



# "BACKCOUNTRY CACHE"

A Newsletter for Members of CMC Backpacking Section

JUNE 2020

Issue 11-2020

## CMC CV19 Protocols ALLOW OVERNIGHT CAMPING

### STARTING IN JULY !

BPX Leaders have 38 trips scheduled between July 1 and October 31st. Check out trips with available slots and those with no wait list or only one person on the wait list below.

Find CMC's protocols for backpacks, hiking and office interactions during CV19 at this link: <https://www.cmc.org/COVID-19andCMCProgramming.aspx>

Colorado's Outdoor Recreation protocols found at: <https://covid19.colorado.gov/safer-at-home/safer-at-home-outdoor-recreation>

### Ride Sharing

Although CMC has developed backpacking and hiking protocols following Colorado's protocols, CMC does not have jurisdiction over ride sharing to trailheads. So, the following suggestions for ride sharing have been developed based on Colorado's protocols for Commercial Operators. These are suggestions; your BPX leader may elect to utilize other ride share protocols and BPX trip participants should fee free to contact their trip leader and ask what practices will be in place when traveling to and from a trailhead, campground, or initial activity site and during the activity.

#### PRE-TRIP

1. No member should participate on any trip if they have knowingly been exposed to Covid-19 or experienced CV19 symptoms within the past 14 days, or have traveled by aircraft or commercial cruise line within the past 14 days
2. Trips limited to six participants with ride sharing limited to two occupants per vehicle
3. Vehicle occupants agree whether to wear cloth masks or not, carry and use hand sanitizer; agree upon passenger seating location whether in front seat or in backseat diagonally from driver

#### DURING DRIVE

1. Drivers should disinfect vehicle's common touch points before and after each use of vehicle
2. Loading and Unloading Gear - Handle only your own gear, unless vehicle occupants have adopted "clan status" \*
3. Use the vehicle's cabin air intake mode rather than "recirculate" mode
4. Driver and occupant can crack their windows to draw their own breath out their window
5. Do not enter or use public places unless necessary; if public locations cannot be avoided use of disinfectant after touching any surface exposed to the public is recommended
6. Minimize gas stops and follow procedures set out above in #5

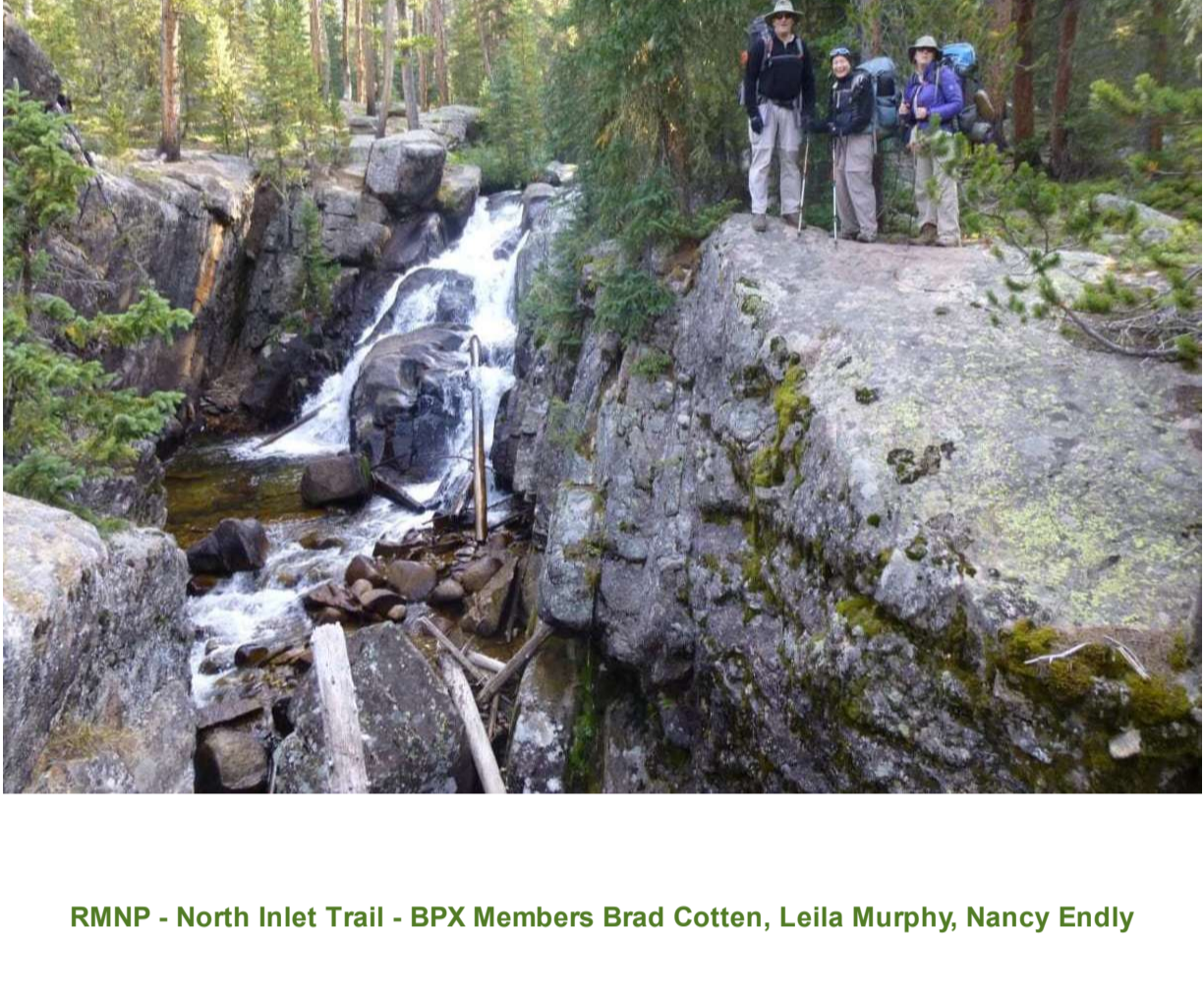
#### IN CAMP/ON TRAIL

1. Handle only own gear unless gloves are worn or you have elected "clan status"

#### POST TRIP

1. Notify leader immediately should you develop any CV19 symptoms or be diagnosed with CV19

\*"Same clan" implies a small band of members who travel together frequently, who have accepted each member into the clan after vetting each other for low-risk personal and household profiles; "same clan" members may relax protocols to their own standards with each other as long as they don't add risks to other participants



RMNP - North Inlet Trail - BPX Members Brad Cotten, Leila Murphy, Nancy Endly

Photo credit - Annie LeGrande

## "JOIN THE PACK "

### Trips with Remaining Openings\*

July 10 - Sandbeach Lake, RMNP - 2 slots

August 25 - Lost Creek Wilderness - Mc Curdy Park - 2 slots

October 20 - Lost Creek Wilderness - Wigwam Park - 2 slots

### Trips with NO Wait List \*

August 3 - Turquoise Lake

August 15 - Missouri Lakes

August 25 - Powderhorn Lake

September 3 - Blue Lakes

### Trips with ONE on Wait List\*

September 10 - Camp Lake - Rawah Wilderness

September 14 - Lost Lake - RMNP

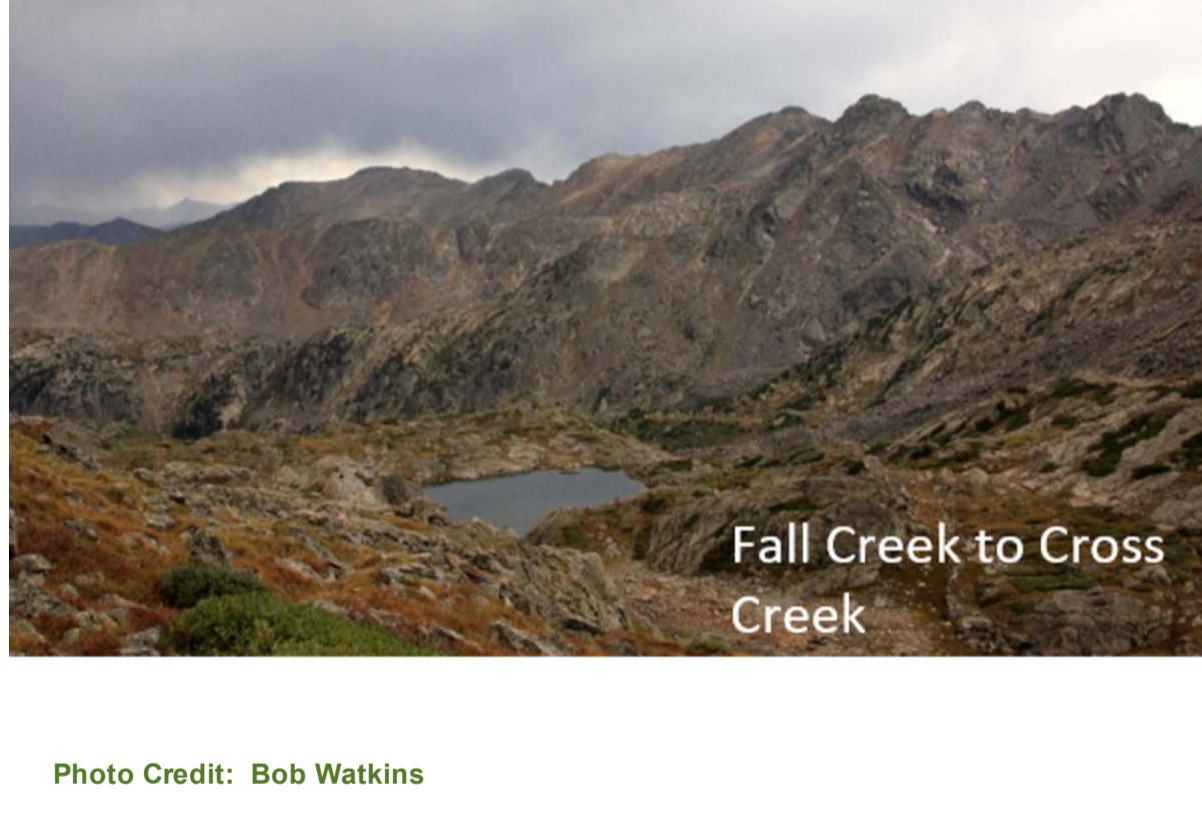
September 16 - Willow & Salmon Lakes

\* As of June 14th

### Trip Leader Needed

Want to aid in the Conservation Effort in Colorado's Wilderness Areas? Join the BPX Trails Inventory Trips in Lost Creek Wilderness. You lead the backpacking trip; Grover Cleveland, Trails Committee Chair, teaches participants about Trail Inventory activities including use of SURVEY 1 2 3, an app developed by the USFS, to record existing and potential campsites and trail obstructions.

Contact Grover Cleveland at [groverc@att.net](mailto:groverc@att.net) to express interest or Uwe Sartori, BPX Trip Leader Coordinator at [CMCBPXTLC@gmail.com](mailto:CMCBPXTLC@gmail.com)



Fall Creek to Cross Creek

Photo Credit: Bob Watkins

## BACKPACKING TRIP CLASSIFICATIONS

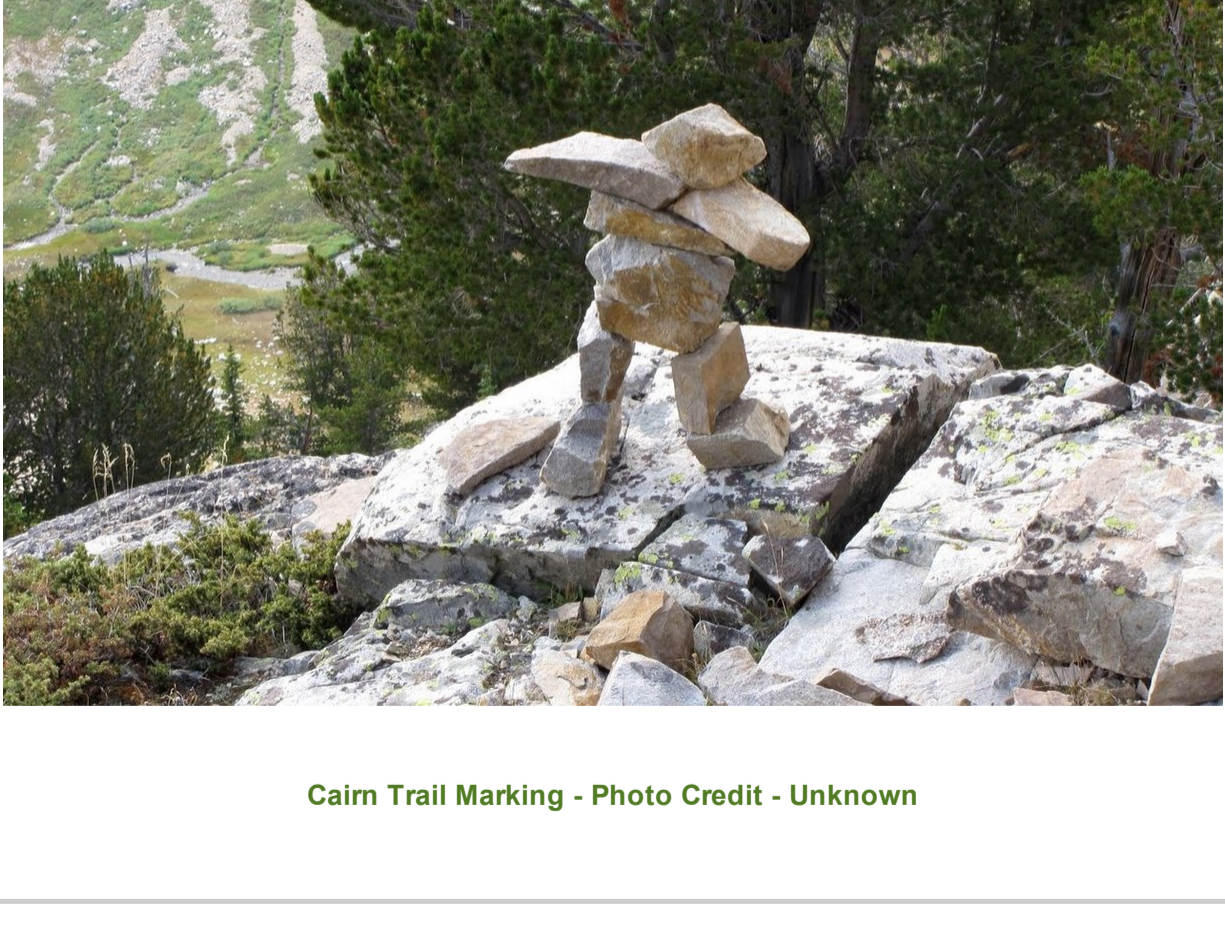
Just as Denver Group uses hiking, skiing and snowshoeing trip classifications there are backpacking trip classifications. Those available at the time BPX trips were developed had fallen into disuse, were not readily available on-line to leaders or members, and were similar to hiking classifications. Considering backpackers are carrying pack weights in the range of 20 - 40 pounds, backpack trip classifications should be consistently lower than hiking classifications. On June 11th, the Denver Group Council approved the following Backpack Trip Classifications for use as future trips are scheduled:

Backpack Trip Classifications are assigned a rating for the entire trip based on the most difficult day of the trip.

**Easy Backpack: <5 miles/1000'** (Easy Hike is <8 miles/1200')

**Mod Backpack: 5-10 miles/1000'-2000'** (Mod Hike is 8-12 miles/1200'-2500')

**Diff Backpack: >10 miles/2000'** (Diff Hike is >12 miles/2500'+)



Caim Trail Marking - Photo Credit - Unknown

***Almost 1200 MEMBERS have heeded our slogan***

***"Join the Pack"***

***as of June 1, 2020***

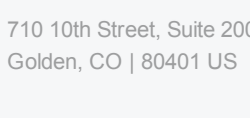
***THANK YOU FOR BECOMING A BPX MEMBER***

Want your great backpacking photo featured? Send it to [CMCBPXNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:CMCBPXNewsletter@gmail.com) with your name, location and date. We will feature it in our Backcountry Cache Newsletter.

**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.**

**JOIN**

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