

You Can Help Protect the Hermosa Creek Watershed

SJCA staff and members have worked tirelessly to protect the Hermosa Creek watershed and all of its resource values over the past few years. Hermosa's natural abundance and "wild backyard" nature feature a remarkable array of wealth – biologic diversity, pristine waters, wildlife habitat, an array of recreational opportunities, unfettered natural vistas, and more.

We are poised to move the effort forward one HUGE step when Senator Bennet introduces the Hermosa Creek Watershed Protection Act to Congress later this summer. In sum, the legislation designed through the Hermosa Workgroup's efforts will...

- Create a Special Management Area (SMA) of more than 100,000 acres to preserve and protect the Hermosa Creek watershed and its resources.
- Provide additional backcountry protections through the creation of the Hermosa Creek Wilderness Area of approximately 37,000 acres bordered by Hermosa Creek, the Colorado Trail and Corral Draw.
- Prevent road construction in approximately 75% of the SMA.
- Decide on future trail designations through a public planning process resulting in a Hermosa specific travel management plan.
- Specifically protect the water quality of Hermosa Creek that will support the further recovery of native cutthroat in the watershed.

You can give your support by...

- Writing a letter to [Senator Bennet](#) supporting his introduction of the Hermosa Creek Watershed Protection Act.
- Writing a letter to the editor in support of the legislation to either the Durango Herald: <http://durangoherald.com/section/lettertoeditor/> or the Durango Telegraph: http://www.durangotelegraph.com/index.php?inc=/contact_inc.htm

Let's join together to provide permanent protection for the Hermosa!

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