

Moose Creek Trail, Jedediah-Smith Wilderness | Solitude Monitoring Training and Hike Wednesday, June 12th, 2024

Hike Description: This early season hike provides training for solitude monitoring, the WWA volunteer stewardship project! Solitude monitoring is required of our national forest partners through a program called Wilderness Stewardship Performance. Forests that manage designated Wilderness areas are scored on how well they protect different wilderness characteristics like solitude. Both the Caribou-Targhee and Bridger-Teton National Forests need help gathering this data to better understand user experience within the Wilderness areas they manage. By joining this outing, you will be equipped with the skills to contribute to one of the easiest and vital volunteer stewardship opportunities around. In order to build a robust dataset, we ask that after attending this outing you collect solitude data at either Moose Creek OR another monitoring location (email <u>carlie@wildwyo.org</u> for other possible options) ONE additional time before the snow flies in the late fall. These return collections are to be conducted on your own terms.

For the upcoming outing, please anticipate being outside for 5 - 6 hours, as solitude monitoring requires four hours of continuous observation within the designated location area. During this outing, we will hike to the snowline and then spend an enjoyable morning and lunch in the Jedediah Smith Wilderness learning about solitude monitoring from Caribou-Targhee National Forest staff. We will leave from the Moose Creek Trailhead parking lot and immediately hike about one mile to the Wilderness boundary. Once through the Wilderness boundary, we will follow the trail along Moose Creek into a remote and beautiful drainage.

9:15 AM Friday Meeting Location:

• <u>Moose Lake Trailhead</u> – Please be timely as we will begin hiking shortly after 9:30 am.

Items Needed: Be prepared for sudden changes in weather, and bring a daypack with the following:

- Water (2 liters)
- Lunch & snacks
- Many warm layers (including rain gear)
- Hat with a brim
- Sturdy high-ankle hiking boots
- Snow gaiters
- Hiking poles (if you use them)

- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Binoculars & camera
- Personal medication (EpiPen, inhaler, etc.)
- Signed copy of Participant Waiver (or email to Carlie before)