



# Missouri Wilderness Coalition

Newsletter #10

Summer 2008

## State-wide Missouri Wilderness Conference September 6th, 2008

Don't miss this event! Come to Salem, MO for a day of Missouri Wilderness education, discussion, and strategy planning for the citizen's proposal to designate seven Wilderness Areas on the Mark Twain National Forest and the Ozark National Scenic Riverways. Guest speakers will include Dave Murphy of the Conservation Federation of Missouri; Rindy O'Brien, former aide to U.S. Senator Tom Eagleton and staffer at The Wilderness Society;

John Karel of the Missouri Wilderness Coalition, and more. We will have a Missouri wilderness slideshow, displays, handouts, and a moderated strategy planning session later in the day. Lunch will be available - sandwiches catered by a local family, and a \$5 donation is requested to cover the food expense. Please let MWC know if you plan on attending the event, and also if you would like to get the lunch: send an email to [MWC](#), a letter to P.O. Box 377 Boss, MO 65440, or a phone call to (573) 626-1021 or (314) 602-6639.



The Conference will be held from 10am - 4pm

Location:

Ozark Natural and Cultural Resource Center (ONCRC)

202 South Main (Hwy 19)

Salem, MO

Phone: (573)729-0029

email: [ONCRC email](#)

website: [Ozark Natural and Cultural Resource Center](#)

In addition to the Conference, you may want to sample the Salem Farmers Market on Saturday morning (directly next-door to ONCRC), or visit some of the outstanding nearby natural landscapes, such as Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Montauk State Park, and various sites within Mark Twain National Forest.



### Missouri Wilderness In The News

Smith Creek Proposed Wilderness garnered most of the Missouri wilderness news over the past few months, due to Mark Twain National Forest's "Southwest Project" that we alerted you to earlier this year. We really got to see our Coalition pull together for this project, and although we do not yet know the final Forest Service decision, we can be confident that the voice to protect Smith Creek's wilderness values was heard loud and clear. The Forest Service got an earful from Smith Creek neighbors, local Boone and Callaway County residents, Missouri citizens, and supporters from around the country.

For the best coverage on the Mark Twain's Southwest Project, see Annie Hauser's May 22 article in the [Columbia Missourian](#): "[On The Path To Preservation](#)". Annie really did her homework, and we appreciate her good work.

The [Columbia Tribune](#) published a commentary by Ken Midkiff on June 13, entitled: "[Service Can't See Forest For the Trees](#)". Like the Hauser article, Ken's commentary is specifically about the plans the Forest Service has for Smith Creek Proposed Wilderness.

### New Endorsements

MWC is pleased to announce the 28th organization to endorse the citizen's proposal for seven more Wilderness Areas in Missouri: Welcome aboard the [Off-Road Camping Club \(ORRC\)](#)! ORRC promotes camping, canoeing/kayaking, and hiking/backpacking in the "Ozarks Midwest region". As always, the full list of endorsements is available on the [MWC website](#).



Thank you to Louis and Lurice Kilo of St. Louis for their recent financial contribution.

MWC is open to everyone who supports Missouri Wilderness and wild areas, and we appreciate all groups, organizations, and individuals who are working to keep MO wilderness intact for current and future generations.

### Until next time....

Our main goal for the next 1½ months is to make sure we have a successful and productive Conference. A lot of people are pitching in to make this happen, and all of us are grateful for their work. We'll keep you posted as to any major developments as the time draws near, but in the meantime get ready to put your wilderness thinking caps on, and let's continue to work towards getting a Wilderness Bill introduced into Congress.

We look forward to seeing you on September 6th!

## Missouri Wilderness Coalition

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*Photos: Spring Creek Proposed Wilderness (banner); Spring Creek in Summer; Summer in the Lower Rock Creek Proposed Wilderness; Dolomite overhang in Spring Creek Proposed Wilderness*