



**SIERRA
CLUB**

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TIMBERLINES

PIKES PEAK GROUP

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER

JULY/AUG 2005

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Keep CentralColorado Wild!

by Jean C. Smith, Wild Connections Coordinator

MEETINGS

NO JULY or AUGUST GENERAL MEETINGS

Have a happy summer and join us again on September 13th. Get out into nature!

Check here for the LATEST updates to event times, locations, and dates: Online events calendar:

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

Special Member-Input Direction Setting Meeting 6:30pm Tuesday, July 17

Beidleman Environmental Center, 740 W. Caramillo St., COS
Three-hour interactive session: tell us what you want the Pikes Peak Group to emphasize in the coming years!

Tuesday, August 16 6:30pm

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, July 7 7-9pm

with potluck supper at 6pm preceding the meeting to be held at John and Carol Stansfield's house, 6484 Granada Dr., Larkspur, CO 80118. Directions: I-25 to exit 163 (County Line Rd. at top of Monument Hill); appx. six miles east to Co Hwy 83; one block north to Granada Dr. (El Dorado Acres sign); east to first driveway on right.

Take action to promote and

(Continued on page 2)

The Pikes Peak Group was awarded a grant from the national Wildlands Campaign to help protect roadless areas. We are working with Central Colorado Wilderness Coalition and Upper Arkansas and South Platte Project to get people out into the roadless areas to hike or map these areas. We also will promote Wilderness proposals for the *Wild Ten* and Browns Canyon and submit the *Wild Connections Conservation Plan* to the Pike San Isabel National Forest.

Wild Ten hikes will explore Weston Peak, Thirtynine Mile and Salt Creek proposed wilderness areas. Each outing highlights a different creative activity, guided by an experienced mentor. In addition there are two mapping weekends. The Square Top and Burning Bear areas can possibly be combined into one proposed Wilderness. Chipeta Mountain and Mount Ouray, part of Colorado's ten highest priority wildlife connections identified by the Southern Rockies Ecosystem Pro-

ject, need additional checking

In future *Timberlines*, we will bring you up to date on various Wilderness proposals and the Pike-San Isabel forest plan revision progress. Right now, pass the word on to your friends and join in one of the outings or mapping weekends. See the insert in this issue for contact information and descriptions!

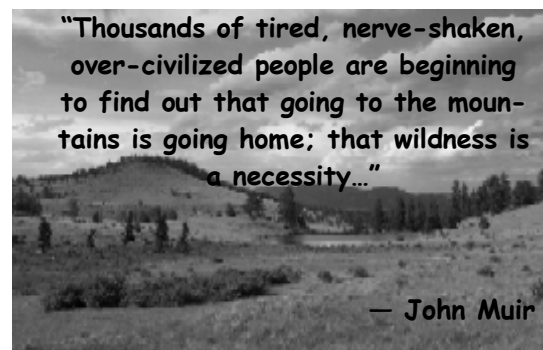


Photo: Thirtynine Mile by Michael Dwyer

Farnum Peak Proposed Wilderness Area Profile

by Lorraine Streckfus, Central Colorado Wilderness Coalition

The Central Colorado Wilderness Coalition (CCWC), co-sponsored by the Pikes Peak Sierra Club, is promoting ten pristine roadless areas, known as the Wild Ten, for congressional wilderness designation. Farnum Peak Roadless Area is one of the Wild Ten.

In June, coalition members introduced Tarryall River residents, who live near or adjacent to Farnum, to the Wild Ten proposal. A number of the residents were enthusiastic about the potential for new wilderness, seeing it as a complement to current historic preservation and environmental enhancement initiatives in the valley.

Size and Location: All 19,100 acres of Farnum Peak Proposed Wilderness (FPPW) lie in the Pike National Forest. Situated in the Puma Hills, which form the eastern edge of South Park, the area is located 20 road miles northwest of Lake George and 25 miles southeast of Kenosha Pass. The northeastern boundary of FPPW sits just southwest of Lost Creek Wilderness Area, separated only by a narrow strip of private lands bordering the ecol-

ogically-rich Tarryall River.

Wilderness Qualities: The area's rugged and steep interior holds backcountry challenge and offers solitude. Views west from FPPW include the Collegiate Range and South Park. The area provides hiding cover for the region's large elk population, as well as wildlife connections to Lost Creek Wilderness and South Park.

Natural Features: Farnum Peak itself dominates the area with an elevation of 11,377 ft., rising from the lowest elevation of 8,700 ft. The primarily conifer forests cover most of the interior but are not necessarily thick, and the visitor who goes along ridges and over saddles has easy walking with a tall canopy of pine needles. Vegetation in FPPW include aspen, blue spruce, grasslands, Douglas fir and Ponderosa, Lodgepole, Bristlecone and Limber pine.

For more information about this area or any of the Wild Ten, visit the CCWC website, www.cccwilderness.org.