

Most Illustrious Scramblers of the Glacier Greatness,

As your three, most enthused leaders, we would like to introduce ourselves and bring you up to speed on our plans for the upcoming trip!

My name is **Serena Runyan**, and I will be a senior this year, finishing my history major and minor in Chinese. I spent my younger years in Atlanta, Georgia and now reside in Boise, Idaho. The outdoor opportunities Idaho provides has kept a lasting love for all types of adventurous activity in my heart. I have played the piano my whole life, have sung in many choirs and continue to do so at Whitman. I have spent the last semester studying abroad in Jerusalem, Israel and this summer I will be writing for Walla Walla's newspaper, The Union-Bulletin. I am very excited to be going on this trip with all of you, and can't wait to meet the shining faces we'll be adventuring with!

Hi! I'm **Alex Ihle**, a rising sophomore, majoring in geochemistry from Mercer Island, Washington. On campus, I'm a member of the cycling team, and play trombone in the Jazz Ensemble. I am a certified Wilderness First Responder, and am stoked to get to know all of you and show you around the North Cascades, my favorite playground!

My name is **Janni Conrad**, and I am an upcoming-senior Chemistry major from the small, icicle-laden, mountain-man-infested town of Fraser, Colorado. When not studying or washing Chemistry equipment, I fill my time biking, hiking, reading, and cooking. I generally enjoy all things Whitman related and am so excited to introduce you to your first year. Over the summer I will be working on my thesis and doing environmental chemistry research with a professor on campus. If you have any questions about our upcoming trip, please let me know! I look forward to meeting each of you and trekking the Northern Cascades with some great people!

We will begin our trip on August 19th at 1pm in the Reid Campus Center where we get organized, rent equipment that you may need, go over the packing list, and get everything ready for the upcoming adventure. If you're planning on flying in before the 19th, let us know so we can help you find a place to sleep! Early on August 20th we'll hop in the car and drive to Bedal Campgroup in the Northern Cascades, where we will spend the night at the trailhead. We will be leaving the cars at the trailhead to be picked up our sister-trip, who is doing the same route in the opposite direction. The next day, the 21st, we ascend A LOT (about 3500 ft) to Round Lake – this is likely the most challenging day and we look forward to conquering it right of the bat! After a deep slumber and delicious food, we will hike 7.5 miles on a ridgeline to Camp Lake the following day.

On the 23rd we descend 4 mile to Chuck River, and may follow it up with a day hike up Boulder Basin to the base of a glorious, gigantic, glimmering glacier. The following day, we will trek 5.5 miles following the Chuck River, with an ascent to our next campsite. We will awake to another big day, and hike 8.6 miles with some moderate elevation gain. The next, and final hiking day, we leave Sloan Creek Campground and will make our way to the cars left by our sister-trip. On August 27th we will drive back to Whitman, where there will be pizza and showers aplenty. We recommend bringing a change of clothes and a few shower necessities. These will be left in the van at the end of the trail, so please don't bring anything valuable (a clean t-shirt and shorts is all you really need). After the picnic you'll be able to check into your residence

halls to spend the night but will not be able to access storage and move in until the morning of August 28th.

This will be an amazing trip – scenic and strenuous in the best ways. We are excited to explore a new area with you and be a part of your first Whitman experience! In terms of equipment, the most important things are to check the packing list, make sure that you have well broken in boots. If you are planning on purchasing new boots, now is the time to start wearing them around the house and on day hikes. Please pack for weather ranging from sleet/hail, freezing temperatures to around 80 and sunny...mountain weather can be really unpredictable! This means wool or synthetic layers (NO COTTON), warm hat, and gloves, as well as loose fitting sun protective layers, sunhat, and sunscreen. And don't forget that camera, because it's going to be gorgeous!

All of these details aside, we simply cannot wait to meet you and go camping! Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. We'll be seeing all of you soon!

Warmly,
Serena, Alex, and Janni

P.S. Here's all of our contact info. Really, if you have any questions, let us know!

Janni: conradjp@whitman.edu (970) 531-9482 (I'll be researching/biking/gallivanting around Walla Walla this summer, so feel free to email or leave me a voicemail and I'll get back to you.)

Alex: ihleac@whitman.edu (425) 780-8725 (I'm not planning any massive trips over the summer at this point, so I will probably not be out of cell/internet range for more than a week at a time)

Serena: runyanse@whitman.edu (208) 794-5346 (I will also be in Walla Walla, so feel free to give me a call!)