

# Bobcats Newsletter

December 2025



## Bobcats Section Chair Musings

As the seasons change and winter finally settles in, many of us are gearing up for snowshoeing, backcountry skiing, and other cold-weather adventures. Before heading out, please take a moment to think about avalanche safety.

The **Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC)** is an excellent resource for understanding current conditions.

Their website and app provide daily forecasts, information on avalanche likelihood by elevation and slope aspect, and summaries of recent avalanche activity. Be sure to check their updates whenever you plan to travel in the backcountry.

Keep in mind that avalanche-prone terrain generally falls on slopes between **25 and 45** degrees, with the greatest risk typically on slopes between **30 and 45** degrees. Navigation tools like **Gaia GPS**, **CalTopo**, and **onX Backcountry** offer color-coded slope-angle overlays that make it easy to identify hazardous terrain both during trip planning and while traveling in the field. These tools are incredibly helpful for evaluating terrain, choosing safer routes, and making informed decisions in real time or offline.

In addition, **onX Backcountry** includes an **Avalanche Runout Simulator** and **Potential Release Area overlays**, which can further help you identify where avalanches may start and where they might travel-valuable information for anyone exploring winter terrain.

The CMC also offers the **Avalanche Terrain Avoidance (ATA) course**, which consists of a half-day classroom session and a half-day field session. The course teaches you how to recognize where avalanche danger may exist, and, most importantly, how to avoid it. You'll learn how to use reliable information sources and route-planning tools to stay out of harms way.

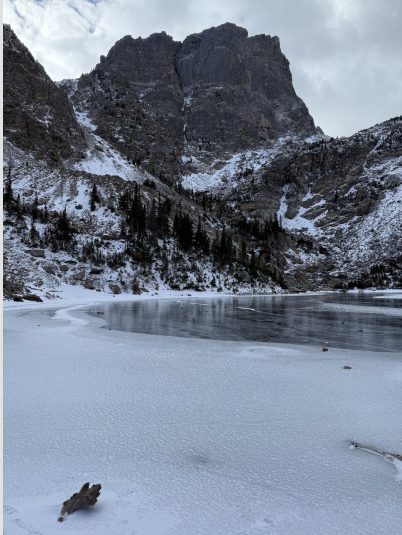
Wishing you all Happy Holidays, a Happy New Year, and a safe and enjoyable winter season. Lets continue to to stay **Safety Aware!**

**Jim Guerra**

Bobcats Section Chair

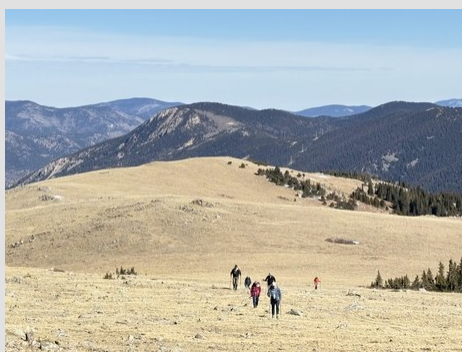
## Hiking Steep Loose Slopes by Chris Larson

Many of us Bobcats love to challenge ourselves with hikes involving climbing steep, loose slopes. I have learned some good techniques by trial and error in my on and off-trail adventures over the years. Some of these might be basic knowledge to some of you, but some techniques are counterintuitive.



To read the entire story click [HERE](#)

**Where we have been, Thank you Leaders!**



**Hike**



**Scramble**



**Snowshoe**



**Three Mile Creek and beyond led and pic by  
Jean Hart**





**Three Mile Creek and beyond pic by Jack Melim**



**Booth Lake pic by Jack Melim**





**Twin Sisters led and pic by Jlm Guerra**



**Twin sisters apres hike pic by  
Jim Guerra**



**Twin Sisters pic by Jim Guerra**





**Bobcat Picnic pic by Rich Schiebel**



**Bobcat Picnic pic by Jlm Guerra**



**Bobcat picnic pic by Jim Guerra**





**Gore Range Trail to Uneva Pass led by Rachel Dobrotnin  
pic by Deb English**



**Green Lk pic by Jan Brady**



**Green Lk pic by Jan Brady**





**RMNP Green Lk led and pic by Wayne Howell**



**Battle Mt RMNP led by Wayne  
Howell pic by Alex Bidner**



**Battle Mt RMNP pic by Sue  
Ahlberg**





**Battle Mt RMNP led by Wayne Howell pic by Suzy McClain**



**Lily Lk to Estes Cone led by Wayne Howell**





**Lily Lk to Estes Cone pic by Jeff  
Hogan**



**Mt Morrison led and pic by  
Suzy McClain**



**Off Trail to Paine Mt led and pic by Wayne Howell**



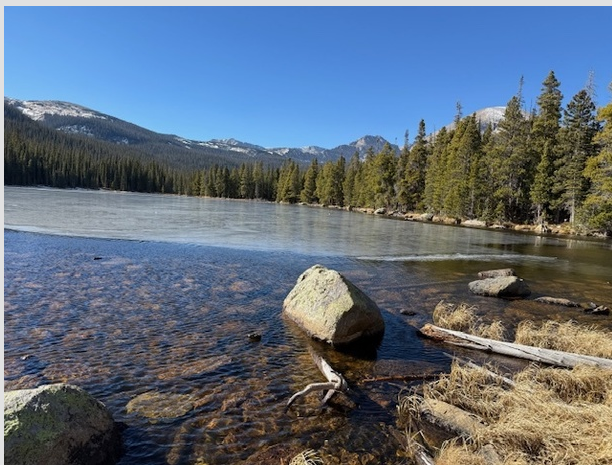


**Paine Mt Lightning Position?**



**Finch Lk led by Sue Ahlberg pic by Suzy McClain**





**Finch Lk pic by Sue Ahlberg**



**Deer Creek Hildebrand led by  
Cheryl Harmel**



**Willow Lk led by Ed Cotgageorge pic by Jim Guerra**

**[CMC Winter Course Link](#)**

## **Bobcats Board**

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**Michael Rees, Social Coordinator**

## **Bobcat Contact Info**

**General Information, [click here](#)**

**Bobcat Newsletter Submissions, [click here](#)**

*Who are the Bobcats?*

*The Bobcats' mission is to ensure a variety of adventurous CMC trips, mostly on weekdays, all year long. Our trips tend to be faster-paced, on more challenging routes, and with fewer stops. We foster a strong community of hikers seeking challenge, discovery and camaraderie.*

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