



# Wild Connections

FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE PRAIRIES



### E-News

November 23 , 2015  
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Wild Connections depends on [contributions](#) from individuals like you. Your donation helps cover the costs of conservation and restoration projects.

Your gift of any size makes a difference. You can make your donation through the secure Colorado Gives Day website. Just click on the image

below.



Dear {FIRST\_NAME} Colleague,

Wild Connections wishes you a Happy Thanksgiving! We are applauding the [recent settlement](#) of the lawsuit concerning management of motorized travel in the Pike-San Isabel National Forest. We are pleased that the settlement moves us toward better protection for wildlife and wildlands in Southeastern Colorado.

The December issue of our [Landscapes](#) newsletter is available [online](#), describing our work in 2015, and outlining our plans to [protect our Natural Heritage](#) during the coming year. Please mark your calendar for [Colorado Gives Day](#) on Tuesday, December 8, when we ask you to support continuing conservation programs at Wild Connections. We are thankful for our volunteers, donors, and partners, and for our beautiful Colorado wildlands. Best wishes for Thanksgiving from Wild Connections.



### Settlement: Pike - San Isabel NF Motorized Use

On November 20, the District Court for the District of Colorado supported a challenge to the use of motorized vehicles on forest lands without proper environmental review. The settlement requires that the Forest Service develop a plan for motorized use of the Pike-San Isabel National Forest within 5 years, including public review of that plan. See the [article](#) by Wild Earth Guardians for details about this important decision. Wild Connections was not a party to the lawsuit, but we applaud the decision. Wild Connections will certainly participate in the planning process, encourage public participation, and continue our 20-year record of roadless area defense in the Pikes Peak Region.



### Saving our Natural Heritage

Our region has some of the most iconic and diverse lands in Colorado. From Pikes Peak to Mt. Elbert, the forests, mountain meadows, desert-like lowlands, and a network of rivers and streams sustain thousands of plant and animal species and provide recreation for people of all ages. Today we have the opportunity and power to protect these treasures for now and for future generations. We invite you to help save all these places that represent the best of our natural heritage across central Colorado. We want to ensure that our 2016 programs will have the resources needed to make a difference - to protect our wildlands, to engage people in caring for our public lands, and to challenge agencies to do what is best for the land.

### Colorado Gives Day

Please make a contribution online via the Wild Connections secure web page at Colorado Gives Day. (<https://www.coloradogives.org/WildConnections/overview>). When you donate here, your gift is sent on to Wild Connections and helps increase our proportionate share of the one million dollar incentive awards from First Community Foundation. You can pre-schedule your gift for December 8<sup>th</sup> at any time. What better way to give the gift of wildlands protection: for yourself or in honor of another person!



### Landscapes Online

Read the [December issue of Landscapes newsletter](#). Wild Connections concludes our celebration of twenty years of conservation work by sharing highlights of 2015 programs and anticipations for 2016. Read about:

- BLM Wildlands Year in Review
- Healing the Habitat in Farnum Peak and Badger Flats
- From Mapping to a New Career; Boots on the Ground
- Not So Virginal: Pike and San-Isabel National Forests Plan Gets First Revision Since 1984
- Our New National Monument, Brown's Canyon, Celebrated by All

- BLM Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan
- A Look Ahead; and Four Actions for 2016

### **Photo Credits**

*Turkeys in the foothills of the Sangre de Cristos, Wild Connection's BLM LWC Inventory*  
*Pikes Peak, Pikes Peak-Wicki-Hogs555*  
*Mt. Elbert, Rob Koran*

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