



Exceptional Victory—Exceptional Broads

by Shelley Silbert

Broads celebrated a victory for wildlife and forests in eastern Oregon this past August. In a preliminary ruling, U.S. Magistrate Judge Patricia Sullivan rejected a controversial Forest Service decision to develop a 137-mile network of trails for off-highway vehicles (quads, motorbikes, side-by-sides, and jeeps) in the Ochoco Mountains. The judge concluded the Forest Service decision violated the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in relation to effects on gray wolves; and, failed to follow the Ochoco National Forest Plan provisions to minimize road densities and protect both elk wallows and calving sites.

In September 2016, the Ochoco National Forest released a Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (SFEIS) to combine new off-highway vehicle (OHV) trails with existing roads to create the Summit Trails system. Broads filed formal objections to the SFEIS in November 2017 and then met in a formal conflict resolution process with the agency and other concerned parties to discuss ways to

mitigate impacts to wildlife. Despite this process, the Forest approved the proposed trail system in June 2017. With little recourse, Broads and partners challenged the agency's decision in court, represented by the Western

Environmental Law Center. The Oregon Hunters Association and Central Oregon Landwatch filed similar lawsuits, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) likewise expressed disapproval for the plan.

Exceptional Broads

Members of the Central Oregon Bitterbrush Broadband in Bend played a critical role in the lawsuit. Broadband co-leader Joanne Richter, a retired

watershed scientist, grew concerned about the impacts of OHV trails on streams, wetlands, riparian areas, forest woodlands, and meadow habitats in the Ochoco Mountains.

Amy Stuart, a member of the Broadband's leadership team and a retired fish biologist with a 31-year ODFW career, was disturbed by the high road densities in the Summit Trails proposal—up to 12 miles of road per square mile of land. She had witnessed that the Forest's Travel Management Plan served as a paper plan only, with a proliferation of illegal trails and only one law enforcement officer on the 850,000 acres of the national forest.



The damage to this meadow by illegal off-route OHV use is a common occurrence in the Ochocos.



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2019 EVENTS PREVIEW

The first Broadwalk of the season takes place in spring. We give you the scoop so you can start planning for next year's adventures!

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"Ours is not the task of fixing the entire world all at once, but of stretching out to mend the part of the world that is within our reach."

— Clarissa Pinkola Estes

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...from our Executive Director, Shelley Silbert

In a BROAD Sense



From Microcosm to Mayhem

I can't pretend otherwise—this summer has been stranger than strange. Actually, it started long before summer, with a lack of winter moisture in the southwest that intensified a years-long drought. By June, a wildfire raged just a few miles from Durango, putting my home on pre-evacuation notice for weeks while smoke choked our

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community. By the time it was over, some 54,000 acres of mixed conifer, pine, and oak woodlands had burned, including two of Colorado's "champion" old-growth trees.

The fire burned into the recently designated Hermosa Creek Wilderness, displaced or killed wildlife, and brought pandemonium to our community; yet we consider ourselves fortunate compared to neighbors in California and other wildfire-wracked regions—at least this time.

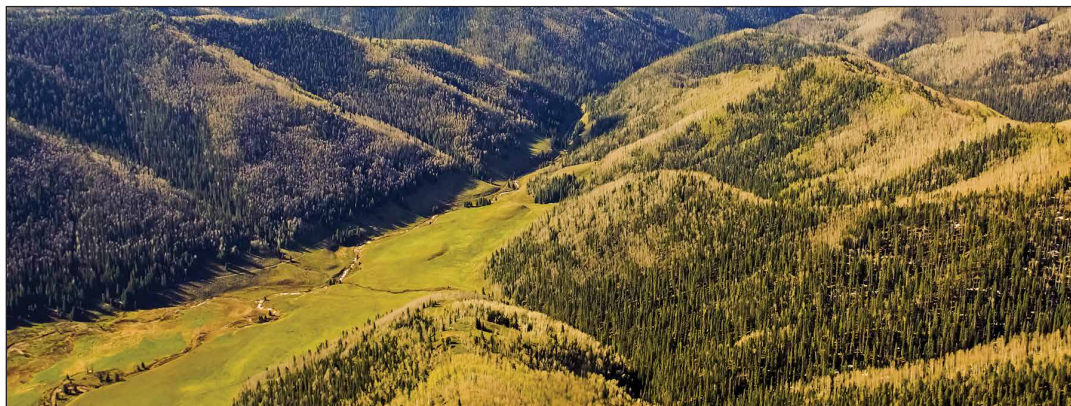
Shortly after the fire, I had surgery to repair

a torn tendon. After weeks on crutches, I've gained even more intense (if not wistful) appreciation for the ability to hike, backpack, and play on our public lands, truly the thing I've missed most in this eight weeks and counting since surgery. And it damn sure made me appreciate all the valiant Broads who have gone through much more difficult trials and tribulations than I have! But—Senator Hatch and other public land detractors—has it made me any less committed to wilderness simply because I can't access it? Not in a million years!

From this microcosm, I step back to witness the political mayhem of our distressed democracy, exposed each day in news so shocking it's no wonder some find it unbelievable.

With all these challenges, it's a particular pleasure to celebrate a sweet success for wildlife and democratic processes in eastern Oregon (see cover story), a legal victory expected to prevail over the development of miles of OHV trails that would disrupt wildlife habitat, muddy streams, and

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Great Old Broads for Wilderness is a national grassroots organization, led by women, that engages and inspires activism to preserve and protect wilderness and wild lands.

Conceived by older women who love wilderness, Broads gives voice to the millions of Americans who want to protect public lands for this and future generations. With more than 8,500 members and friends, we bring voice, knowledge, commitment, and humor to the movement to protect our last wild places on earth.

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ADVOCACY CORNER

Political Engagement and the Power of Voting

by Lauren Berutich

American democracy is in a dangerous place. Our democratic rights are under attack and the powers of the ordinary citizen are being threatened at an alarming rate. Our “bi-partisan” nation is polarized at an all-time high and public trust in our elected officials is plummeting. Access to clean air and water should not be a left- or right-wing debate—it should be the norm. Keeping the National Environmental Policy Act process in place to protect our environment and public health should be the norm. Yet, many important protections are on the chopping block. As of July 2018, the Trump administration has sought to reverse more than 70 environmental rules according to a New York Times analysis (<http://bit.ly/Times-art>).

How do we influence change at a time when we’re feeling fragmented—polarized from our neighbors, political representatives, and administration? We are not a powerless society. Our power lies in active participation to create real policy change at the local, state, and national levels. We can protect the Endangered Species Act and all of our wild, threatened creatures. We can ensure that oil and gas companies report and reduce methane emissions. And, we can protect the Clean Power Plan from being repealed and safeguard America’s coastal waters from offshore drilling. How? We vote, encourage others to vote, and share ideas. That’s how we bring about change.

Power is within the people. Rock the vote.
Here’s how:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR NOVEMBER 6, 2018

Midterm elections are important and can make a huge difference in who represents your values and voice. All 435 seats in the House and 35 of 100 seats in the Senate will be contested. On average, only about 40% of registered voters participate in midterm elections. What would happen if 60% more of the voting pool had influence over important issues you care deeply about?

KNOW THE ISSUES AND WHAT SIDE THE CANDIDATES SUPPORT

Look for candidate report cards that share how your elected officials have voted in the past on topics from public education to the environment. These report cards can help inform your vote and where you’d like to put pressure on candidates to represent your concerns in their platforms. Call the campaign office or drop in. Get your questions answered on the

“Voting isn’t just important to democracy. Voting is democracy. You can’t have a successfully run democratic system without the support and votes of the citizens.”

– Ben Brewster, Vermont Secretary of State, 2005

issues close to your heart. Remember, you put elected officials in those seats. Remind them you pay attention and you vote!

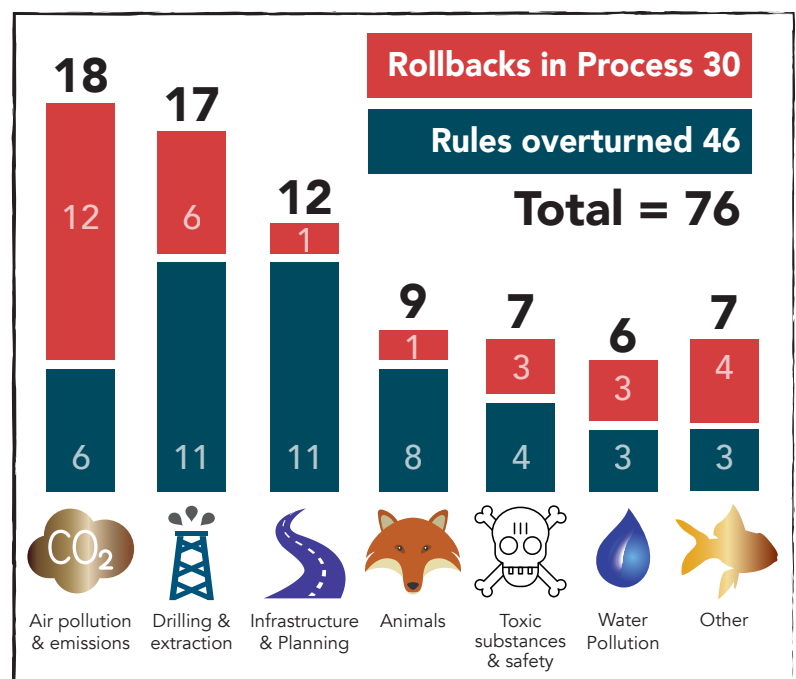
BRING A FRIEND

Is your daughter, neighbor, student, or colleague eligible to vote but not sure how to register? Act as a political mentor and help them through the process. Work with your favorite partner organization at events, markets, or college campuses to register folks to vote. Assure all eligible voters have access to the polls on voting days: help with carpooling, provide babysitting, or cover a shift at work for someone. Every vote counts.

TALK TO PEOPLE AND REALLY LISTEN

We are in tough, challenging times. We are divided, we are mourning, and we are searching for hope. We need to talk to each other. Find common ground. We are not alone and we all have experiences that have shaped who we are and how we see ourselves in the world. Share stories to deepen connections and build collective power.

Remember, your engagement in the voting process now has the potential to shape the American political landscape and our public lands for long time into the future.

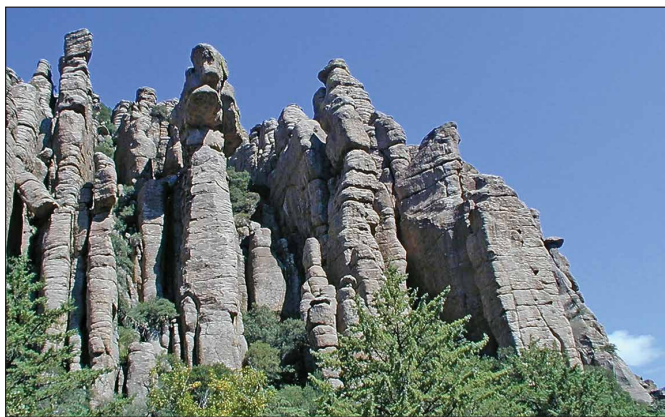


2019 EVENTS PREVIEW!

LET'S HIT THE ROAD

We haven't even unloaded from the last event and here we are with a look into 2019 activities...

Next year, we're kicking off the season with a Broadwalk that will knock your hiking boots off. We're getting the word out right away so you can start making plans. Registration opens for the Borderlands Broadwalk on **November 1, 2018** at: www.greatoldbroads.org/national-events



APRIL 25-29

Borderlands Broadwalk

CHIRICAHUA MOUNTAINS, SOUTHEAST ARIZONA
(The best kept secret in the Southwest)

Don't Fence Me In

Join us for an amazing experience in the stunning Chiricahua Mountains of southeast Arizona (elevation 5400'), near the border with New Mexico and Mexico, to learn about the devastating impacts of a border wall and border patrol activities on public lands. The barrier threatens biodiversity, interrupts habitat corridors, and hinders genetic diversity.

Speakers will enlighten us about the secretive and critically endangered jaguar and other species, and discuss the crazy logistics behind building, maintaining, and policing a border wall.

Mi Casa es Su Casa

We will stay at the American Museum of Natural History's Southwestern Research Station, adjacent to the Coronado National Forest. Dorm rooms will be available (two beds per room; buddy up with a pal!), plus there are showers and

bathrooms. There is limited space for camping, so reserve your space quickly. **Important:** tent camping or small camper vans only. Sorry, no room for RVs or trailers. Campers will also enjoy access to showers and restrooms. Best of all, 3 meals a day are included with your registration fee.



Birds Know Best

Experience world class birding, wildlife viewing, and limitless hiking in an area surrounded by Wilderness, National Monuments, and Wilderness Study Areas. This world hot spot for birding boasts elegant trogons, hummingbirds galore, and an exciting diversity of birds coming up from Central and South America. Spring is king for birding, so spread your wings and join this signature event!



Current members only – Join today and come along!

LODGING PRICE: \$365 • CAMPING PRICE: \$275

OTHER EVENTS

We're so excited about our plans for 2019 that we can't resist giving you a hint of what's to come! Details available in the Winter / Spring *Broadsides* (early February). Registration will open at that time.



JUNE 3-7, 2019

Don't Dam Salmon Broadwalk

NEAR LEWISTON, IDAHO, ALONG THE SNAKE RIVER

Perhaps no other species is as critical to holding together the food web as wild salmon, which are on the brink of going extinct forever. Salmon are a keystone species and a primary source of food for orcas, bears, seals, and birds of prey, however, four dams along the lower Snake River prevent many from reaching their most productive spawning grounds. We'll camp along the river, learn about this iconic species, and discover what we can do as grassroots advocates to aid in their recovery.

SEPTEMBER 20-23, 2019

30th Anniversary Celebration

BOULDER, UTAH

Come celebrate our 30th anniversary in the wild canyon country near Boulder, Utah at the Boulder Mountain Guest Ranch overlooking Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and surrounded by the Dixie National Forest. We'll have a pull-out-the-stops celebratory dinner with distinctive speakers, live music, and Broads' camaraderie. The weekend will, of course, include stewardship projects and hiking. Lodging and plenty of camping will be available.

Join old and new Broads and Bros to fill your heart with hope and your belly with laughter—and leave inspired to preserve and protect our public lands and wild places together for 30 more years, and counting!





Happy 30th! Celebrate with Discounts

Next Generation Broads

2019 marks Broads' 30th anniversary. To honor this milestone and propel the legacy of Broads for the next 30 years, invite a next generation Broad* to join and come along with you on an event. We'll take 10% off their event registration fee to welcome them to the Broads' fold. NextGen Broads should call our office, let us know who invited them, and we'll provide the special discount code for event registration.

*A NextGen Broad can be your daughter, son, or younger neighbor, friend, or curious human being.

Get into the Wild – First Timer Discount

Have you ever been on a Broadwalk or Broadwork? We don't want you to miss out on the fun, so we're offering current members 10% off their first event. Call us so we can verify you are a member and an event "virgin" and we'll give you the secret First-Timer code.



A Sustainer's Song

by Lori Niewold

Music is powerful—it brings me chills, tears, or even makes me bust a move (with my two left feet), depending on which song from my auditory buffet I'm listening to—Elvis, Neil Diamond, The Bee Gees, Prince...

Nature, like music, touches me, elevates me, takes my soul on a voyage with my favorite musicians of the outdoors—the philharmonic choir of leaves singing in the forested mountains of the Rockies of Colorado—a place I've visited all my life and have called home for nearly a decade. It brings to mind the poignant John Denver song, "Country road, take me home, to the place I belong..." (for me, it's Colorado) or John Muir's quote, "The mountains are calling, and I must go." Those words always gave me pause, knowing every moment I was not in the mountains, I wasn't home.

Since I started working for Great Old Broads, I've begun to see the hard work and devotion that goes into protecting these mountains and all of our public lands—the delicate ecosystems and wildlife. It made me realize that I had perhaps been interpreting those words by John Muir quite selfishly, as if the mountains were calling me to return for my own pleasure.

Now I see those words through the lens of Mother Nature. The mountains are indeed calling, calling for help in desperation to be saved from human activities that are destroying our earth.

As an employee of Broads, I work every day helping to protect our earth. So it may sound a bit odd that I have chosen to be a sustaining member, donating monthly to Broads and

essentially giving back some of my salary. But for me, it's the principle of it—I can't be a bystander. I want to be a musician with wildlife: to bugle with the elk, squawk with the wild turkeys, growl with the bears, and howl with the wolves.



Their migration corridors are being fragmented, sometimes obliterated, disrupting mating rituals, dwindling their populations, and endangering their existence permanently. It is disheartening and gloomy, and as long as the current administration continues its relentless attacks against our public lands and wildlife, and as long as our populations burgeon, our work is critical and never ending. It is difficult in these political times, so it is incredibly important that each of us continue to also remember the sentence that follows Broads' mission: We bring knowledge, commitment, and humor to the movement to protect our last wild places on earth.

So, go to the mountains, to the desert, or to your musical place of serenity and inhale some of our last clean air and know the wild places are calling us—to care for them. For a moment we may be despondent, but we can't help finding joy in the infinite beauty of nature while we find humor and friendship in this fight together.

As we rise up with fists ready, resisting and engaging in battle to protect our last wild places, think of the crab. Why don't crabs donate to charity? Because they're shellfish.

Please join me in becoming a sustaining member. Whatever you can give monthly helps pay for training women as public land advocates, growing our programs, and amplifying our voices for the protection of our Earth.





THE BROADER WILDERNESS

by Katya Spiecker



NOW IS THE TIME TO FREE THE SNAKE RIVER

Often called America's greatest salmon waterway, the Snake River used to have salmon runs reaching all the way into the Rocky Mountains of Idaho. This 1,078-mile river and its tributaries still hold some of the last intact pristine salmon habitat in the lower 48. However, due to four dams on the lower Snake River, salmon cannot access that habitat. The dams are starving important terrestrial (and marine) ecosystems of crucial nutrients and robbing the landscape of an iconic and culturally revered animal.

Focusing on the salmon, orca, and tribal lands and traditions, the *Free the Snake Flotilla* in September gathered sovereign tribes and activists from across the Northwest. This annual water-bound event that brings attention to the effort to remove the dams was a paddle/float through the heart of Lewiston and Clarkston, Washington. Nearly 600 salmon advocates, including Broads from Idaho, Oregon and Washington, joined the flotilla in a display of solidarity and a resounding call to "Free the Snake." It's time to follow this event's example and bring more visibility and voices to this crucial issue if we are to save the salmon and the species that rely on them. Broads plan to do just that by presenting the Don't Dam Salmon Broadwalk at the Snake River in 2019 (see page 4 for a preview of this event).

For a summary of this important issue, watch this brief video "Free the Snake: Restoring America's Greatest Salmon River" at <http://bit.ly/SnakeVid>.

NW CALIFORNIA MOUNTAINS & RIVERS BILL INTRODUCED

Nearly a year after our Redwood Broadwalks, we're celebrating the introduction of the *Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests Act* (formerly Northern California Conservation and Recreation Act) by Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA). Not only would this bill expand nine existing wilderness areas and create nine new ones, it would also designate 379 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers, establish a 730,000-acre Special Restoration Area in the South Fork Trinity

river zone, and restore public lands harmed by illegal cannabis grows.

A hundred people attended two successful Broadwalks in northwest California last year to learn about and advocate for this bill. They were inspired to write letters in support of the legislation, which were later hand-delivered to Rep. Huffman at one of his public meetings in front of a packed audience. Additionally, California Broads testified at multiple public hearings.

We encourage you to call or tweet Rep. Huffman to thank him for introducing this legislation at (202) 225-5161 or @RepHuffman.

UTAH APPEALS COURT DROPS CHARGES AGAINST ROSE!



Kati Soleil (left) and Rose Chilcoat take a break from hacking out Russian Olive along the Escalante River in Utah.

In July, the Utah Court of Appeals ordered that all charges against Broads' retired Associate Director Rose Chilcoat be dismissed (see *Broadsides* Summer 2018.) In a highly unusual move, the court expressed criticism of San Juan County's decision to pursue criminal charges against Rose. The State of Utah, which took over the case for the county when it went before the Appeals Court, chose not to oppose the dismissal. The fact that the Utah Court of Appeals did not find evidence to support the accusations substantiates Broads' position that the charges were made in retaliation for Rose's work to protect public lands in the county. We are thrilled for Rose, and pleased that the amicus brief Broads filed with 13 other organizations helped to highlight the chilling effect the charges were intended to have on other public land advocates.



ADVOCACY WINS!

MONUMENTS LAWSUIT STAYS IN DC

In September, Broads and other litigants celebrated a win in the case over Trump's illegal reduction of Grand Staircase-Escalante and Bears Ears National Monuments in Utah.

The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia rejected the request to move the case to a district court in Utah, agreeing with plaintiffs the case belongs where it was filed—in Washington, D.C.

This is a significant victory—it sends a message that these monuments are federal lands that belong to all Americans, and as such, the case shall remain in federal hands—rather than taking the decision to a Utah court that would likely take an unfriendly view toward public lands.

JUDGE REJECTS OCHOCO OHV PLAN

A federal judge in a preliminary ruling rejected the Ochoco National Forest trail plan that would have increased the Forest's existing off road vehicle trails by 20% (See cover story).

CHACO CULTURAL HERITAGE AREA PROTECTION ACT INTRODUCED

Senators Tom Udall (D-NM) and Martin Heinrich (D-NM) introduced the *Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act* to withdraw leases to extract minerals, oil, and gas from federal lands within a 10-mile buffer of Chaco Culture National Historical Park. This is a step in the right direction to provide relief to surrounding communities inundated with methane flares and heavy equipment, and will protect cultural resources in an area where 91% of the land is leased to oil and gas companies. The Broads support the bill and have joined with other organizations to demand public hearings, transparency, and accountability on all oil and gas leasing activities in the Greater Chaco area.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT PASSED WITHOUT RIDERS

In early July, the House and Senate introduced versions of the National Defense Authorization Act, a bill that prioritizes funding for defense, with several riders that

would significantly weaken the Endangered Species Act, override the National Environmental Policy Act, and prevent challenges in court. Thanks to the public's letters to Congress, the Senate responsibly recognized the senselessness of these unnecessary riders and removed them before passing the final bill.

OMNIBUS BILL PASSED WITHOUT HARMING TONGASS NF

Initially, the Fiscal Year 2018 Omnibus Appropriations Bill included disastrous riders that would delay any transition away from the controversial and unsustainable industrial practice of old-growth clear-cutting in Alaska's Tongass National Forest—our nation's largest national forest and carbon sink. The bill would also have exempted Alaska from the Forest Service Roadless Area Conservation Rule, desecrating miles of pristine forest (see *Roadless Rule Under Attack*, page 12). Thanks again to public outcry, the bill was passed without these horrific riders.

PUBLIC INPUT RESTORED FOR SAGE-GROUSE HABITAT

In September, a federal judge in Idaho temporarily halted the Trump administration's push for oil and gas extraction in sage-grouse habitat by ruling against a BLM Instruction Memo that not only revoked the 2010 BLM oil and gas leasing reforms, but also adopted various measures to limit public participation in, and environmental review of, BLM leasing decisions. Most importantly, the court found significant evidence that BLM had intentionally limited or eliminated public participation in decisions relating to oil and gas leasing on public lands.

The injunction requires that BLM hold a 30-day public comment period before determining whether a lease sale will have no significant environmental effect, and must allow for a 30-day protest period following the posting of a lease sale to the public.

The ruling applies to lease sales beginning December 2018 and subsequent sales within the Planning Area Boundaries of the 2015 Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan amendments.



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Join us for a FREE five-day advocacy training and find your voice for our wild public lands.

2019 WILDERNESS ADVOCACY LEADERSHIP TRAINING SESSIONS

March 4-8, 2019 • Synergia Ranch, Santa Fe, NM

Apply today at <http://bit.ly/BroadsTrain>



Broadbands *in ACTION!*

Our local Broadbands have put together projects that both inspire and engage public lands advocates. In times such as these, the need to join together and act is at an all-time high. We celebrate our WILD Broadband leaders and members as educators, advocates, and stewards of our wild lands.

Too Wild to Drill: There's an App for That

Members of the Northwest Colorado Broadband set out in August on a mission to document impacts of oil and gas development on Bureau of Land Management lands. In partnership with The Wilderness Society (TWS), Broads kicked off a pilot program using a smartphone "app" to take photos of areas where oil and gas activities have the potential to harm wildlife, water, air, public health, recreation, and scenic beauty. Upon their return from the field, they uploaded photos to the TWS database for future use in fending off oil and gas lease sales. The Broads had a good time exploring the parcels, snapping photos of elk, deer, pronghorn, and sage grouse scat (yes, scat!), notable wildlife habitat, and a nearby wildlife refuge, while enjoying the cool sage-scented air and unique solitude of their public lands.

For more information on how to get involved in documenting the effects of oil and gas development on public lands, contact Grassroots Advocacy Coordinator Katya Spiecker at katya@greatoldbroads.org.

Discovering the Santiam

37 Oregon Broads got into the wild over the summer with a *Discover the Santiam Broadwalk* event. Organized by the Willamette, Central Oregon Bitterbrush, and Cascade Volcanoes Broadband leaders, participants gathered to



explore and learn about the little-known Santiam/Cascadia area of the Willamette National Forest. It was quite an affair, with stewardship projects and interesting hikes led by rangers

who schooled Broads on local wildflowers and the native people that once populated the region. Evening presentations examined historic logging activities, the role of fire in the

forest, endangered species, and the proposed Douglas Fir National Monument. The event was jam-packed with fun and learning in true Broads' style. Willamette Broadband co-leader Cyndi Anderson said it was so popular and well received the Oregon leaders are considering making it an annual event to allow more people to experience this unique area.

Wild for Wilderness Citizen Science Project

Thanks to a partnership with Durango, Colorado's



Patagonia outfitter, Pine Needle Mountaineering, the South San Juan Broadband was granted funding for a citizen science project in the Weminuche Wilderness to inventory invasive plants and monitor threatened bighorn sheep and pika habitat. Members attended two full-day workshops with other partners, where they were trained on data collection and plant identification. The eruption of an expansive wildfire caused a few setbacks but didn't stop our tenacious Broads from getting off to a great start! In early September, they hiked in search of bighorns on the eastern edge of Endlich Mesa, deepening their knowledge about the biology, habitat, and challenges faced by the charismatic and elusive bighorn. Citizen science projects will continue through the fall and into next year.

New Broadbands Sprout from East to West

Broads' presence in public lands advocacy has taken hold in three new areas this summer: mid-coast Maine; Seattle, Washington; and the Rogue Valley in Oregon. Enthused Seattle Broads are working to protect local waters including alpine lakes, the Elwha river, and dam removal on the Snake River. In the east, Maine Broads are gathering steam as a new Broadband and already have an array of activities planned, including a coastal cleanup. The Rogue Broads of Oregon are focusing efforts to rally against the massive Jordan Cove Energy Project that calls for a 229-mile natural gas pipeline that would span from Malin to Coos Bay in southern Oregon. Stay tuned, as we are likely to hear more from these new chapters of WILD women joining the fight for mother Earth!



America's Public Lands, Finding Common Ground

by Mike Kruse & Lionel Di Giacomo

Conversations about public land use, management, and access can be challenging. The arguments get complicated, there are many associated myths and misconceptions, and often, people defiantly hold their position. To be an effective advocate, it is important to develop the skills to have these tough conversations, and learn to build connections despite differences.

Finding common ground is not always easy—or possible. Sometimes people lack information. Others may listen when presented with the facts, but still disagree. Then there are those that do not want to listen and insist on telling you “how it is.” Facts do not always win arguments, and trying to change someone’s mind usually steels their resolve to believe what they believe. Conversations between people who do not see eye-to-eye can go a lot smoother by observing some simple techniques.

What is the Goal?

If you go into the situation determined to educate or change the person’s mind, it’s perceived as being pushy or insincere. Perhaps an alternative is to attempt to better understand the other person’s position and reasoning to open the gateway to a potentially productive conversation.

Show respect for the person and their point of view

While you don’t have to agree, everyone has a story and a reason why they feel the way they do. Don’t make assumptions; keep an open mind and do not discount the person or their beliefs. Active listening builds respect and opens up a space for positive



communication, and if you find ways to relate to their topics or experiences, that develops rapport.

Be curious and get specific

Curiosity promotes listening and listening builds connection, trust, and mutual respect. Be inquisitive. What personal experiences ground your conversation partner’s beliefs? Try to comprehend the “why” behind their beliefs. What is their vision for public lands and how do they view assuring access for everyone? Once again, remember the goal of the conversation, not to be argumentative, but to advocate and celebrate public lands.

Be open to sharing

If a conversation becomes difficult, it’s time to search for common ground. Use personal stories to share why you believe what you do. Making a connection can take time and is worth it in the long run.

Know when to say when

If your differences are too great to have a productive conversation right now, take a deep breath and talk about something less contentious. Try to leave the door open for future conversations; you are both likely to stay engaged on the issues at hand and will encounter each other again. And remember, sometimes you just have to agree to disagree.

Getting to a point where we can have these difficult conversations is a process. If we can build honest connections and find common ground, then we can have productive—or at least civil—conversations about our public lands.

A Man in East Texas...

by Mike Kruse



I spent my master’s thesis traveling through Texas and Arizona interviewing people and documenting their attitudes and emotions toward our public lands. Some were argumentative, some celebratory, but all were in favor of access to nature. That became my approach to the conversation: do you appreciate getting out in nature? And, how do you access it? My answer is public lands, but not everyone understands the concept of federal public lands—what they are, that they belong to all Americans, and how they provide access to nature. Some of my most difficult conversations with the most argumentative interviewees boiled down to one small fact—that they still loved to be outside, regardless of activity, land designation, or management agency.

I interviewed a man in east Texas who hated the federal government. He ranted and raved about states’ rights and how states should control public lands. Even though we may have disagreed, I did a lot of listening and

asked a lot of questions to try to see his perspective—and maybe even understand it. In return, I echoed how much I appreciated having access to nature and how much we BOTH valued that. This created common ground, which perpetuated the conversation.

I might add, throughout my 35+ conversations, there were many misconceptions about public lands, but facts do not always change minds. In this conversation, I quickly realized that I wasn’t going to change his.

He ended the conversation by expressing how excited he was to take an eight-hour motorcycle ride to Big Bend National Park, because he’d never been and heard it was wonderful. Although, he may not have realized that National Parks are managed by the federal government, he was still excited to get out there and experience the beauty of nature. Finding common ground in accessing and appreciating nature became the foundation for a productive conversation.





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ADVENTURES

We're
**WILD for
Wilderness!**
How about you?



OCT. 28–NOV. 11

AUCTION.GREATOLDBROADS.ORG

Your winning bids help support our programs to train and empower women as grassroots advocates for our last remaining wild places on Earth.

Calling All Quilters



You know who you are...you've got a closet full of fabric and a box or two crammed with quilting magazines and patterns!

To commemorate our 30th Anniversary in 2019, we'd like to create a quilt with squares that illustrate some of the magical places Broads have toiled to preserve, projects we've taken on, or even some of the critters we've worked to protect over the past 30 years!

If you are interested in heading up this project and assembling the quilt, please contact Carrie at 970 385-9577 or carrie@greatoldbroads.org.

If you would like to submit a square, let Carrie know and she'll contact you if the project moves forward.



Broads' Board member Antonia Daly shows off this year's raffle item.

2018 Raffle Offering!

Don't forget to get your raffle tickets for this beautiful piece, entitled *Looking Up*, created by artist Patricia Hastings-Sargent. Ready to hang and measuring approximately 24" wide by 31" tall, this is a free-form, two-dimensional sculpture that is rigid. The tree canopy is constructed with open sections revealing your wall, just as you would see patches of sky through the leaves of a tree.

Funds raised will support Broads' work to train and inspire women advocates to preserve and protect wilderness and wild public lands for future generations.

Tickets \$5 each or five for \$20 (online minimum purchase is \$20). The drawing will be held December 15, 2018.

<https://www.greatoldbroads.org/2018-broads-raffle>





OUT IN THE WILD Endangered Species Broadwalk

by Susan Kearns

The only wolf we actually saw...this "wild" hat was a surprise auction offering that sparked a lot of laughter and competitive bidding. Bob Anderson was the lucky winner.

It's safe to say that everyone who traveled up the narrow dirt track to our campsite gasped at the first glimpse of

the Boulder and White Cloud Mountains towering over Silver Creek Meadow in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. The sight sent a surge of joy through us, energizing us with excitement for the coming event.

That first night, after we'd snuggled into our beds, a lone howl of a wolf broke the night's starry, cool silence. We shivered with delight, knowing that in just a few hours, the first small group of Broads and Bros would depart at dawn to howl from a ridge top, hoping to garner return howls to reveal the number of pups born over the winter. Though our teams never got a reply to their howls, they saw moose, fox, pronghorn, elk—and spectacular sunrises and sunsets.

As for the next day's stewardship projects, we exceeded all expectations. One group removed three times the expected amount of barbed wire fencing, delighting the Forest Service crew with Broads' kickass work.

We worked hard and played harder the next two days, tackling hikes of varying difficulties or simply staying in

camp to enjoy—some through plein air painting—the lovely meadow, nearby trails, creek, and scenic views.

By night, we learned of the calculated attacks on the Endangered Species Act (ESA)—despite its success in saving 99% of listed species from extinction. Our speakers gave us sobering insight into the obstacles facing threatened and endangered species in the region: wolves, sage grouse, wolverines, salmon, and more.

Many of us were shocked to learn the dwindling population of Chinook salmon in the Salmon River's Middle Fork is critically impacted by four dams on the lower Snake River. Less than 5% of the fish are able to return to spawn each year in this uniquely high elevation site. Without dam removal, it is likely these populations of wild, indigenous fish—which have never been genetically altered by hatchery fish—will not survive.

We poured out our love for this place and its creatures through our pens, writing our senators and representatives to uphold the protections of the ESA, and reject bills with poison pill riders and legislation that threaten the Act's integrity.

As we said our farewells to old and new friends, we were newly inspired to advocate for the integrity of bedrock laws and protections like the ESA that protect habitat for plants and animals struggling to survive in a changing world and a changing climate.



At last year's Let's Mother Earth Broadwalk, Susie Kincade (left) and Karen Ryman (right) spoke with the now deceased Senator John McCain.

BE BOLD, BE BRAVE BE A BROAD



Step up and join the fight for Mother Earth.

Put your life experience and passion to work.
Get involved with Broads today.

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Roadless Rule under Attack

Since January 2001, the United States Forest Service's (USFS) Roadless Area Conservation Rule has protected public lands that are free from the impacts of roads. Specially designated as Roadless Areas, these lands are safeguarded from activities such as logging, mining, and oil and gas development, which would require building roads into undisturbed lands.

Roadless Areas have never been designated arbitrarily. The Roadless Rule was established after the most extensive public rulemaking process in history: 18 months of review and analysis and 600 public hearings. Because more than half of our national forests are open to logging and extractive industries, the rule was put into place to protect the last remaining *third* of our undeveloped forestlands—58.5 million acres of pristine land.

Water, Wildlife, and Habitat

With more than 240 million people living within 100 miles of a national forest or grassland, the benefits of protecting Roadless Areas are significant. Twenty-nine million people drink water from watersheds that lie within these protected lands. Roadless Areas ensure the conservation of essential habitat for fish and wildlife, including more than 2,100 threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant and animal species. Natural, intact ecosystems also offer resilience and refuge from the stresses of a changing climate.

Unfortunately, the current administration and Congress have launched relentless attacks on the Roadless Rule and the critical protections it provides for our nation's forests. Several bills in Congress intend to open up designated Roadless Areas to industrial development. The resulting roads and related infrastructure would tear up the landscape and change the undisturbed character of the land forever.

Roads Wreak Havoc

The impacts presented by a road extend well beyond the road itself, influencing an area two to three times the width of the road. The more extensive the road network, the greater the affected zone. (Hiking and biking trails create impacts, too, though the trails are generally smaller in size.)

Roads and road building displace and compact soils and increase erosion. Displaced soils and erosion degrade watercourses and water quality and harm aquatic wildlife and habitat. Roads also interrupt ecosystems and impede natural migration corridors.

There have been repeated attempts by the administration to access enormous swaths of Tongass National Forest Roadless Areas in Alaska. A recent effort was thwarted (see *Broader Wilderness*, page 6), however we can't become complacent. If the administration gets its way, up to 9 million acres of Roadless Areas on the forest would be vulnerable to clear-cut logging and road building. Efforts to weaken the Rule are simply a giveaway to the logging industry, and taxpayers will foot the bill. According to a report by the USFS, "From 2008 through 2013, the USFS spent \$139.1 million on timber sales (including road construction) in the Tongass and received \$8.6 million in proceeds from these sales, a net loss of \$130.5 million."

Let's Join Forces

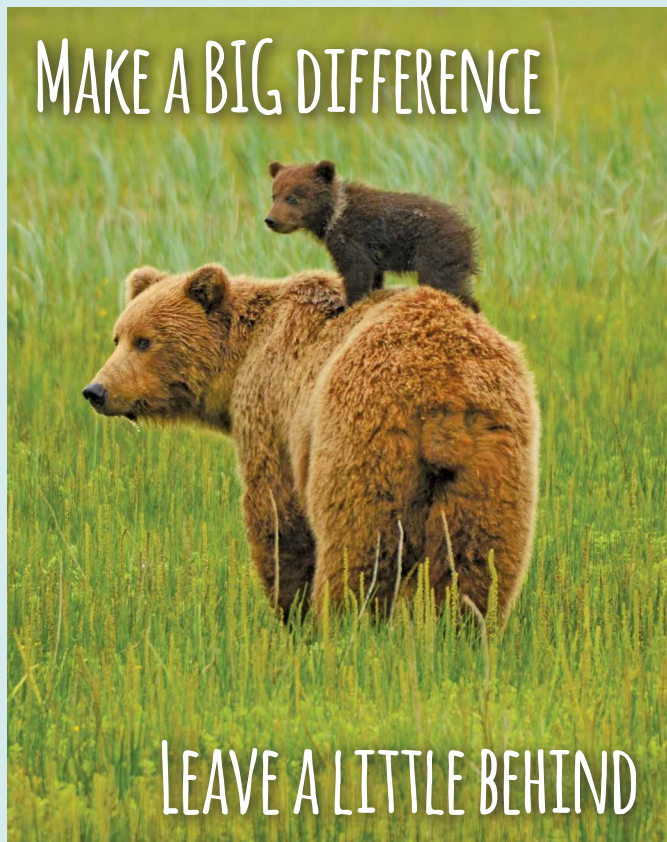
Broads are working across the country to protect Roadless Areas such as in the Gunnison and Routt National Forests of Colorado and Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest in Idaho. In fact, most states have designated Roadless Areas, and chances are, if there are Broads there, they are working to protect the lands.

Here's a state-by-state guide: <http://bit.ly/StateRoadless>

The Roadless Rule was developed to protect the values that undeveloped lands provide to the United States. As advocates, we must work together to defend the Rule to keep wild lands wild and to protect unspoiled lands from development. Here's how you can help:

- **Contact your Senator or Representative and tell them you support our wild forests and the exceptional recreation opportunities and wild habitat they provide. Urge them to do all they can to keep the Roadless Rule intact.**
- **Write a letter to the editor to your local newspaper voicing your support for the Roadless Rule.**
- **Educate your friends and family about this issue using social media to share information about the value of our national forests and the importance of the Roadless Rule.**

MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE



LEAVE A LITTLE BEHIND

**Leaving a bequest to
Great Old Broads for Wilderness
creates a long-lasting gift that will
be held in perpetuity to help protect
our last WILD places on earth.**

A bequest is the one of the simplest ways to make an enduring impact, and the language can be as simple as adding a provision in your will or estate to:

- Give the sum of \$_____ to Great Old Broads for Wilderness.
- Give the remainder of my estate to Great Old Broads for Wilderness.
- Give _____ % of my residual estate to Great Old Broads for Wilderness.
- Give _____ (describe the asset) to Great Old Broads for Wilderness as an in-kind gift of the asset itself, or in the form of cash after the asset has been sold by the trustee of my trust.

We encourage you to talk to your financial or legal advisor.

**For more information, contact
shelley@greatoldbroads.org
or call 970-385-9577**

Broads is a 501(c)(3) organization • EIN 87-0479828

TAKE ACTION

Speak up for Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments!

The Trump Administration's proclamations to shrink both of these national monuments face a slew of ongoing legal challenges (see *Advocacy Wins*, page 7), but that doesn't mean we can turn the heat off! The Department of the Interior has drafted cumbersome Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante Monument Management Plans, another step toward shrinking both monuments. There are a total of over 300,000 known fossil and historical cultural sites within both monuments, many of which are once again vulnerable to looting and damage from oil, gas and mineral development in these new plans. Not only do these plans waste taxpayer dollars in plotting to destroy these amazing landscapes and risk the resources that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) continues to acknowledge deserve protection, but all of this constitutes a horrific insult to the Navajo, Hopi, Ute, Zuni, and other sovereign indigenous nations who petitioned for protection of these monuments in the first place.

The BLM is accepting comments for both Monument Management Plans: Bears Ears until Nov. 15; and Grand Staircase-Escalante until Nov. 30. These monuments are inspiring, and their amazing ecological, geological, and paleontological wonders deserve protection to ensure scientific and recreation opportunities for all who come from near and far. We need to make our voices heard and speak up for protection of these unique places for current and future generations! Please use the link below to submit comments on both management plans. Note that personalizing the message with your thoughts and experiences is extremely important for comments to be fully considered.

<https://monumentsforall.org/action/>

Honoring the Past, Inspiring the Future

137

WOMEN
TRAINED AS
BROADBAND
LEADERS

10,000

PEOPLE
ENGAGED IN
WILDLANDS
ADVOCACY

97,000

HOURS OF
GRASSROOTS
ADVOCACY
IN THE LAST 3
YEARS

Broadbands have accomplished so much in the past decade, and we are uniquely positioned to do much more in the next 10 years.

Thank you for your support and contributions this past year to celebrate this amazing milestone.

We are grateful for our Broadband leaders and the members they inspire to fight for our wild public lands to ensure a future for all living things.



**BROADBANDS
WILD WOMEN**
PROTECTING WILD PUBLIC LANDS
2008 - 2018



The activism starts local and you ripple that wave out as far as you can get the message to go.

Sarah Cuddy, another Broadband leadership team member, grew up in nearby Prineville and joined forces with the Broads after she became the Ochoco Mountains Campaign Coordinator for Oregon Wild. She notes, "There was a great balance of local expertise, like Amy and Joanne, who brought a

certain degree of credibility. And the weight of the name of the national organization has a lot of clout. Some of the big national organizations come in and litigate, but don't have that local connection. Broads have both."

"It's really about knowing the place," Joanne adds. "I've lived in central Oregon for 22 years. I know the people, I know the conservation community, I know the land and I love it. That's the key thing, the passion. When it's your child and it's being attacked, you get involved and are effective."

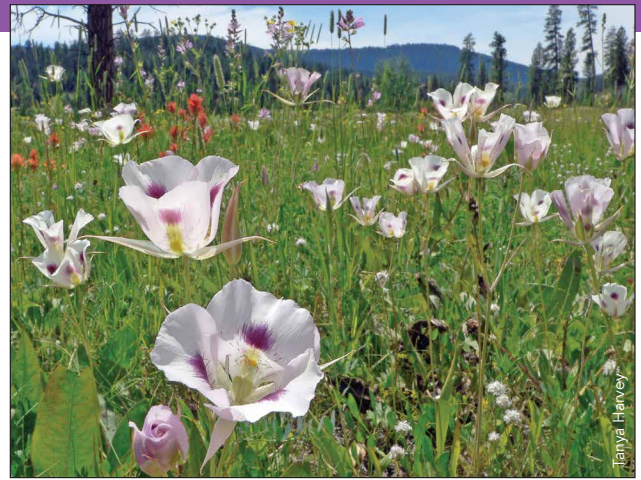
In addition to her love for the Ochocos and her favorite fishing and hunting spots there, Amy brought her intimate knowledge as lead author of the Crooked River Basin Fish Management Plan, which set guidelines for this important watershed in the Ochocos. Before her retirement, the Broadband had invited Amy to present her work on OHV impacts to fish and wildlife. When she met the Broads, she thought, "This is a cool organization. I could be part of this."

Getting to know you...

Over the last few years, the Broadband gained intimate knowledge of the Ochocos through educational presentations, a 3-day regional Broadwalk, service projects with the Forest Service, and annual wildflower hikes up Lookout Mountain. Members participated in meetings and wrote letters to the editor in support of the proposed Ochoco Mountains National Recreation Area. Several of the stewardship projects in the Ochocos, where Broads planted milkweed to serve as host plants for monarch butterflies, involved working with an employee of the agency that Broads were up against in court. "It was a little tense," observed Joanne, "but she saw how hard we worked. I've been out there with her twice now to water and take care of the plants, and there's a good amount of respect between us."

The litigation led to other gains as well. "One of the great outcomes is that more people are paying attention to the future of the Ochocos," Sarah shared. "It's ignited a conversation about protecting the Forest. Long-term, one of the outcomes is creating more partners and allies for the future of the forest."

With nearly forty Broadband chapters around the country, Broads' grassroots activists focus on their local public lands, but their experience propels them to work at regional and national levels. "The groundswell starts pretty local," Sarah



The Big Summit Prairie in the Ochoco National Forest abloom with wildflowers.

said. "You make a ruckus, your voice gets louder and louder. You bring it statewide, you bring it to (Oregon Senators) Wyden and Merkley, and you bring focus. The activism starts local and you ripple that wave out as far as you can get the message to go."

Amy joins Sarah's enthusiasm. "You see things happen that wake up your desire to say, 'Hey, I need to fight this.' People need to know that they can have an impact. We have a win now, but one of the bigger battles out there is the attack on the public disclosure and public participation process under NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act)."

"If we didn't have the tools like NEPA and ESA, we might not have won this lawsuit," Joanne adds. "The whole ploy by Congress and the administration now is to pick away at the legal process until it's gone."

The Ochoco ruling goes before a district judge, likely before the end of the year for review, and hopefully, confirmation. "We don't want to count our chickens too soon," explains Joanne. "However, since we won on many different claims, we think it's unlikely that the district judge would reverse the ruling in its entirety."

With satisfaction, Amy remarks, "This was a really bright spot for us." No doubt, the deep knowledge and commitment demonstrated by Broadband members will be a force to contend with in future actions, in Central Oregon and beyond!

WARM WORDS

*"Your organization is among the best; the premise being that women **can** bring about positive change better than us other half, me included. In my little life, long ways going, almost 81, it's always been the female gland that tried to make me a better person and help the Earth!! Don't ever lose faith in yourselves, no matter how rough it gets! You are on the right side of things!"*

— Jim Bachar, Aztec, New Mexico

(Jim was a dear friend of the late Katie Lee, a folk singer, actress, writer, photographer, and environmental activist.)

destroy natural quiet. It's even more powerful knowing that Broads' knowledgeable grassroots members played a vital role. Their years of effort included meeting with agencies and partners, coordination between the Central Oregon Bitterbrush Broadband and the national office, field visits and educational hikes, submitting detailed comments, stewardship work, conflict resolution meetings—and finally, litigation.

Litigation as a Lever of Change

Academic studies indicate that successful non-profit organizations must pull a wide variety of levers to effect change at any level—local, state, or national—and these levers must necessarily include the option of civil litigation.

...successful
non-profit
organizations
must pull a
wide variety of
levers to effect
change...

Moreover, non-profits must build the skills and relationships that enable authentic community voices to connect skillfully with strategic influencers and policy makers. When our Broadbands take their grassroots work to the legal and political level, that's precisely what they do.

We've never taken lawsuits lightly (who does?), but neither do we shy away. At times, going to the courts is the only way to ensure enforcement, or in the best of cases, improvement of public land laws.

In the current political quagmire, litigation has become an absolute necessity. For example:

- ✿ We've joined lawsuits against the reduction of Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments. A long-time member serves as Broads' standing litigant, contributing his knowledge from exploring practically every inch of those monuments over the years—totaling some 4,100 days—of hiking and camping within the monuments' legitimate boundaries.
- ✿ We've sued using the Freedom of Information Act to obtain documents being withheld by the administration regarding the so-called monument review.
- ✿ We filed as interveners when an oil and gas industry group sued to force the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to sell leases on public lands in each state on a quarterly basis for fossil fuel extraction. Regrettably, a BLM Internal Memo issued under Secretary of the Interior Zinke handed out a win for the industry before it reached the courts by cutting most public input and democratic processes from the leasing process. The memo also abolished Master Leasing Plans, developed through years of work to manage public land resource conflicts, especially those near parks, monuments, archaeological sites, or favorite recreational areas.

From Local to National Activism

This grim period of anti-conservation supremacy within Congress and the presidential administration makes the

journey from local conservationist to national policy activist completely essential. The Broads' national office strives to be both guidepost and backstop to grassroots members and chapters across the country, as we work to fight public land abuses and illegal manipulations of democratic processes.



Mary Hertert and Cristina Harmon at the September Stand for Our Lands Rally during Secretary of the Interior Zinke's visit to Colorado.

We all live in our own microcosms, but we must step beyond to meet today's particularly unwieldy challenges. Our grassroots chapters do just that, working at the local level on issues of national significance and contributing their skills for a better outcome. Nothing cures disempowerment like the chance to fulfill our mission by forging a powerful role, and succeeding.

We hope you'll stick faithfully with us as we pull every possible lever to protect our public lands—from the ravages of climate change and drought, from illegal incursions into wilderness and wild habitats, from the stripping of the very laws and policies that have made our country strong. When the going gets tough, you can count on us to help you step out of your microcosm and join with us, as Sarah Cuddy says in Oregon, "...to ripple that wave out as far as you can get the message to go."

Storm from Mt. Coness

by Shinann Earnshaw

from "Shadows in the Wind" (printed with permission)

An August day upon a mountain top,
We watched a storm move from the South
Mongol hordes of black clouds
And curtains of rain
Turning the forests black below.
Great golden swords of lightning
Flashed from mountain to mountain,
Thunder rolled, echoed, boomed, smashed
From wall to wall and wrapped us
In its furious sound.
The rage of the coming storm matched
A rage within our souls.
And we hurled lightning bolts
From our hands like Zeus
We shrieked, howled, laughed, danced
Madly with the wind that threatened
To fling us from our summit perch.
We sent the lightning sizzling down
Upon the fools in the valleys.
We burned the whole earth
Clean and pure again.





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2019 EVENTS PREVIEW!

**Borderlands
Broadwalk**

**Don't Dam Salmon
Broadwalk**

**30th Anniversary
Celebration**



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Continental Divide Broadwalk
stewardship projects.

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Do it online at <http://bit.ly/joinbroads>.

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be bold for wilderness. Please join us on the adventure.
Wilderness needs your help!

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