



CENTER FOR
Sustainable
Climate Solutions



CSCS Climate Ride Update

Hello and welcome to update number three! It's March, which means we're three months out from the start of the trip!

By now, many of the riders have acquired a touring bicycle, despite the global bike shortage. But there is more to being a bike owner than just riding your bike, the riders are discovering. Thankfully, we are finding kind people who are willing to teach us the ropes of owning and maintaining our bikes.

In Harrisonburg, Va., "Les the Bike Guy" has helped multiple students find, fit and get acquainted with their bikes. "Every time I talk to him, I'm amazed by his bicycle knowledge and his willingness to share the knowledge with anyone," said one rider.



Riders in Harrisonburg, VA on a Saturday bike ride

Two riders in Goshen, Ind. spent Saturday afternoon learning to clean and lubricate their bikes at the Golden Bear bike shop. Another student said he's met "lots of cool bike store people" both at Lincoln Avenue Cycling in Goshen and other nearby shops. "Everyone has been really down to Earth, helpful, kind, and genuinely excited about our trip," he said.

That excitement was felt by one more rider who said when she met up with the couple who had sold her bike to her on Marketplace, "they were so impressed that I was going to use it to ride across the country that they sold it to me for a reduced price."

The Climate Ride is about building connections; it appears that's already started to happen.

Meet a rider



Samantha E Lioi

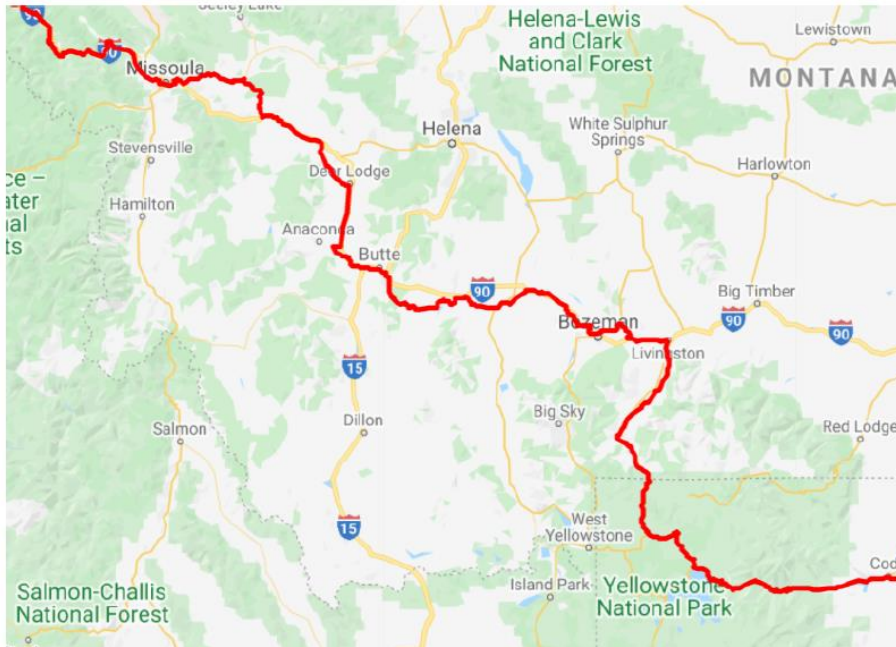
Samantha E Lioi lives in Buffalo, New York where she runs a spiritual direction practice and leads contemplative retreats. Samantha grew up in North Jersey, where she picked up an “okay Brooklyn accent” and an appreciation for Italian restaurants and pizza. After traveling the world during and after college, she completed a Masters in Divinity at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary and worked as a pastor until last year.

Samantha loves to be outside whether she’s hiking, backpacking, biking or taking walks along the Niagara River near her home. She also loves art and singing and enjoys meeting with a group called Hymnsing to sing and pray every Wednesday. Through her work with the Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated Confinement, Samantha has become active in supporting social justice causes in her community.

I feel a lot of grief about the ways we human beings have damaged and in some cases obliterated ecosystems,” Samantha said. What keeps her

going? “I am motivated by a love for the immense beauty of the earth and its creatures.”

Event Spotlight: Missoula, Montana



About halfway into our ascent over the Rockies, we will arrive in Missoula, Mont. Our theme for this location is “local solutions,” and here we will experience the power of local movements and initiatives in responding to climate change.

Our main event here will be a meeting with Adventure Cycling Association, an organization recently highlighted in a New York Times article "For Travel, A Sustainable Comeback." Missoula is full of local groups motivated to contribute to a more sustainable future through growing connections in the community. We hope to engage with a number of these groups in addition to the Adventure Cycling Association. On our way out of Missoula, we will cycle over the fifth highest pass of our ride en route to Yellowstone National Park, our next destination coming up a week later.

Meet a rider



Toby Bartlett

Toby Bartlett is a junior kinesiology major at Fresno Pacific University. Toby, who grew up in Fresno, loves being active. He competes in pole vault and javelin in track and also enjoys surfing, biking, weight lifting, doing yoga, meditating, sky diving and cliff jumping. He hopes to become a physical therapist one day.

Toby, was drawn to the Climate Ride because, he said, "I have a huge heart for the planet and the environment." He also looks forward to the resilience he will gain from completing such an endeavor. "When I'm finally in DC and I have all those miles behind me, I know I'll be able to accomplish anything I put my mind to," he said.

Where does Toby find hope in the face of climate change? "I get hope from the people who are picking up trash from the oceans. I get hope from the people who choose to recycle and the people who turn off the lights after they leave a room. I get hope from knowing there's people out there

who do care about the planet, and it's not just me by myself or you by yourself trying to fix this mess that we're in.”



The Climate Ride is grateful for grant support from the JustPax Fund, who are making the trip possible for a diverse group of riders by providing financial assistance for participants.

Thank you for following along as we continue to prepare for the trip. Maybe you'll be inspired to explore your own area by bike, or pay a visit to your local bike shop!

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