkhouse has a small museum.

Monday we will day hike upriver to Suicide Point and hopefully find the pictograph nearby. After we return to our campsite, we can wander up Kirkwood Creek to the old Carter House.

Tuesday, we'll pack up, hike out and head home. We'll stop in McCall for lunch.

The campground at Kirkwood Ranch has picnic tables and toilets. There is no potable water, so water will need to be filtered from the creek. Rattlesnakes and ticks will be out so, be you'll need to be careful.

If you are interested, please contact Barb Forderhase, b4dhaza@gmail.com.

MISCELLANY

The following business items crossed our desks recently. Interested members are invited to discuss with one of the officers:

- **Two new trails will be coming to the Ridge to Rivers trail system in the Boise foothills which will create new recreation opportunities and important trail connections in the area.** The planned trails known as the "Curlew Connection Trail" and the "8th Street Downhill Purpose-built Mountain Bike Trail" will serve different purposes in the system. For more information see: <https://www.kivity.com/foothills/two-new-trails-coming-to-boise-foothills>
- The first of the two new trails is the Curlew Connection Trail (pictured below), a 1.8-mile stretch of the foothills linking the Hulls Gulch Reserve trails to other paths in the Rocky Canyon area. Construction on the Curlew Connection trail is expected to be finished in November 2024. The second new trail is a downhill purpose-built mountain bike trail, which is planned to be just west of upper 8th Street in Boise. The 1.7-mile-long downhill trail is the first in the Ridge to Rivers trail system made specifically for downhill mountain bikers. The 8th Street bike trail will not only provide a downhill opportunity for trail users but will also alleviate congestion on nearby hiking and biking trails like Bob's Trail #30, Lower Hulls Gulch Trail #29 and Sidewinder Trail #24. This trail will be open annually from April to November. Construction is expected to take place in 2025, finishing in September of that year.
- Carpooling to weekly hikes is encouraged so as to minimize traffic at trailheads. Some of our trailheads have only limited parking, whereas recent hikes have had up to 25 participants. Growing pains! The lead person on this issue is Scott Stolhand.

- **NEW ITEM:** Are you and your significant other or both MWOC members but receive two separate invoices for annual membership renewals? You can be “bundled” as a two-member household and have one invoice for both memberships sent to one of you (the “bundle coordinator”). Contact [Laura Jenki](#) or [Patti Campbell](#) to set up your “bundle.”

RECURRING CLUB EVENTS

Tuesday hikers visited Upper Hulls Gulch Trail, Corrals/HardGuy Trail, Peggy's Trail, and the Greenbelt. Inclement weather means hikes along the Greenbelt.





Wednesday hikers visited Cartwright Ranch, Polecat Trail, Camel's Back Trails, and Eagle Island State Park.

Thursday hikers visited Veterans Memorial Park, Bob's Trail, Polecat Trail and the Greenbelt. Post-hike socials include a stop for something yummy



Kayakers are off-season. It finally got too cold even for them!



Friday bikers will be continuing assuming conditions will not be too icy. Watch your e-mail for weekly plans



Thursday Afternoon Nordic Ski/Snowshoe group will resume next November (with luck) or December (with less luck).

PARTING SHOTS

What's weirder than seeing a catfish?

A goldfish bowl!

Did you hear about the frog that lost its car???

Apparently it got toad!

"Adopt the pace of nature. Her Secret is patience." *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

"Nature is the source of all true knowledge." *Leonardo da Vinci*

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 Tom Weingartner at:
t.weingartner@yahoo.com

Planning or thinking of an excursion where you would like to invite like-minded souls? Any officer will help you post an email. For inclusion in this monthly newsletter send details to
t.weingartner@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.

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MWOC officers

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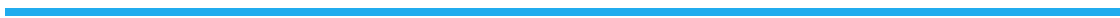
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sent to one of you (the
“bundle coordinator”).
Contact [Laura Jenki](#)
or [Patti Campbell](#) to
set up your “bundle



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