



GREAT OLD BROADS FOR WILDERNESS

Preserving Wilderness
for Future Generations

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**WILD FOR
WILDERNESS**
**ON-LINE AUCTION
STARTS OCT. 31**
PAGE 15

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT OLD BROADS FOR WILDERNESS BROADSIDES

21ST CENTURY ROBBER BARONS, HMMMM ...

by Ronni Egan

In 1969, two seminal events occurred; the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland caught fire and Union Oil Platform A blew out in the Santa Barbara Channel. Since then, Americans have benefited from the passage of landmark federal laws such as the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act and, of course, the Wilderness Act. While these laws have not resulted in wholesale restoration of our American environment, many waterways like the Cuyahoga have come back to life, logging practices have been improved, our air in many places has been cleaned up and millions of acres of wilderness and roadless public lands have been protected from heedless exploitation. Every one of these achievements has come about because of millions of hours of volunteer effort and the education of legislators and the public.

Enter now the Tea Party and its pet representatives. With their unrelenting distaste for "big government" (or any government) and distrust (or willful ignorance) of science they have shanghaied even more moderate conservatives

into their scheme of dismantling those hard-won laws and handing the fate of our common legacy of a livable planet over to private enterprise. (The Supreme Court, in its 2010 Citizens United decision even opined that corporations are people and their money equals free speech, but that's another column.)

At the turn of the 20th Century, we had "robber barons" who gobbled our natural resource heritage as if it were their private storeroom and it took the aforementioned laws enacted in mid-century to rein in the worst of their abuses and protect the public trust. If the Tea Party types have their way, we're headed right back to that ruinous age in the



On Dec. 22, 2008, a coal ash retaining pond burst at a coal-burning Tennessee Valley Authority power plant at Kingston, Tenn. The New York Times reported that it was one of the worst environmental disasters of its kind in U.S. history. Photo courtesy of SouthWings.

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If there's one thing I've learned in my decades of environmental activism it's that "they" only have to win once, while "we" have to fight the same battle over and over again.

The pressures of supply and demand dictate that we open up more and more remote places to resource extraction. Think: the Beaufort Sea for oil, bottom trawling for dwindling fish stocks, or Colorado and Utah wild redrock deserts for oil shale.

Natural resources we've taken for granted are becoming scarcer, so society demands that we open protected places to roads, pipelines, energy transmission corridors, and industrial scale development.

The environmental community has long been accustomed to firing off letters and comments to land managers and legislators, participating in collaborative planning efforts, and when necessary, litigating to try to influence management decisions. But recently, with the election of increasingly conservative representatives and with the corporation-friendly Supreme Court decisions, the fight to maintain protections on our remaining wild lands has escalated to new levels.

You have, no doubt, noticed an increase in the frequency and urgency of communications from the conservation groups that you support. We are asking you not only for your continued financial support, but for your participation as well. Those of you who have access to the internet are often asked to perform "point-and-click activism" - a term coined by climate-change activist Tim De Christopher (Bidder 70). Those of us who witnessed the civil rights



IN A BROAD SENSE

Do Something!

movement, the National Guard firing on students at Kent State, and the 1968 Democratic Convention recognize that "point-and-click" is certainly a more convenient and comfortable way to express one's views. But it isn't going to be enough to slow the twin juggernauts of corporate greed and unbridled consumerism.

Great Old Broads for Wilderness is one of the few environmental organizations that actually gets people out on the ground, whether it's protesting the giant mega-loads in Montana and Idaho destined for the Alberta

Tar Sands fields (Palouse Broadband, ID,) guarding nesting shorebirds (Florida Broadband), or attending travel planning meetings (4 Corners, Grand Junction, CO, and Moab, UT Broadbands), Broads aren't shy about their passion for healthy wild landscapes.

At the moment, our top priorities are to encourage, mentor, and provide resources to those of you who need a little more support to actively engage in the current struggle to protect America's wild lands. In my travels around the country, I am often told, "Oh we LOVE the Great Old Broads! You do such good work!" Our image of wisdom, determination, and humor is unique and we know how to use it!

I'm making an unapologetic plea to you right now. No matter where you live, there is at least one vital issue that needs your attention.

- Write a letter to President Obama. Tell him how disappointed you are in his bad Clean Air Act decision to delay enforcing emissions standards, or asking

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Great Old Broads for Wilderness is a national, non-profit organization that uses the voices and activism of elders to preserve and protect wilderness and wild lands.

Conceived by older women who love wilderness, Broads gives voice to the millions of older Americans who want to protect their public lands as Wilderness for this and future generations. We bring voice, knowledge, commitment, and humor to the movement to protect our last wild places on earth.

Today, the Great Old Broads for Wilderness has more than 4,500 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.

SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS BROADWALK

by Anne Benson

Spectacular vistas, carpets of wildflowers, stimulating history, training in wildlife monitoring, Broad camaraderie, and, of course, lessons in and opportunity for being activists for wilderness – the San Juan Mountains Broadwalk, held at the end of July, drew 40 Broad-thinking women and men together for four days devoted to the preservation of this amazing wild land.

With views of craggy mountain peaks nearly 360 degrees from any location, fields of wildflowers, and cleansing rains that come on as quickly as they leave, you'd be hard-pressed to find more spectacular terrain for hiking, camping, and studying than the San Juan Mountains around Ridgway, Ouray, and Telluride, Colorado.

Along with delectable food provided by The Secret Garden, out of Ouray, we feasted on local expertise the entire weekend. Our first evening, Kelvin Kent, author of several area hiking guides, primed us with a slide show tour of this amazing landscape. Jim Stephenson, local advocate for wilderness expansions talked of his experiences at happy hour and led a moderate hike. Karen Risch of the Ouray Trails Group led a group to an historic mining cabin. Candice Carson led a less strenuous wildflower walk. Holly Rankin did a great explore/tour of several high elevation wilderness additions near Telluride. And Jen and Randy Parker led a more ambitious hike into fabulous mountain cirques festooned with wildflowers and waterfalls.

Treks into the human history of the area brought us together with Bob Risch, Mayor of Ouray and also Chair of the Red Mountain Project Task Force. Bob recounted the history of the project that has gained public ownership of 9,000 acres of mining claims.

Sue Gunckel, a first-time Broadwalker, said it this way:

"Hope. That's what we got from Bob Risch. Bob met our big group of Broads and Bros at the overlook to the Idarado Mine near Red Mountain Pass. The task force obtained grant money and donations to acquire old mining claims to return them to public ownership and take them out of the hands of private developers. We learned that the fight is not over. Frank Baumgartner, owner of Red Mountain itself, still envisions it as a hillside covered with private homes. But, the successes of the Red Mountain Project give me hope that persistence – a prime characteristic of all Great Old Broads and Bros – will win protection for wild places.

Bob, along with Dr. Andrew Gulliford (Fort Lewis College professor in the Department of Southwest Studies), then guided part of the group through the Idarado Mine area and town site giving us lots of historical insights. We gazed into the depths of the few vertical mines (most were horizontal and honeycomb under much of the mountain terrain nearby) and gingerly explored the buildings that have been stabilized – attracting tourists rather than miners, which is a much more sustainable economic base for the area. It was heartening to learn that tourism, as an economic base, is starting to make sense to politicians in the counties encompassing the San Juan Mountain territory. Again HOPE!"

A highlight for some was working with Whitney Gaskill, an Americorps volunteer with the Mountain Studies



Broads documented their pika monitoring efforts during the San Juan Mountains Broadwalk, held near Ridgway, Colorado, in July - photo by Laurie Parkinson.

Institute. Whitney led a group into alpine territory to teach about the American pika and how to monitor pika populations. According to the PikaNET web site, "this high alpine creature is considered an indicator species of climate change due to its high vulnerability to warming global temperatures." The group learned to recognize nesting sites and pika scat as well as how to document their observations and contribute to the "citizen science" effort sponsored by PikaNet. www.mountainstudies.org/index.php?q=content/pikanetcitizen-science-monitoring-programamerican-pika

Judy Schutza, Norwood District Ranger for the Uncompahgre National Forest discussed forest management challenges in the area and fielded a lively discussion during happy hour one evening.

Dr. Gulliford also regaled the group with an insightful history of wilderness and a rousing presentation of the "Human History of the San Juans" for the final campfire chat on Sunday.

Broads main partner organization on this Broadwalk was the Sheep Mountain

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CA - Bi-Partisan support for Beauty Mountain and Agua Tibia Wilderness Act

In mid September, U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) introduced the Beauty Mountain and Agua Tibia Act of 2011, creating bi-partisan support to expand two existing wilderness areas in northern San Diego County.

The bill is a Senate companion to legisla-

closely with The Conservation Fund to build new recreational facilities adjacent to the Beauty Mountain Wilderness, allowing visitors more opportunities in that area.

Broads hosted a North San Diego County Broadwalk in May 2010 in support of Issa's House bill. Now is the time to ask your Congressional Representatives to co-sponsor this legislation.

Mountain Special Management Area allowing continuation of existing heli-skiing and mountain biking activities.

It would also withdraw over 6,000 acres within Naturita Canyon from oil and gas development.

"Not only will this bill ensure generations of Coloradans will be able to enjoy its stunning beauty, but it will also help create jobs and boost the economy of the entire area," Udall said

Broads Beat

Updates on issues that have seen Broad action

tion introduced in January and in the last Congress by Rep. Darrell Issa, (R-CA).

The House and Senate bills would add more than 7,796 acres of public land to the existing Agua Tibia Wilderness and expand the Beauty Mountain Wilderness by an additional 13,635 acres. These areas are composed entirely of existing Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands, and are currently managed with wilderness-level protections. The legislation would ensure continued protections at the same level.

Boxer's bill would also require the Bureau of Land Management to work

CO - San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act has strong support

U.S. Sens. Mark Udall and Michael Bennet, both Colorado Democrats, reintroduced the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act in September. The bill enjoys support from all three affected counties — San Miguel, San Juan, and Ouray, and from all the communities within them. Udall and Bennet previously introduced the bill in 2009 along with companion legislation from then U.S. Rep. John Salazar, but that Congress failed to consider it.

Representative Scott Tipton (R-CO) has not yet offered a House companion bill nor taken a position on the bill. He held a "listening session," in Ouray, Colorado, filling the house with nearly 500 interested people, the majority of which were supporters.

The bill would designate 33,000 acres as wilderness — mostly as expansions of the existing Lizard Head and Mount Sneffels wilderness areas — in addition to adding mid-elevation lands to the system with a new area around 7,933-foot McKenna Peak.

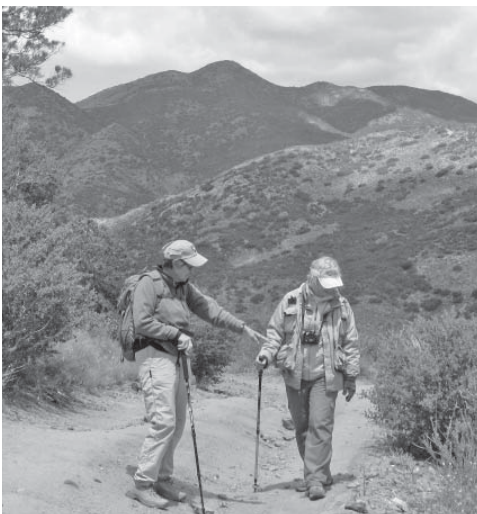
It would designate about 22,000 acres as the Sheep

Broads held a Broadwalk in the San Juan Mountains in July of this year. Thank the Senators for introducing the bill and contact Rep. Tipton and ask him to introduce companion legislation into the House.

UT - Join the call to protect Greater Canyonlands

The coalition to gain increased protections for the 1.4 million acres of Bureau of Land Management land that surround Canyonlands National Park has hit some roadblocks and is now beseeching the Obama Administration to consider designating the region as a National Monument.

more ⇨



Broads hike during the North San Diego Broadwalk, CA.



Broads hike in the Green River area of Greater Canyonlands, UT.

The administration denied a recent request to host a public process to consider more protective management than the Bush-era policies that pose threats from mineral extraction industries and a dense network of off-road vehicle routes.

In this political climate, the most viable option for protecting these spectacular landscapes, watersheds, and archaeological sites is through the authority of the Antiquities Act.

To find out more about this issue, visit www.suwa.org. Sign on to the "take action" letter or contact the White House directly at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>.

UT - Willow Flycatcher helps protect San Juan River corridor

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed Critical Habitat status for the endangered southwest willow flycatcher along a reach of the San Juan River in San Juan County, Utah. While this would not confer major protections along the river, it would affect activities such as grazing, mining, and off-road vehicle use, which are precisely the things that the County wants to maintain or expand.

The designation is one more tool in the toolbox of organizations like Broads and the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance who wish to protect biodiversity and allow the land to heal from past abuse. We're hoping the Critical Habitat designation will include Recapture Canyon where we continue to work to keep it wild and non-motorized.



Broads helped install an entrance sign for the Lime Canyon Wilderness in the Gold Butte area of Nevada during a Broadwalk in 2008.

NV - Gold Butte Visitor Center opens

Gold Butte, one of Nevada's most spectacular wild places, now has a visitor's center in Mesquite where visitors and locals, alike, can find information about the

proposed National Conservation Area. The Mesquite Chamber of Commerce, the Virgin Valley Artist's Association, and the Friends of Gold Butte collaborated to create the center in an attempt to spread the word about the natural wonders of the Gold Butte area.

The Friends group has proposed that 345,000 acres of public land be protected as a National Conservation Area that would include several wilderness areas.

Both Clark County and the Mesquite City Council have proclaimed support for the designation. No Gold Butte bills have been introduced yet in the 112th Congress.

Broads hosted a Broadwalk in support of the Gold Butte NCA in April 2008.

FL - Big Cypress decision draws suit

The National Parks Conservation Association has sued the National Park Service (NPS) over its decision to allow 130 miles of off-highway vehicle trails in South Florida's Big Cypress National Preserve. At risk is the habitat of the endangered Florida panther and 40,000 acres of land with wilderness character. The suit claims that the NPS decision relied on a federal advisory committee that was disproportionately in favor of motorized recreation.

Broads will host a Swampwalk Broadwalk in the Big Cypress Swamp this November, when we'll learn more about the issue.

NV - Elko County DA wants to move on - leave Jarbidge as is

... but Broads and others aren't ready to give up. In August, Elko County Deputy District Attorney Kristin McQueary announced, "There is nothing left to fight about." She is hoping to close the book on a 15-year-old dispute that pitted a citizen work crew called the Shovel Brigade against the Endangered Species Act, the U.S. Forest Service, The Wilderness Society, and Great Old Broads for Wilderness.

In 1995, the Jarbidge River washed out the final 1.5-mile stretch of a remote road



Broads gathered in 2000 to sweep up after the Shovel Brigade illegally reopened a Forest Service Road that had been washed out by the Jarbidge River in Elko County, NV.

that dead-ends at the Jarbidge Wilderness area. The Shovel Brigade re-opened the forest road in defiance of Forest Service rules and without assessing the environmental impacts of the road, which threatens the endangered bull trout. Broads held a protest against the Brigade's actions and signed on to litigation brought by the Wilderness Society.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Robert McQuaid granted a request to extend deadlines for the latest round of response briefs into November before he decides whether to hold another evidentiary hearing.

For more details, read the Huffington Post story at www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/08/29/elko-county-trout-case_n_939985.html

Auction

Wild for Wilderness On-Line Auction

Location:

<http://auction.greatoldbroads.org>

Dates: Oct. 31- Nov. 20, 2011

The Broads annual auction typically boasts more than 300 items perfectly matched for the Broad-minded. From vacation stays and adventure trips to outdoor gear and original art, there's something for you and for those on your holiday shopping list.

Log in and bid. Share the link with your friends and lists.

unlock the mysteries of the swamps. Learn about the issues and challenges faced by the National Park Service as they manage Everglades National Park and the Big Cypress National Preserve. Fabulous birding, botanizing, and general mucking about with like-minded Broads ensures this will be a Broad-walk to remember.

Register by sending payment to Broads office or visit our events page at greatoldbroads.org/events to link to our on-line shopping cart.



Join Broads on the Yampa with Holiday Expeditions.

ing in its wake, Warm Springs Rapid, rated among the 10 biggest drops in the country.

Great Old Broads for Wilderness **Upcoming Events**

Broadwalk

Big Cypress Swampwalk

Location: Near Everglades City, FL

Dates: November 10-14, 2011

Cost: members \$225/non-members \$250

Our custom weekend includes four nights camping or slumber party lodging (some beds and lots of floor space) at photographer Clyde Butcher's swamp retreat (www.evergladesswampwalks.com), breakfasts and dinners catered by Camillia's restaurant, a guided swampwalk, and more. We're heading south to the unique, mysterious, and secretive environment of the Big Cypress Swamp. Difficult to explore and understand, swamps are easily bypassed for more friendly terrain but their rich biodiversity and ecological importance needs to be experienced and understood. Join us for a truly one-of-a-kind weekend experience and let local naturalists



Big Cypress Swamp, Florida, 2010.

River Trip

FUNdraiser – 4-day Wild Yampa River Trip with Holiday Expeditions

Location: Dinosaur National Monument, CO & UT

Meet at: Vernal, UT

Launches: June 8, 2012

Cost: \$895 (\$295 is deductible as a charitable contribution)

Join Holiday Expeditions and Broads for this 4-day rafting trip down the Yampa River. The Yampa is WILD. It's the last undammed river in the Colorado River system. Through the years, the Yampa has defied many attempts to dam its free flow, several by congress, and the most formidable in 1965 by Mother

Nature. Just after dinner on June 10th, a flash flood carried tons of rock down Warm Springs draw blocking the river channel. Within 24 hours the Yampa took aim and breached the dam, leav-

Every May and June this river rises to the occasion and CRANKS with plenty of full-bodied waves from the first day to the last. Like many wild things the Yampa also has a serene side... miles of white tiger-striped walls that drop 2000 feet sheer to the water, side-canyon waterfalls, Ancestral Puebloan rock art, and whispering caves. We will spend 46 miles of this 71-mile trip on the Yampa and then merge with the Green River at Echo Park for the balance through Whirlpool Canyon and Split Mountain Gorge. If you feel the need for something rare, something wild and free... the Yampa is waiting.

To sign up for this amazing, Broad adventure, contact Holiday Expeditions at 800-624-6323.

NM County Bulldozes River Crossings

The illegal bulldozing of federal land in Catron County, New Mexico is the latest in a string of Neo-Sagebrush Rebellion actions that pit local governments against federal land management agencies. In June, Catron County employees performed, what they called "maintenance" work on miles of Gila National Forest roads and bulldozed 47 road crossings through the San Francisco River.

The Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) has accused Representative Steve Pearce (R-NM) of inciting the County to act when he issued a news release declaring that roads in the Gila National Forest were open for use. The Forest Supervisor has begun an investigation and the CBD sent notice of their intent to sue the County under the Clean Water Act for illegally bulldozing 13.5 miles of the San Francisco River.



Employees of Catron County, NM, defied federal regulations and bulldozed 47 road crossings through the San Francisco River.

In Nevada, it's the Shovel Brigade, the Jarbidge River, and a Forest Service Road. In Utah, it's San

Juan and Kane County employees, Rep. Mike Noel, the installation of signs, and the bulldozing of ATV trails across closed areas and through sensitive archaeological sites on Bureau of Land Management lands. In Colorado, it's Montezuma County, Constitutionalists claiming the federal government can't own land or make rules governing it, and Sheriff Dennis Spruell and his threats to arrest Forest Service employees for implementing travel plan decisions.

The war cry is the same: "Local people have the RIGHT to use (and abuse) local land." Extremists are inciting local governments to "take control of all the land within their boundaries, including federal public land" and sheriffs are threatening to arrest Forest Service employees who attempt to

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PLANNED GIVING MEANS WILDERNESS FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

Future generations are depending on us.

If humans are to survive on this amazing blue planet, we need to get serious about leaving a legacy of a healthy environment. Resource development, recreation excesses, and just plain human encroachment all pose threats to biodiversity, climate stability, and peace of mind.

Your gift to Great Old Broads for Wilderness helps build a steady foundation for us as we stand firm in our advocacy of wild public lands. You may also save on estate taxes and be able to leave more to your heirs.

There are many mutually beneficial ways for you to support Great Old Broads for Wilderness through planned giving. Talk to your Financial Advisor about these options.



• **Bequest**

Include us in your will with a gift of cash, property, or a portion of the estate

• **Appreciated Securities**

Avoid capital gains tax by making a gift

• **Retirement Plan**

Name us on your plan and avoid income tax on the plan's assets

• **Real Estate Gifts**

Stay in your home while avoiding capital gains tax and leaving more to your heirs

• **Life Insurance**

Write a new policy with Great Old Broads for Wilderness as a beneficiary or donate all or part of an existing policy

Other options to discuss with your Financial Advisor include:

- **Pooled Income Fund**
- **Charitable Gift Annuity**
- **Charitable Remainder Unitrust**

We'd love to know if you've included Broads in your estate plan!

Study A Broad:

Judith Anderson - Mapping

If “An Act of Congress” was a video game, the “California Desert Protection Act of 1994” edition would be one for only the most skilled gamers. Mazes of bureaucracy, mires of political wrangling, short deadlines, and black holes that consume all previous gains would test the will and patience of all who attempted such a game. Most would be thwarted at the outset when they discover that the stacks and stacks of legal testimonial documents needed to present the act to Congress have been destroyed (just 10 days prior to requesting them).

We’re extraordinarily fortunate that the first person to discover the egregious error of the Federal archives was Judith Anderson. Though temporarily stunned by the loss of the record of testimony for three hearings and the voluminous Draft Environmental Impact Statement that contained detailed, scientific reports for the 1980 Desert Plan, she was not thwarted nor was the California Desert Protection League, which was the coalition of organizations that advocated for the California Desert Protection Act. (Judy noted that the final comments on the act were mostly brief and referred back to the lost Draft documents.)

Jim Dodson, Chair of the Sierra Club’s Desert Committee, had asked Judy if she would take charge of the mapmaking for what was to become the Desert Protection Act. She had been an apprentice mapmaker for the California Wilderness Act in the 1970s. Judy accepted the challenge and was starting her research when



Judy at Copan, Honduras.

she discovered the records for the 1980 Desert Plan had been destroyed. As if that wasn’t enough, her search for existing maps uncovered a pitiful state of affairs. “When I first got the maps, they were in terrible shape,” she said. “Some were on tissue paper and there were a lot of problems with them. There was no consistency. Some were 7.5 grid; some 15. They were chopped into subdistricts. On top of that, the government lost control of the maps for 4 or 5 years so there was no continuous record. I’m still astonished by the process,” she added. “They didn’t really know me from a hole in the wall. I wasn’t supervised. They (the maps) weren’t under the control of anybody. I could have walked out with the lot of them and no one would have known. As it was, pieces were missing.”

They were all put under the gun when, in December 1982, then Interior Secretary James Watt issued an order that became known as the “Watt Drop,” which was his attempt to remove from protection large tracts of land that were in the Wilderness

Study Area (WSA) system. (A history lesson for those of us fighting H.R. 1581, the “Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act,” introduced by Rep. Kevin McCarthy in this 112th Congress.)

In any case, Judy got the maps made and, after many more false starts, dealings with uncooperative agencies, and lost documents, and with sponsorship from Senator Alan Cranston, the

bill passed through Congress and was signed by President Clinton. “We gathered a million signatures,” Judy recalled. (For a good read about the whole process from the 1970s through to enactment in 1994, pick up Frank Wheat’s, *California Desert Miracle*.)

Judy came to the desert in her late 20s after accepting a teaching position with the Los Angeles Unified School District. Born and raised in the woods of Wisconsin, she was an adventurer from an early age. She explored forests, swamps, and lakes on foot and on horseback. She fished with grubs and gathered berries for snacks. She was awarded a full-ride scholarship to Wisconsin State College in Platteville and graduated with a degree in mathematics and chemistry. She earned a master’s of mathematics from the University of Kansas in 1969 and moved to L.A.

In the early 1970s, she volunteered for the Sierra Club and eventually rose through the ranks to become

“We gathered a million signatures.” the Way

the chair of the largest chapter, the Angeles Chapter. She also served as the chair of the California Desert Protection League during the 1980s.

For eight years, she held a seat on the California Department of Parks Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Division

committee. “We got a tiny fraction of the gas tax,” she said. “The main job of that committee was finding grants from state and federal agencies, and from private organizations to buy land for play parks (yes, OHV play parks). The money went to the Forest Service and the BLM for OHV trail restoration and construction.”

These days, she’s working closer to her home just outside of Glendale. She says she went 15 years without being active in the local Sierra Club but has started working locally again. Current projects with the Vertigo Hills Group include keeping a housing development off the mountains; and monitoring the restoration of a railroad superfund site near the river at the Rio de Los Angeles State Park. “For the past year, I’ve taken a monthly walk to keep track of the restoration process, watch the return of wildlife (including western meadowlarks, kestrels, native flowers and grasses), and hack out exotic species,” she said. “And I’m dragging others into it.”

She’s also working alongside the Town of Trona on one of the areas in Senator Feinstein’s 2010 desert

protection legislation. “I had never been to Great Falls Basin, near the Argus Range, and I had a wonderful experience in June this year,” she

“When I first got the maps, they were in terrible shape,” she said. “Some were on tissue paper and there were a lot of problems with them. There was no consistency.”

said. “I saw a sidewinder and a 6-foot gopher snake, and I heard an Inyo California towhee.” Since the area is 125 miles to any county seat, Judy and others are trying to convince the town that county government can give the land little protection and that they should really be seeking wilderness designation. Judy noted that since the local BLM wilderness coordinator Marty Dickes has taken an interest, the area has really turned around. She (Dickes) energized the community to take action on an area that was quickly degrading. Work parties have cleaned graffiti, picked up trash, and improved the parking lot. “It’s a great example of

how you can flip an area,” Judy noted.

Judy was a member of Great Old Broads for Wilderness many years

ago but when she didn’t receive an invoice to renew her membership, she let it drop. That was back in the day when, if you said you were a Broad,

you were a member. “And back then,” she said, “Broads were more interested in the Rocky Mountain States and I was working in the California desert.” San Francisco Broad Vicky Hoover brought Judy back to Broads recently and for that we are grateful. Whether she knows it or not, Judy’s passion for the land, determination to protect it, and skills at mapping out a path to signed legislation are inspiring to Broads from the Florida swamps to the Washington mountains and from the eastern forests to the southwest deserts. - Anne Benson

River Bulldozing

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enforce federal laws. They don’t seem to understand that these federal lands are not just theirs. These lands belong to ALL Americans. The management agencies work for all of us to manage the land in accordance with laws and to meet agency goals established by Congress.

The time is NOW to step up and push back against the people who would defy our nation’s laws and destroy our national heritage to meet their self-serving and selfish demands. Contact public lands agencies and thank them when they do the right thing for the land in the face of threats and local opposition. Contact your elected officials and let them know you value healthy, wild public lands. Most importantly, when opportunities arise to comment on issues and express your views....take action.

A Plethora of Bills Threatens Our Environmental Legacy

The 112th Congress has initiated a broad attack on wild lands, wild life, and environmental protections including Clean Air, Clean Water, Wilderness, and Antiquities Acts. In this Broader Wilderness we've listed a few of the worst. For the complete list, go to greatoldbroads.org/2012-Anti-Env-Riders.pdf

As Ronni said in her Broad Sense column, now is the time to take action! Do it! Write letters to your representatives and news editors, call them, organize a protest of some horrendous bill that affects your favorite wild land, gather signatures on a petition - before our legacy of environmental protections is obliterated. (Here's that link to state and federal contacts: www.usa.gov/ContactElected.shtml)

H.R. Interior and Environment Appropriations Act

Below are just a few of the most onerous Sections:

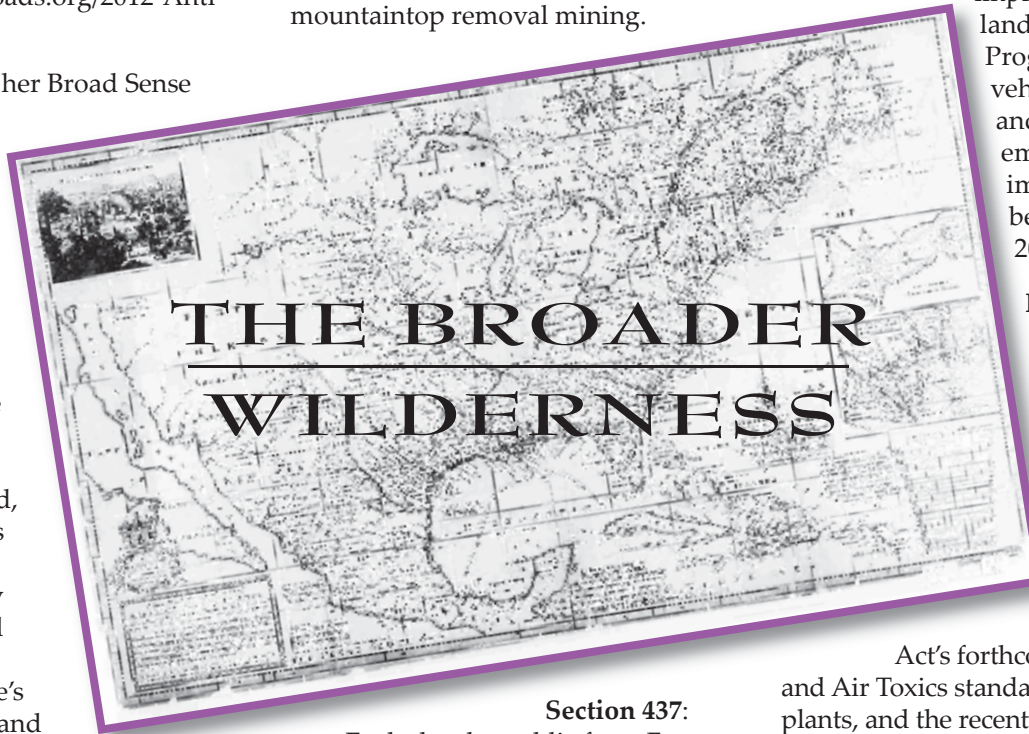
Section 118: Reduces the Public's Right to Participate in the Management of Public Lands — One of the foundations for the management of federal lands is the citizen's right to participate in how public lands are governed. In this system, one of the more meaningful rights is the public's prerogative to petition the federal courts when a citizen believes that a federal decision has not adhered to the rule of law.

Section 431: This rider would require EPA to stop all work limiting life-threatening carbon dioxide pollution from power plants, refineries and

other large sources for one year and allow the biggest new carbon polluters to be built without environmental controls.

Section 432: Prohibits rules to protect streams from surface mining — removes restrictions on mountain top removal mining waste disposal in streams.

Section 433: Blocks EPA oversight of mountaintop removal mining.



Section 437: Excludes the public from Forest Service decision making — Restricts the public's ability to participate in land management decisions in National Forests.

Section 443: Limits the EPA's ability to regulate emissions from offshore drilling in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Arctic Oceans, and the Eastern Gulf of Mexico.

Section 445: Lifts the Grand Canyon Uranium Mining Moratorium

Section 445: Allows for extensive uranium mining directly adjacent to the Grand Canyon.

Amendments to the Interior and Environment Appropriations Act:

Anti-Wildlife, Pro-Poisons Rider Leaves millions of acres of wilderness quality lands open to drilling, mining, and off-road vehicles — Rep. Lummis' amendment blocks the Bureau of Land

Management's Wild Lands Initiative, which was implemented in order to correct the Bush administration's incorrect interpretation of the Federal Land Policy & Management Act.

Prohibits funding for the EPA to finalize a new greenhouse gas standard for automobiles — Removes funding necessary for the EPA to implement the landmark National Program for new vehicle fuel economy and greenhouse emissions improvements beyond model year 2016.

Mercury poisoning, death and asthma attacks — Rep. Lummis' amendment denies EPA funding to carry out and enforce the Clean Air

Act's forthcoming Mercury and Air Toxics standards for power plants, and the recently finalized Cross-State Air Pollution Rule to cut smog and soot pollution from power plants.

Wetlands Designation — Prohibits funding for the EPA to designate new wetlands in emergency disaster areas.

The House Energy and Water Development 2012 Appropriations bill now contains a provision that would stop the EPA and Corps from moving forward with common sense guidance to protect waters from pollution. If this rider succeeds, it will introduce more pollution into our drinking water supplies, threaten public health, and force communities to pay more to clean up flood damage to communities.

H.R. 2112 Section 755: Blocks all funds for implementation of the regulation on climate change adaptation — Would prevent the Department of Agriculture from implementing its new departmental regulation on climate change adaptation.

Arid public lands provide marginal livestock grazing

by Ronni Egan & Rose Chilcoat

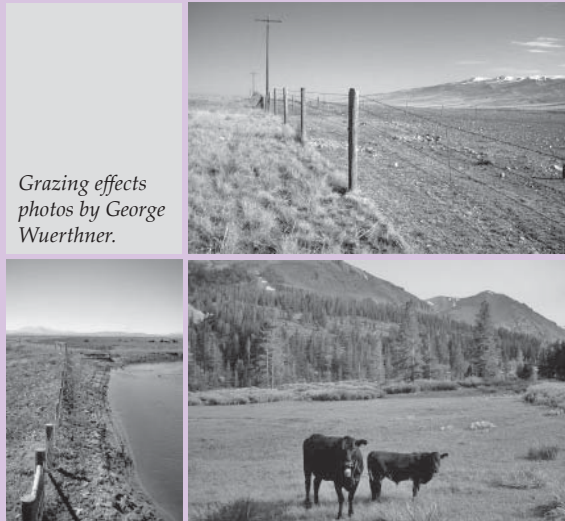
"Where's the beef?" has long been a comic line about tiny hamburgers, but in reality "the beef" is all over America's western public lands, and many of those lands are much the worse for it. Privately owned cattle (and sheep) roam over the vast majority of the landscapes managed by the U.S. Forest Service (69 percent) and Bureau of Land Management (90 percent).

Especially in the arid southwest, more than a century of livestock grazing has severely damaged wildlife habitat and water quality, spread invasive weeds, contributed to near dust bowl conditions in some places, and is responsible for more threatened and endangered species than any other human activity. The USFS and BLM manage this activity by issuing grazing permits and collecting a small pittance from permittees in return. The cost is currently \$1.35 per month per cow/calf pair (the minimum allowed by law in spite of the Government Accounting Office's recommendation and a petition filed by Broads and others asking that fees be raised to \$19 per AUM.), which doesn't begin to cover the cost of administration. These permits (grazing is not a right!) may be revoked for permit violations and compromised resource conditions, although they rarely are.

The fabled American cowboy is actually getting a very good deal at the expense of the American taxpayer. The federal government spends at least \$144 million each year managing private livestock grazing on federal public lands, but collects only \$21 million in grazing fees—for a net loss of at least \$123 million per year, and that's not counting indirect costs of damaged resources, species loss, predator control, etc.

Perhaps the most startling fact of all is that less than 3% of the beef produced in this country spends even a moment on our public lands. In fact, the vast majority comes from well-watered states like Florida, Georgia, Missouri, and Ohio.

*Grazing effects
photos by George
Wuerthner.*



A number of organizations have worked hard to improve the management of domestic livestock on public lands. Western Watersheds Project (WWP), based in Hailey, Idaho, has been very successful in litigating against some of the most damaging Federal grazing management plans. Recently WWP won a lawsuit challenging 18 land management plans covering 34 million acres in six Western states. The suit held that the BLM failed to consider the needs of the endangered sage grouse in its grazing and petroleum development plans.

More recently, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of WWP in a decision that ends, once and for all, the public land ranching industry's attempt to reinstate regulations that would have significantly reduced public participation in the BLM's livestock grazing program on 160,000 acres of federal public land in 11 Western states.

Great Old Broads for Wilderness is not anti-rancher or anti-cow, we are anti-poor-land-management! Most of the staffers are omnivores, and we are certainly not trying to drive the ranchers off the land, as some have complained. There are public lands, especially where there is adequate rainfall, that can support well-regulated livestock grazing.

While litigation is a useful tool, "there's more than one way to skin a cat." Many public lands ranchers are aging, their grazing allotments are marginal and failing to support enough cattle to make ranching pay, their children want no part of the demanding lifestyle, and their permits are essentially stranded investments. The only way out is to sell a permit (yep, they get to sell these non-property right permits) to another rancher. Sometimes, though, there are no ranchers interested, especially when there are endangered species, recreation pressures, or other resource conflicts.

Conservation interests would buy out the grazing permits, but the structure of federal grazing does not permit the permanent cessation of grazing and absurdly insists that this use be continued, courtesy of the very powerful ranching lobby.

Because of the many negative impacts that domestic livestock can have on our wild lands, Great Old Broads has been engaged in the frustrating endeavor of attempting to reform grazing management. We believe that there are some places that cows simply do not belong, such as the deserts of the arid Southwest.

Over the years we've been engaged in a number of efforts to improve grazing management: becoming "interested publics" on grazing allotments to track agency actions; commenting on grazing permit renewals; improving

(continued on page 14)



Broads Kathy Urso and Barb Parish made their opinions known at Colorado Rep. Scott Tipton's "listening session," held in Ouray.

Four Corners (AZ, CO, NM, UT)

During the Durango Gallery Walk in late September, members of the Four Corners Broadband collected 415 postcards as part of the Campaign to Protect Greater Canyonlands. According to Terri Martin, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance's (SUWA) Southwest Regional Organizer, the group set an all-time high for collecting postcards during a single event.

The Campaign to Protect Greater Canyonlands has been sending the cards to the Obama for America office in Denver in packets of 50 twice a week since the beginning of July.

"This is a great example of how Broadbands can work with other local organizations to be heard," said Broadband Coordinator Elsa Jagniecki. "Combining efforts is very Broad-minded," she added, "and usually reaps greater rewards."

The Broadband hosted a very successful garage sale raising more than \$1,000 for local efforts. Members also attended a "listening session" hosted by Colorado Representative Scott Tipton regarding the San Juan Mountains Wilderness proposal.

Polly Dyer Cascadia (WA) and Palouse (ID)

The Polly Dyer Cascadia Broadband hosted 20 Broads for a local Broadwalk in the Eastern Cascades in July inviting the Palouse Broadband to join in. The participants focused their efforts on the Alpine Lakes Wilderness expansion and potential threats to that area from development and biomass development. The event included various speakers with long histories in the Teanaway Valley and a wealth of information on the issues, helping participants to build connection to place. As Broadband Leader, Shelley Spalding observed, "Broadwalk was magical! Icy cold and rain included! Speakers, speakers, speakers and a reason to be an advocate are what make a Broadwalk different from a bunch of friends just getting together camping and hiking."

South Park (CO)

The newly formed South Park Broadband is connecting with organizations that are active in their area. They are collaborating with Wild Connections, Central Colorado Wilderness, the Friends of Mount Evans & Lost Creek Wilderness Areas, Concerned About South Park Drilling, and Save our South Park Water. These groups advocate for wilderness areas, wild public lands, and watersheds. The Broadband has been identifying project areas for which they intend to assume responsibility.

They participated in two major work days planned by the Forest Service and Wild Connections in September to rehabilitate a boggy area that the Forest Service had closed several years ago. The closure had been severely violated over the past 2 years. The Broadband is proposing a local Broadwalk in the area.

more ➡

Broadband Leader Boot Camp 2012

Plans are in the works for the 2012 Broadband Leader Boot Camp. Time and place are yet to be determined. Volunteer leaders are trained in Broad-style activism, grassroots organization, communication, lobbying skills, wilderness history, documentation of on-the-ground abuses, and Broads positions on issues such as grazing, off-road vehicles, and oil, gas, and mineral development. Boot Camps are typically held in the spring at locations that are within a half-day drive from Broads Headquarters in Durango, Colorado. Sound interesting? It is! To apply for the 2012 Boot Camp, go to greatoldbroads.org/get-involved/broadbands/boot-camp-ap/

In the Footsteps of Aldo Leopold (NM) & San Francisco River (AZ)

On August 3, the New Mexico Water & Natural Resources Interim Committee, made up of legislators from the New Mexico House of Representatives and Senate, met in Silver City to listen to concerns about a number of land management issues, including Mexican wolf reintroduction.

Among those invited by the committee to speak were representatives of Great Old Broads for Wilderness. Lorna Wilkes-Ruebelmann, co-leader of the Aldo Leopold Broadband, and Nancy Gregory, San Francisco River Broadband Leader from near the wolf recovery area, spoke. They addressed the biological necessity of large predators in a healthy ecosystem, voicing strong support for wolf reintroduction. Several members of the Silver City Broadband who helped develop the testimony were present at the hearing.

3Great Lakes (MI)

The 3Great Lakes Broadband will participate in a meeting of the Hiawatha Friends to present ideas on how the Broadband can collaborate with the Forest Service in the eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan. They hope to organize a working partnership with the agency to monitor local public lands as part of the Broads Healthy Lands Project.



Florida

The St. Petersburg Audubon Society presented the Florida Broadband with a "Certificate of Appreciation" in recognition of the Broadband's invaluable service and commitment to wildlife conservation as 2011 Volunteer Beach-nesting Bird Stewards.



Sue Gunckel



Lee Verner

Two Join Board of Directors

We are delighted to welcome two Broads to our Board of Directors. Sue Gunckel and Lee Verner made room in their schedules to offer guidance to the organization for the 3-year term.

Sue (Albuquerque, NM) comes to the Board with quite a long history of non-profit and government agency management. She is educated as a certified public accountant and has worked in the public sector as an accountant, a corporate treasurer, and as a controller. She also taught accounting at a community college for 23 years. She was the finance person for the Rocky Mountain Outing Chair of the Sierra Club for 3 years in the 1980s and still serves on the board of PB&J Family Services. She is a member of numerous conservation and environmental advocacy organizations. Sue has been a member of Broads since shortly after it was founded in 1989.

Lee (Bayfield, CO) was the Broadband Co-Leader of the Four Corners Broadband (headquartered in Durango, CO) for two years prior to applying for the Board position. She doesn't have the non-profit experience that Sue has but she brings a lifetime worth of group therapeutic experience (family and marriage therapies) and teaching. She has very Broad ideas about how women can age and about wild lands advocacy. After seeing the Sunset Magazine article about Broads years ago, she thought, "Now, there is the way I want to get old. Caring for the land, and staying sturdy and tough in the process!"

For more information about the Board of Directors responsibilities (or to apply for a Board position, yourself), go to <http://greatoldbroads.org/director-responsibilities/>

WANTED

- A fuel-efficient vehicle for staff travel to meetings and events
- Volunteer Broadband Leaders
- Auction bidders! (<http://auction@greatoldbroads.org>)

To donate a vehicle, call 970-385-9577. To inquire about being a Broadband Leader, contact elsa@greatoldbroads.org.

San Juan Mountains Broadwalk

(continued from page 3)

Alliance (SMA). Executive Director Hilary White teamed up with Jeff Widen, Associate Director of Conservation Designations for the Wilderness Support Center of The Wilderness Society, to give us the scoop on the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Campaign, which has actively pursued legislative action to protect an additional 61,000 acres of the San Juan Mountains as wilderness (big W) for the past three years.

To craft the current proposal, they worked with conservation partners and connected with diverse members of the community. They garnered broad support from ranchers, miners, mountain bikers, jeepers, business owners, and all area cities and counties. All three affected counties, San Miguel, Ouray, and San Juan, endorse the proposal.

In 2009, then Congressman John Salazar (D-CO) introduced the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act with Senators Mark Udall (D-CO) and Michael Bennet (D-CO) introducing companion legislation in the Senate. Sadly, Congress failed to consider the bill that year.

The good news is that Senators Udall and Bennet (co-sponsor) re-introduced the San Juan Mountain Wilderness Act in the Senate this September. Rep. Scott Tipton (R-CO), however, is dragging his feet on introducing the bill in the House. Tipton hosted a "listening session" in late September, which was attended by nearly 500 people, of which at least two-thirds were supportive of the bill. The mining industry stepped back into the discussion when Tipton won



The San Juans offered a stunning backdrop for the 2011 Broadwalk - photo by Laurie Parkinson.

his seat from Salazar and is loudly protesting the concept of wilderness. Tipton promises "another session before he makes his decision."

For more information, go to the Sheep Mountain Alliance site at www.sheepmountain.org.

Now is the time to ask your Senators to co-sponsor this legislation. Write Rep. Tipton and ask him to introduce the bill into the House.

Broad Sense: Do Something!

(continued from page 2)

him not to permit construction of the Keystone Pipeline. (You can send the President an e-mail at this web site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>)

- Write your members of Congress. Tell them to stand up for Wilderness, for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, for the National Environmental Protection Act, the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Actall of these bedrock environmental laws are at risk in this Congress.

- Attend city or county planning meetings and demand control of sprawling development.

- Stand on the street with a group of friends holding signs that support a good land management decision (or criticize a bad one!).

- Visit your local Forest Service/BLM office and get acquainted with the folks who manage the land. Ask how you can help.

- Hold a house party and show

a DVD like *Hooked On Growth* (population growth) <http://www.growthbusters.org/> or *Black Diamonds* (mountaintop removal) <http://www.blackdiamondsmovie.com/>.

Cowed in the Arid Southwest

(continued from page 11)

riparian assessment processes; holding workshops to train others; participating in litigation and collaborations.

But, one of the most promising ideas we've seen is proposed Federal legislation to allow voluntary grazing permit retirement. Broads is part of a collaboration of groups that includes the Sierra Club, WildEarth Guardians and WWP. The proposed legislation (known as the Rural Economic Vitalization Act (REVA)) basically allows the rancher to voluntarily sell his permit to a private buyer and to request that the grazing allotment be permanently closed to grazing. This bill would have no adverse affect to a rancher's private property, and in fact could enable him to purchase more private land, get into another business

or retire. It is a win-win-win for the rancher, the taxpayer, and the land.

There is a place in the American landscape for beef cattle, but every inch of our beleaguered public lands is not it. Public lands are our last vestiges of wildness and if managed correctly can slow the loss of biodiversity, provide resiliency to the vagaries of climate change, satisfy increasing population pressures for recreation, and provide for other needs.

Great Old Broads continues to work toward responsible and accountable grazing management. This includes a means to retire grazing permits when conditions warrant.

It's time to stop being so "cowed" and to provide a means for science and reason to prevail over political influence and unsustainable land uses.

WILD FOR WILDERNESS ON-LINE AUCTION

Oct 31-Nov 21, 2011

<http://auction.greatoldbroads.org>

Log on now to browse our 7th annual *Wild for Wilderness* on-line auction. Tell your friends. Host an auction bidding party. Link the auction to your Facebook page. Donate a homestay or some outdoor gear. Get your holiday shopping done while supporting Broads wild land advocacy programs.

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Find out more at greatoldbroads.org/auction

<http://auction.greatoldbroads.org>



Support
this year's
sponsors!



Robber Barons

(continued from page 1)

name of fiscal reform and reduced government "meddling." At a time when human-caused climate change and skyrocketing world population and resource consumption make the abuses of the early 19th century look positively tame, this is beyond poor government. It borders on criminal.

One of the most worrisome developments is a collection of anti-environment and anti-regulatory positions called the 3-D Act. A post by Felicity Barringer on the New York Times Green Blog says, "Today one could look at the 3-D Act, (for Domestic Jobs, Domestic Energy and Deficit Reduction), sponsored by Sen. David Vitter (R-LA) and by Sen. Rob Bishop (R-UT), as a mosaic of Republican long-term goals like drilling for fossil fuels and reining in environmental regulation (or, in environmentalists' view, rolling back crucial protections)." While this ghastly collection of measures would knock the teeth out of many of our most effective laws, it has yet to be introduced as a single bill. But, as we have seen recently, the many nefarious elements of this act could easily be tacked onto an appropriations measure as riders.

Other measures include fast-tracking oil drilling on the Outer Continental

Shelf, opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to petroleum exploration, continuing mountaintop-removal coal mining, expediting the permit for the Keystone XL Pipeline from Alberta tar sands oil to the Gulf of Mexico (for petroleum EXPORT purposes!), allowing state governors to declare emergencies, which, once declared, require federal officials to ignore the provisions of the Endangered Species Act, and the depressing list goes on.

As if the 3-D Act weren't enough, The Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act, with versions currently working their way through both Houses of Congress, would open up 42 to 58 million acres of priceless backcountry landscapes to industrial development, wildlife habitat degradation, and destruction of the wilderness character for which they are now protected. H.R.1505 would allow the Department of Homeland Security to build roads, transmission lines, and security installations on any federally-owned land within 100 miles of the U.S. coast or border, including in national parks and designated wilderness and exempt them from all environmental laws.

Any of these measures, if passed, will undo years of careful legislative work and citizen input and promote rapid energy exploitation, decimated wildlife habitat, and loss of opportunities for humans to seek refuge from today's frantic pace.

Increasingly, citizens are taking to the streets (over 1,000 arrested in front of the White House protesting the Keystone Pipeline; hundreds, including Great Old Broads, protesting in Idaho and Montana against huge shipments of tar-sands machinery along scenic mountain roads and Wild and Scenic rivers) yet so far these actions rarely make the mainstream news.

The reality of human-caused effects on the world's climate is daily challenged by presidential candidates despite overwhelming scientific evidence. Is it any wonder that the environmental community repeatedly sues the government to try to force it to obey its own rules, regulations, and scientific advisories?

Perhaps the most frustrating aspect of all of this is that the oil industry, real estate developers, timber companies, and the like only have to win these battles once to forever obliterate, while we who value leaving a wild, pristine legacy on at least some of the planet must fight, and win, these battles over and over again. Yet NOT to fight them abdicates our responsibility to leave a livable world for generations to come.

So it's game on, once again. This is no time to waver in our steadfast devotion to preserving healthy, wild places for the sake of all Earthlings.



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Durango, CO 81302

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Kathy Morey at the San Juan Mountains Broadwalk, July 2011.

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Item	Size	Cost	Qty
Broads Tee (natural-runs large)	S,M,L,XL	\$20	
Long Sleeve Tee (natural)	S,M,L,XL, XXL	\$22	
Scoop-neck Tee (white)	S,XL	\$20	
Green Tee	S,M,L,XL	\$20	
Logo Earrings		\$12	
Button or sticker (circle)		\$1.50	
Coffee Mug		\$20	
Canvas Tote		\$20	

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