

Hello Future Crossing the Cascades Scrambler!

Welcome to Scramble #12: North Cascades at Bridge Creek! We're all so excited to meet you all and spend a week in the great outdoors together. Scrambling is such a great way to start your four years here, and we feel lucky to introduce you to Whitman in such an awesome way. We wanted to let you know what to expect from the trip, lay out all the logistics, and introduce ourselves.

What to Expect (When You're Expecting) (an Awesome Trip)

Plan to arrive at Whitman by 1 PM on August 20th. We'll start the week off with a group meeting in the Ballroom of the Reid Campus Center. We'll then break apart into our individual Scrambles to pack, play some get-to-know-each-other games, and eat dinner. You'll be able to store your stuff in Anderson Hall storage while we're in the backcountry. We'll all sleep at Whitman that night and take off the next morning for the great outdoors.

Our trip itinerary:

Aug 20: Arrive at Whitman by 1 PM and meet at the Reid Campus Center; sleep at Whitman.

Aug 21: Drive from Whitman to the North Cascades; sleep at Lone Fir Campground.

Aug 22: 3.4 mi from Bridge Creek Trailhead to Fireweed Camp.

Aug 23: 4.1 mi to McAlester Lake Camp. An "up day"—we're heading up about 2000 ft.

Aug 24: 5.5 mi downhill to Bench Creek Camp along Rainbow Creek.

Aug 25: 3.0 mi to Rainbow Meadows Camp through Rainbow Meadows. A half-up day—we're going up about 1500 ft.

Aug 26: 9.5 mi to Hideaway Camp. Our longest day, starting with a trek up over a saddle and then down into the South Fork Bridge Creek valley.

Aug 27: 4.7 mi to Bridge Creek Trailhead and drive back to Whitman. We'll get up early to make it back by 3 PM. Scramble picnic at 6pm. Check into Residence Halls after picnic.

We'll get back to Whitman by 3 PM on August 27th. We'll then unpack and clean up until the big Scramble dinner and closing event at 6 PM on the Reid side lawn. That night you'll be able to check into and then sleep in your new dorm room, though you won't be able to access storage until the next morning. **Move-in day for all Scramblers is August 28th.**

Our goals for the trip include: having fun, getting to know each other, seeing beautiful places in the backcountry, having lots of fun, answering your questions about Whitman, making yummy food, and having tons and tons of fun. If you know any good get-to-know-each-other games or card games, make sure to introduce us to them!

A Little Bit About Us

Griff Jones, a native of Springfield, Missouri, has since defected to the West, where he plans to stay. He loves to hike, run, backpack, and climb, cook and sing. Contradictorily, he's a senior Film and Media Studies major who makes movies and keeps up with all the TV he can when not outdoors. This summer he's reconciling his passion with an internship at an outdoor production company in Jackson, WY. He spent his last semester studying in Prague, and can't think of a better way to return to Whitman than by spending quality time with a batch of incredible new Whitties in the beautiful Cascades! He can't wait to meet you!

Jenna Lea is a junior Biology major from Mill Valley, California (in the Bay Area!). At home she loves to explore her local mountain, Mt. Tamalpais, whether it be hiking, running, picnicking, or frolicking among the hills. At Whitman she runs on the Cross Country team, enjoying the endlessness of the lush rolling wheat fields. Jenna loves being outdoors and is super excited to explore the Northern Cascades, which is a new destination for her as well some of you! She has participated in a variety of backpacking trips throughout her teenage years, the coolest being a five week backcountry exploration of Alaska. This summer she'll be taking a statistics course and working part-time on the side (nothing too exciting) which is why she eagerly awaits meeting the group and looks forward to all the silly shenanigans to come from the Cascades!

Katie Gillespie is a rising junior math major originally from Portland, Oregon. She grew up camping and hiking with her family on Mt. Hood and around Eastern Oregon. Since coming to Whitman, she's become an avid backpacker, getting into the wilderness whenever she can. She would say her best backpacking experience so far was a 4-day solo trip last summer in the beautiful Wallowa Mountains near Whitman. In the backcountry, she loves cooking delicious food, trekking up mountains to gorgeous views, sleeping under the stars and seeing how many shooting stars she can count. She's spending the summer in Walla Walla working at a local 3D printing company, trying to apply her major to a real career (hopefully). She's stoked to spend a week in the beautiful Northwest with you all.

Because Katie's living in Walla Walla over the summer, she'll be your summer contact. She'll have extra space in her house, so if you need to arrive a day early to make flights work or things like that, you're more than welcome to crash at her house (get in touch with her ahead of time, though!). She also has a car and can pick you up from the airport if need be. If you have any questions or concerns about logistics at all, feel free to contact Katie at 503-764-8990 or gilleskl@whitman.edu.

All the best, and can't wait for August,
Katie, Jenna, and Griff