



## **MSWAT Wilderness School**

Montana Summer Wilderness Adventures for Teens (MSWAT) is the newest adventure offered by Absaroka-Beartooth Outfitters Inc. MSWAT is a comprehensive summer educational program that challenges teenagers to become confident and capable in a wilderness environment and facilitates teamwork and leadership development. We believe these lessons apply not only to the wilderness but to the challenges teens face growing up in our modern urban world. And what better setting for experiential education than the most magnificent landscape in North America – the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness!

Designed by educators who have a passion for the wilderness and are dedicated to the growth and well-being of young people, this adventure promises to be fun, yet challenging for each participant. Instruction in wilderness survival, horsemanship, conservation education, and “leave no trace” camping are just a few of the lessons students will experience.

Our trained mountain guides will serve as MSWAT instructors. They are all licensed guides for the State of Montana and certified as Wilderness First Responders. As instructors, they seek to inspire in participants a love for the wilderness and an enthusiasm for challenge.

We have a very limited number of spaces available, so the written application is very important. Please take the time to fill it out carefully, and feel free to call or email with any questions. Check out the MSWAT slideshow at <http://www.aboadventures.com> and the enclosed DVD to see some of what you’ll be learning and experiencing.

Eric Morton  
Program Director  
[mortymorton@hotmail.com](mailto:mortymorton@hotmail.com)  
253-514-0465

**Please direct inquiries to: Sarah Mayo 210-722-3817**  
[sarah@aboadventures.com](mailto:sarah@aboadventures.com)



## FACULTY



**Eric Morton**

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR/FACULTY**

Eric graduated from Montana State University with a degree in secondary education. His teaching background and love of the wilderness inspired him to work with Absaroka-Beartooth Outfitters to create MSWAT as a way to integrate education and outdoor adventure. He has worked as a licensed mountain guide for ABO for nine years and is a certified Wilderness First Responder.



**Rick Hafefeld**

**PROGRAM ADVISOR/FACULTY**

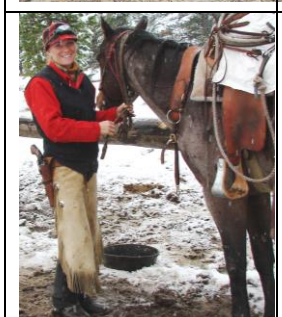
Rick has a B.S. in Wildlife Management and an M.S. in Range Management. He served as adjunct professor in the forestry program at Bakersfield College for 15 years. He is qualified as an Incident Commander in the wildland fire Incident Command System. He is a certified wildlife biologist with the Wildlife Society. He is recently retired from the Forest Service Smoke Jumper Base in Missoula, MT and from the US Navy Reserve as a Commander.



**Cameron Mayo**

**OWNER/OUTFITTER/FACULTY**

Cameron owns and operates Absaroka-Beartooth Outfitters. He is an experienced outdoorsman and licensed backcountry guide. Through his work with MSWAT, he carries on the invaluable training in wilderness survival he received at Skinner Brothers Wilderness School as a teenager. He has hunted and fished all over the United States and in Canada, Mexico, South Africa, and New Zealand. He is our very own "Survivor man."



**Lonny Allestad Mayo**

**GUIDE/FACULTY**

Lonny grew up in Montana herding sheep with her family in the summers in the Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness. As a result, she knows the area and has years of experience in backcountry camping and horsemanship. She is the mother of three and has mentored many young people in the FFA of Sweet Grass County. She is also a certified Wilderness First Responder and licensed guide for the State of Montana.



**Sarah Mayo**

**FOUNDER**

Sarah, the account coordinator and marketing director of ABO, has a Masters Degree in Education. She has been developing experiential education programs for young people for over twenty years. She is excited about fusing her educational background with this new opportunity to create wilderness awareness.



## Curriculum

Throughout the session, students will engage in activities that build leadership, facilitate teamwork, encourage cooperation and goal setting, and teach wilderness survival skills through interactive and challenging environments. Students pack into our backcountry base camp on horseback and stay for the length of their session. Camp is set up with wall tents, cots and wood stoves. All food is included. The curriculum is flexible, but this list will give you an idea of what students will experience.

- **General Safety:** for example proper hydration, safe practices around wildlife, and fire safety
- **Horsemanship:** for example safety on and around horses, saddling, riding skills, and animal care
- **Packing Mules:** for example learning how to make and secure many loads and top packs
- **Planning an overnight trip:** for example learning what gear to pack, checking the weather and conditions, getting familiar with the area from maps
- **Flora and Fauna:** for example learning the difference between edible and poisonous plants, studying area populations of animals
- **Setting up Camp:** for example learning how to choose an appropriate campsite, safely place your tents, and practice low-impact camping
- **Fire Making:** for example choosing appropriate materials, identifying safe locations, practicing fire safety
- **Camp Cooking:** for example learning how to safely cook on a campfire.
- **Fishing:** for example learning how to choose appropriate flies, casting, and learning proper techniques for catch and release.
- **Wilderness Medicine and First Aid:** for example treating common injuries and preventing illness and injury

- **Shelter Building:** for example choosing appropriate materials, building the shelter in a protected area, learning to build an emergency shelter quickly
- **Water Purification:** for example learning when purification is needed, practicing purification techniques for emergency and non-emergency situations
- **Hiking/Backpacking:** for example checking mountain conditions and weather, studying maps of the area, learning how to maintain personal safety in a wilderness environment
- **Orienteering:** for example learning how to read a map and use a compass to position yourself
- **Team building/group work:** for example participating in camp activities that require problem solving and group participation such as setting up camp
- **Tracking:** for example learning how to recognize and follow animal signs and tracks on horseback and foot
- **Wilderness Safety and Survival:** for example understanding common wilderness conditions and challenges and learning Forest Service rules and regulations



## SCHOOL EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING LIST

We recommend the following personal gear for wilderness trips. Weather may vary during the summer months from very warm to very cold, so be prepared for everything. We recommend layering clothing so that you can add or remove as needed.

- \_\_\_ 1 pair of boots (lace up) water resistant hiking/riding boots (like Danner)
- \_\_\_ 1 pair of water shoes (tevas, chacos, crocs) (these may also be your camp shoes)
- \_\_\_ 1 pair of comfortable shoes to wear around camp (crocs, deck shoes, Merrills)
- \_\_\_ 4 pairs of wool socks
- \_\_\_ 3 pairs of cotton socks
- \_\_\_ underwear
- \_\_\_ 2 complete changes of clothes (jeans, T-shirt, long sleeve shirt)
- \_\_\_ 1 pair of long underwear (NOT COTTON- preferably poly or wool blend)
- \_\_\_ 1 pair of lightweight shorts
- \_\_\_ 4 t-shirts
- \_\_\_ 1 sweatshirt
- \_\_\_ personal toiletries (toothbrush, glasses/contacts/personal medications etc.)
- \_\_\_ 1 towel
- \_\_\_ WARM SLEEPING BAG, Pad and Pillow
- \_\_\_ warm coat (we recommend wool)
- \_\_\_ light coat/fleece vest
- \_\_\_ 2 hats, one for sun protection, one for warmth (ball cap or cowboy hat and winter hat)
- \_\_\_ 1 pair of gloves
- \_\_\_ flashlight or head lamp
- \_\_\_ compass (Brunton or Silva with plastic see through base)
- \_\_\_ OVERNIGHT BACKPACK
- \_\_\_ knife (Leatherman tool)
- \_\_\_ 2 large plastic bags
- \_\_\_ rain gear (jacket w/ hood or poncho)
- \_\_\_ sunglasses
- \_\_\_ sunscreen
- \_\_\_ lip protection (carmex, chapstick)
- \_\_\_ insect repellent
- \_\_\_ water bottle
- \_\_\_ Waterproof duffel for gear (like North Face)
- \_\_\_ **FISHING LICENSE** (2 day license will suffice) (<http://fwp.state.mt.us/default.html>)

### OPTIONAL ITEMS

- Binoculars
- GPS
- Camera/extra film
- Fishing rod and tackle

WHAT NOT TO BRING: iPods, cell phones, laptops, other electronics  
NO guns, NO alcohol, NO drugs, NO tobacco



## **MSWAT Wilderness School**

### **SUMMER PRICING AND DATES**

**SESSION DATES: TBA**

**\$2500/session per student**

#### **Deposit Policy**

A non-refundable deposit of 50% is required to register. The non-refundable balance of your registration is due 60 days prior to the first day of the session. Balances not paid by the due dates will result in the cancellation of your space.

We accept credit cards (Visa/MasterCard only) and checks.  
Make checks payable to Absaroka-Beartooth Outfitters, Inc.



## MSWAT Application

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Male**\_\_\_ **Female** \_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade in school:** \_\_\_\_\_

Extra Curricular Activities:

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Hobbies/ Special Interest:

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Describe any outdoor experiences you have had and what you learned from them. (Attach additional pages if required.)

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Why do you want to be a part of this program and what do you hope to gain from this experience? (Attach additional pages if required.)

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## **Contact List**

### **PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

Eric Morton

[mortymorton@hotmail.com](mailto:mortymorton@hotmail.com)

253.514.0465

### **PROGRAM ADVISOR**

Rick Hafenfeld

[hafenbates@salmoninternet.com](mailto:hafenbates@salmoninternet.com)

208.303.0112

### **FOUNDER**

Sarah Mayo

[sarah@aboadventures.com](mailto:sarah@aboadventures.com)

210.722.3817

### **OWNER/OPERATOR Absaroka-Beartooth Outfitters**

Cameron Mayo

[cameron@aboadventures.com](mailto:cameron@aboadventures.com)

406.579.3866

### **MAILING ADDRESS:**

**MSWAT**

**Attn: Sarah Mayo**

**P.O. Box 160399**

**San Antonio, TX 78280**