



May 2013 Newsletter



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May Program

You are invited to a free public presentation on Thursday, May 9 at 7:00 pm, at the Montana Wild Center next to the MT Wildlife Rehab Center at Spring Meadow Lake.

All About the Great Burn



The Great Burn name comes from the 1910 fires which were most intense in areas of the 1.8 million acres along the state line between Lolo Pass and Lookout Pass in Missoula and Mineral Counties and which contributed to the current ecology of the area.

Beverly Dupree, Policy and Field Studies Director for the Great Burn Study Group, will share photos and talk about the group's goal to achieve wilderness status for wildlands in the northern Bitterroot Mountains of western Montana and northern Idaho. Dupree's presentation will include talking about the Great Burn's history, Native American culture as well as recreational opportunities of the area. Her photos feature some of the area's magnificent sceneries as well as fish and wildlife.

May Day Trips

All trips are weather-dependent and subject to last minute cancellation. Please check with the leader to make sure the trip is a go.

Show & Go Monday hikes: join Barb on short hikes in the Helena area. Meet at 9:00 am in the parking lot next to Ben Franklin on Euclid. We're usually back by mid-afternoon. Call Barb (443-1159) or read about each trip via the HOC Yahoo e-group.

Show & Go Tuesday evening hikes: Meet at 5:30 pm in the parking lot across from the L&C Library. Hike on Mt. Helena or Ascension trails. Call JoAnne (449-7971) for details.

Show and Go Tuesday evening flatwater paddling:

Come join an easy-going group of kayakers and canoeists who paddle on lakes somewhere close to town for a couple hours. We decide each Tuesday where we'll meet the following week and get the word out through e-mail. We usually meet on the water at 6 pm. If you have your own boat & lifejacket, like to paddle and are comfortable in your boat, call Susan Nimick (443-5980) or email snimick@mt.net for more information. You can also check the Basecamp and Capital Sports websites for weekly details.

Thursday, May 2, 6:30 pm, at Montana Wild Center:

BEYOND BANDAIDS. Co-sponsored by HOC and Montana Wild, this program discusses treatment of common afflictions that can happen in the wilderness. Dr. Anne Anglim is a hospitalist at St. Peter's Hospital and has additional certifications in Wilderness and Tropical Medicine. She will cover problems associated with heat, cold, altitude, frostbite, use of Spot Personal Locators and will answer any additional questions.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

If you sign up for a trip and cannot go, let the leader or someone in the group know that you won't be there.

Sunday, May 12: Mount Helena Ridge Trail hike. A moderate 7-mile hike starting at Park City and ending in Helena. However, because of spring tree cutting along the trail, we may need to adjust our course. A car shuttle will be provided. Leaving at 9:00 am. Call JoAnne (449-7971) for meeting place.

Saturday, May 18: Mountain bike ride around the "Duckie Ponds" near Townsend. A flat, easy ride on the packed-dirt dikes for about 2 hours. Bring binoculars for some fantastic bird watching. We may even get a glimpse of the resident moose. Best done on a bike with good suspension and wide tires. Leaving at 9:30 am. Call Pat (406-241-6336) for meeting place.

Community Events:

Sunday, May 19: Frazier Mountain hike, west of Bynum. We'll hike the first 2.3 miles on a trail through Blackleaf Canyon, followed by an off-trail scramble for another mile to the top. Views of the Rocky Mountain Front and the undulating prairie to the east are spectacular. This is a fairly strenuous hike with 1,938 ft. elevation gain/loss and will take most of the day at a relaxed pace. Leaving at 7:00 am. Call Tim or Jan (442-1619) for details and meeting place.

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May Weekend Event

NOTE: weekend events are open to the public but we give priority to members of the HOC. If you want to invite a friend who is not a member we'll put them on the waiting list (or ask them to become a member to secure their spot). HOC's cancellation policy applies. Contact leaders for details.

Friday-Monday, May 24-27 (Memorial Day weekend): Blackfoot River camping & kayak trip. Based on water flows, JoAnne will pick two different stretches of the river to float each day. For intermediate kayakers. Leaving Friday late afternoon, we'll set up camp at River Bend Campground for two nights. Call JoAnne (449-7971) for details and to register.

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Summer event:

Julie McKenna-Weber is planning a backpacking trip at the end of July to the incredibly beautiful **Froze-to-Death Plateau in the Beartooth Mountains**. Call Julie if you would like more information and are interested in joining her (410-1037). Space is limited. She'll start planning meetings in June.

Reminders, additional and last-minute trips will be posted on our YAHOO e-list, a growing network of nearly 100 local outdoorsy folks. You can find us at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hoc_members/. If you aren't on this list and don't know how to sign up for the HOC YAHOO e-group, email Monique Mandali (monique@mandali.com) and she'll send you instructions. It's FREE to members and a super way to read about those spontaneous trips!

Saturday, May 4: International Migratory Bird Day at the Regulating Reservoir, a full-day family-friendly festival at the Regulating Reservoir. Early Bird walks start at 6:30, hands-on stations, entertainment and live birds from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Visit www.montanadiscoveryfoundation.org or call Sam (495-3718) if you would like to be a volunteer.

Saturday, May 11: Don't Fence Me In Trail Run. Helena's favorite trail event and a big fundraiser for the Prickly Pear Land Trust with 30K, 12K, 5K run/walks and a 5K Dog Walk. To register, call the PPLT (442-0490) or visit <http://www.pricklypearlt.org/>

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THE HELENA OUTDOOR CLUB is for everyone, regardless of age. Our outdoor activities vary with the seasons and include hiking, backpacking, canoeing and kayaking, bicycling, snowshoeing, XC and downhill skiing. Most activities are free. Members organize and guide trips for the casual recreationist. No experience necessary. We also offer free public presentations on adventure travel in Montana and around the world.

Yearly memberships are only \$10/family. Mail check to PO Box 135, Helena, MT 59624.
www.helenaoutdoorclub.org

A club for non-motorized recreation since 1972

Steering Committee:

Trip Coordinator	Jo Anne Thun	449-7971
Trip Co-Coordinator	Helen Fee	461-6741
Weekend Event Coordinator	Jan Horan	442-1619
Memberships & Treasurer	MaryAlice Chester	495-8787
Database & Newsletter	Monique Mandali	495-9206
YAHOO Group Moderator	Monique Mandali	495-9206
Website	Monique Mandali	495-9206
Refreshments Coordinator	MaryAlice Chester	495-8787

And many more volunteers. Thank you!



Kayaking on the Bull River,
photo by Sally Hilander