

# PPG OUTINGS

Events are near Colo Spgs—\$1 per member per outing requested to help our Club Chapter defray costs

## PIKES PEAK GROUP OF SIERRA CLUB “NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE WEEKEND” OUTING

Saturday, October 4 9:00 am to noon.

### Black Forest Family Nature Discovery Hike

Explore neat niches in nature along the Section 16 Partnership Trail in the heart of Black Forest. On this easy 2 1/2-mile hike for children seven years old and up accompanied by an adult, we will take time to discover some of the secrets of the ponderosa pine forest and meadows we pass through. For more information and to register, contact trip leader John Stansfield,

303-660-5849 or e-mail [jorcstan@juno.com](mailto:jorcstan@juno.com) by 8 PM, October 2.

Sunday, October 19 8:00 am to 5:30 pm

### Salt Creek Wilderness Quality Survey Hike

Our partner organizations recently protected from timbering a large portion of the Salt Creek proposed wilderness, adjacent to Buffalo Peaks Wilderness. Learn why the area's wild values are worth preserving on this moderate 5-mile hike with 500-foot elevation gain. Also find out about other the Wild Ten wilderness proposal areas. Well-behaved, leashed dogs allowed. For more information and to register, contact trip leader John Stansfield, 303-660-5849 or e-mail [jorcstan@juno.com](mailto:jorcstan@juno.com) by 8 PM, October 18.

Sunday, November 9 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

### Rampart East Roadless Area Exploratory Hike

Join Pikes Peak Sierra Club Group on an exploratory hike of the Rampart East Roadless Area, west of Palmer Lake, aimed at mapping the southern boundary of the area. Participants will have the opportunity to learn the basics of GPS navigation as it applies to mapping and recording natural features of an area with potential as a wilderness area. This will be a strenuous six-mile hike, partially off trail, with an approximate elevation gain of 1,500 feet. For more information and to register, contact Jim Lockhart at 719-385-0045 or e-mail [jllock@datawest.net](mailto:jllock@datawest.net).

## COLORADO ROADLESS AREAS THREATENED!! YOUR LETTERS NEEDED BY OCT. 23rd!!

The U. S. Forest Service has recently issued a draft rule that claims to “protect” Colorado’s national forest roadless areas but, rather than protect these lands, it removes or weakens existing protections. The proposed rule does not honor the wishes of the broad Colorado public or aid sustainable roadless area management. **We must respond in massive numbers to ensure that this rule never becomes final.**

***The Draft Colorado Rule:*** The draft Colorado rule would replace the national 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule’s narrowly-tailored exceptions with very broad authorizations for road construction and logging in roadless areas. The overwhelmingly-supported 2001 Roadless Rule already allows timber cutting and road building when needed to reduce wildfire risk, protect endangered species habitat, or for pre-existing rights such as oil and gas leases. The draft rule, however, takes these legitimate exceptions and rewrites them to allow many more destructive activities. These include logging in wild areas far from homes and other structures; logging in areas that are already high quality wildlife habitat; development in roadless areas of oil and gas leases issued since the 2001 Rule became effective; and construction and permanent roads for new power lines and water conveyances (pipelines, etc.) in roadless areas. The draft rule would also completely remove over 200,000 acres from the roadless inventory, including lands wanted by ski areas for future ski area expansions.

A strong showing of support for protecting Colorado’s national forest roadless areas is crucial to stop the draft rule from becoming final. For details on how you can take action to protect Colorado’s roadless lands, see the Pikes Peak Group website at [www.rmc.sierraclub.org/ppg/](http://www.rmc.sierraclub.org/ppg/).