



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

“We as women should shine light on our accomplishments and not feel egotistical when we do. It’s a way to let the world know that we as women can accomplish great things!”

*– Dolores Huerta
Civil Rights Activist*



2020 VISION: *Unexpected Challenges & Wild Advances*

In a year of unparalleled challenge, Great Old Broads for Wilderness trained more grassroots leaders than in any previous year, launched eight new chapters, and beat the Air Force in a lawsuit to protect natural quiet in southern Idaho.

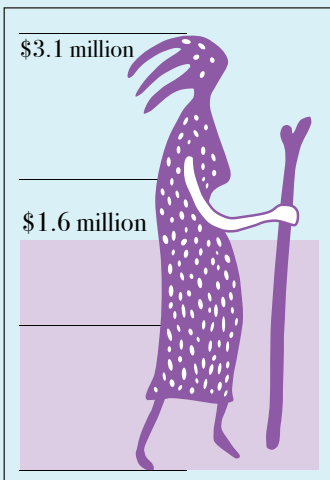
We advanced wilderness designation and other lasting protections, from coastal California and Washington to the mountains of Colorado, New Mexico, and Montana, to the canyons of Arizona and Utah. We worked to protect water and land in the midwest, northeast, and southeast.

Broads organized, testified, and wrote substantive comments to speak up for wild places, and the plants and animals that inhabit them.

Strategically, we met with governors, congressional representatives, and heads of state agencies while raising public outcry and exhausting legal remedies. We trained women to speak about climate and public lands—revealing little-known and compelling stories about the ecological value of forests, rivers, and coasts and their impact on climate change mitigation.

To ensure that this critical work continues for the long-term, we launched the Women for the Wild Comprehensive Campaign at the end of 2019. With deep gratitude to our dedicated and generous supporters, by the close of 2020, we raised a total of \$1.6 million towards our \$3.1 million goal for this multi-year campaign.

Women for the Wild Comprehensive Campaign



21,515
VOLUNTEER
HOURS

+
4,792
ACTIVITY
PARTICIPANTS

28 WOMEN
TRAINED AS
NEW
LEADERS FOR
BROADBANDS

NEW
CO • ID • MT
UT • VT • WA
CHAPTERS

2600 HOURS
WATER QUALITY,
WILDLIFE,
GRAZING + MORE
MONITORING

80 WEBINARS
ATTENDED BY
2,000+

Resilience & Fortitude

What do you get when you combine a global pandemic, catastrophic wildfires and floods, and a presidential administration incompatible with environmental survival—indeed, antithetical to democracy?

A demonstration of potent resilience from grassroots advocates who stepped it up to protect public lands, water, and climate. We are forever grateful for the dedicated work of the activists, stewards, and educators who defied the difficulties of 2020, showing fortitude in the quest to protect wilderness and wild lands.



Standing Firm

Broads celebrated a victory as the sole plaintiff in a lawsuit against the Air Force.

The court ruled that the Air Force tried to circumvent the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in a proposal for Urban Warfare Training over southern Idaho. If the Air Force proposes the project again in the future, they will need to prepare a full Environmental Impact Statement.



Broads and two partners challenged the U.S. Forest Service's (USFS) approval of the use of chainsaws in southwest Colorado's Weminuche and



South San Juan Wilderness areas in violation of the Wilderness Act and other laws. In December, we signed a settlement agreement with USFS to disallow the chainsaw authorization and to ensure better communication with plaintiffs. To show that removal of beetle killed trees can be done quietly and without mechanization, the South San Juan Broadband trained sixty and seventy-year old members in cross-cut saw technique and cleared over 200 downed trees from trails.



Broads continued litigation to challenge the reduction of Utah's Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments.

We took legal action to ensure that Bonneville Power Administration considers the cost of protecting salmon habitat, as a step in the fight against the Lower Snake River dams.

Our litigation continued in Oregon, challenging a 10-year grazing permit that fails to protect fens that are critical habitat for the threatened Oregon Spotted Frog.



South San Juan Broadband Leader Anne Dal Vera (left) and Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk (Council of Advisors) delivering one of 20 care packages put together for Ute Mountain Ute tribal members isolated by Covid-19.



Broads in Action

While masked and distanced, we planted over a thousand trees and plants, hauled out trash, and monitored wild lands and rivers, collecting critical data for federal agencies. Broads learned about climate and oceans and deepened relationships with tribal partners. We worked to protect the Boundary Waters in Minnesota and Bristol Bay in Alaska from mining, challenged oil and gas development in the interior west, and opposed fossil fuel export facilities in the Pacific Northwest. We field-checked timber sales, and advocated for science-based wildlife decisions. Our Equity & Justice Committee, composed of Board members, staff, and Broadband Leaders worked with a consultant to review practices and policies as we become a more equitable, inclusive, and just organization.



Expanding Horizons

An unexpected by-product of the pandemic was the growth of online education. Broads moved to virtual

webinars, trainings, and meetings, which opened doors to new learning opportunities—all from the comfort of home. More than 900 people registered for several online events facilitated by the national office on topics such as watershed health, the impact of border wall construction on fragile ecosystems, climate change, engaging Indigenous communities, and NEPA. Broads upped their game as well, holding 42 webinars attended by 1,090 people!

Climate Education & Stewardship (CES)

The national office launched a grant-funded program to educate communities about the critical link between public lands and climate change, and to facilitate restoration projects to improve land resilience. The program built four educational modules (Climate & Public Lands, Climate & Forests, Climate & Rivers, and Climate & Coasts) comprised of PowerPoint presentations, group activities, and talking points. Broadband leaders in the Pacific Northwest were trained on the materials to prepare them to make presentations at community events. In Washington, leaders held a four-part webinar series on Chehalis River health, followed by a community project where 573 trees were planted. In mid to late 2021, the CES program will expand beyond the Pacific Northwest and integrate climate action into the curriculum.



Away Up North

The Alaska Broadband fought mining, oil and gas extraction, and roads to protect lands and waters in The Last Frontier state. They wrote substantive comments, gave oral testimony, had Letters to the Editor published, sent letters to Congress, and submitted protests on topics including the Ambler Road mining development, drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and the Pebble Mine project that threatened one of the most ecologically and economically important watersheds on Earth. In 2021, watch for a webinar series from these powerhouse Broads.



Rural Broadsbands in Colorado

Broadsbands wildly pursued subjects from wolves to wilderness and bighorns to butterflies. North San Juan Broadband members submitted over 154 comments, emails, signatures, sign-ons, and phone calls advocating for more than 19 issues including BLM Federal Grazing revisions, rulemakings on e-bikes, and trail planning. The Northwest Colorado Broadband worked to end routine venting and flaring from oil and gas wells. With advocacy work and testimony of a Broadband leader at a key hearing, the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission agreed to proceed with new rules to bar the practice of disposing of methane into the atmosphere at both new and existing wells across the state.



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.



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Down South

New Mexico Broads zealously defended the Gila National Forest, Gila Wilderness, and Gila River. They contributed comments on the Forest Plan, with emphasis on protecting riparian habitat, and opposed F-16 training over the Gila Wilderness. Comments against



the Gila River Diversion Project helped keep the river intact—a well-earned victory after a 15-year battle. In another win, trespass cattle were removed from sensitive wetlands in the National Forest thanks to boots-on-the-ground monitoring work. Rio Grande Valley Broadband Co-Leader Susan Ostlie achieved a successful riparian rescue working

with ranchers to protect Little Water Canyon—a uniquely isolated ecosystem and area of interest in the Land of Enchantment.

Northwest Forests and Rivers

In the Pacific Northwest, a multi-chapter coalition known as the Broads Regional Advocacy Team continued their fight to breach the four Lower Snake River Dams. They also formed a committee dedicated to forests and rivers that is working to build support for the River Democracy Act, which will add nearly 4,700 miles of Oregon rivers and streams to the Wild and Scenic Rivers system. Other initiatives include fighting the Chehalis River Dam and working to stop old-growth and post-fire logging on public lands, and more. They will present a four-part webinar series, *Fire in Pacific Northwest Forests* in early 2021.



Our Finances

