



BROADSIDES

THE GREAT OLD BROADS FOR WILDERNESS NEWSLETTER

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“The hair maybe gray or non-existent but the gray matter below is squirming like a sack full of newts.”

—*Andre Kodresky*

IN A BROAD SENSE: A HEALTHY DOSE OF GRATITUDE

by Ronni Egan

Being engaged in the ongoing skirmishes and battles that have become known as “the environmental movement” could, and sometimes does, leave a person exhausted, disgusted, despairing and cynical. I often joke that if I didn’t occupy the post of Executive Director of this wonderful, idiosyncratic outfit known as Great Old Broads for Wilderness, I’d probably be in jail by now. I am, after all, a child of the ‘60s! The Kent State shootings and the conflagration on the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland radicalized me in short order, and I’ve been



Great Old Broads Bill Love and Sara Ransom record the new temporary closure sign at an illegally constructed trail in Recapture Wash, two days after the closure was announced.

a closet radical all my life. Being radically anything, though, implies an underlying anger, or at least angst, and I confess to occasional attacks to both. But lately I have been experiencing a different sensation in my work to help spare our last remaining wild

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!Hot Flash!

Recapture Wash Closed

On Thursday, September 13, the Bureau of Land Management Monticello, Utah, Field Office instituted an interim closure to motorized vehicles of most of Recapture Wash and adjacent Jenny Canyon. The closure will remain in effect until they complete an assessment of the damage to the archaeological resources in the canyon. Restoration and/or re-routing of the trail are being considered. Unfortunately, the BLM is working on an Environmental Assessment of San Juan County’s application for a right of way for the trail, as well. Recapture Wash was one of the sites at the Broads Recapture Utah! event at the end of April where participants collected photos and data to document off-road vehicle use and abuse.

New Communications Coordinator Broadens Horizons

by Anne Benson

Mine was a childhood under-sewn with patches of wild. From the “wasteland” between the ridge and the railroad tracks in Upstate, New York, to the duff-cloaked earth of the Mohawk Trail forests, my brothers and I sought and found adventure. We didn’t understand the bounty even when we brought my mother a puff ball mushroom the size of a volleyball and she washed it, fried it, and served it up like pancakes with butter and maple syrup. Though our hearts were racing, we didn’t understand the dangers as we stepped off of cliffs to splash into rock bowls of clear mountain water. We didn’t understand the connection when the black bear deflated our tent or when the raccoons decorated nearby trees with marshmallows from a forgotten grocery sack. We didn’t understand what fear was even when we saw it in our grandfather’s eyes the day we brought an ancient snapping turtle, almost too heavy to carry, into the yard – a grand prize won on our latest adventure sacrificed in a backyard slaughter in the name of safety for small fingers and toes.

I still don’t understand the bounty of wilderness or the dangers of living fully. Nor do I understand our con-



Anne Benson, Communications Coordinator

nection to the multitude of organisms inhabiting the earth. I’m getting a clue as to what our fears can evoke though I’m not quite clear on what I can do about it. I suspect the Broads will point the way.

Enough philosophy. Here are some stats: I started as Broads communications coordinator July 2. Until February, when my husband and I started our relocation to the Four Corners area of Colorado, I was employed at a water resources engineering company in Fort Collins, Colorado, where I was responsible for the marketing activities of their four western offices. Before that, I was the editor of a small-town weekly newspaper in Northern Colorado.

Today, I am responsible for this newsletter, *Broadsides*, as well as the Broads website content, press relations, auction coordination, and miscellaneous other tasks.

I am extremely grateful that the Broads found my resume interesting and that I now have the happy fortune of Broadening my wild horizons as a Great Old Broad for Wilderness.



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

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

Please credit Broads for any reprinted articles.

New Membership Assistant

Great Old Broads would like to thank Sue Agranoff again for her help in training our new membership assistant. Without her help, we’d be in a fine kettle of fish. We welcome Joyce Thomsen to the membership desk. If you have any problems with your membership, please e-mail her at membership@greatoldbroads.org.

MORE GRATITUDE

from page 1

places from the ghastly fates planned for them by the “unconscious” greed-heads and exploiters. That sensation is, surprisingly enough, gratitude.

As I sat eating my supper this evening (a wonderful ratatouille and hand crafted bread), I was distinctly grateful for my friend Randy Ramsley and his helpers, who grew these delicious organic vegetables and baked the incredible breads on a farm in the middle of the Caineville Desert in southern Utah, a landscape that puts most folks in mind of what the surface of the moon must be like. When Randy isn't kneading dough or whipping up his outrageous cinnamon rolls, he is the center of a growing number of activists in Wayne and Emery counties who have made it their business to hold the Bureau of Land Management accountable for the health of their fragile desert landscape. The stark deserts around Mesa Farm and nearby Factory Butte are extremely vulnerable to surface disturbance such as that created by unfettered cross-country travel by ATVs, dirt bikes and jeeps. Randy's tireless efforts, and those of the Friends of Factory Butte, have finally borne fruit in an Emergency Closure of the majority of that desert landscape to motorized travel. That is not to say that motorized recreation has been totally banned: indeed, a 2,500 acre “play area” called Swing Arm City and over 250 miles of designated trails offer challenging and varied riding for those whose pleasure comes in a motorized form. The area is not, as some would lament, locked up for the pleasure of a few wealthy, fit backpackers.

I am truly grateful for the dedication and dogged determination of Randy and his fellow “desert rats.” I feel compelled to mention that the Friends of Factory Butte are using the monitoring protocol and database provided by our own Broads Healthy Lands Project to record conditions on the land and to monitor the efficacy of the closure order and its enforcement. This information will be used to ensure that these lands will remain protected in the future.

What I am personally grateful for is the thousands of concerned citizens who took the time to “show up” at hearings, rallies, and scoping meetings, who wrote letters to their local newspapers, visited their congressmen, and generally stood up to the juggernaut that is the petroleum industry under the Bush administration.

Another issue in which Great Old Broads has been involved for a number of years has been the proposal to open the top of Colorado's splendid Roan Plateau to extensive oil and gas exploitation, which would forever fragment and despoil that wondrous place, long treasured as a premier recreation, hunting and fishing paradise. Details of the recent developments on “the Roan” can be found elsewhere in this issue, but suffice it to say that Colorado's Governor Ritter, Rep. John Salazar and his brother Ken Salazar have prevailed upon the BLM to delay its final decision pending further study of, and more public input on the issue. What I am personally grateful for is the thousands of concerned citizens who took the time to “show up” at hearings, rallies, and scoping meetings, who wrote letters to their local newspapers, visited their congressmen, and generally stood up to the juggernaut that is the petroleum industry under the Bush administration. I know

that they will continue to do so, with the assistance of the numerous hard working and impecunious conservation organizations (don't ever let anyone tell you that the environmental groups are “rich”!), who are devoted to saving what is left of our wild heritage.

It so often feels like all we're doing is mounting a “holding action” in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds. But we do still live in a democracy, and if “we, the people” will only care enough to stand up and be counted we can sometimes slow the momentum of the greed machine long enough for the checks and balances put in place by our prescient forefathers (and mothers!) to swing the pendulum back toward balance and conservation. People all over Colorado and the nation, including many Great Old Broads spoke for that which has no voice of its own; the landscape and wild creatures living there. I am grateful, on behalf of that landscape and those creatures, for the courage and energy of all of those folks.

Ray Peterson, Director of the Emery County Public Lands Council, and the Council itself, are some more folks who are making a real difference in the health of their local public lands. While most of Utah's counties support unrestricted off-roading, Emery County is bucking the trend. In February of 2006, the Utah House proposed legislation that would have allowed off-road vehicles to travel the state's roads and most highways. But in Emery County, officials are taking a different tack. The Emery County Public Lands Council, an advisory body made up of representatives of

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BROAD IN THE BACKGROUND: ON THE GROUND

What do you do when you see that something needs doing? If you're Great Old Broad Judy Mitchell, you consider the options, roll up your sleeves, and get the thing done.

Judy founded the High Cascade Forest Volunteers when she saw that the U.S. Forest Service needed on-the-ground help. As a Wilderness Manager for the Service in the Middle Fork District of the Willamette National Forest near Eugene, Oregon, she relied on volunteers to help maintain the nearly 200 miles of trails in her charge. "One year, because of the budget, I had absolutely no employee help," she recalled. So she started a campaign for volunteers, seeking out health-conscious, sturdy "Boomers" with time on their hands. When her own retirement loomed in the near distance, she said, "I was afraid when I left, they would all drop away."

Though the sweet dream of a gentle retirement beckoned to her, she didn't have the heart to leave her wilderness to the whims of shrinking budgets. In



Judy (left) and volunteers with the High Cascade Forest Volunteers routinely pack cross-cut saws, axes, and sledge hammers into wilderness areas of Willamette National Forest to clear trails of downed trees and other debris.

2005, instead of turning in her keys, she switched offices and traded her title for that of "Volunteer" Forest Volunteer Coordinator. At last count, she had over 150 volunteers working on the ground in the Willamette and Deschutes National Forests.

During a remarkable 4-day trail clearing trip recently, she and six others cleared 245 trees from a 14-mile stretch of trail. She and three men did the clearing. Two women were in charge of the seven llamas

and one woman surveyed the trail, reporting back with what lay ahead. "The youngest of the group was 45," Judy said. "I'm pretty proud of them." Their feat is all the more amazing since motorized machinery is not allowed in Wilderness areas and all cutting is done with hand saws and two-person cross-cut saws. "When we reported back to the forest manager, he said if we hadn't done it, it wouldn't have been done," Judy said.

She added an annual volunteer training program with the help of the Pacific Crest Trail Association and she's considering making the High Cascade Forest Volunteers a non-profit group but doesn't yet have the funds to complete the legalities.

In September, Judy received the top Forest Service volunteer award when U.S. Forest Service Chief Abigail Kimbell presented her with the Chief's Award. You can be sure she won't be resting on her laurels, however. There are more than 1,700 miles of trail in the Willamette National Forest and more and more volunteers are signing on to help. If you're a Broad in Oregon and can offer on-the-ground help to a "fellow" Broad, give Judy a call at (541) 225-6319. — ABB



Though the High Cascade Forest Volunteers are a major concern for Judy, it is not her only volunteer effort. Judy also takes her therapy llama, Camas (left), to schools for presentations on "no trace camping" and to nursing homes and Alzheimer's facilities. Camas was Judy's first llama, which she bought after back surgery prevented her from repeatedly lifting packs to her own back. Camas' packing days were cut short after a group of loose dogs charged down a trail and frightened her and her packing partner, Chief (right). The two llamas reared and tumbled down a rocky slope in a fall that broke Camas' leg.

3RD ANNUAL WILD FOR WILDERNESS ONLINE AUCTION

October 29 - November 18, 2007

Broads Board members, staff, and Broads-at-large have been working diligently to bring you the “best yet” Wild for Wilderness Online Auction. Donations are pouring in with a fantastic array of bidding opportunities for you and your friends. Autographed books by your favorite authors, jewelry, fine art prints, camping and hiking gear, clothing, meals from gourmet restaurants, home stays in cities and towns around the world, adventure trips, and even pro bono legal council for a non-profit are among the items pledged.

Cruise the Galapagos Islands, take a week at the springs in Saratoga Springs, NY, outfit yourself with an Adirondack-style canoe, have dinner with author Chip Ward, or indulge in a year’s worth of extraordinary chocolate. Go on line at



View from California home stay bed & breakfast auction item.

<http://auction.greatoldbroads.org> to browse the listings. So much to choose from ... so little time. Register and place your bids. Directions are posted on the site.

Donate ...

there’s still time if you have an exceptional item that you just have to offer. It’s a bit late for the smaller items but if you have something that might bring a fist full of dollars to Broads, please email rose@greatoldbroads.org.

Bid ...

go to www.greatoldbroads.org and click on the auction link <http://auction.greatoldbroads.org> and place your bids.



Bill Hatcher fine art photo print.

Share ...

the auction website with others. The auction success is directly tied to the number of people who register and bid. Forward the auction link to everyone in your email address book and to your friends and family.

Host ...

an auction party. Increase the fun and fund raising by hosting an auction party the weekend of November 16 - November 18. With a few notebook computers set up and some wine or beer flowing, you could introduce your friends to the auction, show them how to bid and place proxy bids, and get some friendly competitive bidding going.

Check out our ideas for hosting a party at www.greatoldbroads.org.

Planned Giving: A Legacy of Support for America’s Treasured Wild Places

Great Old Broads for Wilderness, having reached its 18th year, plans to be around for the long haul, working to protect the wild and roadless places we all love. While annual memberships and gifts are extremely important, Broads needs legacy gifts to sustain our viability into the future. We know you have many choices about where you leave your assets. We only hope that Great Old Broads will be one of your choices. A legacy gift needn’t be large to reflect the val-

ues that you cherish. Your legacy gift to Great Old Broads helps us accomplish your goal of permanent preservation of wilderness for generations to come.

If you are interested in making a planned gift to Great Old Broads for Wilderness, or have already included Broads in your will, trust, retirement plan, life insurance policy or other estate gift, please contact Development Director Suzanne Strazza at suzanne@greatoldbroads.org, or (970)

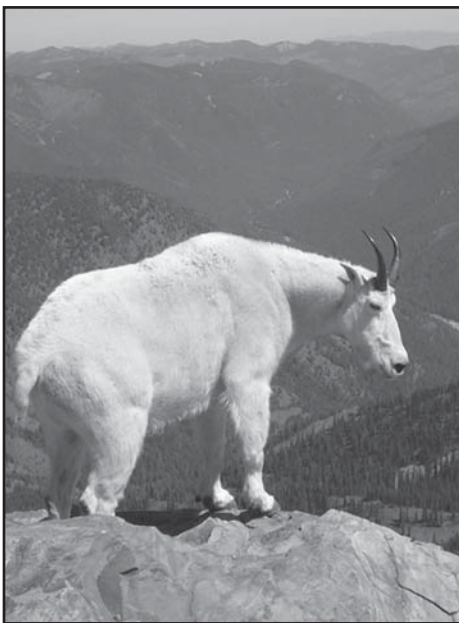
533-9093. We would love to recognize you, (with your permission) as a legacy donor, in our Annual Report.

For more information on planned giving, please visit our website at www.greatoldbroads.org and click on Join or Give. Planned gifts can be an effective way to secure tax advantages for your estate and heirs. We recommend that you meet with your estate attorney or financial advisor to decide which choice is best for you and your family.

WILD FOR SCOTCHMAN PEAKS - JULY BROADWALK

by Broads Staff & Board

We gathered near Clarks Fork, Idaho, for a wonderful weekend of hiking, service, educational talks, and general fun. The Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness (FSPW) had invited Broads to come and help raise awareness for the Scotchman Peaks Wilderness Proposal on the border of northern Idaho and Montana. This 2-year-old organization was marvelously organized, friendly and focused.



Resident of Scotchman Peaks.

Our first full day included a service trip to work on the trailhead and trail up to Scotchman's Peak. Unfortunately, the Forest Service grossly misjudged the abilities of a group of Great Old Broads because there was not enough work for us to do. The climb, with its easy work, however, made for the perfect Broad social event and we made new friends and re-connected with Great Old friends.

Every evening local wilderness advocates and members of the FSPW joined us to entertain and educate us about local and regional issues. The

quality of each evening's speakers added mountains to the experience we had of this special wilderness area.

Our first evening, the Broads began with a short overview of the organization. Phil Hough, Executive Director of FSPW then gave us a wonderful program about the Scotchman Peaks and the Wilderness proposal. Wilderness for the Scotchmans is not a new idea. The Forest Service has recommended it as potential wilderness since the 1970s. Local storyteller and writer, Sandy Compton, capped our evening by sharing his thoughts and experiences of growing up in this wild area.

Friday evening, Sarah Lundstrom brought us up to speed on all the wilderness protection efforts of the Montana Wilderness Association and then Rick Price did the same for Idaho and the work of the Idaho Conservation League. What tremendous resources both states have that deserve lasting protection! And what capable organizations working to achieve that!

The hiking over the weekend varied from "killer" peak climbs to geologic and natural history strolls, all led by the most amazing, knowledgeable folks. We experienced wild mountains, massive old growth cedars, raging waterfalls, immense lakes and clear-flowing rivers. Thanks to all who gave so freely of their time and talents to truly immerse us Broads in the area.

Another evening local author, Jack Nisbet told us about the life and times of David Thompson, fur

trader and early explorer of the area. Because of his ongoing research and conversations with local Indians, Nisbet brought a fascinating view of the human and natural history of the area. For the finale on the last evening, Gayle Joslin of the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks gave a talk based on her 25 years of studying mountain goats. (More on page 7.)

As one Broad's board member stated, "The Scotchman Peaks Broadwalk was good for my soul -- and reinforced my commitment



Broads gather for service pro

to this wilderness." Participant Sara Holup said, "I was so inspired I wrote letters to three senators the day after I reached home." Part of the Broads' commitment to the local activists is to continue making our voices heard after we go home. Every member of Great Old Broads can help with that by writing their local representatives and telling them that the Scotchman Peaks should be designated as Wilderness.

For more details, see www.scotchmanpeaks.org.

FROM THE HEIGHTS TO THE DEPTHS

by Pat Cary Peek

A gasp came from the Broads and friends when the photo came on the screen. As if we were one body, we sat up, transfixed. A snow white mountain goat, fur flying, stiletto horns forward, front legs reaching for safety, sailed through the air between snowy outcroppings, with hundreds of miles of icy mountains behind and below him. An ethereal spirit, caught forever in midair, this monarch of the mountains cries wild with each ounce of his being.



Subject at the Scotchman Peaks.

The mountain goat only occurs in western North America. It's the only genus and species of its kind in the world. Its nearest relatives are the chamois of Europe and the goral and serow of Asia. It lives in silent splendor among the clouds in the wildest, steepest, most inaccessible mountains, such as the Cabinet Mountains of Montana and Idaho. It can withstand temperatures of 40 degrees below zero and gale-force winds, yet habitat destruction and disturbance, encroachment of motorized vehicles and hunting could wipe them out.

We were at the Scotchman Peaks Broadwalk near Clark Fork, Idaho, and the breathtaking photos were part of the program by Gayle Joslin, wildlife biologist for the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, on our very last night. What a way to end!

The Scotchman Peaks proposed wilderness is spectacular wild country. Located in the Cabinet Mountains between North Idaho and Montana, the area is prime habitat not only for the mountain goat, but for the grizzly, black bear, elk, moose, deer, bull trout and other species of plants and animals too numerous to list.

The grizzly bear is an awesome creature. He lives in the mountains in a niche below the goat, frequenting the deep canyons, mountain slopes and river valleys. Feeding on roots, berries, leaves and meat, he can weigh as much as 800 pounds. He needs space, hundreds of miles of undisturbed space, and year by year, road by road, subdivision by subdivision, he is being squeezed out. He once roamed throughout the Western United States and Canada, from Nebraska to California. Now he is only found in Yellowstone Park, Canada, Alaska and here in the Cabinet Mountains.

On the first day of our stay, we visited the Revett Mineral Mining Company near Troy, Montana. They run the Troy Mine, which is outside the wilderness. We toured their concentrator mill, an interesting operation as boulders are smashed and ground into fine sand-like particles, then shipped to a company in Canada to be separated into copper and silver.

This company proposes to set up a new mine, the Rock Creek Mine, at the edge of the Cabinet Wilderness, then excavate under (within!) the wilderness and extract copper and silver. It will be several times larger than the Troy Mine. Banking on the outdated 1872 Mining Law, they claim to own "surface and minerals outside the wilderness and minerals inside." If allowed to do so, they would dump millions of gallons of waste water into the pristine Clark Fork River and build a 240-acre tailings field 300 feet high within a half mile of the river.

We saw an example of the tailings field, which is acres and acres of dead, brown waste where nothing grows, nothing breathes. We know our country needs copper and silver, and we know that miners are good, hardworking people who need to make a living, but mining under wilderness is undermining the very foundation of what wilderness is all about. Wilderness is not a surface concept; it goes deep. The damage done if this mine is allowed will last for a hundred years or more.

Watching that majestic goat, we saw the spirit of the Scotchmans, and we held our breath, as if waiting for him to land safely on the rock he was aiming for, but we didn't see the landing. We Broads hold our breath and hope that humans will land safely with our natural world intact, at least parts of it, not mangled on the rocks of avarice, selfish short-term interests and stupidity. Like the goat, we are poised, midair, between safety and catastrophe, and we don't know the outcome. As Henry David Thoreau put it, "In wildness is the preservation of the world."

GRATITUDE

from page 3

public-land interests, sent letters to local newspapers calling for curbs on illegal motorized vehicle use. They called for more educational efforts, asked citizens to report illegal off-roading, and advocated higher fines for rule-breakers. Within Emery County, the BLM already has some of the most stringent off-road restrictions in Utah. Since 2003, travel in the San Rafael Swell has been allowed only on designated routes. Even so, county officials are concerned by the exponential growth of off-road vehicle use. Ninety-two percent of Emery County is public land, and off-road enthusiasts are flooding in from the Wasatch Front and southwest Colorado. County officials don't want to stop this tourism, which brings dollars to local towns. But Peterson says he doesn't want the economy to become dependent on it, either; the county has already suffered from the boom and bust of the coal economy. It's good to know that there are people like Ray and the Emery County Public Lands Council willing to stick their necks out, taking what could be a highly controversial stance on public lands management.

Last, and possibly least, if you are into counting heads, is the Canyon Country Heritage Association of Bluff, Utah. Bluff is a tiny hamlet situated on the banks of the San Juan River, and populated by a handful of artists, archaeologists, river rats, ranchers, oil field workers and sundry free spirits. Said population is just about as hard to organize as a bunch of Great Old Broads on a Broadwalk. The phrase, "herding cats" comes to mind.

The general philosophy around Bluff has always been pretty much "live and let live." But a year ago,

TROY MINE VISIT ENLIGHTENING

During the Scotchman Peaks Broadwalk, our group drove into Montana to visit the Troy Mine, operated by Revett Minerals. We hoped to gain insight into the impacts of their proposed Rock Creek Mine on the adjacent wilderness. There we experienced a study in salesmanship. Carson Rife (V.P.) expected us to believe that the waste water produced by the new mine would be "as pure as snowmelt" and the tailings "like beach sand."

The Cabinet Mountains Wilderness, site of the proposed mine, is home to one of the last remaining grizzly bear populations in the lower 48 states; to the threatened species of bull trout; and to lynx, mountain goat and harlequin duck. An industrial operation of this magnitude adjacent to and under the wilderness will most certainly impact those species, to say nothing of the experience of human visitors to the area.

Pressed for time, we toured the milling operation and the tailings ponds, but had to decline the offer of a tour of the mine itself, which proved to be fortuitous. Three days later there was a tunnel cave-in, in which one miner died and several others were injured. Imagine how a group of Broads having just toured the mine could have played out. Not only did we avoid potential physical danger, but Broads' good name could have been sullied.

Later, Jim and Mary Costello of the Rock Creek Alliance shared their efforts to stop the mine. We learned that the track record of Revett Minerals is replete with safety and environmental violations, inspiring little confidence that they would produce minerals in an environmentally responsible way. Please write to your legislators and urge them to prevent this ill-considered assault on a small, fragile wilderness and its threatened wildlife. For more information please visit www.saveourcabinets.org.



Since when is it responsible to impact wilderness and grizzly habitat?

when the word got out that the local motorized wreckreation crowd had plans to make Bluff a major staging ground for commercial ATV and Jeep events, with the aid of San Juan County and the tacit approval of the BLM, the Bluffoons leapt into action. One local resident alerted us to the illegal construction of an ATV

trail in beautiful, archaeologically rich Recapture Wash just east of Blanding, UT, (see spring and summer Broadsides.)

What followed was the formation of the Canyon Country Heritage Association, the rapid involvement of organizers and attorneys from the

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THE BROADER WILDERNESS MOVEMENT

*The 110th Congress has taken some exciting steps towards designation of new Wilderness. Below is a summary of bills introduced. Some are brand new proposals; others have been in process for years. **Your voice (letter or call) to your elected members of Congress matters NOW!***

ALASKA: *Udall-Eisenhower Arctic Wilderness Act* (H.R. 39) This bill would designate the 1.5 million-acre coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as Wilderness. Rep. Ed Markey (D-MA) introduced the measure on 1/4/07.

ARIZONA: *Tumacacori Highlands Wilderness Act of 2007* (H.R. 3287) This bill introduced on 8/2/07 by Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-AZ) would designate the Tumacacori Highlands Wilderness Area and expand the existing Pajarita Wilderness in southern Arizona.

CALIFORNIA: *California Wild Heritage Act of 2007* (H.R. 860/S.493) This bill, introduced on 2/6/07 in the House by Rep. Hilda Solis (D-CA) and in the Senate by Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA), would designate over 2.4 million acres of Wilderness and segments of Wild and Scenic Rivers in California.

Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park Wilderness Act of 2007 (H.R. 3022/S.1774) The bill introduced in the House by Rep. Jim Costa (D-CA) and in the Senate by Senator Barbara Boxer on 7/12/07 would designate the John Krebs Wilderness in Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park and add certain lands to the existing Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park Wilderness.

COLORADO: *Rocky Mountain National Park Wilderness and Indian Peaks Wilderness Expansion Act* (H.R. 2334/S.1380) The bill would designate nearly 250,000 acres of Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP) as wilderness and adjust the boundaries of the Indian Peaks Wilderness Introduced in the House on 5/15/07 by Reps. Mark Udall

(D-CO) and Marilyn Musgrave (R-CO) and by Senators Ken Salazar (D-CO) and Wayne Allard (R-CO) in the Senate on 5/14/07.

Colorado Wilderness Act of 2007 This bill will be introduced by Rep. Diana DeGette any day and would protect as wilderness 62 areas (1.65 million acres) of BLM and Forest lands in Colorado.

GEORGIA: *Chattahoochee National Forest Act of 2007* (H.R. 707) On 1/29/07 Rep. Nathan Deal (R-GA) introduced the Chattahoochee National Forest Act of 2007 (H.R. 707), a bill that would establish the 13,382-acre Mountaintown National Scenic Area and would further protect 8,448 acres of the forest via Wilderness designation.

IDAHO: *Central Idaho Economic Development and Recreation Act* (H.R. 222) Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID) introduced the Central Idaho Economic Development and Recreation Act (H.R. 222) on 1/4/07. The measure deals with designation of more than 300,000 acres in Idaho's Boulder-White Clouds mountains as Wilderness, small land conveyances, authorization of grants for rural economic development, and continued motorized recreation opportunities, and more.

Owyhee Initiative Implementation Act (S. 802) Sen. Mike Crapo (R-ID) introduced the Owyhee Initiative Implementation Act 3/7/07. This would designate 517,000 acres of Wilderness, safeguard almost 400 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers, and addresses a spectrum of complex public land issues.

NEW MEXICO: *Sabinoso Wilderness Act of 2007* (H.R. 2632) Rep. Tom Udall (D-NM) introduced the Sabinoso Wilderness Act on 6/11/07. This legislation would designate approximately 19,880 acres of wilderness in northern New Mexico.

NORTHERN ROCKIES: *Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act* (H.R. 1975) This bold measure - introduced

by Reps. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) and Christopher Shays (R-CT) on 4/20/07 - would designate over 22 million acres of wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, national park and preserve study areas, wild land recovery areas, and biological connecting corridors on certain public lands in the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming.

OREGON: *Lewis and Clark Mount Hood Wilderness Act of 2007* (S. 647) On 2/15/07, Senators Ron Wyden and Gordon Smith introduced this bill to designate nearly 129,000 acres of wilderness on Mount Hood and in the Columbia River Gorge. Their proposal also would grant Wild and Scenic River protections to an additional 79.6 miles of rivers in Oregon.

UTAH: *America's Red Rock Wilderness Act* (H.R. 1919/S. 1170) On 4/18/07, Rep. Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) and Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) introduced legislation to permanently preserve 9.5 million acres of wild and rare public lands on the Colorado Plateau and in the Great Basin – southern Utah's famous redrock country.

VIRGINIA: *Virginia Ridge and Valley Act of 2007* (H.R. 1011/S. 570) On 2/13/07, Senator John Warner (R-VA) and Rep. Rick Boucher (D-VA) introduced the Virginia Ridge and Valley Act of 2007. The measure would protect nearly 43,000 acres of the Jefferson National Forest in southwestern Virginia as wilderness and nearly 12,000 acres as scenic areas

WASHINGTON: *Wild Sky Wilderness Act of 2007* (H.R. 886/S. 520) This would protect 106,000 acres in the Wild Sky region in Washington's Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest as wilderness. It was introduced on 2/7/07, by Senators Patty Murray (D-WA) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA) and Rep. Rick Larsen (D-WA).

Information from The Wilderness Society's Wilderness Support Center.

IN SEARCH OF QUIET ADVENTURE

by Carolyn Hopper

The woman behind the desk at the motel was polite enough, but didn't have any information about what to see or do in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The visitor centers that might have had the information were closed at 7:30 a.m. – the best time of day for photography. As we drove out of town our enthusiasm for the day was a little dampened.

We were ready for the blue of rock-swept sky and rock garden fantasies. We asked a BLM agent at the Paria station for his suggestions for the day. "Visit the toadstools and don't stop at the first one you see!" His enthusiasm was infectious and we drove back out the dusty road to the trailhead.

The dry riverbed and slick rock marked with cairns that led us to the garden of "toadstools" were imprinted with a few signs of an early morning rain—a shiny cracked surface of jade gray and hieroglyphics of four footed desert dwellers. A breeze blew through the sage and probed our nostrils dried by hot, red rock. It was easy to sense a kind of breathing in the uplifted, slipping and sliding rock eroded into science fiction fantasy. The cryptogamic material around us, algae, fungus and bacteria woven together, holds moisture from the rain and the sand in place beneath it. Scarlet penstemon, bottlebush and the bayonet leaves and creamy flowers of yucca owe their lives to it. Eroded hillsides slide down in rusts, purples, yellows, greens, and charcoal – a crumbling rainbow of exposed time holding the memory of sea and the creatures who swam in it. The frustration of the morning melted into the heat waves rising off tawny sand

along the sunken river's bed.

We spent a few hours circling tilted toadstools in the search of just the right angle that might show off their expressions, lunched in a cave that evoked the sensation of being inside the belly of a whale and wondered about the tiny sand castles resting in hollows of all sizes on the inside of the cool, polished ochre stone. When I leaned back against the shaded wall I was certain that I felt and heard a soft drum like a heart beat from deep beneath the ground.



The next day we drove along the Cottonwood Canyon Road through the Monument, we stopped to wander among a rodeo of multi-colored formations along the Cockscomb – a sharp fold in the strata running from the Arizona border to Grosvenor Arch. I wondered if I'd eaten something strange or if it was just that my eyes were having trouble focusing that left my stomach on edge. I was sure a bronc rider hitting the dirt from the back of a crow-hopping cayouse would feel the same way. At the same time there was a great sense of majesty in the dazzling stones, crusted soil and silver-green sage. A black-tailed jackrabbit dashed in a crazy zigzag from bush to bush right out of a Saturday morning cartoon. The last sound I heard before I climbed back into the car was the cry of a red-tailed hawk

above the milky strands of the Paria River.

I made a note in my mental journal, "show this to more people so they will value and protect it." Though the road is tethered to high-tension towers stringing their power through the rocking ride of rough rock, it is possible to sense the power of the land. This march of the towers like kachina gods, with arms thrust up against the sky can obstruct part of the view, but not displace it. The day was one of laughs and tears.

When I returned home and did a little research on organizations that are working toward the protection of and education about what is left of wild desert areas and public lands in Utah, I began to write to them (including Broads). I now have some new friends that I hope to meet one day. A small group of us are working on a brochure for visitors to Kanab who prefer quiet recreation...who prefer watching the colors change on the Vermillion Cliffs to riding on the back of a machine...who prefer hearing the wind pass over the wings of a hawk, or capturing shadows of standing formations called toadstools from behind a camera lens to riding by them. Stratigraphy and cryptogamic are new words in my vocabulary along with their visual images. A world of wonders is waiting at the end of a dry riverbed, across slick rock and in the shadows of a cave lined with tiny castles formed by dripping water and sand. If you enter the land of rock, sky and sage on tiptoe, you might hear the sound of drums from inside the walls of ribbed, red, rock. At home now, it is hard for me to imagine the intensity of the subtle glowing colors of the desert. My pictures are only a ghost image of the reality.

GRATITUDE *from page 8*

Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA), a monitoring “blitz” by Great Old Broads this spring, which inventoried many miles of unauthorized ATV trails constructed by both the county and San Juan Public Entry and Access Rights (SPEAR), the local ATV group, and an ongoing series of letters in local papers from both CCHA and SPEAR, providing a highly entertaining public discourse on many topics including motorized recreation, the genealogical lineage (or lack thereof) of local residents, and the value (or lack thereof) of, as one local put it, preserving the archaeological evidence of the “Anasazi bums” that inhabited this land 1,000 years ago. The whole thing has been highly entertaining, from our perch 100 miles away at Broads World Headquarters in Durango, and we’ve been keeping a very close eye on the situation. However, in all seriousness, the perseverance of the members of the fledgling CCHA, along with Broads and SUWA, as well as the interest of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, seems to be

leading (as we go to press) to a closure of Recapture Canyon to motorized access. While closing one 7 mile stretch of canyon may not seem like much, in San Juan County, UT it is positively HUGE. The county government has been running the county as its own private fiefdom for a great many years, and for a bunch of “tree-huggers” to prevail on this issue is a major step toward prodding our federal land managers to appropriate action.

From the examples above it may seem that Broads only works in the American Southwest, but nothing could be farther from the truth. Our dedicated members and partners are at work around the country: part of a much larger phenomenon. As Paul Hawken says in *Blessed Unrest*, “By any conventional definition, this vast collection of committed individuals does not constitute a movement. Movements have leaders and ideologies. This movement...is dispersed, inchoate and fiercely independent. It is taking shape in schoolrooms, farms, jungles, villages, companies, deserts fisheries, slums- and yes, even in

fancy New York hotels.” I am proud, and grateful, to be a part, along with my “fellow” Broads, of this phenomenon, which is the best and perhaps only, hope we have of turning around the destructive, wasteful, thoughtless policies and habits that have gotten homo sapiens and all the rest of life on this little planet, into the fix we’re in. It is my profound wish that you, gentle reader, are in possession of this sort of hope as well. It will be essential if we are to prevail in our work of “saving the world.” (I warned you I was a child of the 60s, didn’t I?)

Got Extra Wheels? Broads needs a reliable vehicle!

If you have a car, small truck, or small SUV that needs a new home, please consider making it a tax-deductible donation to Great Old Broads. Our projects take us far afield and our transportation costs are escalating. Call Ronni or Rose for more information - (970) 385-9577.

GIVE A GIFT THAT GIVES ALL YEAR LONG!

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

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CHALLENGE ISSUED

Our friends at Earth Friends have issued a challenge to Broads. When we raise \$30,000 in the next few months, they will give us \$3,000. Please help us meet their challenge by sending a donation today.



Broads Paraphernalia

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

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