

# Landscapes

Wild Connections Newsletter

May 2008

## Colorado-Specific Rule for Roadless Management in the Works

by Michael Rogers

The US Forest Service is rewriting the rules governing the management of Colorado's Inventoried Roadless Areas (IRAs). While the story of how we got here is complex, what's at stake for these critical lands that provide essential habitat and primitive recreation opportunities is crystal clear. What is also crystal clear is the water that these lands provide within our two watersheds. A major opportunity for you, the public that loves our public lands, to help protect and influence the management of our Roadless lands is just around the corner.

The US Forest Service began a first round of public comments in February of 2008. They simply asked, "Should there be a Colorado Specific Rule?" Over 80,000 comments were received, with a majority stating emphatically that Colorado's Roadless lands should be protected by the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule, the de facto management rule across the nation (save Idaho and the Alaska Tongass). However, the USFS is going ahead with creating a Colorado specific rule anyway.



100% bristlecone forest above Deadman Gulch in Jefferson roadless area. Photo by Lynn Yarroll.

Continued on page 3

## Wildways: Getting from here to there

by Jean Smith

Colorado lynx were eliminated or reduced to a few animals probably in the early 70's. In 1997, Colorado Division of Wildlife began a reintroduction project in the San Juan Mountains, bringing in 218 lynx from Canada over several years.

Those lynx have moved across the land, even out of Colorado, and there is now a resident population along the Sawatch Range. How did they manage that? From the looks of the map of radio/satellite collar data, one might think they just wandered around. But they also followed discernible pathways in many cases. Both the US Forest Service and Southern Rockies Ecosystem Project have identified key linkages for lynx.

Thanks to Patagonia's Freedom to Road initiative the term "wildways" is coming into popular use to describe migration routes, wildlife corridors or



Lynx kitten, photo CDOW

Continued on page 10

**Wild Connections**  
1420 Pinewood Rd.  
Florissant CO 80816  
info@wildconnections.org  
719-686-5905

**Staff**

**Michael Rogers**  
Interim Executive Director/  
Conservation Organizer  
Colorado Springs  
michael@wildconnections.org

**Jean Smith**  
Associate Director  
Florissant  
jean@wildconnections.org

**Alison Gallensky**  
GIS Specialist  
Westminster  
alison@wildconnections.org

**Board of Directors**

**Deb Overn, President**  
Denver  
Attorney

**Jim Lockhart, V-president**  
Colorado Springs  
Legal writer

**Alison Gallensky, Secretary**  
Westminster  
GIS technician

**Jean Smith, Treasurer**  
Florissant  
Nonprofit administrator

**Tod Bacigalupi**  
Conifer  
University professor

**Sarah Gorecki**  
Golden  
Nonprofit administrator

**Claude Neumann**  
Denver  
Engineer

**Lee Patton**  
Denver  
Writer

**John Stansfield**  
Monument  
Storyteller/writer

## Spring seeds

by Michael Rogers, Conservation Organizer/Interim Executive Director

Over this winter some older Wild Connections projects went dormant, and we planted the seeds for a new organization to emerge this spring.

Have you noticed our new website, with additional content and information? Have you received an *E-News*, a monthly newsletter designed to keep you up to date on upcoming hikes, presentations, and provide succinct factual news on issues facing our local public lands in a cost effective and timely manner?

Have you noticed our new name? We are no longer the Upper Arkansas and South Platte Project, we are now Wild Connections. Our new name more accurately defines our focus on connecting and preserving the critical remaining wildlands.

With the addition of our first, full-time staff member, Wild Connections has been engaged in public lands programs and projects to a depth that we have never been able to do before. Even better, we are growing! We are looking at new programs to further engage and provide exciting opportunities for you to get hands-on with both

## In the woods

by Jean Smith, Associate Director/Landscapes editor

Where did your love of wilderness or hiking or fishing a back country stream come from? Richard Louv, in *Last Child in the Woods*, notes that many people trace it back to a childhood experience of nature. I spent hours at a pond that appeared every spring and watched tadpoles grow into frogs: it all disappeared late in the summer, only to return again the next spring. Children and adults need direct contact with nature, and our summer trips will touch you and your family in many ways. See pages 5 and 8 for details. 🐸

advocacy and in-the-field projects.

We are also hiring an Executive Director to lead our new organization into becoming financially sustainable, so we can be the voice of local public lands for years to come.

All this has been built upon your generosity, either through your time as a volunteer inventorying some of the 100-plus roadless areas in the Pike-San Isabel, or from your financial contributions. But there is more work to be done. Roadless areas, the key areas for ecological sustainability, are facing new, weakened management rules, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service has backtracked in designating any critical habitat for lynx in Colorado. Please read on, and become involved with Wild Connections, as a volunteer, or a financial supporter. Thank you from the local Abert's squirrel and the newborn lynx kitten we hope is emerging this spring from the den! 🐸



# Roadless Rule

Continued from page 1

The draft Colorado Roadless Rule is slated to be published in late May to early June. While we don't know the details of what this new Colorado rule will look like, we are certain that it will **weaken current protections** now afforded to these undeveloped lands. Wild Connections and the broader conservation community will analyze the impacts of the proposed rule. We will need your voice to help ensure that the human and ecological services that Colorado's Roadless lands provide are not compromised.

## What you can do

**Come to the Roadless Roadshow:** Wild Connections is sponsoring a "Roadless Roadshow" in early June. This free public presentation will discuss the ecological values of roadless areas, give details and facts pertaining to the current management of these areas such as fire management flexibility, and provide trails and hiking information so you can go explore Roadless areas in your own backyard. Please attend one of these shows.

**Speak Out:** The Forest Service will ask for comments from you, the folks that value these Roadless lands. This second round of public comment will open once the draft rule is published early this summer. There will also be official Forest Service public hearings across Colorado, with one or two in our watershed.

## Sign up for Wild Connections

**E-News:** Alerts and timely local information affecting our public lands are in our monthly *E-News* tool. But we need your email address! Simply go to [www.wildconnections.org/getinvolved/](http://www.wildconnections.org/getinvolved/) [getalertsnewsletters.html](http://getalertsnewsletters.html)

**Explore a Roadless Area:** Come hike with us! See the list of summer trips on pages 5 and 8 or go to our website where new ones are added as they are scheduled. ☞

For additional background on the Roadless issue, including how we got here, go to [www.roadless.net](http://www.roadless.net).

## Roadless Roadshow

### Roadless Areas of the Pike-San Isabel National Forest ... community meetings in your town

Do you know where the roadless areas are in **your** backyard? Come to this slide show to find out!

Roadless areas are the ecological heart of our public lands. They provide critical wildlife habitat, opportunities for scientific research on natural ecosystems and preserve our watershed health. Roadless lands are also some of the best places for hiking, cross-county skiing, snowshoeing, and hunting and fishing in a quiet, natural setting.

Come learn how roadless areas are managed and protected, how the current US Forest Service's Roadless Rulemaking process will impact these last, undeveloped lands, and find out about recreation opportunities for you to go explore these lands for yourself. All shows are from 6:30 - 8:00 PM and refreshments will be served.

Evergreen  
Wednesday, June 4, 2008  
Church of the Hills  
28628 Buffalo Park Road

Pueblo  
Thursday, June 5, 2008  
Rawlings Branch - Pueblo  
Library  
100 E. Abriendo

Salida  
Monday, June 9, 2008  
Bongo Billy's Coffee  
300 West Sackett Ave.

Westcliffe  
Tuesday, June 10, 2008  
Rancher's Roost Cliff Lanes  
25 Main Street

Leadville  
Wednesday, June 11, 2008  
National Mining Hall of Fame  
120 West Ninth St.

Colorado Springs  
Thursday, June 12, 2008  
Penrose Library (Downtown)  
20 North Cascade Ave.

Denver  
To be announced. Check the web  
site [www.wildconnections.org](http://www.wildconnections.org).


For more information, email  
[michael@wildconnections.org](mailto:michael@wildconnections.org).

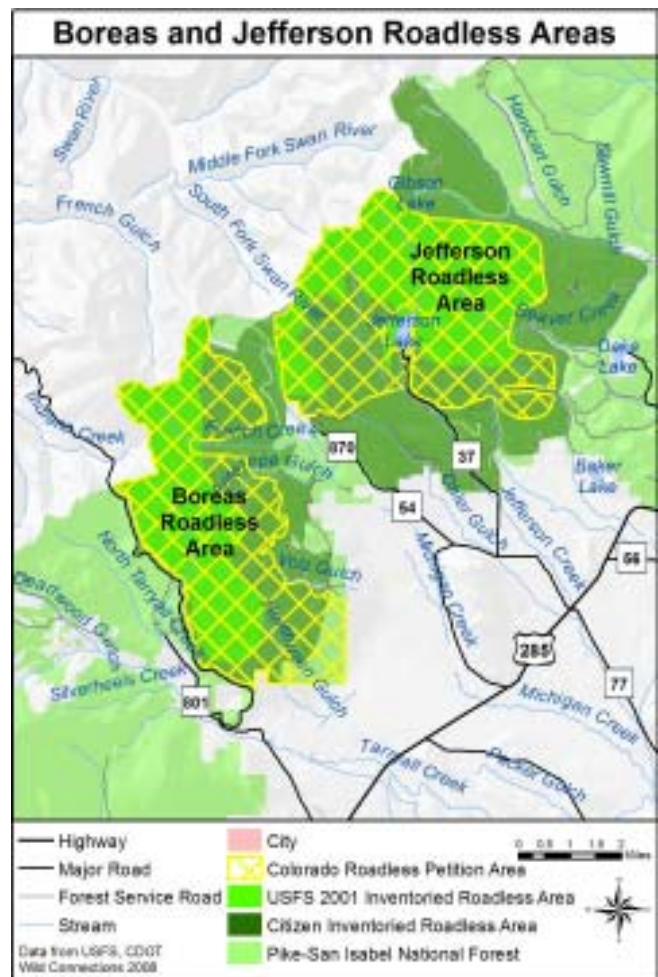
# Roadless Areas Boundary Changes

While working on the soon-to-be-released Colorado Roadless Rule, the Forest Service reviewed and changed the current Roadless area boundaries. Wild Connections will be utilizing years of citizen volunteer inventory data, data which many of you helped gather, to determine the appropriateness of the boundaries changes.

We have a sneak peak of one boundary change around the Boreas and Jefferson Roadless Areas, two areas of critical lynx and boreal toad habitats. (Map at right)

Wild Connections roadless area boundaries include the USFS area (medium green) plus a lot more in (dark green). The draft new boundary from the USFS (crosshatch) shows big gains in south and central Jefferson and on east Boreas. But the USFS map still disallows a lot of land we believe is roadless.

While some boundary changes add acreage, some remove it. We will analyze these changes to determine the ecological impacts and how they affect the integrity of the Roadless areas. We will also be asking for any information you can provide about the changes. 




## Whatever happened to... The Pike-San Isabel Forest plan revision?

Remember those Forest Service meetings in early 2007? At long last the plan revision was underway. You were at the table and the PSI was asking for your advice.

However, in March a federal court enjoined the Forest Service from using the 2005 Planning Rule – the instructions on how to make a plan. So, no more public collaboration until the Rule was fixed.

In April the Forest Service published the 2008 Forest Planning Rule. Conservation groups say that it still does not pass environmental or legal muster, and several may go to court again.

But, on April 30th Robert Leaverton, Pike-San Isabel Forest Supervisor, announced that the Forest Service will again take up the plan revision and public collaboration under the 2008 planning rule. It's too soon to know exactly how this will play out, but we will have up to date information on our web site. In the event of additional public meetings, we will also send a mailed alert. 



USFS forest plan meeting, January 31, 2007.  
Photo by Lisa Smith

# Field trips to wildlands and wildways...

Wildways - also known as wildlife linkages or corridors - might have another meaning: ways of doing things in the wild. Here are more ways of getting in touch with nature. .

## **Packing with Llamas Front Range Roadless Area Saturday, June 21st 8:00 am - 5:30 pm**

Have you always wanted to hike with a pack llama? Here's your chance on a moderate hike in the south part of the Front Range Roadless Area, just west of Palmer Lake. About 6 miles round trip hike, 850 foot elevation gain at the start then leveling out, 350' elevation gain on the return trip. This hike is ideal for families (ages 10 and up), but the limit is 15 people, and no dogs. Learn about llamas and using pack stock on the trail.

Pack llamas have generously been donated by Touch the Earth Llamas ([www.touchtheearthranch.com](http://www.touchtheearthranch.com)).

## **Scraggy Peaks Roadless Area Saturday, June 28th 8:00 am to 3:30 pm**

Take a leisurely paced hike on the South Creek Trail in this roadless area in the Wet Mountains west of Buelah. This 5.5 mile hike starts at 9200', climbs to 9600' over a mile, then drops down to 7000', traveling through mixed conifer, aspen, Douglas-fir, Gambel oak/mountain mahogany, white fir, ponderosa pine, crossing several small creeks and ending in Pueblo Mountain Park.

Sponsored by Wild Connections, Mountain Park Environmental Center and the Sangre de Cristo Group of the Sierra Club. Deadline for registration is noon, Friday June 27<sup>th</sup>, and there is a limit of 15 people. Details about the meeting place will be sent with your confirmation.

## **Coming later**

### **Greenhorn Mountain Wilderness Area, August 2nd.**

Sponsored by Wild Connections, Mountain Park Environmental Center and the Sangre de Cristo Group of the Sierra Club. Details to be announced.

### **Boreal Toads and Lynx field trips**

We are still confirming details of these trips to wildways areas for lynx and toads. Check at [www.wildconnections.org/](http://www.wildconnections.org/) or email Michael Rogers about June 1st for the schedule.



Photos CDOW



## **Devils Head/Front Range Roadless Area GPS Mapping Weekend Saturday June 28 & Sunday June 29**

Join the Conservation Committee of Colorado Mountain Club to hike and map informal trails so we can promote this as a protected area. All hikers invited but those with GPS skills and equipment will be very helpful. Bring your digital cameras to document trail conditions and geographical highlights. You will be impressed with views of Pikes Peak and the Front Range, rock outcroppings, creeks, dense flora and abundant wildlife.

Come for Saturday or Sunday or both. Car camping if you stay over night. Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast and lunch provided to campers. Bring your own camping gear and eating utensils. High clearance vehicles preferred.

Register with leader, Phil Kummer 303-756-1763. Check with Phil about car pooling.



View from Front Range area east to the foothills Photo by Naomi Yoder

For more information or to register for the Llama Packing or Scraggy Peaks trips contact Michael Rogers at 719-328-9234 or [michael@wildconnections.org](mailto:michael@wildconnections.org)

Register with Phil Kummer for the Front Range mapping weekend at 303-756-1763

# Pike-San Isabel and the Travel Management Rule

by Michael Rogers

In 2005, the US Forest Service published the national Travel Management Rule. This rule is a strong proactive step by the agency to address one of the most pervasive and high impact uses of our public lands.

While motorized recreation is a legitimate use of public lands, the lack of agency guidance and management rules has led to abuse of our public lands, resource damage in wetlands and meadows, and user conflict on trails. This rule is intended to help the agency find a balanced approach to managing motorized recreation.

## Motor Vehicle Use Maps

MVUMs are the key to getting a hold on unmanaged motorized recreation. These maps are a milestone for proactive land management and resource protection. That is a bold statement, but here is why they are such a strong step forward. The maps will clearly define and designate, for the first time, the official motorized road and trail system on Forest Service lands.

Until now, the forest road and trail system was not fully and clearly identified. This left recreational users to rely on a mish-mash of sometimes conflicting and erroneous maps and information such as gazetteers, unofficial private maps, outdated agency maps, and limited on-the-ground signs. Without clear and reliable information, motorized use of illegal roads and trails continued. The new maps will be the law of the land as to where motorized recreation is allowed.

Wild Connections strongly supports the Pike-San Isabel's publication of Motor Vehicle Use Maps. However, defining the current legal motorized system is not as simple as one would presume. The Forest Service has been underfunded by Congress for at least a decade, and therefore they are working with outdated database systems and insufficient record-keeping. The Pike-San Isabel staff is working hard to surmount this hurdle, but with 2.2 million acres and thousands of miles of routes in the Pike-San Isabel, this is clearly no easy job.

Wild Connections partnered with the Quiet Use Coalition, the Colorado Mountain Club, Rocky Mountain Recreation Initiative and The Wilderness Society to help ensure that only truly legal system routes show up on the Motor Vehicle Use Maps. A joint task force spent many hours reviewing agency documentation and talking with Forest Service staff.


While this has been a complex area of work, it has been a cooperative

and collaborative approach from all stakeholders. It is recognized first and foremost that for the agency to truly get a handle on motorized recreation, these maps need to be technically accurate so that the public, especially the motorized recreationist, can support and comply with the maps.

## Next Steps

Clearly, publishing these maps and defining the legal motorized system is the first step.

But what finally matters is actually getting the travel management rule on the ground, where the tread hits the trail. Education and awareness of these maps is the next step for all recreational users, both the traditional human-powered recreationist and the motorized user.

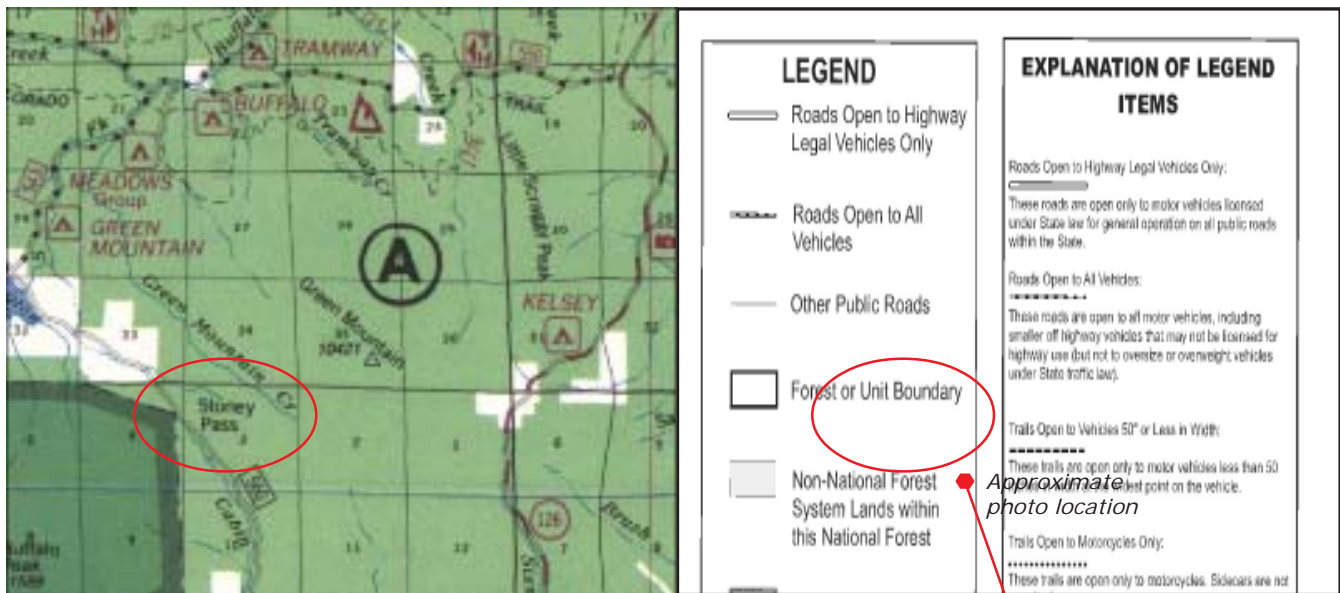
Route signs and physical closures in the field are another critical step, one which the agency has marked as a top priority, but lacks the funding and resources to carry out. Wild Connections is leading a discussion with the agency and various recreation groups to determine how we can help the agency fulfill the on the ground implementation of the rule. There will be more on this project/opportunity in future editions of *E-News*. 



Storm coming in on Green Mountain.  
Photo by Eric Dec.



Stony Pass road. Photo by Eric Dec



1984 visitor map, left and 2008 MVUM map right. Both maps show exactly the same geographical area.

## Green Mountain case study

### South Platte Ranger District MVUM

by Jean Smith

**G**reen Mountain is a high ridge that runs down from the eastern edge of Lost Creek Wilderness toward Long Scraggy roadless area and the South Platte River. Eric Dec, Justin Cook and Paul Weis spent many days inventorying the roads around the perimeter, hiking old tracks inside and bushwhacking up to the top of the mountain.

The 1984 Visitor Map does not show a road going east from Stony Pass into the Green Mountain Roadless Area. However, the new MVUM map designates the Stony Pass road as a motorized route.



ATV tracks in meadow south of end of route.  
Photo by Eric Dec.

Stony Pass road may have been a historical user-created track for logging or to get to the mining claim to the south. Sometime after 1984, it showed up on a revised Visitor Map and got a name sign. But this road is one of half-a-dozen on the South Platte MVUM that has no NEPA documentation to describe why the route was created and its environmental effects. It's on the ground, to be sure, and users have extended it well beyond the MVUM end through the forest into a wet meadow.

If there is no sign or physical barrier at the end of the MVUM route, how will a jeepster know where he should stop? Well, he won't, even with a GPS, for there are not enough reference points on the MVUM map to identify the exact end. That's why Wild Connections thinks signs and closures are so important. We're not overly happy about this road into the Green Mountain proposed Wilderness, but we will be even less happy if motorized intrusion continues.

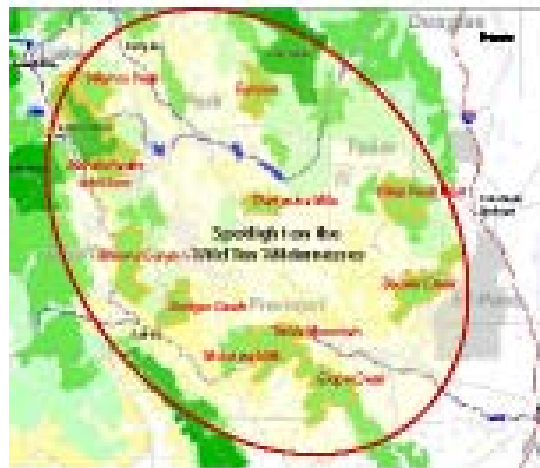
Multiply this by hundreds and hundreds of routes, and you get a feel for the magnitude of the MVUM process and the potential for endless post-hole digging and berm building. 🐾

# Spotlight on Central Colorado Wilderness

Get into the wild to hike, learn and enjoy the season

During 2008, Wild Connections, Central Colorado Wilderness Coalition and Sierra Club are sponsoring numerous outings amid the beauty and solitude of the Wild Ten proposed wildernesses. Beginning in January, people have enjoyed cross-country skiing and winter hiking in Badger Creek, Thirtynine Mile, Table Mountain and McIntyre Hills, which are included in Rep. DeGette's Colorado Wilderness Bill, currently in Congress..

In the spotlight this year, these trips each offer an added benefit for participants—basic instruction in an outdoor skill. Featured skills are map, compass, and GPS navigation, wildflower identification, and backpacking.



## **Grape Creek Sunday, May 18 8:00 am - 5:30 pm**

Rising through an inviting valley between Grape Creek and Curley Peak is the little-visited West Bear Trail. Contact John Stansfield.

## **Basic Map-Reading Skills Farnum Peak**

**Saturday, June 14  
8:00 am - 5:30 pm**

After learning basics of reading and navigating with topographic maps, we will find our way safely to the high point of the Farnum Peak proposed wilderness. Contact John Stansfield.



Reading the topo. Photo by Jean Smith

## **Marmot Peak Beginner Backpack Saturday, June 28 - Sunday June 29**

**Overnight trip**  
Learn basic backpacking skills such as site selection and minimum impact camping on this moderate trip. Participants must have their own backpacking gear. If interest warrants, a pre-trip meeting may be arranged to discuss gear and logistics. For more information or to sign up, contact Jim Lockhart.

## **Basic Wildflower Identification Big Union**

**Sunday, July 13  
7:30 am - 6:30 pm**

Mid-July is prime wildflower time in the splendid surroundings of Big Union, a proposed addition to the Buffalo Peaks Wilderness. Contact John Stansfield.

## **Basic Map and Compass Skills Weston Peak**

**Saturday, August 16  
7:30 am - 6:30 pm**

Even in the era of GPS navigation, learning to find your way with topographic map and compass is fun—and can even save your life. Contact John Stansfield.

## **Basic GPS Navigation Skills Thirtynine Mile Mountain**

**Saturday, September 27  
7:30 am—5:30 pm**

Got a GPS unit for Christmas and still not sure how to use it? Learn the basics of GPS navigation and aspen groves should be prime for photography, too. Contact John Stansfield.

More details about each outing are at [www.wildconnections.org/getinvolved/wildernesshikesevents.html](http://www.wildconnections.org/getinvolved/wildernesshikesevents.html) Maximum group size for most of the hikes is fifteen. To get more information or register, **contact the trip leader no later than 4 PM the day before the hike**. John can be reached at 303-660-5849 or [jorcstan@juno.com](mailto:jorcstan@juno.com), and Jim is at 719-385-0045 or [jlock@datawest.net](mailto:jlock@datawest.net).

## Colorado ATV Jam

That looks like Table Mountain behind the ATVer! Although the photo may be digitally altered, don't be surprised at where people want to go. This one is from the ATV Jam web page.

Last year the BLM finalized a good travel management plan for the Arkansas Canyons. All motorized travel is restricted to designated routes, and many user-created tracks were eliminated. In addition, riparian areas, wildlife habitat, Wilderness Study Areas and Areas of Critical Environmental Concern are better protected.

That was good news, because much of the roadless backcountry along the Arkansas River is proposed for Wilderness by Wild Connections and Central Colorado Wilderness Coalition, and some are included in Rep. Diana DeGette's Colorado Wilderness Act.

The Arkansas Canyons are a popular OHV area, and there are still many legal routes open to ATVs and dirt bikes. The Colorado ATV Jam is just one example of folks trying to make the area a destination for off-road enthusiasts. An ATV Rodeo, trail rides on many BLM routes and a rock concert were among the attractions.

But hold on there – can you just go out there and do this stuff? Apparently the promoters thought so. But enter an alert citizen watch dog. Like your dog after a squirrel, SeEtta Moss, Canon City resident and Audubon Society activist, went



after it. She also knows the rules, and called the local parks department, BLM, and county commissioners.

Results? BLM met with the Jam promoters and told them that a permit is needed for this kind of event on BLM land. The local inn sponsor soon took the Jam advertising off its web site, and all but one BLM trail ride is off the Jam web site. Red Canyon Park is off the list since only highway licensed vehicles can go there. The County is requiring the Jam folks to get the necessary permits.

Orion Magazine said it best: "Creating real change requires relentless personal action and genuine mindfulness, and those who have spoken on behalf of the environment cannot begin to let up... Citizens must assume that real change is going to start with them."

The best management plan is always at risk, so keep on watchdogging your local places. 🐾

*SeEtta Moss and Jean Smith contributed to this article.*

*The Orion Magazine quote is from the May/June 2008, page 1. You can find out more about The Orion Society and its focus on nature, place and culture at [www.orionmagazine.org/](http://www.orionmagazine.org/)*

## Colorado Wilderness Act

For more than 40 years, citizens inventoried and poured over maps of BLM wildlands. Many of you helped create Colorado's Canyon Country Wilderness Proposal that includes 63 areas, about 22% of Colorado's BLM land.

In 2007, Rep. Diana DeGette introduced the Colorado Wilderness Act which includes 1.65 million acres of the Canyon Country proposal. Six of the proposed Wildernesses are found along the Arkansas River between Buena Vista and Canon City.

Browns Canyon, Badger Creek, McIntyre Hills, Table Mountain, Beaver Creek and Grape Creek have some of the best low elevation wildlife habitat in central Colorado, many cultural resources and backcountry recreation options. Beaver Creek and Grape Creek have vigorous streams, important in these generally dry canyons, and the other four are the backdrop for river rafters, anglers and travelers.

Rep. DeGette anticipates House committee hearings this summer. It seems the time has come to protect this wildlands heritage. 🐾



*Table Mountain butterfly.  
Photo by Jim Lockhart*

# Wildways

Continued from page 1

mega-linkages. Wildways are those areas of suitable habitat that have as few barriers to animal movements as possible. The most formidable barriers are roads, but one solution - thanks to SREP, CDOT, federal highway officials and Congress, is the vegetated overpass planned for West Vail Pass. ([www.restoretherockies.org/wildlife\\_bridge.html](http://www.restoretherockies.org/wildlife_bridge.html))

For lynx, there are other sorts of barriers to their success. Lynx life is hard. They are a high elevation creature, and typically prefer mature spruce-fir forests. While their huge furred feet are good for moving through snow, it is no easy job to catch a snowshoe hare or a red squirrel, the bulk of their diet in Colorado. At least 98 of those released have died -19.4% perished from malnutrition or disease, and another 30.9% were shot or hit by vehicles.

They have to find a mate, breed, find a den, birth the kittens and then keep them alive. The first litters with 16 total kittens were found in 2003. The high was 50 kittens in 2005, but in 2007 no dens or kittens were found. This precipitous drop is not a good sign. CDOW is trying to figure it out, and they think possibly reduced hare numbers is a contributing factor.

Surely human presence in the high subalpine forests must affect them, as well. Snowmobiles take people right into lynx territory, and the packed tracks may also make it easier for coyotes to get a taste of hare.




Another people-factor is the degree to which we are willing to protect the habitat and wildways they need. Under the Endangered Species Act the US Fish and Wildlife Service is to designate critical habitat where there are some protections for the animal. While the revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement increased critical habitat designation for some of the northern states, unfortunately it did not include the Southern Rockies at all. Secure wildways are an important part of the long-term survival equation.

But it's not just the big animals like lynx or elk that need wildways. For example, millions of toads, frogs and salamanders get killed crossing roads in the spring. Do you remember the Guanella Pass Road reconstruction project? Many conservationists opposed the paving of Guanella Pass Road, but some good has come out of it - the boreal toads have some passageways under the

road. The Division of Wildlife is monitoring the toads. A toad or two, more or less, may seem inconsequential, but we know that toads and frogs are disappearing at an alarming rate worldwide, so each one becomes more important.


## What you can do

- ✓ Write to US Fish and Wildlife requesting designation of lynx critical habitat in the Southern Rockies. Defenders of Wildlife is preparing comments on behalf of the conservation community. We'll have that information on the Wild Connections web site soon.
- ✓ Come with us on a boreal toad hike this summer.
- ✓ We plan some hikes to lynx territory later in the summer, and perhaps even a winter snowshoe hare tracking project.
- ✓ Sign up for E-News and get an automatic notification. 



Boreal toad, Photo CDOW

# Thank you

Wild Connections thanks everyone who made a financial contribution in 2007 and through April 2008. If we missed someone, please accept our apology and email [jean@wildconnections.org](mailto:jean@wildconnections.org) to correct our records. We also thank the many volunteer mappers and photographers over the years. We couldn't do it without you. 

## \$10 - 99

Michael Adams  
Rick Alt  
Karen Amundson  
Peter Barkman  
Joe Barrera  
Carrie Bartell  
Bill & Ida Beaudin  
James Blampied  
Steve Bonowski  
Roman Borgerding  
Chas Clifton & Mary Currier  
Dennis Cochran  
Kirk Cunningham  
Reed & Karen Dills  
John Doss  
Virginia Ellis  
Dennis George  
Giveline Inc.  
Gary Greenhut  
Stuart Halpern  
Susan Harper  
Gregg Hill & Deane Bowers  
Kathy Hoerlein  
Tim Hogan  
Tom & Meg Johnson  
Fred & Margaret Karsten  
Betsy Kelson & Greg Scott  
Urling & Hugh Kingery  
Connie Kreider  
Phil Kummer

Vickie Laughlin  
Lifestream Water  
Systems/Colleen &  
Michael Kunkel  
Dan Lincoln  
Brandt Mannchen  
L. A. McLeod  
Mark Meremonte  
Dann Milne  
Robert Moose  
Mary & Tom Mourar  
Donna Murphy  
Antony Noble  
Getty Nuhn  
George & Elise Packard  
Alan Peterson  
Sherril Potter  
Gini Powell  
Polly and Gene Reetz  
Deborah Sherman  
Gary & Teresa Sims  
Tammie Singer  
Davis and Jane Ard-Smith  
Kathryn and Steve Smith  
Michael A. Smith  
Vickie Smith  
Patrick Stanifer  
The Evergreen Naturalists  
Audubon Society  
Don Thompson & Jan  
Oen

Kay Townley  
Dave & Helene Van Manen  
Harry & Mary Ann  
Wainwright  
Tom & Val Wainwright  
Judith Westcott  
Western Union Foundation  
David Wicks  
Naomi Yoder  
Kathryn Young

## \$ 100 - 249

Bill & Joan Bevington  
Bingham Ann  
Peter Bond  
John & Vicky Graham.  
Jill Hill  
Jim Johnston  
Deb & Michael Overn  
Lee Patton  
Pikes Peak Group Sierra  
Club  
Leo Reitan  
Michael Rogers  
John & Carol Stansfield  
Paul Weis  
Wet Mountain Valley  
Community Foundation  
Steven & Katherine Wheat

## \$ 250 - 499

Tod & Lyn Yarroll Baciglupi  
Alison & Neil Gallensky  
Sarah Gorecki  
Jim Lockhart  
Mt. Evans Group Sierra Club  
Claude & Diane Neumann  
Bob Scott & Anne Harding  
Singleton Family Foundation

## \$ 500 - 999

Central Colorado Wilderness  
Coalition  
Jean C. Smith

## \$1,000 - 4,999

Earth Friends Wildlife  
Foundation  
ESRI  
Fund for Wild Nature  
Maki Foundation  
Patagonia  
Peradam Foundation  
Sierra Club National  
Wildlands Campaign  
Wolcott Family Foundation

## \$ 5,000 - 15,000

The Wilderness Society  
New-Land Foundation  
Southern Rockies  
Conservation Alliance

### I want to help Wild Connections meet the Earth Friends challenge

Here's my check for \$1,000  \$500  \$250  \$100  \$50  \$25  Other \$ .....

I prefer to pledge \$..... which I will pay in ..... installments due .....  
*List # of installments and month(s) above*

Name .....

Address ..... city ..... state .... zip .....

Phone ..... Email .....  Send me E-News

Send to **Wild Connections**  
**1420 Pinewood Road, Florissant CO 80816**

**Go to [www.wildconnections.org](http://www.wildconnections.org)  
to donate on line.**

Wild Connections  
1420 Pinewood Rd.  
Florissant CO 80816

Address service requested

NON PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Florissant CO  
Permit No. 7

Inside....

- Colorado roadless rule in the works
- Wildways - getting from here to there
- Roadless Areas boundary changes
- Forest plan revision
- Colorado ATV jam
- Spotlight on Central Colorado Wilderness
- Field trips to wildlands and wildways
- Pike-San Isabel travel management rule
- Green Mountain case study

# WILD CONNECTIONS

and our partners at



EARTH FRIENDS  
WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

Earth Friends Wildlife Foundation, based in Jackson Wyoming, has given Wild Connections a grant for capacity building.

Rick Flory, Earth Friends founder said, "We only consider organizations whose work is based on good science and a balanced approach,

but we expect more for our investment. Our challenge grants focus on an organizations' ability to build their capacity and tell their story to others."

Wild Connections goal is to raise an additional \$30,000 in 2008. This will help us expand our program

and staff in order to serve the cause of wildlands protection more effectively.

Please help us meet this challenge by sending a contribution today. See gift form on inside back page. 