

Pictures from our September 4th meeting.... Wine, Cheese, Familiar and New Faces



(Meetings Continued from page 1)

Center, 740 W. Caramillo St., Colorado Springs. All members are welcome.

Central Colorado Wilderness Coalition Meetings
 October and November Meeting Dates TBD.
 See ccwcwilderness.org for details.

CCWC meetings are held at the Beidleman Environmental Center, 740 W. Caramillo St., Colorado Springs

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. For more information, contact John Stansfield, 303-660-5849 or e-mail jorstan@juno.com

Timberlines Deadline: Saturday, Dec 15.
 The Editors will be leaving on vacation, so please get those articles in on time!

One of the ways you can help our local group use our limited funds more effectively is by opting to receive the newsletter

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 electronically. Simply send an email to jane.ard-smith@lexisnexis.com to get started!

**Want to See Nature's Beauty Every Day?
 Get a Sierra Club 2008 Calendar!**

The annual Pikes Peak Group Calendar Sale begins November 1st. Once again, we're offering two calendars – the Wilderness Wall calendar for \$11 and the Engagement Calendar for \$12. You can pick one up at the John Fielder event on November 12 – or contact Jane Ard-Smith, 520-5381, to

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GOOD NEWS: Two More Wild Ten Wilderness for Rocky Mountain National Park Areas Added to 2007 Wilderness Bill

The Colorado Wilderness Act of 2007, introduced September 12 by Rep. Diana DeGette of Denver, includes the Wild Ten areas Badger Creek and Table Mountain. The two new additions join Beaver Creek, Grape Creek, McIntyre Hills, and Browns Canyon from the Wild Ten, lands proposed in previous versions of the bill.

If enacted, the congresswoman's bill will protect 62 separate areas, totaling 1.65 million acres of Colorado public lands, reaching from high peaks to valuable low elevation habitats. During the legislative process, the bill offers a modicum of informal protection from development to Badger Creek and Table Mountain, safeguards not previously available to them. See www.coloradocanyoncountry.org to learn more.

Browns Canyon Proposed Wilderness Progress

After an April 4 Salida meeting with Rep. Doug Lamborn, supporters of Browns Canyon Wilderness legislation pushed forward on several campaign fronts. The primary goal is to correct misinformation offered by opponents, who are small in number, but include the influential National Rifle Assoc. Supporters developed a new slideshow, met with the staffs of Sens. Wayne Allard and Ken Salazar, both Bill supporters, and recruited a number of Colorado NRA members who support wilderness. The Friends of Browns Canyon Wilderness continues to lead public trips to the area. See the outings listing for October 7 and experience the wild qualities of Browns Canyon for yourself. To support Browns Canyon Wilderness, see the alert in the July-September issue of Timberlines.

Wilderness for Rocky Mountain National Park

The Rocky Mountain National Park wilderness bill had its first Senate hearing July 12. The Colorado Congressional delegation is showing bipartisan support for the legislation which designates about 94% of the RMNP as wilderness without impacting any of the park's much-needed administrative facilities. Under congressional guidance, the park service is addressing what may be the last obstacle to wilderness designation--on-going negotiations concerning maintenance of the Grand Ditch, an irrigation structure traversing the western portion of the park.

The Pike-San Isabel Forest Plan And Wilderness Implications

This summer a federal court suspended Bush administration forest planning rules, putting the recently-begun P-SI plan revision on hold. Full impacts on plan revision are not yet known. Despite the delay, the P-SI continues administrative research for roadless area and new wilderness area recommendations.

Eight of CCWC's Wild Ten are within the forest, in part or whole, as are nearly 100 other roadless areas. In response to the plan revision and wildland recommendations, the Upper Arkansas-South Platte Project released the Wild Connections Conservation Plan for the Pike-San Isabel and nearby federal lands. For details on the citizen-initiated vision for biodiverse, sustainable public lands and new wilderness, see www.wildconnections.org.

