

# LANDSCAPES



## Wild Connections

FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE PRAIRIES

JUNE 2023



### New Protections for Public Lands

Castle Gardens proposed ACEC. Photo Wild Connections

## Give Conservation Equal Footing in Public Lands Management

### ***BLM Proposes Public Lands Rule on Conservation-Comment Now!***

*by John Sztukowski*

On March 30, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) unveiled a proposed draft rule to guide the balanced management of public lands. The BLM states that the proposed Public Lands Rule will provide tools for the BLM to conserve important wildlife habitat and intact landscapes, recognize cultural and natural resources on public lands, and improve resilience of public lands in the face of a changing climate. This rule is based on the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, the law that governs all public land management.

The BLM is the largest steward of public lands in the United States, managing over 245 million acres of public land, which has historically focused on resource extraction and other uses, at the cost of conservation, recreation, wildlife, watersheds, and cultural resource protection. This proposed rule gives the BLM the opportunity to rebalance its priorities, as well as develop an inclusive conservation approach with tribal nations.

Currently, 90 percent of BLM managed public lands are still open for oil and gas development, with only 10 percent managed to protect recreation, conservation, and wildlife. Additionally, over 60 percent of BLM lands are open to grazing, with the BLM recording that overgrazing is the cause of failure on about 39 million acres of BLM managed public lands, failing to meet BLM's own rangeland health standards. And this failure rate has been increasing in the face of a changing climate. The BLM operates under a multiple use mission; however, conservation has never been viewed as a use of the land before. BLM's proposed Public Lands Rule could finally give conservation equal footing to grazing, water rights, oil, gas, and mining on BLM public lands.

*Continued on page 8 & 9*



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**Mission:** Wild Connections, a science-based conservation organization, works to identify, protect and restore lands of the Upper Arkansas and South Platte watersheds to ensure the survival of native species and ecological richness.

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**President's Message**  
*Ready for new opportunities*

from Jim Lockhart

Times are changing for wildlands in our region, as this issue of *Landscapes* emphasizes. Several governmental efforts to improve protection for wild areas are either completed or winding up, including the Bureau of Land Management's long-awaited Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan, which we expect to provide additional protections to wild areas in our part of the state. The BLM has also begun seeking public comment on a Public Lands Rule which would conserve important wildlife habitat and intact landscapes. The Forest Service has issued a final Travel Management Plan for Pike-San Isabel National Forest, which will close some unneeded or environmentally damaging roadways, allowing them to be obliterated and restored. Various public agencies and private stakeholders are working together to expand the Outside 285 Initiative, joining both recreation and preservation interests into a comprehensive plan which will cover not only the northern portion of the South Platte watershed, but also South Park. New initiatives by wildlife organizations to restore wildlife populations, such as the beaver, are also under way.

Now in its 28<sup>th</sup> year, Wild Connections is ready and willing to take advantage of these new opportunities

to protect and expand wild areas, to improve them as both habitat and connecting links across our landscape. We expect to bring you new opportunities to help in this effort: by joining us for outings to these wild areas, by participating in our restoration projects, by helping us to identify new wild areas of particular importance or having a particular need for protection, and by encouraging public agencies to follow through with on-the-ground actions to protect wilderness, wild areas, critical habitat, watersheds and water quality, as well as the wildlife that depend upon them. This is work which we could not do without your continued support and participation.



*Opportunities to protect wild areas stretch as far as you can see. Hole in the Rock roadless area. Photo: Jim Lockhart*



# Toxic Crude Through Colorado

## *Imagine five daily two-mile long trains of crude oil traveling through Glenwood and Gore Canyons*

*By Doug Krieger*

The proposed Uinta Basin Railway is an 85-mile line connecting drilling operations in Utah to the national rail network that would enable the shipment of up to 350,000 barrels of waxy crude oil daily from Utah through Colorado. The oil trains would travel for over 100 miles directly along the Colorado River and Fraser Rivers through Glenwood Canyon, Eagle County, Gore Canyon, and Grand County. Crossing the Continental Divide at the Moffat Tunnel, oil trains would descend along South Boulder Creek to Denver before heading on to Gulf Coast refineries. Increased traffic through the Moffat Tunnel would prompt a reopening of the Tennessee Pass rail line, which has a history of derailments and could put the Arkansas River watershed at risk as well.

The Railway would greatly increase the transportation of crude oil through the Colorado River corridor. Up to five two-mile long trains loaded with waxy crude would travel through Colorado daily (along with 5 unloaded cars returning), doubling the baseline traffic and increasing the risk of derailment 2x (from 1.6 to 3.4 accidents per year) according to the Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Although not every derailment would result in oil spilling into the Colorado River, roughly once every 4 years a spill is anticipated to occur, with a 73% chance that spill exceeds 30,000 gallons of oil.

The Surface Transportation Board (STB) did not recommend any mitigation to address the potential impact of these risks to Colorado, even though the railway accident rate is doubled. No further assessment of these risks occurred even for sensitive areas such as Glenwood Canyon and Gore Canyon. The STB approved the Uinta Basin Railway Project without requiring additional evaluation of these risks or mitigation plans for what the Project EIS called “downline impacts” outside of the immediate project area.

The Uinta Basin crude is toxic, and a spill could be catastrophic to our water supplies, wildlife, and trout habitat. Wildfire risks from derailments are heightened during this time when the West is facing severe drought. Accidents in the mountains and steep canyon areas create significant access challenges for spill clean-up and firefighting.

The Project developers plan to use tax-exempt Private Activity Bonds (PABs) authorized through the Department of Transportation to cover up to \$2 billion in costs for the Uinta Basin Railway, an unprecedented use of DOT funds intended for public benefit and resulting in a cost to taxpayers of over \$80 million per year. Numerous concerned citizens and elected officials have requested Secretary Buttigieg reject making PAB funds available.



The Project has sparked opposition from more than 70 counties, municipalities, and sanitation districts and dozens of environmental groups. Concerns are many, and the recent railway disaster in East Palestine, Ohio, has elevated awareness of the public risks.

The Project is nearing its final stages of approval. The US Forest Service has yet to issue the Special Use Authorization for the segment of the new railway that would run through the Ashley National Forest. Multiple organizations and elected officials have requested Secretary Vilsack suspend that authorization until the impacts to Colorado are evaluated. ☹

*Railway in Glenwood Canyon would transport Uinta Basin crude oil.*

*Photo: Union Pacific*



# Beavers Benefit Healthy Streams and Wetlands

*Wild Connections is partnering to restore beaver habitat in the Fountain Creek watershed*

by Jean Smith



Historic beaver range prior to widespread trapping. Map: Slide Serve

Long ago travelers anywhere in North America would continually detour around beaver ponds, wade through marshes or cross robust streams. This expanse of watery landscapes was the doing of beavers, those ultimate rodent ecosystem engineers. Except for the driest Sonoran Desert, they were everywhere!

Beginning in the 1700's the Hudson Bay Company and others employed European and Native Americans to supply furs and beaver pelts that they shipped to Europe to make felt hats. Beaver populations were severely diminished in the west by the 1850's and largely extirpated in the eastern United States before 1900.



I'm here to help! Photo: Wikipedia

This widespread loss of beavers changed the streams and wetlands across multi-millions of acres. The ponds drained, wetlands dried and became meadows, and flooding events caused constant erosion that cut deeply incised channels. These changes created a landscape vastly different from that of pre-settlement. We're so accustomed to the land as it is now that we've forgotten, or never knew, what came before.

However, today there is a growing recognition of the critical role of beavers and the need to reestablish them in suitable streams.



Beaver Dam Analogs (BDAs) are built by pounding posts into the substrate and weaving in willows and shrubs, placing rocks and mud to create a semi-permeable structure. Photo: Swaner Preserve

## Fountain Creek beaver habitat project

Wild Connections is one of several partners in Keystone Ecosystem Initiative's (KEI) habitat projects in the Fountain Creek watershed in El Paso and Pueblo Counties.

The proposed project would accomplish low-tech nature-based restoration of historic wetlands to restore incised streams disconnected from their floodplains in the Fountain Creek watershed. Restoring wetlands in the watershed would enhance natural underground water storage and safeguard water resources against drought. Wetlands restoration would also mitigate the effects of climate change, improve water quality, and increase biodiversity, especially among critical pollinator species, which are essential to our food supply... KEI Executive Summary

Wild Connections will provide volunteer crews for the Monument Creek location in the foothills west of Palmer Lake.

- KEI and the Pike National Forest will use LIDAR\* to identify historical ponds and wetlands in creek headwaters on the Pike National Forest. Topo maps also show some current locations.
- Wild Connections' teams will trek to these locations to record current conditions and gather data for project use.
- KEI, after selecting the priority sites, will schedule workdays to construct Beaver Dam Analogs. Natural materials found on site will be used wherever possible.
- The expansion of wetlands and reconnection of streams to their floodplains upstream of the BDAs will be monitored.

## Expected Results

Results will vary from site to site, but these benefits have been found from similar projects.

- Stream velocity, especially during rain events, will slow as the water pools behind the BDAs
- Erosion and scouring of the stream bed will decrease.
- Pools will expand laterally and overflow into adjacent areas creating new marshes and wet soils.
- The expanded pools and wetlands will recharge the ground water at the site.
- Improved water quality will benefit Palmer Lake water supplies.
- As time passes, the sites will become natural fire breaks, a great benefit given the ongoing drought, dense trees in project area, and proximity to downslope communities.
- Biodiversity, both types and abundance of plant and animal species, will increase dramatically in the ponds and wetlands. Willows and aspen will resprout and provide food and dam materials for many years.
- Beavers in current ponds may recolonize the new ponds as maturing juveniles seek their own space. In the absence of naturally occurring recolonization, CPW could relocate "problem" beavers to these locations.

## When beavers and people meet

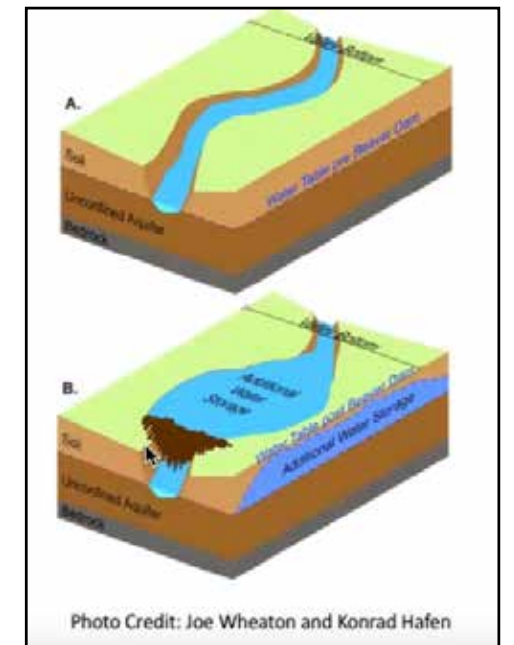
Some view beavers as unwelcome pests when we humans and our communities intersect with beavers and their communities. Beavers do block culverts resulting in flooded or collapsed roads. Their dams can flood ranchers' pastures and buildings. They will cut down mature cottonwoods. Almost all these issues can be resolved with smart interventions such as exclusion cages at culverts or wrapping trees with hardware cloth.

In the case of this project, which is located on Forest Service land, it is possible that an expanded pond or wetland could submerge one of the nearby 4WD routes. A small trade-off for the recovery of beaver habitat. ☺

## Some video resources

Fountain Creek project presentation by Jerry Mallet of KEI [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2kFa\\_LnkuA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2kFa_LnkuA)  
 Rewilding with Beavers, Heartland Rewilding and Superior Bio-Conservancy <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NBHKmf-2v98>

\* LIDAR Light Detection and Ranging to create a 3D representation



Restoring the floodplain. Photo: Joe Wheaton and Konrad Hafen



# Beavers in Trout Creek and Beaver Creek Habitat Projects

Articles by Jean Smith

## Beaver Creek Boardwalk Project at Fairplay



Left: The trail is flooded. Above: A dam made of mud, willows, and trash. Photo: WRV

Just east of Fairplay, beavers had expanded their ponds until a popular trail from the town to the National Forest was underwater!

Partners worked together to construct a boardwalk. Over the 2019-20 work seasons volunteers and staff built 600 feet of ADA compliant boardwalk across the ponds and marsh and installed steps up the slope to the Forest Service trail 747.



Left: Volunteers installing decking on the pylons the Forest Service had pounded deep in the ground.

Right: View of the boardwalk from the steps leading to FST 745 and 600' across the marsh.

Below: A pallet chewed by a beaver. Photos: Misi Ballard



### A dozen years later

- Fairplay has a sustainable recreational trail for residents, tourists, people with limited mobility, kids in strollers in all seasons. Spring green up and fall leaf viewing are especially spectacular.
- Beavers continue to maintain their dams which slow runoff from spring snowmelt and rain events and recharge the underlying water table that supplies the town's drinking water.
- Expanded ponds and wetlands are home to water and wetlands plants, beavers, muskrats, fish, frogs, salamanders, dragonflies, bees and wetlands loving birds. Forest dwellers such as mule deer, bobcats, bears and a host of other animals may visit for water.
- Willows and aspen that are harvested by beavers for food and dams will regenerate from roots and increase vegetation.
- Expanded wetlands provide a natural fire break for Fairplay.

### Partners

- Wildlands Restoration Volunteers
- Mosquito Range Heritage Initiative
- Wild Connections
- Park County Land and Water Trust Fund
- US Forest Service
- South Park National Heritage Area
- Volunteers

They do alter the land, sometimes intersecting with human built alterations of the land – roads, homes, pastures.

Will they take a bite out of the boardwalk? They appropriated pallets at the construction site, shown above. Hopefully they found plenty of willows, mud, and rocks for their dams.

## Trout and Eagle Creeks Project Near Deckers

Trout and Eagle Creeks rise on the west side of the Rampart Range and then flow into the South Platte River near Deckers. During 2009-2011 partners and volunteers obliterated and revegetated 7.8 miles of motorized tracks and built 335 check dams, water bars and runoff swales to control erosion and improve Trout Creek's water quality.

Erosion into the streams was reduced and by 2021 beavers had returned to Trout Creek, expanding the wetlands with their dams. The expansion of the floodplains and vigorous growth of willows is typical of beaver work.

### A decade later

- The riparian corridor and the downstream residential community have benefitted from the beavers.
- Dams slow the water during flood events.
- Recharge of the water table benefits the community's wells.
- The community pond is less susceptible to muddy flows from up stream.
- Fish can move up and downstream through the permeable dams, providing food for herons and sport for anglers.
- The dense growth around the ponds increases the numbers and kinds of birds, salamanders, crayfish, insects, butterflies, dragonflies and damers, and other animals providing a diverse micro ecosystem.



Volunteers built erosion dams in tributaries.



Beaver ponds have dense willow stands and shrubs on the margins: ideal habitat for Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse.



Critical habitat for Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse outlined in red along Trout Creek and east in Eagle Creek. Pawnee Montane Skipper butterfly critical habitat shown in yellow.

Photos: Kristin Skoog, Jim Lockhart, and Jean Smith. Map: Rocky Mountain Wild

### Partners

- Wildlands Restoration Volunteers
- Wild Connections
- Colorado Springs Utilities
- Salida Conservation Corps
- US Forest Service
- National Forest Foundation
- Volunteers



## Give Conservation Equal Footing in Public Lands Management

*Continued from the front page*

This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to help shape the future of our BLM-managed public lands, and the wildlife and communities that it affects.

This proposed rule is in a 75-day public comment period that ends June 20. The BLM needs our support and feedback to balance their mission to include these important values outlined above. The BLM will consider all feedback on this and make changes and adjustments. Our colleagues in the conservation community have more info, and a place to take action and comment, at <https://actnowforpubliclands.org/>.

### BLM Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

BLM's proposed Public Lands Rule would greatly benefit BLM Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs). BLM states that "ACECs are the primary BLM designation for public lands where special management is required to protect important natural, historic, cultural and scenic resources, systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards."

Wild Connections and our partner organizations submitted numerous ACEC nominations to the BLM Royal Gorge Field Office in 2015 as part of the Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan (ECRMP) revision's public scoping process. While a few of these ACEC proposals are being considered in the ongoing plan revision, many were rejected outright in 2015, including proposals that emphasized climate resiliency values, local wildlife, and natural processes values.

This new proposed rule could change all of that as it will broaden the scope of what qualifies as an ACEC and furthermore directs the BLM to prioritize the identification, evaluation, and designation of ACECs through land use planning.

We are coordinating with our conservation partners on revamping our regional ACEC nominations to include new science on climate resiliency, wildlife connectivity, and other environmental values.

It is too late to include new proposals in the ECRMP revision process at this time, as it is understandably late in the planning process for an overdue plan that needs no further delays. Nevertheless, once this plan is finalized, Wild Connections and our coalition partners plan to continue working on these ACEC nominations for our region, and will likely submit them to the BLM in the Fall of 2023.

### BLM Wilderness Study Area Proposal at Table Mountain

We have already completed similar work for a local BLM Wilderness Study Area (WSA) proposal. In January of this year, we submitted our High Mesa Grassland proposed WSA expansion to BLM Colorado and the Royal Gorge Field Office.

This 23,559-acre area is known as Table Mountain or Echo Canyon and is located in Bighorn Sheep Canyon, just north of the Arkansas River between Salida and Cañon City. First proposed as wilderness in 2007, it was also included for consideration in the Colorado Wilderness Act. The BLM found this area to have Lands with Wilderness Characteristics (LWC) in a report in 2015, qualifying on the basis of size, naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude, outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, and other supplemental values.

However, without proper protection, this area is constantly at risk of impairment. Uranium mining development has historically been a threat to the eastern portion of Table Mountain, which has been reignited in 2022 (on private land just to the north). And in 2020, the BLM approved a quarry expansion (from private land) onto nearly 700 acres of public land that the BLM had identified for wilderness character. This is despite the ongoing ECRMP revision, which could have protected these wilderness values through the management planning process. This area deserves to have wilderness quality protection and a WSA designation would achieve that.

Wild Connections has more info on this recent proposal on our website at [www.wildconnections.org/conservation/conservation-advocacy](http://www.wildconnections.org/conservation/conservation-advocacy).

8 - [www.WildConnections.org](http://www.WildConnections.org)

### BLM's Current Management Planning

**Public Lands Rule** would establish a framework to ensure healthy landscapes, abundant wildlife habitat, clean water and balanced decision-making on BLM public lands across the nation. The draft proposal is open for comment until June 20.

**Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan (ECRMP)** will determine how some 670,000 acres of BLM public land will be managed in central Colorado, as well as sub-surface minerals east of the Continental Divide. The Royal Gorge Field Office expects the final plan to be released in early summer 2023.

Similar to ACEC proposals for this region, the BLM stated that it is too late to include this WSA proposal for review in the ECRMP planning revision process, again not wanting further delays, so we will revisit this as well once the plan is finalized. Nevertheless, under the ongoing ECRMP revision process, BLM is considering managing this greater Table Mountain area as LWC, initially based on a report submitted to the BLM from Wild Connections in 2015. This outcome would be valuable and deserving for the area as well, under the right management prescriptions, and creates the additional benefit of comprising a greater overall area at around 31,500 acres.

### BLM's Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan Revision

BLM's ECRMP revision began in 2015, to update guidance on land use decision-making and management for all BLM resources in our region for the foreseeable future. The plan covers over 660,000 acres of BLM managed public lands, with the majority of the intact lands located in the Upper Arkansas River watershed, from Leadville to Cañon City. However, it also includes wilderness quality lands in other areas, including in Park and Huerfano counties, with the planning area encompassing the entire Front Range and eastern Colorado.

This plan is one of the highest priorities for completion by BLM National, as well as the BLM Colorado state office, and should be the next plan revision to be released to the public. The final phase of the ECRMP revision is expected early this summer, which then will have a 30-day public protest period and a 60-day governor's review period.

Of note in recent discussions with BLM Colorado, the state director, Doug Vilsack, assured us that we should like what we see in the final version of the ECRMP in regard to LWC and other special designations. Wild Connections and our partners have been working on this planning process since 2013, and are excited to see what will be in the final iteration of this plan, now scheduled to be released in mid-June.

When the plan is released, we will review it and provide an overview and fact sheet for our members. Keep up-to-date on all of these ongoing BLM processes at [www.wildconnections.org](http://www.wildconnections.org).

Source: "Bleak Picture of Western Lands: Discover the Bureau of Land Management's Public Land Assessment." Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility. <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/d199635585f741e3afe875e72dd84263>



*BLM's Table Mountain, Echo Canyon public lands, under consideration for Lands with Wilderness Characteristics management and proposed by Wild Connections as the High Mesa Grasslands Wilderness Study Area Expansion.*  
Photo: John Sztukowski



# Integrating Climate Change Refugia into 30x30

*A Digest from the Conservation Corridor May 2023 Newsletter*



The global conservation movement to conserve 30% of land- and seascapes by 2030 – recently reaffirmed with the CBD Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework – requires a large-scale vision. For North America, this includes mapping out priority areas for protection and identifying how they could be integrated as a connected network at a continent-wide scale.


But for 30x30 goals to be effective, this protected area network must contain landscapes that support biodiversity under both current and future climate scenarios. This means considering climate-wise connectivity in land planning, and protecting regions that will harbor diversity well into the future, often called climate refugia.

A new analysis places 30x30 goals in the context of protecting natural areas as climate refugia. Researchers looked at the amount of undeveloped land across North America that is projected to provide climate refugia for terrestrial biodiversity (based on species distribution models of over 130,000 species), and how much of it is currently protected.

They then looked at how well that spatial network benefits seven broad groups: amphibians, birds, fungi, invertebrates, mammals, plants, and reptiles. They also calculated the proportion of unprotected refugia that could help reach 30x30 targets under future warming scenarios, and which of these areas would be highest priority under 2°C and 3°C warming scenarios.

The resulting maps show that less than 15% of areas most likely to facilitate species persistence under climate change are currently protected across North America: 5–14% in Mexico, 4–10% in Canada, and 2–6% in the U.S. There are multiple regions that could be added to the protected area network and function as refugia, but only if warming is held to 2°C or less. Above that, most refugia are limited to higher elevations and latitudes, creating a network with less connectivity and more challenges for species with low mobility such as plants and fungi.

This framework adds to the growing body of tools and research that aim to give specific recommendations about which land parcels could be added to the protected area network across North America. These findings can help managers and policy-makers make better decisions to achieve 30x30 goals in the context of climate change. As a result, conservation planning at the national and continent scales can be more effective at protecting and connecting biodiversity for the future.

Saunders, S.P., Grand, J., Bateman, B.L., Meek, M., Wilsey, C.B., Forstenhaeusler, N., Graham, E., Warren, R. and Price, J. 2023. Integrating climate-change refugia into 30 by 30 conservation planning in North America. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 21: 77-84. <https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/fee.2592> 



# Your Participation in New Protections for Public Lands

## How you can help...

by Kristin Skoog

The summer season has brought fresh opportunities for you to support new protections for public lands. Workdays for volunteers will be scheduled soon and posted on our website and in Wild News emails. Right now, your donations are needed to make sure that the summer season is used to full advantage for the benefit of wildlife, wildlands, and biodiversity. It will take \$15,000 to complete these projects, and Wild Connections is relying on you! We are truly grateful for our generous supporters and hardworking volunteers! Here's how you can participate and make a difference on our public lands:

- **Restore North Farnum (FR233)**, an illegal route near Tarryall reservoir closed in 2022
  - Protect the Farnum Roadless Area, an important corridor for wildlife in South Park
  - Donate to defray the \$7500 budget for heavy equipment and supplies to re-vegetate the illegal roads in the closed area
  - Volunteer to rake and plant native seed
- **Pike-San Isabel Restorations** for summer 2023
  - Rewild with Beavers! and build Beaver Dam Analogs with the Keystone project
  - Install a new closure at Salt Creek, near the south end of the Buffalo Peaks Wilderness
  - Restore riparian areas near Kenosha Pass
  - Support long-term projects to protect Wildcat Canyon and the South Platte watershed
- **Use your outside voice** to speak up to public officials in favor of new rules at the BLM
  - Nearly 40% of US public lands are overseen by the Bureau of Land Management
  - Policymaking changes at the BLM are a rare chance to protect precious resources
  - Support proposed changes that balance conservation with multiple uses
  - **Act Now for Public Lands** has provided a portal for information and comments:  
<https://actnowforpubliclands.org/>
- Support **climate change research** to identify key natural resources
  - Support GIS professionals who create maps of refugia on our most resilient wild spaces
  - Promote research and science-based approaches to understand our changing climate
- Provide **long-term support** for protecting wildlands by **funding new staff**
  - Set the stage for hiring additional staff by becoming a Keep it Wild Partner
  - When there is \$60,000 in the bank, we can hire a new employee. We're halfway there!
  - Join the ranks of extraordinary donors who support expanded staffing

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### Make your donation now!

Scan a QR code below or use the link to go to our online donation pages. Mail a check in the enclosed envelope.

**Wild Connections' Donation Page**



<https://wildconnections.org/httpswildconnections-bloomkindfulcom-2/>

**Colorado Gives**



<https://www.coloradogives.org/organization/WildConnections>



Volunteers transplanting vegetation.  
Photo: Misi Ballard





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*Trout Beaver Pond 2010.  
Photo: Jean Smith*