



# Poudre Trails

The Poudre Wilderness Volunteers Newsletter

<http://www.fortnet.org/pwv>

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## TRAILS REPORTS

By Martha Moran

The Trails Reports that you submit are an important part of monitoring the use and enjoyment of our National Forest and Wilderness Area. This column shares just a few of those reports that represent the eyes and ears for Forest Service. Where appropriate my comments are included.

**Stephanie (Jo Jo) Smith**  
**Blue Lake, July 11 & 12**

Wow! It was one of the most beautiful places I have ever seen. I took the drainage south of the lake to check out that area and followed the stream back to the trail. There was no action in that area just beautiful scenery. It was a wonderful and uneventful day. Next day Jo Jo wrote for her hike on Grey rock - It was a scorcher of a day. Really hot. I was pleasantly surprised to see all the people with dogs on the trail had them on leashes.

**Paul James,**  
**Emmaline Lake, July 11**  
Paul wrote about a comment made by a dog owner up in the rocky area of the Emmaline Lake - "Its very difficult if not dangerous to hold a dog on a leash while traveling on rocky scree." I understood her concern and question but did not really know how to answer. I just

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## TRAINING INFORMATION ABOUT FOREST ORDERS

By Paul Krois & Wayne Tobey

During the training weekend role playing sessions there were questions and discussions about the Forest Orders related to forest, wilderness, and travel zone areas. We thought it might be useful to organize this information in a table (see page 4) to show how regulations differ across these three areas.

A general principle to understand is that the National Forest provides the hiker, biker, camper, or horse packer the greatest freedom and flexibility. Transitioning into a designated wilderness area brings with it certain restrictions that seek to preserve the pristine environment. A travel zone is subject to even further restrictions that are necessary to control impacts and prevent overuse.

A comparison of some key rules across these three areas is shown in the table on page 6. The table is not intended to be complete, for example, there are additional rules for the wilderness Travel Zones areas which are described in the PWV Field Guide on pages 3-2 and 3-3.

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## SUPPORT CONTINUES

By Art Bunn

Thanks to the efforts of our fund-raising committee, Poudre Wilderness Volunteers has recently received substantial contributions for the purchase of radios from both the Stryker-Short Foundation and the Gannett Foundation. The USFS has placed a temporary freeze on the purchase of radios pending results of a study to identify the next generation of radios. Meanwhile, we will hold these funds in

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## TRAINING WEEKEND ASSESSMENT

By Martha Moran

Thanks to all who provided insight and evaluation to our annual training weekend. Your input will help us make the 1999 training even better while giving us feedback on how our 1998 training went. Overall, you rated the weekend as excellent or very good. The information you shared with us provided insight on what you really liked; Leave No Trace and Horsepacking for Backpacker, as well as areas for improvement; more role playing and less talk, introduce people at the beginning of weekend and add recycling. Other comments were to included expanded programs for veterans to keep

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short term certificates of deposit.

Beth Juday, a three year veteran of PWV and a passionate believer in the our mission was instrumental in obtaining the Stryker-Short grant.

The Gannett Foundation is associated with the Gannett Company Inc, the nation's largest newspaper publisher. The Gannett Company Inc is the parent company of the Fort Collins Coloradoan. The foundation awards money to nonprofit organizations in communities where they operate and they felt PWV was a worthy organization. Thank you Gannett Foundation! Again, our heartiest thanks and appreciation to these generously supportive Foundations. The eventual purchase of these radios will help make our backcountry patrols safer for all involved.

### MISSING RAIN JACKETS

We are missing some of the PWV Cabela's Rain Jackets that are available for checkout. The rain jackets are available for checkout during the times of your scheduled hike or ride only, and should be returned at end of each hike/patrol. This practice will make jackets available for additional patrols the following week. Always include the yellow copy of the Checkout Form(s) so that we can credit you with the return. The top white copy of the Checkout Form must be left at the USFS office when you pick up your equipment.

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them coming back, more feedback and experiences from the veterans on common scenarios, and a suggestion to include an intro hike for newcomers. It was also noted that a lot of people were trampling flowers between sites so we were not practicing what we preach. Overall we received valuable feedback that will help us grow from infancy in our training program to a well rounded training program that we will all look forward to attending every year!!!

### HIKING DADD GULCH?

The Dadd Gulch hike is not in the Field Guide, so here is the vital information:

Trailhead Location: Drive up the Poudre Canyon 29 miles from Ted's Place. Just before crossing a bridge over the Poudre River east of Indian Meadows Resort, look for a parking lot adjacent to a corral on the left-hand side of the road. The trailhead is located just uphill from the corral. Please remember to close the corral gate. (No Facilities.). Tour - 7.2 miles.

#### USFS REGULATIONS:

Non Wilderness,

#### SPECIAL REGULATIONS:

None. See the PWV web site for more information.

One way length:	3.6 miles.
Elevation gain:	1,460 feet.
Rating:	Moderate.
Maps:	Trails Illustrated #112, Quadrangle - Rustic

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of the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers, a non-profit corporation organized to assist the United States Forest Service in managing and protecting wilderness and other back-country areas. Mail should be sent to P.O. Box 271921, Fort Collins, CO 80527. Phone: (970) 498-2776

Chair Chuck Bell

Co-Chair Art Bunn

Secretary Martha Moran

Newsletter committee:

Editorial Coordinator Glenn French

Art Director Tony Parent

Reporters

Art Bunn

Bette Blinde

Gail Blinde

Paul Krois

Martha Moran

Wayne Tobey

Lori Wiles

Amy Williams

### NEWS FROM NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

By Wayne Tobey

The most recent addition to the Neighbor Spokesperson group is Richard Peterson. Richard is a third year veteran of the PWV and will be assisting George Brooks with the members in the Greeley Neighbor Group. Richard will be the primary Spokesperson while George is in Yellowstone the month of August. "Thanks for your willingness to help in this effort Richard we know you will do a great job". Some Spokespersons have been calling members to see how they are doing on their patrols, and there as been a few mid-season meetings. Currently there is some discussions about a complete membership get-together in the fall, however details have not been defined.



## EAVESDROPPING ON A CONVERSATION

By Gail & Bette Blinde

*Editor's note: Gail and Bette Blinde are first-year PWVs in the horse contingent. These are some excerpts of their experiences at the training weekend. Thanks for sharing your thoughts and feelings with us!*

GAIL: So, Bette, why did you decide to go through the training to become a PWV?

BETTE: My motivation came from constantly seeing the disheartening misuse of public lands and wanting to do something about it. I wanted to learn how to effectively communicate Leave No Trace principles in a thoughtful and helpful way to those who may be trashing the forest. I wanted to share in a group whose common mission is to preserve and care for "untrammled wilderness".

GAIL: I want to see more country. As an aging horseback rider who would not be seeing wilderness areas if not for my trusty animal, to tote me and my supplies. I have the utmost respect for backpackers and day hikers. For me the PWV organization provides me more motivation to be in the trails, to see the country, and to ride with an additional purpose.

BETTE: So what were you thinking before the training session?

GAIL: Who is going to be there? How structured is it going to be? Are there bathrooms? What are the tasks that will be asked of potential volunteers? Will it be a forced march through facts and

figures? Surely, everyone there has lots and lots of experience and at least knows how to read a map. Dwelling on these themes proved unnecessary. The Friday evening introduction to the program (thanks to Art, Martha and Bill) did a lot to ease concerns. And there were many very nice, pleasant people - both experienced volunteers and "wannabes"... Did you think the weekend worked and did what it was supposed to do?

BETTE: The organizers of the weekend get credit for doing some magic tricks. How did they relay this much information, in a way that made it all understandable, in that period of time, in a way that the recipients felt neither overburdened nor overwhelmed?

GAIL: Yeah, we developed a solid base of information for working in the field. We know how to operate radios and read a map. We learned Forest Service information, general first aid, and Leave No Trace principles. We learned about horsepacking and were involved in role-playing scenarios of on-the-trail encounters. And all this was covered in one weekend.

GAIL: The highlight for me occurred when, for the first time, using a map and compass made sense. It will be great to be able to figure out where I am, have been, and will be going.

BETTE: I learned a lot at each session, but the Saturday night program was a surprising look into the hearts of PWV. The book reading and story telling reinforced the mission of PWV; the stories told by volunteers il-

lustrated the need and the benefits of volunteering.

GAIL: We'll have to learn more of the techniques of Leave No Trace. Do you think we could successfully do an overnigher?

BETTE: Not with your horse. And it would be a good idea to go with someone who knows what they're doing.

GAIL: Day trips it is. You know, the food was really good over the weekend. Who was it that used tablecloths and flower arrangements and carted up all that ice?

BETTE: Kirstin Maddox, owner of A Taste of Elegance. It was good. For a while Sunday morning the coffee was a pretty precious commodity when everyone showed up for breakfast. What other speakers did we have Sunday?

GAIL: The law enforcement ranger. When he talked about enforcement and explained the difference between federal and state laws. It was good to have it specifically stated that we are not involved in enforcement, that we are out to educate and encourage people to help take care of these resources.

BETTE: I noticed was that on Friday a few people were wearing PWV shirts, on Saturday a few more appeared, and on Sunday even more shirts showed up. Graduation was short and sweet. We received a shirt, name tag, bumper sticker and diploma. Armed with new knowledge, confidence and a list of trail assignments we met in our neigh-

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asked her to leash the dog up when she felt comfortable to do so. Are dogs expected to be on leash in those areas where you have to climb over and down the rocks?

*Martha's answer* - We suggest to the dog owners to purchase retractable leashes for ease of hiking in the wilderness with a dog. However we are aware it is very difficult to hike over rocky areas and scree with your dog and we will use officers discretion if and when we decide to cite them for having their dog off leash. I tested this in the Rawahs several years ago from Timber to Island and Carey Lake. I confirmed it is difficult and dangerous to hike with a dog on leash and had to take Zee Bee off for several sections while hiking. I will use discretion and common sense if I encounter such a situation. Dogs under voice control should and will be considered.

*Christina Andre and Tom Van Velson, West Branch* July 12 Encountered a group of six backpackers and 3 dogs and two were mean sounding dogs wanting to eat the llamas. On Sunday when we were going up to Carey Lake they were coming down with all dogs on leashes. One dog was a normal curious barking dog the other two wanted flesh.

*Note from Martha - George Finnel our wilderness ranger wrote tickets the very same day at Camp Lake for dogs off leash so we are getting the messages through. We can't be everywhere but we will try!*

## **RADIOS ON!!**

Please leave your radios on while hiking, especially in wilderness areas. Other Forest service personnel or other PWV members in the adjacent drainage may need to contact you. For example in the Rawah Wilderness, even if your are in the valley, if some one climbs up on a ridge or if they are on top of Grassy Pass, they can most likely make contact with you via radio if needed.

*(Conversation - Continued from page 3)*

neighborhood groups. The neighborhood groups are intended to establish a flow of information between board, volunteers and among ourselves.

**GAIL:** Did the training session answer all your questions?

**BETTE:** No. We don't know all the answers. We don't know all the questions. But it's good to know we have a support group of other PWV and forest service people to ask. I'm looking forward to next year's training session. The flora identification and wild ecology programs sound interesting.

## **BUSINESS CARDS**

Personalized Poudre Wilderness Volunteers business cards can be printed (at your cost) at the Fort Collins Kinko's office at 130 West Olive, just off College Ave. These business cards contain PWV's, website, mail address, and phone number. The cards are intended to be distributed to people who express an interest in learning more about the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers. To obtain these cards, see the folks at Kinko's and supply your name as you wish it to appear on the card. The process takes about 10 minutes.

*The next PWV Board meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Monday, August 17th. Your are welcome to attend. At press time, the location for this meeting was not known. If you wish to attend, contact any board member for information.*

## **A NATIONAL AWARD - TAKE A BOW!!**

*By Art Bunn*

During our training weekend Ellen Vollmer Hodges of the USFS presented the Forest Service Chief's Volunteers Program National Award for the agency's 5-state Rocky Mountain Region. PWV has received this award in recognition of **YOUR** efforts in educating the public in the principles of Leave No Trace through countless hours and miles of hiking/riding. Congratulations!! Your involvement **IS** making a significant contribution to both the current and future beauty and health of our land.

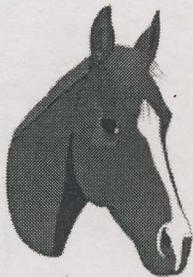
## **WILDERNESS TRIVIA**

Last issue's question was, "How many wilderness areas are there in Colorado?" (Not including monuments, national parks, or proposed study areas)

Answer: 33

This issue's question: For the 1998 season, how many trails do Poudre Wilderness Volunteers patrol?





## FROM THE SADDLE

Amy Williams

Now that the training sessions are behind us, the PWV Horse Patrol is underway with more solid horses thanks in part to some good pre-season training sessions. Our April training program held at Jacques Rieux's ranch resulted in positive encounters for our horses and we all benefited from the obstacle work.

On behalf of the entire horse patrol unit I'd like to thank some volunteers who helped to make this all possible. A big thanks to Poudre Wilderness volunteers' Wayne Tobey and his wife Marian, Alfred Vigil, Nancy Weaver, Sophie Sawyer, and Tom VanVelson for bringing (or being) obstacles and helping to make the training a great success. Also, kudos to Jacques & Donna for hosting the event and for the great breakfast rolls!

### *A few notes of reminder for horse folks:*

We should all be feeding certified weed-free hay prior to and during our rides in the backcountry. A list of suppliers is located in Appendix 3 of your Field Guide, page 11-1.

If you are scheduled to ride out of Jack's Gulch on a patrol and you plan to spend the night, you can call the camp hosts to reserve a horse camping site.

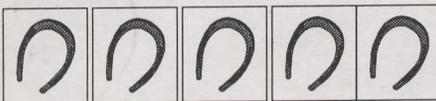
The phone number is 881-2913.

## ***DON'T GET ON THE WRONG TRAIL!!***

The trail "Rawah to Twin Crater Lakes", that some of you are assigned to patrol should be approached from the West Branch Trailhead and not the Rawah Trailhead. It is also recommended that you contact any other PWV members that may also be hiking or riding the West Branch Trail to Camp Lake, Island Lake or Carey Lake to let them know your plans if you are going to be in the area during the same weekend. Even though the West Branch Trail is heavily used we do not want to make multiple contacts and outnumber the public guest in the area, so concentrate on the lake(s) that you are assigned. Use the radio on Channel 1 (Roosevelt Direct) to contact other PWV members as appropriate while on the trail. Refer to the Filed Guide, West Branch Trail for more information.

You still must pay the \$12/nite fee for a campsite but it is tax deductible.

Horse patrol member Chuck Peterson has offered to conduct a horse packing session for any members interested in learning more about horse packing. If you are interested, please call Amy Williams at 881-2147.



### ***DROP OFF BOX***

A "Drop Box" is available at the USFS Visitors Center on College Avenue for you to drop off your radios or other equipment after normal business hours. Remember to always include the yellow copy of the Checkout Form(s) so that we can credit you with the return. The drop off box is located on the left hand side of the main entrance.

### ***IMPACT OF NOXIOUS WEEDS***

*Lori Wiles*

Noxious weeds are aggressive, undesirable plants that are not native to an area and displace native plants and alter wildlife habitat. Noxious weeds are a threat to the wilderness and are as damaging as WILDFIRES with more permanent effects on the landscape. Everyone can help prevent the spread of noxious weeds: For example, rid camping gear, boots and clothing of mud and weed seed before each trip and at each campsite. Literature about noxious weeds is available the Forest Service office, in the Visitors Information Room, where you pick up radios and other equipment. You are encouraged to simply let your contacts know that noxious weeds exist, and are a threat to the wilderness. If you have any questions, please call fellow volunteer Lori Wiles, a Weed Ecologist for the USDA Agricultural Research Service at 491-8520.

(Training Information - Continued from page 1)

	National Forest	Wilderness	Travel Zone
Dogs	Under voice command or on a leash. Exception - Leash required on Greyrock.	Must be on a leash.	Must be on a leash.
Motorized Vehicles	Bikes and other wheeled vehicles allowed on trails, but no bikes on Greyrock.	Not allowed.	Not allowed.
Camps & Fires	At least 100 feet away from any lake, stream, spring, or trail. Exception - Young Gulch excludes fires within ¼ mile of trail.	At least 200 feet away from any lake, stream, spring, or trail.	Tents must be within 30 feet of the campsite marker, and only self-contained chemical stoves allowed. No wood fires of any kind can be built and used.
Livestock	Keep at least 100 ft away from any lake, spring, pond or trail. Only weed free hay allowed (twine has some blue visible).	Keep at least 200 ft away from any lake, spring, pond or trail.	No overnight stays.
Group Size	No limitation.	Maximum of 12 heartbeats in a group counting people and livestock.	Maximum 12 people.

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**Poudre Wilderness Volunteers**  
 PO Box 271921  
 Fort Collins, CO 80527



Linda Bell  
 Correspondent  
 North Forty News  
 4620 County Rd 82E  
 Livermore, CO 80536