

Hey all in south western Idaho

Eric Melson here from the Selway-Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation writing to update you about three volunteer trail maintenance projects this summer within the Frank Church - River of No Return Wilderness. We're looking to fill these projects with volunteers, maybe you could be one of them? Please feel free to pass this email along to folks who may be interested in joining us for a projects this summer. Here's what we have cookin':

Upper Yellowjacket Reroute, building of Turnpike/Creek Crossing structure

Open to 6-8 Volunteers

June 19 to June 26

Starting Elevation: 6000ft

Camp Elevation: 6000ft

Mileage: 2 miles to work site

Starting Trailhead: Yellow Jacket Creek and FS RD 112

Trail head camping at guard station, tent camping with access to outhouses, creek water, Weekend volunteers are welcome on this project. This project is considered moderate.

- Meet and camp at Yellow Jacket Guard Station deep in the Salmon River Mountains (accessed up FS Road 112 from Panther Creek). Each day, hike 2 miles to the work site and perform work digging new trail and installing a 'turnpike' trail structure over a spring creek. Though this is physically demanding work, we will have time to rest, hike and enjoy the company of the group as well.

Lookout Ridge Heavy Trail Maintenance and Reconstruction - July 20th to 27th

Open to 6-8 Volunteers

Starting Elevation: 8500ft

Camp Elevation: 7200ft

Mileage: 4-5 miles to basecamp with the potential of up to 20 miles of travel throughout project.

Starting Trailhead: Lookout Mt Ridge at Thunder Mountain

- Work on a section of the 900 mile Idaho Centennial Trail, from Thunder Mountain to West Fork Rush Creek junction. This is a challenging and rewarding opportunity to help clear annual blow down, repair trail tread and drainage issues, and re-work a 100yrd section of Idaho's historic North to South trail. Open to 6-8 volunteers with backpacking experience. *Cook and pack stock provided, basecamp camping. This project is considered difficult*

Little Pistol Trail Clearing and Maintenance - August 3rd - 10th

Open to 6-8 Volunteers

Starting Elevation: 8900ft

Camp Elevation: 4800ft

Mileage: 7-8 miles to basecamp with the potential of up to 30 miles of travel throughout project

Starting Trailhead: Pistol Lake

- In the SW corner of the Frank Church, Little Pistol Ridge is highlighted by an impressive ridgeline and a beautiful alpine lake basin which marks our starting point. Little Pistol is in need of much care and attention with heavy log out expected, tread repair and drainage maintenance also needed. Open to 6-8 volunteers with backpacking experience, trail work experience desired. *Cook and pack stock provided, basecamp camping. This project is considered difficult*

Summit Trail Clearing and Maintenance - August 27th - September 3rd

Open to 2-4 Volunteers

Starting Elevation: 7200ft

Camp Elevation: 8500ft

Mileage: 5 miles to basecamp with the potential of up to 20 miles of travel throughout project

Starting Trailhead: Snowshoe Summit on FS Rd 447E

- This is a “Jack and Jill of all trades” trip with the opportunity to work with a variety of tools and techniques. We will work on Summit Trail from Snowshoe Cabin to Chilcoat Pass with incredible views of the Frank Church as you work along the ridge. Open to 6-8 volunteers with backpacking experience, trail work experience desired but not required. *Cook and pack stock provided, basecamp camping. This project is considered difficult*

The Next Step: OK, so you want to join us for one of these great trips. How to sign up you say? Simple! Download the attached PDF Volunteer Registration Packet, save it to your desktop and re-send to me in an email (emelson@selwaybitterroot.org) after filling in all the required info. After that, wrangle up your gear and get ready for your project! We will be in contact with you about the details three weeks prior to the trip; pack list, food specifics, carpool options, details about the work, etc...

I would love to have each and every one of you on a project this season! And don't fret, if you can't make a trip this year you'll only be a year older when you do.

That's it for now. I hope this email finds you well and enjoying spring!

-Eric

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