



Take A Hike!

The Newsletter Of The Idaho Trails Association



The Idaho Trails Association promotes the continued enjoyment of Idaho's hiking trails.

Photo Courtesy of Nils Ribi

In this Issue

From The Executive Director:.....	1
2015 Projects.....	2
Tips for Safe Hiking during the Hunting Season ...	4
Hike of the Month - October	4
Thanks to Our Volunteers and Members!.....	6
Upcoming events.....	6
Become a Member	7
Board Members & Staff.....	7
Partners and Sponsors:.....	8

From The Executive Director: Trail Talk



As summer turns to fall and the trail season winds down I have been reflecting on where ITA started and where ITA stands now. It seems like such a long time ago when the Power Point presentation was

given to a group of trails enthusiasts who were concerned with the condition of Idaho's backcountry hiking trails. Since that day when the Idaho Trails Association went from an idea to a reality, it has grown significantly in so many ways. From membership totals, sponsors and donors, trail work parties and trail work accomplishments, to hiring an Executive Director in 2015 and raising the funding to hire a Trail Program Specialist for the

"There are two things that interest me: the relation of people to each other, and the relation of people to land." Aldo Leopold.

summer of 2016. We have gained the respect of the Land Managers and our partners which is crucial to our mission. We have gotten to the point where we have to limit the number of Volunteers we take on work parties; we have more willing people that are eager and ready to give time and energy to help improve our vast trail system!

Our successes across the state of Idaho are being recognized and interest in ITA is growing. We are being recognized for our quality of work, and not just the quantity. Cleaning and reconstructing waterbars, brushing out miles of trails and hauling bags of dirt up to a talus slope to rebuild the trail tread is something we do that is so critical to maintaining a sustainable trail system. I know everyone wants to take the crosscut and just cut out logs, that is the gravy work, and we do a lot of it. The trails cannot withstand the use they receive without all of the work we do. That is why I am so proud to be a part of this organization. As we pick away at improving the trails we have to be proud of the skills we use, the friendships we make and the quality of work we do. Because of this we have been asked by the agencies to take on more work, move into areas that we have not been to as an organization. Can we take on the Gospel Hump? Can we fund and staff more work parties in North Idaho, Central Idaho and South Central Idaho? How about the Salmon/Challis and Idaho Falls areas? There are a lot of hiking trails out there and a lot of Land Managers that would like our help.

As the days get shorter and colder it is time to think about how much we can do and how we can achieve it for the summer of 2016. You are reading this because you have expressed an interest, volunteered on a work party or donated to ITA in some way or another. We thank you for that! We are also interested in you becoming a member at some level, along with volunteering with us. We are always looking for folks who can give a day or week to help maintain the hiking trails throughout Idaho. As your skills grow will you become a volunteer crew leader on projects? How about share skills to the management of ITA? Can you fundraise? Do you have organizational skills? Would you be interested in being on the Board of Directors? We are always looking for folks who

have the skills and desires to help us move forward and accomplish more good things!
Happy Trails!

2015 Projects

The summer projects for 2015 are now in the history books and were a huge success for both the land managers and the Idaho Trails Association! We want to thank all of the volunteers who made this year a huge success!!!

Attached are some of the highlights of the work we accomplished for 2015!



Volunteers clearing a downed tree in the White Cloud Wilderness. Photo courtesy of Peter Lovera



Wewukiye Trail near Warm Lake – Volunteers building trail.



Resurfaced trail tread on the Alice Lake trail in the Sawtooth Wilderness.



Roman Nose Lakes Trail – Volunteers rehabbing illegal fire pits near the lower lake.



Packing the camp into the White Clouds Wilderness.



Hum Lake Volunteers on 4th of July celebrating at the Saddle!



Clem and Diane working in the Sawtooth Wilderness!



First Annual Crosscut Certification/Trail College! Box Lake, McCall

We completed two week long projects in Wilderness areas, three day long projects in North Idaho, two day long trips in the Owyhee Wilderness's, four projects in the McCall area, and a total of thirteen projects. Plus we conducted our first annual crosscut Sawyer certification/trail College.

To see the latest information on trail projects visit our web site at:

<http://www.IdahoTrailsAssociation.org>

Tips for Safe Hiking during the Hunting Season

Fall is a very rewarding time to go hiking in Idaho's backcountry, unfortunately after Labor Day many people curtail their outdoor recreational activities for the remainder of the year. We recommend you still get outdoors and enjoy the cooler weather and majestic colors of autumn! But before you head out to go hiking here are some tips to help keep you safe during hunting season.

1. **Check the hunting regulations.** Even if you don't hunt it's easy to find out if there are any open hunting seasons where you are planning to hike. Hunting regulations are readily available on the Idaho Department of Fish and Game website. Check the regulations for the game unit where you are planning to hike.
<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>
2. **Wear orange.** Hunter orange is the universal color for hunter safety. Wear bright orange clothing, hats, jackets, etc to keep yourself from being mistaken as big game. Avoid wearing white or dark colors, which can be mistaken for the flash of a tail or the body of a game animal. Also if you hike with a dog make sure to keep them safe and put some bright orange on them!!!
3. **Make noise.** Wear bells or other devices that make loud noises that cannot be mistaken for game calls. Hunters might not appreciate the fact that you are scaring away the deer and the elk, but you will stay alive.
4. **Use established trails.** Sticking with established trails will reduce the likelihood that you will come into contact or conflict with hunters.
5. **Tell someone where you are going.** Whether or not it's hunting season, always tell a trusted friend, neighbor or family

member where you are going hiking and when they can expect your return.

We have more advice and information on Hiking on our website at:

<http://www.idahotrailsassociation.org/hiking/>

Hike of the Month - October

Adam Gulch Loop



Bench along Lane's Trail

- Distance: 7.8 miles loop
- Total elevation gain: 1,600 feet
- Difficulty: Moderate
- Elevation Range: 6,000 to 7,200 feet
- Topographic Map: Griffin Butte
- Time: 2 hours 45 minutes to 4 hours
- Distance to Trailhead: 2.6 miles
- Water Availability: Several small streams; pond
- Cautionary Advice: *Much of this trail is exposed, bring sun protection. There are several exposed ridges, do not hike if thunderstorms threaten. This loop joins with many trails, follow the hike description to prevent getting lost. Mountain bike usage on the trails is high. Avoid weekends and after 5:00 p.m. on weekdays for less trail activity. Most of the trails on this hike are not listed on the Griffin Butte USGS quad.*
- Information: : Sawtooth National Forest, Ketchum Ranger District (208) 622-5371

- Trailhead Coordinates: North 43 42.293 West 114 23.324 Signed Junction @ 3.2 miles: North 43 43.223 West 114.25.430

This hike is suggested by the month to go on from Scott Marchant's 2015 [Idaho Wilderness Calendar](#). This is just a general guideline however as this hike can be utilized outside of the specific month.

The hike is from [Hiking Idaho's](#) guide book author Scott Marchant and from his book [The Hiker's Guide to Sun Valley & Ketchum](#).

Adam Gulch Loop

Because of the low elevation, this hike is wonderful for an early or late season excursion. In spring, the trail may be closed due to muddy conditions. Check with the ranger district before heading out for a hike. The loop does contain a wide variety of alpine scenery. Rock outcrops, aspen groves, trickling streams, Douglas-fir forest, and early summer wildflowers all contribute to the beauty of this loop. Adding to the charm, is a great number of spectacular views of the Boulder and Pioneer mountains. Be forewarned, various sections of the trail are heavily used by mountain bikers, hikers, and trail runners. Like most trails, the farther you get from the trailhead, the fewer people you will see. If you want to do some extra hiking, there are many side trails for some interesting possibilities. Bring the Sun Valley Idaho Trail Map by Adventure Maps.

Trailhead Directions

Drive north from downtown Ketchum on Highway 75 for 1.5 miles. Turn left onto Adams Gulch Road, between mile markers 129 and 130. Follow the road 0.6 mile over the bridged Big Wood River, veering right over the bridge, and make a left at the "T" intersection. Follow this road another 0.6 mile to the large parking area. There is a toilet available.

The Hike

The trailhead is located on the north side of the parking lot. Walk about 400 feet along the trail to the first junction. Turn left here on the Sunnyside Trail. Enter an aspen grove at 0.3 mile and come to a fork at 0.8 mile; the left fork leads to the Adams Gulch Road. Continue straight about 400 feet to a signed junction which has a small bridge over a tiny creek. The trail on the left, Lane's Trail, is the return trail to complete the loop. Turn right, and climb on a grassy hillside. Views down into Adams Gulch improve with every step. The trail rises in a small gulch filled with aspen. Make three switchbacks and pass a small pond at 1.3 miles. The pond is identified as a spring on the Griffin Butte USGS quad. Views south are sensational and the city of Ketchum can be seen about two miles away.

Continue climbing on the grassy slope through six more switchbacks with fantastic views of the valley floor gaining more depth with each step. Enter Douglas-fir forest just before another signed junction at 2.2 miles. The Harper's Trail is to the right and forms another loop hike (see hike 3). Turn left. The trail gains elevation and reaches its high point of 7,200 feet. The view from this location is stunning. The rocky southeastern face of Griffin Butte (8,411 feet) is to the north. This butte, named after a rancher who filed land in the area in 1899, separates Adams Gulch from the Fox Creek drainage to the north. To the east, is the Wood River Valley with the Pioneer Mountains in the background. The Smoky Mountains are to the southwest and west. From here, drop down into aspen and conifer forest before reaching another signed junction at 3.2 miles. Continuing straight at this junction, will take you on a very long loop hike of 14.5 miles (see hike 4). Turn left. The trail drops rapidly through a healthy grove of Douglas-firs. Cross a tiny stream at 3.7 miles and continue through a gulch, crossing the stream several more times. Arrive at another signed junction at 4.6 miles. Turn left, or east, on the grassy slope, arriving at a small knoll at 6.4 miles. There is a bench here dedicated to Lane Parrish, a competitive Ketchum skier, who passed away in a plane crash in 1990. Although there are no trees, this is a very scenic setting with 360-degree panoramic views. The

Lane’s Trail intersects back with the Sunnyside Trail at 7.0 miles. Turn right at this junction and hike 0.8 mile back to the trailhead. Citizen’s Trail. The trail undulates and then emerges from tree cover out onto a grassy slope. The next mile of hiking is especially scenic with rocky bluffs to the north of the trail. Reach yet another signed junction at 5.8 miles. Turn left here on Lane’s Trail. Continue along the grassy slope, arriving at a small knoll at 6.4 miles. There is a bench here dedicated to Lane Parrish, a competitive Ketchum skier, who passed away in a plane crash in 1990. Although there are no trees, this is a very scenic setting with 360-degree panoramic views. The Lane’s Trail intersects back with the Sunnyside Trail at 7.0 miles. Turn right at this junction and hike 0.8 mile back to the trailhead.

“I only went out for a walk and finally concluded to stay out till Sundown, for going out, was really going in.” John Muir

Visit our Web Site monthly to check out the Hike of the Month! www.IdahoTrailsAssociation.org

Thanks to Our Volunteers and Members!

We owe a debt of gratitude to the volunteers who contributed their personal time to our organization and our members. Thank you!!!



Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart. – Elizabeth Andrew

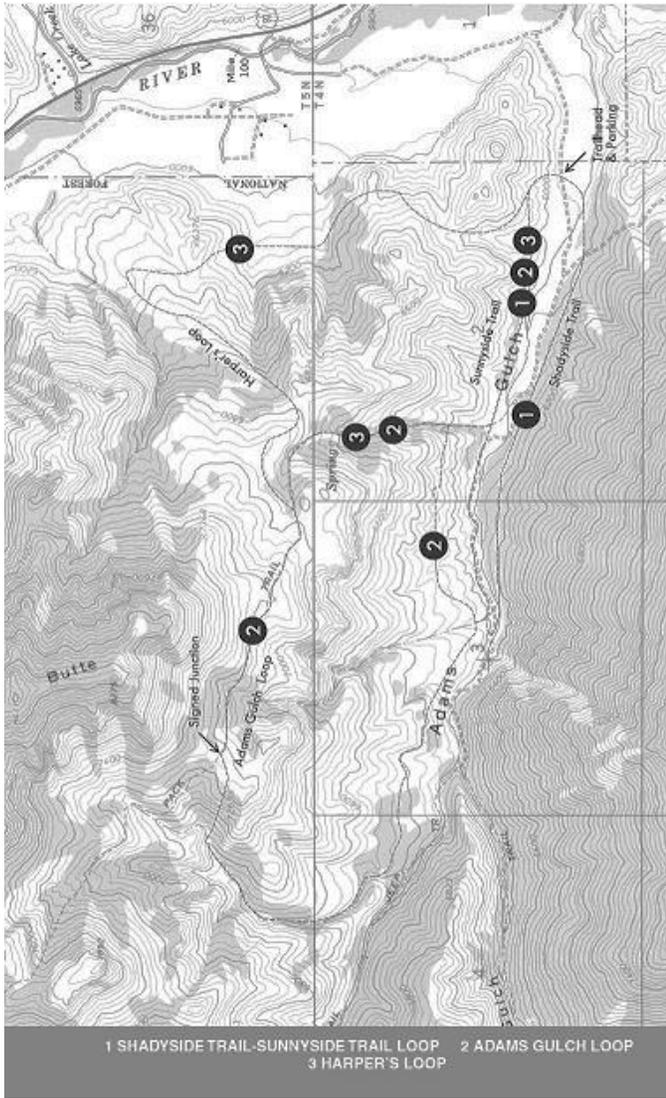
Please Share your memories of ITA Projects with us! If you have volunteered with ITA please feel free to fill out our new online Volunteer Feedback Form here:

<http://www.idahotrailsassociation.org/volunteer/volunteer-experiences/>

Upcoming events

On November 7, the Idaho Trails Association will co-sponsor an all-day event in Sandpoint to celebrate successful completions this year of 6 long distance trails in Idaho and other western states. We’ll even have a presentation on a hike around Mt. Blanc in France.

The meeting is free, open to the public, and will be held in the Bonner County Multi-Purpose Room in



the county administration building in Sandpoint. We'll start at 9:00 am and conclude by 4:00 pm. We'll have a BBQ lunch available for a small fee or folks can bring a sack lunch. Presenters will cover their experiences on 6 long distance trails, two of which are in Idaho. The trails include the 900 mile long Idaho Centennial Trail (ICT), which has seen less than 10 thru hikers in the last 25 years, the Pacific Crest Trail, the Continental Divide Trail, the Wonderland Trail around Mt Rainier, the Pacific Northwest Trail, and the Mt Blanc Loop Trail. We'll have more information available on regional trail organizations and resources or please contact Tom Dabrowski at 208-263-6854 or tomdabrowski@yahoo.com for further details.

Shu's Idaho Running Company Pancake cookout, Boise store, Saturday Nov. 14th, 10AM – Noon

Sun Valley Meet & Greet: Monday, Nov 16th, Sawtooth Brewery, 6pm – 8pm

McCall Volunteer Appreciation Party, Date: Fall, look for dates on Facebook and our website soon.

Membership Drive, Mid-November

Boise Spring Volunteer Appreciation & Season Kick-Off Party, Date: Early Spring 2016

Become a Member

Join Idaho Trails Association today! Your donation will be used to help build and maintain Idaho's hiking trails, conserve Idaho's natural landscapes, and ensure that tomorrow's trail experience is even better than today's.

Your membership will help us to continue to provide stewardship of Idaho's hiking trails and protect the places you love to hike. Without

your financial contributions our work would not be possible and we thank you for your kind donations! www.IdahoTrailsAssociation.org/Membership/

Board Members & Staff

Jeff Halligan, Executive Director
Kimberly, Idaho

Diana Burrell, Interim President
Boise, Idaho

John Russell, Treasurer
Boise, Idaho

Matt Clark,
Boise, Idaho

Ed Cannady,
Ketchum, Idaho

WE WELCOME THREE NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS!

Susan Giannettino
Hailey, Idaho

Tom Dabrowski
Sagle, Idaho

Lana Weber Wells
Boise, Idaho

The Idaho Trails Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization under Idaho law.

Idaho Trails Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 165
Boise, Idaho 83701

info@IdahoTrailsAssociation.org
www.IdahoTrailsAssociation.org
www.facebook.com/IdahoTrailsAssociation

Partners and Sponsors:

We would like to thank all of our partners and sponsors for their donated time and financial support which makes our work possible!



The Northern and Intermountain Regions of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, recreation and trails program mission, in part, is to support the Idaho Trails Association in the formulation of cooperative partnerships in the management, operation, and maintenance of trails on National Forest System Lands. The Idaho Trails Association partners with the USFS for projects all across the state of Idaho.



The mission of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America’s public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The BLM manages nearly 12 million acres of public lands in Idaho, nearly one-fourth of the state’s total land area. Partnership sites include the Shoofly and Roberson trail projects.



REI is a national outdoor retailer co-op dedicated to inspiring, educating and outfitting its members and the community for a lifetime of outdoor adventure and stewardship. Founded in 1938 by a group of Pacific Northwest mountaineers seeking quality outdoor equipment, REI is committed to promoting environmental stewardship and increasing access to outdoor recreation through volunteerism, gear donations and financial contributions.



Friends of Scotchmans Peaks conducts education, outreach and stewardship activities to preserve the rugged, scenic and biologically diverse 88,000 acre Scotchman Peaks Roadless Area. Spanning the Idaho/Montana border, the Scotchmans are one of the last, and largest, wild areas in the Pacific Northwest.



The Wilderness Society’s mission is to protect wilderness and inspire Americans to care for our wild places. In Idaho, the Wilderness Society focuses on the Clearwater Basin, Boise National Forest and Payette National Forest.



The Sawtooth Society was formed in 1997 dedicated exclusively to the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. The Sawtooth Society’s mission it to advocate for the Sawtooth NRA, preserve open space in the Sawtooth NRA, and enhance recreation facilities and services in the Sawtooth NRA.



Idaho Conservation League

The Idaho Conservation League is Idaho's leading voice for conservation. ICL works to protect the air you breathe, water you drink and wild places you and your family love. ICL works to connect people interested in conservation to decision makers and to each other.

Cabela's



Cascade OUTFITTERS



WORLD'S FOREMOST OUTFITTER



Discover Idaho One Trail At A Time



Shu's IDAHO RUNNING CO.



D & B SUPPLY

