



PHOTO BY BRIAN MOHR AND EMILY JOHNSON

A skier heads downhill near the West Fjords of Iceland.

Adventurers focus on Iceland wilderness

Brian Mohr and Emily Johnson, adventurers and photographers based in Moretown, will bring their multi-media show "Sailing and Skiing Iceland" to the Vermont Ski Museum in Stowe on Saturday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m.

The show is part of their Wild People, Wild Places series.

Last May, Mohr and Johnson spent several weeks in Iceland's West Fjords region, helping local tourism authorities explore opportunities for backcountry skiing and human-powered recreation. They used a 58-foot sailboat as a floating base camp and rowed ashore each day to reach the region's snow-covered coastal mountains.

"After breakfast on the boat, we'd spend the day climbing away from one fjord and skiing down into another," Mohr said. "While we skied, Captain Siggí would sail around to meet us."

The region is home to one of Europe's largest wilderness areas,

the remote Hornstrandir peninsula, now proposed as a national park.

"We were invited to Iceland to help build the case for the protection of Iceland's prized coastal mountains," Mohr said. "Activities like backcountry skiing, hiking, and sea kayaking have the potential to really boost the region's economy and provide a long-term alternative to the industrial energy and manufacturing developments affecting other parts of Iceland."

The show features a mix of video and stills and lasts about one hour. A raffle of outdoor gear follows the presentation. A percentage of all proceeds will be donated to conservation efforts in Iceland.

Mohr and Johnson are regular contributors to Backcountry Magazine and Vermont Life.

Admission: \$5, including the raffle of sponsor-donated prizes. Show information: www.emberphoto.com. Vermont Ski Museum is at 1 S. Main Street; 253-9911.