



**SIERRA
CLUB**

FOUNDED 1892

TIMBERLINES

PIKES PEAK GROUP

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER

SPRING 2006

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Alert: Roadless Area Meeting Jan 6th

Forwarded by John Stansfield, Pikes Peak Group

MEETINGS

GENERAL MEETINGS

General Meetings are usually held at the Colorado Division of Wildlife, 4255 Sinton Road in Colorado Springs, approximately one block south of Garden of the Gods Road on the east side of I-25. Use the rear entrance to the building. For directions, call Jim Lockhart at 385-0045.

Tuesday, Jan 21 7pm
The Annual Inning (post-holiday party): No General Meeting. Details in box, p.1.

Tuesday, Feb 14 7pm
"Endangered" Slide Show

Come hear Michael Robinson speak about a timely and urgent topic, the Endangered Species Act. It is America's strongest conservation law, responsible for saving numerous animals and plants from extinction and protecting millions of acres of wildlife habitat. But the Act is now under attack in Congress.

Tuesday, March 14 7pm
Got Nature Deficit Disorder?
LeAnna DeAngelo, PhD, a health and research psychologist, will speak on Conservation Psychology: How to Avoid Nature Deficit Disorder.

Conservation and ExCom Meetings

Tuesday, Jan. 17 6:30pm

Tuesday, Feb. 21 6:30pm

Tuesday, Mar. 21 6:30pm

Beidleman Environmental Center, 740 W. Caramillo St., Colorado Springs. All members are welcome to our monthly "business meeting."

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Calling All Outdoor Enthusiasts! Please attend the January 6 Roadless Area Public Meeting on the Pike-San Isabel National Forests.

January 6, 2006 is the one chance for citizens around the Pike-San Isabel National Forest to give input on how much our remaining roadless areas mean to them. Whether you're a hiker, mountain biker, outfitter, lover of solitude, or you simply enjoy excellent water quality, you'll want to attend this meeting and bring several of your friends.

WHEN: Fri., Jan. 6th, 2006, tentatively 5 -8:30 pm
WHERE: Pueblo, Colorado. Exact time and place to be announced — watch local papers or visit www.roadless.net for updated information.

The Roadless Areas Review Task Force will be holding public hearings all over Colorado and soliciting feedback from the public in the coming months. It is imperative that the Task Force hears from you as individual citizens, scientists, business owners, trade organizations, and local governments who understand the great value that roadless areas

give to the lifestyle, economy, and natural environment in Colorado. Please attend the January 6 meeting in Pueblo and please submit written comments online or via post. For more information about how to comment and what to say, visit www.roadless.net. Please CC your comments to Lisa Smith at lisa@cecenviro.org so we can keep track of the local citizen support. Volunteers welcome, just email Lisa!

In May, 2005, the Bush Administration repealed the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule, replacing it with a process requiring governors to petition the Department of Agriculture to seek protections for roadless areas. The Roadless Areas Review Task Force, created by the Colorado legislature to advise the Governor in that process, has a tremendous opportunity to influence decisions about roadless areas to help give those lands the best protection possible.

For January 6 Colorado Springs carpooling details, please see Timberlines online calendar.

The Pikes Peak Group's Annual Inning and Potluck

Join us on Saturday, January 22, 2006 for the Pikes Peak Group's Annual Inning and Potluck! The event begins at 5:00 pm and will be held at the home of Katie Williams, 41 Polo Drive. Bring a potluck dish to share — we'll provide the drinks. If you want to help reduce the amount of disposables we use, please bring your own plate and eating utensils. Also, if you have allergies, note that Katie has two dogs.

For those of you unfamiliar with our "inning" tradition, we think of an "inning" as the opposite of an "outing" — we gather indoors for a potluck and share slides, photos, and stories of our outdoor adventures throughout the previous year. It's a great way to meet new folks, as well as discover new places you can visit in the coming year. If you have any questions, please call Jane Ard-Smith, 520-5381.

SIERRA CLUB SUES COLORADO SPRINGS OVER FOUNTAIN CREEK

The Sierra Club filed suit on December 5, 2005 in federal court in Denver against Colorado Springs Utilities and the City of Colorado Springs for violations of the Clean Water Act in connection with the City's discharges of raw sewage into Fountain Creek. The lawsuit asks for an order requiring the City to stop the discharges and to expedite upgrades to the sewer system, in order to protect the communities downstream in Pueblo, Colorado. In the last seven years, 73 million gallons of raw sewage have flowed down Fountain Creek, bringing with it serious threats to public health and safety. Nevertheless, Colorado Springs Utilities continues to authorize new development hook ups to its sewage system and has struck a deal with the state that would not require completion of all necessary upgrades to the sewer system until 2012.

We feel this situation presents a public health crisis that must be resolved sooner. The Sierra Club expects its lawsuit will be joined with the lawsuit that was filed by the Pueblo District Attorney for the 10th Judicial District against Colorado Springs in October, 2005, also for the raw sewage spills.