

Boulder County Nature Association Volume 17, Number 4 Fall 2000

OPEN SPACE BALLOT INITIATIVE

Last year voters had the opportunity to cast a vote to continue our Open Space program. Once again, there will be a ballot initiative and your vote is needed if we are to continue the acquisition program. Last year, by a strong majority, voters approved extending the county's open space sales tax and bonding \$35 million dollars. Anyone who looks at the real estate ads can understand that with skyrocketing land prices, open space acquisition dollars could not last. Boulder County is now paying more than double what it did for an acre of land only five years ago. Open Space Director Ron Stewart has aggressively gone after the great parcels of land but without more money, county Open Space purchases will cease.

The solution is very creative. NO NEW TAXES but millions of dollars for more Open Space purchases. The way it works is this. We are proposing to recycle the recycling tax! In 1995 voters passed the recycling and composting tax. The main purpose of the revenues generated was to fund the construction of the new recycling center. There is enough money now for that structure with an additional \$10 million to cover any ongoing financial needs for that program. The tax expires in 2001. If we vote to extend that tax as an Open Space tax through 2009 (along with bonding authority which is part of the ballot initiative) we will have millions of dollars to continue Open Space purchases in Boulder County.

There are quite a few very important agricultural properties (about 6,000 acres of lands of statewide and national significance) that remain. They will either be sold to a developer for more

Annual Guy Fawkes, Pot-Luck, Pot-Latch and Bonfire Party

Saturday, November 4, 2000 at 5:30 p.m.

Place: Naseem & Mike's, 2595 N. 119th Street,
(303) 673-0933

Pot-Luck Theme: Beans, Beans, Beans (and Legumes)! savory beans; sweet beans; bean stew; bean pie; bean ice-cream!

Unburden yourselves of stresses by burning them in the bonfire! (assuming the fire ban is lifted)

The BCNA Board meeting will precede the party, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Other events are listed in the Calendar on page 2.

housing (often trophy homes) or, with the necessary funds, they could become part of Open Space. If anyone wants detailed figures on how much land remains in various areas, and categories (developable land near cities, riparian corridors, mountain acreage, ag lands, foothills, mountain backdrop) or if you have any other questions, send me an e-mail.

In addition to voting for Open Space, I hope that BCNA members will write letters in support of Open Space. Early voting starts three weeks before the general election and we need to encourage people to support Open Space with a strong turn out. We not only want to extend the tax and raise the money but we would like to do so with a very strong majority. I will be posting notices with information for Letters to the Editors closer to the election.--Naomi Rachel

BCNA Fall 2000 Calendar

Saturday, October 21: **Field Trip to Rabbit Mountain.** We will look for lingering butterflies, migrating mountain bluebirds, and early arriving winter raptors, among many other features. Meet at the Foothills Trailhead north of Boulder at 9 AM. We will return to Boulder at 1:30 PM. Contact Mike Figgs (303-447-1899 or m.figgs@prodigy.net) for details.



Saturday, November 4, 2000 at 5:30 PM, **Annual Guy Fawkes, Pot-Luck, Pot-Latch and Bonfire Party** at Naseem & Mike's, 2595 N. 119th Street, (303-673-0933). Pot-Luck Theme: Beans, Beans, Beans (and Legumes)! Savory beans; sweet beans; bean stew; bean pie; bean ice-cream! Unburden yourselves of stresses by burning them in the bonfire! (Assuming the fire ban is lifted.) The **BCNA Board of Director's meeting** will precede the party, from 3:30 to 5:30 PM. Contact Scott Severs for agenda items (Rostrhamus@aol.com).

Thursday, December 21: **Annual Winter Solstice Sunrise Hike on White Rocks Trail.** Meet at the Teller Farms Open Space parking area on Valmont Road, about one-half mile west of 95th Street, at 7 AM. If you'd like, you may bring a poem, song, or thought to share at a short sunrise ceremony at the Boulder Creek bridge. Optional breakfast afterward at a nearby restaurant. Call Steve Jones (303-494-2468) for more information.

December 15-into February of 2000: 20th annual **Indian Peaks Winter Bird Count.** If you need an assignment or want to be responsible for a count area, contact Dave Hallock at eldoradh@futureone.com.



Saturday, December 18: **Longmont Christmas Bird Count.** To participate contact Virginia Dionigi (303-776-2609). Pot luck dinner in Longmont after the count.

Sunday, December 19: **Boulder Christmas Bird Count.** To join a group call Bill Kaempfer (303-939-8005).

Please note: updates and spontaneous field trips will be announced on the BCNA Nature-Net, and on the BCNA web site. See details under the BCNA Directory on the inside page of the back cover of this newsletter.

BCNA EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Fall and Winter 2000 Classes

BCNA Classes:

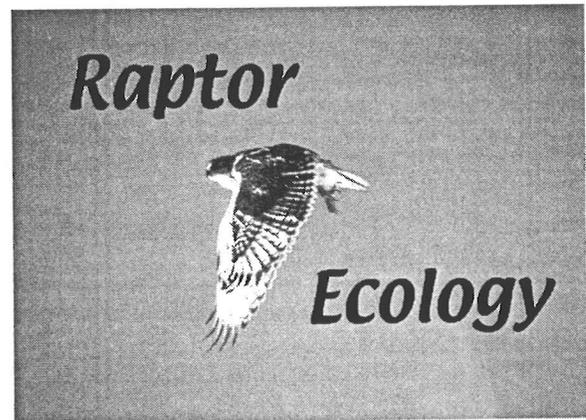
A Report on a Successful Program

Participants have been enthusiastic about the educational programs offered during spring and summer 2000 through BCNA. Spending a majority of class time in the field allows students to observe first-hand many of the principles discussed. In addition, small classes allow participants to interact with each other and the instructors in an informal manner. Most classes are short, ranging from one day to two weeks in length.

Whether you are a new comer or have been living in Boulder County for many years, you will find benefits from these classes. I find the more I learn and understand about a certain area or ecosystem, the more I see and appreciate that area. Finding others that share your interests in the natural history of Boulder County is an added bonus.

So far BCNA has offered classes in Identification of Spring Wildflowers, Birds of Foothills Forests and Canyons, Watching Boulder County Butterflies, Alpine Ecology, and Field Identification of Grasses. Offerings for this fall include: An Ecological Guide to Boulder County and Raptor Ecology.

Some ideas for future classes include: Winter Ecology, Photography of Wildflowers, and Mountain Geology. The education committee is open to suggestions for ideas on class offerings and instructors. Send your ideas to Naseem Munshi at (303) 673-0933 or naseem@ctd-materials.com.--Joyce Gelhorn



Description: Improve your raptor identification skills while observing wintering eagles, hawks, and falcons on the plains of Boulder County. We expect to see golden and bald eagles; red tailed, ferruginous, and rough-legged hawks; northern harriers; and American kestrels. Class activities will focus on raptor behavior, habitat use, and conservation.

Instructors: Steve Jones and Randy Gietzen. Steve Jones is co-author of Boulder County Nature Almanac and Colorado Nature Almanac. Randy Gietzen has studied wintering raptors and worked to protect Boulder County raptor habitat for 10 years.

Dates and Times: Thursday, Nov. 2, 7 to 9 PM, indoor class. Saturday, November 4, 8 AM to noon, field class. Saturday, December 2, 8 AM to noon, field class. Saturday, December 9, 8 AM to noon, optional field class or weather makeup class.

Cost: \$65 (\$55 for BCNA members).

Equipment: Binoculars and a standard bird field guide. We recommend the National Geographic, Peterson, or Golden field guides to North American birds; and the Peterson Field Guide to Hawks.

Register: Call Steve at 303-494-2468 or email stvjones@peakpeak.com. This class is nearly full so do not wait to register. The registration protocol for BCNA education programs is listed on the next page.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

BCNA Winter Raptor Monitoring

Boulder County is a hot spot in the state to observe over-wintering raptors. They fly down from the north to feast on our voles and prairie dogs. BCNA has been counting these raptors for over 17 years. These data have been used for a variety local government projects including the City of Boulder's Prairie Dog Management Plan. We published a report in the Spring 1997 edition of the Colorado Field Ornithologists Journal. Our data indicates that specialist species such as ferruginous hawks have continued their decline while generalist species such as red-tailed hawks have increased. (Take a look at the graph at the bottom of BCNA's web page: <http://www.bcna.org/winrapt.html>).

If you have volunteered for this survey in the past, contact Holly Devaul at devaul@page.ucar.edu or 303-415-0464 and express your interest in doing this again, for more information and to request maps and forms. Surveys begin October 15th and end March 15th. Volunteers are expected to complete 5 transects during this 5-month period. If you are new to this survey, then Randy Gietzen will schedule a methodology training session. Contact me at randyg@boulder.net or 303-530-4355.--Randy Gietzen

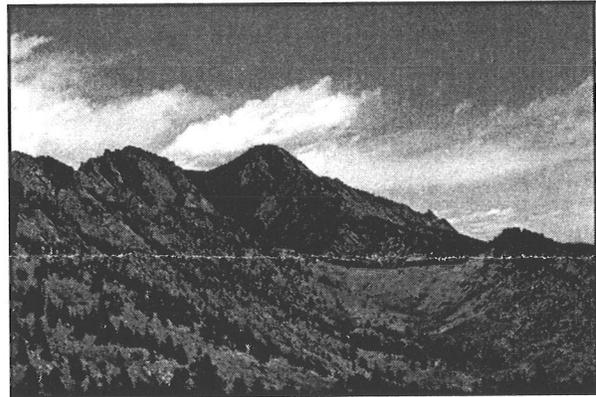
Prairie Dog Monitoring

The City of Boulder Open Space Department is seeking volunteer help for the annual "Black-tailed Prairie Dog Habitat Conservation Plan/Winter Raptor Monitoring" project. The purpose of the project is to monitor raptor use of prairie dog towns in the Boulder Valley.

Volunteer commitment for this project involves one site visit approximately every 3 weeks (a total of 5 visits between November 1st and March 1st) with 2 hours of observation per visit. Each volunteer must commit to at least one designated site for the duration of this project.

Teaming up with one other person will provide the best results. Experts, please welcome a novice or intermediate birder to join you!

There will be an orientation field trip on Saturday, October 14th (October 21 in case of bad weather). We will meet at Open Space Operations at 66 Cherryvale Road at 8 AM and return by noon. We will discuss project methodology and practice raptor location and identification. Please RSVP by October 11th. Bring binoculars, clothing suitable for outdoors, water and a snack. For more information or to RSVP, please call Emily Spencer at 303-441-4495 ext. 230 or email spencere@ci.boulder.co.us.



Registration Protocol

Instructors will be responsible for registering students. Where class size is limited, students can reserve a place by mailing the entire tuition amount to the respective teacher. Students who decide to drop the class and wish to receive a tuition refund must notify the instructor at least one week prior to the first class session. However, there will be a \$15 charge to drop a class. Only registered students may attend classes. A \$10 tuition discount will be given to BCNA members. Other discounts may apply to dual classes. A BCNA member is defined as anyone who belongs to the organization at the time they register for a class. Students who register for a class and pay initial membership dues simultaneously will receive the \$10 discount.

WILD STEPS

Milestones in Boulder County Resource Management

Magnolia Environmental Preservation Plan

Culminating 4 years of effort, the Boulder County Planning Commission on September 20th unanimously approved the Magnolia Environmental Preservation Plan (MEPP). Prepared by citizens working through the local neighborhood organization Preserve Unique Magnolia Association (PUMA), MEPP provides a basis for proactive interaction with regulatory agencies, interest groups, and property owners. The plan represents the work of well over 100 volunteers, and is a concerted effort for PUMA to reach consensus in the neighborhood about what are the most urgent and important issues and prioritize their efforts to address these issues.

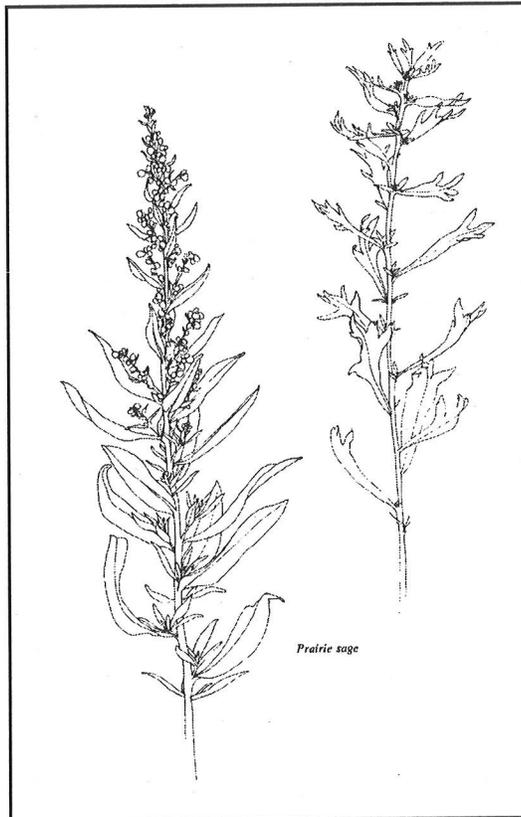
Following the example of the Eldora Environmental Preservation Plan by the Eldora Civic Association, MEPP presents overviews of the natural and cultural resources in the 22 square mile Magnolia planning area. For each of these resources, the plan provides recommendations both for the direction of PUMA as an organization, and for public land management agencies that have land use jurisdiction over much of the planning area. Examples of recommendations for PUMA include:

- Identify land conservation priorities.
- Develop a weed control program for residents.
- Identify natural resource inventory priorities.

- Educate residents about living with wildlife
- Work with public agencies to establish a legal network of trails in the Magnolia area which has minimum impacts on wildlife.

Examples of recommendations directed towards public land management agencies include:

- PUMA supports a policy of maintaining areas on public lands designated as "effective habitat".
- Work with PUMA on implementing local landmark status of qualified cultural resources in the Planning Area.



- Work with PUMA and other interested parties to complete a comprehensive prehistoric cultural resource file and literature review of the Planning Area.

The action of the Planning Commission adopts text amendments to the Goals, Policies and Map Element of the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan recognizing MEPP. The county will further use PUMA as a referral entity for land use applications within the MEPP planning area, and where consistent with County planning policies, the County will work with PUMA to further cooperative planning and land use initiatives. During 1998 PUMA received a

Smart Growth award from then governor Roy Romer for the organization's work on MEPP. BCNA assisted PUMA with the development of MEPP by providing non-profit status for fundraising, and numerous volunteers to help with natural resource inventories.--Mike Figgs

WILD STEPS continued

CITY OF BOULDER OPEN SPACE TRAILS ISSUES

I participated in the field trip for the Open Space Board of Trustees on Tuesday, September 12. On this trip, they were looking primarily at three proposed trails in south Boulder County, Marshall Mesa to Superior, Coalton Trail to Greenbelt Plateau, and Greenbelt Plateau to Flatirons Vista.

The first segment proposed for the Marshall Mesa to Superior Trail is from the Marshall Mesa/Community Ditch trail(s) east to South 66th Street. Three potential routes were explored—high on the hillside, down near the wetland, and somewhere between these two extremes. There didn't seem to be much opposition to the high route.

The next segment runs south along South 66th Street to Coal Creek Drive. This is in the right-of-way and not very controversial, except that I recommended it run along the west side of the road until past the wetland and where the east right-of-way broadens out.

The third segment runs along the right-of-way on Coal Creek Drive which will be vacated in the future except for two private land owners. I pointed out a concern on this route near where Coal Creek Drive curves to the north near Superior. There are several trees in that area that are used as raptor perches. Fortunately a cooperative red-tailed hawk was perched in one of the trees when I pointed them out. I'm not sure what alternative alignment can be worked out.

The Coalton Trail to Greenbelt Plateau runs generally west along Colo. 128 from the southwest end of Boulder County's Coalton Trail to the Greenbelt Plateau Trail head. Open Space staff favors a route that runs along and within the highway right-of-way. The Boulder County Horsemen's Association is concerned with the quality of their recreational experience and favor a route inside the fence where they would be further removed from traffic noise. They persisted with this position even after the

adverse environmental effects were pointed out to them. This issue will require further attention.

The proposed trail from the Greenbelt Plateau trail to the Flatirons Vista Trail head would pass through a culvert under Colo. 93 and then back south to the trail head. There are some safety concerns with the ruins of the old Matterhorn restaurant site. The logical solution for this is to remove the debris left on the site since it is of no historical interest.

Generally speaking, I believe that Open Space staff is being responsible in the development of the trails plan, but

continued attention will be necessary because of the "recreation above all" attitude shown by some of the trails advocates. These trail alignments, plus two more on the north and east side of Boulder, will be further reviewed by the Open Space Board of Trustees later this fall.--
Jim McKee



Wildlife Management Reports

Black-tailed Prairie Dog

I'm continuing to attend the meetings of the Colorado Working Group and some of the sub-groups. The Incentives Group will probably occupy a lot of my time in the future. In this group, we will be working to establish and fund incentives for landowners who are willing to maintain prairie dog populations on dry grasslands.

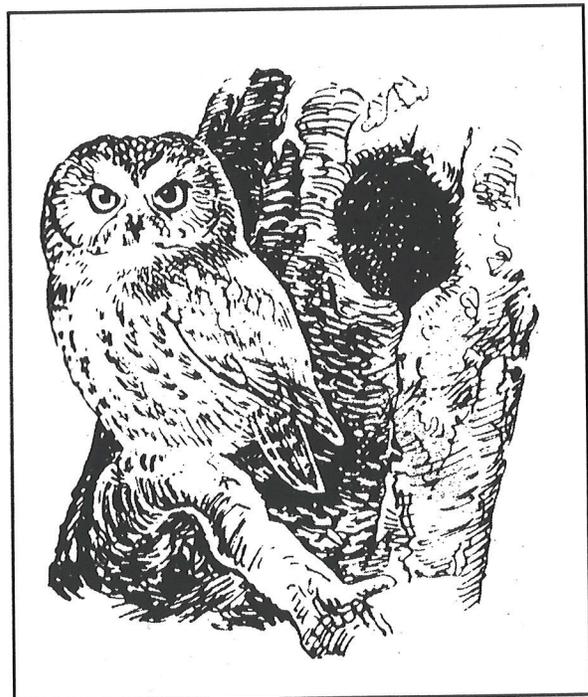


EDAW, an environmental consulting group, has completed the work of gathering and consolidating black-tailed prairie dog information in Colorado from all sources. They are ground truthing 25% of the data and some risk assessment will be done. A final report of their work will be presented to the working group and the incentives group on September 28.

At the Wildlife Commission meeting in Frisco in September, Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) staff presented draft regulations for management of the black-tailed prairie dog. The regulations state that, "Statewide from January 1 through December 31, effective September 1, 2001, black-tailed prairie dog hunting shall be prohibited east of I-25, and in Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield (as of November 15, 2001), Custer, Douglas, El Paso, Fremont, Huerfano,

Jefferson, Las Animas, Larimer, Pueblo, and Weld counties." But, "This species may be taken year-round under the provisions of 33-6-107(9) C.R.S. as necessary to protect private property."

This is all well and good except for one thing, "A license shall not be required of any person, member of the person's family, lessee, agent, designee, or any employee of the person to protect such person's property." By adding agent or designee to this statement CDOW, in effect, has established a year-round sport hunting season for black-tailed prairie dogs on private property. In my opinion, it would be much better to establish a sport hunting season with a seasonal closure from March 15 through June 30 to protect females with dependent young and remove "agent or designee" from the closure statement. At this time, with no support from the Colorado Department of Agriculture, CDOW appears to have backed away from a permit system for the use of toxicants. The lack of constructive action in this area will, very likely, contribute to pressure for listing. If you wish to comment on these draft regulations, you may do so by writing to Wildlife Commission, 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO, 80216.--Jim McKee



Wildlife Management Reports

Lynx: A Colorado Wildlife Success Story

Following very successful releases in the spring of 2000, it seems likely that lynx are back among Colorado's resident forest carnivore populations. No kittens have been observed yet and that will, ultimately, be the test of a successful reintroduction. Although I would prefer to see an additional release in the spring of 2001, I'm optimistic that this effort will succeed.

The reintroduction of lynx in Colorado has been quite controversial. This effort has been widely supported, not only by the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW), but also by most mainstream environmental groups and wildlife activists. In spite this, many animal rights/animal welfare groups have expressed, I believe, sincere concerns

regarding the plight of each animal taken from its northern home range and released in a strange ecosystem far to the south. In an unlikely alliance the Colorado Farm Bureau Federation, the Colorado Wool

Growers, the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, and various hunter's and outfitter's groups also opposed the reintroduction. While they claimed to be concerned with the welfare of the individual animals, that concern is probably questionable since the lawsuit they filed sought to avoid any land use restrictions on public lands and did not indicate any concern for the lynx themselves. And although they also suggested that lynx would eat sheep, this claim was withdrawn after much hilarity.

In 1999, based on recommendations from scientists from both the United States and Canada, lynx were released within a few days of their arrival at the holding site in Colorado's San Juan Mountains. As a result, four of the first five lynx released starved to death. Division

biologists, very concerned about the welfare of the animals, modified the release protocols to ensure that lynx were held and fed for a minimum of three weeks and not released before April 1, at which time more prey was available. Thus, later releases in the spring of 1999 were much more successful.

The animals released this year were fitted with satellite transmitters as well as VHF radio transmitter collars. The satellite transmitters provide a weekly location for each lynx unless they're in a deep canyon or otherwise screened from the satellites that are used. Aerial and ground tracking are then used to obtain further details regarding lynx movements. A total of 55

lynx were released this year and, to date, only three have died – one from starvation, one from plague, and one from unknown causes.

The Division has now released a total of 96

lynx since February, 1999, and they're still tracking 67 of them. Four of the 1999 cats, all males, haven't been monitored in nearly a year and their whereabouts is unknown. One other is wearing a radio collar that has malfunctioned. Only twenty-five animals are known to have died, including seven from starvation; truly an outstanding achievement for a carnivore release.

Last winter, CDOW trackers documented 139 kill sites where lynx had taken prey. As expected, snowshoe hares were the preferred prey during the winter, representing 75 percent of the prey taken. Red (pine) squirrels accounted for another *(continued next page)*





LYNX (continued)

24 percent. The remainder included a few cottontails, jackrabbits, and birds. Trackers also found a few cases of lynx “caching” or storing uneaten hares during their studies, indicating that prey was plentiful enough to kill and save for later.

Now, what about the lynx that stayed home? A 5-year study was initiated in 1996 in Yoho, Banff, and Kootenay National Parks, and adjacent provincial lands in Canada. The study area included 4000 square kilometers (1544 square miles) where there has been no known trapping or hunting of lynx for more than 10 years. During the first three years, radio collared lynx had a 90% survival rate. However, during the winter of 1999-2000, only 25% survived. The deaths were mostly from starvation, attributed to a cyclic drop in the snowshoe hare population (Snowshoe hare and lynx populations follow a cyclic population variation over approximately a ten year period.). Alternate prey, primarily squirrels, were not able to take up the slack because of a drop in cone production. This leads me to believe that, contrary to what many people said about the cruelty of relocating these animals, we gave a portion of the Canada and Alaska populations a better chance to survive by moving them to Colorado.--Jim McKee

Fall 2000 Nature Series

***Presented by the Louisville
Environmental Action Forum
and the Louisville Open Space
Advisory Board***

September 13, Wednesday: Our Hometown Trail System: Rock Creek-Coal Creek by Scott Robinson, RC-CC Coordinator.

October 11, Wednesday: Introduction to Prairie Grassland Restoration by Carol Dawson, Director of Research, Denver Botanical Gardens.

November 8, Wednesday: Trails and Wildlife: Coexistence or Conflict? Rick Knight, Professor of Biology, CSU.

December 12, Tuesday: Boulder County Ecosystems at the Winter Solstice with Steve Jones, Naturalist and Author.

All events are free and held at the Louisville Arts Center, 801 Grant Ave. Programs begin at 7:00 p.m. For more information and directions please call Jay Berger 303-665-7435.

Website of Interest

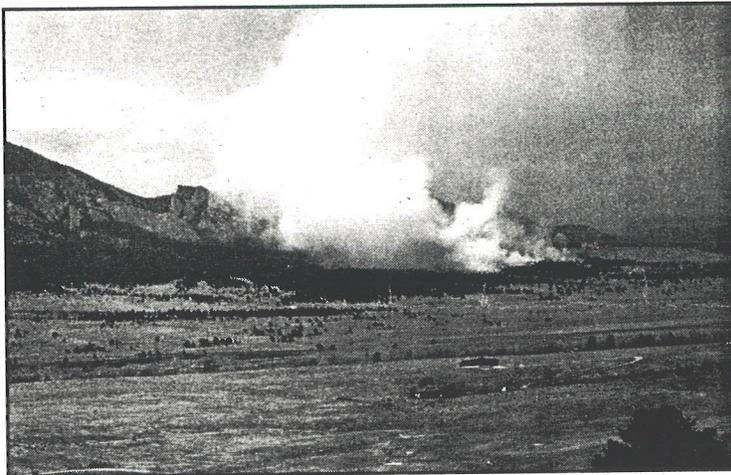
For many years Michael Sanders was the wildlife biologist in the Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department. Michael has since moved to Livingston, Montana and founded an outdoor environmental and education company, The Environmental Adventure Company, offering trips throughout North America, including Rocky Mountain National Park. The website is at www.environmentaladventure.com.



Winiger Ridge Project Update

In July the Arapaho/Roosevelt National Forest released the Record of Decision, Final Environmental Impact Statement, for the Winiger Ridge Ecosystem Management Pilot Project Area. The project area is located on National Forest lands in south-central Boulder County roughly from Boulder Canyon on the north, Gross Reservoir on the east, the county line on the south, to the Town of Nederland on the west. The Forest Supervisor selected a modified version of Alternative D in the Environmental Impact Statement, which eliminates or modifies treatments in the Twin Sisters Mountain and east Winiger Ridge areas.

Tree cutting and prescribed fire have been proposed on approximately 2100 acres of ponderosa pine/understory fir (mixed conifer), lodgepole pine and aspen forests. Proposed activities on Forest lands were designed to increase the distribution and variety of forest structure and composition to reduce the risk of a catastrophic, widespread wildfire, and meet biological diversity goals stated in the Forest Plan. Wildlife habitat improvement and improved forest health were also recognized benefits of the proposed action.



Some of the treatments include:

- Mechanical thinning and removal of trees would occur within ponderosa pine, ponderosa pine/understory fir (mixed conifer), aspen, and lodgepole pine dominated forests.
- Mechanical thinning would usually precede prescribed burning; however, prescribed fire may also occur as a stand-alone activity.
- Fire would consist of broadcast burning at low intensity or mixed and variable intensities;

slash disposal would occur using rough piling, machine piling or with subsequent prescribed fire.

Key issues raised by the public in objection to the project include:

- Concern that the proposal is not aggressive enough or is too aggressive (too many, too few, or not intensive enough silvicultural prescriptions and acres of treatment).
- Vegetation management increases the potential for introduction and spread of noxious weeds.

- Prescribed fire activities increase the potential for air quality degradation.

- Concern that the maintenance and/or improvement of existing roads on Forest lands would lead to increased recreation activities on roads in or near vegetation

management units, and thus result in long-term adverse impacts to terrestrial ecosystems (primarily wildlife).

- Concern that cutting large trees would lead to loss of inventoried or identified developing old growth forests or a general loss of large trees in the landscape.

The project represents a comprehensive and precedent setting effort in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain west to address the issues of forest management from an ecosystem health perspective. BCNA has followed the development of the project for many years and submitted comments to the effect of being cautiously supportive of the project with the intent of carefully monitoring the progress of the project. BCNA is not joining in the appeal of the project filed by some local residents.-- Mike Figgs

BCNA Directory Committees and Contacts

Allegra Collister Nature Preserve and
Birdbanding Site--Joe Harrison 772-3481
Cliff Nesting Raptors--Nan Lederer 447-1899
Education Committee--Naseem Munshi 673-
0933
Indian Peaks Bird Counts--Dave Hallock 258-
3672 or Bill Kaempfer 939-8005
National Forest Management--Tim Hogan 444-
5577
Newsletter--Mike Figgs 447-1899
Open Space Liaisons--Jacob Smith 443-5518,
Scott Severs 442-1322
Parties, Special Events--Naseem Munshi 673-
0933
State and Regional Wildlife Issues--Jim McKee
494-3393
Winter Raptor Survey--Holly Devaul 415-0464

BCNA Online

BCNA's online access includes 1) a web site: <http://www.bcna.org>, which posts the newsletter, publications, research results, and other BCNA related information; the web site is regularly updated and includes the latest information for the BCNA calendar and classes; 2) e-mail: mail@bcna.org; and 3) the BCNA nature-net. To post messages on the nature net: nature-net@telelists.com, and for subscribing, join-nature-net@telelists.com. The nature net is a source of late breaking news and in depth discussions on issues of interest to BCNA members. If you have questions regarding online access, please contact Randy Gietzen at randyg@boulder.net.

Artwork Credits, Acknowledgements, Etc.

Page 2: field trip and lunch at Diamond Lake on August 27. Yes, we did find clubmosses and ferns. Photo by Nan Lederer. *Symphytotrichum (Aster) porteri*, commonly known as Porter's aster, by Mike Figgs. Page 3: Ferruginous hawk by Steve Jones. Page 4: Lauren Golten makes her debut in the BCNA newsletter with a photo of Bear Peak, South Boulder Mountain and Shadow Canyon. Page 5: white sage (*Artemisia ludoviciana*) by Margy Lanham. Page 6: Big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*) from Manual of the Grasses of the United States by A. S. Hitchcock. Page 7: Long-eared owl from BIRDNET Bird Clip Art (interaktv.com/BIRDNET/Cart.html). Saw-whet owl provided by the Colorado Division of Wildlife. Page 8: Elk Tooth and Mt. Copeland in Wild Basin by Mike Figgs. Page 9: golden sedge (*Carex aurea*) from Manual of the Carices of the Rocky Mountains and Colorado Basin, and subalpine fir both provided by the USDA Forest Service. Page 10: prescribed fire on Shanahan Ridge, City of Boulder Open Space by Lauren Golten. Thanks to Tim Hogan for an assist with the Winiger Ridge article.

2000 BCNA Board of Directors

President: Scott Severs (442-1322)
Vice-President: Tim Hogan (444-5577)
Treasurer: Rachel Lee (544-1755)
Secretary: Mike Tupper (673-0933)
Members-at-large:
Bruce Bland (499-8612)
Bev Gholson (440-5225)
Joan Ray (444-5011)
Naseem Munshi (673-0933)
Jacob Smith (443-5518)

Website of Interest

eNature.com

This new nature portal offers online searchable field guides to over 4,800 plant and animal species. Derived from 35 different Audubon Society Field Guides, Regional Guides, and Nature Guides, the database is keyword-searchable by group (mammals, amphibians, fishes, trees, etc.) or browseable within subheadings for each group. The field guide entries include a large thumbnail image, description, and varying additional information. Users can also conduct an advanced search by size, color, habitat, region, and other options within each group. Registered members (its free) can add selected plants or animals to their "Life List," which is saved at the site, along with notes or comments. While the field guides alone make the site worth a visit, there is more, including an Ask an Expert message board, Habitat Guides, news features, tips for teachers, and in the future, a comprehensive Outdoor Planner.

Membership Application for Boulder County Nature Association

Name _____

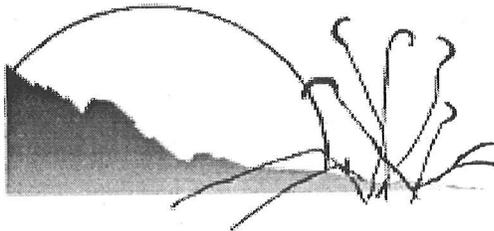
Address _____

Phone, Fax or E-mail Address (optional) _____

Student or senior citizen (65 and over)	\$10
<input type="checkbox"/> General Member	15
<input type="checkbox"/> Family or Household	20
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporter	30
<input type="checkbox"/> Subscriber	50
<input type="checkbox"/> Founder	100
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member	300
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate	500
<input type="checkbox"/> Stakeholder	1000

Membership year is January 1 to December 31. Members who have joined since October 1 are considered paid through the following year. Members receive a quarterly newsletter. Supporting members (and above) also receive a complimentary copy of each BCNA publication that is published during the membership year. Please make check payable to Boulder County Nature Association or BCNA and mail to P.O. Box 493, Boulder, CO 80306.

Extra copies of the newsletter are available from the editor or sometimes at the Wild Bird Center. To submit BCNA-related material to the editor, e-mail to m.figgs@prodigy.net or send a 3.5 or zip disk to Mike Figgs, 2635 Mapleton Ave. #77, Boulder, CO 80304.



Boulder County Nature Association
P.O. Box 493
Boulder, CO 80306

00 Land Trust/Supporter
Linda Andes-Georges
Jean-Pierre Georges
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Boulder, CO 80303