Dear Colleague,

Here is your regional public lands news round-up for this month, including our upcoming 2023 volunteer restoration project in South Park, and a remembrance of the Father of Rocky Mountain National Park, Enos Mills.

- Oct 7 N Farnum Restoration Volunteer Event
- Bureau of Land Management Updates
  - Sep 23 National Public Lands Day
  - BLM's Proposed Eastern Colorado Plan
  - BLM Oil & Gas Rule-making
  - BLM Recreation Management Planning
- Remembering Enos Mills

Read on for more info!

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**North Farnum "Scatter the Seeds" Volunteer Day**

Join us Saturday, October 7 from 9 AM to 3 PM to scatter and rake in native grass seeds across the old routes and bare campsites. The Forest Service South Park Ranger District has prepared the work areas for seeding. Tools and snacks will be provided, but you should bring sturdy work shoes and gloves, clothing for hot sun and/or rain showers, water and your own lunch.

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**Needed Now**

**Your Registration!**

Thanks so much to the early registrants for this Oct 7 project; we can surely use some more.

To register, contact John Sztukowski at 817-939-4239 or john@wildconnections.org

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**Your Donation!**

We are raising $2,000 in donations for seeds and other project expenses.

Donate now at https://wildconnections-bloom.kindful.com/?campaign=1269375
Finishing this restoration project is a win for wildlife and roadless area integrity:

- Eliminates a three-acre cherry-stem route into the Farnum Peak Roadless Area
- Eliminates illegal vehicle travel leading to Packer Gulch
- Eliminates all camping and dumping at the site
- Reduces disturbance of wildlife ranging from elk to forest birds year round and during seasonal movements

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**Bureau of Land Management Updates**

**Sep 23: National Public Lands Day**

National Public Lands Day (NLPD) is the nation’s largest, single-day volunteer event for public lands, held every year on the fourth Saturday in September, beginning in 1994.

In 2022, the Bureau of Land Management hosted 122 events with 563 projects - more than any other federal agency!

BLM NPLD events are coordinated by the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) - find a 2023 NLPD event near you [here](#)!

**Eastern CO Resource Management Plan Revision**

BLM’s proposed ECRMP was released July 7, with a 60-day governor’s review period that should end this week.

The plan proposes to conserve nearly 300,000 acres of BLM managed public lands via Lands with Wilderness Characteristics, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern and Backcountry Conservation Areas, as well as 60 BLM river miles for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

The proposed plan however does fall short on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from public lands and improving air quality for communities impacted by oil and gas.

Find more information at [wildconnections.org/conservation/public-lands-management](http://wildconnections.org/conservation/public-lands-management)

**BLM Proposed Oil & Gas Rule-making**

The Department of Interior and BLM have started rule-making to update regulations around oil and gas leasing and development on public lands. This would update out-of-date regulations and fees, some of which haven't changed in over 100 years!

Public Comments are due Sep 22. Learn more from the conservation community and Take Action at [oilandgasreformnow.org](http://oilandgasreformnow.org)

For more in depth info, see Rocky Mountain Wild’s webinar [here](#) and BLM's webpage [here](#).
BLM Seeks Input on Recreation Management Planning

The BLM is establishing a new Blueprint for 21st Century Outdoor Recreation, and is seeking public input on the new plan for recreation management.

BLM states that "the Blueprint" is not a formal management plan but rather a strategic document to guide the agency’s work.

Who Was Enos Mills?

On the date of his death, September 22, 1922, Enos Mills was one of the best known persons in Colorado. Friend of John Muir, associate of President Theodore Roosevelt, newspapers called him "The Father of Rocky Mountain National Park" and "Colorado's first conservationist."

How did Enos Mills gain those titles of note and more? In honor of the man after 100 years, Wild Connections would like to share a few accomplishments from his life with you.

- In 1875, at the age of 15, Enos helped a climbing party to the summit of Longs Peak at 14,259 altitude. This was his first of more than 300 ascents with 257 of them guiding climbers. From his home at Longs Peak, he traveled far.

- Alone in 1889 to California, Mills accidentally met John Muir who urged him to study nature carefully, to organize his thinking, to develop writing and speaking skills, and told him, “I want you to help me to do something for parks, forests, and wildlife.” Guidance which Mills followed for the rest of his life.

- From 1902 to 1905, Enos made many high-mountain forest and winter weather observations, the first for the State of Colorado. Folks called him “Colorado’s Snow Man.”

- After writing hundreds of magazine articles, Mills’s first book, Wild Life on the Rockies was published in 1909, the first of sixteen to follow.

- From 1906 on, the speaker made talks on nature all over the nation. From 1909 to 1916, his main topics were the lengthy struggles for the creations of Rocky Mountain National Park and the National Park Service.


With gratitude from all of us,
Jim, John, Alison, Claude, Kristin, John and Jean
Wild Connections Board and staff

Our Contact Information
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We recognize our area as the ancestral lands of the Ute, Cheyenne, Jicarilla Apache, Arapaho and other indigenous peoples.