**McCall Hiking Club – September 2023 Hikes**

Hikers will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the McCall Post Office at the south end of the Rite Aid parking lot. We will car-pool to our destination. Those who carpool should be prepared to give their driver $4 to $6 depending on distance traveled and number of people in the car-pool to offset transportation costs. Hikers can also meet at the trailhead if that is more convenient. Please bring a spare pair of shoes for traveling as well as plenty of drinking water, food, sunscreen, insect repellent and a personal first aid kit. The hikes are generally full day trips. Scheduled hike locations and leaders are subject to change.

**Saturday, September 2**: No Hike (Labor Day Weekend)

**Wednesday, September 6:** Bear Basin Leader: Elsie Krause

**Saturday, September 9:** Twenty Mile Trail from Warren Wagon Road. Length will be determined by hikers, approximately 5 easy miles through forest. Leader: Clark Jackson

**Wednesday, September 13:** Loon Lake. Loop 10.5 miles, 2100’ elevation gain. Out and back by way of the ridge, 9.5 miles, 2000 ‘ elevation gain. Easier route led by Clark Jackson, approximately 5 miles (either along Sesesh River or up the ridge)

**Saturday, September 16th:** Hum Lake. 8.6 miles, 2300’ elevation gain. A shorter choice would be to the overlook 5.2 miles, 1100’elevation gain. Hike Leader: Tom Yergovich.

**Wednesday,** September **20:** Upper Jug Reservoir. Hike Leaders: Tom Yergovich and Clark Jackson. 5.25 miles, 585’ elevation gain for long loop. Shorter loop (up to the reservoir but not around it) 3 miles and 400 ‘ elevation gain. Just bring a snack for the hike and plan to eat together at the clubhouse when done with the hike.

**Saturday, September 23:** Boulder and Louie Lake Loop. 6.8 miles and 1600 ‘elevation gain. Shorter hike could be to Boulder Lake and back 3 miles and 800’ elevation gain. Hike Leader: Clark Jackson

**Wednesday, September 27**: Rapid River. 8.5 miles, 1500 ‘elevation gain. Hikers may turn around when they want if they plan transportation accordingly. (out and back hike). Hike Leader: Tom Yergovich. Clark Jackson will lead a shorter hike turning around earlier, 4-5 miles.

**Saturday, September 30th:** Thinking Spot. This is on the NE side of Payette Lake. It is about one mile each way with about 500’ elevation gain. The trail begins near the climbing rocks along the road and has great views of the meanders**.** Hike Leader: Tom Welty

**October Color Hikes with**

**Clark Jackson**

NOTE: **The starting time is changed to 9:00** for the late sunrises. So, we will meet at the Rite Aid parking lot by 8:50 with a 9:00 departure time. There are three Saturday fall color hikes planned for October. They are of moderate length. The terrain has minimal elevation gain. There are optional restaurant stops afterwards for late lunch breaks.

October 7th—The Strand Trail in Cascade. This a mostly riverfront hike along the North Payette River. The hike is 4.8 miles long. There are often large flocks of birds including pelicans, American White Swans, Great Blue Herons, Osprey, cranes and ducks along the walk. The hike begins at the Fischer Pond on the South end of town and goes by the championship Frisbee golf course and Kelly’s Whitewater Park, to the Water’s Edge RV park on the North edge of town and back. There will be an optional stop at the Lakefront Restaurant for a late lunch after the hike. Hike leader: Clark Jackson (541-480-6120).

October 14th-Weiser River Trail—This will be an easy hike along the former Pacific and Idaho Northern Railway (P&IN) rail bed following the Weiser River with the distance to be determined by the hikers. It will either be 4,5, or 6.4 miles, depending on what the hikers want. The hike will feature old growth timber and up to seven trestles to cross. Part of this hike is used in the winter for snowshoeing by the club. We travel to a parking area off Highway 95 on the West side of the road at the Fruitvale Rd turnoff. This is past the lumber mill at Tamarack and approximately 3 miles south of the Evergreen Campground. The optional late lunch stop will be the A&W in New Meadows or perhaps the Sprocket Brew House or Shy Simon’s Pizza in Council. Hike Leader: Clark Jackson (541-480-6120).

October 21st—Crown Point Trail in Cascade. This is a rail trail hike on the former Union Pacific rail bed. The hike is 5.6 miles long passing through basalt and granite canyons, with many views to Lake Cascade, the West Mountains, Tamarack Resort. The views to the West Mountains with the Tamaracks having turned golden should be outstanding. The hike begins at the Crown Point Campground next to the outlet dam. There will be an optional stop at the Lakefront Restaurant for a late lunch after the hike. Hike Leader: Clark Jackson. (541-480-6120).