

SIERRA CLUB

FOUNDED 1892

TIMBERLINES

PIKES PEAK GROUP

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER

OCT-DEC 2006

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ELECTION ISSUE—SEE BACK COVER FOR BALLOT

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.

Tuesday, October 10 7 pm

The Sierra Club proudly presents Bill Suzman and Doug Holdren, who will speak about Ft. Carson's plans to expand the Piñon Canyon Army Maneuver Ground, near Trinidad. Their slide show and presentation, "Stop the Expansion of Piñon Canyon" will energize and inform you!

Tuesday, November 14 7 pm

Choking on Growth: Our Misguided Quest for Prosperity (see blurb pg 2)

Join local filmmaker Dave Gardner for a discussion of what he believes is the root

(Continued on page 2)

Grape Creek Proposed Wilderness: Keeping it Wild

by John Stansfield, Pikes Peak Group Wilderness Chair

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. At 44,000 acres in size, Grape Creek is the largest of the Wild Ten.

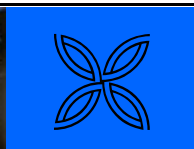
The proposed Grape Creek Wilderness consists of rugged, scenic terrain administered by the BLM and the San Isabel National Forest. Although administration is split, the area is ecologically and geographically one diverse wilderness centered on Grape Creek and the surrounding mountains. Grape Creek is situated 10 miles southwest of Canon City in Fremont County at the north end of the Wet Mountains. Contrasts characterize the proposed wilderness, ranging from Grape Creek's pools, riffles, and promising fishery to the prominent ridge of Tanner Peak. Elevations vary from 6,400 to 9,600

feet. Life zones range from foothills shrubland to montane forests and meadows.

Predator populations, including a high concentration of mountain lion, indicate abundant prey species. Deer, elk, black bear, and many smaller mammals prosper here. Expansive cliffs house nesting and roosting birds-of-prey, including eagles, with possible nesting sites for the imperiled peregrine falcon.

See **Calendar** for details on the November 5 Wilderness Protection Hike to Grape Creek.

Outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation and solitude include hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, fishing, bird-watching, hunting, and photography, all of which are enhanced by Grape Creek's long recreational season due to its low elevation and aridity. Off-road vehicle use in the national forest portion of the area presents the most direct conflict with future wilderness designation.



Save the Date – John Fielder Is Coming December 5th

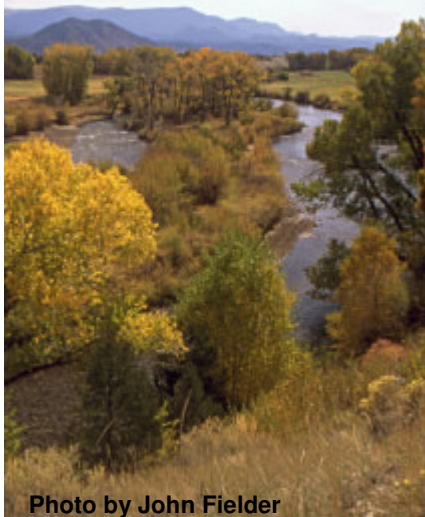


Photo by John Fielder

Please join the Sierra Club on Tuesday, December 5th, 7 pm, in the Great Hall at All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 730 N. Tejon Street, for a special evening with internationally renowned photographer John Fielder. John has written his first children's book - "Do You See What I See?" In the book, readers young and old can discover the hidden worlds within John's Colorado landscapes, with the help of poetry by renowned children's author Claudia Cangilla McAdam. Please contact LeAnna DeAngelo at 481-0085 for more information.

New Member Potluck

Are you a new member – or just feel like one? Want to learn more about the Pikes Peak Group? Then join us for a New Member Potluck on **Saturday, November 18, 5-7 pm**, at the Glenpond Apartments. You will be able to learn more about the Sierra Club, meet the various committee chairs, and socialize with your fellow Sierrans. To get there, take Cheyenne Boulevard to Lorraine Street (halfway between Tejon and 8th Street). Turn north on Lorraine, then left into the Glenpond Apartments. Park at the Pondhouse (at the edge of the pond in the middle of the complex). For further directions, call Jim Lockhart at 385-0045. For more information about the meeting, contact Jane Madden at 559-3839.