



**SIERRA
CLUB**

FOUNDED 1892

TIMBERLINES

PIKES PEAK GROUP

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER

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Wildlands on the Web

Adapted from the cited websites by Heather Preston, Timberlines Editor

MEETINGS

General Meetings

are held at the CO Division of Wildlife, 4255 Sinton Road, Colorado Springs, 80907. DoW is on Sinton Rd approximately 1 block south of Garden of the Gods Road. Use rear entrance to building. For directions, call Jim Lockhart at 385-0045.

No January General Meeting!

Come to our annual "Inning" potluck January 22 — see announcement, pg.3.

Tuesday, Feb. 8 7-9pm

For an up-to-date description of the February meeting, see our website calendar listing:

www.rmc.sierraclub.org/ppg/calendar.html

Conservation and ExCom Meetings 6:30pm

Tuesday, Jan. 18

Tuesday, Feb. 15

Beidleman Environmental Center, 740 W. Caramillo St., COS
All members are invited to participate in our monthly "business meeting."

Central Colorado Wilderness Coalition Meetings:

Thursday, Jan. 13 7-9 pm

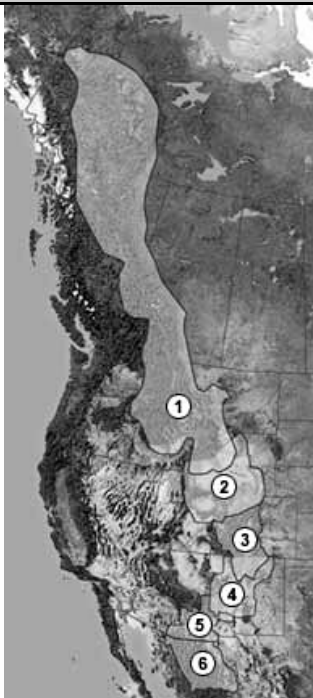
Thursday, Feb. 10 7-9 pm

Beidleman Environmental Center, 740 W. Caramillo St., COS
Take action to promote and protect wildlands in our region. The work of CCWC involves exploring and researching wild candidate areas and developing Wilderness legislation for possible Congressional action. The special November meeting will be an intensive review of wilderness area data. For more information, contact John Stansfield, 303-660-5849 or e-

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The Southern Rockies Ecosystem Project (SREP), the Denver Zoo and The Wildlands Project (TWP) have a joint mission which can be reviewed at www.wildconnections.org. It's the regional (Southern Rockies) connected wildlands plan, but there is a continent-scale plan under the aegis of TWP: www.wildlandsproject.org.

This map—a plan for overlapping wilderness areas spanning the continent north to south—depicts the results of research, expert opinion and computer modeling. It emphasizes rewilding through large wild cores, functional connectivity across the landscape, and the vital role of focal species and natural processes, and takes political realities into account. Much of our re-



gional plan was developed by SREP: www.restoretherockies.org — and also see www.wildlands.org

Connecting regional wildlands networks into a contiguous "spine" would promote the rewilding of areas from central Mexico to northern Canada.

1. Yellowstone to Yukon (Y2Y)
2. Heart of the West
3. Southern Rockies ← us!
4. New Mexico Highlands
5. The Sky Islands
6. Northern Sierra Madre

Our region's ecosystems range from mountaintop tundra to lower-elevation forests and grasslands. The Southern Rockies' alpine peaks, foothills, rugged canyons, and plateaus are habitat for elk, mountain lion, beaver, black bear, cutthroat trout, Canada lynx, as well as other man-sensitive species.

Thirtynine Mile Mountain Proposed Wilderness Area Profile

By Lorraine Streckfus, Central Colorado Wilderness Coalition

The Central Colorado Wilderness Coalition (CCWC), co-sponsored by the Pikes Group of Sierra Club, is promoting ten pristine roadless areas, known as the Wild Ten, for congressional wilderness designation. Thirtynine Mile Mountain Roadless Area is one of the Wild Ten. For more information about this area or any of the Wild Ten, visit the CCWC website, www.cwcwilderness.org

Size and Location: Thirtynine Mile Mountain Proposed Wilderness (TMMPW) encompasses about 13,600 acres of land administered by the U. S. Forest Service. Located in Park County at the southern end of South Park, the area is 50 miles west of Colorado Springs, five miles north of Guffey, and five miles south of Elevenmile and Spinney Mountain Reservoirs. Access is available from Saddle Mountain Road on the east and Colorado Highway 9 on the west.

Wilderness Qualities: Isolated by private land, TMMPW has remote and varied backcountry challenges for the hiker, back country skier, and deer and elk hunter. Great vistas are available from the

high points: Pikes Peak to the east, South Park to the north, the Arkansas Valley to the south, the Mosquito Range to the northwest. The area also provides wildlife links with Lost Creek Wilderness Area to the northeast and Black Mountain to the southwest in the midst of extensive private ranches in South Park.

Natural Features: With an elevation ranging between 9,600 ft. to 11,550 ft., TMMPW provides a marked change from the lower elevations of South Park. Running east-west, the mountain is the remnant north slope of the Guffey volcanic area, active over 30 million years ago. Elk calve and winter in the area. Bald eagles winter here, too. Vegetation includes aspen, spruce, fir, Ponderosa and Bristlecone pine, and grasslands.

"In the end, we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand; and we will understand only what we have been taught."

— Baba Dioum, Senegal