



Canyon to Crest Call Western Slope Group December 2022

CMC hike to Liberty Cap in the Colorado National Monument.
Photo by Don Regan.

See below on how to submit your favorite photo for the newsletter!

Happy Holidays!



WSG Slide Show: Lake Tso Morari Trek in India

Join us at the Montrose Library meeting room on **Friday, January 13, 5-6:30pm**, for a presentation by Babs Schmerler. We'll start with a 30-minute social time with munchies at 5pm followed by Babs' presentation at 5:30pm. Please bring a snack to share and a non-alcoholic

drink. Those interested could have dinner at a local restaurant afterwards. Please RSVP [here](#).

Lake Tso Morari is a remote lake in the Ladakh District in Northern India. The trek to climb a then-unnamed peak started in Ladakh during the annual cultural festival. After a few days visiting surrounding monasteries, Babs' group began the trek over several 16 and 17,000 ft. passes. At that time, there were no other trekking groups. Unprecedented snowfall that year thwarted their climb, but the scenery was truly breathtaking. The lake and surrounding area is a magical place that can only be described through pictures, which do not do it justice.

Updated Avalanche Warning Website

The Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) has updated their website. It's recommended that you check the CAIC website before venturing into the backcountry to play in the snow. It's also recommended to check it before traveling certain roads in the winter such as highway 550 over Red Mountain Pass. [Click here for a summary of the updates](#). Also, check out these specific areas in the Western Slope: [Grand Mesa](#), [San Juan Mountains](#).

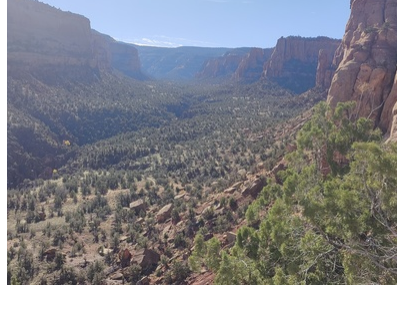
Any Interest in Family Trips?

Do you have kids in your family who enjoy the outdoors? We have a family new to Montrose who has 2 young kids who like to hike, ski and snowshoe. They are looking to do these activities with other families. If there's interest, we could organize a WSG family outing. For more info, please contact us at WSGofCMC@gmail.com.



Trip Report: Devil's Canyon Trail System

Victor Ketellapper led a CMC trip in early November to the Devil's Canyon Area of the McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area by Fruita. The group hiked up Devil's Canyon 1 and returned to the trailhead on Devil's Canyon 5 for a 5-mile hike with 985 feet of uphill. The hike provides great views of the Devil's Canyon Area. Photos by Victor.



Save the Date: July 29, 2023

Wilderness First Aid on the Western Slope

The CMC will hold a WFA class for us next year in the Western Slope! WFA is a 16-hour course that covers environmental, medical, and traumatic injuries with a focus on inclusive care and rescue, patient and bystander mental health. This will be a hybrid class with 8 hours of online work and an 8-hour field day (Saturday, July 29) The location will be announced later. Trip leaders are required to renew WFA every 2 years and scholarships are available. A minimum of 10 students is required to run the course. Email us at WSGofCMC@gmail.com if you are interested or have questions. Stay tuned for more info!



CMC Social Gatherings



Are our members interested in gathering not only for trips? Contact WSGofCMC@gmail.com to organize something social or post on the WSG Facebook page.

New Website Tutorials

- [10.4.22 CMC website tutorial- 11 minutes](#). The first 6 minutes is for all members and shows how to navigate to our group's happenings. The remainder of the video is a navigation tutorial for our trip leaders.
- Tips & Tricks for Leaders: Tuesdays 4:30-5:30pm. CMC will be hosting a live "Tips & Tricks" on Zoom. See CMC calendar for details, topics vary.
- If you encounter any errors in the website, please submit corrections to this [issues log](#).

WSG Facebook Group and Email Lists

If you are interested in mountain biking, road biking, backcountry skiing, downhill skiing, ice/rock/technical climbing, car camping, social dinners / happy hours, technical peaks or backpacking trips, we have created email lists specific to each of these categories to notify members about upcoming or short notice trips/events as conditions warrant. Please contact WSGofCMC@gmail.com and tell us if you'd like to be added to one or more email list.

Additionally, we have a private Facebook group "CMC Western Slope Group" that we use in addition to the email groups. 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.

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

Guests must now create an account and sign a waiver before signing up for participants that may attend up to 2 trips. If a trip is full, please sign up on the waitlist as there are participants that may cancel.

TRIPS: NEW WEBSITE! Now all of our activities are in one place at [Western Slope Group Calendar](#)

Saturday 12/3. [Bench Trail - Colorado National Monument](#). Mod. Victor Ketellapper

Saturday 12/10. [Monument Canyon Car Shuttle](#) (rescheduled from 11/4). Mod. Anne Keil

Wednesday - Friday 1/4-6. [Nordic Skiing - Grand Mesa](#). Gore Range Group

Sunday 1/15. [Electric Hills, Montrose](#). Easy. Anne Keil

Friday 1/20. [XC Ski and Snowshoe Priest Lake](#). Easy. Brenda Leach & Anne Keil

[5/19-30 2023. Croatia](#). Adventure travel, fee.

[In-State-Outing \(ISO\) Week 1, Vallecito Lake](#). Aug 13-18, 2023. State CMC.

[ISO Week 2, Vallecito Lake](#). Aug 20-26, 2023. State CMC with WSG leaders.

9/5-10 2023. [Mountaineering - Weminuche Wilderness](#). Pikes Peak Group.

**All members and guests must sign a new liability waiver with the new website

COVID policy for trips: [updated Feb 23, 2022](#)

PRESENTATIONS

Tuesday 11/29. [Ski touring and Snowshoe Clinic](#). State CMC, 6-7:30 Webinar.

Friday 1/13/22. [Slideshow: Lake Tso Morari Trek by Babs Schmerler](#). Montrose Library, 5-6:30pm. See above.

[Website Tips and Tricks for Leaders](#). Tuesdays 4:30-5:30pm, topics vary, see CMC calendar.

[CMC Schools & Classes Webpage](#): **For some classes and schools that are offered on the full CMC network (typically on the front range or via ZOOMB), we can arrange field days in all of the state but need a minimum number of participants between the various CMC groups. Please let us know if something interests you.

[ATA-Avalanche Terrain Avoidance](#), a 2-day course required for trip leaders and open to all members will be scheduled this winter, local dates TBA. CMC Leaders and Instructors will be required to meet these requirements by September of 2023.

[AIARE \(Avalanche research and education\)](#) 2023 sessions are offered through the Denver Group, registration is open to any member statewide. If non-members are interested in enrollment the individual must first join CMC. CMC Leaders and Instructors will be required to meet these requirements by September of 2023.

[Trip Leader Training](#): **We are seeking new trip leaders!** The free training consists of self-paced online modules and one training hike plus Wilderness First Aid. This is also available to current leaders as a refresher. If you are interested, please contact WSGofCMC@gmail.com or check the new website.

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 **25th 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 & Outings Chair: Anne Keil (Montrose)

Vice Chair & Newsletter Editor: Brenda Leach (Ridgway)

Treasurer: John Broadbooks (Montrose)

Secretary: Jill Mattoon (Ouray)

Conservation Chair: Open. See the [Conservation Chair volunteer description](#) for more info. If you're interested, please contact us at WSGofCMC@gmail.com.

We're on the CMC website at [Western Slope Group, CMC Groups - Colorado Mountain Club](#). The 2023 WSG Council meetings will be held on 1/12, 3/20, 5/8, 7/10, 9/11 and 11/13 from 3-4:30pm. Zoom availability and location will be determined closer to the meeting dates. WSG members are welcome to attend.

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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