



Great Old Broads For Wilderness

Preserving Wilderness
for Future Generations

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT OLD BROADS FOR WILDERNESS BROADSIDES

BROADS MEET WITH USFS AND BLM IN DC

BY RONNI EGAN

Those of us in the wilderness movement are daily barraged with news, alerts and opportunities to engage with legislation and management issues dealing with America's designated wilderness and

We connected with new campaigns and visited with ones we have supported over the years. It feels good to know that Great Old Broads is part of this national effort to secure the ultimate wilderness protection for our treasured



Ronni and Rose (center and right) met with Diedre St. Louis, Off Highway Vehicle Program Manager for the U.S. Forest Service.

wild public lands. Broads Associate Director Rose Chilcoat and I recently attended Wilderness Week in Washington DC, sponsored by The Wilderness Society and the Campaign for America's Wilderness, where we were greatly encouraged by the many activists from across the country, (some of whom appeared to us to have just gotten out of high school, but that may just have been a reflection of our own relatively advanced state).

landscapes, and to continue to seek innovative ways to preserve lands that don't quite fit the "big W" model. Yet, it was made even more clear to us that wilderness is a mere speck on the calendars of our overburdened lawmakers in this election season, and in this dismal economic climate.

Having made appointments in advance, we met with high-level U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management officials. Our goal was to introduce them to our Healthy Lands Project (HLP) and its potential for informing the implementation and monitoring of new Travel Management Plans and for tracking grazing impacts, both of which are core to the work of Great Old Broads. HLP was met with great interest and

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WILD FOR WILDERNESS

ON-LINE AUCTION

BID THROUGH

NOV 14!

BROWSE AND BID AT

<http://auction.greatoldbroads.org>

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With a more wilderness-friendly administration in D.C. and decades of work behind us, Great Old Broads for Wilderness is finally gaining some traction in two of our primary areas of interest; off-road vehicle use and livestock grazing management. Our Healthy Lands Project (HLP) is being recognized both locally and nationally as an effective tool for land managers and citizen volunteers, alike. (We decided to drop the “Broads” from

the title of the project so that it isn't immediately associated with a wilderness advocacy organization.) Our ‘just the facts’ approach to collecting HLP information on impacts on public lands makes it attractive to the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

HLP Director Gary Skiba, formerly of the Colorado Dept. of Wildlife, is cultivating many of his old agency contacts, and connecting with many new ones throughout the west, to introduce them to the monitoring protocol and the now cutting-edge (thanks to our Technologies Coordinator Logan Morley) database with its breathtaking Google Earth 3D capacity. You can see it at www.healthylands.org. (You'll need a fairly new operating system on your computer to see the 3D effects!)

Although HLP has worked with organizations from California to Oregon to Arizona, much of the progress we've made in the past 5 or 6 years comes under the heading of what we call our *Recapture Utah!* project, named after Recapture Wash east of Blanding, site of the now infamous illegally constructed ATV trail. (See Broadsides Fall 2007 on our web site.) Because we're located within easy driving distance of SE



IN A BROAD SENSE

We're Gaining Traction

Utah and because there are precious few advocates for healthy landscapes residing there, we have done most of our Healthy Lands Project development work there. We know that both the USFS staff on the Manti-La Sal National Forest and the BLM on the Monticello BLM District are accessing the HLP database to see what's happening on their landscapes. We are also involved in a partnership with the USFS on the San Juan National Forest east of Durango to gather data to help inform their travel management actions.

Our recent trip to Washington and successful meetings with high level staff of the USFS and the BLM is the first step

toward attaining larger scale partnership agreements and increased data collection, potentially leading to more sustained funding and increased data collection storage capacity. In other words, our “baby” is now a gangly adolescent looking for meaningful work and a bigger paycheck!

Great Old Broads has also been increasing our involvement on the public lands grazing front. While grazing is specifically allowed in wilderness (and on other wild lands), it still must be conducted in ways that do not degrade ecosystem health. That is where Broads engages. We were involved in the Tushar Mountains Grazing Collaboration on the Fishlake National Forest, which was the result of a successful appeal of the grazing management plan by seven conservation groups. These organizations (including the Western Watersheds Project and Grand Canyon Trust), the Fishlake National Forest, the Utah Farm Bureau, and the affected grazing permittees met to develop management practices to be

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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 (and not so able) 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.

TENNESSEE BROADWALK: BEARS, BOARS, AND BROADS

BY JANE BOUTERSE

They did it again!

The Dynamic Duo – Executive Director Veronica (Ronni) Egan and Associate Director Rose Chilcoat – organized another significant Broadwalk. This time the Great Old Broads headed east and set up camp in the mountains of eastern Tennessee to explore and learn about areas of the Cherokee National Forest that are included in the Tennessee Wilderness Act of 2010.



Saralaine Millet seems to be having fun wielding that Pulaski. Rose Chilcoat (in the background), too.

Arriving in Tellico Plains after the long journey from Texas, I found myself in the lead car of the high school's homecoming parade - an auspicious start to a weekend with the Broads. Base camp for the event was Hidden Lake Campground with its 5-acre lake nestled into forested hills. On the hill overlooking the lake was an earth-bermed cedar building with facilities on the ground level and a patio with a

view on the second story. Rustic cabins and teepees were scattered about the property with plenty of room for tents.

After the dinner prepared and served by owner Mark Ewers and cooks Kelly and Deborah McLaughlin, who cared for us throughout the Broadwalk, Ronni and Rose took center stage for introductions and to rally the crowd. Laura Hodge, an 11-year resident of Tellico Plains and a photographer/historian, introduced us to the area and many of its wilderness issues.

The central concerns are the politics affecting the passage of the Tennessee Wilderness Act of 2010. Rose observed, "I never realized my passion for wilderness would mean I had to become a political junkie." A campfire under a Milky Way-laced Tennessee sky brought the day to a close.

After a hurried breakfast on Friday morning, the Broads traveled to the Tellico Plains Ranger Station for our service projects on the Benton MacKaye Trail. The main building, still in use by the US Forest Service, was the first CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) Building in Tennessee. After a visit with the rangers, Broads were introduced to Jeff Hunter, Bill Hodge, and Ken Jones. Jeff and Bill are avid hikers and staff for Tennessee Wild, a

project of the Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition. They are wilderness educators and advocates who promote protection, volunteerism and stewardship of Tennessee's wild places. Ken Jones, a volunteer and trustee of the Benton-MacKaye Trail Association, also served as a trail supervisor. The Broads circled up, chose their hard hats, and learned

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Linda Salazar is a real hugger.

Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest

Most of the Broadwalkers visited this magnificent old growth forest remnant during the weekend. Walking through the cove hardwood forest with towering trees up to 450 years old, enormous tulip-poplars more than 20 feet in circumference and 100 feet tall, was a spiritual and moving experience - to be savored. It required that we each take the time to touch ancient bark, reach arms around trunks, sit upon giant roots, gaze skyward at gnarled and weathered treetops and to connect with others who were similarly experiencing such a wonderfully unique place. One could catch a glimpse of the virgin Appalachian hardwood forests that dominated the landscapes prior to their wholesale devastation by logging interests in the early 1900s and find gratitude that we saved this small piece of it.

TENNESSEE: Senators Introduce TN Wilderness Act of 2010

In late June, Senators Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker introduced a bill in Congress that would expand five existing wilderness areas (Big Frog, Little Frog, Joyce Kilmer Slickrock, Big Laurel Branch and Sampson Mountain) in the Cherokee National Forest and create the new Upper Bald River Wilderness -- located in Monroe County east of Tellico Plains, right on the North Carolina border. This effort to protect 9,556 acres of the Cherokee National Forest for both current

public uses such as hunting and grazing.

In addition, the bill creates nearly three miles of non-wilderness buffer area and an additional two-mile "Restricted Use Area" that would prohibit motorized access by the general public, but permit the Border Patrol to conduct routine patrols and construct communication and surveillance infrastructure. The measure is now ready for consideration by the full Senate, after which it must go to the House.

The bill removes more than 30,000 acres of land currently designated as wilderness study area. The Obama administra-

ment of Transportation to use Wild Utah Project's Rapid Stream Riparian Assessment Method to assess all ephemeral and perennial streams that need to be assessed for the department's project mitigation measures. Wild Utah Project will be conducting trainings on use of the protocol.

This is a huge "win" for the easy to use but ecologically based protocol that Great Old Broads for Wilderness helped the Wild Utah Project refine via our annual Days in the Desert Workshops. Use of RSRA by agencies and conservation

Broads Beat

Updates on issues that have seen Broad action

and future generations was the focus of Broads just completed TN Broadwalk (story on page 3).

It is the first time in nearly 25 years that legislation has been proposed to protect Tennessee wilderness. Go to www.tnwild.org for more.

NEW MEXICO: Wilderness Bill Moves Out of Senate Committee

A bill designating almost 350,000 acres in Doña Ana County as wilderness and conservation areas was unanimously approved by a Senate committee in late July.

The Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks Wilderness Act, sponsored by New Mexico's U.S. Senators Jeff Bingaman and Tom Udall, will protect the granite peaks of the Organ Mountains and the volcanic cinder cones of the Portillo Mountains from development while allowing for continued

tion testified before the Energy Committee that it supported the legislation and the Border Patrol issued a letter of support.

Broads hosted a Broadwalk in support of the citizen's proposal for wilderness protection in Doña Ana County in 2007. Go to www.nmwild.org for more.

ARIZONA: ADOT Adopts Stream Assessment Protocol

The Army Corps of Engineers in Arizona recently directed the Arizona Depart-

ment of Transportation to use Wild Utah Project's Rapid Stream Riparian Assessment Method to assess all ephemeral and perennial streams that need to be assessed for the department's project mitigation measures. Wild Utah Project will be conducting trainings on use of the protocol.

ALASKA: Wilderness Review for Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced in late September it would conduct a wilderness review of three areas of the refuge, including the coastal plain, believed to contain an estimated 11 billion barrels of recoverable oil. A wilderness designation, which ultimately would require an act of Congress, would preclude petroleum drilling. The announcement infuriated Alaska's Congressional delegation who called a wilderness review "a colossal waste of limited resources" and wants instead to develop the resources believed to be beneath the coastal plain. The Fish and Wildlife Service is responding to public comments made as the agency updated its Comprehensive Conservation Plan.

Broads hosted a Broadfloat on the Hula Hula River in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in 2003. Go to www.alaskawild.org for more.



Organ Mountains saddle area, NM, looking west.

COLORADO: Hidden Gems Wilderness Bill Introduced

U.S. Rep. Jared Polis, D-CO, after extensive work with stakeholders and detailed examination of the proposal, introduced the Eagle and Summit County Wilderness Preservation Act as Congress adjourned for the elections. The bill would designate almost 88,000 acres as wilderness and another 78,000 acres as special management areas, which have greater protection than many public lands but not as strict of rules as wilderness.

Polis' wilderness bill shaves about 78,000 acres off the Hidden Gems Wilderness proposal for Eagle and Summit



Cindy Magnuson and Laurae Fortner-Welch hike in Hidden Gems Wilderness during the HG Broadwalk in 2009.

counties. A coalition of environmental groups that promoted the Hidden Gems asked the congressman to place wilderness on about 244,000 acres in the two counties. The Hidden Gems campaign also targets additional lands in Pitkin and Gunnison counties.

Polis concentrated on Eagle and Summit counties for his bill, and only on lands where there was a consensus among forest user groups. Areas of controversy could be revisited at a later time. The International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) has posted an endorsement of the Polis bill on its website saying that months of negotiations among its office, Polis' staff and mountain biking clubs in Eagle and Summit counties produced a "reshaped" wilderness bill it could support. More than 67,000 acres that

were once considered for wilderness were adjusted to accommodate existing mountain biking trails and preserve the potential for future development.

In 2009 Broads hosted a Hidden Gems Broadwalk. Go to www.wildernessworkshop.org for more.

Broads to Administration: Cut Livestock Subsidy to Fix Agency Budgets

In July, Broads signed onto a letter sent to the Obama administration detailing how the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service can meet the president's June 8 directive to cut 5 percent from agency budgets: reform or eliminate the money-losing, habitat-destroying public lands livestock grazing program.

"Instead of trimming the budget, the agencies should start by cutting their losses," said Greta Anderson, Arizona director of Western Watersheds Project. "The grazing fee has failed to keep pace with inflation, failed to cover even the administrative costs of operating the grazing program, and incentivizes destructive grazing practices on public land. In a time of budget crisis, it makes good economic sense to address these issues."

The two agencies charge a paltry \$1.35 monthly fee for each cow and calf (known as an Animal Unit Month or AUM) that are grazed on public lands. That's far below private market rates and far short of providing enough revenue to correct the ecological damage caused by grazing.

The Government Accountability Office reported in 2005 that the BLM loses



Steamboat Broad Hikes the Colorado Trail

In May 2009, Sherry Benson, a member of Broads from Steamboat Springs, joined six other women on a series of hikes that would take them the entire length of the Colorado Trail over the course of 15 months. They hiked for a week at a time and covered the 485.8-mile trail, which runs through the Rocky Mountains from Denver to Durango, in 39 days. Six of the seven women, age 55 to 69, made it to the finish line in early August, 2010. For a story about their feat, written by Joel Reichenberger and published in Steamboat Today, go to <http://www.steamboatpilot.com/news/2010/aug/29/joel-reichenberger-revealing-walk-woods/>

Pictured above are l-r, Louise McCleod, Monique Mustard, Sherry Benson, Mary Ellen Shaughnessy, Marilyn Palmer, and Sue Swain.

\$46.5 million every year administering its grazing program. That's equal to 5 percent of the agency's 2011 budget request. The Forest Service loses at least \$69.5 million dollars a year on its grazing program, which is equivalent to more than 1 percent of its 2011 budget request.

The letter to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and Interior Secretary Ken Salazar was submitted by Western Watersheds Project, WildEarth Guardians, Center for Biological Diversity, Great Old Broads for Wilderness, Ventana Wilderness Alliance, Public Lands Without Livestock, and Sequoia ForestKeeper.

Broads advocates for responsible management of grazing and permanent retirement of certain grazing permits on our public lands in order to maintain ecological health of wild lands. Go to www.wildearthguardians.org for more.

Tennessee Broadwalking

Continued from page 3

how to handle a Pulaski (a heavy grubbing tool with both an ax and grubbing hoe on an ax-handle). The Pulaski, considered primitive as all tools in Wilderness must be, proved the major tool for the day's projects. Safety was repeatedly emphasized.

Jeff's group was assigned trail work in the Citico Wilderness Area. Erosion from above had narrowed the trail, which was cut into the steep mountainside. The group widened the trail by hacking into the excess dirt with Pulaskis and fire rakes and pushing the loose dirt over the edge. The trail was made safer by its increased width. In spots, the eroded trail needed to be rebuilt. Although the group worked tirelessly, more work could easily have been done. The project emphasized the important role volunteers play in maintaining public lands trails.

The second group, led by Ken, scraped down the earth berms that had formed on a trail's edge. The berms acted like dams and held water after a rainfall so that the trail remained muddy and dangerous. Once again, Pulaskis were the chief tool and required energy and muscles. By the end of the day, most of the Great Old Broads were ready for hot showers, happy hour, and food.

After dinner, Ken Jones, the volunteer whose efforts contributed significantly to the establishment of the Benton-MacKaye Trail (BMT) regaled us with a history of that project. He noted that the BMT was named for the Massachusetts forester who conceived the Appalachian Trail (AT) and that the BMT can be intersected at a number of points so that hikes can be casual or serious. A loop of the BMT is over 500 miles. Like the AT, the BMT is maintained by dedicated volunteers. Bill and Laura Hodge, both professional photographers, concluded the evening with a program of TN wilderness images.



Ahhh - Fog, rain, and mist from the waterfall - nature's skin hydration formula.

Saturday was an exciting day. Hiking began and so did black bear and boar hunting seasons. Dogs and hunters with their muzzle loaders could be heard in the woods, and bear scat peppered the trails. I chose the hike to Wicks Meadow, a beautifully open space on a mountaintop called a "bald" that boasts a 360 degree view of Tennessee and into North Carolina. The hike followed a path, probably once a railroad bed built by loggers, through the largely second and third growth forest. Fortunately, our group had both Jeff and biologist/botanist Dr. Doris Gove along with us, who provided details about nature's complex organization as we hiked.

Along the way, Jeff could not resist turning over the stones in the shallow streams in search of salamanders. The sun's rays streaked through any opening in the forest canopy, so that its mottled light formed patterns on the largely green understory. Once the scattered leaves caused us to look up to discover the brilliant red umbrella of a

maple tree. We met a mother and daughter as we hiked the trail and found a host of college students camping at the base of the meadow - all were enjoying the beauty and peacefulness of this wilderness area.

We returned to Hidden Lake just in time to meet Katherine Foster, Tellico District Ranger for the Cherokee National Forest. She discussed some of the many management concerns unique to her District, (not the least of which is funding). She said that with the support of wilderness groups, the Forest Service closed an ATV play area near the headwaters of the Tellico River to motorized use. That decision produced immediate results. Now, instead of the river's filling with mud every time it rains, the waters continue to run clear. The Forest Service, she noted, remains helpless to combat the loss of the hemlocks from the invasive

hemlock woolly adelgid but they are engaged in a cross-pollination program in hopes of restoring the American chestnuts.

After dinner, Jeff Hunter's presentation on the details of the TN Wild campaign pulled together information we'd been exposed to throughout the weekend and told us how we could help new "Wilderness" designations become a reality. Hike reports and descriptions were shared and we began dreaming of the next day's adventures.

Sunday, I chose the waterfall hike. Fog settled over the area and rain threatened. We followed Bill through a different kind of woods. The giant rhododendrons were ever-present and a few old growth trees towered over the steep hillsides. Their location had saved them from the saw blade. The moist ground showed recent activity of boars digging wallows, uprooting plants, and overturning soil. Bear scat was fresh. Dogs, motorcycles and automobiles

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HOW TO BECOME AN AUCTION JUNKIE

BY SUSAN CRAIG

Hi, my name is Susan and I'm a *Wild for Wilderness* auction junkie. There, I've said it. It's an addiction that is fun, rewarding and a boost for the Great Old Broads for Wilderness budget. You can't say the same for just any old addiction.

It all began with Libby Ingalls, whose apartment in San Francisco appeared on-line in 2006 and I decided it was the perfect way to enjoy a visit to that city. It really became quite an obsession for a week or two. However, at the end of the auction, it seemed that I hadn't high-bid anything, so I regretfully bid farewell to the auction and vowed to figure out how to do things better the next year.

Imagine my astonishment when a notice came through saying I was the successful bidder for the apartment!

My husband (a Great Old "Bro") and I traveled to San Francisco, loved our stay and reaped the further benefit of a wonderful friendship with Libby.

The following year, three bidding successes! My husband I took three short jaunts to Colorado, two b&b's and a weekend at Lynn and Mark Prebble's incredible home overlooking the Wet Mountain Valley.

2008 saw us taking off for D.C. for a stay in Donna Smith's townhome, a marvelous experience with the 'hostess with the mostest' and her scrumptious rooftop garden breakfasts. We also had a return visit to a Colorado b&b and, even though I wasn't high bidder for another Colorado b&b, we went there anyway because it looked so great on the auction site. (This worked out well, as last year we returned, high bid in hand.)

Then, I admit, I became crazed. In 2009 all of our travel was planned around Broads auction homestays or b&b's. A person could just travel from Broad to Broad, so to speak, and never run out of fascinating and

<http://auction.greatoldbroads.org>

delightful places to visit. We managed to outbid seven, count 'em, seven times and so our year's travel plans were set.

And what a year! Two beautiful stays in the country north of San Francisco, two amazing places in southeastern Utah that gave us splendid scope for petroglyph-hunting and hiking, a trio of spots in Colorado and a grand visit with Carolyn Jones and George Steigerwald in their hand-built New Mexico home, an auction stay I'd stalked for years and finally won – I felt like an Olympics victor.

In 2010? We're off on a National Parks tour, to two Broads homes near Zion and Bryce parks, and more Colorado adventures.

And next year...

The annual on-line auction is an endeavor requiring a huge amount of effort on the part of many people. It succeeds only if we, all of us, support it, bid for all the lovely stuff that's on it (not just vacation stays, but all the books and gear and exciting unique experiences) and attract donations to it from our own areas. One of the nifty things you can do is to donate a vacation stay at your own home, hosted or unhosted. Our home is offered each year during the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, and while Broads from here or there enjoy what New Mexico has to offer, we are off on auction stays elsewhere.

This entire network of Broads members and supporters is yours at the tap of a computer key each November. I get a real rush just knowing I'm part of this incredible collection of people all dedicated to the same goals of preserving and protecting our wilderness, working together with our money, our feet and our hearts.

Try the auction – you'll like it! And if you get carried away, just call 1-800-AUCTIONJUNKIETHERAPY for help. Don't call me. I'll be off visiting some Great Old Broads.



In the Wet Mountains of CO: Carolyn Snow, Joe Rook, Lynn Prebble, Mark Dembosky, Susan Craig and Colston Chandler.

Get Wild for Wilderness!

↗ Browse and bid NOW on our annual Wild for Wilderness On-line Auction!

Don't forget to share the link with your friends.

Thank you 2010 Auction sponsors!



Study A Broad:

Maggie Fox - A Life Rooted in Wild,

Maggie Fox may spend many hours in a Washington, DC office these days but her heart is in the wide, wild, open spaces of America's southwest. Keeping her in DC, is her position as President and C.E.O. of The Alliance for Climate Protection, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization founded in 2006 by Vice President and Nobel laureate Al Gore – a position that keeps Maggie at the forefront of world-wide efforts to protect the planet from climatic catastrophe and, incidentally, protect all wild places around the globe.

Raised on the coast of North Carolina, the backdrop of her first outdoor experiences was the vast vista of the sea. “I spent huge amounts of time outside,” she said. “It’s a defining element of who I am.” After earning a bachelor of arts degree from the University of North Carolina, Maggie decided to tour the country in a VW van. She wanted to “see the world,” as she put it.

“When I hit the west, everything in my being was saying that I’d come home. I felt that way from the first moment I saw the Four Corners area” (where the borders of Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah meet in a single point), she said.

She earned a master’s in education from the University of Colorado and took a teaching position for the Navajo and Hopi Tribes near Flagstaff, Arizona. “I taught young children,” she said, “preschool and kindergarten and beyond that I became a community organizer with a focus on the environment.” At that time (the late 1970s), there was a push from a local family to expand the facilities at the ski slope on the San Francisco peaks, Snow Bowl. The family had accumulated enough parcels of land under various names to construct a ski village complete with gondola.

“It would have had a huge impact on the entire ecosystem from the peaks to the Grand Canyon,” Maggie said. “The only voices missing were the Tribes (Navajo and Hopi).”

She changed that. She organized an awareness-raising concert with Linda Ronstadt, Jackson Browne, and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band to be performed in the Northern Arizona University gym in Flagstaff. They had to retrofit the gym by hanging 12x12 rugs on the walls and from the ceiling to make it suitable for the bands’ huge sound systems. It took weeks of begging and borrowing, she said, to get enough rugs (many of them Navajo weaves) for the project. “Wonderful thing, though - Navajo and Hopi elders attended,” she said. “We finally won the battle, but it looks like there’s another push to expand the ski area again,” she added.

“As a teacher of young children, this (event organization) was seen as so much trouble,” she said. “So I went to part-time as a teacher and worked with the Navajo DNA organization, their legal entity.”

In 1978, she earned a law degree (Environmental Law and Native America Natural Resources) from Lewis & Clark Northwestern School



Maggie.

of Law (Portland, Oregon). “At that time there were only two or three law schools that offered an environmental law curriculum. Northwestern had all that I was passionate about. For the externship, most of the others went to DC,” she said. “I chose to go to the Native American Rights Fund in Boulder, Colorado, where I worked on oil and gas leasing on Native American land.”

All during this time and prior, Maggie worked for Outward Bound. She started with them in North Carolina and continued in Colorado and for the Northwest region during summer breaks even through law school. “My husband and I ran one Outward Bound mountaineering expedition outside the country each year.”

Since those early years, Maggie has continued to be busy. She was National President of America Votes, a progressive coalition of more than 40 organizations spearheading the largest voter mobilization and education effort in the nation. She served as the Deputy Executive Director of the Sierra Club where she oversaw the start of the Sierra Club’s decadal strategic shift to focus primarily on building environmental community. She led numerous federal, state and regional policy efforts on climate change, energy policy, western public lands and water, Native American natural resource issues, and

Change is not an ‘issue.’ It’s a reality.”

Open Spaces

agricultural reform in her 20 years with the Sierra Club.

A Broad from the beginning, Maggie was on the Great Old Broads for Wilderness Board of Directors in the early days. “I was in the first class,” she boasted. “We were in the company of these amazing women - Dottie Fox, Connie Harvey, Edie Pierpont, Ginger Harmon, Frandee Johnson, Cecelia Hurwich, Marilyn Price-Rheinbolt,” she said with both admiration and awe. “The rest of us were mere facilitators, helping them organize for wilderness.”

Maggie crossed paths with the Broads original Executive Director Susan Tixier during her travels for the Sierra

Club. “I traveled between Salt Lake City, Denver, and West Texas as a lawyer for the SW Regional Office. Susan worked on Utah wilderness. Any time there was a Utah coalition wilderness proposal, Susan showed up.”

“When I started on the reservation,” Maggie said. “I was intent on protecting wilderness values with specific regard to the oil and gas industry (and recreation). I ended up focusing on climate change - a global context - which I think of as a natural evolution for me.”

When she’s not in DC, Maggie lives with her husband, Colorado Senator

Mark Udall, and their two college-age children in Eldorado Canyon, Colorado.

Maggie leaves us with a sobering thought. “Climate change is not an ‘issue,’” She said. “It’s a reality that we have to face and adjust to. It’s subtle in theory, but not very subtle in impact. Think of glaciers. I always thought of glaciers as permanent. But that reality has shifted in just the last 20 years. The rate of climate change is like the rate of glacier melt - it’s increasing exponentially.”

See more about Maggie’s passion on The Alliance for Climate Protection website: www.climateprotect.org.

-Anne Benson

DC Broads

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appreciation by the land managers, who seemed to recognize HLP as a needed source of qualitative data about impacts on landscapes. They shared contacts, information, and encouragement to help our quest for partnerships with both agencies that could produce funding and personnel for expanding HLP’s use and effectiveness.

Our on-line database provides the sort of platform needed by them to access geo-referenced photographs and information about conditions on the ground in their areas, and its use of Google Earth 3D technology gives a compelling view of actual landscapes and the human impacts upon them. It is our intention to expand in the future to include more types of data and monitoring, such as winter travel (over-snow-vehicles) and grazing impacts.

The legislators who took the time to visit with us exhibited enthusiasm for wilderness protection during their brief appearances, but it is painfully obvious that our issue is, at best, far down their priority lists, and at worst, wilderness legislation is a headache that pits land protection against jobs, energy development, agricultural, and recreational interests. Managing wilderness costs money, although not nearly as much as managing land that is drilled, logged, mined, and roaded.

The current crop of wilderness bills and proposals is heavy on local collaboration and “buy-in” which is understandable given the tenuous nature of many congressional positions in the upcoming election. Rep. John Salazar’s San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act (see Broader Wilderness on page 11 of

this issue) is one of the few bills that had broad community support, as compared to the more contentious Montana Jobs and Recreation Act and the Central Idaho Economic Development and Recreation Act, whose very titles verify their murky focus on wilderness protections.

Nevertheless, there is a fine crop of wilderness proposals making their sometimes tortuous way through the marble halls of congress, and it was our privilege to be present to speak out in support of our wondrous wild public lands.

Our stay was made even more pleasant by the hospitality of Broads board member Donna Smith, former legislative counsel for Congresswoman Susan Davis of California. Donna’s “insider” knowledge is always invaluable for us westerners trying to navigate in the Capitol.

OREGON: Mount Hood National Forest restricts off-road vehicles

The Mount Hood National Forest issued a Travel Management Plan in August that closes 93 percent of roads and trails to off-highway vehicle use. The Mount Hood plan prohibits cross-country travel and restricts off-highway vehicles, or OHVs, to 146 miles of roads and trails within the sprawling forest, which covers parts of Clackamas, Hood River, Wasco, and Multnomah counties, and small portions of Marion and Jefferson counties. Four-wheel-drive vehicles, ATVs and dirt bikes can now only go in designated areas of the Mount Hood National Forest. Previously, the forest operated on an "open unless posted closed" policy and off-roaders had access to nearly 2,500 miles of roads and trails.

Responding to a Forest Service directive to get a handle on the noise, damage, and intrusive nature of four-wheel-drive rigs and dirt bikes in the nation's forests, Mount Hood is concentrating trail riding in four designated areas that will have formal staging facilities. Go to www.oregonwild.org for more.

COLORADO: Vermillion Basin to be off-limits to drillers

The Vermillion Basin, a remote area of northwest Colorado prized by hunters and hikers for its remote wilderness character, will be made unavailable to oil and gas development, the Bureau of Land Management announced in late September.

Per the BLM, both the Vermillion Basin and other wilderness study areas in the Little Snake area will be off-limits to oil and gas leasing in the yet-to-be-released RMP, which must

undergo a 30-day protest period and 60-day review by the Colorado governor's office to ensure consistency with state law. A final record of decision is expected next spring.

The decision by BLM to prohibit drilling in the Vermillion Basin has added significance because the area was mentioned in a leaked Interior memo referencing 14 areas that could be eligible for national monument designations by President Obama. The document generated a furor among

lands of Desolation Canyon will be protected from the sight and sound of industrial development even during the development and extraction of substantial natural gas reserves that Barrett currently has under lease on the West Tavaputs Plateau.

Because of the agreement, they will now keep drill pads out of proposed Wilderness areas around Desolation Canyon and away from the canyon's many

Native American archeological sites, including in Nine Mile Canyon, a tributary canyon whose walls host the nation's largest collection of Native American rock art. Go to www.suwa.org for more.

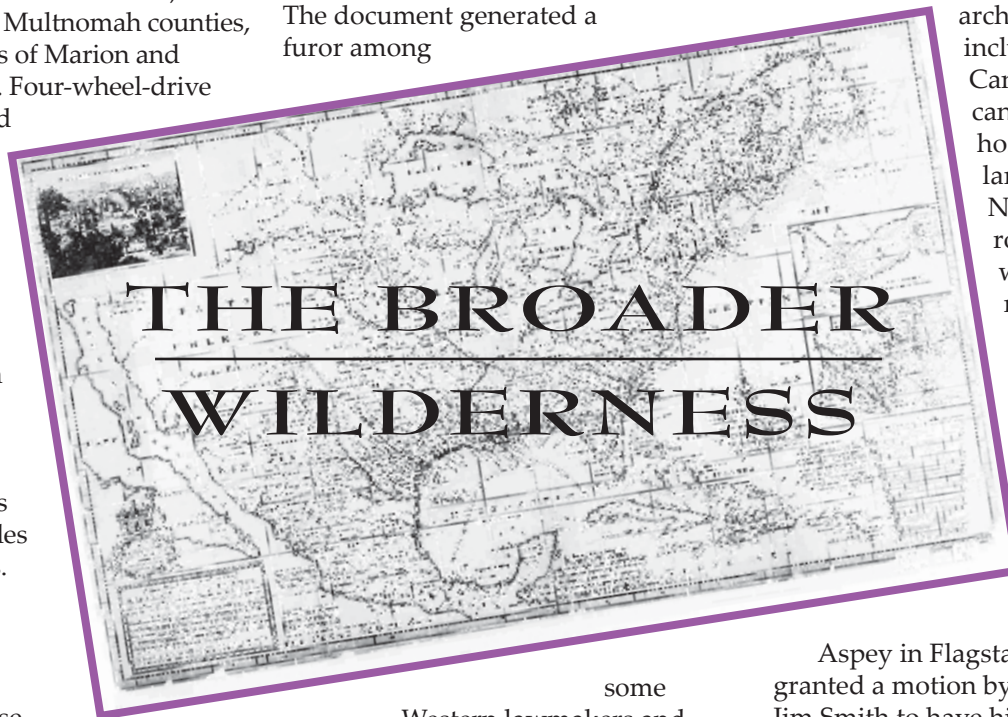
ARIZONA: Forest Service Recreation Fee Ticket Dismissed

Federal
Magistrate
Judge Mark

Aspey in Flagstaff, Arizona, granted a motion by Sedona resident Jim Smith to have his ticket for failure to pay a Forest Service recreation fee (i.e. have a Red Rock Pass) dismissed.

Jim parked overnight at the Vulture Arch Trailhead, a dirt parking lot with no amenities accessed by a rough dirt road. He backpacked into the Coconino National Forest and returned to find a ticket on his car because it did not display a Red Rock Pass.

The law governing recreation fees specifically prohibits fees for parking, general access, walking through federal land without using facilities and services, camping in dispersed undeveloped areas, or in any location that does not offer reasonable access to six specific amenities: permanent toilet, permanent trash container, picnic table, developed parking, interpretive signage, and security



some Western lawmakers and drew legislation from Colorado's Republican representatives seeking to strip the president's authority to designate national monuments under the Antiquities Act. Go to <http://wilderness.org> for more.

UTAH: Agreement Protects Desolation Canyon/Allows for Development

In late July after years of negotiation, conservation groups, led by the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, resolved a long-running struggle over natural gas drilling around Desolation Canyon of the Green River, one of the West's most iconic and wildest stretches.

Through an historic agreement with the Denver-based Bill Barrett Corporation, the wilderness quality

services. The Vulture Arch Trailhead offers none of these amenities.

This decision renders moot the signs in the Red Rock Pass area that say you have to buy a pass to park anywhere on the National Forest, and makes it unlikely that the Coconino - or any other National Forest - can ever again successfully prosecute someone for not having a pass at trailheads or dispersed camping areas.

NEW MEXICO: Feds Will Conduct Full Review of Mexican Wolf's Legal Status

In response to a formal petition, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published a notice in August that the Mexican wolf (or "lobo") may warrant listing under the Endangered Species Act. WildEarth Guardians and The Rewilding Institute filed a petition in August 2009 requesting the lobo be listed under the Endangered Species Act, separately from other types of wolves.

In the finding, the Service recognized threats from illegal killings, vehicular collisions, and habitat loss. The



Mexican wolf photo courtesy of Lobos of the Southwest - www.mexicanwolves.org.

Service will now conduct a full status review of the Mexican wolf to determine whether to add the subspecies to the endangered species list separately from other wolves.

Since the groups filed their petition, the Mexican wolf's status has deteriorated further. Over one month this summer, three wolves were shot. In total, at least 34 illegal shootings have occurred since lobo reintroduction began. The federal government has itself removed 151

Mexican wolves from the wild.

Trapping is a further danger. Private trappers have captured at least 14 Mexican wolves since the reintroduction program began. WildEarth Guardians and partner groups filed formal requests with the Service and the U.S. Forest Service in June requesting that traps and snares be banned from the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area to make the zone safe for wolves. The agencies have not responded to those requests. However, New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson announced a six-month ban on trapping in the New Mexico portion of the wolf recovery area beginning November 1. Go to www.mexicanwolves.org for more.

CALIFORNIA: Coast Range Conservation Area Proposed

A half-million-acre section of the inner coast range ranging from the craggy 7,000 foot peak of Snow Mountain in the Mendocino National Forest in the north down to the unspoiled rivers and rolling oak woodlands near Lake Berryessa in the south is being considered for designation as the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Conservation Area.

The 436,077 acre proposed Conservation Area focuses on a 100-mile swath of wild lands between the Bay Area and Sacramento that span seven counties - Glenn, Colusa, Lake, Yolo, Napa, Mendocino, and Solano.

Snow Mountain is already a nationally-designated wilderness area in the Mendocino National Forest, as designated by the Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Wilderness Act in 2006. State and local groups have pressed hard to unify a patchwork of land managed by more than a dozen federal, state and local agencies into a national conservation area. The area was included on the Interior Department's "leaked" list of potential monuments.

COLORADO: San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act Clears Committee

In late June, the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources passed Rep. John Salazar's San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act of 2009. This legislation includes 61,682 acres of public land on portions of the Grand Mesa,



Colorado's San Juan Mountains.

Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest, the San Juan National Forest and the San Juan Bureau of Land Management Resource Area and will provide permanent protection for some of Colorado's most renowned views and mountains including the slopes of Mt. Sneffels and Wilson Peak.

It is lauded as an exemplary wilderness bill due to its overwhelming and broad-based support from conservation groups, homeowners associations, mountain bikers and the local communities themselves. Protecting Colorado's wild lands is recognized as important for the surrounding area's social and economic well-being. The bill will protect much of the iconic viewshed above the Town of Telluride as seen from Telluride Ski Area.

The San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act now moves toward a vote by the full House of Representatives. Go to www.sanjuancitizens.org for more.

GRAND JUNCTION (CO)

Janice Shepherd and Donna Jones participated in a National Public Lands Day event by joining a work crew to repair the trail head of a local popular trail called the "Mica Mine" trail. The crew worked hard, had fun, and made a great improvement to the trail.

Jan Burch and Joyce Olson attended an Audubon Society event that day - helping out and drumming up new Broadbands members.



Grand Junction Mica Mine Trail work.

seldom-visited portions of the Skokomish watershed.

Throughout the summer OFCO trained nearly a dozen volunteers from the Polly Dyer/Cascadia

Broadband in data collection, GPS use, map and compass reading, and identification of features such as landslides and tension cracks that can contribute sediment to streams, thus posing risks to water quality and threatened or endangered fish.

POLLY DYER/CASCADIA (WA)

This summer, the Polly Dyer/Cascadia Broadband and the Olympic Forest Coalition (OFCO) teamed up for walking surveys of non-system Forest Service roads in the South Fork Skokomish watershed. Although the SF Skokomish is currently a focus watershed for restoration and road decommissioning in the Olympic National Forest, there are many roads in the watershed that were decommissioned nearly 20 years ago and little is known about their current condition and potential for risk to streams and rivers. By putting "boots on the ground," OFCO and the Great Old Broadbands are helping provide information to the Forest Service about these

FOUR CORNERS (CO)

On June 19, 2010, the Four Corners Broadband spent several hours working to close non-approved ATV trails on Middle Mountain Road, near Durango. After breakfast, the band met up with several women from the Forest Service, split into two groups and went to work! They were joined by a gentleman from Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, as well as a couple of people from the Vallecito



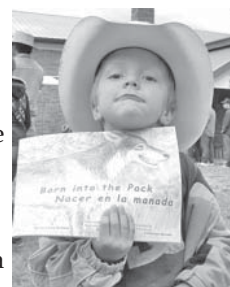
Four Corners Middle Mountain Clean-up.

Conservation and Sporting Association. One group went to the top of the road to help post permanent closure signs and block unapproved route access, while the other group started at the bottom and worked their way up.

The Forest Service was very pleased to get these routes blocked before the busy holiday weekend. A trip up Middle Mountain Road at the end of July showed that most of the routes remain blocked. There was one route that had been partially cleared but not used yet. They're not sure if off-roaders gave up or were just getting started in clearing it. "Our group was very thorough in blocking the routes, so it will be a lot of work clearing them!" said Laurie Parkinson and Lee Verner, Co-Leaders of the Broadband.

NUTRIOSO (AZ) IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF LEOPOLD

The Broadband attended a local barbeque where they distributed a children's book by Maria Retana, Born Into the Pack. They reported terrible rains that day so crowds were down or hunkered down under tarps. The books were still a hit.



TETON VALLEY (WY) WHALES

Representatives of the Teton Broadband have been attending public meetings on their Forest Travel Management Plan and the Yellowstone Winter Management Plan to represent non-motorized users. Broadband Leader Janna Rankin noted that she was outnumbered by a considerable number at the Forest Plan meeting.

more ➡



Teton Valley annual poltuck, hike, and kayak.

In July, the group helped the Friends of the Teton River with a river bank stabilization/restoration project. Also in July, the Broadband helped with the Tin Cup Challenge, an annual community-wide fun-run to benefit the Community Foundation. Broads worked the registration tables for the weeks before the race, distributed T-shirts, provided personnel for the first aide stations along the route, handed out breakfast burritos provided by McDonalds, judged the contests, and ran the various races. The Broadband is also a member of a group of organizations involved in wilderness in the Jackson Hole area that meets once a month.



BUHMPBALL ON THE MALL

Broads invented a new game that we call BUHMPball (Broads Using Humor to Make a Point) involving leaf blowers and a beach or exercise ball. We play when we want to inform people about how inappropriate activities in public places such as parks, wilderness or other sensitive areas can lead

to resource damage and user conflicts. We played it like old-fashioned dodge-ball, but there could be goals, etc. The inaugural game was played on the National Mall last month. It could be a great activity for Broadbands wishing to draw attention to the issue of unmanaged motorized recreation on our public lands. For more, go to Ms. Magazine blog at <http://msmagazine.com/>

Broadband Leader Boot Camp 2011 **March 17-21, Moab, Utah**

Calling all Broads! We're planning our third annual Broadband Leader Boot Camp and we're seeking leader-types who are interested in leading a Broadband.

Broadbands are groups of Broads members who seek connection with other like-minded souls for the purposes of advocating for wilderness and wild lands, sharing information, volunteering, and simply having fun with activities such as hiking or snowshoeing.

There are currently 24 Broadbands in 15 states from Florida to Washington and from Idaho to New Mexico. Go to www.greatoldbroads.org/local_broads.htm for Broadband locations. These groups are led by volunteer Broadband leaders who attend our leadership Boot Camps. Boot Camp 2011 will happen March 17-21, at Pack Creek Ranch near Moab, Utah. We will train up to 15 new volunteer leaders from across the country to organize local Broads and to advocate for wilderness and wild lands. Jane and Ken Sleight (inspiration for Seldom Seen Smith from Ed Abbey's Monkey Wrench Gang) are our hosts.

Broad leaders will be trained in 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. The training will run for three full days and four evenings over a working weekend.

We have been funded for Boot Camp by Ben and Jerry's Foundation and can offer this training, including meals and lodging, at no cost to the participants. Participants will be responsible for travel to Moab

(we can help with ride shares), attending the full Boot Camp training, and developing a one-year plan for their Broadband.

Broadbands increase the effectiveness of the Great Old Broads at the local level. They recruit new members and host awareness-raising activities such as hikes and speaker-events, share information on wilderness issues, communicate with the media, arrange for monitoring trainings and legislative visits, and engage in service projects in the region. After the training, Broadband Leaders stay connected with staff and other Broadband leaders to share ideas and inspiration.

Interested members may nominate themselves for Boot Camp 2011 by submitting an application at www.greatoldbroads.org/boot_camp_ap.php.

Participants will be selected based on the following criteria:

- 1) How well the candidate embodies "Broadness" and a wilderness protection ethic
- 2) Availability for the required Boot Camp training time commitment
- 3) Availability and willingness to make a 2-year commitment to getting a group "off the ground"
- 4) Demonstrated ability to work successfully with various individuals and organizations
- 5) Unique strengths and experience the candidate can bring to the table, contributing to the success of her Broadband

To view the Broadband Leader Position Description, go to www.greatoldbroads.org/bb_leader_pd.pdf

Questions? Contact Rose Chilcoat at 970-385-9577 or rose@greatoldbroads.org.

ON FACEBOOK? Become a Fan of Great Old Broads for Wilderness. Search our name and **don't forget to invite all your friends!!**

BROAD SENSE: TRACTION

Continued from page 2

used in drafting management plans for two badly degraded grazing allotments (and, we hope, to serve as models for other allotments on the forest!). The desired and agreed upon results include the restoration of beavers to at least two drainages in the Beaver(!) Mountains and the rehabilitation of aspen and other native plant species.

With this partnership under our belts, we have been actively engaged with improving conditions on BLM grazing allotments in San Juan County, Utah. Rose Chilcoat has been our lead in both of these projects, attending many meetings and field trips and developing good working relationships with both BLM staff and permittees.

One of the things Rose has introduced to the discussion in San Juan County is the potential for permanent buyout and retirement of grazing permits from willing sellers. While this will require legislative changes to ensure true retirement of a permit and currently the only avenue for this to occur is via private funds, the idea has drawn interest from several area ranchers who hold permits for over 1 million acres of desert and canyons. Rose has also helped frustrated local residents communicate their concerns and move ideas forward to work with permittees in ways that should result in improved and restored native plant communities as well as better community relations.

Great Old Broads has been a co-plaintiff or otherwise involved in actions by conservationists to reform grazing management. In one, a federal appeals court barred the Bureau of Land Management from pushing through Bush-era changes in how the government oversees grazing, which would have restricted citizen involvement in grazing plans as well as loosened land-health standards. Victory in a Freedom of Information Act suit brought by Advocates for the West requires BLM to release the names and addresses of permittees to the public, something that the Forest Service has always done. In July, we signed on to

a letter to Congress and the President suggesting that one way to help reduce the federal deficit would be to require the agencies to charge grazing fees that recoup government expenditures. (The Government Accountability Office reported in 2005 that the BLM loses \$46.5 million every year and the Forest Service loses 69.5 million administering its grazing program.)

This is exactly the sort of “bridge” role in which Broads excel - bringing together seemingly disparate interests who often discover that they have more in common than they have to

argue about. We’re very excited with the “maturing” of both of our major initiatives, and expect to see them, and Great Old Broads, grow stronger and even more effective in the near future. As always, our members are the backbone of all of these efforts, and we couldn’t have done any of it without your support! You can be sure that we still hold our line on healthy lands management practices, whether in designated wilderness or on other public land, and we’re well aware of the possible difficulties ahead, but that has never stopped a bunch of determined Old Broads!

More TN Broadwalking

Continued from page 6

could be heard nearby even as we were encircled by green. Large roots often created natural stairsteps for our steep descents while nurse logs displayed their wealth of new life. The fog added an eerie sense of wonder. We seemed to be going straight down, until without any notice there appeared a narrow waterway filled with huge boulders. “Time for a rock scramble.” As we looked up, the water moved quietly, almost gently, on its way over the face of the black stone mountain whose children littered the landscape below. The silence of the woods was audible, as every eye was fixed on the magical waterfall. Even Bill, who had seen the waterfall in all kinds of weather was in awe of this fog-encased scene. Rain caused us to pull ourselves away as we made our climb back to the top - going up was a bit harder than going down.

Our group stopped at a local café on our way back to camp. Hot food and drink was welcome, and we also wrote postcards to Tennessee senators, thanking them for sponsoring the new wilderness bill. Back in camp, we found our second wind, making happy hour a valuable time for questions and answers on wilderness issues and Broads work.

After dinner, our speaker was Leonard Winchester, Chair of the Citizens for the

Economic Future of Swain County, NC, who gave us an update and thanked us profusely for our work to protect the Smoky Mountains National Park from the proposed North Shore Road (focus of a Broadwalk in 2005) and asked us to help ensure that the cash settlement to the county is fully funded.

The few days of this Broadwalk passed quickly. In the beginning, a collection of broad-minded women from all over the country—Michigan, New Jersey, Arizona, Tennessee, Utah, Colorado, Texas, Maryland, Rhode Island, Missouri, Maine—had gathered. We separated having learned, laughed, sung together and shared experiences from our world-wide travels and opinions from diverse educations and backgrounds. We separated but remain united in our respect and love for the planet whose beauty and complexity we share and whose care is our charge—today and tomorrow.

Find more information about the Tennessee Wilderness Act of 2010, that was introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senators Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker in June, on the Tennessee Wild blog at http://www.tnwild.org/blog/senator_alexander_and_senator_corker_introduce_tennessee_wilderness_act_2010.

FISH BIOLOGIST JOINS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

"I became a biologist," said Shelley Spalding, "because I wanted to have credibility when I spoke for the critters that cannot speak for themselves - in the courts, the agencies, and in the world at large." Shelley is the newest member of the Broads Board of Directors and she brings this scientific expertise as well as a great passion for all wild things to Broads.



Shelley Spalding is the newest member of our Board of Directors.

She was raised in northern California in a "very rural setting. I would walk down the creek the mile or more to the ocean - playing in my own hiding places along the way. I had a lot of freedom growing up. That was a time when little girls could wander," she added.

In her early 50s, Shelley went back to college and earned a master's degree in Environmental Studies. She has worked with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) in the endangered species division, Montana State Fish and Game, and several native tribes. "I spoke for bull trout for 10 to 11 years."

That's how she met up with Broads. She had picked up a brochure in Torrey, Utah, thinking, "these are my people," and was thrilled when Broads showed up at a protest near Jarbidge, Nevada, in 2000. As a representative of USFWS, Shelley was working on the threat to bull trout in the event that a washed-out road over the Jarbidge River was reopened. Broads were protesting the Jarbidge Shovel Brigade's attempts to reopen the road by sheer force of manpower. The road remains closed today due to ongoing litigation by Broads and The Wilderness Society. "That action really solidified my interest in Broads," she said.

Shelley is the Broadband Leader for the Polly Dyer/Cascadia Broadband and organizes events and communication for their group.

She is also on the Board of the Olympic Forest Coalition. That group is working on surveying roads that were decommissioned in the early 1990s. Shelley enlisted volunteers from the Broadband to conduct

several road surveys this summer. "OFCO has developed a practical technique for surveying roads using the Legacy Roads and Trails methods and Healthy Lands Project methods," she said.

Her hopes for Great Old Broads for Wilderness include a more involved membership developed through more Broadband leader communication. She also has a high interest in our Healthy Lands Project and hopes to be of some use as a reviewer.

Broads Board of Directors includes nine women from seven states and Washington, DC. For short bios on the Directors go to our web site at www.greatoldbroads.org/board.htm

WANTED

- ⇒ A fuel-efficient **vehicle** for staff use
- ⇒ An **office copier** that duplexes and collates
- ⇒ A functional **office phone system** (or funds for one)

If you can donate any of these items - please let us know by calling Ronni or Rose at 970-385-9577 or e-mailing broads@greatoldbroads.org.

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Janice Shepherd, co-leader of the Grand Junction, CO, Broadband, gets her hands dirty on NPLD.

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