



BROADSIDES

THE GREAT OLD BROADS FOR WILDERNESS NEWSLETTER

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“Leave it as it is. You cannot improve upon it. Not one bit. What you can do is keep it for your children; your children’s children, and all who come after you.”

– Teddy Roosevelt as he set aside the Grand Canyon as a National Monument in 1906

BHLP LAUNCHES WEB INTERFACE DATABASE EXPANDS 450% IN 1 YEAR

by Tim Peterson, BHLF Director

This spring, Broads Healthy Lands Project (BHLF) got even better! After nearly a year of research and development, BHLF recently launched a vastly improved web-site interface that makes the use of data more efficient and more pleasant for our partner organizations (and for us). The new face of BHLF calls out to land managers and monitoring organizations to engage and explore Broads’ flagship program.

In 2003, Broads initiated the Broads Healthy Lands Project (BHLF) when we saw a great need for a system to collect and process evidence of the impacts of off-road vehicle (ORV) use on our public lands. The result is a program that trains volunteers to collect field data using maps, global positioning system (GPS) equipment, digital cameras, and a keen eye. BHLF staff enters the data into the database and posts it to the web interface from which our partners can access and view on-the-ground conditions at any monitored site using the new and improved web-site interface.



In April, Broads conducted a training and monitoring event at Indian Creek in Southern Utah. Above, volunteers and staff review their assignments before hitting the trail. From far left - Ginny Carlson, Keefer Irwin, Joe Rook, Mark Prebble, Tim Peterson, and Jeff Jackson.

Along with improvements to the web interface, this last year saw enormous expansion of the database. It currently contains records from more than 27,000 locations, including GPS coordinates, digital photographs, and text descriptions of land health conditions. This represents a 450 percent increase in just one year! Logan Morley, BHLF’s Technologies Coordinator, and Tom Messenger, our star volunteer and database expert, deserve unending praise for their hard work to get the new system functioning. If you are interested in viewing the new interface, please contact BHLF Director Tim Peterson.

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IN A BROAD SENSE: ON THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE CANYONS FOR BROADS

A message from our Executive Director - Ronni Egan

This spring, I have had the pleasure of co-leading several camping and hiking trips for Great Old Broads, and the experiences have given me a whole new appreciation for the diversity, commitment, and vitality of our membership. I'd like to share a few of the more memorable moments and (dare I use the term?), characters from those journeys.

Our first expedition was a car camping trip on Cedar Mesa in the Four Corners area of Utah, where much of our work in off-road vehicle monitoring has been taking place. Dr. Andrew Gulliford of Fort Lewis College in Durango, generously offered his guiding and interpretive skills, and escorted our merry band of 10 to numerous stunning prehistoric ruins and rock art sites. It was a real treat to gaze at these wonders while Andy explained what is known about their creators,

and to speculate about those things that remain a mystery. (It is worth noting that the vast majority of these treasures are at risk of damage, or have already been trashed by poorly managed livestock grazing practices and vandalism that is increasing daily due to increased access to sites by motorized vehicles. These are both issues that Great Old Broads focuses on in our volunteer monitoring programs.)



Photo by JoAnn Moon

The hikes were moderate and gorgeous, the weather crisp, and the company superb. Among the group were my old friend and hiking companion Steve Allen, a long-time supporter of Broads, as well as board member Karen Cox, and founding Broad Ginger Harmon. We car-camped for two nights in lovely locations on Cedar

Mesa, and breakfasts and dinners were provided by yours truly. This outing was a featured item in our 2007 *Wild for Wilderness* Online Auction, and Dr. Gulliford and I want to make it an annual event.

Immediately following the Cedar Mesa trip, I met with our next group of intrepid Broad "river rats" for a float down the fabled Goosenecks of the San Juan River. This 5-day sojourn was also a

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Crawford Haworth plays piper in a side canyon of the San Juan River - Photo by Linda Liscom



Great Old Broads for Wilderness

PO Box 2924
Durango, CO 81302
970-385-9577
broads@greatoldbroads.org
www.greatoldbroads.org

Staff

Veronica Egan, *Executive Director*
Rose Chilcoat, *Associate Director*
Tim Peterson, *BHLP Director*
Suzanne Strazza, *Development Dir.*
Joyce Thomsen, *Membership Asst.*
Logan Morley, *BHLP Tech. Coord.*
Anne Benson, *Comm. Coord.*

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Great Old Broads for Wilderness is a non-profit, public lands organization that uses the voices and activism of elders to preserve and protect wilderness and wild lands. Broads was conceived in 1989 by older women who loved wilderness and organized to protect it. The wisdom of their combined years told them that the Broads could bring knowledge, commitment, and humor to the movement to protect our last wild places on earth.

Today, the Great Old Broads has over 3,500 active members. You do not have to be female, or old, or even great for that matter! to join—but you must be "bold" for wilderness. Please join us on the adventure. Wilderness needs your help!

Please credit Broads for any reprinted articles.

Partnerships

The BHLF staff forms partnerships with local groups and government agencies to train volunteers in BHLF data collection protocols. The staff develops GIS field maps, assists our partners with organizing and collecting data, and then provides data entry and display on the internet. The data can then be used by land management agencies to make informed decisions about managing public lands.

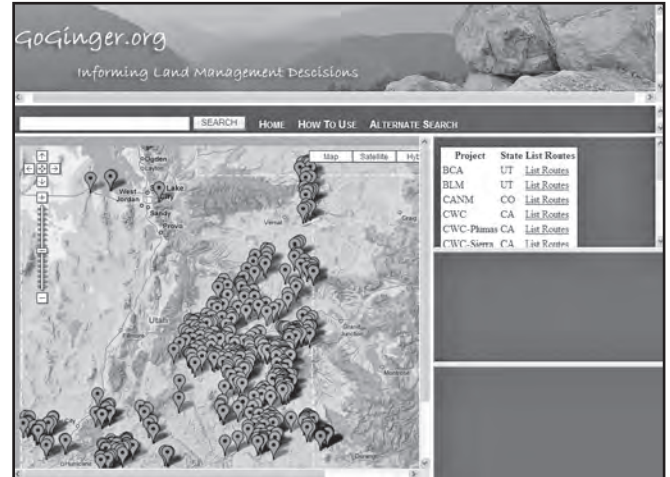
Almost immediately following the launch of the new web database interface, Broads began marketing BHLF to new partners. Efforts by Ronni Egan, our Executive Director, have led to a budding partnership in Northern New Mexico on the Santa Fe National Forest. Working with the New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, WildEarth Guardians, and the Friends of Glorieta Mesa, we will use BHLF to help hold travel planners accountable. Other new potential project partners include Friends of Nevada Wilderness, The Montana Quiet Use Coalition, Center for Biological Diversity, The Colorado Quiet Use Coalition, the Idaho Conservation League, and the Uinta Mountain Club. A partnership with Red Rock Forests has already produced positive change in Utah. (See sidebar on page 10.)

Ongoing Need for BHLF

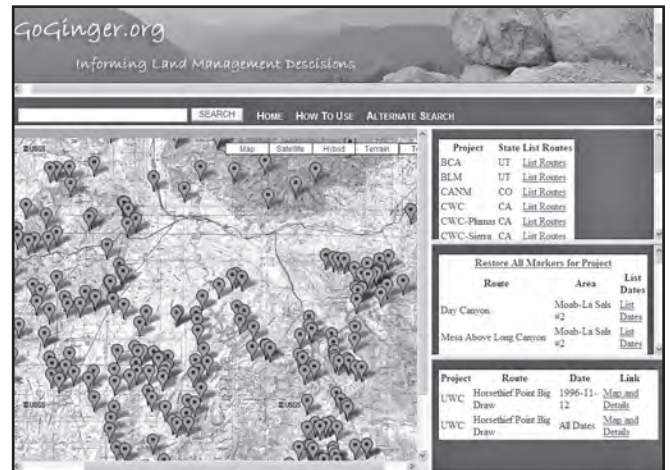
Irresponsible off-road vehicle (ORV) use continues to be a major problem on America's public lands. Due to the increasing popularity and improved technical capabilities of off-road vehicles, substantial damage to wild, fragile ecosystems is occurring daily. Conflicts between motorized and non-motorized users are increasing as once-quiet areas traditionally used by hikers and horsemen are now being penetrated by machines. Agencies that manage public lands all over the western U.S. are in the process of revising their travel plans, which gives us opportunity to provide current information on land health conditions.

Since these processes have historically favored ORV users, traditional non-motorized users have been overlooked, or do not see their involvement as critical to protecting clean air and water, wild places, and quiet recreation opportunities. BHLF and our partners have made it our responsibility to provide detailed information about land conditions and the effects of irresponsible off-road vehicle use to land managers so that they can make sound decisions about their management areas.

ORV management is a top priority for the federal land management agencies, but they lack monitoring programs and have not allocated sufficient resources to the collection of data on ORV use and impacts; data that is critical to making informed decisions about land management, particularly in regard to Travel Management and Resource Management Plans.



In the revised BHLF web interface, each balloon represents a location on which data has been collected.



Zooming in on the map reveals more detail for each separate location.



Clicking on a single balloon brings up a photo of the site, with date, parcel description, and narrative.

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BROAD IN THE BACKGROUND: 'PLANTED' IN THE SOUTHWEST

I read somewhere recently that to live life to the fullest, you need to pay attention – pay attention to your surroundings and pay attention to your personal leanings, your interests, your passions. Loraine Yeatts, a Great Old Broad from Golden, Colorado, is living fully. Loraine is a self-taught botanist and photographer who uses her skills and passions to inventory plant species and educate people on the flora of the southwest. Her love of photography led her to botany. “I found I was mostly taking photos of plants and realized that I should know more about them,” she said. Loraine began taking photographs at the young age of 8. “When I was 11,” she said, “my mother gave me a black and white film processing kit.” And she never looked back.

As a young woman, Loraine transplanted herself from Chicago to Tucson for graduate work in physics at the University of Arizona. She fell in love with the desert and with desert ecology. “We went to Canyonlands before it was a park,” she said. “I feel very fortunate to have had a lot of backcountry experience before it was overrun.” She and her husband, Dick, moved to Colorado in 1964 where he taught at the Colorado School of Mines and she found herself drawn to the Denver Botanic Gardens. She has volunteered in the Gardens’ Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium as a field botanist and taxonomist ever since.

In 1973, she and a group of women friends started a tradition that changed their lives. They began week-long forays into the backcountry of the southwest - on their own – with no male companions. Their fourth trip took them to Utah’s Cedar Mesa and Grand Gulch area. “That’s when we all became passionate about finding prehistoric archeological sites,” Loraine said. “We kept track of all



Fendlera Rupicola - Photo by Loraine Yeatts

the sites we found.” Two of their group became involved in archeology projects because of their experiences. “I was the map reader,” Loraine said. “Over the years, everybody got better at map reading but we did our explorations with no compass and no major disasters. We got into places that most women, at that time, wouldn’t have considered trying.” The group documented archeological sites and the flora of the Colorado Plateau and the deserts of the southwest.

Loraine turned her knowledge of plants and her extraordinary skill at photographing them into slide presentations to share with various plant organizations at many meetings and events. Several years ago, she took a show on tour to the British Isles. To view some of her flower photos, go to the Colorado Native Plant Society website www.conps.org/conps.html and click on one of her shows.

She still takes field trips into remote areas of the Southwest to search for interesting plants and is currently a Volunteer Steward for Colorado State Parks. Her task for

Parks is to document the conditions of the areas to which she is assigned. “I had planned to visit several areas last summer until I fell in love with the Gateway Palisades Natural Area,” she said. “To document the plants that grow there, some rare and unusual, required my full attention.” Apparently there’s enough diversity in the cliffs, slopes, and basin of the area to keep her busy for quite some time. Her survey documents are used by the Parks Department to track botanical trends and provide ammunition for land preservation.



Loraine - Photo courtesy of Loraine Yeatts

In 1994, she was included among a group of women who received gift memberships to Great Old Broads for Wilderness from Broad June Pausback. “I saw the name and thought, ‘Boy, is that ever me!’” By her own admission, Loraine isn’t much of an activist. “I’m not one to be out there on the front lines,” she said, “but I sure appreciate those who are, like Rosemary Kelley, a friend to whom I sent a gift membership.”

Loraine’s passions for photography, plants, and backcountry ecology and her attention to those things defined her life’s path as a natural historian and quiet advocate for the flora of the southwest.

- Anne Benson

BROAD SENSE *from page 2*

fund raiser, with a portion of the fare for each person donated to Great Old Broads by Wild Rivers Expeditions



Amy Irvine-McHarg reads for Broads in the Canyons of the San Juan - Photo by Linda Liscom

of Bluff, Utah. In four rafts and two “duckies,” we plied the swift but smooth San Juan, swollen with snowmelt from the San Juan Mountains back home. This was a fully outfitted trip, which was a first for this do-it-yourself boater. I found it quite easy to let our Wild Rivers crew load and unload the boats and cook, but I did have to take a couple of turns on the oars. As on the previous trip, the hikes were splendid and the company was superb.

The group was treated to several readings by Amy Irvine-McHarg, whose recently published book, *Trespass: Living at the Edge of the Promised Land*, is currently on the regional best seller list. It chronicles Amy’s experiences living in south-east Utah, as a non-practicing Mormon woman married to Herb McHarg, then an attorney for the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance. Suffice it to say that their social life was a bit “sketchy” at best.



Ginger Harmon and Linda Liscom chat during cocktail hour on the banks of the San Juan - Photo courtesy of Linda Liscom

Ginger Harmon joined us on this trip, too, as did her daughter Cristina. Linda Liscom and her amazing husband Ed Power (who still pilots his own airplane at age 85!) enjoyed all of the hikes into the exquisite side canyons. JoAnn Moon of Grand Junction spent hours photographing the landscapes and participants alike, and maintained her good humor even when one of her cameras fell in the river. Catherine Smith of Reno, Nevada, wore her safari hat everywhere, even swimming in the pools in Slickhorn Canyon! Former Broads Executive Director M.B. McAfee hiked and swam every day despite a painful back condition, proving that many Broads are still out there adventuring even when their joints ache or their steps may have slowed.



A Broadly calm moment on the San Juan - Photo by Linda Liscom



Pat Carden and JoAnn Moon enjoy the ride as Wild Rivers Expeditions’ Head Boatman, Liam, steers a Broad course on the San Juan - Photo by Linda Liscom

We are very grateful to Kristen McKinnon and the staff of Wild Rivers Expeditions for their generous support. Kristen has offered to do two trips benefiting Broads next year, and Amy is interested in

making one of them a writer’s workshop. Stay tuned for more details. These trips should fill fast!

Finally, I have just returned from our third fund-raising trip of the year, this one a 7-day canoe trip on the Green River near Moab, Utah, which former board member Marcey Olajos and I offered in the 2007 *Wild for Wilderness* Online Auction. We paddled our canoes through Stillwater Canyon, stopping to hike the many gorgeous side canyons and camp. Our hearty group of 16 had

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THE BROADER WILDERNESS MOVEMENT

Yellowstone Bison

Management Plan Severely

Flawed: Now's the time to weigh in with Congress on the future of a national treasure, the American bison. The Bison Management Plan stampered onto center stage recently as the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) released results of its investigation into the effectiveness of the plan and the agencies charged with its implementation.

The Buffalo Field

Campaign has documented the slaughter and harassment of bison as they migrate out of Yellowstone National Park and onto adjacent public lands in Montana and Wyoming. These states treat bison, not as wildlife, but as livestock!

Bison are removed from areas outside the park for the stated purpose of preventing transmission of brucellosis to cattle, something that has never been documented and cannot happen since bison are in the area only in the months when cattle are not.

The GAO report sharply criticized a slew of federal and state agencies behind the Interagency Bison Management Plan, the governing document responsible for the slaughter of over 3,300 wild American buffalo in and around Yellowstone National Park. House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Nick J. Rahall (D-WV) and Rep. Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) have criticized the bison plan as "plagued by deficiencies" and "severely limited" in its ability to protect Yellowstone's wild bison population and are calling for Congressional and public

oversight.

Buffalo Field Campaign, Great Old Broads for Wilderness, and others strongly oppose the Interagency Bison Management Plan and maintain that wild bison should be allowed to naturally and fully recover themselves throughout their historic native range, especially on public lands. More than 1,600 wild American



bison have been eliminated from the remaining wild population this winter

and spring under actions carried out through the Interagency Bison Management Plan (IBMP), as well as state and treaty hunts.

"The plan is failing to accomplish a critical objective, which is to maintain a wild, free-ranging population of bison," said Dan Brister, project director for Buffalo Field Campaign.

For more information see www.buffalofieldcampaign.org. Please contact your member of Congress and ask them to ensure real protection for America's iconic bison.

Utah County Gets

Lesson in Federal Law: In southern Utah, where local governments tend to thumb their noses at federal jurisdiction, Kane County had been posting county road signs on federal land in Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument and in other federally managed areas. U.S. District Judge Tena Campbell ruled that the placement of those signs violates the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution. According to an

article in the May 17 issue of the Salt Lake Tribune, she ordered the county to remove the signs. The Tribune quotes Judge Campbell's ruling: "By placing signs within the monument, the county has encouraged, sanctioned and facilitated public motor vehicle use of federal lands that [the Bureau of Land Management] officially closed to protect the monument's values . . . the county's signs create a direct conflict with federal land management directions, in violation of the Supremacy Clause."

Other areas affected by the ruling include the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, the Moquith Mountain Wilderness Study Area and the Paria Canyon-Vermillion Cliffs Wilderness Area.

For more information, go to www.wilderness.org/NewsRoom/Release/20080521b.cfm. To help monitor impacts of ORVs in Utah contact, BHELP Director Tim Peterson, tim@greatoldbroads.org or 970-385-9577.

Congress Holds Off-Road Vehicle Hearings: Helping

to underscore how an increasing number of powerful machines encroach ever farther into unsuitable territory on our public lands, both the National Parks, Forests and Public Lands Subcommittee of the House Natural Resources Committee and the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held hearings this spring in D.C.

Great Old Broads has, of course, been hard at work in the field of off-road vehicle management. Our Broads Healthy Lands Project is being used in several states by our partner organizations, to gather evidence of the impacts of motorized recreation.

Continued on next page

THE BROADER WILDERNESS MOVEMENT

Scott Miller, the committee staffer who organized the Senate oversight hearing, said the event helped inform senators about the debate. While there's no pending new legislation, "The popularity of ORVs on public lands has grown dramatically," Miller told The Associated Press. "As a result, the management challenges have grown dramatically as well. We're trying to get our members to better understand our issues."

It's taken awhile to convince Congress of the magnitude of the problem. Nada Culver, the Wilderness Society's top lawyer said that travel planning by the Forest Service and the Federal BLM so far has designated thousands of miles of open trails that crisscross the West - sometimes without regard to whether they were created illegally or could do irreparable harm to natural and archaeological resources.

Broads is delighted that this issue is finally getting attention at the federal level. We hope that these hearings will result in increased funding for enforcement and restoration, plus a clear mandate from Washington to the agencies to improve their management of ORVs.

Legal action against

USFS Fees: Two class action suits that were filed in late May in Tucson and Denver allege that the U.S. Forest Service is exceeding the scope of its legal authority by charging fees that violate several provisions of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA). The fee programs are at Mt. Lemmon on the Coronado NF near Tucson, and Mt. Evans on the Arapaho NF west of Denver.

The FLREA, known to its opponents as the Recreation Access Tax, or RAT, prohibits the Forest Service from charging fees for parking, undeveloped camping, scenic overlooks, hiking, horseback riding, or driving through National Forest land without using any facilities or services.

The Coronado NF currently charges a \$5 fee for all activities except stopping at developed scenic overlooks or non-stop travel to private property. The fee applies

even to those who merely park at an undeveloped trailhead to hike.

Western Slope No-Fee Coalition President Kitty Benzar applauded the plaintiffs. "It's not quick, easy, or cheap to stand up for your rights in court," she said. "But this is the only way to establish once and for all that Congress never intended for every person who visits public lands to have to pay."

For more information, go to www.westernslopenofee.org/.



Broads gathered at the proposed Wild Sky Wilderness for a Broadwalk in the summer of 2005.

Wild Sky Wilderness - Now a Reality

After nearly a decade of attempts to gain approval for the Wild Sky Wilderness in the Cascade Mountains, the U.S. Senate voted 91-4 in favor of designating more than 106,000 acres in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest in Washington State as Wilderness with a capital 'W.'

The bill subsequently passed through the House and was signed by the President.

Broads from across the country met in Index, Washington in July 2005 for our Wild Sky Broadwalk to learn about the area and add our voices to the call for wilderness designation. It does a heart good to know that less than three years later, we're able to put another 'W' on our score sheet.

Dedication ceremonies were held along the Skykomish River on Friday, May 30, 2008.

NEVADA BROADWALK: A BROAD VIEW O

by Ann Ronald

Imagine red striated sandstone swirling up from a dusty desert floor. Imagine an arched alcove, semi-sealed more than half a century ago by an energetic CCC* spur group bent on constructing civilization in distant places. Imagine rock art, older still, labyrinths and mazes and rollicking bighorn sheep pecked into nearby varnished walls. Imagine a dozen women clamoring to the top of the tallest rock in Whitney Pockets, sitting together in early morning sunlight, toasting the coming day with coffee cups held high. Imagine a dozen more women sitting below on canvas chairs, munching their granola and guiltily swallowing bites of chocolate donuts, waving to their more adventurous companions on high. Imagine yourself in either group, part of the April 10-14 Gold Butte Broadwalk and just plain happy to be in undeveloped desert country again, country that desperately needs to be preserved for future generations to enjoy.

We arrived on Thursday, set up camp, gathered for happy hour and dinner, then listened to our leaders, Ronni Egan and Rose Chilcoat, describe first a Great Old Broads for Wilderness agenda and then the days ahead. Next morning, Gayle Marrs-Smith, a botanist from the Las Vegas BLM and point person for resource management



Gold Butte photo by Jim Case

in this fragile area, told us more about our surroundings. Approximately 350,000 acres, divided into eight ACECs (Areas of Critical Environmental Concern), comprise this portion of Nevada. Located southeast of Las Vegas and extend-



Las Vegas BLM botanist, Gayle Marrs-Smith, enlightens Broadwalkers on the natural and political history of Gold Butte, NV - Photo by Jim Case

ing south of Interstate 15 down to the shriveled shores of Lake Mead, the terrain encompasses the Virgin Mountains, endangered desert tortoise habitat, a host of rare plants, plus geological and scenic wonders.

While ORVs and ATVs rumbled in the distance, Gayle explained the many Gold Butte projects, the different short-term and long-term ecological and cultural preservation strategies already underway. With growing southern Nevada and Utah populations and with increased motorized vehicle incursions, protecting the landscape—

particularly one as wide-spread and diverse as Gold Butte—is not an easy task. Gayle recently has logged 57 reports of cultural damage to native sites. Without additional staff, patrolling such treasures is practi-

cally impossible. Wild fires in 2004 and 2005 destroyed nearly 75,000 acres of mesquite, Joshua Trees, and grasses both native and invasive. Fencing, reseeding, planting and the herbicide treatment of red brome are already bringing the vegetation back to life, although trespass cows—we later saw a handful, and chased them as best we could—interfere with the restoration process. Nearly 10 percent of Gold Butte roads have been decommissioned, and the area effectively is closed to further mineral exploration. The town of Gold Butte, scene of a boom-and-bust gold rush a hundred years ago, has long



Gold Butte photo by Jim Case

OF GOLD BUTTE AND WHITNEY POCKETS

since disappeared, though a bit of rusted machinery and a couple of old foundations remain.

Gayle also predicted that someday our current campsite, in the red rock area known as Whitney Pockets, will become an established campground, with fencing, trash receptacles, designated campsites, fire pits, toilets, and, inevitably, fees. Looking around as she spoke, we could see the dust and old campfire ashes that come from too many rampant vehicles and too many unfettered campers. It clearly is time for the Great Old Broads to take a hand in helping the BLM and other southern Nevada wilderness interest groups like the Friends of Nevada Wilderness, the Sierra Club's California/Nevada Wilderness Committee, and the Nevada Archaeological Association, preserve this delicate terrain for future generations. One Old Broad from Texas said it succinctly: "We're the voice of the unborn."

Our time at Gold Butte was spent in learning to know the area better, and also in helping out as best we could. After listening to Gayle on Friday, we split into groups

and went hiking—some to explore the nearby rock art, others to look at native sites farther away, still others to traverse the narrows of Mud Wash. On Sunday many of

us returned to the ancient cultural petroglyphs, while others tried to bag the tallest Virgin Peak. In between, on Saturday, led by Wilderness Ranger Kevin Routsong, we worked side-by-side with BLM officials, signing the Lime Canyon Wilderness Area and the Gold Butte Scenic Byway in an effort to direct drivers toward appropriate behavior. Substantial wilderness area signs we set in concrete; smaller signs we placed at intervals along the main road and alongside the disturbed desert.

When we broke camp on Monday morning, we knew a lot more than when we started and every one of us was eager to do her best to sustain the work already done. Gold Butte is a special place of serenity and solitude. It deserves Broad support, very broad support.

Imagine visiting here at the height of wildflower season, creosote bushes redolent with yellow blossoms, purple prickly pear bursting into bloom, orange mallow waving in the wind, even sacred datura peeping out at night. Imagine Devil's Throat, an enormous sinkhole spreading wider and deeper every day. Imagine more

red sandstone, with a distant view of snow-capped Mount Charleston to the west, sea-blue Lake Mead to the south, and the rocky spine of the Virgin Range to the north. Imagine the voices of Idaho and Colorado

and Utah, of Houston and Los Angeles and San Francisco, laughing together for hours on end. Imagine the silence of that landscape, unable to speak for itself, once we're gone. Gold Butte needs our voices, Broad voices, to supplement its protection and preservation. An April Broadwalk was only the beginning.



Broads help BLM install signs for the Lime Canyon Wilderness Area - Photos by Jim Case

Please add your voice to the call for stronger protection for Gold Butte area by designating more wilderness and establishing a National Conservation Area. Write to the Nevada Congressional delegation and to Las Vegas newspapers.

Go to www.wildnevada.org/content/view/102/87/ for congressional contacts and to www.wildnevada.org/content/view/133/17/ for more information about Gold Butte.

** The Civilian Conservation Corps was a federal work program of the 1930s and early 40s.*



Broads' Recapture Utah! campaign provides an example of the need for BHLP and the information that we offer. Beginning in the fall of 2006, we were alerted to illegal all-terrain vehicle (ATV) route construction in Recapture and Jenny Canyons, a biologically and archaeologically rich canyon system just outside of Blanding in San Juan County, Utah. Broads staff members performed the initial BHLP monitoring of the illegally constructed ATV route in the canyon in November of 2006. A little investigation led to the discovery of a host of illicit activities we believe had been conducted by the local ATV club, San Juan Entry and Access Rights (SPEAR), with the apparent encouragement of the San Juan County government. The illicit activities were found to be occurring throughout the county, without proper public notice or public participation.

In response, BHLP conducted a monitoring event near Comb Ridge in April of 2007 that involved more than 20 volunteers who gathered data on unauthorized ATV route construction and reconstruction. Cause for outrage was the recognition that many of these route construction projects were subsidized by San Juan County since a County employee used a County "trail cat" to bulldoze trails through public land.

Following up on the success of our 2007 Recapture Utah! monitoring event in Arch Canyon, we held another monitoring event in the Indian Creek area near the Needles District of Canyonlands National Park in late April 2008. This event gathered data on additional locations where the ATV club and

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Broads' partnership with Red Rock Forests in Utah is a great example of how BHLP can be used to gather and process quality information and data that is pertinent to our public lands management agencies. Terry Shepherd, the Executive Director of Red Rock Forests, has been able to develop strong relationships with the Forest Service staff, in part, by offering qualitative data for on-the-ground conditions in the Forests that they manage.

RED ROCK FORESTS PARTNERS WITH BHLP

by Terry Shepherd, Executive Director Red Rock Forests

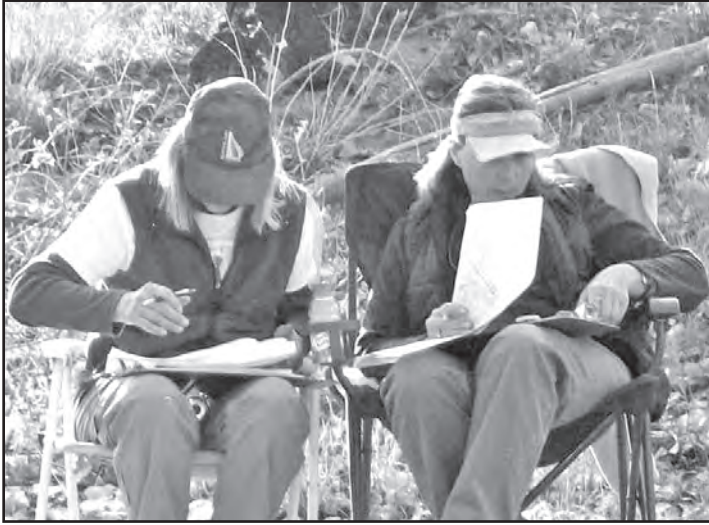
In 2007, Red Rock Forests partnered with Great Old Broads for Wilderness to conduct the first year of our Abajos Route and Dispersed Campsite Inventory. We sent one person into the field for 3 months and she was amazingly productive using Broads Healthy Lands Project (BHLP) monitoring protocol. In that time span, she surveyed 193 routes for a total of 485.5 miles. The sad note here, of course, is that this covered an area of only 100 square miles - which means the density of routes is well beyond what is feasible for the Forest Service to manage, let alone what is appropriate for maintaining the ecological integrity of the area.



This first year of Red Rock Forests' 3-year effort also opened up a new paradigm for our working relationship with the U.S. Forest Service. We have, in essence, become partners in this inventory process and in on-the-ground rehabilitation projects that we've undertaken because of the inventory data. In addition, we are collecting dispersed campsite data, which is data that the agency is mandated to have. We are, in essence, providing information that the Forest Service is not able to produce itself due to lack of funding or resources. We have established great working relationships with the Forest Service Recreation/Wilderness Lead for the Moab/Monticello Ranger District and his field crew. So, as often as we are critics of some of the work done in the extractive side of public land management, we are also partners in creating a better future for our forests.

Recently, we met with the new Forest Supervisor for the Manti-La Sal National Forest to give him an overview of our partnership with Great Old Broads and the results we found in our first inventory year. His strong written and verbal support of our work has led the National Forest Foundation to provide funding for our second year of field and database work. By the end of 2009, our goal is to have the entire Abajos surveyed and a complete analysis that we will present to the agency for determining travel management priorities on the Monticello Ranger District. Visit Redrock Forests at www.redrockforests.org.

BROADS HEALTHY LANDS PROJECT *from page 10*



Marilyn Price-Rheinbolt and Karen Ryman study their notes and maps after a day of monitoring at Indian Creek.

County seek to construct new routes in sensitive and traditionally non-motorized areas. While the ATV damage we found was shocking in some front country areas, there was little or no evidence of use in other areas where we fully expected to find abuse.

Our work in San Juan County on the Recapture Utah! campaign has led to many successes; perhaps the greatest of which is that the lo-

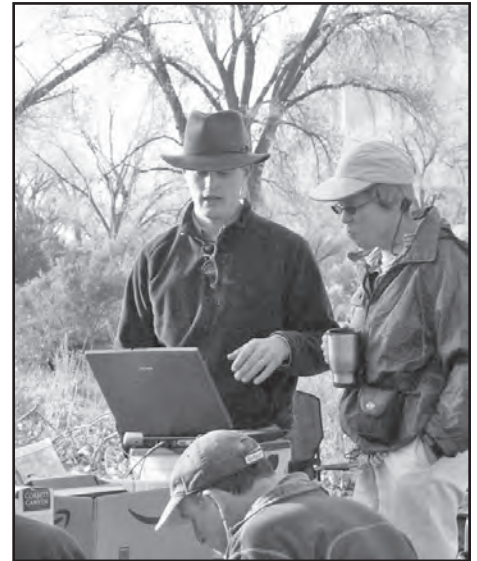
cal ATV club has backed off their aggressive route construction frenzy. We discovered little unauthorized construction during our spring monitoring efforts this year, while last year we found unauthorized trail cat use in many locations. The club has toned down their

superheated rhetoric as well – Great Old Broads even received a non-slanderous mention in SPEAR’s fall 2007 newsletter! The mention related to a field trip on which SPEAR members, the BLM, and Ronni visited the now-closed Recapture Canyon.

BHLP’s Broader Vision

BHLP has trained more than 100 volunteers in our unique monitoring protocol. We have big plans for ex-

pansion to all 11 western states plus Alaska by March 2009, and then to the Midwest and Southeast. Since the web interface of the database is currently password-protected to prevent malicious mischief, please contact BHLP Director Tim Peterson at tim@greatoldbroads.org, or (970) 385-9577 if you are interested in starting a project in your area.



Logan Morley, BHL Technologies Coordinator, trains volunteers to use the BHL program. Ginny Carlson looks on. Joe Rook is in the foreground.

BROAD IN DC FOR GRASS ROOTS ADVOCACY

Montana Great Old Broad Carolyn Hopper joined a group from the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) in Washington, DC, for some political action during Wilderness Week 2008.

by Carolyn Hopper

The tender green shoots of Spring were just beginning to emerge as both new and some seasoned grass roots advocates from all over the country converged on Washington DC during Wilderness Week in March. Our mission? To ask Representatives and Senators – or their Legislative Assistants and Directors – to hold the line in the public land of red rock wilderness country, Utah. This is land the

BLM has identified as having wilderness character – land that looks more like nature has been managing it than people. We asked our elected representatives to sign a letter that will help protect 2.8 million acres of wilderness-character land from the addition of 1,000 miles of new roads until America’s Red Rock Wilderness Act can be passed.

As a new Grass Root Activist on her first visit to the marble halls

of Congress as a lobbyist, I was equipped with a day of training, pages of information and good walking shoes. It was our hope that those we visited would sign the letter whether or not they were a co-sponsor of America’s Red Rock Wilderness Act. We hoped to protect public land that is currently under the threat of worsening renegade off-road vehicle travel and rampant energy development that deadens the land

Continued on page 15

CONSIDER AN ESTATE GIFT TO BROADS: A LETTER FROM A LONG-TIME BRO

May 26, 2008

Dear Broads Member,

My friends at Great Old Broads for Wilderness asked me to write this letter—not because I'm a financial planner or estate attorney—but because I'm a typical Broads member who cares about the future of America's roadless public lands.

My wife MB and I have been Broads members for years. MB served on their Board of Directors, then was the Executive Director for two years. We know their work, their mission, and the people who make it happen. We remain as members, supporters, and admirers of Great Old Broads for Wilderness.

I want to tell you about some of the lesser-known ways in which you can support Broads and their work. While we all know the importance of sending in our annual dues and donations, many of us aren't familiar with some of the other giving options that can benefit us and our families, while helping Broads in their efforts to preserve America's remaining wild places. These options include naming Broads in your will, retirement plan, or life insurance, establishing a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder unitrust, or making a gift of real estate or highly-appreciated stock.

Broads' work is national in scope. The places that MB and I love most are the canyon country and mountains of Colorado and Utah. We celebrate memories of trips down into the Coyote and Escalante drainages of Utah where our daughters and we constructed sand castles, drank the clear water dripping from the fern-

covered canyon walls, and relished the shade, streams, and canyon wrens of the grottos. When we discovered Broads, we knew that we had found an organization that was essential to us—a group of individuals who are dedicated to preserving this country that is a piece of our soul connection to The Land.

We have gotten to know Broads over time, and more importantly, to know the Broads people. We believe in them; we love what they do and what they stand for, and we support them. Their work assures our daughters of having places of solitude and beauty forever.

Several years ago MB and I began our retirement planning. We discovered a perfect way to meet our financial needs and to make an important and lasting gift to Broads. We used highly-appreciated stock to fund a Charitable Remainder Unitrust, named Broads as a beneficiary, and encouraged our daughters to purchase last-survivor life insurance policies on our lives to replace the portion of our estate that we placed into the CRUT. The result is that we derive income from the CRUT during our lifetimes, Broads will receive assets from the CRUT and our daughters will receive the proceeds from the life insurance policies they own.

There are a number of methods that you can consider that will optimize your estate planning and help provide financial security and stability for Broads. I strongly urge you to include Broads in your



planning. People of all means, from all walks of life, can make this type of long-term commitment to Broads and to the future of America's roadless wilderness. It's easy to do—start with your financial planner—and may result in significant tax relief for you, income as you need it, and a very important long-term benefit for Broads.

Choosing among the various long-term gifting alternatives will assure that your thoughtful decisions will determine how the financial results of your life work will provide a lasting legacy for America's roadless country; to not choose assures that state and federal tax laws will help make the determinations for you as to how your estate is distributed.

If you have questions about Broads or would like more information about making a planned gift, contact Broads' Development Director Suzanne Strazza in the Broads' office in Durango at 970-385-9577, Suzanne@greatoldbroads.org.

Sincerely,
Chuck McAfee
Lewis, Colorado

HELP BROADS RECAPTURE UTAH! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FOR NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY – SEPTEMBER 27 AND/OR 28, 2008

Mark your calendar and plan to join Broads, Red Rock Forests and other volunteers along with the federal land managing agencies of San Juan County, Utah to complete several projects that will restore and protect the land from off-road vehicle abuses. Plans are being finalized but projects may include:

Manti-La Sal National Forest – an overnight backpack to the upper end of Arch Canyon where ORVs are entering an area closed to motorized use. We'll install fencing, barricades, and signs and restore damaged land.

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area – an easy to access area near Hite Marina called Farley Canyon was trashed by dirt bikes over Memorial Day weekend. We'll rake tracks to deter more abuse.

Monticello Field Office, BLM – a weekend of work awaits us on Cedar Mesa and near Comb Ridge. We'll post as closed "woodcutter created" roads that are incursions into Wilderness Study Areas and restore some damage. We'll also help fence out ORVs from impacting archaeological sites.

For more information check the National Public Lands Day website at www.publiclands.org. You may contact the agency project liaison to get more info but please let us know if you plan to join the effort and which project interests you. Call 970-385-9577 or e-mail membership@greatoldbroads.org to register. Everyone will need to be self-contained for camping in remote locations and have plenty of food and water. We can help with carools.

THIS SHOULD BE HARD WORK BUT VERY REWARDING AND FUN!

— THROUGH THE CANYONS WITH RONNI *from page 5* —

two fine sunny days at the beginning of the trip, but the weather soon turned to clouds and occasional showers for the rest of the week. Being stalwart Broads, however, we hiked the canyons and viewed lots of rock art and prehistoric ruins regardless of the weather. The river was flowing very fast due to the exceptional snow pack in the Colorado mountains, which allowed us plenty of shore time. I am very proud of the way even the least experienced paddlers in the group rose to the challenges of the swift current, and extremely grateful for the help of the veteran river-rats on the trip. Pokey and Nancy Blackadder of Seattle, Cristina Har-

mon of Steamboat Springs, Colorado, and of course, Marcey, were indispensable in keeping everything "flowing smoothly." We plan to offer another canoe trip in this year's auction, so be sure to check it out in October.

Lest you think that I spend all of my time playing in the desert and on the rivers, let me assure you that these trips have raised close to \$20,000 dollars for Great Old Broads, and are an important part not only of our income, but also as a way

to bring our members together for fun and to experience some of the wonderful wild places that we work to preserve. Our members' support enables us to offer these outings, but they are "vacations with a mission."

Since my background was in guiding and outdoor education before I came to Broads, leading these trips is not only a way for me to serve the organization, but it just "comes naturally." I feel very privileged to be able to spend time with so many of our terrific members, in so many wild and beautiful places, and contribute to our "bottom line" at the same time!

I hope you'll consider participating in one of our 2009 excursions, or perhaps give someone else a spot on one of them. Please watch our website, the 4th Annual *Wild for Wilderness* Online Auction in October, and future issues of Broadsides for trip details and dates.

I hope to see you on the trail or on a river!



Left - Cedar Mesa cliff dwellings look down on Sue Graf, Andrew Gulliford, and Ginger Harmon. Right - On the same trip, Linda Liscom examines eye-level pictographs - Photos by Ed Power

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Spring Basin, OR Broadwalk

Date: Sept. 18-22, 2008

Location: Near Clarno, OR

Cost: \$165 - includes camping first night, lodging at the Hancock Field Station the next 3 nights and all meals Thu. dinner thru Mon. breakfast

Join us for our first ever Oregon Broadwalk. Located in the high desert of central Oregon, the Spring Basin proposed wilderness encompasses rolling hills of sagebrush and dramatic rock spires where you'll find sensitive archaeological sites and endangered plants and animals.

Local landowners, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, and Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) have worked together to develop a Wilderness proposal that could permanently protect Spring Basin.

Our base for most of the weekend is the Hancock Field Station, a rustic facility run by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) with "cabins" (provide your own bedding), showers, and a dining hall.

We gather Thursday afternoon. Friday, we'll hike in Spring Basin Wilderness Study Area (WSA) with a range of options of difficulty/length. That evening ONDA staff will tell us about area wilderness and conservation issues. Saturday we'll have a work day pulling fence between Pine Creek and Spring Basin WSA. Regional and national wilderness issues will be our evening topics. Sunday we'll hike and explore and learn about the area some more. Watch the website for more details. Come join the fun!

Information about the Field Station including weather, cabins, restrooms,

HELP Broads Recapture Utah!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED National Public Lands Day – Sept. 27 and/or 28, 2008

Contact Rose@greatoldbroads.org
or 970-385-9577

and the dining hall is at www.oms.org/education/oss/pdf/OMSICamps.pdf. For more information about Spring Basin visit <http://onda.org/defending-desert-wilderness/spring-basin-proposed-wilderness>.

To sign up for the Spring Basin Broadwalk, send full payment by August 15 to Great Old Broads for Wilderness, PO Box 2924, Durango, CO 81302. For more information, contact Rose at 970-385-9577 or membership@greatoldbroads.org.

Inaugural Broads Boot Camp

Date: Late October 2008

Location: Durango, Colorado

Boot Camp is Broads' solution to strengthening our existing Broadbands (our version of local chapters) and supporting the development of new ones! A select group of potential Broadband leaders will gather for intensive training in leadership, community outreach and organizing, understanding the legislative process, member communications, interfacing with other organizations and local land managers, media relations, messaging, and to provide ideas for local projects and events so the group and individuals can become more influential advocates for wilderness related issues. The

training will be a two full day, three evening, working weekend, where our potential leaders will be taught the nuts and bolts of successful, grassroots volunteer organization and leadership, emerging fully equipped to put vision into action in their own communities across the country.

Enrollment is limited to 20 committed Broadband leaders.

Watch for more information.

Interested? Contact Rose@greatoldbroads.org

4th Annual Wild for Wilderness Online Auction

Donations Happily Accepted

Date: Oct. 27-Nov. 16, 2008

Auction Location: <http://auction.greatoldbroads.org/>

Donation Location: www.greatoldbroads.org/nadf.php

Our fourth annual *Wild for Wilderness Online Auction* fund raiser promises to be even better this year. With donations of outdoor clothing and gear, homestay vacation getaways, books, video, music, and outdoor adventures already lined up, this auction is the perfect opportunity to make shopping both easy and meaningful. Remember, 100% of the proceeds is used to support Great Old Broads' important wilderness advocacy work.

To donate an item(s) for our auction, e-mail anne@greatoldbroads.org or visit our online donation page, noted above. Corporate sponsors as well as donations of adventure trips, outdoor gear, vacation stays, restaurant meals, and more are needed.

BROAD IN DC FOR WILDERNESS WEEK *from page 11*

for miles and where many cultural resources are endangered by vandals and thieves.

The days of throwing a monkey wrench into the cogs of well-oiled machines of corporations are, or possibly should be, over. However, we can still throw a metaphorical monkey wrench into corporate plans that crush our public natural areas. I believe that all of us who can, must write to the media and our legislators to tell them we don't want our wilderness to be destroyed; and it's not just about our own restoration or renewal. Let's pick up the torch left by Edward Abbey or Wallace Stegner and others.

The echo of a red tailed hawk off a red rock wall that is on fire from a sunset, the red flame of a claret cup cactus, the slow milky flow of the Paria River, or slick rock and canyons of Chinle and Entrada sandstone could be devastated beyond restoration in years to come. I believe we are picking the pockets of wilderness without the ability

to repay at a later date - picking pockets already depleted by bad conservation decisions going back many years.

I left Washington after 4 days, seasoned but not discouraged, and with hope and the knowledge that a citizen of our country can go to our nation's capital, and speak with a representative from his or her state or another state. For the most part, each of us was treated with courtesy and respect. It is unfortunate that the constituents from Utah, the state where public lands need the most urgent protection, were the least well treated by their own delegation. Knee-jerk opposition still appears to be the preferred method of dealing with a discussion about the protection of the fragile ecology of this arid region.

Plants, animals, rivers, rocks, cultural resources, birds, insects, and butterflies do not know state borders. It is not only our representatives in our nation's capital that need to have vision for the West, need to see that



we are all connected in special ways by wind, water, and air. We all need to have a better vision for what we have; what we can leave for future generations. We on the ground know that many challenges face us every day. From debates on the value of a wolf or bison to our "need" for oil, we can show others in creative ways what we have to gain by keeping a few acres here and there wild. Will we all be able to experience every square acre? No. Is it still important that it is there? Yes. Even if all we can do when we grow old is to drive to the edge of it and stare in.

GIVE A GIFT THAT GIVES ALL YEAR LONG!

Join our Sustaining Member program and provide critical support for our work all year long. Giving on a monthly basis provides reliable funding so that we can focus our energy and resources on the many wilderness issues at hand. It also saves us money and resources. It's easy and secure—you can sign-up for credit card payments or bank withdrawals. Give Broads the greatest gift you can—your ongoing support. As our thanks for becoming a Sustaining Member, you may receive a Broads Coffee Mug! Yes, please send me my Broads mug!

Yes, I want to help! Here's my commitment to a **MONTHLY** gift:

\$100 \$50 \$30 \$15 \$10 (minimum) Other _____

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____
 Email _____ Zip _____

Select payment method: Credit Card Auto Bank Withdrawal (attach a voided check)

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Signature: _____

I authorize Broads to deduct automatic payments from my account on the 20th day of each month. I understand I may cancel at any time with 30 days written notice.

Mail form with voided check to: Great Old Broads for Wilderness * PO Box 2924 * Durango, CO 81302

Join the Great Old Broads Today!

- Basic Broad \$35
 Rockin' Broad \$50+
 Wild Broad \$75+
 Outrageous Broad \$100+
 Budget Broad \$34 or less
 Other \$ _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

City, State _____ Email _____



Ridge walker at Gold Butte, NV - photo by Jim Case

Broads Paraphernalia

Give a ONE-YEAR GIFT MEMBERSHIP to a Broad-minded friend!
 Enclose additional dues for this membership.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail (please include) _____

**We will include a note that the gift membership is from you.*

- Please do not share my info with like-minded organizations.
 Save paper and postage, no receipt is necessary.

Please return with payment to:
Great Old Broads for Wilderness
PO Box 2924, Durango, CO 81302

Item	Size	Cost	Quantity
Broads Tee (natural-runs large)	S,M,L,XL	\$17	
Long Sleeve Tee (natural)	S,M,L,XL	\$22	
Scoop-neck Tee (white)	S,M,L,XL	\$17	
Slim Fit Sage Tee	M,L,XL	\$17	
Button or sticker (circle)		\$1.50	
Coffee Mug		\$17	
Canvas Tote		\$17	
Dung to Dust Booklet		\$5	

Ship merchandise to: Me Gift member

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

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