

Final Proposal 2023 Spring Tune-up (STU)

Background information: the Supplemental Training Committee used to offer classes for returning members at Spring Training (ST.) Members who were volunteering at ST and those who just wanted to reconnect with PWV would spend the day or the weekend at camp. Supplemental Training gave them opportunities to brush up on skills such as Map and Compass, GPS Navigation, Plant ID, First Aid, Weather Awareness, Animal Scats and Tracks, Bird Watching, Yoga for the Hiker, and other areas of interest. These activities also provided good social opportunities.

However, there were drawbacks to this effort.

- the classes were remote and required transportation time. Not all presenters and attendees wanted to travel.
- weather impacted turnout.
- although people expressed interest in the topics, attendance was relatively low.
- the facilities were not always amenable to classroom learning and the outside activities. Space was limited for the number of people participating.
- Spring Training volunteers such as AGLs, kitchen staff, check-in helpers, Recertifiers, and trail actors could not participate.

Several years ago the suggestion was made that the Supplemental Training portion of ST be moved to a place and time that allowed easier access and more participation by all members. It also makes sense to open this event to other committees that returning members might want to connect with. In 2019 PWV held a Gear Meet/Swap, which could be included in STU. The first events of the year usually have good turnout, as PWVs are ready to socialize and return to patrolling.

This is the proposed outline for a Spring Tune-up, should the PWV Board approve and related committees agree to participate. It will be referred to as “Spring Tune-up” (STU) in this proposal. This would be a multi-committee offering, not a Supplemental Training class.

Who: *Returning members only.* PWV has an organized, sequential method for inducting new members. STU would not be appropriate for prospective members. Second year members additionally have a special event (the Second Year Event.)

Time: We are targeting March 4, 2023, possibly 9 am-1 pm.

Location: an indoor facility with wifi, meeting spaces, and a large room for mingling and committee tables. An adjacent outdoor space could also be useful.

Under consideration: Colorado Youth Outdoors; Unitarian Church in FC; Fort Collins United Methodist Church.

Purpose: to reconnect with other PWV members (social); learn about opportunities within PWV in addition to patrolling; allow committees to reach out to members who share their interests; gain new skills or update older skills; replenish supplies.

Core participants/stations:

USFS: meet the personnel; get familiar with SPOT-X; answer questions; learn about Visitor Center virtual options and how to get relevant information.

Office Crew: replenish cards and pamphlets; review SPOT-X and Trailhead Hosting pickup/checkout procedures.

Patrol Gear Committee: sell maps, hats, shirts, etc.

Trail Patrolling Committee: update USFS volunteer agreements and member profiles; how to find patrolling partners; conduct Gear Grab/Swap giving members a place to donate, buy, sell, swap gear.

Web Team: explore PWV website using chromebooks; answer general questions; Google Drive classes?

Possible presentations/handouts: weather; Scats and Tracks; What's in your backpack?; ultralight backpacking gear and techniques; CO-TREX; navigation basics; intro to Basic First Aid, Leave No Trace.

Committee Outreach (invite all committees to participate and especially the following): KIN; Trail Crew and Restoration; Supplemental Training; Stock Patrol; Weeds; Leave No Trace; Non-patrolling; Photo/Video; Member Relations; Mentoring; Public Outreach; Trails for All; etc.

Refreshments: TBD.

Budget: Facility Cleaning fee if applicable (\$200), food and beverages (\$100).