



BACKCOUNTRY CACHE

A Newsletter for Members of CMC Backpacking Section

May 2021

CHAIR'S CORNER - Uwe Sartori

Members often ask what do trip leaders do in getting a trip built and across the finish line? Tied into the answer is *the awesome value CMC members receive each time they sign up and do a CMC trip.* (Think about it. If you go to a guide service, you are likely paying hundreds of dollars a day.) The chart below shows my investment for an upcoming backpacking trip. This personal investment is repeated by many of our trip leaders regardless of the recreational activity. For this 2 day backpacking trip, there are 24 hours of prep/debrief/admin work and 20 hours of trip activity time; 44 hours total. You can begin to understand why the BPX Section is super keen on having our members keep their commitment and help us **AVOID ROSTER CHURN**. Having trips cancel due to CMC members dropping out is the bane of trip leaders. Show respect and community by keeping your commitment when signing up for a CMC adventure. I guarantee you will not regret it.

Task/Activity	Hours
Review BPX Trip Catalog, Pick Trip, Edit to Fit, Post to CMC Trips Calendar	3
Keep up with Roster & Standby Lists	2
Communications with Roster and Standby Folks Throughout	3
Optional Zoom Session	1
Optional Reconnoiter of The Route	11
Develop and Communicate Final Itinerary, Final Check List of To-Do Items	3
Execute Trip	20
Debrief/Communications/Admin Tasks	1

BPX TRIPS FOR NEXT 2 MONTHS

E=Easy M=Moderate D=Difficult

June - July Trips With Openings*

Jun 1-3 Tue-Thu M [Camping, Hiking, Fishing at Browns Canyon Nat'l Monument](#)

Jun 9-11 Wed-Fri E [Mayflower and Mohawk Lakes, White River NF](#)

Jun 11-13 Fri-Sun M [Just-in-Time Wigwam Park, Lost Creek Wilderness](#)

Jun 25-28 Fri-Mon D [Colorado Trail - Collegiate West Exploratory](#)

Jun 29- Jul 1 Tue-Thu D [Willow and Salmon Lakes, Eagles Nest Wilderness](#)

Jul 1-2 Thu-Fri D [Macey Lakes and Colony Baldy, Sangre de Cristo Wilderness](#)

Jul 1-3 Thu-Sat M [RMNP - Odessa Lake](#)

Jul 6-8 Tue-Thu M [Abyss Lake, Mount Evans Wilderness](#)

Jul 10-11 Sat-Sun M [Elliott Ridge and Gore Range Trail, Eagles Nest Wilderness](#)

Jul 18-19 Sun-Mon E [Brady Lake, Holy Cross Wilderness](#)

Jul 30- Aug 1 Fri-Sun M [Abyss Lake, Mount Evans Wilderness](#)

June - July Trips With 0-1 on Standby List*

Jun 4-6 Fri-Sun D [Goose Creek McCurdy Park, Lost Creek Wilderness](#)

Jun 8-10 Tue-Thu M [Refrigerator Gulch Lost Creek Wilderness](#)
BPX Trails Inventory Joint Trip

Jun 9-10 Wed-Thu M [Native Lake, Mount Massive Wilderness](#)

Jun 23-25 Wed-Fri E [Wigwam Trail, Lost Creek Wilderness](#)

Jun 29- Jul 1 Tue-Thu M [Crag Crest Trail, Grand Mesa](#)

Jul 23-25 Fri-Sun E [Windsor Lake, Holy Cross Wilderness, Doggie Trip](#)

Jul 27-29 Tue-Thu M [Ute Trail, Gunnison Gorge NCA](#)

*As Of May 19

Continue to check the CMC trip signup for additional trips. To see just the BPX trips, select Backpacking from the Section dropdown and then click on the Search button. Remember registration is initially restricted to 3 trips whether on roster or standby, but BPX members can register for additional trips when the trip start date is less than 30 days out.

[Mountain Side Gear Rental](#) in Golden rents backpacking gear with a 25% discount for CMC Members.

SCHOOLS/EVENTS

DENVER BACKPACKING SCHOOL (BKPS) - Starts [June 1](#)

TCS NAVIGATION Virtual Courses

- [Nav1, Nav2 Info \(every month\)](#)
- [Nav1](#)
- [Nav2](#)

PIKES PEAK (PPG) WILDERNESS FUNDAMENTALS

- [June 7](#)
- [September 20](#)

DENVER CPR/AED

- [June 2](#)
- [June 10](#)

PPG LOCATOR BEACONS/SATELLITE COMMUNICATION DEVICES - [June 15](#)

PPG BACKPACKING SCHOOL

- [June 14](#)
- [August 23](#)

PPG WILDERNESS FIRST AID with CPR/AED - Starts [June 17](#)

PPG GPS BASICS CLASS - [July 26](#)

PPG TRIP LEADER SCHOOL - [October 18](#)

MUELLER GEAR CHECK

There is still time to sign up for this year's last Gear Check June 18-19 at Mueller State Park. Greg Long will share his long distance hiking secrets, and there will be other presentations as well.

This is a great opportunity to test your backpacking kit - any repairs needed, new equipment you are trying out, see what other backpackers bring, and share experiences and stories. Mueller State Park has its own trail system, and Dome Rock State Wilderness Area is just down the road. Although a portion of the area is closed until July 15 for Big Horn Sheep lambing season, the majority of the area is open to day hiking before or after the Gear Check.

Here are a few comments from a Pack Leader and BPX members who attended the May 14/15 Chatfield State Park Gear Check:

It was simple, fun, very informative and a great way to meet experienced and lesser experienced members. I had questions about gear and logistics and I got a ton of information. Much better than a lecture. I'd do this again just for fun!

The more I learn about Backpacking, the more I realize I don't know. The BPX Gear Check is an opportunity for old hands and newbies alike to get together and swap tips and tricks. As an old dog I am always looking to learn a new trick and the Gear Check never fails to teach me something useful!

A great opportunity to learn tips and tricks from fellow backpackers!

Cost is \$20 to cover campsite fees, but free to BPX Trip Leaders--contact CMCBPXTLC@gmail.com to receive discount code.

Gear Check

Q&A With Backpackers Bob & Bobbi

Dear Backpackers Bob & Bobbi,

I love backpacking but get overwhelmed trying to remember everything I need to take. How do you guys make sure you have everything loaded in your pack?

Dear Packing Challenged,

Bobbi and I always use a checklist to make sure we have everything—don't want to discover in the wilds that we forgot a critical piece of gear or didn't pack all our food. When we get home, we re-evaluate our checklist, making tweaks for things we forgot, didn't need, had too much or too little of, etc. We especially look at our food—I typically take too much.

Remember that what you pack will change slightly depending on the season, expected weather, number of trip-days, water availability, max distance/elevation gain in a day, above or below tree line, terrain (both travel and camping,) if there's a water crossing, etc. One of the benefits of being on a BPX trip is group size and gear sharing—if you do forget something or have a gear failure, odds are you can borrow/share with someone else.

Here are links to Checklists from BPX Ops Team:

- [John Walters](#)
- [Randy Blosser](#)
- [Leila Murphy](#)

These are some other lists to check out:

- [THE ULTIMATE OVERNIGHT BACKPACKING CHECKLIST from HYKE & BYKE](#)
- [Backpacking Gear List Template + 3-season Checklist from Andrew Skurka](#)
- [REI Backpacking Checklist](#)

Even with the most comprehensive list, check your equipment before you head out to make sure everything is in working order. A great place to do this is the upcoming Gear Check at Mueller on June 18.

See ya' on the trails,
Bob & Bobbi Backpacker

BPX MEMBER INFO

BPX FACEBOOK - The BPX Section has our own Facebook Group: [BPX FB](#)

BPX LINKS - Click [here](#) to go to the BPX web page, [here](#) for BPX Member Benefits, and [here](#) for CMC Member Benefits.

CMC COVID PROTOCOLS - Check [here](#) for latest May 17 update.

COLORADO STATE PARKS PASS - CMC members can order discounted passes directly from the CMC [here](#)

NAVIGATION - Check out CMC YouTube [Navigation Playlists](#), and COTREX Mapping Recorded Webinars [Module 1](#) and [Module 2](#).

LEAD THE PACK

WELCOME NEW BPX TRIP LEADERS

Kevin Durkan, Denver

Garrett Pettingell, Denver

The CMC Backpacking Section needs qualified CMC Trip Leaders from ALL CMC groups. Demand is simply outstripping supply. Becoming a BPX Trip Leader is open to all CMC members who are committed to meeting the qualifications. The BPX Committee will help you get there. There are a variety of paths to becoming a BPX Trip Leader. See which one fits [YOU](#)

Want to contribute to "The Pack"? Send your backpacking photos and articles to CMCBPXNewsletter@gmail.com so we can feature it in our Backcountry Cache Newsletter. For photos please include your name, location, and date.

"CMC Backpacking Section Supports Leave No Trace"

CMC connects Coloradans with more than 3,000 trips, hikes and activities annually. Members also receive huge deals on outdoor gear, lodging, events and more.

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