

MONDAY BWAG SUMMER 2014 HIKING SCHEDULE

Welcome to a summer of great hikes! As you know, your hikes can be as long or short as you choose and they are planned so everyone can start at the same trailhead. This year's schedule shows mileage and elevation options for shorter and longer hikes. Plan to ride with those who are on your same schedule for time and distance. Reminder, hiking groups must be at least 3 to 4 people for safety. Mileages for each hike are round trip distances. Descriptions of many hikes may be found in the books "Day Hikes Around Bozeman Montana", the magenta colored 4th edition written by Robert Stone, or "100 Great Day Hikes Around Bozeman and the Greater Yellowstone" by Mark Johnston. As always, do what works best for you, be flexible and bring a smile!

Reminder: Bring lots of water, snacks/lunch, bear spray, hat, rain jacket, etc. More bears are moving out of the high country into lower elevations of the mountains, so make sure you have bear spray – and check the expiration date.

Note the departure times from Museum of the Rockies. July and August hikes leave at 8:00am. Gallatin Canyon hikes will include an additional stop to pick up hikers at the parking lot on Cottonwood Rd. and Hwy. 191.

Date	Meet @MOR	Destination	Short Hike miles/elev gain	Long Hike miles/elev gain	Description	Book Page
May 26 Holiday	9:00	Lower Mt Ellis ¹ or Upper Mt Ellis	6.0 mi / 2400 ft	8.8 mi / 3400 ft	The first mile is filled with wildflowers. The vistas higher up are bigger & more frequent since it was logged last year.	S86 J230
June 2	8:30	Grassy Mtn / Olsen Creek ² <i>*key exchange*</i>	6.5 mi/ 510 ft northbound, 1840 ft southbd		One group starts on Olsen Crk. Rd., second group starts at Brackett Crk. Groups meet in middle for lunch & exchange car keys, then continue on to separate destinations.	S50 J38
June 9	8:30	Asbestos Mine Trail	6.6 mi / 2000 ft	11.6 mi/3700 ft	Hillside of wildflowers and great views of the Gallatins. Continue on through the Lee Metcalf WA to another vista.	
June 16	8:30	Eagle Rock	4.0 mi / 600 ft		By special invitation, we'll hike up private property along Limestone Creek and up to a rock formation.	
June 23	8:30	West Pine Creek ridge To Dry Creek Trail junction	5.6 mi / 1500 ft	9.8 mi / 2500 ft	Ridge-top meadow filled with balsamroot, phlox, lupine & larkspur. Continue on along the Fridley Fire burn area.	S245
June 30	8:30	Moser Creek Loop or Moser to Sourdough Canyon	7.4 mi / 750 ft	<i>*shuttle*</i> 10.5 mi / 600 ft	Long but incredibly easy hike down the XC ski route. The first 1.5 miles is up a logging road, then mostly down.	S132
July 7	8:00	"M" to Sypes ¹	6.4 mi / 2235 ft <i>*key exchange*</i>		Traverse the Bridger Foothills Trail, with a steep final push to the junction with Sypes Trail before heading downhill.	J68 + J70
July 14	8:00	Davis Creek ² (a.k.a. "East Hyalite Divide")	6.6 mi / 2600 ft	Walk along crest	Hidden Hyalite trail. Step across a creek 11 times, cross big scree fields with views up Emerald & Flanders drainages, before topping out on the northern Gallatin Crest.	
July 21	8:00	Monument Meadows or Monument Mountain		9.4 mi / 2120 ft 12.7 mi/3110 ft	We are invited to cross Black Butte Ranch to this portion of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness. Views of Sphinx & Lone Mtn.	
July 28	8:00	Albino Lake & Marble Lake	5.2 mi / 600 ft	8.0 mi / 1100 ft	An easy hike to a lake inhabited by beavers, otters & muskrats, with views of the Taylor Hilgard Mountains.	J170
Aug 4	8:00	Tom Miner to Ramshorn Pass or Tom Miner/Ramshorn Peak loop ²	4.6 mi+/1450 ft	6.8 mi / 3270 ft	Reach the Gallatin Crest from Paradise Valley for spectacular views. Watch out for grizzly bears.	S266 J146

Date	Meet @MOR	Destination	Short Hike miles/elev gain	Long Hike miles/elev gain	Description	Book Page
Aug 11	8:00	Emerald & Heather Lakes ²		10.0 mi/2000 ft	Two scenic lakes are nestled in a cirque below Mount Chisholm. See the 2013 Horsetail Falls Fire burn area.	S153 J96
Aug 18	8:00	Crazy Mtns: Twin Lakes		8.0 mi / 1600 ft	Ten minutes to the first waterfall, then follow Big Timber Creek to two lakes in the "sawtooth rugged" Crazyes.	J224
Aug 25	8:00	Ross Pass Ross Pass to Bridger Bowl	5.0 mi / 1050 ft	7.9 mi / 2950 ft	Switchback up to Ross Pass and peer into Gallatin Valley. Long hikers traverse along the ridge, descend Bridger Bowl.	J40 J12
Sept 1 Holiday	8:30	Golden Trout Lakes or Eaglehead Mt to Windy Pass loop ²	5.0 mi / 1000 ft	8.8 mi / 2485 ft	The payoff for a 6-mile drive up Portal Creek is a hike to 3 lakes or along the Gallatin Crest for a "Sound of Music" moment. High-clearance cars only.	S189 S190 J114, J116
Sept 8	8:30	Little Hellroaring (Spanish Creek Tr) to Indian Ridge	7.0 mi / 1800 ft	*shuttle* 10.0 mi/3020 ft	Cross Ted Turner's ranch to Lee Metcalf Wilderness, look down on Little Hellroaring Creek headwaters.	J152
Sept 15	8:30	Pine Creek Falls and Pine Creek Lake	4.0 mi / 1700 ft	10.0 mi/3400 ft	Pass a waterfall at mile 1.1 and cascades at 2 miles, then it's a challenging climb to a 3-tiered lake in a mtn cirque.	S292-3 J204
Sept 22	8:30	Middle Cottonwood To Saddle Peak	2.8 mi / 450 ft or 5.2 mi / 1285 ft	8.8 mi / 3630 ft	A shady stroll along a babbling creek can be extended to a meadow below an amphitheater of cliffs or to Saddle Peak.	S30 J66
Sept 29	8:30	New World Gulch ¹ To Mystic Lake	4.0 mi / 1350 ft	12.0 mi/2200 ft	Look for wildlife on this shorter route to Mystic Lake, through lodgepole forests, riparian zones & big meadows.	S90 J80
Oct 6	9:00	Goose Creek / Chestnut Mtn loop	6.0 mi / 1450 ft		Fall color plus big views of the Absarokas & Gallatins, but a different, gentler route than last year.	~J74
Oct 13	9:00	Mineshaft to Frazier Lake overlook (from Seitz Rd) ²	7.0 mi / 2050 ft		Admire the yellow aspens in the Flathead Pass area. Look way down into Frazier & Anger Lakes. Watch for mtn goats.	
Oct 20	9:00	Jack Creek (from Ennis)	5.6 mi / 700 ft	Explore on!	Stroll along Jack Creek, then up a hill to views of Lone Mountain and Fan Mountain and maybe the Sphinx.	
Oct 25	9:00	Big Tree Meadow to Rocky Overlook	5.7 mi / 1165 ft		Enjoy your lunch on top of a rock formation in Hyalite with views stretching from Hyalite Peak to Wheeler Mountain	

¹State (Trust) Land: get your annual recreational permit from FWP for \$10.

²GPS tracks and a map can be found on Dave Ball's website at <http://gps.balldt.org/index.html>.

"Book/Page" column:

S = Stone, Robert "Day Hikes Around Bozeman MT" 4th edition; Stone tends to describe our short hikes.

J= Johnston, Mark D., "100 Great Day Hikes Around Bozeman"; Johnston tends to describe our long hikes.

Alternatives:					
	Storm Castle	5.0 mi / 1800 ft		Battle Ridge Road	6.6 mi / 800 ft or beyond
	Lava Lake	6.0 mi / 1600 ft		Truman Gulch	5.7 mi / 1600 ft
	Beehive Basin	6.5 mi / 1200 ft		Stone Creek Trail	6.8 mi / 1348 ft to 10 mi / 2070 ft
	Fox Meadow	6.2 mi / 1550 ft		Frog Rock	4.0 mi / 752 or beyond
	Window Rock	8.4 mi / 1400 ft		South Rock Creek Trail	10.4 mi/ 1980 feet