TROUBLE IN PARADISE
The Forest Service is sounding the alarm on wilderness hot spots.

Wilderness designation may be the best defense against drilling, logging, mining and such, but there’s one threat that it doesn’t keep out: us.

The most popular wilderness areas, such as our own Maroon Bells-Snowmass, face a growing dilemma. Parts of them are just too attractive for their own good, inviting overuse that degrades the very solitude and wildness they’re supposed to preserve.

This past summer, the Aspen media were full of stories about trouble in paradise. While the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act was an occasion to celebrate these protected areas, it also brought attention to some rather alarming trends.

Conundrum Hot Springs was the poster child for overuse. On a single night in July, Forest Service wilderness rangers counted 42 occupied campsites around the springs, with a total of 161 campers. Over the summer, rangers hauled out 640 pounds of trash, and had the grim job of burying 168 piles of human waste. (The cleanup was graphically documented in “Wilderness in Peril,” an excellent short video that you can find on Youtube.)

At the Forest Service’s request, WWV wilderness monitoring specialist Dave Richie made a special trip to sample the springs for fecal coliform contamination. Happily, the levels were well within acceptable limits, but we’ll continue to test the springs on an annual basis.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10
A QUESTION OF BALANCE

We hope that by the time you receive this newsletter, the final Oil and Gas Leasing Plan for the White River National Forest will be out. If you’ve been reading the papers, you’ll know what’s in it. As we went to press, we didn’t.

The plan’s release should be a fairly momentous development, and a largely positive one, so we’d like to offer the Wilderness Workshop’s interpretation of it based on what we expect… hopefully.

This is the document that will guide the White River National Forest’s decisions on oil and gas leasing over the next 20-plus years. The current plan dates from 1993, when there was very little drilling activity in the region, and fracking and directional drilling technologies had yet to transform the industry.

It’s weak and out of date; its inadequacies led to leasing of the Thompson Divide and other sensitive areas on the Forest. WW has been leading the conservation community’s engagement on the revision process since 2009, and we’ve consistently pushed for a complete halt to further leasing on the White River National Forest in the upcoming plan.

Unfortunately, that’s not likely to happen.

But there are indications that the new plan will be a big improvement over the old one. It won’t be an environmentalist’s dream, nor an industry giveaway, but it will begin to restore some balance after a long period of anything-goes leasing.

The most significant change that we’re hoping to see is a requirement that any new leases issued in inventoried roadless areas carry “no surface occupancy” stipulations. In other words, roadless areas will remain roadless – which stands to reason, right? In practice, that will mean that a company buying a lease in a roadless area will be able to develop it only by drilling from outside the area boundary.

We and our partners at the Thompson Divide Coalition also have high hopes that the plan will close the Thompson Divide – or at least the lion’s share of it – to further leasing.

Will the new oil and gas plan move more toward the sensible middle on leasing in the Thompson Divide and roadless areas?

That change would get a lot of media attention, and with good reason, because it would signal that the Forest Service agrees that the Thompson Divide is a special place that deserves special treatment.

The BLM, in turn, would have to consider that thinking in its separate review of 65 disputed roadless-area leases in and around the Thompson Divide – illegal leases that we contend should be voided, and that don’t adequately protect existing values such as clean air and water, bountiful wildlife, productive forage for local ranching operations, and natural settings for our recreation lifestyle and economy.

However, there’s some fine print. About half of the Thompson Divide is already leased, and existing leases won’t be affected by this plan (it applies only to future leasing). Furthermore, the plan won’t limit leasing in the southwestern part of the Thompson Divide, because that area is in a different national forest. Finally, the leasing closure isn’t permanent – it’s only for the life of the plan.

It’s called a “final” plan, but in fact it won’t be a done deal until all the objections have been settled – and we won’t be surprised if industry groups appeal to try to roll back the key provisions. And failing that, industry could sue over the plan. They’ll probably hoister that their members are being squeezed out of the White River National Forest, but the fact is that the vast majority of our public lands are leased or available for leasing (see below). In the Piceance Basin alone, more than 6.5 million acres of federal lands are still available for leasing, and the BLM anticipates that more than 26,000 wells will be drilled in the basin in the next 20 years – that’s half as many wells as currently exist in the entire state.

We probably won’t find the plan entirely to our liking either, but bottom line, it’s a step in the right direction, and we’ll likely need to defend it against possible attempts to undermine it.

A recent report by The Wilderness Society reveals that the Bureau of Land Management treats the oil and gas industry as a favored tenant on the lands it stewards.

“Open for Business (and Not Much Else),” released in October, finds that 90 percent of the 250 million acres managed by the BLM are available to oil and gas drillers. The figure for Colorado is even worse – 94 percent.

While most BLM lands are required by law to be managed for multiple uses, the report details how the agency systematically favors oil and gas development over recreation and conservation. This puts vital watersheds, critical wildlife habitat, wilderness-quality lands and popular recreation destinations a distant second in BLM’s ranking of the land it oversees.

This bias allows industry to lock up much of our public lands. Currently, more than 36 million acres of surface lands or mineral estate managed by the BLM are under lease by the oil and gas industry – yet only 35 percent of that acreage is actually in production. Even as they’re seeking to lease and drill more federal lands, private companies are sitting on more than 23 million acres of American land, and hoarding more than 6,700 approved drilling permits.

In its report, The Wilderness Society says the BLM has the authority to do better, and offers some sensible suggestions for doing so: don’t make land open to oil and gas development by default; proactively set aside areas for conservation protection; lease oil and gas where it’s most appropriate; and build more balance into oil and gas leasing planning.

We heartily concur. As the conservation boot on the ground in our part of Colorado, the Wilderness Workshop is continually trying to get the BLM to abide by these principles in its local decisions.

HOW YOU CAN HELP
Given the likely industry pressure to weaken the plan’s protections, we’ll need to push back hard to ensure the Forest Service sticks to its guns. Please send an email now using our action page:

wildernessworkshop.org/action

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

A question of balance

How you can help

Open for business

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If you’re hoping for a definitive analysis of what the recent elections will mean for local and regional conservation efforts — well, ask us in another six months.

There’s no denying that it was a setback to lose our senior Senator, Mark Udall, who had committed to introducing a Central Mountains wilderness bill in the next Congress, and who had joined as a co-sponsor of Sen. Michael Bennet’s Thompson Divide protection bill. We’ll now have to start from scratch with Udall’s successor, Corey Gardner, to find out what’s important to him and to show him the depth of public support for these campaigns.

Our other members of Congress — Sen. Michael Bennet and Reps. Scott Tipton and Jared Polis (in Summit and eastern Eagle County) — will remain in office.

It’s too soon to say exactly how our game plan will change in the next Congress. In the coming weeks we’ll be discussing with our conservation partners around the state and nationally how to prioritize various legislative efforts. Regardless of who’s in office, the broad-based community support for both the Thompson Divide and Central Mountains remains the foundation of our legislative strategy.

Meanwhile, the lame duck session of the current Congress may be an opportunity to win last-minute passage of one or two Colorado public-lands bills. In the first day of the session, the Hermosa Creek bill passed out of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (its last step before a final vote in both houses). We’re cautiously optimistic there’ll be new wilderness in Colorado before the end of the year!

The next Congress is likely to be a mixed bag in terms of environmental issues. The incoming chairs of the House and Senate natural resources committees are likely to run some pretty horrendous bills aimed at rolling back protections for clean air and water, human health and wildlife. But at the same time, the new chair of the House Natural Resources Committee, Bob Bishop of Utah, may want to pass a wilderness bill or two of his own, and that means he’s going to have to let other legislators run similar bills. So you can expect us to reach out to you for help, both to stop bad bills and to support good ones.

While the new Congress may force us to shift focus, wilderness remains a bipartisan issue.

Natural Resources Committee (its last step before a final vote in both houses). We’re cautiously optimistic there’ll be new wilderness in Colorado before the end of the year!

One last point: historically, conservation hasn’t always been a partisan issue, and there’s no reason for it to become one now. Safeguarding our natural heritage for future generations is just sound policy, regardless of one’s party.

The Wilderness Workshop is eager to work with Republicans and Democrats alike. It would be foolish indeed to let what we care most about become a political football, carried by one party and blocked by the other. We think protecting wilderness can transcend politics, and we’ll work with and welcome supporters of any political persuasion.
TAKEAWAYS FROM WILDERNESS 50

Celebrating, and contemplating, the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act.

The great and the good of the national wilderness movement gathered for a three-day conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico in October to toast the first 50 years of the Wilderness Act, and to ponder what may be in store for the next 50.

Three WW representatives attended and brought back these reports.

Making common cause
Dirty bikes and mountain bikes at a wilderness conference? It’s 8 a.m. and I’m not sure if I’m dreaming. I’ve been invited to give a presentation on how working with recreational users from the motorized and mechanized (i.e., mountain biking) communities can benefit wilderness. Sitting on the panel with me is Aaron Clark, public lands director at the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA). My Powerpoint is full of images of all the things you can’t do in a wilderness area; but slowly the room fills, and if nothing else people are curious to see if sparks will fly.

As any of you who have followed the Hidden Gems or Central Mountains wilderness campaigns know, the relationship between wilderness advocates and mountain bikers, snowmobilers, ATV riders and jeepers has not been an easy one. What is there to say to a room full of wilderness advocates about the folks who often are directly responsible for reducing the size of wilderness proposals?

Quite a bit, it turns out.

The bulk of my presentation consists of several stories about wilderness campaigns in Colorado. In each, conservationists invited mountain bikers and dirt bikers to have a conversation about (and in the case of IMBA, jointly campaign for) new wilderness. I talk about working on a management plan for a new dirt-bike trail system between Basalt and Gypsum, which WW is supporting as long as it’s managed well. I talk about trail users and the coloration of the composition of the nation gets more complex and colorful, the wilderness movement must adapt or die, and with it the value and concern for one of our nation’s best ideas, wilderness.

I concluded that WW must develop programs that actively reach out to young people and diverse cultures in our community, or we too will go the way of the dodo. You’ll hear more about this in coming months, but I wanted to start the discourse by inviting our members with expertise in youth and diverse-culture outreach to share their wisdom with us. This isn’t our area of expertise, so please show us the trail you’ve already blazed.

– Shaun Shoemaker, Executive Director of Wilderness Workshop

Increasing our diversity
As I listened to the largest collection of wilderness gurus ever assembled (or so it seemed) in Albuquerque, I constantly asked myself if the Wilderness Workshop was properly aligned with the best of their thinking, and what we could do to ensure that we were well prepared to steward wilderness for the next 50 years. I’m happy to report that, by and large, WW is properly founded in our work, current with the best ideas and properly poised for the next 50 years…except in one critically important way: demographics.

Much of the wilderness movement looks like me – white, male and gray. As today’s young people are increasingly seduced by little virtual-reality screens, and the composition of the nation gets more complex and colorful, the wilderness movement must adapt or die, and with it the value and concern for one of our nation’s best ideas, wilderness.

So what’s a wilderness organization – one whose very mission depends on cultivating the next generation of advocates – to do? Besides the obvious need to embrace digital and social media, we must create ways for millennials to experience wild places on their terms, in their own ways.

That may mean that a first foray to a mountaintop is made with the encouragement of music streamed through ear buds. Does this take away from a full sensory experience of the wild, including the quiet (what Dave Foreman, a keynote speaker at the conference, calls “the hush”)? It well may, but it also may be what’s needed to bring young people in, and, if the experience is positive, it will lead to further wilderness ventures where perhaps the iPOD will be left at home.

In any event, who are we to tell young people how to experience wilderness? They’ll figure it out, just as millennials have figured out how to bring vitality and beauty to so much of their world. Google “skateboarding,” for example, to get a taste of their overflowing creativity. That same creativity could be brought to bear on adventures in the wild and serve as the hook they need.

While many of us value wilderness for the solitude it offers, millennials, who are also intensely social, may be drawn in by visuals that show wilderness as places where they can spend exciting and challenging time with friends. And once they’re in it, who isn’t confident that wilderness will work its magic on them?

– Karin Teague, Board President

Increasing the value
I don’t want to sugarcoat it. The future for wilderness is bright; whatever controls congress, we will see new wilderness. Paul Spitler: @Wilderness50 conference.

“Do we have the generosity and the greatness of heart to live with all the other creatures on the tree of life” Dave Foreman @Wilderness50

“I think the future for wilderness is bright; whoever controls congress, we will see new wilderness” Paul Spiteri, @Wilderness50

Dave Foreman calls for 300 million acres of wilderness on land and 500 million in the ocean at #wilderness50 @Wilderness @pewenvironment

The bulk of my presentation consists of several stories about wilderness campaigns in Colorado. In each, conservationists invited mountain bikers and dirt bikers to have a conversation about wilderness areas – a win-win for all.
A WILD YEAR

2014 was extra busy, thanks to a series of events marking the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act and of our own Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness.

This page (counterclockwise from left): WW co-founder Joy Caudill cutting the cake at the Maroon Bells Birthday Bash; Karin Teague and group atop Treasure Mountain; Alex Bethel in a flowery mood; kids dressing up at the Birthday Bash photo booth; volunteers removing barbed wire near Ashcroft; the crowd at WW’s “Untrammeled!” symposium in Aspen.

Opposite page (clockwise from upper left): WW executive director Sloan Shoemaker speaking at the Birthday Bash; WW staff on the trail; hikers on Midway Pass; Richard Vottero urging the BLM to void contested oil and gas leases; more barbed-wire removal; photographer John Fielder presenting his 50th-anniversary slide show in Aspen; The Wilderness Society’s Jamie Williams speaking at “Untrammeled.”
TROUBLE IN PARADISE  FROM PAGE 1

Further sobering news came in November, when the Aspen-Sopris Ranger District reported that 54,000 people had hiked the trail from Maroon Lake to Crater Lake during the four-month summer season—a staggering 26 percent increase over last year.

District Ranger Karen Schroyer says she wants to launch a community discussion this winter to figure out how to reduce impacts to the most heavily used spots: Conundrum, Crater Lake, Snowmass Lake and the Four Pass Loop.

We at the Wilderness Workshop will be partnering with the Forest Service to convene this community dialog and build consensus around the best solutions. We encourage our members to get involved in finding the best path forward.

High standards

It wasn’t so many years ago that Conundrum Hot Springs was a locals’ secret and the Four Pass Loop was a trail less traveled. Now, nothing’s a secret anymore. Selfies, social media, online reviews and top-ten lists are increasingly putting such places on the map. A relatively few greatest-hits destinations are getting overrun, and our Maroon-Bells Snowmass Wilderness is high on the international bucket list.

(And yes, we’ll say it before you do: throwing a big Maroon Bells Birthday Bash this summer no doubt fed into this trend. But as Ed Abbey said, wilderness needs more defenders, and sometimes it takes a party to recruit the next generation of defenders.)

Fortunately, wilderness areas are held to high standards. The Wilderness Act states that they must be managed to maintain their “wilderness character” and “outstanding opportunities for solitude.” In recent years, federal land managers have begun to develop standardized ways of monitoring these characteristics—WW’s Dave Richie has been instrumental in this effort—but by any measure, some of our local wilderness magnets aren’t making the grade these days.

And it’s not just that too many people are hitting the hot spots; there’s also been a noticeable decline in wilderness ethics. Conundrum is where it’s most noticeable. Some visitors are treating the springs like a backcountry rave, disrupting the solitude with boom boxes and leaving behind cast-off clothing and piles of you-know-what. Rangers have attempted to enforce the rules on summer weekends, but wilderness character still suffers under the weight of sheer numbers.

WW has been providing the Forest Service with defensible data on impacts over the years, and we’ve been seeing the same trends. More people are making shorter excursions into wilderness, concentrating their impacts along the most popular routes.

Time for a permit system?

Visitors and land managers agree: something’s got to change. The Forest Service document that guides the management of the Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness is nearly 30 years old, and needs updating.

Other wilderness areas, including the Indian Peaks and adjacent Rocky Mountain National Park, have already gone down this road, and of course many rivers have had to be rationed. The solution generally comes down to a permit system to limit the number of people who can use the high-use area during busy times, although there are various ways to implement it.

While Schroyer says she’ll “absolutely” consider a permit system, she won’t make any decision unilaterally. Hence this winter’s community process to find out what kind of management changes people would be comfortable with.

“Everyone, I think, has the sense of, ‘There’s a problem and we need to do something about it,’” she says. “What we don’t want to do is get out ahead of it and say what we think is the perfect solution.”

Schroyer will kick off the conversation with a Naturalist Nights presentation on Feb. 4 in Carbondale and Feb. 5 in Aspen (see page 5).

Whatever solution emerges, it’ll take at least a couple of years to put it into operation. The Forest Service will probably conduct an Environmental Assessment on the proposed action, and then run a separate internal process to iron out implementation details.

We’re blessed to have world-renowned places like Conundrum and the Maroon Bells in our backyard, and doubly blessed that they’re protected as wilderness. A few tweaks to their management, and their continued wilderness character should be assured.

HERE, KITTY KITTY

For over five years, biologists from Rocky Mountain Wild have been monitoring wildlife movements in the I-70 corridor around East Vail Pass, where a wildlife-only overpass is proposed. Their motion-sensor wildlife cameras have “captured” all sorts of animals, and in October they photographed their first Canada lynx on the south side of the highway near Stafford Creek. Knowing where these rare and threatened animals are trying to cross the highway will be very helpful in the eventual process of building the wildlife bridge.

NEW WILDERNESS BILL

60,000 acres are proposed for protection in Summit and eastern Eagle Counties.

O vershadowed, perhaps, by all the campaigning about the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act this summer was the introduction of an actual new wilderness bill for lands in our region.


Building off of years of work by local citizens and businesses, the bill proposes to designate over 40,000 acres of new wilderness and provide lesser protection to another 20,000 acres. That’s less than half the acreage contained in the previous version of the bill, due to Congressional redistricting: western Eagle County has moved from Polis’s 2nd District to Rep. Scott Tipton’s 3rd District, and with it some large proposed wilderness areas.

Still, the bill would establish several new wilderness areas—including Spraddle Creek (immediately north of Vail), Tenmile and Hoosier Ridge (south of Breckenridge), and Williams Fork (north of Silverthorne)—and would add acreage to the existing Holy Cross, Eagles Nest and Parrrigan Peak wildernesses. Plus, it would create a new Porcupine Gulch Protection Area and a Recreation Management Area in the Tenmile Range, conserving the naturalness of the land while maintaining vehicular access on roads and mountain-biking opportunities throughout the area.

We’ll ask Rep. Polis to reintroduce the bill as soon as possible in the new Congress. This bill is a crucial step forward in the work to protect the Central Mountains of Colorado. Rep. Polis’s effort is supported by a broad coalition of local business owners, mountain bikers, water providers, town and county governments and citizens. Adding new wilderness and recreation management areas to the existing protected lands in Colorado will help ensure local economies remain vibrant, provide clean water and safeguard wild places for future generations.
Our Artist in Wilderness program had something of a coming-out party in August, with a special art-themed gathering of the Maroon Bells Circle (WW’s national council) at the Sopris Mountain Ranch home of Sally Sakin.

“The Art of Wilderness” featured the first screening of a new Artist in Wilderness video by local filmmaker Krysa Carter-Giez, a silent auction of works donated by past Artist in Wilderness residents, and a fun live auction of pieces donated by well-known area artists Dick Carter, Sara Ransford, Tania Dibbs and James Surfs.

Not only was a good time had by all, but the evening proved to be a wildly successful fundraiser. Art purchases and donations topped $70,000, and when you add the amount that qualified to be matched by an anonymous donor (see back page), the event brought in a total of $117,00 for WW.

Thank you, Maroon Bells Circle members!

The Artist in Wilderness program offers up to four residencies each year to allow artists to make works inspired by the lands that WW is working to protect. It started with the idea that creative people might bring unexpected new perspectives on our wildlands, and that their creations could engage a new circle of wilderness supporters. The response to “The Art of Wildernessness” was a resounding confirmation of that idea. Kudos to WW board member Mary Dominick, who has labored for the past five years to develop the Artist in Wilderness program and to curate the collection of art that was sold at the event.

We hope to present a public premiere of Krysa’s video early in the new year. Meanwhile, Mary and her jury have selected four terrific artists for our 2015 residencies.

Joellyn Duesberry is a Denver-based landscape painter who works in oils. She has painted all over the world, but her main areas of focus are the northeastern and western United States. Her work has been the subject of 50 solo gallery shows and four museum surveys, including a 2011 retrospective at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center that resulted in the book Elevated Perspective: The Paintings of Joellyn Duesberry. A clinical psychologist by day, Roaring Fork Valley local Ellen Woods is also an accomplished abstract painter. Her pieces, inspired by the surrounding landscape, contain richly diverse textures achieved by dynamically layering, scraping, spraying and splashing paint. She has exhibited in juried and invitational shows at the Aspen Art Museum, the Civic Arts Gallery in Walnut Creek, Calif., and the Boston Architectural Center.

“I should have quit years ago, but that would have proved so many people right,” jokes Steven Walker. Raised in South Carolina and Virginia and now living in Ohio, he began his career as a freelance illustrator and broke into fine art the hard way, starting with small shows at coffee shops and libraries to eventually become a highly collected artist. He has been included in several regional and national juried competitions, and is represented by various galleries in the East. Although still in her twenties and with a newly minted MFA, Michelle Podgorski has already been featured in several group shows and has illustrated three children’s books. Her watercolors focus on the strength and resilience of nature, especially that of the trees along the river that flows near her North Carolina home, and use extensive negative space to imply the erasure of landscape by man.

WW’s artist residency program is engaging a whole new circle of wilderness supporters.

You’ve heard what they say on the public-radio pledge drives: only about 10 percent of listeners are actually members. The rest just listen. It’s kind of like that with wilderness. Most people around here care about wildlife and forests and healthy streams, and love to spend time in the backcountry — it’s why they live here — but only a fraction get actively involved in protecting it. Many don’t even know it needs protecting, or don’t know how to help, because they lead busy lives and the environment doesn’t happen to be their top priority.

Seeing this as an opportunity to broaden our base, we’ve contracted with JVA Consulting to help us understand the public’s current perceptions of WW and to find ways to reach beyond the environmental “choir” to better communicate with this silent majority of potential supporters. All this year, JVA has been guiding us through a process of internal reflection, research and analysis.

If you were among the 1,000-plus people who completed our online survey, thank you. If you participated in one of the focus-group sessions or “key informant” interviews, many thanks.

Above all, we’re grateful to Rob Prew and Susan Taylor for generously funding this process.

JVA is now compiling the data and will present us with a set of strategic recommendations before the end of the year. Expect to see WW engaging the public in holder, more accessible ways starting in 2015.

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Social media are becoming an increasingly important part of the Wilderness Workshop’s advocacy, organizing and education work. We’ve been on Facebook for a few years now, but it’s only been in the past year that we’ve hit our stride. Be sure to like our page, if you haven’t already, to get our posts about upcoming events, campaign updates, and interesting photos, videos and items from around the world. Recently we’ve added Instagram and Twitter to our social media channels, and we encourage you to follow us on those, too.

Instagram is a natural for a conservation organization like WW. We post gorgeous photos of the lands we’re working to protect, which of course we hope will inspire you to protect them too. And if you have an image from a recent local adventure, send it our way and we’ll put it up on our site.

On Twitter, we’re live-tweeting from events and posting breaking news and just-released studies from throughout the environmental movement. It’s a great way to stay up to the minute on public-lands issues locally and around the country.

Stay tuned for announcements about our Winter Wilderness Adventure Instagram Challenge, suggested by our newest (and youngest) board member, Lindsay Gurley.

The end of an era

After 11 years with WW, communications and development director Dave Reed is moving on to become director of the Western Colorado Congress in Grand Junction.

When he was hired as the Wilderness Workshop’s second paid staff member, Dave, a former journalist, quickly realized that WW had an incredible story to tell, and started telling it through warm and engaging literature, online communications and popular events. It was a winning strategy.

Membership soared, more funders came on board, and popular events. It was a winning strategy.

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The following people helped make our “Art of Wilderness” event a great success through their purchases of works in the silent and live auctions:

Foundation
Jeremy and Angela Foster
Joanne and Tony Guerriero
William H. & Mattie Watts
Haris Foundation
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Juliane Heymann
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Henry Lord
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Polly and Jim Shoemaker, in honor of Stian Shoemaker
Katie and Hank Van Schaick
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Carol W. Duell
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Karen Kitchen and Paul Knouf
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Bill Stirling
Roberta Stokes
Elisa Topol and Lee Osterman
Town of Basalt
Craig and Becky Ward
Susan Welch
Melvin Wilmuting
$100-249
Karen Bead
Lee Beck and John Stickney
Kathy and Andrew Berkman
Dan and Pam Rudman
Nini Butterfly
Judy Byrnes and Joe Bergquist
Ellen Citron
Janet Courtney
Jeff and Priscilla Dickinson
Stacy Evenson
Connie and Ted Finan
Cici Fox, in memory of Dottie Fox

Mark Fox, in memory of Dottie Fox
Adam and Katy Frisch*
Dorothy Frammenti
Jay and Bill Henry
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Houses for Higher Education*, in honor of Tim Sfyn
Janis and George Hugbl
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Carolyn and Dick Shubot
Roger and Elizabeth Shubart
Kim Stace and John Hoffman
Sandy and Stephen Sohay
Leelee and Bill Sege
Hal Sundin
Thrift Shop of Aspen
Tom and Tzir Ruchman
Linda Vidal
Dr. Richard and Gayle Wells
Andre and Julie Wille
Pam and Robbie Zentzmyer

Jane Sarris
Zac Weinberg/The Angora Ridge Foundation
Victoria’s Espresso
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$50-99
Aron Ralston
Kate and Chris Roberts
Isa and Daniel Shaw/Catto Charitable Foundation
Alpine Bank
Tom and Currie Barron
Richard Carter
Beth Cashdan and Paul D’Amato
Laurence Cohen
Christian Cooper and Mark Tache
Tania Diibbs
Mary Dominick and Sven Conner
Sue Erickson and Bill Spence
Emma Coulter/Wa Foundation
Marty and Sarah Flug/Margull

The Wilderness Workshop wishes to thank the following generous people who have made donations since the previous newsletter. New members are indicated by an asterisk (*).

$25,000+
Charlie Hopton, in memory of Heather Hopton and Dottie Fox, and in honor of Conrie Harvey and Jay Caudill
New-Land Foundation
$10,000-24,999
Anonymous (2)
Aspen Skiing Company
Environment Foundation
Jimmy Ebbotson

Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation
$5,000-9,999
Marcia Corbin
Maggie DeVoll/Nick DeVoll Foundation

The Wilderness Workshop’s mission is to protect and conserve the wilderness and natural resources of the Roaring Fork Watershed, the White River National Forest, and adjacent lands.

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Tel (970) 963-3977
www.wildernessworkshop.org
info@wildernessworkshop.org
Thank you for your past support of the Wilderness Workshop. You’ll soon receive our annual fundraising appeal, and we hope you’ll again consider making a special yearend gift to WW.

There’s an extra reason to give this year: an anonymous donor will match all “new money” that we raise through Dec. 31, dollar for dollar, up to $100,000. That means that whatever you give in excess of last year will be doubled.

It’s always a good thing to support your local non-profit conservation group, if you can; your support now will achieve twice the impact. Thank you!