



# The MontanaSierran

Published quarterly by the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club—[www.montana.sierraclub.org](http://www.montana.sierraclub.org)

## Shameful Obstructionism Stymies Climate Bill in the U.S. Senate



A reckless and cynical minority has denied the Senate and the American People the opportunity for a meaningful and long overdue debate on global warming. In June, on a vote of 48 to 36, the U.S. Senate failed to achieve the 60 votes necessary to move the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act (S. 3036) forward.

The vote followed a week of obstructionist moves by the Senate Republican leadership, who used crude procedural tricks to tie the Senate in knots. Senate Republicans shut down the Senate on June 4th by forcing Senate clerks to spend some 9 hours reading the entirety of the 491-page Boxer Substitute Amendment aloud and rejecting all attempts to proceed to amendments. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) was ultimately forced to file for cloture before any amendments to the bill could be considered.

Throughout the proceedings it was clear that the Senate Republican leadership's focus was more about making political points than amending the bill or affecting policy. Considering their ongoing campaign of misinformation and lies, it is no surprise that Senators beholden to Big Oil, Big Coal, and other polluters did everything in their power to stop meaningful action on global warming. It is disappointing enough that these Senators refuse to support the kind of smart energy solutions that will put America back to work and offer real relief to consumers at the gas pump, but it is truly shameful that they refused to allow even a free and fair debate on some of the most pressing issues of our time.

While this bill may not have ultimately succeeded (Sierra Club did not support the bill but encouraged various measures that would have strengthened it), its sponsors deserve much credit for bringing this crucial issue before the Senate and the American people. This process has been extremely valuable and will guide us as we sharpen and intensify our efforts to put strong global warming legislation on the President's desk next year.

A big Thank You goes out to all the Sierra Club members who wrote and called Senators Baucus and Tester on behalf of S. 3036. Both of our Senators voted favorably to proceed with amendments and debate. 🐾



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## Turtles & Bears Get a Brake

By Bob Clark



Photo credit: Grizzly People

In March, the Montana Department of Transportation (MDOT) released a final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for its US highway 93 expansion project through the Ninepipe National Wildlife Refuge.

See "Turtles", page 3

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# Montana Chapter Leaders 2008

## **OFFICERS**

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Jeff van den Noort: (406)582-1871

### **Vice-Chair**

Pending

### **Secretary**

Elizabeth Erickson

### **Treasurer**

Ron Mueller (temporary)

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

### **Conservation/Litigation**

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### **CCL Delegate**

Jonathan Mathews

### **Election**

Larry Evans, Bob Clark,  
John Wolverton

### **Energy**

Ron Mueller

### **Finance**

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### **Fundraising**

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### **Membership**

Pending

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### **Nominating**

Scott Prinzing

### **Outings Coordinator**

John Wolverton

### **Political**

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### **Website Manager**

Jeff van den Noort: (406)582-1871

## Milltown Dam Superfund Site Tour Report

by Steve Schombel



Milltown Site EPA tour group

On Earth Day, April 22nd, a tour was held at the Milltown Dam Superfund Site for members of the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club and for members of

the public. Russ Forba, Milltown Site Project Manager from the EPA, spent a noon hour on the bluff overlooking the cleanup area below explaining the work that was proceeding. This was just a couple of weeks after the Milltown Dam was breached. He was willing to answer all questions. Keith Large from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality was also on hand and talked about some of his areas of responsibility.

About 20 people were there for the whole hour, and a few came and went while we were there. You can see all of the cleanup work being done at Milltown from this bluff. It was an interesting and very informative day. 🐾

## Club Offices

### Location and contact information

#### **Missoula Office**

Physical address:

210 N. Higgins Ave., Ste. 222  
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#### **Bozeman Office:**

Physical address:

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#### **Montana Staff**

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#### **For more information about:**

Montana Chapter activities and meetings, contact Jeff van den Noort at (406)582-1871.

The Missoula/Bitterroot area activities and meetings, contact John Wolverton at yodelingdog (at) hotmail (dot) com.

Visit our Chapter website at [www.montana.sierraclub.org](http://www.montana.sierraclub.org).

Turtles, continued from page 1

The Ninepipe area is one of the premier waterfowl production and wildlife management areas in the country and is a geologically unique area that is home to more than 190 bird species, grizzly bears and painted turtles. Over a three year period, between 2002 - 2004 more than 1000 painted turtles and over 600 mammals, birds, and other reptiles and amphibians have been killed in the four-mile stretch of roadway at the southern end of the refuge (between Olsen Rd. and Beaverhead Ln.) Three grizzly bears have been killed by vehicles in the last decade including one at Hwy. 93 and Post Creek. Clearly this area needs special attention.

These wildlife-dedicated lands are managed cooperatively by the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks. Wildlife that move between the Mission Mountains and the Flathead River must cross highway 93, and the Ninepipe area serves as a major corridor. MDOT analyzed a no-action alternative and ten various road-widening alternatives. The final SEIS reverses MDOT's past preference of building a high-speed passing lane through the area and instead identifies Alternative 3 as the preferred Alternative (which eliminates the contentious passing lane.) Throughout the EIS process, Sierra Club has supported Alternative 7—which outlines an “elevated highway” through these sensitive wetlands. Even though Alternative 7 was not chosen, we are very pleased that MDOT dropped the passing lane, and we see this as a victory for wildlife in the area.

Sierra Club's involvement in this process over the past three years has been instrumental in ensuring that Highway 93 will now be safer for wildlife—and people! 🐾

## Wildflower Hike to Packer Meadow

Trip Report by Adrienne Hopkins

It was an intrepid group of 9 on the hike this June 14th. They showed up despite a necessary trail change and a very unpromising hike description warning against wet vegetation, patchy snow, and the need for synthetic socks. They braved a death-defying hillside right at the beginning, lunch on “Tick Hill”, and three feet of snow at the end.

We benefited from our group's range of knowledge. My co-leader, John Wolverton, did a great job as an interpretive guide while skillfully navigating us along the Nez Perce/Lolo Trail. He told us about Wagon Mountain, pointed out bear, elk, and wolf scat, and enlightened us on charcoal-carbon sequestration in the soils of fire-dependent forests.

My dad, our ornithologist, identified a raven (*Corvus corax*), spotted towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*), Oregon junco (*Junco hyemalis*), stellar jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*), magpie (*Pica*), kestrel (*Falco*), northern flicker (*Colaptes auratus*), black-capped chickadee (*Poecile atricapilla*), little blue butterflies (*Everes*), Columbia ground squirrels and mule deer. I found it ironic that we saw fritillary butterflies on the wildflower hike but no fritillary flowers.

Alden explained the curling mounds ending in small holes were the work of pocket gophers. He also kept us honest—prohibiting Martha Jane and me from making any flights of horticultural fantasy.

Mary was our repeat hiker and Kirk, my fiancé, came for moral support and pack-carrying. Beth Ann and Karen rounded out our group.

On hillsides during the drive South we saw arrow-leaf balsamroot



Trailside on Wagon Mountain

(*Balsamorhiza sagittata*) and lupine (*Lupinus*), but during the hike we discovered many plants had progressed only to mere leaf buds. However, I found that the scantiness of flora made one look harder and be rewarded by rarer finds. The dainty fairy slipper (*Calypto bulbosa*) and the bizarre beginnings of western coralroot (*Corallorhiza mertensiana*) are examples. We also spotted star flowered Solomon's seal (*Smilacina stellata*), kinnikinnick (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*), blue and yellow violas (*Viola*), foam flower (*Tiarella*), blue-eyed Mary (*Collinsia*), wakerobin (*Trillium*), pussytoes (*Antennaria media*), blue beardtongue (*Penstemon*), baby horsetail ferns (*Equisetum*), globe flower (*Trollius*), and elk thistles (*Cirsium scariosum*).

Plants identified but not yet floriferous were spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*), bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*), heart-leaved arnica (*Arnica cordifolia*), snowbrush (*Ceanothus*), bracted lousewort (*Pedicularis contorta*), pipsissewa (*Chimaphila umbellata*) and western meadow-rue (*Thalictrum occidentale*).

See "Wildflower Hike", page 8

# Lightbulbs to Leadership – Videos, House Parties!

This summer the Sierra Club is unveiling the Lightbulbs to Leadership campaign. Across the U.S., more and more people are taking steps to fight global warming. Americans are changing their light bulbs – but to solve global warming, we need to change more than light bulbs; we need to change direction. We need action that is strong, urgent and bold enough to get the job done. Please join us this summer by watching the videos and hosting or attending a local House Party on July 17th!

Fighting global warming is a priority for Americans. We want clean energy solutions, and we believe the U.S. should take the lead in combating global warming. Global warming is real, and we need to demand real leadership.

The evening house parties will focus on bringing activists from across the Nation together for one night of action. The house parties—consisting of 5-10 people—will feature a national conference call with Sierra Club Executive Director, Carl Pope, and an action item to demonstrate our grassroots strength. Anyone can host or attend a house party!

To sign up house parties, visit: [http://action.sierraclub.org/lightbulb\\_parties](http://action.sierraclub.org/lightbulb_parties)

Watch the video on the federal proposal making our cars go further on a gallon of gas at:

[www.LightbulbsToLeadership.org](http://www.LightbulbsToLeadership.org)

For more information contact the Missoula field office or visit:

[www.sierraclub.org/lightbulbs](http://www.sierraclub.org/lightbulbs)

Also, don't forget to join our Montana Energy Activist Network! We need to build a network of activists from around the State who when called upon, will contact elected and agency officials, write letters to the

editor, talk with their family and friends, and help with public visibility events.

To be included in our Energy Activist Network contact the Missoula office at 549-1142 or e-mail bob.clark (at) sierraclub (dot) org. Please provide us with your name, address, phone number and email address. 🐾

## Ensure that Montana supports strong regional “cap and trade” plan to reduce global warming

Kathleen Ridihalgh  
Sr. Regional Representative  
Sierra Club, NW/Alaska Region



Our economy is suffering, energy prices are out of control, and we hear more every day about the negative effects of global warming. It's time for us to act and take control of our energy future. Acting to combat global warming and tackle our energy crisis will help bring energy costs back under control, put our economy back on the path to prosperity, and help build a clean energy economy that benefits all of us instead of just a few big energy companies. We are aware that science indicates urgent action is required; we have the affordable technology

we need to act today; and now all we need is the political will to do so. Acting now will help solve the energy and economic problems of today and preserve our planet for the generations of tomorrow.

Montana is part of the Western Climate Initiative, a group of states that are working together to develop a “cap and trade” system for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This market-based system will put a price on carbon emissions, and set a cap to reduce them over time. A strong global warming plan will protect workers, create new jobs, help consumers bring energy costs back under control, boost the economy by spurring investments in 21st century clean energy technologies, and using funds from companies that caused the problem.

In order for the Sierra Club to endorse a global warming plan at the state, regional or national level, it must adhere to four core principles. A plan that fails to adhere to these principles is designed to fail from the outset.

First, it must do what scientists tell us is necessary. The emissions reduction targets must meet scientific demands for effectively curbing global warming and preventing its most dangerous impacts, such as rising sea levels and the loss of agricultural land. For the U.S., this will require reducing total greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% of 2005 levels by 2020 and at least 80% of 1990 levels by 2050. The U.S. should establish a firm and enforceable declining cap consistent with meeting these targets and capable of meeting even tougher targets should the science demand. The system will have to take transportation emissions into consideration as well as those from power generation

Second, in a “cap-and-trade” system, all emissions permits should be auctioned or used for the public benefit. This allows payments for emissions permits to be directed toward funding further emissions

See "Cap and Trade", Page 5

Cap and Trade  
Continued from Page 4

reductions strategies, not windfall profits for polluters. Auction proceeds are a public resource and should be spent to achieve the highest public good, not generate windfall profits or other benefits for politically powerful energy companies and other polluters. The term “cap and auction” emphasizes the importance of auctioning emission permits for public purposes.

Third, the Western Climate Initiative plan should pursue the cleanest, safest, fastest, and cheapest emissions reductions first. Revenue raised by auctioning these emissions permits should be invested in the highest-value solutions for emissions reductions. Increasing energy efficiency in homes, commercial buildings and vehicles is the fastest, cleanest, cheapest and safest way to immediately reduce our energy use, our energy bills, and America’s greenhouse gas emissions. Clean, renewable energy sources such as solar and wind should be deployed to meet our remaining energy needs. Energy efficiency and renewable energy projects also have the potential of generating hundreds of thousands of jobs, particularly in regions suffering from recent losses in the manufacturing sector.

Finally, the Western Climate Initiative plan must establish mechanisms to support workers, protect vulnerable groups, habitats, and promote world action. Auction revenues should be distributed to create new clean energy jobs, revitalize and retain jobs in existing sustainable industries, and ensure fair treatment for affected workers and their communities. Auction revenues should go to assist low- and moderate-income households with rising energy costs and other economic impacts, and to provide adaptation assistance to communities and ecosystems in the

U.S and vulnerable nations around the world. The U.S. should enact policies and provide technologies that enable other countries to limit greenhouse gas emissions. Also, to prevent driving the U.S.’s energy-intensive industry out of the country, regulations should ensure that imported products reflect the same environmental costs as products produced under domestic climate policy. This would reduce the economic incentive for companies to move by increasing incentives to start reducing emissions wherever they are produced in the world.

We must begin to curb our emissions in order to avoid the most dangerous impacts of global warming, and to avoid the high costs of inaction. The scientific community warns that allowing global temperatures to rise more than 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels could lead to irreversible changes to the planet. To prevent this, we need to act fast, but we also need to ensure that the policy we set is effective, sustainable, and will actually accomplish the goals it sets out.

By crafting a global warming policy that meets science-based goals, puts a price on global warming pollution and proactively invests in projects and programs for the public interest, we can solve global warming while invigorating a clean energy economy and protecting working families and vulnerable groups of people here in America and around the world. Governor Schweitzer needs to hear from us that we support a strong, responsible program to reduce greenhouse gas pollution and boost our green economy. To find out how you can help here in Montana, please contact Ronald Mueller, Chair of the Sierra Club - Montana Chapter Energy Committee, at (406)543-7265 or [rlmuelle \(at\) initco \(dot\) net](mailto:rlmuelle@initco.net). To find fact sheets about cap and auction, sample outreach materials and more, go to the Activist Toolkit page at [www.CoolStateWashington.org](http://www.CoolStateWashington.org). 🐾

# Montana Chapter Joins Northwest Energy Coalition

by Ron Mueller

The Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club joined the Northwest Energy Coalition at the Coalition’s May 31 meeting in Helena, Montana. The mission of the Coalition is to fight for a clean and affordable energy future, basing its efforts and initiatives around the four pillars of: 1) Energy efficiency, 2) Renewable energy, 3) Consumer/low income advocacy and 4) Restoration of fish and wildlife affected by the regional hydropower system.

The Coalition membership includes representatives from the electric utility industry, renewable energy project developers and operators, environmental advocacy groups and consumer/low-income advocacy groups. The Coalition’s Executive Director and staff are headquartered in Seattle. The members are organized into five regionally based caucuses: Montana, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and British Columbia. The regional caucuses meet in their respective regions twice a year and the Coalition meets twice a year at various locations in the region to plan for and to assess progress in meeting the organization’s goals—especially energy efficiency. The Coalition believes that implementing energy efficiency is the surest, cheapest way to cut global warming emissions, reduce consumer costs and leave the least impact on wild places and living things.

The Montana Chapter and the National Sierra Club are committed to working to develop an energy future

See "NW Energy Coalition", page 8

# Going to the mountains is going home? No longer true for wolverines

Anja Heister, Executive Director of Footloose Montana

What do John Muir and wolverines (*Gulo gulo*) have in common? Not only are they both rare inspirations for and wonderful teachers of the value of wilderness, but these American outback enthusiasts also share a love for long enduring mountain hikes in great solitude, limited not even by the sky.

As Muir required endless miles of wild country for his own well-being, so does the wolverine. In fact, researchers have found that a single wolverine – also called the “superweasel” that resides on top of the family *Mustelidae* – depends on a huge territory to sustain itself (one male wolverine near Yellowstone traveled 250 miles in 19 days). The similarity does not end here: Muir and the last two wolverines in the Sierra Mountains lived and died in California, the former of a natural death in 1914, while the last breeding pair of wolverines known in the Sierra Mountains were killed in steel traps in 1915.

Wolverines have been on



One of the last wolverines in the Sierras, captured and killed in 1915.

Photo: Courtesy of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology

commercial and recreational trappers’ “primary” trophy list for a long time. This rare animal—whose snow-dependence and remote, mountainous lifestyle are only now being understood by researchers—is being lured into lethal devices—primarily body-crushing Conibear traps placed on their travel paths. The 2007 value of a wolverine pelt was \$280.

During the annual trapping season, Montana’s Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)—our state wildlife agency that administers the Furbearer Trapping Program—allows for trapping 9 wolverines (quota was recently reduced from 12) for recreational and commercial purposes, despite the lack of sufficient data that would accurately determine the population’s status. Guess-estimate numbers of individuals range from 100 to 200 in the Rocky Mountains. Several renowned wolverine scientists repeatedly stress that trapping is the leading factor (followed by climatic change and other human pressures) threatening the long-term survival of this elusive species, whose female members depend upon snow-covered dens at high elevation, undisturbed by human beings.

On June 12, the Montana Fish and Game Commission voted to continue wolverine trapping in spite of nearly unanimous, convincing testimony and letters calling for an end to it. The persistent voice of trappers seems to have declared victory once again. However, it has been said



Gerald and Buff Corsi

© 1999 California Academy of Sciences

that in the lives of those who follow their passion, magical things happen. We now need to make magic happen for wolverines who depend on our voice to fight for their right to survive.

Footloose Montana is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote trap-free public lands for people, pets and wildlife. Last year, the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club adopted a resolution calling for the prohibition of commercial trapping on public lands and together we look forward to a future when the public can enjoy our public lands without fear or harm.

We are now asking for your help to end wolverine trapping. Please send comments to the FWP commission during the public comment period, which has already started and ends on July 18, 2008. Montana is the only state in the lower 48 that allows wolverine trapping. Furthermore, Montana has no mandatory trap check. Instead, FWP merely recommends that trappers check their traps every 48 hours. In any case, it would be impossible for FWP to monitor the thousands of traps that litter our public lands.

To submit your comments go to [www.FootlooseMontana.org](http://www.FootlooseMontana.org) and look for the link to comment on the Tentative Furbearer Seasons and Quotas. 🐾

# Montana Chapter Outings

*Free and open to the public. Please, no companion animals.*



*Floating the North Fork of the Flathead River along Glacier National Park*

## **Friday thru Sunday July 25 - 27, Great Burn Backpack Trip.**

Backpack along the Montana/Idaho border in the wildest reaches of the northern Bitterroot Mountains. Spectacular scenery, wildlife, and natural history abound in this 250,000 acre inter-State roadless area. This 15 mile trip will be moderately strenuous with some off-trail travel required. Space is limited. Contact Bob Clark at (406)549-1142 or bob.clark (at) sierraclub (dot) org

## **Saturday and Sunday July 26 - 27, Pine Creek Lake Backpack.**

Backpack to Pine Creek Lake in the Absaroka Wilderness just North of Yellowstone National Park. These Mountains are rugged and wild, with old growth forests, waterfalls, wildlife, and most important peace and quiet. Pine Creek Lake is situated in a cirque valley that was once carved out by a glacier and is surrounded by 10,000-foot peaks. After a hard hike, we will enjoy are time swimming, fishing, and lounging in the sun. The first mile of our hike is an easy stroll to Pine Creek Falls and the next four miles are tough ones (gaining 1000 feet every mile), so please, experienced and strong hikers only. Space is limited so hurry and call Chris at 406-209-6770 for more details.

## **Saturday and Sunday August 9 - 10, Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness backpack.**

Join us on this service outing to McCalla Creek/St. Mary's Peak area—a perfect mix of service and pleasure. We plan to recon and document potential user-created routes, bushwack a steep ridge, and spend the night at Upper McCalla Lake – approximately 7 miles round trip. There may be an opportunity to get to the top of St. Mary's peak as well! Or we could try to descend

McCalla Creek and take another logging road back to the vehicles, looking for more user-created trails along the way. This is a fairly strenuous hike. This will be a joint outing with the Rocky Mountaineers. Trip leaders; Steve Schombel and Bob Clark, contact Steve at (406)721-4686, Bob at (406)549-1142 or bob.clark (at) sierraclub (dot) org

## **Saturday and Sunday August 9 - 10, Backpack to Carlton Lake, Climb to Lolo Peak.**

Taking the most popular route from the Mormon Peak trailhead, we'll hike a good trail to the top of Carlton Ridge with over 2000' of elevation gain, then drop several hundred feet to Carlton Lake to set up camp for the evening, then do a daypack scramble of 1000' up and along the long ridge to the south to Missoula's landmark: 9,096' high Lolo Peak. Great views all around! Total elevation gain nearly 4000'. Join us on this overnight trip in order to experience and learn why this area should be protected from ski resort development and is crucial for elk, fish, bear, old growth pine, larch trees, hunters, hikers and for scientific research. E-mail John Wolverton at yodelingdog (at) hotmail (dot) com.

## **Thursday thru Sunday September 4 - 7, Missouri River Breaks Canoe Float/Camp.**

Float with us on this 50+ mile canoe trip through the lightly traveled "Badlands" within the Wild and Scenic corridor of this famous river. Early September normally has mild weather, less wind, less folk and less mosquitos. Side hikes and explorations will be on the agenda. Rent or BYOBoat/gear. E-mail John Wolverton at yodelingdog (at) hotmail (dot) com.

*Get Involved: The Montana Chapter Outings Program is looking for outings leaders throughout Montana. If you'd like to share your favorite wild places by leading an outing, contact the Outings Coordinator, John Wolverton at yodelingdog (at) hotmail (dot) com.*

## **Redwood**

By Michael W.

*The redwood reign the earth  
High above the trails  
Grandparents of the pacific hemisphere  
Dwarfing man in its presence  
In a grand display of red bark  
For a forest as an unfound treasure  
One can feel the temperature  
A median of life  
As it is a nursery  
Of seedlings beneath the parent tree  
Perfect to lay out a sleeping bag  
And cozy up for a night  
Within the peaceful arrangement of trees*

Wildflower Hike, continued from page 3

We came upon an edible pocket of plants: a delectable patch of the highly prized morel mushrooms, which we sampled, and wild currants (*Ribes*), raspberries (*Rubus*), strawberries (*Fragaria*), Oregon grape (*Berberis aquifolium*), huckleberries (*Vaccinium*) and grouse wortleberries (*V. scoparium*) that were too early to nibble on. There was also bedstraw (*Galium boreale*) for tea, dandelions (*Taraxacum officinale*) for salad, and beargrass (*Xerophyllum tenax*) for edible roots. Useful plants had another niche. The blood-coagulating yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) and “nature’s toliet paper”, mullein (*Verbascum*), teamed up in the sunshine.

We tramped mostly on top of compacted snow through the trees as we neared Packer Meadow and Lolo Pass, leaving behind any hope of flowers. But while the actual expanse of the snow-free meadow only provided camas (*Camassia quamash*) leaf sprigs, it also harbored blooming spring beauties (*Claytonia lanceolata*), glacier lilies (*Erythronium*), shooting stars (*Dodecatheon*), and buttercups (*Ranunculus*).

The most pervasive flower on the hike also happened to be the one I couldn’t identify. It mocked me at every turning. But I was slightly mollified by stumping two visitor center workers with the pesky plant. Eventually I found it in one of their flower guides. Piper’s anemone, which Meriwether Lewis collected in his travels, was rediscovered.

While I was sorry John and I couldn’t provide more flowers with which to amaze and inspire our group, it was a great hike in regard to weather, conditions, attitude, experience and surprising finds. 🐾

NW Energy Coalition, continued from page 8

that reflects a vision of sustainability and environmental protection. The Chapter believes that partnering with the Northwest Energy Coalition will help the Chapter and the Club to be more effective advocates for developing a sustainable and environmentally sound future for this region.

The Montana Chapter is recruiting members to join the Chapter’s Energy Activist Network. Network members will be given the opportunity when called upon to contact government officials, write letters to the editor, talk with family and friends or help with public visibility events. To be included in our Energy Activist Network, contact the Missoula office at (406)549-1142 or e-mail bob.clark (at) sierraclub (dot) org and provide us with your name, mailing address, phone, and e-mail address. 🐾



### Congratulations...

...on the recent arrival of daughter, Lindley, to Montana Chapter Executive Committee member Elizabeth Erickson and her husband, Matt.



## Adventure Bound Canoe Invites You To Explore...

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[www.adventureboundcanoe.com](http://www.adventureboundcanoe.com)

# Newsletter Information

The Montana Sierran is published quarterly by the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club, a division of the national Sierra Club.

Please send your letters, articles, photographs and illustrations to:  
mtsirraneditor (at) gmail (dot) com or mail to:  
Rebecca Richter/PO Box 3766/Missoula, MT 59806.

*The Montana Sierran* reserves the right to edit or reject submissions at its discretion.

Submissions must include first and last name with city/town (and state, if outside of Montana). Please include your phone number and email address so we may contact you.

Please e-mail digital photographs at 300ppi as .tiff or .jpg files, and illustrations at 300 ppi in .eps, .gif, .pdf, .tiff, or .jpg. Including a caption is always appreciated.

**Deadlines for content submission are on March 21, June 21, September 21, and December 21.**

Please contact me at (406)546-9658 if you have questions concerning file formatting or content submission procedures. I look forward to hearing from you!

-Rebecca Richter, Editor

# Thank you to the following Sierra Club members for generously donating to the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club through our spring fundraising letter

Gerald and Judy Aaker  
Earl Anderson  
Robert Beck  
Barbara Belt  
Clayton Berg, Valley Nursery  
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Jack and Patricia Cohen  
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## Montana Chapter Outings

(for details, please see page 7)



### Great Burn Backpack Trip

July 25 - 27, Friday - Sunday

### Pine Creek Lake Backpack

July 26 - 27, Saturday & Sunday

### Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness backpack

August 9 - 10, Saturday & Sunday

### Backpack to Carlton Lake, Climb to Lolo Peak

August 9 - 10, Saturday & Sunday

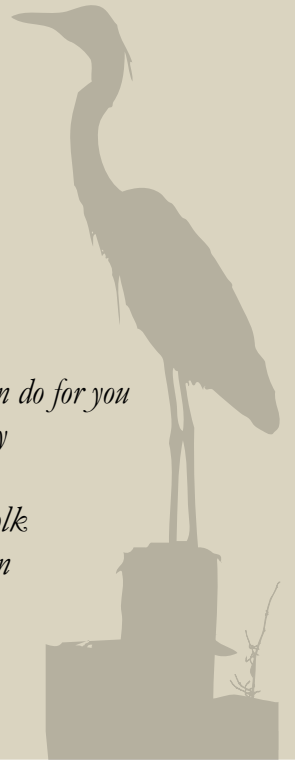
### Missouri River Breaks Canoe Float/Camp

September 4 - 7, Thursday - Sunday

## Reflections

By Michael W.

*I see the people of the state  
I see wildlife active in channels  
But many people just see themselves  
And gaze upon the horizon above  
When will the people appreciate  
A running squirrel  
Or a bounding deer  
And model after these creatures  
After all see not what your country can do for you  
But what you can do for your country  
Intertwining our great nation  
Means open up to family and townfolk  
We the people weave this great nation*



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