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Déjà vu All Over Again

Public Lands for Private Gain

by Shelley Silbert

ver wonder why Great Old Broads for Wilderness puts so much focus on Utah? It's not just that our founders began the organization there out of love for the awe-inspiring public land treasures. It's also that legislators in Utah all too often take the lead in efforts to dismantle federal public land protections. And these efforts set off reverberations around the country.

In 2012, Utah signed into law the Transfer of Public Lands Act (TPLA), which was introduced by state Rep. Ken Ivory (R). The Act mandated some 20 million acres of federal lands in Utah be turned over to the state by December 31, 2014. Fast forward to 2015: no land has been turned over and a threatened lawsuit against

the United States has not been filed. Nevertheless. ten of the eleven western states have similarly commissioned, paid for, or considered studies on transferring federal lands to state governments since 2012.



In March 2015, the U.S. Senate approved a budget resolution sponsored by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) on a 51–49 vote to set a procedure to sell, exchange, or transfer federal lands to states. While the resolution is largely symbolic, Murkowski's office claims it signals the priority this Congress has for such bills.

For years, scholars, conservationists, and others have believed these bills haven't the legal chance of a snowball in hell. John Ruple, professor at University of Utah's College of Law, explained to the Salt Lake Tribune, "Legally, it's like saying because your neighbor

doesn't take good care of his house, his lawn is overgrown and his car is on blocks, and you think you could do better, that means you have the right to take over his property."

THE SAGEBRUSH REBELLION, WITH CORPORATE DOLLARS

It's the continuing saga of the Sagebrush Rebellion, with more corporate dollars than ever. In the 1910s, Western governors demanded that states take control of public lands in response to pressure from mining, logging, and grazing industries. By the 1930s, ranchers incensed with grazing fees raised a similar cry. The revolt came to a head in the late '70s and early '80s with particular support in

Nevada and Utah, buoyed by President Reagan and Secretary of the Interior, James Watt. But lagging public support and court rulings against state control slowed the momentum. In the 1990s, Catron County, New Mexico

asserted county control over public lands. Some 100 counties—including all but one of Nevada's 17 counties—followed suit. Legal opinions and national support for public lands eroded credence to the claims.

Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, who served for eight years under President Clinton and comes from an Arizona ranching family, famously said, "Behind the mask of the Sagebrush crowd is really nothing but a special-interest group whose real goal is to get public lands into private ownership."

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NOVEMBER 2-15TH

WANTED AUCTION DONATIONS:

Through the summer, we grow our auction offerings and hope for a fall harvest that sustains our programs to preserve and protect wilderness and wild lands.

Can we count on you for a donation or will you solicit one?

NEED IDEAS?

- Gift Certificates
- Vacation rentals or home stays
- Outdoor adventures or gear
- · Jewelry, books, and art

TO DONATE, VISIT: auction.greatoldbroads.org

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHELLEY SILBERT



We no longer remember how salmon filled rivers and bison packed the grasslands, or when four million miles of paved and unpaved public roads did not divide the country.

Collective Memory & Conservation

ow often do we say it: "Am I losing my mind? I can't remember!" I like to think that we amass so many memories as we grow older that we can't possibly hold onto all of them. But it's not just a problem of aging. As a society, we are losing our collective memory. Marine biologist Daniel Pauly recognized this phenomenon, coining the term "shifting baselines" in 1995.

We no longer remember how salmon filled rivers and bison packed the grasslands, or when four million miles of paved and unpaved public roads did not divide the country. We are forgetting what western forests looked like before beetles destroyed an astonishing 30 billion conifer trees across millions of acres in the last two to three decades, results of a shifting climate. It's easy to lose what former generations knew, adapting unwittingly to a diminished natural world. What each age group thinks of as normal and healthy—the baseline—shifts to align with the reality they see.

Pauly grew concerned about scientists measuring ecosystem change against personal recollections, leading to limited species recovery goals and habitat mismanagement. He explains, "Every generation will use the images that they got at the beginning of their conscious lives as a standard and will extrapolate forward. And the difference then, they perceive as a loss. But they don't perceive what happened before as a loss. You can have a succession of changes. At the end you want to sustain miserable leftovers."

This is why older generations are vital to the conservation movement. We may think we're forgetful, but we fundamentally hold a longer-term view. Conservation biologist E. J. Milner-Gulland refers to the importance of conveying this memory, suggesting, "...it might be worth targeting conservation interventions to engage with older people, and enlisting their help in telling the younger generation how things were only a few decades ago..." This interaction helps to fight generational amnesia.

Furthermore, she warns, "If we [as a society] don't realize what we are losing, we stand the risk of sleepwalking through the destruction of the natural world without taking action to remedy the situation."

Milner-Gulland urges not just reminiscing, but taking this knowledge and putting it to action. And that principle guides the work of Great Old Broads—using experience and wisdom to protect wild nature for future generations of all species. Our memories don't stop at the natural world, but recall a different socio-cultural realm. We participated in grassroots advocacy and non-violent civil disobedience to bolster the civil rights and women's rights movements, helped pass laws sparked by Earth Day and the environmental movement, and worked towards gay rights that ultimately resulted in recent gains. We've worked for native rights, recognizing that native peoples suffered just like rivers, grasslands, and forests in the face of new settlers who measured value by what

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Great Old Broads for Wilderness

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Great Old Broads for Wilderness is a national non-profit organization that engages and ignites the activism of elders to preserve and protect wilderness and wild lands. Conceived by older women who love wilderness, Broads gives voice to the millions of older Americans who want their public lands protected 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.

Please credit Broads for any reprinted articles.

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YOUTH ENGAGEMENT: THE CALL OF THE WILD

by Lauren Berutich

Broadness is a state of mind.

Recently, I've had many conversations with Broads and others revolving around younger generations and their involvement in politics, conservation, and social justice issues. The same questions arise: Do they actively



participate in their communities? Are they disengaged or experiencing a sense of disempowerment? Understanding this next generation of community members will tell us how to better engage the next generation of wilderness activists.

Youth up to 17 years of age make up one-quarter of the U.S. population and account for 74.3 million people in our country. Research increasingly reports that youth are a valuable and untapped resource in advancing social and political values, such as those related to climate change or local food movements. When we look at a democratic (for the people by the people) society, and how it is built and then sustained over time, consider philosopher John Stewart Mill's perspective, "We do not learn to read or write, to ride or swim, by merely being told how to do it, so it is only in

practicing popular government on a limited scale, that people will ever learn how to exercise it on a larger scale."

When youth are civically engaged, they become part of a collective community and experience empowerment within a larger body of doers. Research reports the more focus put on youth development in a collective format, the more they will advance on an individual basis to form identity and a sense of belonging to the larger community.

YOUTH ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Broads must continue to include youth in protecting the environment through mentorship and collaboration. Broads have the ability to connect and educate youth on the power they have through civic participation and the influence they can build over politics and institutional structures. In return, they will see themselves as an important, valued, and much needed force for change to ensure the future health of our planet. We can help prepare them to take the steps necessary to protect our last wild places.

Let's not limit our vision in connecting with younger generations. We can consciously open up spaces for youth engagement in our work and diversify opportunities. Conservation can take shape on a local level, ranging from grassroots activism to participation in conservation projects to influencing policy-making entities. Together we can foster hope and create change. Together, we can holistically take on a rapidly shifting and changing world. And, together, we can Broadly and WILDLY protect and preserve the wild places most needing our united voices.



Presenting the 2015 Broads Quilt Raffle!

Lovingly created by our own Sue Gunckel, this beautiful wall quilt could be yours!

Get your tickets now! The drawing for the luckyducky winner will be held on September 26, 2015, to celebrate National Public Lands Day.

\$5 each or 5 for \$20!

Get your tickets today at: http://bit.ly/BroadsQuilt

Welcomes & Farewells

We welcome **Peggy Malloy** to a new position as **Operations Manager** to handle everything from soup to nuts (like us) for our broadening programs.



Having spent the last 18 "summers" in Antarctica supervising supplies for the science lab and logistical support for field research teams, we think she is well-prepared to manage a bunch of Broads. Peggy loves to hike, run, and snowshoe, and she is an intrepid traveler to wild places. And she keeps us plied with dark chocolate, so you can imagine how much we adore her. Give her a warm welcome when you call our office, or reach her at admin@greatoldbroads.org.



We send a big thank you to Amy Johnston, Office Manager, for her hard work and dedication to wilderness, wild lands, and wildlife. Not only did she take on the behemoth of growing office demands and become a wizard at our membership database, but she devoted many weekends to beautifying our yard and our neighborhood with a plethora of wildflowers for bees, butterflies, and Broads to enjoy. Thank you, and we wish you well, Amy!



BROADBANDS IN ACTION

New Broadbands Hit the Ground Running!



Broadband Leader Fran Krackow (far right) with her Tucson Broadband at the border.



Tucson Broadband

This new team knows how to fire it up! A late-winter open house stirred up excitement; bringing in new members, and an excellent new leader, Fran Krackow. The Tucson Broadband is blossoming into a fully developed group thanks to Fran who says, "This is already a really engaged group of talented women. I guess they just needed someone willing to step up and help organize. I'm happy to help and so glad our team is off to such a great start."

And they're on a roll: in the last two months, they have identified three focus areas: the Public Lands Service Corps Act (HR 2167), Borderlands Protection and Preservation Act (SB750), and the Save Oak Flats campaign.

Fran met with Arizona Rep. Raul Grijalva's staff to discuss the Public Lands Service Corps Act, a bill Grijalva recently introduced to amend the 1993 Act and expand training opportunities for young Americans and veterans to restore natural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational, and scenic resources of the United States. The Broadband aims to collaborate with youth and veterans to promote stewardship and restoration on public lands.

Broads from Tucson and elsewhere gathered with more than 60 others at the Shame McCain rally to protest two Congressional actions led by Senator John McCain: 1) the transfer of 2,400 acres of lands sacred to the Apache to a copper mining company, and 2) the Borderlands Protection and Preservation Act, which would waive all environmental protections within 100 miles of the border under the guise of expanding Border Patrol access.

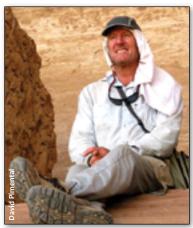
The Broadband will focus on these issues as they move into a productive summer and fall. Fran's comment on the future: "I am so glad to put my energies into these important issues with an amazing group of activists."

UTAH 🕊

SOUTHWEST UTAH BROADBAND

These ladies are adventurous and know how to throw a party! The Southwest Utah Broadband has two new leaders, Jenny West and Linda Shadiow, who offer many incredible and diverse talents. From public outreach to planning events to exploring gorgeous southwest canyons, this Broadband is dynamic and really great at engaging and empowering their

This spring, they hosted an event featuring Great Old Bro and well-known canyoneer, Steve Allen, as the keynote presenter. An estimated 140 people showed up to see his presentation about the canyons of the southwest, how to explore them, and most importantly, how to protect them. Participants included two college classes, local businesses, and community members new to Great Old Broads.



Crowd-pleaser Steve Allen brought in a sizable crowd with his presentation on the wild canyons of Utah.

This Broadband's unique approach to leadership?

Develop a small core team that they hope will create another tier of leaders, each of whom will take on a focus area, while gathering others to work with them. Their mantra remains, "Delegating leadership tasks and responsibilities invigorates others and ourselves!"



WILD WATERS BROADBAND

Hello upper Midwest! We are thrilled to welcome co-leaders Lynn Glesne, Jan Bourdon, and Donna Andrews as the new Minnesota Broadband leadership team. Donna and Jan attended Boot Camp in May, contributing much talent and experience. Now they are paddling and hiking their way towards the engagement, education, and activism of a very involved Broadband community. This team has developed strong partnerships



with many local organizations and is representing Broads as coalition members with the Save the Boundary Waters campaign to raise awareness of the impending threat of sulfide mining.

They will be leading hikes at our August Boundary Waters Broadwalk. We can't wait to see their regional advocacy and conservation work take off!

LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

2015 BOOT CAMP

It was the best of times, it was...well, the best of times!



Front row (left to right): Meg Braley, Shelley Spalding, Mimi Trudeau, Alison Jones, Lauren Berutich, Janet Bourdon. Back row: Fran Krackow, Rose Chilcoat, Roz Switzer, Donna Andrews.

roads held the 7th annual Wilderness Advocacy Training at the University of Utah's gorgeous campus in Salt Lake City. We enthusiastically welcomed 18 new Broadband leaders this year. Eleven attended Boot Camp and were introduced to new tools, activities, and resources, including a revised, shortened, and improved leadership handbook.

Each leader wrote and shared their "public narrative", reflecting on important experiences that helped shape who they are and how they see themselves in the world. With this foundation in values, experiences, and a personal and collective call to action, we practiced the skill of relational meetings, one-on-one strategic conversations that deepen



relationships and build power in communities. Place-based, regional conservation leadership was a main training focus as we examined how to affect change through grassroots activism and media engagement.

Serendipitously, we got a taste of real world public land

management issues through a visit to Salt Lake's federal district court to observe the closing arguments of the trial against San Juan County Commissioner Phil Lyman and others for their illegal protest ride in Recapture Canyon (see Broader Wilderness).

Our new Broadbands (chapters) now reach as far north as Minnesota and Portland, Maine. We're covering new ground in Tucson,

Arizona; Ramah, New





We Rock!

We're growing by leaps and bounds! Let's look at the numbers:

- 51 Broadband leaders
- 15 states: AZ, CO, ID, FL, ME, MI, MN, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WI, WY
- 34 active chapters

Mexico; Moab and St. George, Utah; and Ridgway, Colorado. We are excited about next year's Boot Camp in mid-March and encourage any and all interested in the coordination of a local group of Broads to attend!

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Broadband Leader Rendezvous

n April, 10 Broadband leaders came together from chapters in Idaho (Moscow), Oregon (Bend, Portland, Willamette Valley), and Washington (Olympic Peninsula) to celebrate their work and look to the future.

Guided by Circuit Rider Shelley Spalding and Grassroots Leadership Coordinator Lauren Berutich, the group discussed forest economics and the value of carbon in Pacific Northwest



forests, the Northwest Forest Plan, individual Broadband activities, and other focus areas.

Ernie Niemi from the Federal Forest Carbon Coalition, Chandra LeGue from Oregon Wild, and Karen Coulter from the Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project joined us to share issues and opportunities.

While applauding the many successes, Broadband leaders spoke in depth about past challenges and strategies for the future. With new and strengthened connections, each participant left with fresh ideas and inspiration.

GET INVOLVED!

HE BROAD

Browns Canyon National Monument is 21,686 acres and is located in Chaffee County, Colorado.

What's Conservation Got to Do With It?

nce again, a plethora of amendments have been attached to this fiscal year's must-pass Defense bill that's now being considered by Congress. The following have nothing to do with defense, but support an agenda to dismantle bedrock environmental protections:

Sen. Gardner (R-CO): delay protections for the greater sage-grouse for at least 6 years. During this time federal agencies would be required to follow state plans to manage sage-grouse, regardless of whether these plans adequately protect the imperiled bird.

Sen. Lee (R-UT): delay listing for the greater sage-grouse for at least 10 years. This overrides the Endangered Species Act and transfers sage-grouse oversight to the states on as many as 60 million acres of federal lands.

Sen. McCain (R-AZ): waive all laws environmental, cultural, civil rights, and more—for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection operations on public and tribal lands 100 miles north of the U.S.-Mexico border. This includes National Parks, Monuments, and Wildlife Refuges.

Sen. Flake (R-AZ): block the President's ability to designate public lands as national monuments. Sixteen Presidents (8 Republican, 8 Democrat) have used the Antiquities Act, which was passed by a Republican Congress and signed into law by a Republican President over a century ago.

This same Congress is doing our public lands no favors by refusing to increase funding for conservation programs and including more than 20

anti-environment riders in the House Interior Appropriations bills that would undermine efforts to address climate change; block efforts to protect clean air and water; weaken land conservation, and undercut endangered species protections

Funding for public lands agencies continues to be inadequate, failing to keep up with increasing costs and demand. Let your members of Congress know that you support our bedrock environmental laws and want to fund the agencies that protect the air, land, water, and wildlife that Americans cherish!

A recent bright spot in Congress is Rep. Grijalva's (D-AZ) introduction of the Save Oak Flat Act, a bipartisan bill to repeal the December 2014 giveaway in the 2015 National Defense Authorization Act of sacred Apache lands to a multinational mining conglomerate. Our Arizona Broads have been standing with the San Carlos Apache Tribe and Yavapai-Apache Nation to right this injustice.

MONUMENTAL UPDATES

fter years of community efforts, 21,000 acres along the Arkansas River in central Colorado was designated by President Obama February 19th as Browns Canyon National Monument, prioritizing conservation and protecting this popular recreation area from mineral leasing and road building.

A new coalition, collectively known as Bears Ears, is petitioning for national monument status for 1.9 million acres surrounding Cedar Mesa in eastern Utah. This canyon-cut region includes some lands in the Greater Canyonlands proposal, important Navajo traditional

sites, and more than 100,000 Ancestral Puebloan archaeological sites.

The new effort, initiated by a Navajo group called Utah Diné Bikévah, seems to have the ear of the Administration.

A number of other potential National Monuments are in the works. Congressional inaction on wilderness/ conservation may result in more Presidential monument designations before the end of 2016.

WILDERNESS LEGISLATION Introduced in 2015

ore than 100 bills before Congress have the word "wilderness" in them, but only a few would add protected lands to the National Wilderness Conservation System. Many would do exactly the opposite. Below is a listing of some of the more deserving wilderness bills, glimmers of hope in the 114th Congress to date. Please thank and support the members of Congress who are championing wilderness and have introduced any of the bills listed below.

Introduced in the House & Senate

- S. 1510 and H.R. 2665: Wild Olympics Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 2015 - Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA) and Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA)
- S. 1423 and H.R. 1865: Central Coast Heritage Protection Act – Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Rep. Lois Capps (D-CA)
- S. 199 and H.R. 856: Gold Butte National Conservation Area Act - Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV) and Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV)
- S. 393 and H.R. 761: Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Act - Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Rep. Mike Thompson (D-CA)



S. 1375 and H.R. 2430: America's Red Rock Wilderness Act - Sen. Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Rep. Alan Lowenthal (D-CA)

Introduced in the House

H.R. 2554: Continental Divide Wilderness and Recreation Act - Rep. Jared Polis (D-CO)

H.R. 2072: National Park and Wilderness Waters Protection Forever Act – Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN)



H.R. 239: Udall-Eisenhower Arctic Wilderness Act - Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA)

H.R. 996: Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act - Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY)

Introduced in the Senate

S. 414: California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015 - Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA)

S. 755: Tennessee Wilderness Act – Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN)

Sadly, bills with the strongest wilderness provisions stand the least chance of being enacted (2%-7%) per www.govtrack.us/ Congress/bills. Bills to undo wilderness and other conservation protections proliferate and have much higher odds of passage in this Congress (20–35%+).

And don't let the name of a bill deceive you; benign names can hide dangerous actions, such as the Bipartisan Sportsmen's Heritage Act that would undo many Wilderness and conservation protections. Find contact info at http:// www.usa.gov/Contact/US-Congress. shtml

KAYAKTIVISTS TAKE ON OIL GIANT SHELL

ayaktivists—(conservationists in kayaks) showed up repeatedly to protest Shell's plans (and the Obama administration's tentative approval) to extract oil in the Chucki Sea off Alaska's coast. Arctic drilling for oil threatens wildlife and

worsens climate change. An oil spill in the icy Arctic Ocean would create worse damage than any previous spills due to its remoteness and harsh weather.

Hundreds of kayakers, including several Broads, took to the waters since mid-May to protest the Polar Pioneer drilling rig docked in the Port of Seattle.



On June 16th, dozens of protesters were arrested for paddling to the drilling rig to prevent it from leaving the Port. Shell's rig was then met with more protesters at Bainbridge Island and Port Townsend, where additional arrests were made.

There are more regulatory steps ahead for Shell. John Hocevar of Greenpeace said it's like "battling the Death Star" but it's not too late to stop this travesty. Ask President Obama to match his words on climate change with policies that say no to Arctic drilling at http://bit.ly/1J8UrYT. Take action at sHellNO.org.

Guilty Verdict for Recapture Protest Ride



n May 2015, a jury in Salt Lake City's U.S. District Court found San Juan County Commissioner Phil Lyman and blogger Monte Wells guilty for the illegal ATV protest ride on BLM land in Recapture Canyon last year. The BLM closed this portion of the canyon in 2007 to motorized use to protect a rich density of archaeological resources.

Sentencing for the misdemeanor convictions

of conspiracy and of driving on public lands closed to motorized vehicles will be July 15, and can include up to one year in jail, fines up to \$100,000, probation, community service, and restitution for damages to natural and cultural resources. We hope Judge Robert Shelby's sentence reflects that rebelling against laws with threats, intimidation, and damage to public lands will not be tolerated.

WANTED! HO WISHLIS'

- Portable projector screen, 84" diagonal (example: http://bit.ly/BroadsScreen)
- A free-standing shelving unit, approx. 24" x 48", 4 shelves; metal or plastic... just needs to be
- Small, towable enclosed trailer

- Plastic, clear, stackable, storage boxes, approx. 20"x 15" x 8" to 15" deep. Need 6 to 12.
- Lightweight, but sturdy aluminum tables approx. 20" x 35" or 24" X 48" (example: http://bit.ly/Al-table)
- 3-gallon water containers
- 10' to 12' tarps



Study A Broad KATIE FITE: HABITAT WARRIOR

fiery energy and passion fuel Katie Fite, who has been an outspoken protector of public lands and wildlife habitat for more than 30 years. She's become known as a champion for the sage grouse; a bird species whose survival is tenuous as the sagebrush steppe communities of the west continue to be lost to livestock grazing, energy extraction, and other encroachments.

Katie always had a love of the outdoors. She grew up rambling the woods around her home in Halifax, Pennsylvania. She studied biology at Penn State and then moved west to Utah to attend graduate school. It was there she began to see the disconnect between land management and habitat preservation on public lands.

FROM BUREAUCRAT TO WATCHDOG

After college, she joined Idaho Fish and Game, but after a few years, became disenchanted and frustrated with the bureaucracy and preferential treatment given to the livestock industry. The damage to the land she witnessed prompted her to "jump the fence" to become a public lands advocate. Her intense tenacity was now laser-focused on holding agencies accountable for their land management practices. Grazing on public lands became her hot button.

Fite was an early board member for Great Old Broads for Wilderness. She served as Biodiversity Director for Western

Watersheds Project for several years and recently joined Wildlands Defense as Public Lands Director, where she's been described as bringing "more headache to those anti-environmental bureaucrats at BLM and Forest Service than arguably any other single person in the Western United States."

What's a typical day for this wilderness warrior? Reading and commenting on plans and proposals, speaking out at public hearings, and getting out on the ground to document public lands abuses—or "ground truthing".

HERE'S A VISUAL

In areas where there is a dispute as to habitat health for sage grouse and other creatures, Katie has been known to toss a football out into the landscape and ask the agency person if they can see it. Think of that football as a sage grouse, she tells them, because if you can see that football, then you can see a sage grouse. This is an effective way for her to show the landscape does not offer adequate shelter for nesting or to escape predators.

Many of the native grasses and forbs missing from abused landscapes provide essential food sources, such as riparian insects for the young chicks, as well as cover. Taller native grasses arch over the ground to conceal adults and vulnerable offspring. Sagebrush also serves the dual purpose of providing cover and food. Yet in many regions, the BLM still continues

> to "implement treatments" on our public lands that remove sagebrush and other natural vegetation. Often, areas are replanted with non-native grasses to create increased forage for livestock but provide little benefit for native wildlife

"There are no sustainable grazing methods for the arid west," Katie asserts. She went on to explain that cows evolved in moist climates—not the desert. There's a world of difference between grazing cattle in Pennsylvania versus



Make it so the agencies can't look away. Inform yourself, document what you see, and interact with the agencies to the maximum extent possible.

Utah. Bred for size and to eat and process food, these 1,000-lb. animals destroy biotic crusts and plant communities unique to arid regions. By nature, cattle are drawn to the rare springs and streams where they trample banks, foul the water with excrement, compact soils, and destroy critical habitat for native species. Her conviction: "It's a senseless waste of the natural world."

THE IMPORTANCE OF GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY

Fite stresses that on-the-ground activities documenting public land abuses are critical to bringing about change. That's what makes the public lands monitoring work that Broads do so important. Her advice to Broads: "Make it so the agencies can't look away. Inform vourself, document what you see, and interact with the agencies to the maximum extent possible. And, keep going up the ladder if you don't get results. Don't be afraid to make noise."

Good advice from someone who has fought the same battles on many different landscapes over the years. Though the wins may be small, she says, you're always moving forward. And what keeps her going? The inspiring beauty of the wild places and the wildlife that call those places home.

WIN A BROADS CAP & T-SHIRT!

ere's a fun quiz to see how closely you read Broadsides. Send your answers by email to broads@greatoldbroads.org or by snail mail to P.O. Box 2924, Durango, CO, 81302. Submit your answers by July 31st and include your t-shirt size. Entries that are 100% complete and correct will be thrown into a hat from which we'll draw the winner. Best of luck!

- 1) Which author stated, "we need a People Management Plan" rather than a Resource Management Plan?
- 2) What does Katie Fite use as a visual demonstration to show habitat suitability for sage grouse?
- 3) Where was the Crusts in the Canyons Broadwork held?
- 4) Who said, "behind the mask of the Sagebrush crowd is really nothing but a special-interest group whose real goal is to get public lands into private ownership."?
- 5) Who is the Grassroots Leadership Coordinator for Great Old Broads for Wilderness?
- 6) What are the names of the ranch couple we spoke with at the Owyhee Canyonlands Broadwalk?
- 7) What percentage of the population is 0 to 17 years of age?
- 8) What is the name of the coalition Broads joined that asserts policy dissent and disagreement must be addressed through non-violent means as part of the democratic process?
- A new coalition, collectively known as Bears Ears, is petitioning for national monument status for how many acres surrounding Cedar Mesa in eastern Utah?
- 10) Name any two of our talented Broadband co-leaders mentioned in this newsletter.

DONATE YOUR OLD VEHICLES!

Yes!



You can donate any old motorized vehicle (car, boat, truck, tractor, etc.) to Broads, get a tax receipt, and know that you're helping us continue our work for wild lands.

There are two ways to donate:

Vehicles for Charity.org

Donate online at: https://www.vehiclesforcharity.org/Donate/ GOB.html

or call 866-628-2277

Center for Car Donations

Call 877-411-3662 to schedule a donation

Questions? Contact Peggy at 970-385-9577.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



You know in your heart you're ready, so why not take the step, and join today?

Or, why not give a gift membership to a deserving Broad or Bro?

\$25 FOR OUR 25TH **REDUX!**

BACK FOR ANOTHER YEAR!

Due to popular demand, we're keeping the price for new members rolled back to \$25.

Help support our work to save wild places for the future!

EVENT RECAPS *Oh!* The fun we had!

CRUSTS IN THE CANYONS

SOGGY, BUT SATISFYING

by Suez Jacobson

roads know how to work hard and play hard, and not much gets in our way in either case. Still, sometimes Mother Nature has plans that humble us. In April, we made our way to the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument for the Crusts in the Canyons Broadwork. Operating in conjunction with Grand Canyon Trust, our charge was to update data sets documenting grazing impacts on the fragile landscapes between Kanab and Big Water, Utah.



Broads train with David deRoulhac to become "crustologists", gathering data to determine biological soil crust health.

We started with an excellent day of training led by David deRoulhac from Grand Canyon Trust. He taught us to identify different kinds of "crusts"—the living part of the soil surface that holds it together so that wind and water do not carry it away. Then, we learned how to locate monitoring sites using GPS. We gathered 100 points of data at each of the 29 sites to show the condition of the biological soil crusts. All sites had been established and "read" in 2003 by scientists.

Our objective: provide repeat documentation for the Bureau of Land Management so they might be persuaded by current crust data to graze fewer cattle on land where grazing practices have left almost no "crust" to hold the soil together.

For the first 3 days, the southern Utah sun shone, and in teams of 3 we traveled back roads gathering data with zeal. Then, the clouds moved in and the heavens opened. It poured. This turned dirt roads into slip-slidey messes. One team spent a night in their car away from camp, prudently deciding not to attempt the return trek on the slippery roads in a downpour. Others decided to cut the trip a day short, given the forecast for more rain to come.

Seven members of our group were so appalled by the soil crust conditions we'd observed and documented we stopped



in Kanab and met with Monument Manager Cindy Staszak. Monument staff frequently hears from local ranchers and politicians, but rarely gets visits from concerned citizens, especially ones who have been documenting conditions. Our voices were heard and our ideas well received; important input as the Monument works on their Livestock Grazing Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

It was one of those trips where everything seems to be going perfectly—and then it isn't—but Broads know Mother Nature is in charge and figure out how to deal. In the end, we all got home safely with indelible memories of how much we learned and the camaraderie of working together to save the landscapes we love—not just because we love them, but because they deserve to be healthy too.

ZUNI MOUNTAINS BROADWALK

Lessons in Forest Restoration & Grazing Impacts

arly May brought 24 Broads and Bros to the Zuni Mountains of New Mexico for a delightful regional Broadwalk presented by the Rio Grande Valley Broadband (RGVBB). The group stayed at the charmingly rustic Cottonwood Gulch Foundation's camp just outside the Cibola National Forest.

On Friday, Eddie Baca and Jeanne Dawson from USFS and Eytan Krasilovsky from the Forest Guild gave us an overview of the Zuni Mountain Collaborative Forest Landscape



(Left to right): Melissa Drolet, Kathy Ann Walsh, and Steph Smith don hard hats for a tour through a treated section of the Cibola National Forest.

Restoration Project (CFLRP). This project is "rooted in the science of ecological restoration" and designed to improve forest health and fuel conditions to prevent catastrophic fire. The RGVBB has been actively involved: attending meetings, making comments, and assisting with monitoring and stewardship activities. We visited sites in various stages of completion - from untreated dense dog-hair stands of pines to fully treated sections where trees had been thinned and ladder fuels removed.

On Saturday, we awoke to snow—but that didn't stop us! We bundled up and started our day. Shawn Martin, Silviculturalist, and his wife Rosie, both from USFS, and Matt Piccarello from the Forest Guild discussed stand assessment methods used



Jeanne Dawson (center) discusses the CFLRP treatment area.

to develop forest treatments for the CFLRP. We learned to calculate tree height, DBH (diameter at breast height), and age. Later, Rebecca Frus, a University of New Mexico Ph.D. student, shared water monitoring techniques and methods to evaluate stream health.

Saturday night, Mary O'Brien, Utah Forests Program Manager for the Grand Canyon Trust, gave an interesting and spirited program about the detrimental effects of grazing on the landscape, particularly riparian zones. Contra dancing led by Linda Starr brought this very full day to a lively close.

Sunday, we strolled meadows with Mary to compare plant diversity and soil conditions on grazed and formerly grazed areas. For the newbies, it was a good lesson in the detrimental effects of grazing to our public lands. We enjoyed lunch on the steps of a Stupa overlooking the recovering meadow.

As always, it was a great group of Broads and Bros. We had fun, made new friends, and learned a lot in the process. Hats off to the Rio Grande Valley Broadband for a wonderful event!



The wild and remote Owyhee Canyonlands

THE WILD OWYHEE

A STUDY OF CONTRASTS

ur Broadwalk adventure in the Owyhee Canyonlands of southeast Oregon's desert country is a strong and wonderful memory: the astonishing rhyolite cliffs, steep-walled canyons, and idyllic streams; lush grassy hillsides ruffling in the wind; sagebrush steppes; and wildflowers galore! Surrounded by serenading canyon wrens, owls, and meadowlarks, we glimpsed antelope, bighorn sheep, marmots, and a few rattlesnakes too!

What an inspiration it was to have Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) founder Alice Elshoff and the skilled and passionate Corie Harlan as partners and presenters to eloquently frame the Owyhee for us. Bureau of Land Management's Vale District Manager, Don Gonzales, shared a wealth of information and responded to many questions about the agency's management of our public lands.

Ranchers Liz and Sean Cunningham braved a bevy of conservationists to discuss their view of ranching in today's west. Katie Fite, passionate warrior for the sage grouse, shared her frustration with the status quo and her deep knowledge of these endangered birds. Tim Davis, local citizen, shared his commitment to protecting his "backyard" by leading hikes and speaking about the launch of Friends of the Owyhee.



Broads take a break on a walk to Three Finger Butte.

Shared book passages, poems, a song, early-morning yoga, quiet walks, and birdwatching stirred our hearts—all of these activities binding us together around this place we call the Owyhee.

There couldn't have been a more perfect conclusion than Bonnie Olin sharing adventures from her book *The Owyhee River Journals* to broaden our understanding and appreciation of the extent and wildness of the Owyhee Canyonlands landscape.

A special thanks to local area experts, Corie, Julie Weikel, Scott Bowler, Tim, Katie, John Caywood, Alice, and Don Mansfield who rocked it on the hikes, sharing botany, geology, history, and more, leading us to great adventures, and bringing us home safely each day. What fun! What learning! We each added our voices to the call for greater protections for this amazing landscape. Add yours...sign the petition to protect the Owyhee Canyonlands (see page 14).

THE OWYHEE CANYONLANDS & THE SHOSHONE-PAIUTE TRIBES

by Ted Howard, Cultural Resources Director, Shoshone-Paiute Tribes

"Indian people do not go out to the Canyonlands to play. When we visit our sacred grounds, it's for a reason. There are prayers and ceremony before we go. It's a spiritual place for our people and we visit the area with respect to the spirits of our ancestors that reside there." – Ted Howard

The Owyhee Canyonlands has always been an important place for the Shoshone, Paiute, and Bannock people. The Owyhee Canyons, Little Jacks, Big Jacks, Sheep Creek, Bruneau Canyon, and Jarbidge Canyon have provided resources the tribes needed to survive since time immemorial. The mighty salmon used to migrate through these areas and ceremonies were performed to welcome the fish when they arrived. The people fished, preserving the catch through smoking or drying for later consumption.

The rivers still provide many important resources and habitat, plants for food, medicine, and shelter; waterfowl, beaver, muskrats, mink; and there are big game along the canyons—bighorn sheep, deer, and antelope.

In the mid 1800s, emigrants arrived in southern Idaho. They started taking the best parts of our homelands for themselves, including the water sources. When precious metals were discovered in the Boise Basin and Silver City, they wanted the Indians out of the area. There was a frenzy and Indian people were killed at random. There were bounties placed on Indian scalps: \$100 for men, \$50 for women, and \$25 for children this is documented. If someone wanted to go Indian hunting and needed supplies, the supplies were provided and the costs were then deducted from the payment made for Indian scalps when they returned. Our people had to take refuge in the canyons to survive. The newcomers wanted to exterminate our people but failed to achieve their goal, because they couldn't catch us in the rough terrain of the Canyonlands. There were many battles throughout the Owyhee Mountains and canyons in

The U.S. Senate never ratified the treaties for southwestern Idaho, so there was never a transfer of land title to the U.S. Government. The tribes still maintain Indian title to southern Idaho. Indian title is "the right of occupancy granted by the federal government to an American Indian tribe based on the tribe's immemorial possession of the area." – uslegal.com.

southern Idaho, northern Nevada, and southeastern Oregon.

Tribal history is tied to the environment. There are stories that connect the tribes to these places and we still visit these locations to take care of our traditional needs. There are countless burials and sites throughout the area. The entire Canyonlands are sacred to our people.

Sandra Zellmer writes, "American Indian religious beliefs, unlike western religious traditions, are often site-specific in nature and intimately associated with the land and its natural features." She also notes that land is seen as a "sacred living being" that shares its divinity with "everything that is part of nature, including human beings, animals, plants and rocks."

I speak for those that cannot speak for themselves: the environment, the mountains, the animals, the birds, the plants, the water.

She quotes Chief Seattle's speech upon signing the Treaty of Medicine Creek in 1854, in which he distinguishes between Euro-American and tribal views of the land:

"How can one buy or sell the air, the warmth of the land? ...Each pine tree shining in the sun, each sandy beach... each humming bee is holy in the thoughts and memory of my people... we are a part of the earth and the earth is a part of us...so when the Great Chief in Washington sends word that he wants to buy our land, he asks a great deal of us. The earth is not his brother but his enemy and when he has conquered it he moves on."

Native American sites are referred to as "prehistoric". This is not a term that we appreciate. We are not extinct— we are still here. Tribes don't have a prehistory; we have one continuous history that goes back for thousands of years. Contemporary tribes are living cultures; we still practice our traditions, we still visit our homelands and our sites, and we still use the resources on our

homelands. These sites are contemporary sites, we still use them. We do not appreciate anyone advertising our sites or the Canyonlands. In the last 2 to 3 decades we've seen many articles in magazines, newspapers, and television programs about the Canyonlands. Some offer services of various kinds to take people out there for their own financial gain or they invite others to visit the area. The tribes do not appreciate this publicity. As recent as the late 1970s we saw very few people out there, besides the ranchers. One could be out for days and never see anyone else. Now there are people out there all of the time, some digging up our sites and stealing the contents to sell, shooting everything that moves, stealing from the line camps used by ranchers and tribes. Nothing good has come from the discovery of our sacred grounds. The environment is suffering, animal numbers have declined, and some are nearly gone. In the late 1990s the Idaho Training Range was established and now there is always aircraft noise, sonic booms, and chaff being dropped onto the environment. Chaff is not biodegradable.

Most environmentalists/conservationists claim they want to protect the area. They want cattle grazing gone, and more people visiting the area to recreate. The tribes would rather everyone leave it alone. We need our space to survive as Indian people, the same as the natural inhabitants the way the creator intended things to be. If you want to visit the area, come and visit, don't publicize anything. Enjoy and keep it to yourself.

I speak for those that cannot speak for themselves: the environment, the mountains, the animals, the birds, the plants, the water. It is our duty as contemporary Indian people to protect and preserve the resources for the coming generations. The BLM developed a Resource Management Plan for the area. My comment to them was, "we need a People Management Plan, the resources will do fine on their own. It's when people show up with their 4 Wheel Drives and ATVs that everything begins to decline, new roads are created, erosion worsens, cultural resources are stolen, and the natural inhabitants suffer."



ballotsnotbulletscoalition.org

merican democracy, with peaceful and strong citizen engagement, has established laws to protect the public good, ensuring that the toughest, most powerful, and most vocal do not win through bullying behavior. For this reason, Great Old Broads joined with other organizations this spring to found the "Ballots not Bullets Coalition", affirming that politically-motived violence and threats are anathema to democratic government and have no place on public lands or streets.



With federal agencies subjected to increasing violence and threats for land management decisions, we assert that policy dissent and disagreement must be addressed through non-violent means, as part of the democratic process.

When heavily armed white militias are not held accountable when they menacingly guard Bundy's illegal cattle on public lands in Nevada or threaten BLM officials from approaching unlawfully-constructed mine buildings in Oregon, while hundreds of National Guard troops are called to quell unrest in response to police violence against blacks in Baltimore, the need for citizens to call for enforcement equality becomes evident.



Déjà vu All Over Again (continued from page 1)

It's worth noting Utah's TPLA keeps all national parks and monuments in the state in federal hands except Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, which protects significant coal and oil deposits estimated at a value of hundreds of billions of dollars.

...poll after poll has shown that most Americans don't want the federal government to turn its land over to the states.

Utah's Rep. Ivory has made public land transfers his primary cause and paid profession through the American Lands Council (ALC), traveling and giving lectures to convince county, state, and national legislators, the media, and anyone who will listen. In June 2015, the Campaign for Accountability filed fraud complaints with Attorneys General in Utah, Montana, and Arizona, asking for investigation of Ivory for illegal engagement in a scheme to defraud local government officials out of taxpayer funds through solicitation of membership dues for ALC. The complaint notes that Ivory has made false claims about the legitimacy of public land transfers, given that even the Utah Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel has said the policy has a "high probability of being declared unconstitutional".

SAME SONG, DIFFERENT VERSE

Ivory takes his cues from the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), an organization that has boasted of its role promoting the Sagebrush Rebellion as far back as 1978. According to the Center for Media and Democracy, 98% of ALEC's income is from corporations, trade groups, and corporate foundations. In April 2014, Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-

AZ) demanded a federal investigation of ALEC, questioning "how changes to land management laws and regulations, especially in the Western United States, are being pushed by ALEC without public disclosure of its role or that of the corporations that fund its legislative agenda." While some 72 corporate funders withdrew from ALEC after negative publicity that year, Koch Industries, the tobacco industry, and big pharmaceutical companies continue as backers.

ALEC develops "model bills" for adoption on myriad issues, with some 600 currently on their website. In addition to federal land transfer bills, ALEC promotes bills to allow drilling on protected lands, thwart regulation of greenhouse gases, attack renewable energy standards, oppose regulation of coal ash, give corporations legal protection against lead poisoning victims, criminalize environmental activism, and more. ALEC's model bill for federal land transfers asserts that "federal preservationist policies" have led to a fuel build-up on National Forests that Al Qaeda may exploit "with only a few matches". In addition to undermining environmental laws, ALEC gained fame for promoting "stand your ground" laws, public school privatization, voter ID laws, and the Arizona law that requires law enforcement to detain anyone suspected of living illegally in the U.S.

Over the years, poll after poll has shown that most Americans don't want the federal government to turn its land over to the states. While these latest attempts to rob the American people of our beloved national public lands for short-term private gain are no more likely to succeed than in the past century, it's incumbent upon each of us to be prepared for action—arming ourselves with education, and ready to be vocal and visible in opposition.





by JoAnn M. Valenti, Ph.D./Emerita Prof.

lorida rivers—the Suwannee and Withlacoochee in the north, St. John's and Ocklawaha north central, Ochlockonee in the Panhandle and myriad other no longer pristine natural waterways, were once wilderness marvels. Canoe, kayak, and snorkel enthusiasts as well as countless critters are drawn to these meandering rivers—with the exception of earlier canalization disasters that the Army Corps of Engineers has not yet un-straightened or un-dammed. We are very wet here in our dying-from-overdevelopment tropical paradise.

I'm a Miami native who attended the University of Florida in Gainesville. As a student, I was privileged to work alongside Marjorie H. Carr and her entourage at Florida Defenders of the Environment (FDE) in the battle to stop the Cross Florida Barge Canal. You can read about Carr and other women who've fought to salvage our state from destruction in the newly released book, Saving Florida: Women's Fight for the Environment in the Twentieth Century, by Leslie Kemp Poole.

Later, I earned a Ph.D. in Natural Resources at the University of Michigan, and currently serve as a FDE trustee. The legal skirmishes regarding the damn dam obstructing the natural flow of the Ocklawaha River continue—so I decided I really needed a nice float down the river.

Paddling 20 miles on a couple of our favorite rivers was a perfect party to celebrate my making it to age 70. My husband of nearly 40 years and our traveling partners—an even older cousin and his "youngster" wife, all of us Great Old Broads and Bros—drove to the Suwannee River State Park for an extended weekend of paddling along the confluence of the famous Suwannee and Withlacoochee. We're canoe people. Kayaks move too fast to really appreciate the amazing scenes along the riverbanks, the many diverse inhabitants cruising alongside: manatees, gators, and cooters (turtles); jumping sturgeon; an otter or two. Lots to enjoy. My one recommendation, post birthday paddle: men in one boat, women in another. Better to avoid marital discord.

Paddling downstream, even when a confluence challenges your arms a tad, restores the spirit. We encountered a couple of typical Florida drenches, and then the sun popped back out. Wet but warm is no deterrent. It's nearly always humid and the mosquitoes seem to have a preference for my aged blood. Our trek coincided with an annual Paddle Florida event delivering folk music, local catered food, and a host of speakers, among them the author of another new book about our sorry state: Silenced Springs: Moving from Tragedy to Hope, by Robert Knight. Knight, founder of Florida Springs Institute (FSI) based in Gainesville, does the research, reports the data, and tries to provide a hopeful path to undoing the ills. I'm not so optimistic, but it's good to see serious science in conservation/environmental efforts. Knight is also involved

Three years ago, Broads held a Florida Swamp Walk. If you missed that, plan to come explore the more than 1,000 artesian springs and threatened aquifers before they're depleted and polluted beyond repair. That's the old pessimist in me again. Time for another canoe trip! Maybe the Hillsborough River this time; it's in the neighborhood. Let me know if you want to come along.

Save the **OWYHEE CANYONLANDS**

We fell in love with the Owyhee Canyonlands and spoke out to protect this amazing natural wonder. Will you?

At more than 2.1 million acres of wildlands and hundreds of miles of Wild & Scenic rivers, Oregon's Owyhee Canyonlands represents the largest conservation opportunity remaining in the lower 48 states.



Help preserve this diverse region, which is home to bighorn sheep, pronghorn antelope, Rocky Mountain elk, mule deer, seven species of bats, sage-grouse and songbirds, redband trout, longnose snakes, and pygmy rabbits.

Please show your support for permanent protection for this remote and wild area.

Take action today at http://wildowyhee.org/





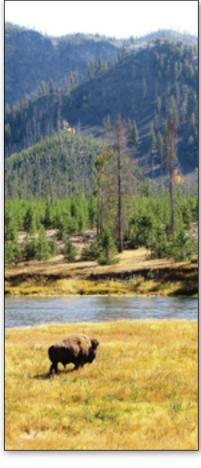
Reading & Resources

Saving Florida: Women's Fight for the **Environment in the Twentieth Century** (2015) Leslie Kemp Poole, Univ. Press of Florida: Gainesville

Silenced Springs: Moving from Tragedy to Hope (2015) Robert L. Knight, the Howard T. Odum Florida Springs Institute: Gainesville

Florida Defenders of the Environment http://fladefenders.org/

Howard T. Odum Florida Springs Institute http://www.floridaspringsinstitute.org/



could be extracted, consumed, or sold (see Ted Howard's article, pg. 12). With many younger colleagues, we recognize that indigenous rights hold a key to global climate justice. In short, we've seen the success of grassroots organizing. These stories bring hope to younger generations.

Broads promotes grassroots activism as its key tool. We are growing, in numbers, geography, and effectiveness. At times, we myopically think we are the last generation who cares for wild places. We overlook a young generation of activists taking to the streets to support strong climate policies, vying for food justice, cleaner water, and healthier soil. Young women and men apply for conservation corps work in droves. They strategize and organize with digital technologies, and employ creative and indefatigable focus to move mountains of community change. I have seen

their motivation first-hand through university work, and I know we have much to learn from younger activists, with their efficient internet skills, energy and passion, and a fresh view that skillfully intertwines the root causes of social, economic, and environmental injustice. Young activists restore our faith in the future.

Combining older and younger generations through non-violent grassroots action makes us an indomitable and spirited force.

Combining older and younger generations through non-violent grassroots action makes us an indomitable and spirited force. It reminds us to question the baseline, where degradation is considered normal, and to strive for what is ecologically and morally right.

This shifting of perspective incorporates hope, immediacy, and a long-term view and means that Broads can take the opportunity to reach out: invite college interns into wilderness campaigns or partner with a youth restitution crew on a road reseeding project; work with young sawyers to cut and remove invasive tamarisk or mentor a high school student who speaks at a public hearing; demonstrate side by side with young climate activists or show an elementary school class why wilderness matters.

At times, we must shift our own internal perspectives to experience the wild through younger eyes, while still conveying the ecological baseline our parents and their grandparents knew. Holding close the responsibility of the elders, we pass down the stories and knowledge that have been entrusted to us. With wisdom, experience, and uh... what else? Oh yeah—memory—we join the young, old, and in-between to protect wild places!

LEGACY GIVING



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THERE'S STILL ROOM!





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Kim Lively hikes Juniper Gulch in the Owyhee with gusto!

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