



COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB

WESTERN SLOPE GROUP

Canyon to Crest Call Western Slope Group May 2026



WSG members having a great time on Judy Mayne's Kodels Canyon WSG trip in the McInnis Canyons NCA. Photo taken by Jay Johnson.



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, 6 pm. [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, 10:30 am. [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.](#)

Save the Dates for Two Fall Trips!

organized by the WSG Outings Committee

Fall Colors, Carbondale Area, 9/25-27

Join us for a Fall Colors trip, September 25-27, based in Carbondale. See below for the scheduled hiking trips. A choice is to drive home after or do a hike on the 28th. There is a [KOA campground](#) on the river which may be full, but other campgrounds are in the area. As of mid-April, [Bogan Flats CG](#) by Marble and the [Redstone CG](#) had campsite reservations available. There is a nice [Comfort Inn in Carbondale](#) along with other choices. More details will be coming, but it would be prudent to get lodging/camping now. Trip leaders/planners are Jennifer Rhamy and Doug Hemken.





Fall Canyon Country, Moab Area, 10/22-25

Another fall hiking trip is planned for October 22-25, based in Moab. Details of the hikes are yet to be decided. Email WSGofCMC@gmail.com if you would like to suggest something. Participants are expected to take part in hikes on Friday and Saturday, with shorter options offered on Thursday and Sunday. Make your own hotel or campground reservations. Suggestions are on the [sign-up page](#).

Conservation Corner

by Claire McCullough, WSG Conservation Chair

Forest Service Relocation and Reorganization Announcement



Recently, the Forest Service announced that it plans to move its headquarters from Washington, D.C. to Salt Lake City. Operations will be consolidated in a manner that would close many regional offices. Conservation groups have strongly criticized the plan, noting that dismantling the agency is about disruption not efficiency. Tracey Stone-Manning, President of The Wilderness Society stated that inevitably this will lead to fewer staff,

and increased risks to wildlife, forests and communities. TWS characterizes the move as a “solution in search of a problem.” The recent tumultuous years for the agency have already resulted in reduced staff, removing valuable expertise. Of note is the BLM’s 2020 relocation to Grand Junction. 87% of staff chose not to move. The loss of institutional knowledge was devastating.

Please consider taking action by visiting the Outdoor Alliance website and telling Congress to ensure that the Forest Service does not lose sight of its core mission – stewardship of public lands. [Forest Service Announces Reorganization, Headquarters Relocation — Outdoor Alliance](#)

Photo credit: USDA of the Hermosa Creek Watershed north of Durango.



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.

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.](#)

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

5/7-10. [Blanding/Cedar Mesa multiday hiking.](#) FULL.

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

Friday, 5/8. [Hiking – Cedar Mesa/Bears Ears National Monument UT.](#) Bullet Canyon/Sheik's Gulch. For "Blanding...multiday hiking" participants only. Difficult. Paul Sheya.

Friday, 5/8. [Hiking – Cedar Mesa/Bears Ears National Monument UT.](#) Kane Gulch to Junction Ruin. For "Blanding...multiday hiking" participants only. Easy. Charlie Winger.

Saturday, 5/9. [Hiking – Hovenweep National Monument.](#) For "Blanding...multiday hiking" participants only. Moderate. Jennifer Rhamy.

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

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

Friday, 5/15. [Scramble – The Palisade.](#) Challenging. FULL. Doug Hemken.

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

Sunday, 5/17. [Hiking – Gunnison Gorge NCA - Cool Rock Canyon Trail.](#) Easy. Bud Tasch.

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

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

Saturday, 5/23. [Hiking – Mansfield Ditch-Lower Cherry Creek car shuttle.](#) Dog friendly hike. Moderate. Anne Keil.

Saturday, 5/23. [Hiking – Mansfield Ditch Trails Area-Lower Cherry Creek car shuttle.](#) Moderate, longer hike. Paul Sheya.

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

Sunday, 5/24. [Hiking – Three Forks Trail.](#) Dog friendly, shorter hike. Moderate. Judy Mayne.

Sunday, 5/31. [Hiking – Rim Trail \(Uncompaghre NF #122\).](#) [Social gathering after hike.](#) Easy. Doug Hemken.

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.

9/25-27. [WSG: Fall Colors trip](#). Book your own camping/hotel. See above.

Friday, 9/25. [Hiking – Storm King Memorial Mountain Trail](#). For "WSG: Fall Colors trip" participants only. Challenging. Jennifer Rhamy.

Saturday, 9/26. [Hiking – American Lake Trail](#). For "WSG: Fall Colors trip" participants only. Moderate. Jennifer Rhamy.

Sunday, 9/27. [Hiking – Thomas Lakes](#). For "WSG: Fall Colors trip" participants only. Moderate. Jennifer Rhamy.

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

10/22-25. [WSG: Fall Canyons trip \(Moab\)](#). Book your own camping/hotel. See above.

2/3-2/8/2027. [Adventure Travel – Yellowstone National Park](#). Fee.

2/14-2/22/2027. [Adventure Travel – Patagonia - Argentina](#). Fee.

PRESENTATIONS / COURSES / EVENTS

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

5/2&3. [Wilderness First Aid in Montrose \(Cedar Point Health/Wellness Clinic\)](#). \$275 members, \$300 non-members, 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.

Monday, 5/11. [Introduction to Wildfire and Smoke Tools for Trip Planning](#). Zoom presentation. Boulder Group.

Sunday, 5/31. [May WSG Social](#) at Shelter Distilling in Montrose at 947 Mayfly Dr. Sign up for [the Rim Trail hike](#) before the social or show up at 2:30 pm.

Wednesday, 6/24. WSG TRIP LEADERS ONLY appreciation gathering in Delta, 12 pm. RSVP and lunch order by 6/17 to WSGNewsEditor@gmail.com or WSGofCMC@gmail.com. Details emailed to leaders on 4/15/26.

Saturday, 11/7. SAVE THE DATE! Join us at the 2026 WSG ANNUAL DINNER at the Ute Indian Museum in Montrose. Our featured speaker will be our WSG Marketing Chair, Tom Maceyka. Details to follow.

Interested in volunteering for the Ouray Trail Group? Check out their website for [training classes in April and May](#). Also, check out their [volunteer activities from May through September](#).

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

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
15605 W 32nd Ave
Golden, CO 80401

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