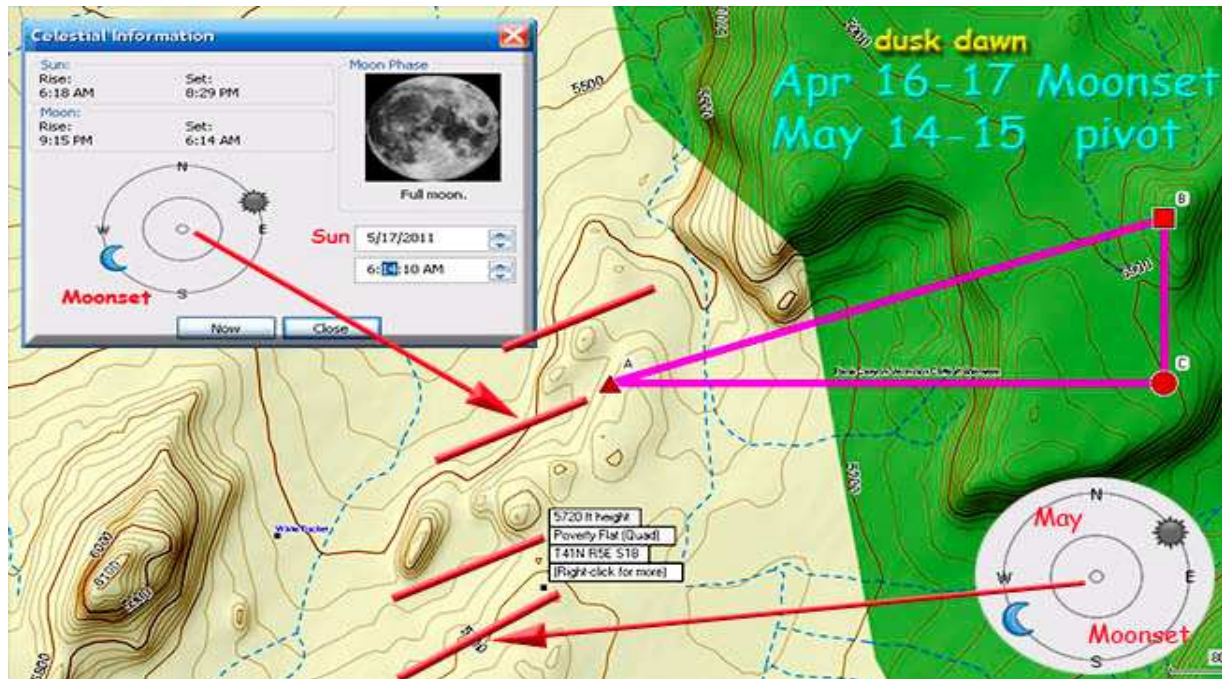


Hey Guys,

I just looked in the moon's Crystal Ball for White Pocket. Guess what I found?
We will have the **same big, gorgeous moon** we just had (?% error)...

There are two prime weekends before end of May where we can shoot both White Pocket as well as moonrise and moonset. **If we plan on three nights on the ground camping at White Pocket, that's April 15-18 (Friday through Monday) or May 14-17 (Saturday through Tuesday).**



Here's White Pocket topography overlaid with moonrise and moonset data.

When you're have a waypoint in any locale, the celestial information dialog in Mapsource will let you see when sun will rise and set, when moon will rise and set, and orientation where each of these objects rises or sets. **The example shown says ~ on Sunday, April 17, moon will set at 6:14 Sunday morning and moon will rise at 20:15 the evening before, April 16. Clearly, that night-morning pivot is quite important to include the moon in your photography!**

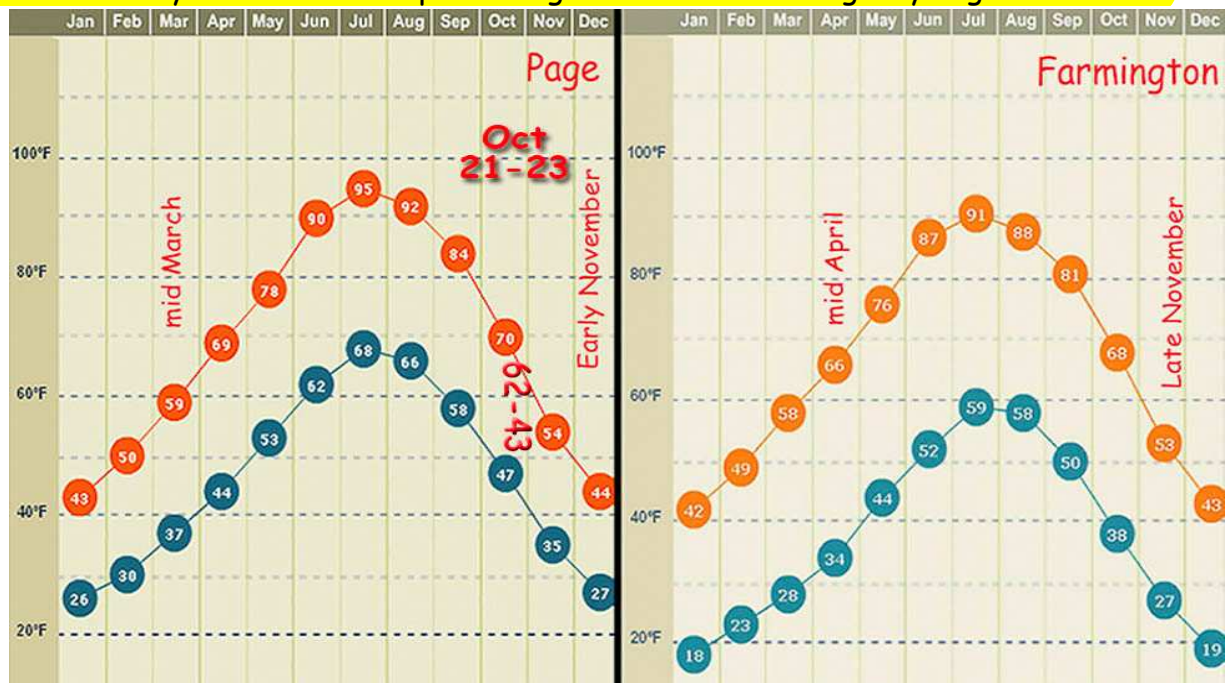
The line between the blue circle (moon) and the dark sphere (Sun) is bisected by an open circle. In effect, that open circle is your true ground position. The sickle and sun are horizon positions for moonrise or moonset; or for sunrise or sunset relative to your current horizon. *So you know where and when it occurs...*

But, the big trick is if you down in a hole, how will all that play out? In effect, for this time of year, White Pocket is 'down in a hole' relative to the ridge lying to the northeast as well as a mountain to the west southwest. Both could interfere with your moon shooting.

There are four red lines. The top set of three are relative to April moonset orientation. In essence, I have plotted where I would have to look to see moonset depending on where I am on White Pocket structure. Bottom line is May moonset.

But we mustn't forget the evening before. That's when moonrise and sunset give us another large challenge as photographers.

In essence, you've got to figure out where you want to be and what you want to do with that full moon on moonrise evening. You've also got to do the same dope for full moon moonset next morning. If you get all that done beforehand, then you just set your GPS up before you leave town. You use GPS to go out to site, set up, and be ready for whatever - presuming the Lord wants to give you good weather!



As you can see above, April is a far more pleasant month than May in terms of temperature. April's average temperature range is 69-44 whereas May is 78-53. I don't know about you guys, but I'd rather it be in high 60s (APR) as opposed to possibly low 80s (May).

My *Artistic Image* classes go through April 9. That's the weekend prior to April 16-17. May I suggest we seriously consider April 16-17 as our best opportunity to go to White Pocket, get all those fantastic shots, and include all those incredible moon shots as well.