LANDSCAPES
Wild Connections
FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE PRAIRIES
DECEMBER 2024

Big Horn Sheep.

Rewilding in 2024 at the Puma Hills Roadless Area

by John Sztukowski

Wild Connections is fortunate to have a long and successful relationship with the Forest Service South Park Ranger District (SPRD). They have been dedicated to limiting motorized use to legal roads. They are actively reigning in illegal use, particularly in roadless and intact wildlife areas - music to our ears! So, in early 2024, when the SPRD proposed a couple of projects to address such issues, we were eager to learn more.

We ventured out with the SPRD this spring to evaluate illegal motorized routes into the 8,800-acre Puma Hills Roadless Area, located in between US Highway 24 and Elevenmile Canyon Reservoir. The illegal trespass was occurring just north of the reservoir, jeopardizing American Peregrine nesting areas, and threatening other wildlife habitat and inhabitants. Most of the trespass stemmed from two illegal routes that entered the Roadless Area from the adjacent Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, which unfortunately does not have much travel management in South Park. We decided to focus our 2024 efforts on this area, with more work planned for 2025 at the Puma Hills Roadless Area just north of the 2024 project site.

Fortunately, the FS/BLM boundary line where those two illegal routes originate has a fence line. The routes entered the Roadless Area at a point where the fence was illegally cut and at an old open gate that should have been closed and locked.

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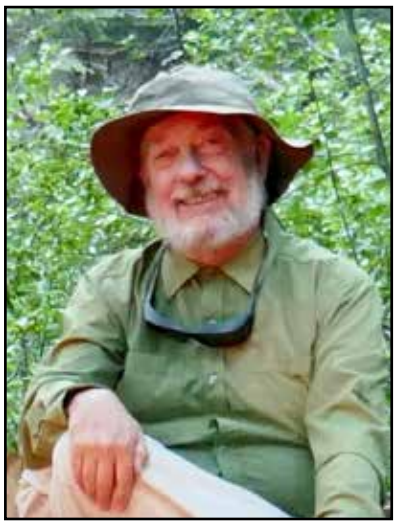
Mission: Wild Connections, a science-based conservation organization, works to identify, protect and restore lands of the Upper Arkansas and South Platte watersheds to ensure the survival of native species and ecological richness.

Rewilding for the Future

President's Message

by Jim Lockhart



Jim Lockhart out in the wilds. Photo: Karyn Dresser

The theme of this issue of Landscapes is "Rewilding." As the articles in this newsletter illustrate, rewilding can mean several different things, from allowing land to return to its original, natural state, to creating new or improved habitat, to returning vanished species to their original homes. The scope and intricacy of rewilding runs the gamut from small to large, and from simple to complex. While much of Wild Connections' work has involved protecting and connecting large tracts of wild land, rewilding can be as simple as turning our back yards and urban spaces into places more inviting to wildlife. Rewilding is often contrasted with "conservation," in that conservation focuses on preserving what we already have, while rewilding focuses on making improvements. Obviously, one cannot happen without the other. Trying to return wildlife species to an area where they once thrived is useless unless we continue to protect the habitat which they need and the routes they use to migrate or disperse. Nor can we be content simply to preserve in its current state a natural area that has lost its apex predators and other keystone species.

One important thing to remember in our rewilding efforts is that natural processes are dynamic. Wild areas have always gone through a process of natural succession from pioneer to climax communities. Because of climate change, habitat types and whole life zones are relocating. It is important not only to preserve wild areas or return them to their original state, but to do so in a way that allows them to be resilient to natural and human-caused changes. Rewilding therefore also requires planning for the future. The climate modeling and mapping described in this issue exemplify the foundational work that Wild Connections performs to move forward on rewilding.

As always, the production of this issue of *Landscapes* is the work of many people. We thank Marc Bekoff and Marlon Reis for their contribution. And we thank you, our readers, for giving us your time and attention. ♋

Beaver Dam Analog. Photo: Jim Lockhart

Rewilding in 2024 at the Puma Hills Roadless Area

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Wild Connections mapped a web of illegal routes into the roadless area that began from these two points, documenting over two and a half miles of illegal routes into the Puma Hills Roadless Area!

The Forest Service was not only a tremendous help in getting this project off ground, but also in helping us plan our restoration project. In preparation for our volunteer seeding project, the Forest Service obtained early approval from their archeologist, who walked the sites on the ground, ensuring that no cultural or historical artifacts would be disturbed. And a few weeks before our 2024 project, the FS bulldozed the first few hundred feet of each illegal route (to be seeded), rewired the fence closed at those two spots, and installed FS signs to deter illegal use.

It was encouraging to see that the FS closures were still in place for our volunteer seeding restoration project in early October, 2024. With the help of twelve dedicated Wild Connections volunteers, we were able to seed and rake the entire prepared sections at the two project sites, about a half mile in total. We were also able to drag a lot of slash (downed trees and branches) and pine duff (decaying needles and leaf litter) onto the routes after they had been seeded. The duff contains seeds and microbes that help replicate natural soil conditions. This will not only deter future use, but also will help with seed germination because the slash collects moisture, providing shade and blocking the wind.

Slash on seeded and closed route with FS signs at Puma Hills RA Restoration Project. Photo: Shane Rosenthal

Big thanks to Wild Connections volunteers and donors, as well as the FS South Park Ranger District, on a successful 2024 rewilding project!

We will be back in the Puma Hills Roadless Area in 2025 to assess this year's project area for revegetation and illegal use. We will also plan a 2025 restoration project to secure the Puma Hills Roadless Area just north of our 2024 project sites, where additional routes enter the Roadless Area. With the help of the Forest Service and volunteers, we can protect the American Peregrine nesting areas and enhance the habitat in the Puma Hills Roadless Area for other wildlife. ♋

WC volunteers at the Puma Hills RA restoration project. Photo: Shane Rosenthal

Two Views on Rewilding

TALKING TRASH: First Steps Toward Rewilding in the 1970s

By John Stansfield

Pine Creek in the Collegiate Peaks area of the San Isabel National Forest is a wonder-filled place. The bold waters begin on four different 14,000-foot peaks before tumbling into the Arkansas River. In the 1970s, Pine Creek Valley hosted hikers and climbers, some equestrians, and a growing number of travelers on the newly constructed Colorado Trail. In that time, the standard for backcountry campers was to dispose of trash by burning, burying, or scattering it on the ground. Very few adventurers were carrying their rubbish out.

With the coming of the environmental movement, more people became aware of the mess in the Wilderness. Outdoor organizations and land managers presented education and regulations to the public. Smokey Bear and his animal friends delivered fire awareness messages to the public, and a new slogan appeared around keeping the forests and rivers clean. “Pack it in, pack it out!” became the watchwords.

As did other groups, The Sierra Club expanded its program of Service Trips into new National Forests, staffed by volunteers to support land managers in conservation. From July 1 to 11, 1975, I led a backpacking clean-up trip to the Collegiate Peaks in Pine Creek Valley. Our party consisted of 19 Sierra Clubbers, including a cook, an assistant leader, and me. All shared in carrying the food, equipment, and tools into a basecamp halfway up the valley. Traveling with us were many burlap bags supplied by the Forest Service, inscribed with a message such as “I am a hitchhiking trash bag, please fill me with your waste and that of others, and carry me towards the trailhead bins. Thank you for keeping the forests clean.”

Our party scoured trails in the Pine watershed, scattering the bags and cleaning particularly trashy campsites. On a couple of days, our cleaning extended to the summits of 14,000-foot peaks, Mount Harvard and Mount Belford, and some high lakes. In the valley, alone, stood an uninhabited old cabin, named John’s Cabin, a nineteenth-century wood structure. Behind the cabin sat a large dump. The Forest Service asked us to clean what we could with our hands and burlap bags. Most of the trashy items were small. Some were interesting; bottles of different shapes, colors, and ages, many tin lard tubs, and plates and cups, whole and broken, of many patterns.

We found a surprise: two stoppered glass bottles of castor (not castor oil!), an unctuous liquid with a strong odor, secreted by certain glands in the groins of beavers. After very brief sniffs of castor, we figured this castor was the stuff trappers used to entice beavers into traps. Not wanting to carry the smelly syrup out, we dug a deep hole and buried it. A sweet surprise came to one of our trip members when he discovered a dated Denver newspaper. He looked at the sports section and realized that the NFL game written up there was one that he had attended. In later days, I heard that a Forest Service archaeologist had explored the dump and then cleared out the garbage.

We were quite a sight at the trip’s end, trekking with our gear and as many hitchhiking trash bags as possible! ♋

Trashed forest.
Photo: USFS PSICC

Rewilding Means Getting Over Ourselves

By Dr. Marc Bekoff and Marlon H. Reis

Key points

- It’s essential to rewild the world before it’s too late.
- Compassionate conservation mandates that all individuals are stakeholders.
- “Rewilding” is a mindset.

“Rewilding is largely a matter of humans getting out of the way and letting nature take charge.” Graham Lawton

Personal rewilding means letting our feelings lead to compassionate action

It is common knowledge that we are losing species and habitats at an unprecedented rate in a geological epoch known as the “Anthropocene”—the “age of humanity.” All in all, it is essential to rewild the world before it’s too late. What does it mean to say “before it’s too late”? Generally speaking, as a species, humans don’t do well with “points of no return.” We counsel ourselves that even if things don’t work out today, we always have tomorrow. But what happens when the promise of tomorrow is undone by the inaction of today?

As it turns out, removing ourselves from this tapestry is less an emancipation from nature and more a manipulation of variables in a complex puzzle—pieces that are simply too numerous and too complex for us to successfully take apart and put back together. To make this understandable to a broad audience, we can call this the “Humpty-Dumpty” phenomenon. Nature is the greatest architect, and to pretend otherwise is hubris, pure and simple. Rather than view the natural world as a problem to be solved, we should view it as the lifeboat keeping us afloat.

Yet, on we press, in a seemingly never-ending quest to extricate ourselves from the wild, animated by the misguided belief that we must dominate or be dominated. And this quest—this so-called “age of humanity”—is anything but humane. It is extremely violent, and would be better termed the “rage of inhumanity.”

Deer in the frontyard of a suburban home in Colorado Springs.
Photo: Jean Smith

Indeed, as wild animals enter urban areas—places that were once their homes—there is more to celebrate than fear. With hope, these individuals will help people bridge the empathy gap and learn to apply the same caring and compassion they feel for their companion animals (aka pets) to their new wild neighbors (aka wildlife), who are as rightfully deserving of being here as any of us. The growing interdisciplinary and international field of compassionate conservation mandates that all individuals are stakeholders. It is based on the

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Rewilding Means Getting Over Ourselves

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principles of: (if) First, do no harm, (ii) All individuals matter, and (iii) We must strive for peaceful coexistence among all of Earth's residents.

Currently, while many people talk about how all individuals matter, and how all individuals must work together, in the end, human interests often take precedence over those of our nonhuman fellow travelers. The severity of this imbalance increases day by day, pitching the world into ever greater chaos that does not discriminate based on species. What we do to others, we do to ourselves. But personal rewilding and compassionate conservation can change how we go about 'business as usual', reversing these destructive trends and coming to the rescue of one and all.

Developing and nurturing a "rewilding" mindset based on empathy, feelings, thoughts, and compassionate action

In *Rewilding Our Hearts*, Marc asked people to become re-enchanted with the natural world, to act from the inside out, and to allow their hearts to guide them in dissolving false boundaries so they could truly connect with both nature and themselves. By personally rewilding, undoing the "unwilding" brought about by our obsessive need to dominate, and reconnecting, people will become re-enchanted with nature, overcome negativity, and see the world in more positive ways.

Personal rewilding means rehabilitating our hearts and tapping into our biophilic instincts. Reawakening these long-dormant parts of ourselves can lead to an emotional affinity for and reconnection to nature. We envision rewilding our hearts as a dynamic, intimate process that fosters corridors of coexistence and compassion for animals and their homes while facilitating corridors in ourselves that connect our hearts and minds, our caring and awareness. In turn, these connections, or reconnections, can help us make wiser choices and pursue heartfelt actions that improve the lives of all beings.

Rewilding demands humility in how we interact with other animals and the places they call home. We need to be humble in the face of what the Romantic poets of the late eighteenth century referred to as nature's "sublimity"—its awesomeness. We should treat nature as we would a dear friend whose welfare matters for its own sake and even more so because it matters for our sake, too.

Personal rewilding is about being nice, kind, compassionate, empathic, and harnessing our inborn goodness and optimism. It also is a guide for action, using our hearts (feelings), heads (thoughts), and hands and bodies to do something greater than ourselves. As a social movement, it tells us to be *proactive, positive, persistent, patient, peaceful, practical, powerful, passionate, playful, present, principled, proud, and polite,* what we call the 13 P's of rewilding.

Pasque flower after Hayman Burn. Photo: Jean Smith

As much as we do to safeguard and preserve our home and its dazzling inhabitants, now is no time for self-congratulation and patting ourselves on the back for a job well done. We need to take action to right our many wrongs before it is too late for other animals and ourselves. How we choose to live our lives decides how all other species get to live theirs.

To sum up, "rewilding" is a mindset. It reflects the desire to (re)connect intimately with all animals and landscapes in ways that dissolve borders. Rewilding means appreciating, respecting, and accepting other beings and landscapes for who or what they are, not for who or what we want them to be. It means rejoicing in the personal connections we establish and so desperately need. It's the inarguable realization that if we are going to make the world a better place now and for future generations, personal rewilding is the way to get there.

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Wild Connections Map Wins Top Prize

by Alison Gallensky

Successful rewilding must take climate change into account. Several years ago, Karl Ford, a Wild Connections volunteer, and former Bureau of Land Management scientist, suggested a GIS (Geographic Information System) analysis project to identify places in the Wild Connections region where animals and plants could continue to thrive as the climate changes. Wild Connections has long recognized the importance of connecting wild places, so identifying corridors between the refugia was also part of the proposal.

Wild Connections embraced the project and asked Rocky Mountain Wild to do the GIS analysis. I am a long-time volunteer for Wild Connections, and I also work doing conservation mapping and analysis at Rocky Mountain Wild. I worked on this project and completed the analysis last year; now we are sharing the results. In July, I created a poster for Wild Connections to share with the public at our events. The poster (shown in the center of this issue) shows how the results of several biodiversity conservation models were combined to create the climate refugia and climate corridors.

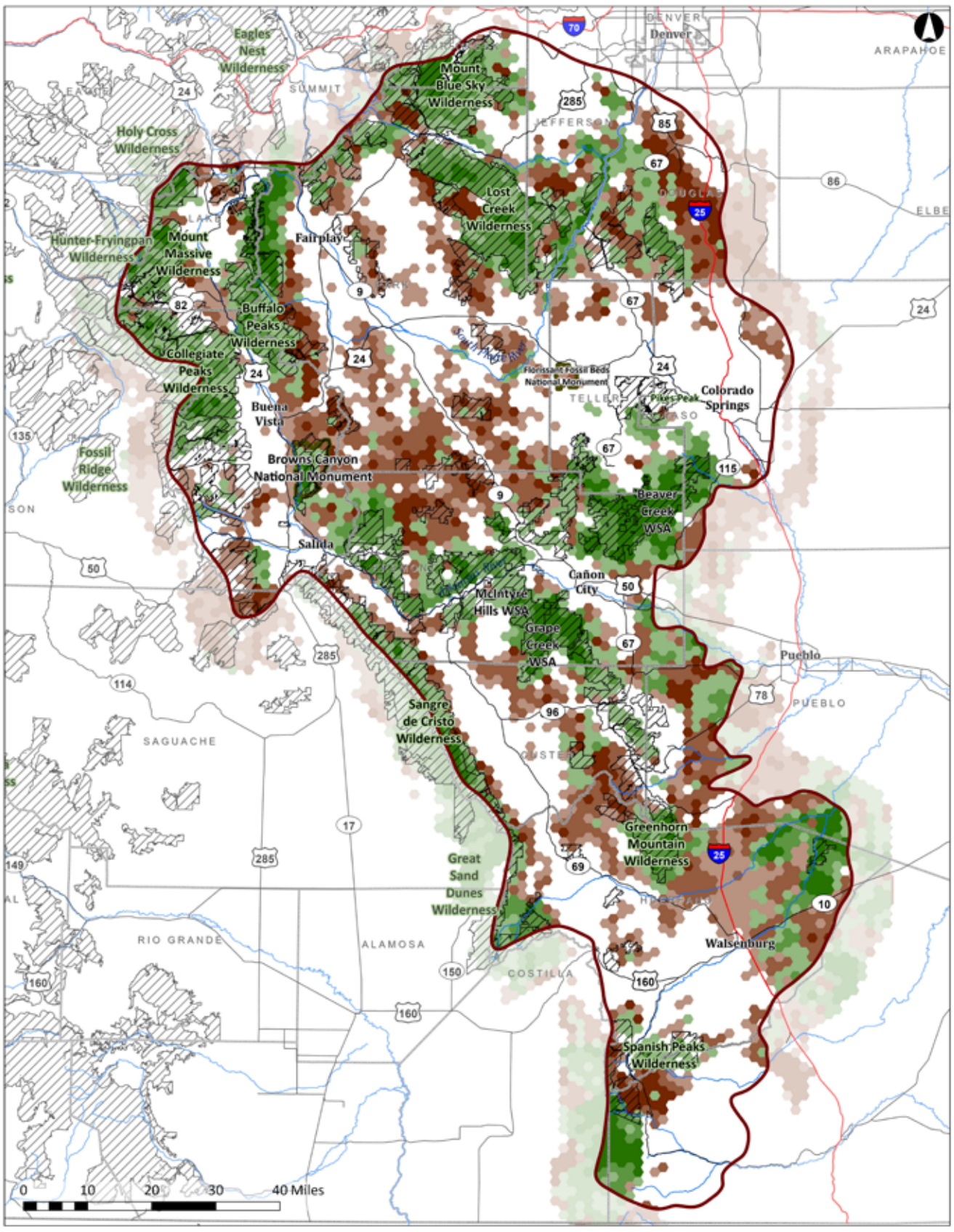
In September, I attended the Society for Conservation GIS conference. This event brings together GIS professionals who work to conserve animals, plants, and wild places around the world. I brought the map poster and displayed it at the map gallery at the conference. I had fun talking with the conference attendees about the maps, the project, and Wild Connections' region. The next day I was surprised and pleased when I learned that my poster had won the top prize at the map gallery competition! Now that we have a prize-winning way to display what we have done, it is important to ensure that Wild Connections' rewilding vision creates a future where biodiversity thrives across the Central Colorado landscape. ♋

Award winning map at Conservation Geographer Conferece.
Photo: Neil Gallensky

Wild Connections
FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE PRAIRIES

Climate Corridors and Refugia Project

The **Climate Corridors and Refugia Project** uses geospatial modeling to identify a connected network of climate refugia in **Wild Connections**' Central Colorado region. This helps Wild Connections prioritize conservation advocacy and restoration work in a way that will make a difference now and in the future.



This project created and combined models of several complementary biodiversity conservation approaches. These approaches support natural adaptation to a changing climate. Using multiple modeling approaches helps to fill gaps in any single approach. These models combine local knowledge from those who know the region the best with data from state and federal agencies and incorporated regionwide and national science-based modeling efforts.

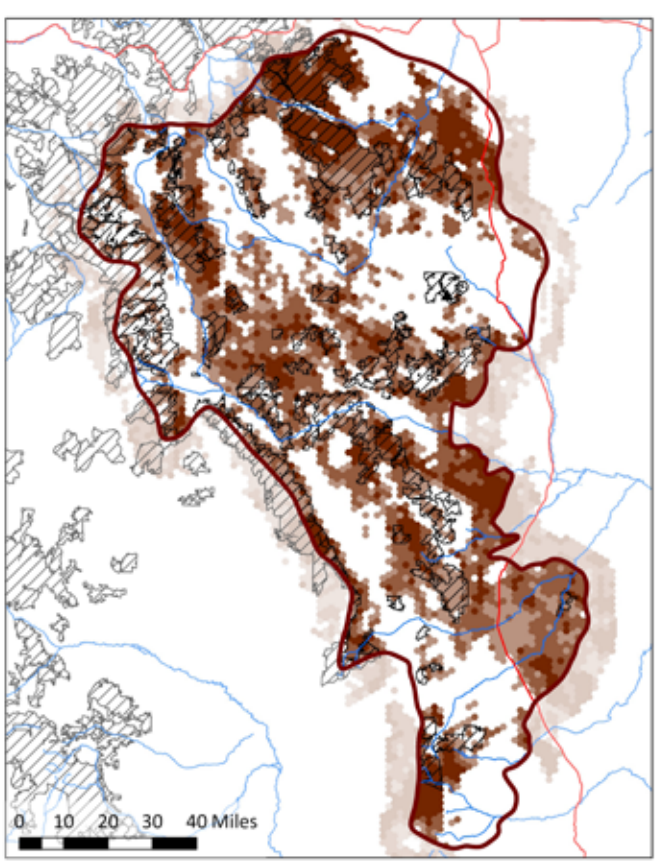
Legend

Protected Areas

Data Sources: BLM, CDOT, CNHP, CPW, Esri, TNC, NatureServe, US FWS, USFS, Wild Connections
Map Prepared By: Alison Gallensky
Rocky Mountain Wild 7/31/2024 24-078 v2

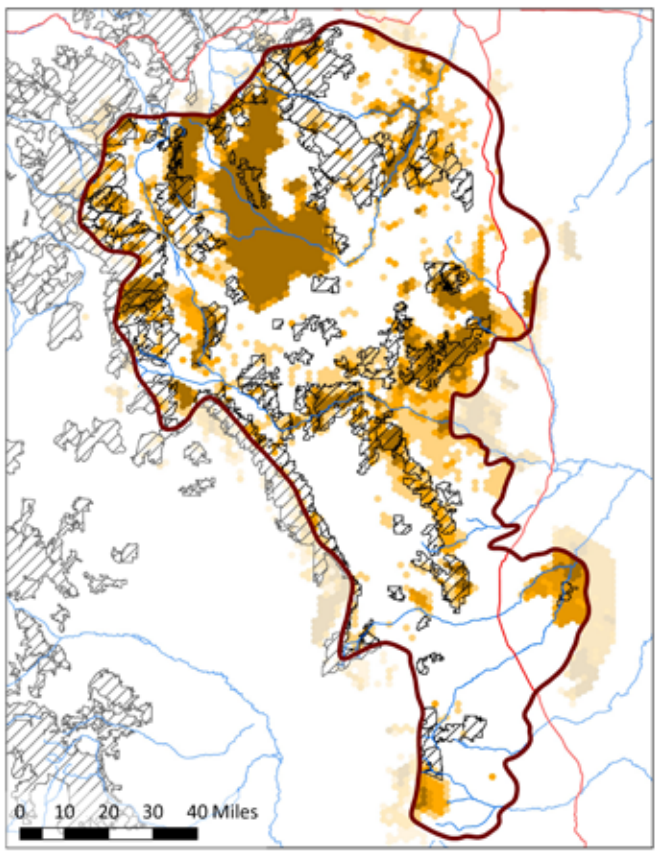
Climate Refugia
- Below Average/Fair
- Good
- Better
- Best

Climate Refugia: Areas where biodiversity is predicted to thrive under changing climate conditions. **Biodiversity** is diverse variety of healthy native animal and plant communities.



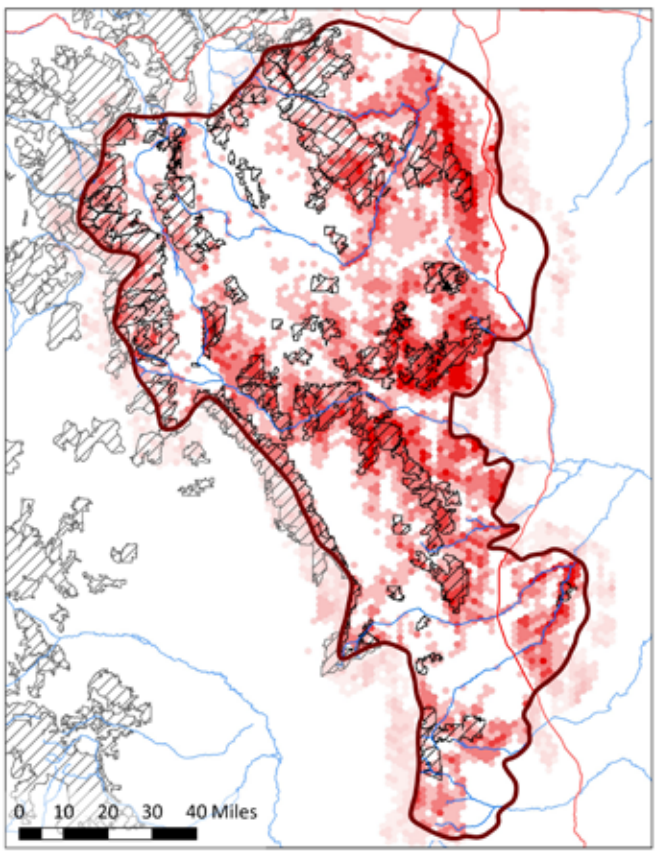
Ecological Connectivity
- Below Average
- Good
- Better
- Best

Ecological Connectivity: Movement corridors and stepping stones of suitable habitat allow seasonal movements (migration), dispersal by new generations, and shifts as climate change cause habitats to move.



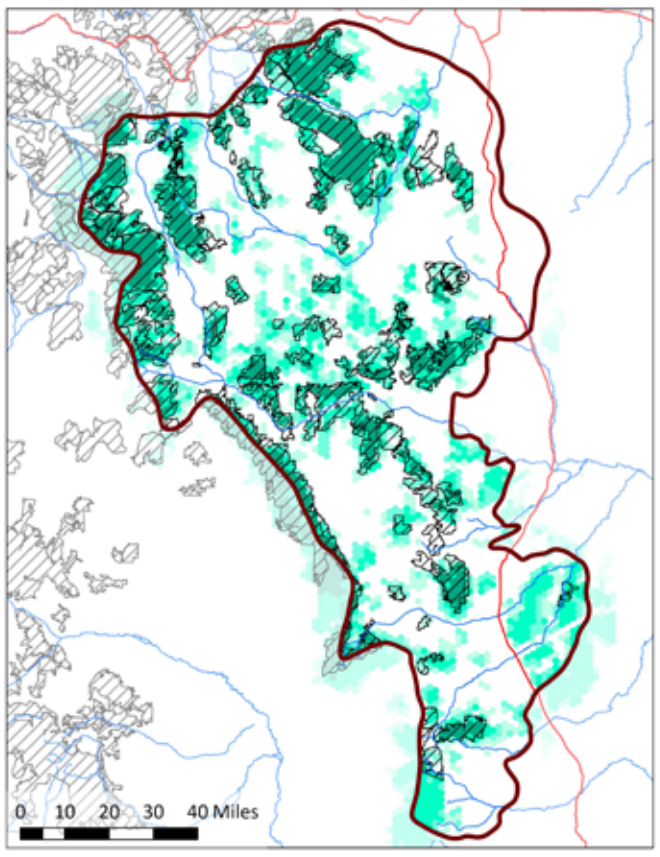
Current Biodiversity
- Below Average
- Fair
- Godd
- Better
- Best

Current Biodiversity: Important locations for animal and plant species and the ecosystem types they rely on today.



Climate Resilience
- Below Average
- Fair
- Good
- Better
- Best

Climate Resilience: The capacity of a site to maintain biological diversity, productivity, and ecological function as the climate changes.



Natural Landscape
- Below Average
- Fair
- Good
- Better
- Best

Natural Landscape: Large, intact, natural landscapes, also called core areas, along with movement corridors are key to maintaining high levels of biodiversity

A Promising Success Story — Six Years after the North Tarryall Restoration

by Claude Neumann

In 2019, Wild Connections completed our most extensive field restoration projects. Coordinated with the South Park Ranger District of the Forest Service, over 2 miles of illegal 4WD road was obliterated and the landscape restored. The route ran below the east side of Hoosier Ridge and up to the Continental Divide. Offroad vehicles had paraded through delicate alpine tundra, causing extensive erosion into the Tarryall Creek watershed. The track sliced in half important migratory habitat for many species, especially calving elk and denning Canadian Lynx.

A seasonal closure gate for calving season had previously been installed at the Selkirk Campground. 2.5 miles further into the forest, Wild Connections completely shut off access to the illegal upper 2 miles of the track with post and cable fence, shown in the left photo. Disturbance to the upper 2 miles was therefore halted. This year we revisited the area with the Forest Service and were encouraged by the recovery of the road back to a natural state. In the right photo, Conservation Director John Sztukowski checks the permanent closure at the 2.5-mile point.

Below tree line the area is heavily forested and moist, and year by year recovery is slow but steady. In the left photo, new grass growth covers the width of the old 4WD track. Above tree line, in the more delicate alpine tundra (shown in the right photo), recovery times are even slower, but results are also encouraging.

At left, an Engelmann Spruce tree pops through the barren soil. The promising success of the closure offers wildlife more solitude, and biodiversity in the watershed more protection.

With the exploding numbers of recreational users, closing illegal routes and monitoring the restoration are steps toward the primary mission of Wild Connections – to save and protect as much of our diminishing critical habitat - while we can.

Photo credits: Claude Neumann ♋

(Left) N. Tarryall Project volunteer Barry Ballard with Red Peak in clouds Aug 2018. Photo: Misi Ballard

(Right) N. Tarryall Project view of Red Peak Sept 2024. Photo: Claude Neumann

Rewilding is Taking Hold at the Farnum Roadless Area!

by John Sztukowski

Papa moose and calf near FS Farnum RA. Photo: John Sztukowski

We are excited to announce that the 11,100-acre Forest Service Farnum Roadless Area, located in the heart of South Park just south of the Tarryall Reservoir and west the Tarryall Road (CR 77), is rewilding from last year's volunteer seeding project, with closures holding strong!

We have a history of doing restoration projects at the Farnum Roadless Area. It began in 2015, with an ambitious volunteer project partnering with the Forest Service South Park Ranger District. We closed a long illegal route between the Farnum and Schoolmarm Roadless Areas, effectively combining the two into one large 17,100-acre roadless area and wildlife haven.

In 2017, we secured the west side of the Farnum Roadless Area on a volunteer project with several post and cable closures along Packer Gulch. In 2022, we secured post and cable at the north side of this unit, blocking the newly decommissioned FS route 233, which had seen extensive trash dumping, illegal camping, and had illegal motorized routes branching off through the Roadless Area connecting southwest to Packer Gulch.

We continued to coordinate with the FS SPRD last year at this site, dedicating our big 2023 volunteer stewardship project to restoring and rewilding this section of the roadless area at decommissioned route 233. The Forest Service prepared the site by tearing up the route with their dozer, and at their biologist's recommendation, we purchased a high-elevation native seed mix to plant in the area. Last October, with help from our generous volunteers, we were able to seed and rake in the route, as well as several of the illegal routes that stemmed from there.

On a monitoring outing this summer, we were pleased to see that not only was the 2022 closure still in place, with no signs of illegal trespass around it, but that there was a lot of new vegetative growth that has come up from last year's volunteer restoration seeding project! Of note, we saw a lot of fringed sagebrush, borage, pepperweed, flatspine stickseed, amaranth and squirreltail grass, primarily in the sections that the Forest Service prepped for us. The hard ground and soil really must be disturbed for seeds to have a chance to germinate. We were also helped by Mother Nature, as fortunately South Park had a wet winter and spring that led to successful seed germination at this site.

After last year's project, we were considering doing a final phase three project to seed the remainder of the illegal routes at the northern end of the Farnum Roadless Area. However, seeing success in revegetation, as well as no signs of illegal motorized trespass, led the Forest Service and Wild Connections to announce North Farnum a success! We decided to use our resources elsewhere - on other South Park Roadless Area rewilding projects. Thanks to everyone that helped achieve this win for the Farnum Roadless Area and its wildlife! ♋

Revegetation from our 2023 North Farnum Volunteer Seeding Project at the northern portion of the Farnum Roadess Area. Photo: John Sztukowski

Rewilding Means Getting Over Ourselves

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If we allow it to be so, these shared feelings can serve as a “social super glue” that will keep us together, move us forward, and allow us to increase our compassion footprint. *This broader view of rewilding brings us all together.*

One of our favorite bumper stickers is “Nature Bats Last.” We can try to outrun and outsmart nature, but in the end, she always wins. Will we go to bat for nature or allow ourselves to become a casualty of our hubris? Worse yet, will we continue to be the one species whose all-consuming and self-centered ways of life doom all other species and individuals to perish? We certainly hope not. As such, we call for a “rewilding manifesto” based on compassion and biophilia—our innate drive to connect with (M) other Nature—that will help to foster hope for the future.

It’s time to make personal rewilding all the rage. Let’s get youngsters involved. Let’s foster widespread empathy. We’re all intimately interconnected and can and must work together as a united community to reconnect with nature and rewild our hearts. One easy way to begin is to eavesdrop on the sights, sounds, scents, and combinations to which we’re sensitive and imagine how much would be lost if they disappeared. Wild “chatter” can rewild our hearts and souls. The silent springs and other times about which Rachel Carson wrote would be worse than we ever could imagine.

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A similar article was published in Psychology Today, and that article is adapted here by permission of the authors.

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Marc Bekoff, Ph.D., is professor emeritus of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He is pictured here looking for dingoes.

Marlon H. Reis is an animal rights advocate, writer, and First Gentleman of Colorado.

Rewilding Colorado: You Can Be Part of a 30-Year Legacy

By India West

As we approach our 30th anniversary in 2025, Wild Connections stands at a pivotal moment in our mission to protect and reconnect Central Colorado's wildlands. For three decades, Wild Connections has worked to safeguard the wild areas we all cherish – from your favorite hiking and fishing spots to the breathtaking vistas along the Rocky Mountains. These lands are home to a rich tapestry of wildlife that depends on these habitats for survival. Now, more than ever, your support is crucial to rewild and restore these natural landscapes, ensuring they endure for generations.

Our 2025 Goals:

Sustainable Land Management
Safeguard wilderness and roadless areas and build coalitions for wildlife-friendly projects.

Habitat Restoration
Revitalize key areas like Wildcat Canyon and Fountain Creek, where you enjoy meadows of wildflowers or might spot a beaver.

Climate Resilience
Identify and protect "climate refuges" – nature's lifeboats in a warming world.

Organizational Growth
Strengthening leadership by recruiting diverse board members and increasing support through volunteer opportunities.

Your Impact:
$50: Essential supplies for a day of habitat restoration
$100: On-the-ground climate refugia research in key ecosystems
$250: Educational events, community outreach, and public hikes
$500: Multi-year restoration projects and increased on-the-ground presence

Your Investment:
Every donation brings us closer to our vision of protected, restored, and resilient Colorado wildlands.
As we close out another year of rewilding Colorado and look ahead to our 30th anniversary, your support is more crucial than ever.

Your end-of-year, tax-deductible gift to Wild Connections will not only fuel our immediate conservation projects but also lay the groundwork for our 30th-anniversary initiatives. By donating today, you are investing in a legacy of protected landscapes that will benefit wildlife and nature enthusiasts for generations to come.

Join us in making 2024 our most impactful year yet, setting the stage for three decades of conservation success. Make your mark on Colorado's wild future – donate to Wild Connections today and help us enter our 30th year stronger than ever. ♋

India West enjoying some fresh air.
Photo: India West

Rewilding Colorado: Make Your Impact Here

By India West

Wild Connections is proud to be part of the Give! Pikes Peak campaign now through December 31st, and we are also participating in Colorado Gives Day on December 10th. We are thrilled to share that your donation during these campaigns could be MATCHED, doubling your impact and amplifying your contribution to Colorado's wilderness!

	Join the team that works together to protect and connect our precious wildlands! Your donation will be used to: • Provide supplies to remediate degraded habitat • Continue research on climate refugia • Forge strong partnerships for conservation • Support our dedicated staff members Donate on our Website: https://bit.ly/KEEPCOWILD
	**The Give! Campaign runs through December 31.** Donate at Give! and get rewarded for your generosity! Give! is a year-end philanthropic initiative in the Pikes Peak Region that specializes in raising awareness of smaller organizations. Many local businesses support Give! by providing a selection of cool gifts for you! The more money you donate, the more rewards you get. Stronger together! Give! Here: https://campaign.givepikespeak.org/nonprofit/wild-connections/
	**Tuesday, December 10 is Colorado Gives Day Easily the best day to give!** Each year, the people of Colorado unite with a shared common purpose: to elevate their community and neighbors by supporting the efforts of nonprofits that make a meaningful change. You can fuel that change by giving early to Wild Connections for December 10th and year-round at the Colorado Gives 365 site: https://www.coloradogives.org/organization/WildConnections

Wild Connections
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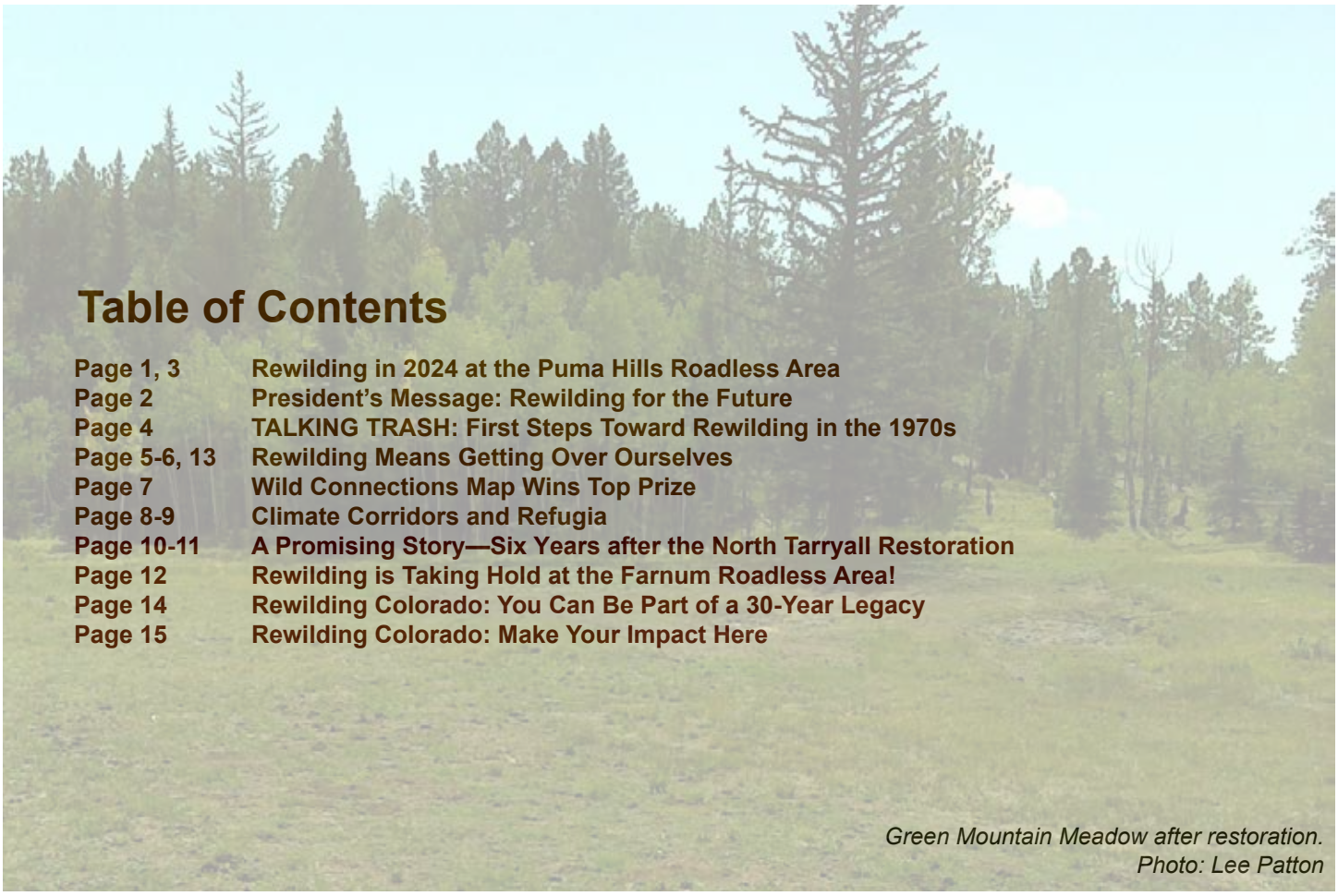

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Green Mountain Meadow after restoration.
Photo: Lee Patton