



Poudre Trails

The Poudre Wilderness Volunteers Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 3

www.fortnet.org/pwv

August 1999

1999 SEASON & RANGER REPORTS *By Martha Moran*

"Happy trails to you (pwv'er)... until we meet again". Your trail reports are very good and giving me lots of great information to share with all including the visitors to our national forests, biologists, botanists, trail crews, and fish biologists just to name a few. Be sure to get your reports in as soon as possible following your hike/patrol.

Here is some entertaining and enlighten information from some of the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers Ranger Reports so far. Thanks for making a difference and hiking or riding with a purpose.

Quotable quotes from 1999 PWV Ranger Reports. As of June 16, 1999

"All hikers contacted were incredibly friendly. It is apparent people on this trail are not out there for alone time, but rather just to be in nature, based on the contact/conversation we had"—Lily Mtn Trail, Denise Rajala and Alfred Vigil.

"Stopped to let fast hikers pass and noticed some beautiful yellow flowers all facing up, when we returned 2 hours later all the flowers were turned facing the receding sun. What an affirmation that nature is so alive!"—Young's Gulch trail, Laurie Hollis and Tammy Tassug.

"Wildlife encountered included a cow elk and four teenagers with technicolor hair."—Young's Gulch, Jack Hilderbrant.

"One the sign that says - rough, primitive trail, someone has carved, maliciously but accurately, 'No Lie!'"—Mt McConnel Trail, David Cantrell, Tracy Feist, Terri Schumacher

"Four cow elk spotted along the trail."—Fish Creek Trail, Paul Asmus, Art Bunn

"Six cow elk and one turkey vulture."—Mt Margaret Trail, Richard Norris

"Weather encountered: Sunny, Cloudy, Partly Cloudy, Rain, Hail, Lightning."—Lion Gulch, Bill Bolinger, Molly Schriebman, Chris Oster

"USGS map we used was useless. Patrollers and field guide should say not to use, as the trails are not as depicted. We missed the turnoff sign to Little Beaver Creek, so patrolled and camped at Fish Creek instead."—Fish Creek, Little Beaver Creek, Ron Wemple, Marian Weissner

"Emmaline Lake Trail and Mummy Pass Trails were in great shape overall. The people we encountered seemed to know the difference between the wilderness and forest area. There was still a large amount of snow beyond the meadows and on the mummy pass trail."—Emmaline Lake, Mummy Pass, Joe Bagley, Shasti Dyer

(See *Ranger Reports* on page 5)

TRAINING RESULTS & 1999 SEASON

By Martha Moran

Happy trails to you... until we meet again, I will enjoy reading and learning from your ranger/trail reports. The 1999 season has been going well so far because of all the people like you willing to make a difference for this organization. At the annual training weekend we were blessed with great speakers and good weather. We tabulated the results of your evaluations and input on how we can make it better for PWVers in 2000.

I would like to share some of our comments and outcomes:

On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1="needs major improvement" to 5="don't change a thing".

Overall weekend average score—4
Site selection—5

(See *Training* on page 3)

LOOKING FOR MORE INVOLVEMENT?

(especially after hiking season)

Even as we take to the trails for a season of enjoyment in our beautiful backcountry, plans for next year are being conceived, and a call goes out to PWV members. If you have interests, skills, or desires that tend toward chairing or providing manpower, womanpower, or horsepower to any of the following PWV committees or activities (or some not yet conjured up), please email or call Bill Dold at wrld@aol.com or 532-2909, or call PWV at 498-2776.

Communications—contact members via phone tree and other methods.

Community Education—speak to clubs, organizations, scouts, or other groups interested in PWV or Leave No Trace.

Fundraising—contact community and business leaders, write grant applications, or develop other fundraising activities.

Mentor Program—gain advanced training and skills to provide first-year volunteers some on-the-trail follow-up to their training weekend.

(See *Involvement* on page 5)



NEW LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES

By Garin VanDeMark

After careful review, the six LNT principles have evolved to seven:

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

The increase in recreation usage of our wildlands continues to threaten both the protection of natural resources and the quality of the individual visitors recreational experience. The Leave No Trace educational efforts are aimed at minimizing natural and social impacts related to the number of visitors and possible conflict. In recent years there has been growing concern that the Leave No Trace principles do not address impacts on wildlife or the impacts of visitors on the experiences of each other. There has also been some dissatisfaction with the wording of some of the principles; hence the need to revise the LNT principles.

Principle 1—Plan Ahead and Prepare:
Has remained unchanged.

Principle 2—Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces: This principle has been revised from *Camp and Travel on Durable Surfaces* to put the activities in correct order. *Traveling before camping.*

Principle 3—Dispose of Waste Properly: This principle is a result of combining the two principles *Pack It In, Pack It Out* and *Properly Dispose of What You Can't Pack Out*. Since new principles were being added, there was strong pressure to combine existing principles where possible.

Principle 4—Leave What You Find:
Has remained unchanged.

Principle 5—Minimize Campfire Impacts: This is a rewording of the principle *Minimize the Use and Impact of Fire*. This rewording was to clarify the specific concern of LNT with campfires and to eliminate the suggestion that visitors should forgo all campfires, particularly in frontcountry campgrounds.

Principle 6—Respect Wildlife: This is a new principle that was felt necessary to provide a focus on protecting wildlife. There was also felt to be a need to provide

a bridge to further involve fishing and hunting enthusiasts and the fish and wildlife management agencies.

Principle 7—Be Considerate of Other Visitors: This new principle was added to recognize the problems associated with visitor crowding and the resultant visitor conflict issues.

Conclusion

The transition to the new principles will take some time. The Leave No Trace organization has stated that it will likely take two years to revise the Skills and Ethics booklets and to deplete the existing inventories. Revising the LNT principles doesn't make the previous principles wrong. Either set of principles provides an excellent basis for us to use when educating the visitors we as Poudre Wilderness Volunteers meet on the trail. In thinking about the revised LNT principles, it occurred to me that we now have a set of guiding principles that expand the Leave No Trace ethic to not only the land but also wildlife and other visitors. In visiting the wilderness, the objective is not only to Leave No Trace on the trails and campsites but to also Leave No Trace of our presence with wildlife or other visitors who are present at the same time.



Poudre Trails is a bi-monthly publication 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

Co-Chair Bill Dold & Tony Parent

Secretary Dave Cantrell

Treasurer Bill Bolinger

Newsletter Committee:

Coordinator Glen French

Editor Rosalind Watkins

Art Director Mike Frieauf

Reporters:

Garin VanDeMark Bill Dold

Glen French Frank Lilley

Amy Williams Martha Moran

WELCOME

Please welcome first year PWV member Rosalind Watkins and second year member Mike Frieauf to the Poudre Trails newsletter team. Rosalind will be collecting articles and performing editorial functions as our new Editor. Mike will be the new Art Director—responsible for design and layout.

If you have any questions about the Newsletter or know of some artwork that may be appropriate please contact Mike at (970) 221-9234 or via e-mail at m.frieauf@worldnet.att.net.

If you want to contribute an article or provide information about your patrols that would be of value to PWV members please contact Rosalind at (970) 266-0249, or via email at Rozzmay@aol.com.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the May meeting of the PWV board of directors, the following volunteers were elected to a two-year position on the board:

Carol Busch—Carol has previous experience with the Fish and Wildlife Education Committee, the National Park Service interpreter program and newsletter, and has written articles for the US Forest Service and High Country News.

Dave Cantrell—Dave has previously been involved with the Poudre School District health advisory board, state and international societies for school psychologists, and has been active in several PWV projects.

Ras Erdal—Ras has been the president and cultural director for the Sons of Norway, is on the stewardship committee of his church and the board of directors of the Loveland Mountain Club, and has served in Habitat for Humanity.

Paul James—Paul's past experiences includes serving as president on the board of directors of a 40-member fishing club with civic as well as social involvement in Florida, and he has been involved with the Department of Wildlife and the scouts.

The board of directors welcomes these individuals and the strengths and dedication they bring in addition to the commitment they have already shown by being exemplary hikers for PWV.





ENDANGERED, THREATENED, OR SENSITIVE ANIMALS

By Martha Moran

Here is a list of species within our District/Forest that you might see out in the field. They are currently on the 1999 List of Endangered, Threatened, or Sensitive Animals. If you have the knowledge to identify any of these "critters", we are interested in tracking their populations and what they're doing. So if you see these critters, please let John Bustos (Wildlife Biologist) know. Volunteers can make note in their trail reports. This will really help us keep track of our wildlife resource. Should you have any questions, please contact John Bustos 970/498-1357, e-mail: jbustos/r2_arnfpng@fs.fed.us. —Thank you.

E=Endangered T=Threatened S=Sensitive

BIRDS:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Bald Eagle (T) | Northern Goshawk (T) |
| Boreal Owl (S) | Northern Three-Toed Woodpecker (S) |
| Ferruginous Hawk (S) | Olive-Sided Flycatcher (S) |
| Flammulated Owl (S) | Peregrine Falcon (T) |
| Fox Sparrow (S) | Purple Martin (S) |
| Golden Crowned Kinglet (S) | Pygmy Nuthatch (S) |
| Merlin (S) | |

MAMMALS:

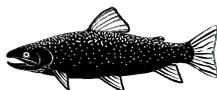
- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Dwarf Shrew (S) | Pine Marten (S) |
| North American Lynx (S)* | Pygmy Shrew (S) |
| North American Wolverine (S)* | River Otter (E in Colorado) |

AMPHIBIANS:

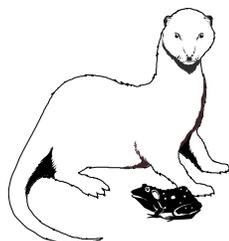
- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Boreal Toad (S, E in Colorado) | Tiger Salamander (S) |
| Northern Leopard Frog (S) | Wood Frog (S) |

FISH:

- Greenback Cutthroat Trout (T in Colorado)



*Soon to be listed nationally (Endangered on State List)



WILDERNESS EDUCATION PROGRAM OF THE YEAR AWARD

During this year's Wilderness Ranger Workshop in Durango Colorado, the Canyon Lakes Ranger District was the recipient of the Wilderness Education Program of the Year Award. Ralph Swaine, the USFS National Coordinator for Leave No Trace presented the award. This award is in recognition for all the great work that our Ranger District does to persevere our wild areas and educate the public. PWV is a big part of the overall program in the district.

(Training Continued from page 1)

- Training Subjects—4
- Map and Compass—3.5
- LNT—4
- Horse Packing—3.5
- First Aid—5
- Role Playing—5

Some specific comments for us to improve and reflect on include:

- very busy, breaks could be longer
- well organized
- more time for fun and personal time
- great food, food was tasty, appreciate the special dietary accommodations
- don't eat vegetables not enough meat
- would like to have CPR classes
- would like to have First aid certification
- map and compass explanation and flip charts were awesome
- more time on map and compass

Thanks for the feedback, and enjoy making a difference as a Poudre Wilderness Volunteer!



A BIG - THANK YOU!

A special thank you goes out to Lenora Alvarados and Mark Nelson of the USFS. In conjunction with Northern Dispatch they provided informative radio training during special sessions for veteran members and then again during the training weekend for new PWV members. Their knowledge and efforts have provided us with a greater understanding of radio use and procedures. KUDOS too Leonora and Mark!

FROM THE SADDLE

by Amy Williams



Once again, the PWV horse unit is off to a solid start with a well attended obstacle training session at Jacques & Donna Rieux's ranch in Bonner Peak. Thanks again to Jacques, Donna and all of the PWV radio session participants for helping on the course!

As you are patrolling the trails this summer and talking with people who have set up horse camps, keep a few key LNT points in mind.

- When tied, horses should be kept at least 200 feet from trails and water sources.
- Horses can be tied to a highline—a rope strung between two trees. Tree saver straps should be used but if they're not available, two cinches from the rider's saddles can be used to prevent damage to the trees. Trees at least 8 inches in diameter or larger should be used for this restraint method.
- Ideally, a group should need just one pack horse for every three riders. By using light-weight camping equipment this can easily be achieved.
- Scatter manure in campsites by breaking it up with a stick or your foot. This helps manure to break down quickly and reduces the visual impact. When you see manure on the trail, please kick it apart. It's organic matter and won't hurt your boots!

If during the season you encounter situations with livestock that you're uncertain about or would like to share with others, please call me at (970) 881-2147 or e-mail me at zachco@jymis.com.

Happy Trails!



FIRE & FIRE RINGS

By Frank Lilley

As Poudre Wilderness Volunteers we have a unique opportunity and responsibility to understand the use of fires in our wild areas and to educate visitors on the correct use of them.

In the wilderness areas we patrol, 200 feet and beyond has been the distance designated from water sources and trails to pitch camp and build fires. This creates a larger buffer zone, minimizes pollution in water sources, offers more privacy, and puts less stress on wildlife that are dependent on riparian habitat for water and survival.

We need to exercise good discretion when destroying fire rings. Fire rings within 200 feet of water sources and trails should be dismantled. Although some fire rings in heavily impacted, and often used campsites, within 150 and 200 feet of water sources, and trails, maybe should be cleaned up and left. Again use good discretion. Fire rings outside 200 feet

should be cleaned up if needed, and left for future use, as long as they are in established and popular campsites. If there are multiple fire rings in a camp, it would be best to destroy all but one.

In non-wilderness areas, 100 feet is the suggested distance from water and trails to build fires. Whether in wilderness or non-wilderness areas always suggest alternatives such as pan fires, mound fires, or simply using a candle as a substitute for building fires. This will greatly reduce the impact, and resource damage that fire building creates.

DISMANTLING UNDESIRABLE & ILLEGAL FIRE RINGS

When dismantling a fire ring, our main objective should be to restore the site to as natural a state as possible. Following are some tips to accomplish this objective:

{a} Remove all rocks from ring, disperse them as far away as possible from existing site. If there is a rocky area

nearby like a stream bank, slide area etc. distribute in these areas.

{b} Remove all ashes and distribute them in the surrounding area, take care not to dispose of them in the same spot.

{c} Once all ashes are disposed of, cover the sterile area with duff, gravel, pine needles, etc. Try to make it match the surrounding area as much as possible in appearance.

{d} Remove any loose firewood, logs, and rock benches. This will help discourage further use.

{e} Remove all garbage from fire pit such as aluminum foil, tin etc.



UNDERSTANDING FOREST ORDERS

Editor's note—This is a reprint of an article from the August 1998 issue of Poudre Trail. It should be useful for new members as well as a handy “checklist” for all of us.

There are always 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 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. Camping in 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 following table. 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 1999 PWV Field Guide on pages 4-3 and 4-4.

Knowledge of how the Forest Orders vary with the different areas we patrol can be useful in educating the public. For example, there are trails where people can ride mountain bikes or let their dog run free under voice command, and we can serve them by guiding them to those trails.



	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 1/4 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.	Max of 12 hearts in a group counting people and livestock.	Max of 12 people.

MENTORS PROGRAM

By Garin VanDeMark

Those of you who were at the training weekend got to see the newly organized PWV Mentors in action!

Who we are:

There are 13 Mentors for the 1999 season:

Bill Bollinger

Art Bunn

David Cantrell

Bill Dold

Paul James

Don Kranz

Frank Lilley

Richard Norris

Richard Peterson

Jacques Rieux

Wayne Tobey

Garin VanDeMark

Lori Wiles

What we are:

We are seasoned PWV veterans who are interested in volunteering to work with new members and also help our present members who would like to learn or improve their Leave-No-Trace hiking, backpacking, and horse packing skills. As you know, the purpose of the PWV organization is to support the USFS in managing and protecting the wilderness and backcountry areas. Our ultimate objective is to reduce the impact visitors have on these wild lands by helping visitors know the regulations and learn and apply the Leave No Trace principles. In an effort to insure all PWV's have a common knowledge and approach to the Leave-No-Trace principles, the Mentors have received special training. This group of seasoned and specially trained volunteers will work as "PWV Mentors" teaching new members and present PWV members who wish to improve their Leave-No-Trace skills.

What we will be doing:

Where possible, Mentors have been scheduled to accompany new volunteers on an early season hike. Again the objective will be to help these new volunteers get off to a good start and feel comfortable in their role using the "Authority of the Resource" in passing on the USFS rules, and regulations and LNT principles.



BUSINESS CARDS

Personalized PWV's 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 will contain PWV's website, Mail address, and phone number. The cards may 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.

(Involvement Continued from page 1)

Mounted Contingent—organize, qualify, and provide encounter training for PWV riders who have trail-ready horses.

Newsletter—gather, write and edit articles, establish timelines and deadlines, provide layout, obtain printing, and mail.

Recruiting—establish methods for achieving recruitment goals and interviewing potential new members.

Scheduling—develop and implement improved plans for obtaining hiker and rider availability dates, assign patrols, maintain a roster and master schedule, and monitor compliance to commitments via reports filed.

Training Weekend Planning—organize and implement in 15 areas of planning which include agenda development, obtaining presenters, providing meals, preparing packets, and many others.

Updating Field Guide—continue improvement of our already excellent handbook.

Video Revision—assist in updating and refining our informational video.

Winter Programs—establish advanced classes in membership interest areas.

Year-end Event—plan an autumn get-together to socialize and recognize.

These are current topics of activity in PWV. If you are satisfied by "hiking and riding with a purpose" please rest assured that your involvement provides the heart and soul of PWV. However, the organization does not run on anatomy and spirit alone, and any additional contribution you make will be highly appreciated and will assure continued existence of Poudre Wilderness Volunteers.



HOW DO I PURCHASE A PWV VIDEO TAPE?

Videos can be purchased for \$10 by sending a check and the following request form to Poudre Wilderness Volunteers, PO Box 271921, Fort Collins, Colorado 80527. Please make your check payable to: **Poudre Wilderness Volunteers**. The tapes will be mailed to the address on the request form within 2-3 weeks.

PWV Video Tape Request

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____

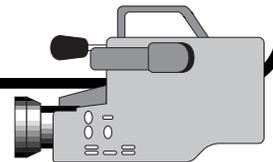
Work Phone _____

of Tapes Requested _____

I have enclosed \$10 for each tape that I am requesting.

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please mail to: **PWV, PO Box 271921, Fort Collins, CO 80527**



(Ranger Reports Continued from page 1)

"Kevin also carries whistles that he gives to kids. He passed some of these out to some little ones we met on the trail. What a great ice breaker! The kids proceeded to question each of the hikers there after - "Where is your whistle?"—Lion's Gulch Trailhead, Lori Wiles

"My horse bogged down .2 of a mile from the trailhead on the way back. Great help from Forest Service, PWV, Sheriff, John Englebert, two people at the trailhead parking lot to get Leah out of the slime. The mare was ecstatic to be freed, completely unscathed, Thanks to one [and all!]"—Mt Margaret, Jacques Rieux.



This newsletter is sponsored by *Jax's Mercantile Company* and printing is provided "at cost" compliments of *Pressworks Printing*. Please support these local merchants.



JAX
Mercantile
Company

200 NORTH COLLEGE • FT. COLLINS
221-0544 • M-F 8-9. S 8-6. S 9-6

QUALITY OUTDOOR GEAR

- **QUALITY**
- **SERVICE**
- **SELECTION**
- **SATISFACTION**
- **CONVENIENCE**

Jax Outdoors has maintained a tradition of offering fine camping, hiking, mountaineering, climbing, and boating products since 1955. Our highly trained and experienced staff have field-tested most of the products listed and can advise you on the best type of product for your needs.

WWW.JAXOUTDOOR.COM



PRESSWORKS
PRINTING AND BUSINESS FORMS, INC.

416 REMINGTON STREET
FORT COLLINS, COLORADO 80524
970/493-7795

*If you like what you see and hear in this newsletter and want to join the **Poudre Wilderness Volunteers** or support our cause, please mail us at*

**P.O. Box 271921,
Fort Collins, CO 80527**
*or contact us at
(970) 498-2776*



Poudre Wilderness Volunteers

PO Box 271921

Fort Collins, CO 80527