



## Outside Bozeman

Fall 2014


Fall Gear Reviews  
Featuring: Zealot 16  
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**Reactor Hanging Kit—MSR**

Who spilled the beans? Canister stoves are great for heating food, but can be unsteady without a flat surface to cook on. I learned this the hard way during my last car-camping trip when my stove tipped over, spilling a pot of delicious baked beans onto the forest floor. Nothing enhances the flavor of Bush's Best like crunchy pine needles and gritty sand... yum. Lucky for me, I found the **Reactor Hanging Kit** from MSR, allowing me to suspend my Reactor Stove System and dried beans, thus eliminating the need for a stable surface—which also frees up kitchen space and makes the stove more efficient. The kit is easy to use, sets up quickly, and is constructed almost entirely of cable, making it extremely light (28g) and compact. Bean-tested and camp-approved. Available at Bob Wain's and Timber Trails. \$30; msrgear.com. —DAVID ROWLETT




**Zealot 16—OSPREY**

The more I use the **Zealot 16** from Osprey, the more I fall in love with this bike-specific pack. It has pockets for stashing snacks or devices close at hand, stretchy side pockets meant to carry pads (but also good for bear spray), a helmet attachment, a front compression pocket, and a full-zip back panel with an integrated hydration system. Even with all those features, the self-contained roll-out tool pouch has quickly become my favorite and makes access to all your tools a cinch, while keeping the weight at the bottom of the pack. It's also removable if you're using the pack for a day hike instead. Added bonus on hot days: air channels in the back padding help keep you as cool as possible. Available at Timber Trails. \$150; ospreypacks.com. —ANGIE MANGELS



**FreeSteps—HILLSOUND EQUIPMENT**

Wading out to my favorite fishing spots has always been a precarious operation, and the swift currents, slippery banks, and mossy rocks of Montana's rivers have left me upended and soaked more times than I'd like to admit. With that in mind, I was eager to try the **FreeSteps** crampons from Hillsound Equipment. Originally designed for anti-slip traction in winter conditions, the durable elastomer harnesses with welded stainless-steel chains and spikes adapt remarkably well to river conditions. They are compact and fit into the pocket of my fishing pack, allowing me to hike to the water's edge and easily stretch them onto my wading boots for added confidence during river crossings. A word of warning: remove them before getting into a boat, as 42 aggressive 1/4 inch spikes could wreak serious havoc on a raft or driftboat. \$40; hillsound.com. —DAVID ROWLETT




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