

Local Action Nets Global Impact

by Susan Kearns

Black Friday in 2018 was indeed a dark day with the release of the Fourth National Climate Assessment (NCA)—an alarming litany of the effects global warming will have on ecosystems, infrastructure, our economy, and the health of all living creatures.

U.S. public lands and waters play a critical role. Sadly, activities such as oil and gas extraction in these areas contribute about 25% of global greenhouse gases emitted. That's why Broads' strategic plan includes the goal to make public lands part of the solution to climate change.

Nearly every activity Broads engage in contributes toward this goal. Every effort made on a local level has global impact. The healthier our lands and waters, the better they can weather the impacts of a changing climate—and contribute less to the problem. Let's look at how our members are dreaming up creative ways to increase awareness and bring climate action to their communities.



"I believe activism is the true source of change in the world. Pushing to change social structures in communities that you are a part of is critical for making real lasting change."

— Marley Dias

The Ripple Effect

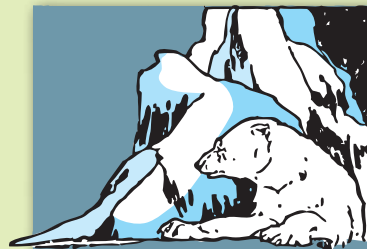
Maureen Forney, chapter leader of the Greater Bay Area Broadband in California, leads the charge against offshore drilling in a perfect example of how a local victory can lead to "broader" impacts.

Working with partner organizations and in support of Senator Diane Feinstein, Maureen was part of the effort to convince Contra Costa and Alameda Counties and the city of San Leandro to adopt a resolution that would "throw up a wall" to offshore drilling. To transport oil to refineries, infrastructure must be built, which requires permits and zoning changes.

Cities and counties have the right to refuse permits or zoning changes that would allow infrastructure to be put in place. If there is no way to move the product, it creates an obstacle.

Contra Costa County is home to several oil refineries. Yet the power of grassroots action prompted the Board of Supervisors to pass a resolution condemning offshore drilling that would send oil from the ocean to those refineries. Maureen spoke to city council members and county supervisors, recruited community members to write and call representatives, and showed up at numerous council meetings, county hearings, and rallies, with other Broads in tow.

(Continued page 14)



**Speak out to
protect the Arctic
National Wildlife
Refuge from
Drilling!**

**DEADLINE
March 13**

<http://bit.ly/ANWRComment>

STUDY A BROAD

Meet Karen Ryman, Broadband Co-Leader, former Board Member, and wilderness warrior.

PAGE
3

2019 EVENTS PREVIEW

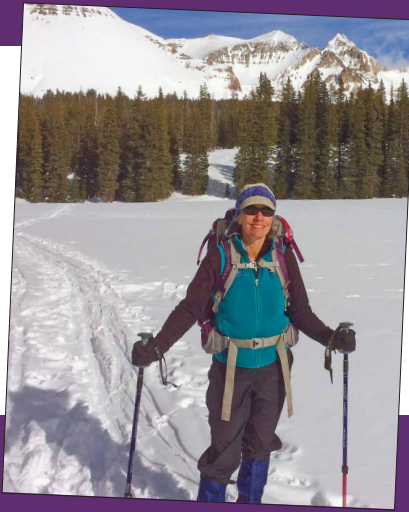
Ready to get into the wild? Find out more about this year's events.

PAGE
4

BROADBANDS IN ACTION

What's more powerful than a determined Broadband? Regional teams of Broadbands united on issues—creating a force to be reckoned with!

PAGE
6



...from our Executive Director, Shelley Silbert

In a BROAD Sense

Bigger Than Ourselves

It's hard to fathom that our scrappy and growing organization celebrates thirty years in 2019! In this issue, we preview opportunities to commemorate this special year: September festivities at the Boulder Mountain Guest Ranch at the edge of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah, new membership specials, and expanded opportunities to catalyze public land protection where you live.

GETTING DOWN & DIRTY FOR THIRTY

Three decades ago, our founders chose our very particular name—Great Old Broads for Wilderness—to project a certain proclivity to laugh together even as we deal with serious issues, not to mention the ability to handle mud, dust, heat, cold, or wildness. It's not beneath us to handle crusty old politicians either. We use our wit and wisdom, strategy, tenacity, and persuasion to get them behind wilderness designation, forest protection, keeping roadless areas intact, fighting climate change, and other measures to defend the wild places we love. We let them know we're not going away and won't take no for an answer!

For older broads, "dirty thirties" conjures up the devastating Dust Bowl decade. As Ken Burns' PBS documentary described it, the Dust Bowl was "the worst man-made ecological disaster in American history," and "a morality tale about

our relationship with the land that sustains us—a lesson we ignore at our own peril."

As an organization entering our thirties, what lesson could be more appropriate as we fight today's ecological disasters, and the dirty politics that go hand in hand with them?

Younger broads describe the dirty thirties as the decade in which women revel in their

**Walking in
beauty, we are
bigger than
ourselves.**

use everything in our power to prevent any disaster reminiscent of the Dust Bowl on U.S. public lands or anywhere on the planet.

SHARPENING OUR TOOLS

We continue to sharpen the tools of advocacy work, aiming to be bigger than ourselves as we tackle mission-driven work, inspire activism, and develop partnerships to multiply our efforts in this endlessly challenging period. We train a new cohort of Broadband leaders in March, surpassing 40 total chapters and adding in states where we've never had a presence, like Alaska, New Hampshire, and Texas.

Reports from our Broadband leaders tell us there is inspiring work going on in their communities. More people are getting involved: over 7,000 participants last year and nearly 43,000 volunteer hours—a whopping

full complement of power and prowess. Indeed, we are hitting our stride as an organization in our dirty thirties, and we intend to



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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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(Continued page 15)





Study a Broad

Karen Ryman: Stalwart & Steady for the Wild

by Susan Kearns

In January 2016, Karen Ryman volunteered with Broads to solicit donations for the Wild for Wilderness Online Auction at the Outdoor Retailer trade show. Days before, armed thugs had taken over Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Harney County, Oregon. Surprisingly, these two unrelated events collided when Karen and I approached the first merchant to request a donation. As we began our pitch, the receptionist interrupted to rant about how wilderness and the “damn” government was ruining the poor ranchers out west. She didn’t blame those poor men for trying get their “rights” back (see *Broadsides* Spring 2016, pages 2 and 7).

New to the Broads’ staff, I was stunned speechless. Calm and poised, Karen, in her soft, reasonable voice, jumped right in. Before I knew it, she diffused the situation by listening and asking thoughtful questions. We didn’t get a donation, but my respect for Karen’s skill as a Broad grew tenfold—and continues to grow. A thoughtful, smart, and modest wilderness warrior, she quietly kicks butt and gets things done.

Karen first encountered Broads in the early 90s when hiking with a group that included founding member Dottie Fox, who shared stories of the Great Old Broads: weekends spent tromping wild places, learning how healthy streams support ecosystems, and the impact of livestock grazing on public lands.

This intrigued Karen, who is naturally curious and always up for an adventure. She wanted to join these interesting excursions and learn more about the landscapes these women explored.

In 1994, she joined Broads on a long weekend for one of the organization’s

first Broadwalks in Escalante, Utah. About 25 people came to hike and discuss ways to gain greater protections for the area. The trip opened up a new world to Karen. She had no idea there were so many amazing landscapes, exquisite canyons, and magnificent layers of slickrock waiting to be discovered on public lands.

Broads gave her a new perspective when hiking or running rivers with her family. She now knew more about the threats facing the lands she loved and shared this knowledge constantly with others.

In 2009, Karen signed up as a Broadband leader and attended the very first “Boot Camp” training in Albuquerque. Armed with a vast amount of information and a huge notebook, she went home inspired to start a chapter to protect the public lands in her community. Today, the Roaring Fork Broadband works in tandem with Women for Wild Lands, a group initiated by Co-Leader Julie Willie and her college-aged daughter who have built a community of young women who advocate for our wild places.

Karen has lived in Aspen, Colorado since 1961. When her children were very young, she spent time with them hiking, backpacking, skiing, and exploring the backcountry. It was clear to her the public lands surrounding the town required protection; the region was being “loved to death.”

“There is always a push for growth in Aspen, more hotels, more ski lifts. How can there be a wilderness experience at places like Maroon Lake when there are 2,000 people there? How do you maintain a quality experience without limiting use?”

As a volunteer ambassador at Maroon Bells Scenic Area for the past 10 years, she often talks with visitors at popular trailheads. “Because they are from the city, they aren’t put off by the number of people on the trails—they don’t realize what it is doing to the land.”

In 2010, Karen was asked to join Broads’ Board of Directors, serving six years, including two years as Board Chair. In addition to Broadband activities,

Karen is a valued volunteer with headquarters, soliciting donations, helping out at Broadwalks, making calls to new members, and providing sage advice.

After more than 25 years with Broads, she’s seen the evolution and growth of the Broadband program and expansion from coast to coast as Broads tackle the loss of precious wild lands across the country.

Karen sums up her beliefs about Broads’ work with a quote from Aldo Leopold:

“We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.”

Karen’s Broad & Memorable Moments

- Surviving a Cataract Canyon river trip as a Broads ambassador.
- Skinny dipping with Susan Tixier and Rose Chilcoat in more lakes and rivers than Karen can remember.
- Chasing Mary O’Brien around in Utah while experiencing a fire-hose of information about land erosion.
- Watching an unbelievable red sunset at the Bears Ears Broadwalk in Utah.
- Touring the 10th Mountain Division’s Camp Hale, proposed for a special wilderness and legacy designation, at the Continental Divide Broadwalk in Colorado.
- Canoeing and listening to the singing of the loons at sunset following the Boundary Waters Broadwalk in Minnesota.
- Joining a guided tour of a portion of the Lewis & Clark Trail at the Weitas Broadwalk in Idaho.



2019 EVENTS

Celebrate Broads' 30-year anniversary by joining one of our unique and engaging adventures lined up for 2019!

Although our spring Borderlands Broadwalk (where we'll explore the devastating effects of a border wall on public lands) is sold out, we have two other great events that will open for registration February 27.

Register at www.greatoldbroads.org/national-events.



JUNE 3–7

Don't Dam Salmon Broadwalk

LEWISTON, ID ALONG THE SNAKE RIVER

Wild salmon is a critical species that serves as a food source for orcas, bears, seals, and birds of prey. Yet, wild salmon on the Snake River are on the brink of extinction. Four obsolete dams along the lower Snake River prevent many of these endangered salmon and other fish from reaching their most productive spawning grounds. Research shows the economic benefits of restoring salmon and steelhead far outweigh the costs of replacing the seasonally-limited energy these dams produce. You'll learn what we can do as advocates to aid in the salmon's recovery and about efforts to decommission these harmful dams.

Riverside Repast

We'll camp along the banks of the Snake River at Hells Gate State Campground, just four miles south of Lewiston. Contrary to its name, the campground is lush, green, and filled with shade trees.

In addition to camping with a great bunch of Broads and Bros, amenities include flush toilets, showers, and breakfasts and dinners handcrafted by a local caterer.



Dam Good Learning & Exploring

We'll have evening presentations and film showings from activists such as Steve Hawley, a writer on the filmmaking team that created *Dammed to Extinction*, as well as other guests who will share their expertise on dams, energy production, and endangered species.

We'll take on stewardship projects one day and hike and explore on other days. Hells Gate State Park and the surrounding public lands offer plenty of recreation options.

Lastly, and most importantly, Broads will provide action items to keep you engaged and active on this important issue.

Camping, breakfast and dinner, and all activities included.

Open to Members only.

Price: \$295



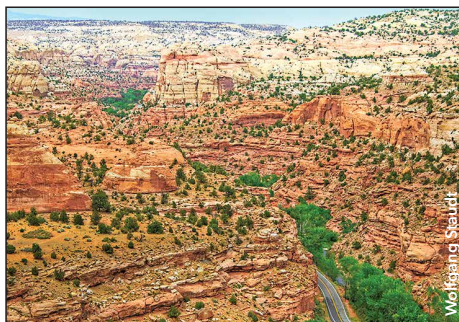
SEPTEMBER 20–23

30th Anniversary Celebration

BOULDER, UTAH



Come celebrate three decades of Broads in the wild canyon country of Boulder, Utah. This weekend event is all things Broads—from wild hikes to stewardship and monitoring projects so we can give back to this wild place where Broads began.



Under the Utah Stars

Festivities will be held at the gorgeous Boulder Mountain Guest Ranch overlooking Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument

(GSENM). There is plenty of room to camp on the picturesque lands surrounding the facility. Bird and wildlife watchers will enjoy exploring the property's wetlands, more than 40 beaver ponds, and a nearby waterfall.



Wild Celebrations

We're throwing a pull-out-the-stops celebration dinner on Saturday night filled with fun, special speakers, and Broadness. There's plenty of time for group hikes and



exploration on Sunday, and that evening, get ready to kick up your heels with a Chili Hoedown around the campfire, complete with live music, dancing and s'mores.

This event includes breakfast and dinner on Saturday and Sunday. You are on your own for other meals or you can purchase them through the Guest Ranch.

Bring a new friend, join an old one, and come fill your heart with hope, the beauty of nature, and plenty of time laughing with a great bunch of Broads and Bros. We'll celebrate the monument that inspired Broads' beginnings and leave even more determined to restore the original acreage designated for its protection.

Open to Members only.

Price: \$265

MAKE A SPLASH AND GIVE BACK TO BROADS!

Holiday Expeditions Cataract Canyon FUNdraiser

JULY 15-19

Join Broads' Associate Director Lauren Berutich for an unforgettable rafting trip through Cataract Canyon in the heart of Utah's Canyonlands National Park. Our



host, Holiday Expeditions, offers fun and exciting whitewater rafting where you'll see fabulous side

canyon grottos, waterfalls, and ancient Pueblo ruins. When you register as a Broad or Bro, a portion of the proceeds go directly back to our organization to help us protect these gorgeous places where we love to play. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/HolRiv2019>.

**A special offer
in celebration of
30 years of Broadness!**



**NEW MEMBERS
ONLY \$30
(SAVE 5 BUCKS!)**

Put your life experience
and passion to work
for Mother Earth.

Become a member today.

WWW.GREATOLDBROADS.ORG/JOIN-US/

**"Earth and sky, woods and fields,
lakes and rivers, the mountain
and the sea, are excellent
schoolmasters, and teach some of
us more than we can ever learn
from books."**

— John Lubbock



Broadbands *in ACTION!*

COLLABORATION IS THE WORD

by Lauren Berutich & Katya Spiecker

Our Broadband leaders recognize the power of collective action, and specifically, women's collective action. They influence real change with a nurturing, collaborative, humorous, and visionary approach to wild public lands protection. They creatively partner across geographic divides to take effective action—and the results are Broadtastic!



Oregon Cascade Volcano Broadband Members Lin Tucker and Joana Kirchhoff at the "No LNG Rally" held before the public hearing on the permit application for the Jordan Cove project.

A Pipeline Connects Advocacy Efforts

The Pacific Northwest Broadband Leaders, representing eight chapters across Oregon, Washington, and Idaho, have teamed up to tackle common environmental issues. In typical Broads style, they nicknamed themselves BRATs (Broads Regional Advocacy Team), and focus on issues they've identified as priorities for the region.

At the top of the list is stopping the proposed Jordan Cove Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Pipeline and Terminal. Since 2007, Oregonians have fought attempts to establish an export terminal in Coos Bay and a 234-mile pipeline that would cross the southwest corner of the state. Aside from the usual hazards brought by LNG, such as fracking, exploding pipelines, and worsening climate change, the project would threaten coastal ecosystems, cultural resources, nearly 400 rivers and streams, and property rights of about 700 landowners.

Where will the majority of the LNG come from? Roughly a thousand miles away in the arid lands of western Colorado, home of the Grand Junction Broadband. These Broads, all too familiar with pipelines and oil pads in their backyards, have been fighting the fracking firestorm that exploded when Trump entered office. As things heated up on the

Jordan Cove project, the Grand Junction Broads joined forces with the Pacific Northwest BRAT, exchanging information to amplify the broader voice against fossil fuel development on public lands.

In June, the Grand Junction Broads attended a public hearing of the Congressional Energy Commission. No public testimony was allowed and nearly all invited to "testify" were energy companies in favor of the Jordan Cove proposal. Afterwards, Broads joined other conservationists, local Native American tribal members, veterans, organic farmers, and others for a rally where they wore tape across their mouths in protest of the public being shut out of the hearing.

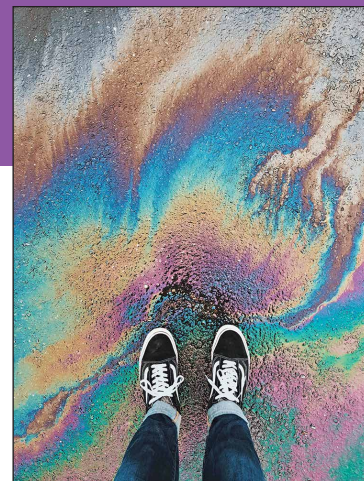
Mary Hertert, Grand Junction Broadband Leader, sees this connection with the Northwest BRAT as critical. "Broadbands have to find ways to unite across the nation. Through connecting the Rogue Broadband in Oregon with the Grand Junction Broadband in Colorado, we both gain a better perspective of how we can tackle this issue. Without that connection, we are operating with only half the story."

Susie Schmidt, Co-Leader of Oregon's Rogue Valley Broadband agrees, "It's so valuable to have support from the Grand Junction Broadband at the source of this threat—where the liquefied natural gas is fracked in Colorado. It's very empowering as an activist to have solidarity with other Broads across the west."

Wild for Colorado Connectivity

Pipelines, LNG, and terminals aren't the only challenges connecting Broadband chapters. Broads in the Rockies have another regional team taking on Colorado issues. The group to date includes the Grand Junction, Northern San Juan, Mile High, Boulder, Roaring Fork, and Northwest Colorado Broadbands, and they have prioritized habitat connectivity as a key focus.

Wildlife corridors provide critical connections between habitat areas. These "wild highways" are key to maintaining species diversity, health, and survival. Animals need room to roam unhampered by human presence. They need space for feeding, resting, seasonal migration, dispersal to new areas



"No country can ever truly flourish if it stifles the potential of its women and deprives itself of the contributions of half of its citizens."

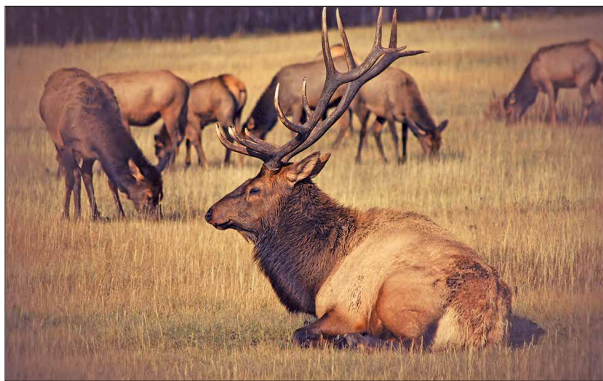
– Michelle Obama



as populations grow, and the ability to shift habitat due to changing climate conditions.

Another factor impacting wildlife is the growing number of people visiting and recreating on public lands. Trends show an increased demand for new trail systems and restoration of existing trails, both of which contribute to habitat fragmentation. The Rockies Broads are working with Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and Rocky Mountain Recreation Initiative on responsible trail management and ways to minimize human impact on habitat.

The team has attended regional stakeholder meetings, brought in educational speakers for Broadband gatherings, and hosted monthly calls to strategize and work together on topics ranging from reviewing trail grants to accessing



reliable wildlife migration data. Each Broadband met with a CPW staff representative in their region to learn how to best advocate for wildlife and shared that information with each other in conference calls. This collaboration has given them a valuable big-picture view of habitat connectivity across the state, helping to determine where their advocacy efforts are most needed. ~~~

Knowledge is power.

The more we know about our issues, the better we are able to communicate and share non-biased, factual information. You don't have to reinvent the wheel or be an expert on every campaign or topic. However, there are research publications and other resources backed by scientific data that can prepare you to be a better informed advocate.

A good place to start is Google Scholar (scholar.google.com). Enter your topic, check "include citations" and the results will show several articles on the topic. Other helpful websites include ecologyandsociety.org and sciencedirect.com.



Happy 30th! Celebrate with Discounts

What's better than going to your first Broads' event? Getting a discount as a new member or first-timer.

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 become a member 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 younger than you.*

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.

Wish list

Now that we're in a new, beautiful space (*see page 11*), there are a few items we could use to complete our set up.

- Plants and plant stands
- Office chairs
- Projection screen (for Broadwalk presentations)
- Desk lamps and standing lamps

For our conference room (Yay! We even have a table thanks to the Stranskys!):

- Flatscreen television, preferably 50"+ (for training webinars, not watching soap operas—really!), or \$500 to purchase.
- Conference phone system with extension microphones, or \$1000 to purchase





THE BROADER WILDERNESS

by Lauren Berutich, Katya Spiecker, & Shelley Silbert

TAKING AIM AT THE CLEAN WATER RULE

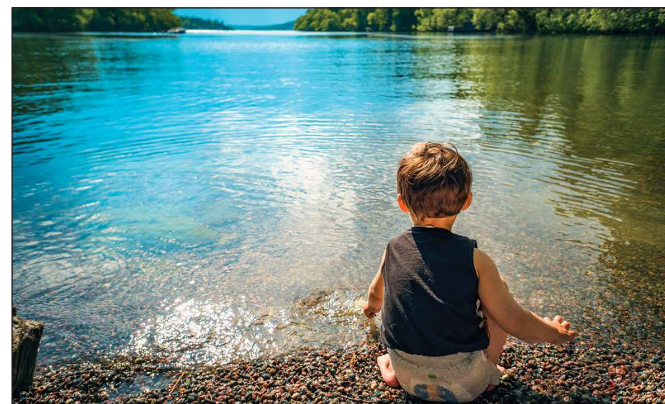
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) adopted the Clean Water Rule in 2015 to clarify which streams and wetlands are protected under the 1972 Clean Water Act (CWA).

Last year, the Trump administration directed the EPA to repeal the rule and come up with another rule friendlier to industry, and less friendly to public lands, waters, and public health. EPA's new, proposed rule severely decreases the number of protected waterways. It excludes seasonal streams, or those that flow only after rainfall, as well as wetlands that are not physically connected to larger waterways. More than 117 million Americans receive drinking water from public systems that draw from headwater, seasonal, or rain-dependent streams.

In rushing to propose the rule, the EPA and USACE failed to comply with either the Endangered Species Act or National Environmental Policy Act, which require the government to ensure the consequences of a particular action will not cause unintended environmental damage.

The new rule ignores the science reported by these same agencies that shows at least 18% of streams and 51% of wetlands nationwide would not be protected under the Trump administration's waterway definition.

An initial analysis by the Center for Biological Diversity estimates the proposal would cut CWA protections for



streams and wetlands across 3,000-plus watersheds in the western United States, endanger millions of acres of wetlands, and accelerate the extinction of more than 75 endangered species.

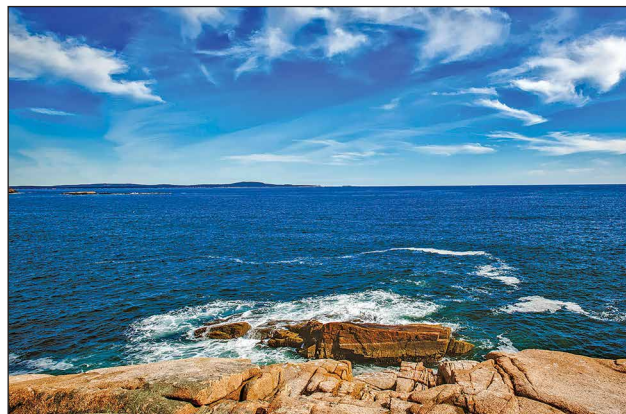
The EPA will accept comments on the new rule (Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2018-0149) for 60 days once it's published in the Federal Register. Keep an eye out for our Action Alerts with deadlines and updates on when and how to speak up on this critical issue!

NORTHEAST CLIMATE OUTLOOK SOPPY

The Northeast has tough times ahead if we don't start doing something to slow down global warming.

Temperatures in the region are rising faster than in much of the rest of the U.S., which is predicted to lead to increased high-tide flooding, shorter and milder winters, and an increase in heat-related deaths, tick-borne diseases, asthma, and allergies.

New England has seen a steady upward trend in precipitation, with the largest rainfall increase in the



country. The region is experiencing heavier storms and more frequent, pop-up floods. For the coast, worst-case scenarios show an average sea level rise of 11 feet by the end of the century. Because early settlements and towns were established along rivers and coastlines, there are many industrial sites, fuel tanks, and waste treatment facilities located in potential flood zones. Predicted flooding would wash toxic contaminants into waterways and the ocean.

The good news is that New Englanders are a tough bunch. They started a landmark Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative to cap carbon emissions and elected legislators to state and federal offices who recognize the dangers of climate change. Maine's new governor, Janet Mills, has declared fighting the effects of climate change as her top priority, and you can bet that our Maine Broadband will be there on the front lines with her (*see cover story*).



UTAH SEEKS TO SIDESTEP ROADLESS RULE

In May of 2018, the State of Utah sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) stating its intent to petition the agency for “new management provisions” for Utah’s four million acres of roadless areas in national forests.

This is no surprise, since many of the elected officials in Utah share Alaska’s “Cut, Kill, Dig, Drill” approach to public lands. America’s Roadless Rule virtually ended logging, roadbuilding, and extractive activities on the wildest remaining lands in our national forests. It protects precious undeveloped lands and watersheds that provide 29 million



people with drinking water (see Fall 2018 *Broadsides*, “Roadless Rule under Attack”, page 12). The current administration is doing all it can to weaken the protections the Rule provides and Utah lawmakers have jumped on the Trump bandwagon.

Utah hosts four million acres of protected roadless forests that are invaluable to the overall health of the environment. More than 83% of Utah’s roadless areas include important watersheds that provide drinking water for over 1.8 million residents. The state’s roadless areas also surround and protect Bryce Canyon, Cedar Breaks, and Capitol Reef National Parks.

This new year marks a political shift, so it’s time to put the pressure back on. Call and write Utah’s Governor Herbert and the state’s elected officials and urge them to keep Utah’s roadless areas intact.

PUBLIC SHUT DOWN, EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY NOT SO MUCH...

As of this writing, the government is back to work after a 35-day partial government shutdown. While public land agencies stopped most of their functions during the shutdown, some employees working for the BLM, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and the Forest Service were asked to return to work to process oil and gas permits and ensure continuation of logging contracts. Natural and cultural resource specialists who evaluate the impact of leases and contracts had to stay at home, proving once again the true priorities of this administration.

Since the BLM reopened its doors, no less than seven comment and protest periods have been announced for oil and gas lease sales in Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Montana, and Wyoming, with more on the way. Yet the agency has lacked meaningful time, given the shutdown, to evaluate public input before allowing these and earlier sales to move forward.



Oil and gas companies already hold more leases than they can develop. Since January 2017, BLM has offered 16.8 million acres of public lands for lease, but only 2.3 million (13.6%) have sold. We can’t help but note that these actions do not align with the opinions of Western voters* who overwhelmingly reject the Trump administration’s policies on public lands.

To add insult to injury, on December 28 in the midst of the shutdown, the Department of Interior proposed major revisions to Freedom of Information Act regulations to limit public rights and render government even more opaque.

Great Old Broads joined with other conservation groups to ask to postpone deadlines for comments and filing of protests for oil and gas leasing. On January 18, a federal judge in South Carolina ordered the BOEM or any other federal agency to stop any action that advanced offshore oil and gas permitting during the shutdown.

Now back at work (hopefully to stay), public lands agencies and the lands they manage are recovering after damage from vandals and unsupervised visitors, rock fall and snow on roads, and lost or delayed research and contracts. The impacts will be long-lasting, particularly in areas such as firefighting, where the recruitment, hiring, and training of seasonal fire fighters was dangerously postponed. Additionally, forest thinning and prescribed burning normally done in the winter failed to be accomplished.

At the same time, grant making from government agencies, such as the \$4 billion in EPA awards each year, suffered from missed deadlines, piles of unprocessed applications, and failure to fund critical environmental work on tribal lands.

We are saddened by the hardship experienced by federal employees, the disrespect shown for those who had to work without pay during the shutdown, and the damage to our nation’s public lands. <<<

*2019 *Western States Survey*: <http://bit.ly/WestSur19>



Hip-hip Hooray!



ADVOCACY WINS!

by Katya Spiecker

20,000 ACRES OF TENNESSEE WILDERNESS DESIGNATED AS PART OF THE FARM BILL!

In June, the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (AKA the Farm Bill) was chock-full of nasty anti-environmental riders that would have threatened clean water, endangered species, and public health. Thanks to public outcry against these ugly riders, Congress removed them and passed a cleaner bill in

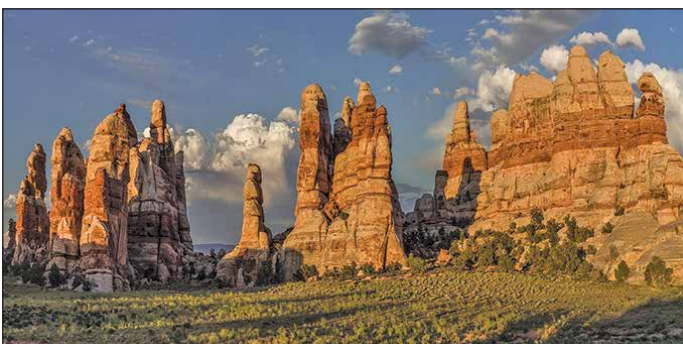


mid-December. Well hidden within the Farm Bill's 800+ pages, was the Tennessee Wilderness Act, sponsored by Senators Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker and Representative Phil Roe, all Tennessee Republicans. The Act protects 20,000 acres of the Cherokee National Forest by designating Upper Bald River Wilderness, expanding five other wilderness areas, and preserving nearly the entire Bald River! This is a significant victory to be celebrated by Broads who attended the Tennessee Wilderness Broadwalk in 2010 and *all* Americans.



BROADS & PARTNERS DEFEAT UTAH APPEAL

The Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals rejected the state of Utah's attempt to undermine an important settlement agreement over



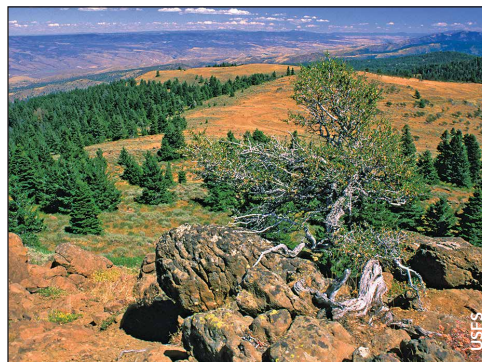
management plans governing millions of acres of public lands. This crucial victory by Broads and partners took only 10 years!



The litigation, initially filed by conservation groups in 2008, challenged six land-use and travel plans that created thousands of miles of OHV routes on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands. Despite a previous district court ruling that the plans did not comply with federal laws, the state and some counties appealed the agreement. Apparently, disagreeing with a fair and lawful settlement agreement was a good reason for Utah to waste state taxpayer dollars in its challenge. The BLM can now finally get to work minimizing the impacts of OHVs on wild landscapes and cultural resources, while balancing conservation and recreation activities.

OCHOCO OHV TRAIL PLAN DEFEATED AGAIN!

On January 3, a District Court judge decisively rejected a plan to add 137 miles of off-highway vehicle (OHV) trails to eastern Oregon's Ochoco National Forest. This final ruling furthers the victory by Broads and conservation partners in their legal challenge of the Forest's decision to construct new OHV trails



and combine other trails with existing roads to create the Summit Trails System (See *Broadsides* cover story, Fall 2018).

Wildlife, such as Rocky Mountain elk, mule deer,

redband trout, and gray wolves, now have a little more room to inhabit key ecosystems and roam migratory corridors. Recreationalists can enjoy the Ochoco Mountains without OHVs disturbing the peace and quiet of the region's majestic old growth forests. We hope that going forward, Oregon's senators and representatives will lead the way in protecting this unique landscape with a conservation plan that better balances wildlife, clean water, and recreation.

The Forest Service may still file an appeal of the District Court's ruling, but they must do so by March 5, 2018.



Grounded

by Nancy Working

Northwest Colorado Broadband Co-Leader

Grounded, sitting with my back on this rock,
a granite erratic, an ice age remnant.
Gazing at the burnished brown wood barn
and the spindly, lanky lupine almost in bloom.

I am grounded.

Grounded, my toes in the icy Yampa swells,
pushing up to the willows on either side.

The snow melt from above almost absorbed,
waiting for the fishers and the floaters.

I am grounded.

Grounded, my body, a spayed cross in the snow
mouth open to catch the goodness of falling flakes.

Eyes squinted against the bright white.

Thankful for the shovel propped up by the fence.

I am grounded.

Grounded, rounding up the trail above the pounding falls,
boots slipping on the moistened leaves.

Now turned gold, and amber with streaks of brown.

Aspens display their bones in the crisp air.

I am grounded.

Grounded

Standing astride my bike on the twenty mile road.

The Sleeping Giant looking like a plump farm hand

napping under a blanket of white and spring green.

The surrounding pastures waiting for the new calves.


I am grounded.

A Permanent Home for Broads

Exciting news to share from Broads' headquarters in Durango: In late January, we moved into a new, permanent home, located just off the Animas River Trail. Through a generous bequest from a beloved Oregon member and significant support from new and long-time

donors, we were able to make a down payment. Two members provided a low interest loan, and voilà, we are now buying a professional office space—and our monthly payments will build equity for Broads!

After more than a decade of renting a 1920s house near downtown, we found ourselves bursting at the seams with inadequate room for staff, not to mention volunteers, interns, or any possibility of growth.

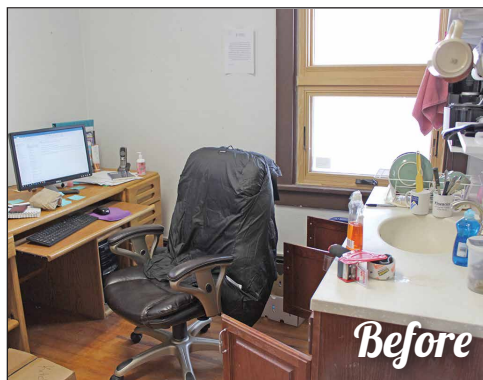
We are ready for an office to match our bold vision and ambition, and our singular niche as a national, grassroots, women-led organization dedicated to protecting wilderness and wild lands. We look forward to your visits, and to your continued support as we commit to the moral urgency of our time—to protect the Earth and its myriad and intricate systems, in perpetuity—in an office where we can stay forever! 



The old front office space served as reception, two offices, meeting room for 10, and merchandise display.



Our new roomy front office where we don't bump elbows anymore—and sniveling is still not allowed.



It's an office, it's a kitchen—no, it's both!



A real staff kitchen, that no longer doubles as an office!



Cha-Cha-Cha Changes!

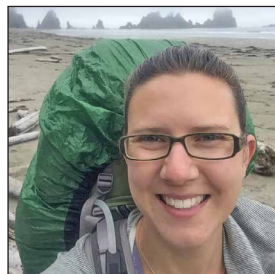
Last fall, Operations Manager, **Peggy Malloy** decided it was time to hang up her purple shirt and retire to enjoy more time in the wild and with her family. She's off to a great start—in her first post-retirement adventure, she spent a



Peggy is off to spend more time out in the wild!

week volunteering as a ski guide for the blind and disabled. We will all miss her humor, dedication, organization, and the latest photos of her adorable grandbabies. Have fun, Peggy!

In November, the talented **Ellie Stevenson** stepped in to take over Broads' Ops. Ellie has worked in a variety of roles for non-profit organizations, with missions ranging from youth workforce development to preventive



Ellie has stepped in to herd Broads at HQ.

health education. Raised in a family where vacation meant a camping trip, she holds a special place in her heart for the natural world and is grateful for the opportunity to work to protect the places that mean so much to her.

We said goodbye to Associate Director **Carrie King** in



Carrie's gone further west for new adventures.

December, as she moved to Washington to take the reins as Farm Services Program Manager for King County Conservation

District, helping farmers and ranchers compatibly co-exist with wildlife—something close to her wild heart! We hear she's jumped in with both feet and loving her new digs.

Moving into Carrie's shoes, is our own **Lauren Berutich**, who,



A job well done earns Lauren a step up.

for the past four years, oversaw the Grassroots Leadership Program. She successfully refreshed the program with her signature style of leadership training and brought significant growth to the Broadband program. She is eager to take on her new role as Associate Director and will enthusiastically lead our advocacy efforts, Broadwalk and Broadwork planning, membership, and much more.

We are excited to welcome mover and shaker **Lisa Pool**,



Lisa takes the reins on Grassroots Leadership.

who joined our ranks as Grassroots Leadership Director in January. Lisa comes to Broads with a decade of deep experience in grassroots organizing, advocacy, and directing campaigns. Most recently, she worked with Conservation Colorado, where she developed strategies to grow community voices and involvement in conservation issues, including close collaboration with several Colorado Broadbands. Her passion for the environmental movement is inspired by her rich experiences on public lands across the nation.

"And that is how change happens. One gesture. One person. One moment at a time."

— Libba Bray

The Communications Department became a dynamic duo in September with the addition of **Claire Attkisson** in a new position as part-time Communications Assistant. Claire brings more than 20 years of marketing



Claire brings marketing expertise to Broads.

and branding experience as a consultant and entrepreneur in the non-profit and private sectors. Claire joins the Broads team to get

back to her roots. Early in her career, she co-founded and directed Common Earth, an outdoor adventure company for women and girls in the San Francisco Bay Area.

And finally, a farewell to Development Coordinator **Lori Niewold**,



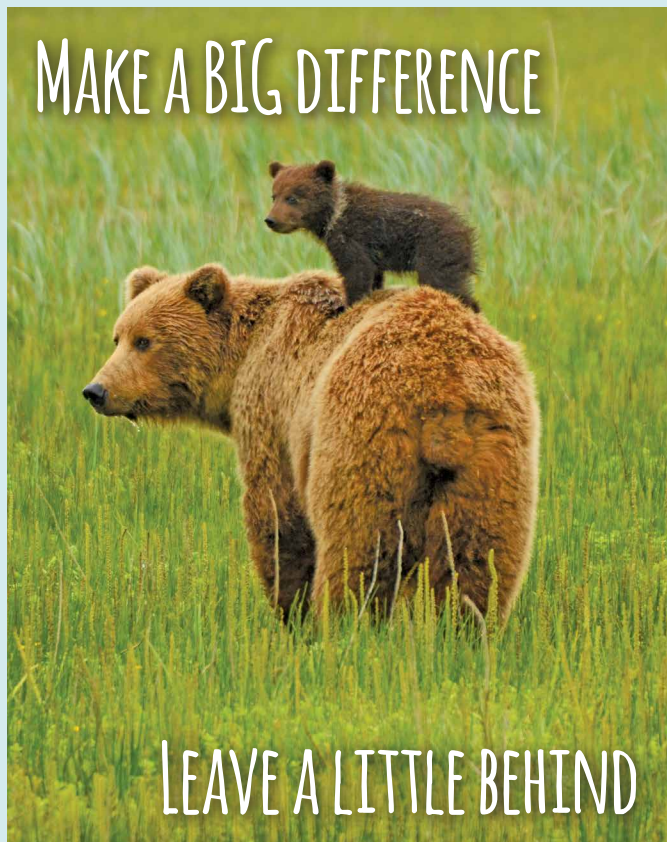
Lori heads out on a new challenge.

who is spreading her wings in February as Executive Director / Development Director with the Southern Colorado Community

Action Agency. We wish you the best in your new position, Lori!



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**

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Grateful Thanks!

At the heart of every endangered species we work to save, every tree we embrace, and every wild land we treasure is a passionate wild-at-heart Broad and Bro. We would like to thank recent donors who have given Broads generous IRA and stock contributions. It's such an easy way to give and your gifts fund our work to protect and preserve our treasured public lands.

*The mountains are my bones,
The rivers my veins.
The forests are my thoughts,
And the stars are my dreams.
The ocean is my heart,
Its pounding is my pulse.
The sounds of the earth write
The music of my soul.*

– Wild Woman Sisterhood

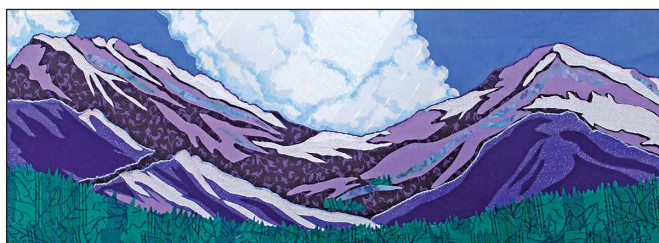
And the raffle winner is...



Lauren and Ellie draw the winning quilt raffle ticket.

Congratulations to Kathy Hagan, who won the Broads' 2018 art quilt *Looking Up*, by Trish Hastings-Sargent.

In April, we'll debut our **30th anniversary art quilt** made up of five panels representing the various landscapes Broads have worked to protect over the past 30 years: forests, mountains, deserts, waters, and where we started, the red rock country of Utah. Each panel is designed and created by a different Broad. Below is the "Mountains" panel created by Susan Kearns.



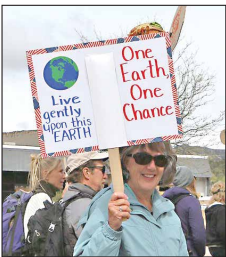
Other counties and cities signed companion resolutions, which led to California passing a law banning new infrastructure to support offshore drilling. On January 8, 2019, seven members of Congress introduced legislation in the House to block Trump's plan to hand coastal waters over to the oil industry.

The Education Effect

The Northwest Colorado Broadband, based out of Steamboat Springs, is raising awareness through activities such as writing letters to the editor of the local paper and presenting educational events focused on climate change. Recent events drew a packed house—a surprisingly strong showing for a community that has not always come together on climate issues.

Broadband Co-Leader Diane Miller said, "More than anything, these events bring climate issues front and center to where we live. It's not just about how climate change is affecting polar bears in Alaska, it's about what's going on right here—it's something we can all talk about."

The region's public lands are vulnerable under Trump's "drill, baby, drill" policy, particularly as the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) aggressively pursues lease sales to oil and gas interests. Diane reached out to county commissioners



on the topic, but didn't have any success getting their attention. It was time to take another approach.

She learned the BLM had removed parcels from lease sales elsewhere after county commissioners came out against the sale of key parcels. That gave her an idea. She put together a group to

give quarterly presentations to the county commissioners. Consisting of experts from various conservation groups in the community, they are gathering data on parcels where extractive activities would be harmful to wildlife habitat and air and water quality. The team has met three times and is preparing to give the first presentation at the end of February.

The presentations will deliver important data to time-strapped commissioners and ensure they are better informed on the impact of extractive activities. Even though the county commissioners do not make the final decision on lease sales, as demonstrated in other counties, local government support—or opposition—has significant influence on the outcome.

The Alliance Effect

On the east coast, scientists have identified the Gulf of Maine as the second-fastest part of the ocean to warm in the entire world. The National Climate Assessment has a chapter dedicated to the Northeast, where ocean temperatures are rising three times faster than the global average.



That means the Maine Broadband, led by Theo Pratt, has their work cut out for them. New to Maine, Theo took on the role of building and leading a Broadband just seven months ago. In that time, she has focused on creating alliances and identifying issues important to the community. Her challenge was starting a chapter in a state where most of the undeveloped land is private, and she is, as the locals say, "from away."

"I started going to other organizations' meetings to see who the players are, how they run their meetings, and determine if they are a good fit for Broads. If we're interested in the same things, we can work together," Theo shared.

Through these efforts, she formed alliances with established Maine conservation groups including Sierra Club Maine, Natural Resources Council Maine, and Maine Conservation Voters, a coalition of 35 organizations that keeps her up-to-date on issues and legislation that need Broad action. She connected with the superintendent of Maine's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office, which oversees five national wildlife refuges.

This connection led to a partnership with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. Broads will take the lead on gathering water samples from the Weskeag River to compile data on temperature, dissolved oxygen, salinity, and bacteria count. The data will be used to evaluate nonpoint source pollution (contamination from many sources) and changes tied to climate change. Sampling will be conducted weekly from May to September. The Weskeag River Estuary includes 1,100 acres of brackish tidal marsh and extensive tidal flats. It is host to thousands of migratory shorebirds and varied aquatic life and is considered one of the most threatened estuary systems in Maine.

"There's a lot of work to be done in Maine. Through this project, and others, we hope to help our state prepare for the threats to our coastline, wetlands, and beautiful North Woods brought about by climate disturbance," said Theo.

Building relationships and alliances locally is a common thread for Broads. Whether you are a "lone" Broad or part of a chapter advocating for our public lands and waters, we're here for you at Broads' headquarters. We're happy to provide guidance and support with information on the latest legislation, talking points, where and how to make comments on national actions, and advice and ideas on how to get climate action kicked up in your community.





47% increase in boots on the ground and 19% more hours. Taking on an astounding array of activities, our Broadbands:

- ✿ Actively engage in Forest Plan Revisions and wilderness campaigns
- ✿ Write formal comments on the impacts of fossil fuel and infrastructure development, grazing, mining, and roads
- ✿ Monitor water quality and solitude (or lack thereof)
- ✿ Advocate for wetlands protection
- ✿ Teach nature studies to children
- ✿ Author opinion pieces and letters to the editor to educate the community
- ✿ Host and attend rallies
- ✿ Take the lead on climate issues

...and so much more. In November, a group of Broadband leaders will descend on the halls of Congress for a national grassroots training and lobbying event.

Guided by our strategic plan, we've honed key campaigns to guide our work, both nationally and on specific public lands near and dear to our members. We continue to go to court as needed, which sadly seems more often of late. A litigation screening tool we've just developed will help decide when legal action is critical.

CELEBRATING OUR WAY TO SUCCESS

As Broads, we know that reconnecting with wild places and our wild selves motivates our passion like nothing else. When difficult work drains and depletes us, a retreat to celebrate what we love uplifts the soul. My year started with a recharge in a mountain hut at 10,000' elevation, enjoying good friends and the chance to ski where quiet rules and motorized vehicles can't follow. To enjoy no sound but the push of skis and the occasional junco's trill or hawk's cry; my ski poles softly whooshing through ice crystals, like sifting through tiny shards of glass. We marvel at the feathered hoar crystals mounded as

To enjoy no
sound but the
push of skis and
the occasional
junco's trill or
hawk's cry

if marmots sleep beneath the snow, their frosty fur curling at the surface.

I think of the Navajo/Diné concept of Hozho: beauty and balance, and the need to restore it when disrupted. Beauty before me, beauty

behind me, beauty above me, beauty around me. I carry these images home as inspiration.

We gain resilience as we celebrate these moments and wake our senses to the urgency to restore the beauty, in every possible way. This has been the work of Broads for thirty years—to restore what has been disrupted and protect what remains in its most intact and balanced condition. Hell yes, we are still here and persistent as ever—kicking up our heels with passion for wilderness, and kicking mightily against some of the harshest political attacks ever seen on public lands and waters, let alone our democracy. Walking in beauty, we are bigger than ourselves, and we walk together, growing stronger in our thirtieth year—and counting!





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Broads from Georgia's Blue Ridge Broadband hike Blood Mountain.



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You do not have to be female, or old to join—but you must be bold for wilderness. Please join us on the adventure. Wilderness needs your help!

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- ☐ Dynamic Duo \$50
(same household)
- ☐ Rockin' Broad \$50+
- ☐ Wild Broad \$75+

- ☐ Outrageous Broad \$100+
- ☐ Wonder Broad \$500+
- ☐ Bedrock Broad \$1,000+
- ☐ Budget Broad < \$35

- ☐ Free Spirit Broad \$_____
- ☐ **30th Anniversary Special \$30**
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