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Backpacker Magazine Reader's Top Picks 2011

Each year, Backpacker Magazine let's its readers vote on their favorite local hike each year. Well the 2011 results are in and separate by geographic region and each has a specific area and a specific trip. The winners in each:Alaska Trip: Crow Pass Trail outside of Girdwood, AK in the Chugach National Forest. Area: the whole of Denali NP. Hmmm, good info for both. (This GoBlogger lived for two years about a mile and half from the Crow Pass Trailhead. It was pretty sweet.)Northwest Trip: Enchantment Lakes Basin, Alpine Lakes Wilderness, WA. Area: Trinity Alps Wilderness, CA. Two Wildernesses - 'nuff said.West Trip: Lyell Canyon, Yosemite NP, CA Area: Joshua Tree NP. Duh…Yosemite and Joshua Tree.Rockies Trip: Four Pass Route, CO. Area: Glacier National Park. The Rockies are absolutely incredible, and these two locales are off the charts. The wife and I got engaged at Kintla Lake in Glacier back in the day.Southwest Trip: McKittrick Canyon, Guadalupe Mountains, National Park. Area: Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. I gotta admit, these two surprised me. Grand Canyon anyone, or Canyonlands NP…just saying'.Great Lakes Trip: Grand Isle National Park, MI. Area: Chaquamegon National Forest. Yes, there are national forests in the mid west. Wild, huge, empty national forests. Northeast Trip: Devils Path, NY. Area: Green Mountains National Forest, VT.The mountains may seem low by western comparison, but the old eastern trail builders never heard of a switchback, backpacking here is straight up.Southeast Trip: Approach Trail Loop, Chattahoochee National Forest, GA. Area: Everglades NP, FL. First off, Chattahoochee is fun to say. Second, if you've never seen a redneck in the wild, either of these places will definitely produce. Third, The weather is almost always nice in south Florida. Almost always.And finally the Appalachians Trip: Big Creek Loop, Great Smokey Mtns., NP, TN. Area: Dolly Sods, WV. That's right, some people rated West Virginia as having the best hiking area in the Appalachians. Hmmm, who reads this Back Packer Magazine anyway. Photo: Backpacker Magazine

Posted by MT_Guy in Expeditions at 12:33