

## El Sendero Announces Fourth Annual Backcountry Film Festival

Have you made the official swap of the gear closet yet? Traded in your paddles for boards? Do you hoot and holler every time you see a slight dusting of snow on the hills? Whether you go berserk at the slightest hint of snow or are just a fan of human-powered recreation, you will want to grab your friends and make your way down to this year's Backcountry Film Festival.

Now in its fourth year, the Backcountry Film Festival highlights the beauty, diversity and fun of the winter backcountry experience. Submissions come from world-renowned filmmakers who travel every corner of the globe to submit their best backcountry work, and from grassroots filmmakers who take a video camera out on their weekend excursions and submit their best film short. The top films are then juried and assembled into a night of fun for all - whether you like to ski, snowboard, snowshoe, or even just stay indoors and drink hot cocoa by the fire, there is something for everyone. These films are as diverse as the backcountry experience and will put a smile on the face of even the most winter-averse viewer.

The Film Festival benefits El Sendero's efforts to preserve and conserve winter landscapes for quiet users. The festival travels to more than 30 communities throughout the United States, all the way from Alaska to New Hampshire. Funds raised stay in local communities to support human-powered winter recreation efforts.

Winners of the festival this year include:

Best of Festival&mdash;Teton Gravity Research's "Deeper"

The film follows legendary snowboarder Jeremy Jones and other top riders as they forsake helicopters, snowmobiles, and lifts to venture deep into untouched terrain under their own power.

Best Short Film—Sweetgrass Productions "Desert River"

A beautiful ski adventure into Alaska.

Best Environmental Film—TreeFight and Snaz Media's "Whitebark Warrior"

This film chronicles the decline of thousand-year-old whitebark pines due to climate change and efforts underway to save these iconic high-alpine trees.

The festival will be on December 2 at the Cashmere Riverside Center in Cashmere, WA - doors open at 6:00 p.m. and films start at 6:30. Admission is \$10 at the door for those 12 and older, and includes door prizes and free coffee and dessert items.

To learn more, visit [backcountryfilmfestival.org](http://backcountryfilmfestival.org).