



COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB

WESTERN SLOPE GROUP

Canyon to Crest Call Western Slope Group April 2026



WSG members enjoyed an awesome (last) day of snowshoeing on the Grand Mesa after a good snowstorm. Trip led and photo taken by Anne Keil. [See below on how to submit your favorite photo for the newsletter!](#)



Looking for Volunteers for the Southwest Arbor Fest in Grand Junction on Saturday, April 25

The CMC Western Slope Group is privileged to be able to participate at the [Southwest Arbor Fest in Grand Junction](#) on Saturday, April 25, to promote our outdoor adventures and our conservation principles towards the environment. We are anticipating hundreds of people stopping by our booth. If you can support a two-hour window at our booth, it would be appreciated!

Contact Tom at WSGofCMC@gmail.com for schedule timing and details.

As always – thank you for your support!



INTRO TO HIKING SAFETY

STAY SAFE IN THE BACKCOUNTRY

YOUR GUIDE TO SMART HIKING

Join us for our introductory seminar on staying safe in Colorado's backcountry. Learn how to handle lightning, wildfire encounters, getting lost, cold-weather challenges, hypothermia, dehydration, and being stranded overnight—plus other essential safety tips for hikers of all levels.



COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB

Western Slope Group

WSGofCMC@gmail.com

www.cmc.org/Groups/WesternSlope

303-279-3080

office@cmc.org

15605 W 32nd Ave Golden, CO 80401

Hiking Safety Presentations in Montrose & Grand Junction



Join us at the following hiking safety presentations where our CMC WSG Marketing & Membership Chair, Tom Maceyka, will cover the basics of hiking including safety, how to find trails and public land, and necessary gear with an interactive discussion. Registration is not required. An Intro to Hiking Safety course will be scheduled for Durango, too, this spring.

- Wednesday, May 6, 6pm. Gearhead Outfitters in Grand Junction at 461 Main St.
 - Thursday, May 7, 6:45 - 8 pm. Montrose Library at 320 South 2nd Street.
 - Saturday, May 9, 10am. REI in Grand Junction at 925 Independent Avenue.
-



WILDERNESS FIRST AID

Cedar Point Health, Montrose
May 2-3, 2026

2303 S TOWNSEND AVE, MONTROSE, CO 81401

The WFA course teaches students the skills to anticipate risks and hazards, identify medical, traumatic, environmental problems, recognize life-threatening issues, initiate basic care and deliver a cohesive report. The curriculum forces students to think

**LIMITED SPOTS
AVAILABLE**

Register at CMC.ORG:



curriculum forces students to think creatively, adapt to ever changing situations, and learn valuable leadership, decision making, and communication skills to use in the outdoors.



The WFA class is open to both CMC members (\$275) and non-CMC members (\$300). Trip leaders and aspiring trip leaders may qualify for a free scholarship by leading 6 trips in 2 years. [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

Conservation Corner

by Claire McCullough, WSG Conservation Chair

The Escalante Ranch Acquisition by the BLM



The Escalante Ranch, a century old cattle ranch comprised of over 4,000 acres, has been acquired by the BLM and will now become a part of the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area. This is a major conservation milestone, and the ranch is now permanently protected. Approximately 3,000 acres are immediately open to the public and this improves access to 80,000 acres of surrounding public lands. The public can now enjoy additional recreational opportunities such as hiking, climbing at Cabin Wall, fishing and hunting.

Escalante Canyon photo credit: John Peterson, Mountain Project.

The Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Needs Our Help



The Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument is at risk right now. The current, well-vetted management plan was finalized in 2025 after years of careful planning, analysis and collaboration with stakeholders, tribal leaders, scientists and local communities. Earlier this month, Utah Senator Mike Lee and Representative Maloy introduced “resolutions of disapproval” to overturn the Monument Management Plan. This attempted destruction of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument would be devastating, undoing the Biden-era plan. If you have enjoyed time in this special landscape, please consider contacting Representative Jeff Hurd and asking him to vote “no” on the joint resolutions. <https://share.google/nrR6QqONxUk12LNZj>

Golden Cathedral photo credit: CMC trip spring 2025.



Durango Area CMC Update

We're looking for Durango area volunteers to help plan activities (for which one does not have to be a leader) and we're also looking for trip leaders. Trip leader school is free and online!

Contact our Durango Area Chair, Dan King, at WSGofCMC@gmail.com for more info or to get involved!

An Intro to Hiking Safety Course will be scheduled in Durango this spring...stay tuned!

Join us on a TBA 6/28 hike in Durango area.

Guidelines for Dogs on WSG Trips

[Click here](#) for the WSG's guidelines on bringing dogs on trips.

WSG Facebook Group

We have a private Facebook group called "CMC Western Slope Group". This group is available to post photos, announce last minute trips, trip reminders or activities. If you're interested, send a request in Facebook to join the group. This Facebook group is for CMC members only.

How Do I Find Out About New Trips After They're Posted?

Do you want to be notified about new trips as soon as they're posted? Did you know that the CMC website has a nice feature where you can get notified of new trips right after they're added? [Click here for the steps for setting that up.](#)

Where are the Trips that the WSG may post?

TRIP LEADERS & PARTICIPANTS: [Click here for the WSG's list of places where we may lead trips, last updated on 3/23/2026.](#)

ALL CMC OUTINGS : [The CMC Trips List & Map](#)

GUESTS must create an account and sign a waiver before signing up for trips and may attend up to 2 trips.

If a trip is FULL, please sign up on the WAITLIST as participants may cancel!

TRIPS: All of our activities are in one place at [Western Slope Group Calendar](#)

Sunday, 3/29. [Hiking – Colorado National Monument - Old Gordon Trail](#). FULL. Moderate. Jennifer Rhamy. Join us for the post-hike social at Westco, register below.

Sunday, 3/29. [Hiking – McInnis Canyons NCA - Kodel Canyon](#). Easy. Judy Mayne. Overflow hike. Join us for the post-hike social at Westco, register below.

Monday, 3/30. [Scramble – Parriot Mesa](#). Challenging. Doug Hemken.

4/2-8. [Backpack – Natural Bridges National Monument UT - Grand Gulch, Utah](#). Challenging. Denver Group.

Wednesday, 4/8. [Hiking – Colorado National Monument - Lower Monument and Wedding Canyon Loop](#). [Moderate](#). WAITLIST. Brenda Leach.

Sunday, 4/19. [Hiking – McInnis Canyons NCA - Rattlesnake Arches](#). Difficult. Daniel Glatter.

Sunday, 4/26. [Hiking – McInnis Canyons NCA -Rattlesnake Arches Upper TH](#). Moderate. Daniel Glatter.

4/21-29. [Adventure Travel – Quito and The Galapagos Islands Multi-Sport Adventure](#). Fee.

4/29-5/3. [BPX Trip – BPX 3-Day: 40 mile Creek to Willow Gulch \(Escalante, Utah\)](#). Difficult. Backpacking Section.

5/5-13. [Adventure Travel – Quito and The Galapagos Islands Multi-Sport Adventure](#). Fee.

5/6-13. [BPX Trip – BPX 3-Day: 40 mile Creek to Willow Gulch \(Escalante, Utah\)](#). Challenging. Backpacking Section.

5/7-10. [Blanding/Cedar Mesa UT multiday hiking](#). WAITLIST. Book your own camping/motel.

Thursday, 5/7. [Hiking – Cedar Mesa/Bears Ears National Monument UT](#). Browns Canyon. For Blanding multi-day participants only. Moderate. Anne Keil.

Saturday, 5/9. [Hiking – Hovenweep National Monument](#). For Blanding multi-day participants only. Moderate. Jennifer Rhamy.

Saturday, 5/9. [Hiking – Natural Bridges National Monument UT](#). For Blanding multi-day participants only. Moderate. Daniel Glatter.

Saturday, 5/9. [Hiking – Cedar Mesa/Bears Ears National Monument UT](#). For Blanding multi-day participants only. Difficult. Paul Sheya.

Sunday, 5/10. [Hiking – Cedar Mesa/Bears Ears National Monument UT](#). For Blanding multi-day participants only. Moderate. Jennifer Rhamy.

Sunday 5/17. [Hiking – McInnis Canyons NCA -Rattlesnake Arches Upper TH](#). Moderate. Daniel Glatter.

Thursday, 5/21. [Hiking – Colorado National Monument - Monument Canyon](#). Moderate. Brenda Leach.

5/22-25. [Camp – Rifle Gap State Park](#). WAITLIST. Judy Mayne.

Saturday, 5/23. [Hiking – Mansfield Ditch Trail - Lower Cherry Creek car shuttle](#). FULL. Moderate. Anne Keil, overflow hike being added by Paul Sheya.

Sunday, 5/24. [Hiking – Three Forks Trail](#). FULL. Moderate. Jay Johnson. Overflow hike planned.

Sunday, 6/28. Hike TBA, Durango area. SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, 7/4. [Scramble – Mount Sneffels - Southwest Ridge](#). Challenging. Denver Group.

7/11&12. [Hiking - Kings and South Kings Peak](#). Challenging. Denver Group.

Saturday, 7/25. [Scramble-Mt Wilson- El Diente Traverse](#). Challenging. Denver group.

8/10-14. [BPX Trip – Chicago Basin 14ers \(Sunlight, Eolus, North Eolus and Windom\)](#). Difficult. Backpacking Section.

8/18-21. Silver Jack Campground. SAVE THE DATE! All first come sites. Judy Mayne.

9/4-7. [Camp – Vega State Park](#). Easy. Judy Mayne.

9/8-11. [Adventure Travel – In-State Outing](#). Near Princeton Hot Springs. Fee.

9/29-10/16. [Adventure Travel – Annapurna Basecamp](#). Fee.

PRESENTATIONS / COURSES / EVENTS

Sunday 3/29. [End of Winter Social at WestCo Grand Junction](#). 1-3pm Judy Mayne. Join Jennifer's hike & Judy's overflow hike beforehand! Register so we know how many are attending!

Saturday, 4/25. Southwest Arbor Fest in Grand Junction. See above.

5/2&3. [Wilderness First Aid in Montrose \(Cedar Point Health/Wellness Clinic\)](#). \$275 members, \$300 nonmembers, leaders free with scholarship and leading 6 trips in 2 years. See flyer above.

Wednesday, 5/6. Hiking Safety Presentation at Gearhead Outfitters in Grand Junction. See above.

Thursday, 5/7. Hiking Safety Presentation at Montrose Library. See above.

Saturday, 5/9. Hiking Safety Presentation at REI in Grand Junction. See above.

Wednesday, 6/24. Attention WSG trip leaders, SAVE THE DATE, for a WSG trip leader appreciation gathering in Delta!

[CMC Schools & Classes Course Catalog](#): **For some classes and schools that are offered on the full CMC calendar (typically on the front range or via ZOOM), we can arrange field days on this side of the state, but we need a minimum number of participants between the various CMC groups. Please contact our **new WSG Schools Chair, Daniel Glatter**, at WSGofCMC@gmail.com if something interests you.

[Trip Leader Training](#): **We are seeking trip leaders!** The free training consists of self paced online modules and one training hike plus Wilderness First Aid. Contact WSGofCMC@gmail.com or the WSG homepage for additional info.

[ATA and AIARE](#): Free online Avalanche Aware seminar. Schedule for avalanche training, ATA courses & AIARE by CMC in other locations see Course Catalog link above.

Seeking Monthly Newsletter Content

We'd like your help! If you have requests for newsletter content or would like to contribute, let us know! The deadline to submit information, articles or photos is the **24th of each month** for the following month's newsletter. Email the WSG newsletter editor, Brenda Leach, at WSGNewsEditor@gmail.com. Here are our [past newsletters](#).

Western Slope Group Council

Chair, State Council Rep: Anne Keil (Montrose)

Vice Chair, Newsletter Editor: Brenda Leach (Ridgway)

Treasurer: John Broadbooks (Montrose)

Secretary, Annual Dinner Organizer: Jill Mattoon (Ouray)

Conservation Chair: Claire McCullough (Grand Junction)

Outings Chair: Doug Hemken (Delta)

Durango Area Chair: Dan King (Durango)

Marketing & Membership Chair: Tom Maceyka (Ridgway)

Schools Director: Daniel Glatter (Grand Junction)

We're on the CMC website at [Western Slope Group, CMC Groups - Colorado Mountain Club](#). The currently scheduled WSG Council meetings are 5/19, 7/14, 9/15 & 11/?. Zoom availability, time and location will be determined closer to the meeting dates. WSG members are welcome to attend.



Colorado Mountain Club
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Golden, CO 80401

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