

AGENDA
RECREATION INNOVATION LAB:
FRONTCOUNTRY RECREATION
WHITEFISH, MONTANA, OCT 10-11, 2019



THE BUSINESS OF OUTDOOR RECREATION

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2019 RECREATION INNOVATION LAB

Grouse Mountain Lodge, Whitefish, Montana

Thursday, October 10th

- 7:00-8:30** **REGISTRATION**
Grouse Mountain Lodge- Continental Divide Conference Center Foyer
- 7:00-8:30** **HOSTED BREAKFAST**
Grouse Mountain Lodge- North Glacier & South Glacier
- 8:30-9:30** **CONFERENCE OPENING & LOGISTICS**
Grouse Mountain Lodge- Continental Divide Conference Center
- 9:30-10:00** **LOAD BUSES**
In front of Grouse Mountain Lodge
- 10:00-11:30** **FIELD CONVERSATIONS ROTATION 1**
- 11:30-1:00** **LOAD, TRAVEL & LUNCH *Sack lunches provided**
- 1:00-2:30** **FIELD CONVERSATIONS ROTATION 2**
- 2:30-3:00** **LOAD & TRAVEL**
- 3:00-4:30** **FIELD CONVERSATIONS ROTATION 3**
- 4:30-5:00** **LOAD & TRAVEL**
- 5:00-6:00** **SOCIAL HOUR: HOSTED APPS & CASH BAR**
Grouse Mountain Lodge- Continental Divide Conference Center
- 6:00-7:00** **GUEST SPEAKER- Antonia Malchik & RECREATION INNOVATION AWARD**
Grouse Mountain Lodge- Continental Divide Conference Center

Friday, October 11th

- 7:00-8:30** **HOSTED BREAKFAST**
Grouse Mountain Lodge- North Glacier & South Glacier
- 8:30-8:45** **CONFERENCE REMARKS & LOGISTICS**
Grouse Mountain Lodge- Continental Divide Conference Center
- 8:45-9:15** **FRONTCOUNTRY ROUNDUP: Overview of Trends, Challenges & Solutions of Community Based Trail Systems**
- 9:15-9:30** **BREAK**
- 9:30-10:15** **PUBLIC & PRIVATE RECREATION INVESTMENT**
- 10:15-11:45** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS WITH EXPERTS**
Government Partners, O&M, On the Ground Design & Construction, Community Engagement & Volunteers
Grouse Mountain Lodge- Continent Divide, North Glacier & South Glacier
- 11:45-12:00** **LAB WRAP-UP & CLOSING REMARKS**
Grouse Mountain Lodge- Continental Divide Conference Center

**** SEE PAGE 4 & 5 FOR CLE WORKSHOP & AFTER LAB ACTIVITIES DETAILS****

FIELD CONVERSATION ROTATION DETAILS

Thursday, October 10th

WHITEFISH TRAIL- SPENCER MOUNTAIN TRAILHEAD: At Spencer, participants will visit a very popular free-ride mountain bike park. We will learn about moving from conflict to collaboration; the mix of bikes, hikers, horses; forest and trust land management issues from the land manager, DNRC; risk/benefit and legal liability analysis for trails and bike parks from the City of Whitefish; trail design and construction from TerraFlow, and volunteer and maintenance issues from key nonprofit partner, Flathead Area Mountain Bikers.

Presenters: Angela Jacobs, *Whitefish City Attorney*; Greg Poncin, *DNRC Area Manager of the Northwest Land Office*; Pete Costain, *TerraFlow*; Becky Briber, *Flathead Area Mountain Bikers*

WHITEFISH LAKE STATE PARK: At this stop, we will visit one of the most popular campground parks in Northwest Montana—Whitefish Lake State Park. The Park provides critical access to Whitefish Lake which provides recreation and angling opportunities, but also serves as the City of Whitefish’s water supply. Topics include: the realities of recreation infrastructure investment; the partnerships that feed the economy and keep the lake clean and free of aquatic invasive species; and importance and scarcity of developed public access to Montana’s waters.

Presenters: Dave Bennetts, *Region 1 Regional Park Manager*; Lori Curtis, *Whitefish Lake Institute*; Brent Campbell, *WGM Group*; Dan Hansen, *Whitefish Convention and Visitors Bureau*

WHITEFISH TRAIL- RESERVOIR TRAILHEAD: From the Whitefish Trail Reservoir Road trailhead, the group will visit a unique frontcountry site which exemplifies resilient private/private partnerships. Topics include: sustainable multi use trail design, innovative real estate transactions to resolve public recreation liability concerns; differences between developed and dispersed recreational use from the private landowner perspective; traditional public uses like hunting; and techniques for addressing wildlife and recreation issues in wildlife habitat.

Presenters: Paul McKenzie, *F.H. Stoltze Land and Lumber*; Heidi Van Everen, *Whitefish Legacy Partners*; Greg Gunderson, *Forestation*; Zach Zipfel, *FWP Legal*; Sawyer Connelly, *BHA*

AFTER LAB OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Friday, October 11th

1:00-5:00 RECREATION USE LIABILITY CLE WORKSHOP:

Best Practices for Limiting Liability for Public Recreation Use of Property

Topics include: Overview of Rec Use Liability; F.H. Stoltze Case Study--how innovative real estate transactions and exit clauses create a win-win for landowners and the public; federal land public-private partnership agreements; and anatomy of an insurance claim.

1:30-TBA GUIDED TRAIL OUTINGS

Local trail groups will lead guided outings on local trails. Join a hike or bike tour and learn more about what they’re working on around the Flathead! Sign-up when you check-in on Day 1.

1:30-3:00 “MAP YOUR TRAIL” WORKSHOP

onX will demonstrate how to collect quality trail data using the onX Hunt App on your smartphone.

RECREATION USE LIABILITY CLE WORKSHOP

Friday, October 11th

- 1:00-1:10** **WELCOME & LOGISTICS**
Grouse Mountain Lodge- Continental Divide Conference Center
- 1:10-2:00** **PANEL 1: INTRODUCTION TO RECREATION USE LIABILITY IN MT**
Grouse Mountain Lodge- Continental Divide Conference Center
- 2:00-2:50** **PANEL 2: F.H. STOLTZE CASE STUDY: INNOVATION LEGAL TECHNIQUES
TO BALANCE CONSERVATION, TRAILS AND LANDOWNER PROTECTION**
Grouse Mountain Lodge- Continental Divide Conference Center
- 2:50-3:05** **BREAK**
- 3:05-4:00** **PANEL 3: BEST PRACTICES FOR MANAGING RISK IN PUBLIC-PRIVATE
TRAIL & RECREATION PARTNERSHIPS ON FEDERAL LAND**
Grouse Mountain Lodge- Continental Divide Conference Center
- 4:00-5:00** **PANEL 4: WHEN THINGS GO WRONG: ANATOMY OF A CLAIM**
Grouse Mountain Lodge- Continental Divide Conference Center



Additional Information

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Main Planning Committee:

Signature Host:

Montana's Governor Office of Outdoor Recreation

Partner Hosts:

Montana Access Project
Crown of the Continent Geotourism Council

Event Information:

Date: Oct. 10-11, 2019

Where: Grouse Mountain Lodge, Whitefish, Montana

