



Bringing the Adventure and Science Communities Together

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.N Climate Hero Cycles Lewis & Clark Trail with Family Collecting Roadkill Observations

Great Falls, MT July 25th, 2013 - [Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation](http://www.adventureandscience.org) (ASC) has partnered with author, United Nations Climate Hero and “Family Adventurer” Charles Scott on his traverse of much of the 2,127-mile Lewis and Clark Trail by bicycle this summer. Scott and his two young children, Sho (age 12) and Saya (age 6), are travelling through Great Falls, MT by bicycle this week on their way to the Pacific Ocean. They are collecting valuable roadkill observations for the [UC Davis Road Ecology Center](http://www.roadecologycenter.org) as a part of ASC’s program to connect scientists in need of data with adventurers in the field.

Given there are 1-2 million wildlife-vehicle collisions in the United States every year, roadkill observations are important for understanding the impacts of roads on natural landscapes and wildlife populations. Because roads cross and divide many landscapes they both provide a convenient place to observe wildlife as well as pose risks to populations which have to cross the roads. Roadkill data is used to understand which species roads affect, what time of year they are most affected and where they are most affected. These observations collected over time and space help scientists and managers understand threats to many species and how populations respond to these threats. The UC Davis Road Ecology Center uses this data to bring together and inform researchers and policy makers from ecology and transportation fields in order to design sustainable transportation systems.

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Charles Scott is a self-titled “family adventurer” who has made it his mission to educate his children and inspire others to recognize that children are much more capable than many assume. In 2009, Scott and his son, then 8, cycled the length of Japan, raising money for a global tree-planting campaign along the way. He wrote a book about his experience titled *Rising Son: A Father and Son’s Bike Adventure Across Japan*. In 2011 he left his career to pursue family adventures full time and has since cycled the circumference of Iceland and across Germany, Switzerland, France and England with his entire family. Now they are re-tracing the Lewis and Clark Trail across the western United States, passing through Montana on the way. Scott and his family will be collecting roadkill observations and identifying plants and animals along the way to inspire a new generation of adventurers and scientists saying, “I hope my children come back from this adventure with a deeper understanding of the effects human beings have on the environment. The more time kids spend in nature, the more connected they feel to the world around them, and the more they want to protect it.”

For more information about how to be involved with ASC’s [roadkill observation](#) project or other projects please visit www.adventureandscience.org. Follow the progress of the Scott family and other ASC athletes on our [blog](#), [facebook](#) and [twitter](#).

About Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation

Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation was founded in January of 2011 with the understanding that many people traveling in the outdoors genuinely want to do more for the places they visit but often struggle with how to help. ASC exists to bridge this gap by pairing adventure athletes already traveling to some of the earth's most difficult-to-reach places with the scientists who need information from these areas. ASC also has the goal of creating unique and innovative learning experiences about science while also saving the scientific and conservation communities millions of dollars in data collection costs. For more information visit www.adventureandscience.org

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