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nationally renowned kids, she added.

Group sets trek schedule

Biodiversity emphasizes Red Desert outings

LARAMIE —Biodiversity Conservation Alliance has announced its schedule of Red Desert and mountain outings for spring and summer.

Hikes are led by BCA staff and are free and open to the public. To register — space is limited — or to carpool, rendezvous or camp, call Maggie Schafer at 307-742-7978 or e-mail maggie@voiceforthewild.org.

"Because the Red Desert has some of the most important tracts of public lands threatened by oil and gas development, we're once again putting a heavy emphasis on this area, so people can see for themselves the beauty and diversity of public lands that are slated for conversion to industrial gas fields," said Erik Molvar, wildlife biologist for Biodiversity Conservation Alliance.

The trips are:

Boar's Tusk Dunes, May 13

A day trip with short day hikes through the actively migrating dune fields near the Boar's Tusk, one of the best-loved landmarks of the

northwestern Red Desert. Trip leader: Maggie Schafer.

Adobe Town, May 20-21; June 3

Visit the crown jewel of Wyoming's high desert wilderness, and explore the towering cliffs and pinnacles of the Skull Creek and Adobe Town Rims. The May trip features overnight camping and moderate day hikes; the June outing is a one-day trip with shorter walks suitable for beginners. High-clearance four-wheel drive required. Trip leaders: Erik Molvar (May 20-21), Maggie Schafer (June 3).

Southern Red Desert Caravan, May 27-29

A three-day auto tour with car camping and very short day hikes across the southern Red Desert, visiting landmarks such as the Powder Rim, Prehistoric Rim and Adobe Town. Highlights include bird watching in juniper woodlands and wild horse viewing. High-clearance four-wheel drive required. Trip Leader: Erik Molvar.

Wild Cow Creek Backpack, June 10-11

A two-day, moderately strenuous backpack through the canyons of Wild Cow Creek and Deep Gulch in the Wild Cow Creek region proposed as wilderness by Biodiversity. Trip Leader: Erik Molvar.

Honeycomb Buttes, June 10-11

Explore the red-and-green banded maze of badlands of the Honeycomb Buttes, a potential wilderness in the Jack Morrow Hills country of the northwestern Red Desert. Overnight camping with moderate day hikes into the buttes. Bring camping gear food, water. Trip Leader: Jeremy Nichols.

North Platte Dugway Float, June 17-18

A 2-day, gentle raft trip along the Platte River between Fort Steele and Seminoe Reservoir in the Great Divide BLM planning area, site of major coalbed methane project. Enjoy the scenery and fishing opportunities, along with a campout along the river. Trip Leader: John Winkel.